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anguish despondent blithe disgruntled congenial disillusion defiant exuberant desolate gratification

There are lots of ways to describe how you feel. In this lesson, you will learn words that express happiness and unhappiness.

- 1. anguish (ang gwish) from Latin angustus, "narrow"
 - a. noun Great physical or mental pain; torment; torture
 - The thought of their missing child filled the parents with anguish.
 - b. verb To suffer emotional pain
 - The patient anguished over which cancer treatment to choose.
- 2. blithe (blīth) adjective Cheerful; carefree; lighthearted
 - · Unconcerned about onlookers, the blithe teens gossiped and giggled as they walked down the street.

blithely adverb The dog played blithely with its new toy.

- 3. congenial (kan-jen yal) adjective Friendly; having a pleasant disposition
 - His boyish charm and congenial manner helped him win votes.

congeniality noun The restaurant hostess's congeniality made patrons feel at home.

- 4. defiant (dǐ-fī ant) adjective from Old French desfier, "to challenge" Openly or boldly resisting authority
 - Defiant workers gathered in the street to protest unfair treatment.

defy verb Alex defied his father by staying out past his curfew.

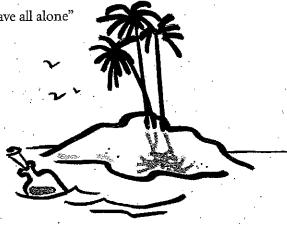
defiance noun In a show of defiance, the crowd refused to disperse.

- 5. desolate (des a-lit) adjective from Latin desolare, "to leave all alone"
 - a. Lonely and sad
 - When her three best friends moved away, the girl felt desolate.
 - b. Having little or no life or vegetation; barren
 - The plane flew over a vast and desolate desert.

desolation noun Alone on the desert island, he was overcome with feelings of desolation.

"Filled with anguish" and "anguish over" are common expressions.

Congenial can describe people with similar personalities or tastes.



desolate

6. despondent (di-spon dent) adjective from Latin despondere, "to give up"

In low spirits; depressed; dejected

- The artist Vincent Van Gogh became despondent when people - rejected his paintings.
- 7. disgruntled (dis-grun'tld) adjective from Middle English grunten, "to grunt"

Discontented; resentful

- The disgruntled employee complained to the personnel office when he failed to get promoted.
- 8. disillusion (dĭs ĭ-loo zhən) verb from Latin dis-, "remove" + ludere, "to play"

To disappoint someone by breaking his or her belief in a false ideal

- If you expect the people you admire to be perfect, you may soon be disillusioned.
- disillusionment noun Young Antonio's disillusionment, after meeting the obviously fake Santa Claus, kept him awake all night.
- 9. exuberant (ig-zoo'bər-ənt) adjective from Latin exuberare, "to be abundant"

Filled with enthusiasm and joy

- Exuberant after returning from a long tour of duty, the naval officer hugged her family members.
- exuberance noun The crowd cheered in wild exuberance when their baseball team scored the winning run.
- 10. gratification (grăt'ə-fi-kā'shən) noun from Latin gratus, "pleasing" Satisfaction; a feeling of being rewarded for one's efforts
 - Their son's success brought gratification to the parents, who had struggled to put him through school.

gratify verb Dr. Bass was gratified that many former students remembered her.

WORD ENRICHMENT

The Latin word for play

The Latin verb ludere, meaning "to play," is found in a variety of English words. When we have an illusion, we believe something false, as though someone is tricking, or playing, with us. Disillusion means "to take away play," bringing someone back to reality. The word ludicrous means "ridiculous," as though we are laughing at silly child's play.