

Vocabulaire 1-11

Groupe 1

Mots à apprendre

Mot	Classe	Sens	Exemple en contexte
harness	<i>v.</i>	to control and use (a force) · exploiter, maîtriser	<i>Scientists hope to harness the power of the sun.</i>
unlock	<i>v.</i>	to reveal or release (a secret, potential) · percer (un mystère), libérer	<i>He sought to unlock the secret of life.</i>
delve	<i>v.</i>	to research deeply (delve into) · fouiller, creuser	<i>He delved deep into forbidden knowledge.</i>
concoct	<i>v.</i>	to create by combining; to invent · concocter, élaborer	<i>He concocted a dangerous new mixture.</i>
chronicle	<i>v.</i>	to record events in order · relater, consigner	<i>His letters chronicle the whole disaster.</i>
chart	<i>v.</i>	to map or trace systematically · cartographier, retracer	<i>She charted the unknown territory.</i>
deem	<i>v.</i>	to judge or consider to be · juger, estimer	<i>The court deemed him responsible.</i>
overstep	<i>v.</i>	to go beyond (a limit) · outrepasser, dépasser	<i>He overstepped the bounds of decency.</i>
trespass	<i>v.</i>	to intrude or transgress · empiéter, transgresser	<i>Science had trespassed on sacred ground.</i>
defile	<i>v.</i>	to make impure; to violate · souiller, profaner	<i>He felt he had defiled the dead.</i>
inquiry	<i>n.</i>	an act of seeking knowledge or truth · enquête, investigation	<i>A patient inquiry into nature's laws.</i>
remains	<i>n.</i>	a dead body or its parts · restes, dépouille	<i>He gathered remains from the graveyard.</i>
quest	<i>n.</i>	a long search or pursuit · quête	<i>His quest for knowledge knew no limits.</i>
contraption	<i>n.</i>	a strange or complex machine · engin, machine compliquée	<i>A monstrous contraption hummed in the lab.</i>
upright	<i>adj.</i>	strictly honest and moral · intègre, droit	<i>He had once been an upright man.</i>

Expressions idiomatiques

Expression idiomatique	Sens
to push the boundaries	repousser les limites
to cross a line	franchir une limite (morale)
for the greater good	pour le bien commun

Mots à reconnaître

Mot	Classe	Sens	Exemple en contexte
science	<i>n.</i>	the systematic study of the world · science	<i>He gave his whole life to science.</i>
experiment	<i>n.</i>	a scientific test · expérience	<i>His final experiment changed everything.</i>
study	<i>v.</i>	to learn or examine closely · étudier	<i>He studied the secrets of decay.</i>
discover	<i>v.</i>	to find out for the first time · découvrir	<i>He discovered how to spark life.</i>
research	<i>n.</i>	careful, systematic investigation · recherche	<i>Years of research led to one night.</i>
prove	<i>v.</i>	to show to be true · prouver	<i>He set out to prove the impossible.</i>
theory	<i>n.</i>	a proposed explanation · théorie	<i>His theory defied all the experts.</i>
knowledge	<i>n.</i>	information and understanding · savoir, connaissance	<i>Forbidden knowledge consumed him.</i>
nature	<i>n.</i>	the physical world and its laws · nature	<i>He sought to bend nature to his will.</i>
secret	<i>n.</i>	something hidden or unknown · secret	<i>He stole nature's deepest secret.</i>
forbidden	<i>adj.</i>	not allowed; off limits · interdit, défendu	<i>He crossed into forbidden territory.</i>
sacred	<i>adj.</i>	holy; deserving great respect · sacré	<i>He treated nothing as sacred.</i>
soul	<i>n.</i>	the spiritual part of a being · âme	<i>Did his creature have a soul?</i>
flesh	<i>n.</i>	the soft tissue of a body · chair	<i>He assembled flesh into a man.</i>
lightning	<i>n.</i>	a flash of electricity from the sky · foudre, éclair	<i>A bolt of lightning gave it life.</i>

