

6 Academic and Formal Words

(Common in formal writing, academia, and professional discussions.)

credible, questionable, alleviate, exacerbate, substantial, negligible, redundant, sufficient, insufficient, attribute (verb), derive, distribute, distinguish, correlate, coincide, correspond, articulate, eloquent, assert, claim, establish.

1. Credible – believable, reliable, trustworthy

- The scientist provided credible evidence to support his theory.
- News sources should always be credible and well-researched.

2. Questionable – doubtful, uncertain, unreliable

- The research methodology was questionable and lacked proper controls.
- His explanation for the missing funds was highly questionable.

3. Alleviate – relieve, reduce, ease

- The new policy aims to alleviate poverty in rural areas.
- Medication can alleviate symptoms but may not cure the disease.

4. Substantial – significant, considerable, important

- The project received substantial funding from the government.
- A substantial number of students prefer online learning.

5. Negligible – insignificant, trivial, minor

- The cost increase was negligible and did not affect sales.
- The difference between the two methods was negligible.

6. Redundant – unnecessary, superfluous, excessive

- The report contained redundant information that added no value.
- Many jobs became redundant due to automation.

7. Sufficient – enough, adequate, ample

- The data provided was sufficient to draw a valid conclusion.
- A sufficient number of volunteers are needed for the event.

8. Insufficient – inadequate, lacking, deficient

- The funding for the program was insufficient to cover expenses.
- Insufficient evidence led to the case being dismissed.

9. Attribute (verb) – assign, credit, ascribe

- He attributes his success to hard work and perseverance.

- The decline in sales was attributed to poor marketing strategies.

10. **Derive** – obtain, extract, originate

- Scientists derive energy from renewable sources.
- The word "democracy" derives from Greek origins.

11. **Distribute** – allocate, dispense, share

dispense

- The organization distributes food to the homeless every weekend.
- The profits were distributed equally among shareholders.

12. **Distinguish** – differentiate, identify, recognize

- It is important to distinguish between fact and opinion.
- She can easily distinguish different species of birds.

13. **Correlate** – associate, connect, relate

- Studies show that smoking correlates with a higher risk of lung cancer.
- The results correlate closely with previous research findings.

14. **Coincide** – occur simultaneously, correspond, agree

coincide

- The two events coincided, causing scheduling conflicts.
- Their opinions coincide on most political issues.

15. **Correspond** – match, agree, align

- The results correspond with our initial predictions.
- The email corresponds to the official guidelines.

16. **Articulate** – express clearly, convey, communicate

- She was able to articulate her thoughts effectively during the debate.
- Good leaders articulate their vision to inspire others.

17. **Eloquent** – fluent, persuasive, expressive

- The politician delivered an eloquent speech that captivated the audience.
- His eloquent writing style made the article engaging.

18. **Assert** – declare, state, affirm

- He asserted his rights during the legal dispute.
- Scientists assert that climate change is a major global challenge.

19. **Claim** – assert, declare, state

- The company claims that its product is the best on the market.

- The researcher claimed to have found a new species.

20. Establish – set up, create, confirm

- The organization was established to promote environmental awareness.
- Scientists established a link between diet and heart disease.