

Word List

4 tips to help you achieve your goals

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Vocabulary:

20 words



1. nasty (adj.)

- cf. nastily (adv.)
 - cf. nastiness (n.)
 - very bad or unpleasant
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- Plastic bags burn with a nasty, acrid smell.

2. litany (n.)

- a series of petitions for use in church services or processions, usually recited by the clergy and responded to in a recurring formula by the people.
-
- A litany of complaints.

3. paralysis (n.)

- the loss of the ability to move (and sometimes to feel anything) in part or most of the body, typically as a result of illness, poison, or injury
-
- A creeping paralysis accompanied by nausea and vomiting.

4. avert (v.)

- turn away (one's eyes or thoughts)
-
- She averted her eyes while we made stilted conversation.

5. banish (v.)

- cf. banishment (n.)
 - send (someone) away from a country or place as an official punishment
-
- A number of people were banished to Siberia for political crimes.

6. fine (v.)

- clarify (beer or wine) by causing the precipitation of sediment during production.
-
- She'd certainly fined down—her face was thinner.

7. back (adj.)

- of or at the back of something
-
- The back garden.

8. burner (n.)

- a person or thing that burns
-
- Uphill walking is a great calorie-burner.

9. motivational (adj.)

- relating to the reason or reasons for acting or behaving in a particular way
-
- Concern for the poor remains a strong motivational factor in my thinking.

10. lull (n.)

- a temporary interval of quiet or lack of activity
-
- For two days there had been a lull in the fighting.

11. unfulfilled (adj.)

- not carried out or brought to completion
-
- It was his unfulfilled ambition to write.

12. curiosity (n.)

- a strong desire to know or learn something
-
- Curiosity got the better of me, so I called him.

13. sidetrack (v.)

- cf. sidetrack (n.)
 - cause (someone) to be distracted from an immediate or important issue
-
- He does not let himself get sidetracked by fads and trends.

14. distraction (n.)

- a thing that prevents someone from concentrating on something else
- The firm found passenger travel a distraction from the main business of moving freight.

15. psychiatrist (n.)

- a medical practitioner specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of mental illness.

16. bore (v.)

- cause (someone) to feel weary and uninterested by dull talk or behaviour
- Timid women quickly bore her silly.

17. frustrate (v.)

- prevent (a plan or attempted action) from progressing, succeeding, or being fulfilled
- The rescue attempt was frustrated by bad weather.

18. triumph (n.)

- a great victory or achievement
- A garden built to celebrate Napoleon's many triumphs.

19. countless (adj.)

- too many to be counted; very many
- She'd apologized countless times before.

20. attain (v.)

- succeed in achieving (something that one has worked for)
- He attained the rank of Brigadier.