

101+ Power Verbs

- **Accommodate:** to make fit, suitable, or congruous: to bring into agreement or concord : RECONCILE: to provide with something desired, needed, or suited (as a helpful service, a loan, or lodgings): to make room for: to hold without crowding or inconvenience: to give consideration to : allow for *accommodate the special interests of various groups*ADAPT, CONTAIN
- **Achieve:** to carry out successfully : ACCOMPLISH *achieve a gradual increase in production*: to get or attain: REACH *achieved a high degree of skill* *achieved greatness*: to attain a desired end or aim : become successful: PERFORM
- **Acquire:** to get as one's own: to come into possession or control of often by unspecified means: to come to have as a new or added characteristic, trait, or ability (as by sustained effort or natural selection) *acquire fluency in French* *bacteria that acquire tolerance to antibiotics*: to locate and hold (a desired object) in a detector *acquire a target by radar*
- **Adapt:** to make fit (as for a specific or new use or situation) often by modification: to ADJUST, ACCOMMODATE, CONFORM, RECONCILE. ADAPT implies a modification according to changing circumstances *adapted themselves to the warmer climate
- **Affect:** to produce an effect upon: to produce a material influence upon or alteration in *paralysis affected his limbs*: to act upon (as a person or a person's mind or feelings) so as to effect a response : INFLUENCE
- **Affirm:** VALIDATE, CONFIRM: to state positively: to assert (as a judgment or decree) as valid or confirmed: to express dedication to: to testify or declare by affirmation as distinguished from swearing an oath. Conviction based on evidence, experience, or faith.
- **Alter:** to make different without changing into something else: to become different :CHANGE
- **Analyze:** to study or determine the nature and relationship of the parts of by analysis *analyze a traffic pattern* DISSECT, BREAK DOWN
- **Anticipate:** to give advance thought, discussion, or treatment to: to meet (an obligation) before a due date: to foresee and deal with in advance : FORESTALL: to act before (another) often so as to check or counter: to look forward to as certain : EXPECT: FORESEE
- **Assert:** to state or declare positively and often forcefully or aggressively: to demonstrate the existence of : DECLARE, AFFIRM,
- **Benefits:** to be useful or profitable to: to receive benefit
- **Cease:** : to cause to come to an end especially gradually : no longer continue: to come to an end: to bring an activity or action to an end : DISCONTINUE: to become extinct : DIE OUT: STOP
- **Challenge:** to dare, to protest, to provoke, to stimulate, to question
- **Characterize:** to describe the character or quality of *characterizes him as ambitious*: to be a characteristic of : DISTINGUISH *an era characterized by greed*
- **Clarify:** to free of confusion: to make understandable: to become clear
- **Coincide:** to occupy the same place in space or time : to correspond in nature, character, or function: to be in accord or agreement : CONCUR: AGREE
- **Compel:** to drive or urge forcefully or irresistibly: to cause to do or occur by overwhelming pressure: to drive together: FORCE
- **Compliments:** to pay a compliment to: to present with a token of esteem
- **Condemn:** to declare to be reprehensible, wrong, or evil usually after weighing evidence and without reservation: to pronounce guilty : CONVICT b : SENTENCE, DOOM: to adjudge unfit for use or consumption: CRITICIZE
- **Confirm:** to give approval to : RATIFY: to make firm or firmer: STRENGTHEN: to give new assurance of the validity of : remove doubt about by authoritative act or indisputable fact: CORROBORATE, SUBSTANTIATE, VERIFY, AUTHENTICATE, VALIDATE
- **Conform:** to give the same shape, outline, or contour to : bring into harmony or accord *conform furrows to the slope of the land* : to be similar or identical : to be in agreement or harmony used with to or with: to be obedient or compliant: to act in accordance with prevailing standards or customs: ADAPT
- **Confront:** to face especially in challenge : OPPOSE: to cause to meet : bring face-to-face *confront a reader with statistics* b : to meet face-to-face : ENCOUNTER *confronted the possibility of failure*
- **Console:** to alleviate the grief, sense of loss, or trouble of : COMFORT *console a widow*
- **Contemplate:** to view or consider with continued attention : meditate on: to view as contingent or probable or as an end or intention: to PONDER, MEDITATE
- **Contradict:** to assert the contrary of : take issue with: to imply the opposite or a denial of *your actions contradict your words* DENY
- **Contrast:** to set off in contrast : compare or appraise in respect to differences *contrast European and American manners* to COMPARE