Groupe 2

Mots à apprendre

Mot	Classe	Sens	Exemple en contexte
desecrate	<i>v.</i>	to treat (something sacred) with violation · profaner , souiller	<i>He desecrated the graves for his work.</i>
hallow	<i>v.</i>	to make or honour as holy · sanctifier , consacrer	<i>Life itself was once hallowed.</i>
espouse	<i>v.</i>	to adopt or support (a cause) · épouser , embrasser	<i>He espoused a reckless faith in science.</i>
propound	<i>v.</i>	to put forward (a theory) · exposer , avancer	<i>He propounded a bold new theory of life.</i>
expound	<i>v.</i>	to explain in detail · exposer en détail , développer	<i>She expounded her ethical objections.</i>
procure	<i>v.</i>	to obtain, esp. with effort · se procurer , obtenir	<i>He procured the chemicals by illicit means.</i>
proffer	<i>v.</i>	to offer or present · offrir , présenter	<i>He proffered no apology for his deeds.</i>
bestow	<i>v.</i>	to give or confer (a gift, honour) · conférer , accorder	<i>He bestowed life on lifeless matter.</i>
avail	<i>v.</i>	to make use of (avail oneself of) · profiter de , se prévaloir de	<i>She availed herself of every resource.</i>
partake	<i>v.</i>	to take part or share (in) · prendre part , participer	<i>He would not partake in such cruelty.</i>
propriety	<i>n.</i>	correctness of behaviour or morals · bienséance , convenance	<i>He cast all propriety aside.</i>
impropriety	<i>n.</i>	improper or unseemly conduct · inconvenance , faute	<i>Many saw a grave impropriety in his work.</i>
wickedness	<i>n.</i>	the quality of being evil · méchanceté , malice	<i>Was it genius or wickedness?</i>
treatise	<i>n.</i>	a formal written work on a subject · traité (savant)	<i>He wrote a treatise on the origin of life.</i>
tome	<i>n.</i>	a large, scholarly book · gros volume , tome	<i>He pored over ancient tomes.</i>

Expressions idiomatiques

Expression idiomatique	Sens
to play with fire	jouer avec le feu
the end justifies the means	la fin justifie les moyens
a moral grey area	une zone d'ombre morale

Mots à reconnaître

Mot	Classe	Sens	Exemple en contexte
scientific	<i>adj.</i>	based on the methods of science · scientifique	<i>His scientific zeal blinded him.</i>
empirical	<i>adj.</i>	based on observation or experiment · empirique	<i>He demanded empirical proof.</i>
rational	<i>adj.</i>	based on reason · rationnel	<i>A rational mind, gripped by obsession.</i>
ethical	<i>adj.</i>	concerning right and wrong · éthique	<i>He ignored every ethical limit.</i>
immoral	<i>adj.</i>	not conforming to morality · immoral	<i>Many called the work deeply immoral.</i>
taboo	<i>n.</i>	a strong social or religious prohibition · tabou	<i>He broke an ancient taboo.</i>
sacrilege	<i>n.</i>	violation of something sacred · sacrilège	<i>It was sacrilege of the highest order.</i>
scruple	<i>n.</i>	a moral hesitation · scrupule	<i>He acted without a single scruple.</i>
virtue	<i>n.</i>	moral goodness · vertu	<i>Curiosity is no longer a virtue here.</i>
vice	<i>n.</i>	immoral or wicked behaviour · vice	<i>Pride was his ruling vice.</i>
sanctity	<i>n.</i>	the quality of being sacred · caractère sacré	<i>He denied the sanctity of life.</i>
profane	<i>adj.</i>	showing disrespect for sacred things · profane, impie	<i>His was a profane ambition.</i>
godlike	<i>adj.</i>	resembling a god in power · divin, semblable à un dieu	<i>He felt godlike for one night.</i>
unnatural	<i>adj.</i>	contrary to the natural order · contre nature, anormal	<i>The creature seemed wholly unnatural.</i>
amoral	<i>adj.</i>	without moral concern · amoral	<i>His science was coldly amoral.</i>

