

FUNNY IN FARSI Word List by Chapter

“Leffingwell Elementary School”

futile (page 7)

incapable of producing any result; ineffective; useless; not successful

“Hot dogs and Wild Geese”

regaling (page 8)

to provide with great enjoyment; entertain

Rosetta stone (page 8)

a basalt tablet bearing inscriptions in Greek and in Egyptian hieroglyphic and demotic scripts that was discovered in 1799 near Rosetta, a town of northern Egypt in the Nile River delta, and provided the key to the decipherment of Egyptian hieroglyphics

befuddled (page 9)

to confuse; perplex

scintillating (page 9)

to throw off sparks; flash

dubious (page 10)

fraught with uncertainty or doubt; undecided

“In the Gutter”

maladies (page 13)

a disease, a disorder, or an ailment

“Save me Mickey”

pinnacle (page 18)

the highest point; the culmination

exponentially (page 18)

to grow at an excessive rate

disgruntled (page 19)

to make discontented

acutely (page 19)

keenly perceptive or discerning

origami (page 19)

the art or process, originating in Japan, of folding paper into shapes representing flowers and birds, for example

vindicated (page 22)

to clear of accusation, blame, suspicion, or doubt with supporting arguments or proof

emblazoned (page 23)

to inscribe (a prominent marking) on a surface

basked (page 23)

to take great pleasure or satisfaction

“Swoosh-Swoosh”

wafted (page 26)

to cause to go gently and smoothly through the air or over water

sveltteness (page 29)

slender or graceful in figure or outline; slim

euphoria (page 29)

a feeling of great happiness or well-being

“With a Little Help from My Friends”

tabulae rasae (page 31)

the mind before it receives the impressions gained from experience

bucolic (page 31)

of the countryside or country life; rustic

droned (page 32)

a person who does tedious or menial work; a drudge

uncanny (page 33)

weird or mysterious

mangy (page 33)

scruffy or shabby

paparazzi (page 33)

a freelance photographer who doggedly pursues celebrities to take candid pictures for sale to magazines and newspapers

encapsulate (page 34)

to encase in or as if in a capsule

“Bernice”

fascist (page 40)

a political philosophy, movement, or regime (as that of the Fascisti) that exalts nation and often race above the individual and that stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition

“A Dozen Key Chains”

charismatic (page 43)

a special magnetic charm or appeal

anomaly (page 43)

something different, abnormal, peculiar, or not easily classified

prowess (page 43)

extraordinary ability

aversion (page 44)

a feeling of repugnance toward something with a desire to avoid or turn from it

atrocious (page 44)

of very poor quality

resilient (page 47)

capable of withstanding shock without permanent deformation or rupture

“Of Mosquitoes and Men”

regaled (page 57)

to entertain sumptuously

leavened (page 57)
to raise (as bread) with a leaven

innocuous (page 57)
producing no injury

proverbial (page 57)
commonly spoken of

piddly (page 58)
trivial

teeming (page 59)
to be present in large quantity

undulated (page 61)
having a wavy surface, edge, or markings

innards (page 61)
the internal organs of a human being or animal

“The ‘F’ Word”

fraught (page 62)
well supplied or provided

monosyllabic (page 62)
consisting of one syllable

phlegm (page 63)
viscid mucus secreted in abnormal quantity in the respiratory passages

incessantly (page 63)
continual

inquisition (page 63)
the act of inquiring

affinity (page 64)
an attraction to or liking for something

privy (page 65)
admitted as one sharing in a secret

permutation (page 66)
often major or fundamental change (as in character or condition)
based primarily on rearrangement of existent elements

adamantly (page 67)
unshakable or insistent especially in maintaining a position or opinion

“Waterloo”

buoyancy (page 69)
the tendency of a body to float or to rise when submerged in a fluid

Pavlovian (page 70)
being or expressing a conditioned or predictable reaction

apogee (page 71)
the farthest or highest point

proviso (page 72)
a conditional stipulation

cerulean (page 73)
resembling the blue of the sky

“America, Land of the Free”

spelunking (page 79)
the hobby or practice of exploring caves

insidious (page 79)
awaiting a chance to entrap

“The Ham Amendment”

beribboned (page 83)
adorned with ribbons

expatriates (page 85)
to leave one's native country to live elsewhere

saffron (page 85)
is a spice derived from the flower of the saffron crocus

meticulously (page 86)
marked by extreme or excessive care in the consideration or treatment of details

imams (page 86)
an Islamic leader, often the leader of a mosque and/or community

privy (page 87)
admitted as one sharing in a secret

“Treasure Island”

fledgling (page 89)
a young bird that has recently left its nest but is still dependent upon parental care and feeding

guise (page 89)
False appearance; pretense

pontificate (page 91)
to speak in a pompous or dogmatic manner

dissuade (page 92)
to advise (a person) against something

soliloquy (page 94)
the act of talking to oneself

segue (page 94)
a smooth transition from one topic or section to the next

scintillating (page 94)
brilliantly lively, stimulating, or witty

“It’s all Relative”

inuits (page 96)
is a general term for a group of culturally similar indigenous peoples inhabiting the Arctic regions of Alaska, Greenland, and Canada