- **Contribute:** to give or supply in common with others: to play a significant part in bringing about an end or result
- **Covet:** to wish for enviously: to desire what belongs to another
- **Criticize:** to consider the merits and demerits of and judge accordingly : EVALUATE: to find fault with : point out the faults of: REPREHEND, CENSURE, REPROBATE, CONDEMN, DENOUNCE
- **Declare:** to make known formally, officially, or explicitly: to make clear: to make evident : SHOW: to state emphatically : AFFIRM *declares his innocence*: to make a full statement of (one's taxable or dutiable property): to announce (as a trump suit) in a card
- **Defend:** to maintain or support in the face of argument, to drive danger or attack away from, to prevent, to contest, to take action against or challenge, to PROTECT, SHIELD, GUARD
- **Demonstrate:** to show clearly: to prove or make clear by reasoning or evidence: to illustrate and explain especially with many examples: to SHOW
- **Denounce:** to pronounce especially publicly to be blameworthy or evil: PROCLAIM: to announce threateningly: to inform against : ACCUSE: CRITICIZE
- **Depict:** to represent by or as if by a picture: DESCRIBE
- **Desire:** to long or hope for : exhibit or feel desire for: to express a wish for : REQUEST: to express a wish to : WISH, WANT, CRAVE, COVET. DESIRE stresses the strength of feeling and often implies strong intention or aim *desires to start a new life*
- **Disclose:** to open up: to expose to view: to make known or public *demands that politicians disclose the sources of their income*:REVEAL
- **Displace:** to remove from the usual or proper place: to expel or force to flee from home or homeland: to remove from an office, status, or job: to drive out : BANISH: to move physically out of position *a floating object displaces water* b : to take the place of (as in a chemical reaction) : REPLACE
- **Display:** to show
- **Distinguish:** to perceive a difference in : mentally separate *so alike they could not be distinguished*: to mark as separate or different: to separate into kinds, classes, or categories: to give prominence or distinction to *distinguished themselves in music*: CHARACTERIZE: DISCERN *distinguished a light in the distance*: to single out : take special notice of

- **Dominate:** RULE, CONTROL: to exert the supreme determining or guiding influence on: to overlook from a superior elevation or command because of superior height or position: to have or exert mastery, control, or preeminence
- **Elate:** to fill with joy or pride
- **Elevate:** to lift up : RAISE : to raise in rank or status : EXALT: to improve morally, intellectually, or culturally: to raise the spirits of : ELATE
- **Eliminate:** to cast out or get rid of, to REMOVE, ERADICATE.
- **Embody:** to give a body to (a spirit) : to make concrete and perceptible: to cause to become a body or part of a body : INCORPORATE: to represent in human or animal form : PERSONIFY *men who greatly embodied the idealism of American life A. M. Schlesinger b1917*
- **Embrace:** to clasp in the arms : HUG: CHERISH, LOVE: ENCIRCLE, ENCLOSE: to take up especially readily or gladly *embrace a cause*: WELCOME *embraced the opportunity to study further*: to take in or include as a part, item, or element of a more inclusive whole *charity embraces all acts that contribute to human welfare* ADOPT, INCLUDE
- **Emergence:** to become manifest: to rise from: come out into view: to rise from an obscure or inferior position or condition
- **Emit:** to throw or give off or out (as light) : to send out : EJECT: to issue with authority: to give utterance or voice to *emitted a groan*
- **Encounter:** to meet, to engage, to come upon face to face.
- **Enhance:** RAISE: HEIGHTEN, INCREASE: to increase or improve in value, quality, desirability, or attractiveness
- **Emphasize:** to place emphasis on : STRESS *emphasized the need for reform*
- **Enlighten:** : ILLUMINATE: to furnish knowledge to : INSTRUCT: to give spiritual insight to
- **Enrich:** : to make rich or richer especially by the addition or increase of some desirable quality or attribute *the experience will enrich your life*: to add beauty to : ADORN b : to enhance d : to improve
- **Evoke:** to call forth or up : CONJURE *evoke evil spirits*: to cite especially with approval or for support : INVOKE: to bring to mind or recollection *this place evokes memories*: to recreate imaginatively
- **Evolve:** EMIT: DERIVE, EDUCE: to produce by natural evolutionary processes: DEVELOP, WORK OUT
- **Exceed:** to extend outside of *the river will exceed its banks*: to be greater than or superior to: to go beyond a limit set by *exceeded his authority*: OVERDO, SURPASS, TRANSCEND, EXCEL, OUTDO, OUTSTRIP mean to go or be beyond a stated or implied limit, measure, or degree. EXCEED implies going beyond a limit set by authority or established by custom or by prior achievement *exceed the speed limit*.
