Abstract (adj.) – Theoretical; Difficult to understand; not concrete.

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| **Synonym** | Conceptual/hypothetical |
| **Sentence** | It was an abstract idea  He did not like abstract art |

Fidelity (noun) – Faithfulness; Loyalty

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| **Synonym** | Allegiance |
| **Sentence** | You could not question his fidelity.  He was guilty of infidelity |

Figurative (adj.) – Based on figurative speech; Metaphorical

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| **Synonym** | Symbolic; not literal |
| **Sentence** | When the mayor said the housing market had sprouted wings, he was speaking figuratively. |

Palpable (adj.) – Capable of being touched; tangible.

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| **Synonym** | Obvious; apparent |
| **Sentence** | The tumor was palpable.  His disappointment was palpable. |

Poignant (adj.) – Painfully emotional; extremely moving.

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| **Synonym** | Disturbing |
| **Sentence** | The poignant movie scene was difficult to watch.  We all watched the mother’s poignant reunion with her daughter |

Vex (v) – To annoy, pester, or confuse.

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| **Synonym** | Distress/bother |
| **Sentence** | I was vexed by the puzzle  Stuck in the well, my situation was quite vexing. |

Domestic (adj.) – Having to do with household or family. Not foreign.

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| **Synonym** | Local |
| **Sentence** | To be domestic is to enjoy being at home or skilfull at doing things around the house.  The domestic steel industry is doing well. |

Obtuse (adj) – Insensitive; blockheaded

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| **Synonym** | Slow/imperceptive |
| **Sentence** | She was so obtuse she didn’t realize he had asked her to marry him. |

Paradigm (n) – A model or example

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| **Synonym** | Archetype/standard |
| **Sentence** | The school was perfect. It should be the paradigm for all others.  Her teaching methods were paradigm shifting. |

Precipitate (v) – To cause to happen abruptly.

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| **Synonym** | Hurry; speed; accelerate |
| **Sentence** | Investor panic precipitated the stock market crash.  Arresting the protestors precipitated the riot. |