nuances (page 96)
a subtle shift in color, or feeling, or meaning

veritable (page 97)
being truly or very much so

etymology (page 98)
the history of words — when they entered a language, from what source, and how their form and meaning have changed over time

cornucopia (page 98)
a symbol of food and abundance dating back to the 5th century BC, also referred to as horn of plenty, Horn of Amalthea, and harvest cone

en masse (page 102)
all together; as a group

dote (page 103)
to show excessive fondness or love

“Me and Bob Hope”

delve (page 104)
To search deeply and laboriously

enigmatic (page 104)
mysterious

secular (page 104)
the state of being separate from religion

equinox (page 105)
The moment when the Sun is positioned directly over the Earth's equator, and the apparent position of the Sun at that moment

onslaught (page 106)
an especially fierce attack

commiserate (page 107)
to feel or express sympathy

kvetching (page 107)
to complain

embodiment (page 108)
a person who represents an abstract quality

“I ran and I ran and I ran”

accosted (page 114)
to approach and speak to often in a challenging or aggressive way

“I-raynians Need Not Apply”

palpable (page 117)
easily perceptible; noticeable

apathetic (page 118)
having or showing little or no feeling or emotion

staunch (119)
firm or steadfast in principle, adherence, loyalty, etc.

“Girls Just Wanna Have Funds”

frugal (page 123)
acquiring goods and services in a restrained manner

lode (page 123)
a principal source or supply

lucrative (page 123)
producing wealth; profitable

extricate (page 123)
to free or release from entanglement

condiments (page 125)
something used to enhance the flavor of food

frumpy (page 127)
a girl or woman regarded as dull, plain, or unfashionable

feverishly (page 127)
marked by intense agitation, emotion, or activity

noxious (page 127)
physically harmful or destructive to living beings

angiogram (page 128)
an imaging test that uses x-rays to view your body's blood vessels

lamenting (page 129)
to regret deeply

mantra (page 129)
scared counsel, formula

“Joyeuse Noelle”

tutelage (page 130)
a guiding influence

gendarmes (page 132)
a police officer in any of several European countries, esp. a French police officer

samovar (page 133)
an urn with a spigot at its base used especially in Russia to boil water for tea

myriad (page 133)
a great number

concierge (page 135)
assists guests with various tasks like making restaurant reservations, arranging for spa services, recommending nightclubs, procurement of tickets to special events and assisting with various travel arrangements and tours of interesting places to visit

enamored (page 136)
to cause to feel a strong or excessive interest or fascination

irony (page 137)
the use of words to convey a meaning that is the opposite of its literal meaning

funerary (page 138)
of, used for, or associated with burial

melancholic (page 139)
disposed to or affected with melancholy; gloomy

“The Wedding”

vernacular (page 144)
of, relating to, or characteristic of a period, place, or group

fathom (page 145)
comprehension

quintessential (page 147)
the most perfect embodiment of something

disconcerting (page 150)
to frustrate (plans, for example) by throwing into disorder;
disarrange

tenacity (page 150)
persistent in maintaining, adhering to, or seeking something valued
or desired

repertoire (page 150)
the complete list or supply of skills, devices, or ingredients used in a
particular field, occupation, or practice

“A Nose by Any Other Name”

uncanny (page 162)
being beyond what is normal or expected

rhinal (page 162)
nasal

ominous (page 163)
being or exhibiting an omen

formidable (page 163)
causing fear, dread, or apprehension

disgruntled (page 164)
displeased and discontented

repulsed (page 164)
to drive or beat back

obscure (page 165)
to make dark, dim, or indistinct

pretenses (page 165)
professed rather than real intention or purpose

jovial (page 165)
markedly good-humored especially as evidenced by jollity and
conviviality

“Judges Paid Off”

naivete (page 169)
the state or quality of being inexperienced or unsophisticated

paranoia (page 170)
irrational suspiciousness and distrustfulness

a cappella (page 172)
without instrumental accompaniment

rigorous (page 174)
manifesting, exercising, or favoring rigor

dysfunctional (page 174)
abnormal or unhealthy interpersonal behavior or interaction within a
group

ode (page 176)
a form of stately and elaborate lyrical verse

“If I Were a Rich Man”

amenities (page 180)
something that conduces to comfort, convenience, or enjoyment

converged (page 180)
to come together from different directions; meet

rendition (page 180)
alter

entomology (page 181)
the scientific study of insects

stifling (page 181)
very hot or stuffy almost to the point of being suffocating

anglicize (page 181)
to become English in form or character

exoticism (page 181)
the quality or state of being exotic

indignantly (page 183)
unworthy

aphorism (page 183)
a concise statement of a principle

venue (page 184)
a place where events of a specific type are held

morphing (page 185)
relating to form

“Afterword: Kazem and Nazireh Fazayeri”

ecstatic (page 190)
of, relating to, or marked by ecstasy

paraphernalia (page 191)
personal belongings

foray (page 192)
an initial venture

feigned (page 192)
not real; pretended

vigor (page 192)
intensity of action or effect

nadir (page 192)
the lowest point

conducive (page 193)
tending to promote or assist

muse (page 193)
to become absorbed in thought

tchotchke (page 194)
Yiddish *tshatshke* trinket, from obsolete Polish *czaczko*

candid (page 194)
relating to or being photography of subjects acting naturally or
spontaneously without being posed

watershed (page 195)
turning point

