**Vocabulary List: A**

1. **diminutive** adj (diminutively, adverb, diminutiveness, noun) very small

*They would have only had to push their arms under his arched back to get him out of the bed, to bend down with their load, and then merely to exercise patience and care that he completed the flip onto the floor, where his diminutive legs would then, he hoped, acquire a purpose.*

2. [**articulation**](http://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/articulation) n. (articulatorily, adverb) the aspect of pronunciation that involves bringing articulatory organs together so as to shape the sounds of speech

*He made an effort with the most careful articulation and by inserting long pauses between the individual words to remove everything remarkable from his voice.*

3. [**amelioration**](http://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/amelioration)n. the act of relieving ills and changing for the better

*Right away he believed that the final amelioration of all his suffering was immediately at hand.*

4. [**forlorn**](http://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/forlorn) adj. (forlornly, adverb, forlornness, noun) marked by or showing hopelessness

*She was inclined to think the contrary; the sight of the naked wall made her own heart heavy, and why shouldn't Gregor have the same feeling, considering that he had been used to his furniture for so long and might feel forlorn without it.*

5. [**chagrin**](http://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/chagrin) n. strong feelings of embarrassment

*At first he thought it was chagrin over the state of his room that prevented him from eating, yet in fact he very quickly got used to the various changes in his room.*

6. **harbinger n.** anything that foreshadows a future event; omen; sign:

*Frost is a harbinger of winter.*

7. **plaintively** adj. (plaintively, adverb, plaintiveness, noun) expressing sorrow or melancholy; mournful: a plaintive melody.

### *He lifts his gray, furry head half an inch and meows* plaintively*.*

8**. inveigle** v. (used with object), inveigled, inveigling, inveiglement, noun, inveigler, noun uninveigled, adjective) to entice, lure, or ensnare by flattery or artful talk or inducements (usually followed by into):

### *Their testimony confirmed the defendant's successful efforts to* inveigle

9. **ruminations** n. (fuminate verb, ruminatingly, adverb rumination, noun ruminative, adjective, ruminatively, adverb, ruminator, noun) thoughts, meditations.

*These are certainly not the* ruminations *of someone who is planning to call it quits.*

### 10. perusal n. close examination

*All of this I discovered in a simple five-minute* perusal*.*