Groupe 3

Mots à apprendre

Mot	Classe	Sens	Exemple en contexte
comport	<i>v.</i>	to conduct (oneself) in a certain way · se comporter	<i>He comported himself with cold pride.</i>
contravene	<i>v.</i>	to break or go against (a law, rule) · contrevenir à, enfreindre	<i>His work contravened every moral law.</i>
anatomise	<i>v.</i>	to examine or dissect in fine detail · anatomiser, disséquer	<i>The novel anatomises a guilty mind.</i>
expurgate	<i>v.</i>	to remove objectionable matter from · expurger, épurer	<i>Editors expurgated the darkest passages.</i>
malfeasance	<i>n.</i>	wrongdoing, esp. by an official · méfait, malversation	<i>He was accused of grave malfeasance.</i>
heinous	<i>adj.</i>	utterly wicked or shocking · odieux, abominable	<i>It was a heinous violation of nature.</i>
nefarious	<i>adj.</i>	wicked and criminal · infâme, scélérat	<i>His nefarious experiments horrified all.</i>
iniquitous	<i>adj.</i>	grossly unjust or wicked · inique	<i>An iniquitous use of great talent.</i>
profligate	<i>adj.</i>	recklessly extravagant or immoral · dissolu, prodigue	<i>He led a profligate, godless life.</i>
dissolute	<i>adj.</i>	lacking moral restraint · dissolu, débauché	<i>Power made him dissolute and cruel.</i>
vainglorious	<i>adj.</i>	excessively proud of oneself · vaniteux, plein de gloriole	<i>His vainglorious ambition doomed him.</i>
egregious	<i>adj.</i>	outstandingly bad; flagrant · flagrant, monstrueux	<i>An egregious breach of all ethics.</i>
wanton	<i>adj.</i>	deliberate and unprovoked; immoral · gratuit, immoral	<i>His wanton disregard for life appalled them.</i>
reprobate	<i>n.</i>	an unprincipled, immoral person · vaurien, dévoyé	<i>He became a reprobate, shunned by all.</i>
miscreant	<i>n.</i>	a wrongdoer or villain · malfaiteur, scélérat	<i>The townsfolk hunted the miscreant down.</i>

Expressions idiomatiques

Expression idiomatique	Sens
a Faustian bargain	un pacte faustien
to tamper with nature	toucher à l'ordre naturel, dénaturer
to cross the Rubicon	franchir le Rubicon (point de non-retour)

Mots à reconnaître

Mot	Classe	Sens	Exemple en contexte
metaphysical	<i>adj.</i>	concerning the nature of reality · métaphysique	<i>He wrestled with metaphysical doubts.</i>
ontological	<i>adj.</i>	concerning the nature of being · ontologique	<i>An ontological terror gripped him.</i>
existential	<i>adj.</i>	relating to existence · existentiel	<i>The creature faced an existential despair.</i>
Promethean	<i>adj.</i>	boldly creative and rebellious · prométhéen	<i>His was a Promethean ambition.</i>
transcendent	<i>adj.</i>	beyond ordinary limits · transcendant	<i>He chased a transcendent power.</i>
sublime	<i>adj.</i>	of awe-inspiring grandeur · sublime	<i>The Alps offered a sublime backdrop.</i>
licentious	<i>adj.</i>	lacking moral or sexual restraint · licencieux	<i>Critics found the tale licentious.</i>
perfidious	<i>adj.</i>	deceitful and untrustworthy · perfide	<i>A perfidious friend betrayed him.</i>
depraved	<i>adj.</i>	morally corrupt · dépravé	<i>They saw a depraved imagination at work.</i>
debauched	<i>adj.</i>	given to immoral pleasures · débauché	<i>His youth had been debauched.</i>
reprehensible	<i>adj.</i>	deserving strong condemnation · répréhensible	<i>His silence was reprehensible.</i>
opprobrium	<i>n.</i>	harsh public disgrace · opprobre	<i>He earned the opprobrium of the world.</i>
ignominy	<i>n.</i>	public shame and dishonour · ignominie	<i>He died in ignominy.</i>
infamy	<i>n.</i>	the state of being notoriously bad · infamie	<i>His name lived on in infamy.</i>
hubristic	<i>adj.</i>	showing excessive pride · orgueilleux, présomptueux	<i>His hubristic dream collapsed.</i>