

The Moffats Literature Dictionary

A

abide - stand
adversaries - enemies; competitors
aghast - shocked; dismayed
amiable - friendly; good natured
arbor - frame for growing vines
avert - to avoid

B

baleful - threatening harm
bedlam - total confusion
belligerently - aggressively
blanched - whitened by color being removed

C

cantered - galloped
careening - moving uncontrollably
composure - self-control
consolation - comfort
consternation - concern; worry
contempt - dislike, disapproval

D

defied - stubbornly resisted
deft - nimble
dejection - low spirits
depot - train station
dignity - high importance; deserving respect
disconsolately - cheerlessly
disdainful - scornful
dismayed - disappointed; distressed
dunce - ignorant person

E

emphatic - forceful; urgent
engrossed - focused; absorbed
enterprising - adventurous
evoking - bringing about
exasperation - extreme annoyance, frustration
expectancy - anticipation; suspense

F

fast - tightly
feeble - weak
fervently - passionately; zealously

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G

gallivanting - wandering about
galumphed - moved clumsily
glowering - scowling
groped - searched blindly or uncertainly

I

ignominiously - disgracefully
immobile - not able to move
impertinent - rude; disrespectful
impersonate - to mimic
implored - urgently begged
incredulously - in disbelief
indifferent - unconcerned; uninterested
indignantly - with annoyance or resentment
inevitable - unavoidable
inimitable - defying imitation; matchless
inopportune - inconvenient
insufferable - intolerable
intently - with great focus

L

laden - loaded down
languorous - still; sleepy
lethargy - laziness
loitering - standing idly

M

martyred - greatly pained or tormented
menacingly - threateningly
mien - manner; appearance
morose - gloomy; sullen

N

nonchalantly - in a carefree or unconcerned way

O

ominous - threatening

P

pensive - thoughtful
protruded - extended
provisions - food; supplies

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Q

quarantine - enforced isolation

R

recuperate - to recover; to get better

reluctant - unwilling

remonstrance - protest; bargain

reproach - disapproval

S

sarcastically - mockingly

sauntered - leisurely strolled

sepulchral - gloomy; dismal

shinned - climbed, using hands and legs for gripping

skulked - moved stealthily; lurked

subdued - quiet; restrained

T

tawny - yellow

transplant - move and re-plant

U

unaccustomed - unusual

unanimous - of one mind; in full agreement

V

viaduct - bridge