Word of the Day

**Whirligig**

(noun) \WER-lih-gig\

Definition: 1. A whirling or circling course

2. A toy that spins for example: a top

3. A small black beetle that swims rapidly in circles on the surface of still water

EX. Sam was spinning in a financial whirligig; the more he earned the more he spent as he plunged into debt.

The whirligig spun and spun in the small pond all day long.

**Finicky**

(adjective) \fin-ih-KEE\

Definition: extremely or excessively particular or meticulous in taste or standards.

EX. Pam found it hard to make a healthy meal that her young son, a finicky eater, would eat

Tom is a finicky eater, especially when it comes to salads.

**Flatfoot**

(noun) \flat-foot\

Definition: Slang; a police officer; especially a patrolman walking the beat

EX. In his latest movie, the actor plays an earnest flatfoot who is bested by some clever crook.

The clever flatfoot walked the beat in Harlem, New York.

**Climacteric**

(noun) \kly-mak-ter-ik\

Definition: A major turning point or critical stage

EX. Many historians have tried to pinpoint the Roman Empire’s climacteric, that precise moment when it began.

The climacteric fall of terrorism came when Osama Bin Laden was killed by a group of Navy SEALS in his warehouse.

**Gridiron**

(noun) \grid-EYE-ern\

Definition: football field

EX. The former quarterback looked out at the field, recalling his many moments on the gridiron.

Drew Brees rolled out to the right as Demvery Henderson bolted down the gridiron.

**Obsequious**

(adjective) \ob-SEE-kwee-us\

Definition: Marked by or exhibiting a fawning attentiveness

EX. The executive brought with her an entourage of obsequious assistants, who would do anything she asked of them

LeBron James’ obsequious stylist brought 2 new pairs of LeBron 9’s and 5 new headbands to hide his hairline.

**Nutmeg**

(noun) \NUT-meg\

Definition: An aromatic seed produced by an evergreen tree (myristica fragrans), also: ground seed as a spice

EX. Before I can make pumpkin pie, I need to go buy cinnamon and nutmeg.

My grandpa uses nutmeg a lot of things like, soups and stews.

**Sop**

(noun) \SAHP\

Definition: Bribe, gift or gesture

EX. The contractor offered higher priced bathroom fixtures at no extra cost as a sop to the homeowner, who was threatening to cancel the contract.

The criminal tried to sop Chief Jennings $20,000 (which he stole), to drop all of his charges including, a killing spree he went on earlier that year but, Chief wasn’t buying it.

**Misanthropist**

(Noun) \mis-AN-thro-pist\

Definition: A person who dislikes or distrusts other people or humankind.

EX. Although the misanthropist attended the party, he spent the whole time sulking in the corner avoiding eye contact.

The misanthropist was enjoying the concert but, not enjoying the way he was crammed in between everyone in the crowd.

**Patina**

(Noun) \puh-TEE-nuh\

Definition: A surface appearance of something grown beautiful especially with age or use

EX. The winery has been constructed and decorated to give it a patina of old-world quaintness.

Mrs. Brown, a widow, has an old copper statue of a small mockingbird that has a beautiful patina after years of being moved from place to place.

**Impetuous**

(Adjective) \im-PETCH-oo-us\

Definition: Marked by impulsive vehemence or passion.

EX. After graduating from university, Tom made the impetuous decision to hitchhike across the country.

Evgeni Malkin was on a one on one break with Byfuglien watching him with a piercing stare and made an impetuous decision by toe dragging the puck past Byfuglien, making him lose his balance.

**Falafel**

(Noun) \fuh-LA-fell\

Definition: A spice mixture of ground vegetable formed into patties or balls and then fried

EX. Sandra set her alarm clock to five a.m. so she would have enough time to make two hundred falafels for the school banquet.

Jerrod went to Saudi Arabia and was walking in the streets smelling the wonderful falafels being made by the chef in the falafel stand in the market.

**Exploit**

(Noun) \eks-ploit\

Definition: To take advantage of or use

EX. The quarterback was told by the coach to exploit the weak offence in the Grey Cup.

As Kyle Wellwood stayed behind the net looking for a passing lane to open up, Evander Kane saw he could exploit the defence by cutting in between two defenders to receive the pass from Wellwood and blast a one-timer.

**Rupee**

(Noun) \ROO-pee\

Definition: A coin and monetary unit in countries such as India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka

EX. Six months after I returned from India, I found a lonely rupee wedged in the lining of my purse.

The pickpocket, who lives in the slums of Nepal, has collected over 100 rupees

In his lifetime from the richest people in Nepal.

**Suk**

(Noun) \sook\

Definition: A market or Bazaar, especially in Arab or Middle East

EX. Normally I revel in the hustle and bustle of the Suk, but when I have a headache, it’s the last place I want to be.

While Rolando was walking in the Suk in Pakistan, a pickpocket who is wanted in India, Nepal and Saudi Arabia, stole 50 rupees from his back pocket.