- **Exclude:** to prevent or restrict the entrance of : to bar from participation, consideration, or inclusion: to expel or bar especially from a place or position previously occupied
- **Exemplify (exemplifies):** to show or illustrate by example : to make an attested copy or transcript of (a document) under seal: to be an instance of or serve as an example : EMBODY b : to be typical of
- **Express:** DELINEATE, DEPICT b : to represent in words : STATE c : to give or convey a true impression of : SHOW, REFLECT d : to make known the opinions or feelings of (oneself) e : to give expression to the artistic or creative impulses or abilities of (oneself) f : to represent by a sign or symbol : SYMBOLIZE
- **Highlight:** to center attention on, to ILLUMINATE, something of major importance.
- **Identify:** : to cause to be or become identical: to conceive as united (as in spirit, outlook, or principle) *groups that are identified with conservation*: to establish the identity of
- **Illustrate:** a : ENLIGHTEN b : to light up : to make illustrious (1) : to make bright (2) : ADORN 3 a : to make clear : CLARIFY b : to make clear by giving or by serving as an example or instance c : to provide with visual features intended to explain or decorate *illustrate a book* 4 : to show clearly : DEMONSTRATE: to give an example
- **Imitate:** to follow as a pattern, model, or example: to be or appear like : RESEMBLE: to produce a copy of : REPRODUCE: MIMIC, COUNTERFEIT *can imitate his father's booming voice*: COPY
- **Imply:** to involve or indicate by inference, association, or necessary consequence rather than by direct statement *rights imply obligations*: to contain potentially: to express indirectly *his silence implied consent*: SUGGEST
- **Impress:** to produce a vivid impression of : to affect especially forcibly or deeply : INFLUENCE
- **Influence:** the power or capacity of causing an effect in indirect or intangible ways : SWAY: to have an effect on the condition or development of : MODIFY: AFFECT
- **Indicate:** to point out or point to: to be a sign, symptom, or index of *the high fever indicates a serious condition*: to demonstrate or suggest the necessity or advisability of *indicated the need for a new school*: to state or express briefly *indicated a desire to cooperate*
- **Interact:** to act upon or among, to socialize.
- **Interpret:** to explain or tell the meaning of : present in understandable terms: to represent by means of art : bring to realization by performance or direction *interprets a role*
- **Intervene:** to occur, fall, or come between points of time or events: to come in or between by way of hindrance or modification *intervene to stop a fight*: to interfere usually by force or threat of force in another nation's internal affairs especially to compel or prevent an action: INTERPOSE
- **Justify:** to prove or show to be just, right, or reasonable b (1) : to show to have had a sufficient legal reason (2) : to qualify (oneself)
- **Maintain:** to keep in an existing state (as of repair, efficiency, or validity) : preserve from failure or decline *maintain machinery*: to sustain against opposition or danger : uphold and defend *maintain a position*: to continue or persevere in : CARRY ON, KEEP UP *couldn't maintain his composure*: to support or provide for *has a family to maintain* b : SUSTAIN *enough food to maintain life*
- **Modify:** to make minor changes in: to make basic or fundamental changes in often to give a new orientation to or to serve a new end *the wing of a bird is an arm modified for flying*: to undergo change
- **Motivate:** to cause to move, to drive someone to action, to spur someone on.
- **Oblige:** to constrain by physical, moral, or legal force or by the exigencies of circumstance *obliged to find a job* : to put in one's debt by a favor or service *we are much obliged for your help*: to do a favor for *always ready to oblige a friend*
- **Obtain:** to gain or attain usually by planned action or effort
- **Oppose:** to place opposite or against something: to place over against something so as to provide resistance, counterbalance, or contrast: to offer resistance to : COMBAT, RESIST, WITHSTAND
- **Participate:** to possess some of the attributes of a person, thing, or quality: to take part *always tried to participate in class discussions* b : to have a part or share in something: to SHARE
- **Persecute:** to harass in a manner designed to injure, grieve, or afflict. To cause to suffer because of a belief.
