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Subject Specific Words

The following list of words was compiled by a number of secondary school departments. They are words which are often needed but incorrectly spelt. This list is not for blanket teaching but for staff to be selective, and support pupils with any of the words of which they are uncertain.

Art		
acrylic	easel	landscape
charcoal	exhibition	palette
collage	frieze	pastel
collection	gallery	portrait
colour	illusion	sketch
dimension	kiln	spectrum

English		
alliteration	expression	prefix
apostrophe	genre	preposition
atmosphere	grammar	resolution
chorus	imagery	scene
clause	metaphor	simile ✓
comma ✓	myth ✓	soliloquy
conjunction ✓	narrative ✓	suffix ✓
connective ✓	onomatopoeia ✓	vocabulary ✓
consonant ✓	paragraph ✓	vowel ✓
dialogue ✓	personification	
exclamation	plural ✓	

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ICT

byte	hardware	multimedia
computer	icon	password
connect	interactive	preview
connection	interface	processor
cursor	internet	scanner
data	justify	server
database	keyboard	software
delete	megabyte	spreadsheet
document	memory	virus
electronic	modem	
graphic	monitor	

Mathematics

addition	equilateral	perimeter
adjacent	estimate	perpendicular
alternate	equation	radius
angle	fraction	ratio
amount	graph	regular
approximately	horizontal	irregular
average	isosceles	rhombus
calculate	kilogram	rotate
centimetre	litre	rotation
circumference	measure	square
corresponding	metre	subtraction
co-ordinate	minus	symmetry
decimal	multiply	symmetrical
degree	multiplication	triangle
denominator	parallel	triangular
diameter	parallelogram	vertical
digit	negative	volume
divide	numerator	weight
division	percentage	

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Music		
choir	minim	quaver
chord	minor	rhythm
composition	musician	scale
conductor	octave	score
crotchet	orchestra	semi breve
harmony	orchestral	synchronise
interval	ostinato	syncopation
lyric	percussion	tempo
major	pitch	vocal

P.E.		
active	gym	personal
activity	gymnastic	pitch
agile	hamstring	qualify
agility	injury	relay
athletic	league	squad
athlete	medicine	tactic
bicep	mobile	tournament
exercise	mobility	triceps
field	muscle	

R.E.		
baptism	Hindu/Hinduism	prophet
Bible/biblical	hymn	religious/religion
Buddhist/Buddhism	immoral/immorality	shrine
burial	Islam	sign
celebrate/celebration	Israel	Sikh/Sikhism
ceremony	Judaism/Jewish	special
Christian	marriage	spirit/spiritual
commandment	miracle	symbol
commitment	moral/morality	synagogue
creation	Muslim	temple
discipline	parable	wedding
faith	pilgrim/pilgrimage	worship
festival	pray/prayer	worship
funeral	prejudice	

Science		
absorb	exchange	organism
acid	freeze	oxygen
alkaline	frequency	particles
amphibian	friction	predator
apparatus	function	pressure
chemical	growth	reproduce
circulate/circulation	hazard	respire/respiration
combustion	insect	solution
condensation	laboratory	temperature
cycle	liquid	thermometer
digest/digestion	mammal	vertebrate
element	method	vessel
evaporation	nutrient	

Common Homophones and Confusions

A homophone is a word pronounced the same as another, but having a different meaning or spelling or both

a lot/allot	four/fore	scent/sent, cent
advice/advice	grate/great ✓	see/sea ✓
air hair	hair/hare ✓	side/sighted
affect/effect	hear/here ✓	sites/sights ✓
aisle/isle, I'll	heard/herd	soar/sore
allowed/aloud	hour/our ✓	sole/soul
ate/eight	its/it's	source/sauce
bare/bear	know/no	stair/stare ✓
be/bee	made/maid	stationary/stationery
beach/beechn	meet/meat	tears/tiers
board/bored	missed/mist	their/there/they're
bought/brought	morning/mourning	threw/through
boy/buoy	muscle/mussel	time/thyme
braking/breaking	new/knew	to/too/two
buy/by, bye	night/knight ✓	vale/veil
ceiling/sealing ✓	one/won ✓	vane/vain, vein
cereal/serial ✓	past/passed ✓	wait/weight ✓
cheap/cheep	pause/paws ✓	waste/waist
choose/chose	piece/peace	way/weigh
cloth/clothe	place/plaice	week/weak
conscience/conscious	practise/practice	what/watt
council/counsel	quiet/quite	where/wear
course/coarse	rains/reigns, reins	which/witch
currant/current	right/write	would/wood
days/daze	ring/wring	your/you're
died/dyed	road/rode, rowed	
ewe/you, yew	route/root	
faint-feint	sail/sale	
four/flower	scene/seen	