Vocabulary Sketch

Lesson One

1. **divulge** (di vulj´) v. to tell; to reveal (as a secret)
   The reporter was fired when she *divulged* information from a classified document.
   syn: unveil; disclose *ant: conceal*

2. **abet** (ə bet´) v. to assist or encourage, especially in wrongdoing
   Jim refused to *abet* the criminal by hiding him in the basement.
   syn: promote; incite *ant: impede; dissuade*

3. **dogmatic** (dôg mat´ ik) *adj.* arrogant and stubborn about one's (often unproven) beliefs
   Because of the professor's *dogmatic* approach, the students were afraid to ask questions.
   syn: dictatorial *ant: open-minded*

4. **insipid** (in sip´ id) *adj.* lacking flavor; dull; not at all stimulating
   My mom wanted me to be an accountant, but I found the classes boring and *insipid.*
   syn: flat; lifeless *ant: challenging*

5. **extraneous** (ik strā´ nē əs) *adj.* inessential; not constituting a vital part
   The professor felt that the *extraneous* paragraph in the essay detracted from the more important information.
   syn: irrelevant *ant: essential*

6. **coerce** (kō ûrs´) v. to force by using pressure, intimidation, or threats
   Jerry preferred basketball, but his father *coerced* him into playing football.
   syn: compel

7. **jaundiced** (jôn´ dist) *adj.* prejudiced; hostile
   Gabe had a *jaundiced* view of Iraq after losing his wife in the Gulf War.
   syn: skeptical; cynical *ant: believing; trusting*

8. **meticulous** (mi tik´ yə ləs) *adj.* extremely, sometimes excessively, careful about small details; precise
   With *meticulous* care, he crafted a miniature dollhouse for his daughter.
   syn: fastidious *ant: sloppy*

9. **temerity** (tə mer´ i tē) *n.* recklessness; a foolish disregard of danger
   I couldn't believe that Bret had the *temerity* to bungee jump over a lake full of alligators.
   syn: audacity *ant: prudence*

10. **gregarious** (gri gâr´ ē əs) *adj.* sociable; fond of the company of others
    Just before he was diagnosed with clinical depression, Raji went from being *gregarious* to being antisocial.
    syn: genial; friendly *ant: reclusive*