

Words From Myths & Legends

Achilles' heel	Weak spot; place of vulnerability
Aeolian	Referring to winds. Aeolus was God of the winds
Apollo and Adonis	A handsome desirable male Apollo was the Sun God of the Greeks and Romans. Adonis was a mortal man, lover of Venn
Atlantean, Atlantic	From Atlas; Indicates strength
Aurora	The dawn - Aurora was Goddess of the dawn
Bacchanal	An orgy; a bacchanal is a reveler or carouser at parties
Bacchanalian	Drunken revelry or wild party
Callope	Stream whistle or anything making a similar shrill sound
Cassandra	One who prophesies trouble.
Centaur	Having the head and arms of a man and body of a horse.
Chimera	Imaginative creature; wild and scary
Cupidity	Greed or avarice. Cupid was the young god who embodied sexual desire
Erotic	Of or pertaining to sexual love. Eros (Cupid) was the God of passionate love
Furor (e)	Frenzy, excitement, Rage
Fury	An avenging spirit, Virago.
Gorgon	Ugly, frightening person repulsive creature
Halcyon	Peaceful, tranquil. Halcyon was a widow who was metamorphosed by Gods into a kingfisher
Harpy	Grasping, greedy, scary female. Harpies were part women, part bird
Hector	To bully or annoy
Helen (of Troy)	A woman of incomparable beauty (a face that launched a thousand ships)
Herculean	Extraordinarily strong, Difficult
Hydra-headed	An evil with many sources; Difficult to control
Iridescent	Having a rainbow like play of colours
Jovial	Good-natured, Jolly
Junoesque	Queenly, Statuesque (said of women) Juno wife of Jupiter was queenly
Lethargy	Sluggishness. The river Lethe ran through Hades (the underworld) and whoever drank the water forgot his past
Martial	Warlike, Suited for army or military life (from Mars, God of war)
Mentor	Respected guide, Teacher
Mercurial	Volatile in mood, Easily changeable
Mnemonics	The art of improving memory
Morphine	An addictive narcotic. Morpheus was God of dreams
Muse	Source of inspiration, a poet
Narcissism	Self-love; extreme egotism

Nemesis	Relentless pursuer of evil doers. Nemesis was Goddess of retribution
Neptune	Figuratively, the ocean. A Neptunist thinks the world emerged from water
Odyssey	Long wandering or voyage, the hero of Homer's Odyssey.
Olympian	Majestic, superior to others
Paean	Hymn or song of praise. Paean was the physician of Gods
Pandora's box	Source of evil. Malign influence needing to be kept under control
Parnassus	Having to do with poems; to climb Mount Parnassus is to write poetry
Pegasus	Extremely swift horse; Poetic inspiration
Phoenix	Symbol of immortality
Plutocracy	Government of the wealthy. Pluto was the god of the underworld
Promethean	Unusually original and creative, life-giving; Prometheus formed man from clay
Protean	Assuming many shapes or forms. Proteus, the sea god, kept changing shape
Psyche	The soul, Mind. Psyche was the mortal girl loved by Eros
Saturnalia	Wild party or orgy. Saturn, God of sowing
Sibyl	Prophetess of Ancient Greeks and Romans
Stentorian	Extremely loud(Stentor was the greek herald)
Stygian	Gloomy, Dark, Frightening
Tantalise	To torment or tease.
Terpsichorean	Referring to dance.Terpsichorean was the Muse of the Dance
Titanic	Gigantic in power
Zeus	Ruler, king Zeus was king of Greek gods. A Zeus has absolute power.
Cyclopean	Huge, Massive
Erotic	Pertainig to sexual desire
Gorgon	An ugly person, A horrifying face
Harpy	A grasping, ravenous person
Janus - Faced	Two faced, having two distinct faces
Jovial	Merry, joyous, Happy
Mentor	A teacher or a wise counselor/coach
Mercurial	Swift, Active
Narcissism	Self love & admiration, Narcissistic feelings
Nemesis	An agent of punishment, Upholder of moral code
Odyssey	Long dangerous journey
Olympian	Majestic, Awe-inspiring, detached and aloof
Paean	A song of praise, Triumph or thanks giving
Palladium	A safeguard
Phoenix	A symbol of immortality
Protean	Changing in shape
Saturnine	Heavy, Dull, Gloomy, Serious, Morose
Stentorian	Very loud voiced; Bellowing