- **Perceive:** to attain awareness or understanding of: to regard as being such *perceived threats* *was perceived as a loser*: to become aware of through the senses: SEE, OBSERVE
- **Perseverance/Persevere:** the action or condition or an instance of persevering : STEADFASTNESS. Persevere: to persist in a state, enterprise, or undertaking in spite of counterinfluences, opposition, or discouragement

- **Ponder**: to weigh in the mind *pondered their chances of success*: to think about : reflect on *pondered the events of the day*: to think or consider especially quietly, soberly, and deeply
- **Portray**: to make a picture of : DEPICT: to describe in words b : to play the role of : ENACT: to show
- **Prevent**: to keep from happening or existing *steps to prevent war*: to hold or keep back : HINDER, STOP
- **Prohibit**: to forbid by authority: to prevent from doing something: PRECLUDE: FORBID
- **Project**: to devise in the mind : DESIGN: to plan, figure, or estimate for the future *project expenditures for the coming year*: to throw or cast forward : THRUST: to put or set forth : present for consideration: to attribute (one's own ideas, feelings, or characteristics) to other people or to objects *a nation is an entity on which one can project many of the worst of one's instincts
- **Promote**: to advance in station, rank, or honor : RAISE: to advance (a student) from one grade to the next higher grade: to contribute to the growth or prosperity of : FURTHER *promote international understanding*: to help bring (as an enterprise) into being : LAUNCH:ADVANCE
- **Rebel** : opposing or taking arms against a government or ruler: DISOBEDIENT, REBELLIOUS
- **Reconcile**: to restore to friendship or harmony *reconciled the factions* : SETTLE, RESOLVE *reconcile differences*

- **Reflect**: to give back or exhibit as an image, likeness, or outline : MIRROR *the clouds were reflected in the water*: to bring or cast as a result *his attitude reflects little credit on his judgment*: to make manifest or apparent : SHOW *the pulse reflects the condition of the heart*: REALIZE, CONSIDER: to think quietly and calmly b : to express a thought or opinion resulting from reflection
- **Reinforce**: to strengthen or increase by fresh additions *reinforce our troops* *were reinforcing their pitching staff*: to strengthen by additional assistance, material, or support : make stronger or more pronounced *reinforce levees* *reinforce ideas* : to encourage (a response) with a reinforcer: to seek or get reinforcements
- **Render**: to transmit to another : DELIVER: GIVE UP, YIELD : to furnish for consideration, approval, or information: as (1) : to hand down (a legal judgment) (2) : to agree on and report (a verdict)(1) : GIVE BACK, RESTORE (2) : REFLECT, ECHO c : to give in acknowledgment of dependence or obligation : PAY: to do (a service) for another: MAKE : IMPART: DEPICT (2) : to give a performance of (3) : to produce a copy or version of *the documents are rendered in the original French* (4) : to execute the motions of *render a salute*: to direct the execution of : ADMINISTER
- **Resolve**: to cause resolution of (a pathological state): to deal with successfully : clear up *resolve doubts* *resolve a dispute*: to find an answer to: to make clear or understandable: to find a mathematical solution of : to reach a firm decision about *resolve to get more sleep* *resolve disputed points in a text*: to work out the resolution of
- **Restore**: GIVE BACK, RETURN: to put or bring back into existence or use : to bring back to or put back into a former or original state : RENEW
- **Reveal**: to make known through divine inspiration: to make (something secret or hidden) publicly or generally known *reveal a secret*: to open up to view : DISPLAY *the uncurtained window revealed a cluttered room*DISCLOSE, DIVULGE, TELL
- **Revolutionize**: to overthrow the established government: to change fundamentally or completely
- **Significant/Signifies** : the quality of being important : Signify (signifies) - to be a sign of : MEAN: IMPLY: to show
- **Simulate**: to give or assume the appearance or effect of often with the intent to deceive : IMITATE: to make a simulation of (as a physical system)
- **Stimulate**: to excite to activity or growth or to greater activity : ANIMATE, AROUSE: PROVOKE
- **Strengthen**: to make stronger
- **Surpass**: to become better, greater, or stronger than : EXCEED: to go beyond : OVERSTEP: to transcend the reach, capacity, or powers of EXCEED
- **Sustain**: to give support or relief to : to supply with sustenance : NOURISH : KEEP UP, PROLONG: to support the weight of : to carry or withstand (a weight or pressure): to buoy up *sustained by hope*: to bear up under: SUFFER, UNDERGO *sustained heavy losses* : to support as true, legal, or just: to allow or admit as valid *the court sustained the motion* : to support by adequate proof : CONFIRM
- **Symbolize**: to serve as a symbol of: to represent, express, or identify by a symbol
- **Transcend** : to rise above or go beyond the limits of: to triumph over the negative or restrictive aspects of : OVERCOME: to be prior to, beyond, and above (the universe or material existence): to outstrip or outdo in some attribute, quality, or power: EXCEED
- **Transform**: to change in composition or structure: to change the outward form or appearance of : to change in character or condition
- **Transmit** : to send or convey from one person or place to another: to cause or allow to spread
- **Undermine**: to wash away supporting material from under: to subvert or weaken insidiously or secretly: WEAKEN
- **Unify**: to make into a unit or a coherent whole : UNITE
- **Utilize**: to make use of : turn to practical use or account
- **Verify**: to confirm or substantiate in law by oath: to establish the truth, accuracy, or reality of: CONFIRM