

Nota Bene: R

R

rabbinical: of or pertaining to rabbis (a Jewish teacher)

raconteur: an excellent storyteller

raison d'être: justification for being or existence

ramification: eventual consequence

rancorous: marked by deeply embedded bitterness or animosity

rankle: to cause irritation or festering resentment

rapacious: given to seizing for plunder or the satisfaction of greed

rapport: a favorable relationship or established pattern of communication

rapprochement: the repairing of damaged relations

rapture: ecstatic feeling

rarefied: of interest or relating to a small, refined circle; less dense, thinner

ratiocinate: to reason or probe thoroughly by means of logical examination

rational: an adjective used for either: (1) whatever pertains to man's intellect (cf. "reason"), (2) whatever is based on the authority of man's mind (cf. general attitude called "rationalism"), (3) whatever is known apart from experience or observation (cf. the epistemological school of "rationalism")

rationalism: the view that some knowledge is *a priori*; the general attitude that man's autonomous reason is his final authority, in which case divine revelation may be denied or ignored

raucous: boisterous, unruly, and wild

ravenous: powerfully hungry

re: in the matter; in the case of; with reference to

realism: the view either that (1) universals are independently real (vs. nominalism, conceptualism), or (2) objects of knowledge exist independently of the mind (vs. idealism), or (3) reality is not greatly different from appearance (vs. phenomenism)

reapportionment: redistribution

reason: man's intellectual or mental capacity

rebuff: an instance of rejection or expressed disapproval

recalcitrant: resistant to authority

recant: to disavow (a formerly held view)

recapitulate: to summarize in concise form

recede: to draw back, to ebb, to abate

reciprocate: to give or act in turn following the lead of another

reclusive: withdrawn from society

recompense: compensation for a service rendered or to pay for damages

reconcile: to make consistent or harmonious; to be in agreement with

recondite: profound, deep, abstruse

reconnaissance: a search (of an area) made for the purpose of gaining information likely to yield military advantage

reconnoiter: to engage in reconnaissance

rectify: to put right

recumbent: lying down

redemption: to buy back; to set free

reductio ad absurdum: to logically reduce an argument to absurdity or contradiction

redundant: superfluous

reference class: the group of objects from which probability ratios are computed

reforma et semper reformanda: reformed and always reforming

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refractory: stubbornly resisting control or authority

refurbish: to renovate or repair

relativism: all judgments are conditioned by factors like cultural milieu and individual bias; thus there is no objective, absolute truth

relevance: connection to the matter at hand; pertinence; an informal logical fallacy committed when the premises of an argument are not relevant to its conclusion and therefore cannot establish the truth of that conclusion

relinquish: to give up

remunerate: to pay (in consideration of another person's expense or action)

renaissance: rebirth

renege: to go back (on one's word)

renounce: to abandon or deny any connection with

reparation: the act of making amends; payment for damages by a defeated nation to the victors

repentance: to take a second thought; in Christian theology, to take a second thought concerning the finished work of Christ (His death, His resurrection, and His ascension) in terms of one's alienated status toward God in Christ who requires absolute submission to His will, His word, and His purpose

replete: full

replicate: to reproduce (an event or an action)

reprehensible: abhorrent

reprieve: a suspension or delay from imminent proceedings

reproach: to express stern disapproval of

reprobate: an unprincipled person; someone who has violated the standard of ethics

reproof: a reprimand, a reproach or castigation

repudiate: to disprove and thereby render obsolete

repugnant: causing dislike or disgust

requiem: a musical composition or poem written to honor the dead

requisite: necessary

repudiate: to reject, to renounce

res: thing or fact

rescind: reverse an order, command, or edict

resilient: able to recover from difficulty

resolute: unyielding in determination

resonant: full of special import or meaning; to vibrate or sound in a way similar to something else

resplendent: glowing, shining

restitution: the act of compensating for a past misdeed; to repair any damage caused by a past misdeed

restive: uneasy, impatient with delay

resume: (1) a brief written account of personal, educational, and professional qualifications and experience, as that prepared by an applicant for a job; (2) to take up or go on with again after interruption

resurgence: reappearance or revival

resurrect: to bring back from the dead

reticent: reserved

retinue: a group of companions or followers (or a person of great importance)

retribution: punishment for past wrongdoing

retroactive: effective back to a stated point in time

retrospect: hindsight

revamp: to redo

revile: to curse or abuse in harsh language

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rhetoric: the art of effective use of language

ribald: amusingly coarse or lewd.

rigmarole: nonsensically complicated procedure

risqué: daringly close to indelicacy or impropriety

rite: ceremony

rogue: a mischievously dishonest person; a scamp

romanticism: to focus on feelings or emotions as the basis for all of life

rubicon: a point beyond which permanent change is unavoidable; comes from the name of a river once crossed by Julius Caesar in an act that led irrevocably to war

rudimentary: basic, first principles

rueful: regretful

ruffian: a brute, roughneck or bully

rumination: the act of engaging in contemplation

Russell's paradox: concerns the set of all sets that are *not* members of themselves; named after Bertrand Russell (1872-1970)

rusticate: to move (a person) to the country