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I reading

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Susan Rennie

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slight, insignificant, unimportant, minor, trivial, trifling, minimal
OPPOSITES considerable, significant

negotiate *VERB*
1 *They refused to negotiate with the kidnappers.*
bargain, haggle, deal, confer, discuss terms
2 *negotiating a new contract*
work out, agree on, broker
(informal) thrash out
3 *We negotiated our way around the furniture.*
get past, get round, manoeuvre round

neighbourhood *NOUN*
1 *living in a run-down neighbourhood*
area, district, community, locality, vicinity, locale, quarter
2 *a planet in the neighbourhood of Betelgeuse*
vicinity, environs, surrounding area

neighbouring *ADJECTIVE*
a tour of the neighbouring villages
nearby, bordering, adjacent, adjoining, surrounding, nearest, next-door

neighbourly *ADJECTIVE*
establishing good neighbourly relations
friendly, amicable, cordial, helpful, obliging, hospitable, sociable
OPPOSITE unfriendly

nerve *NOUN*
1 *It takes nerve to be a good stunt artist.*
bravery, courage, daring, fearlessness, pluck, grit
(informal) guts, bottle
2 *He had the nerve to ask me to leave!*
cheek, impudence, audacity, effrontery, impertinence, presumption

nervous *ADJECTIVE*
Do you get nervous before you go on stage?
anxious, worried, apprehensive, concerned, uneasy, fearful, edgy, fraught, tense, overwrought, worked up, keyed up
(informal) uptight, jittery, twitchy
IDIOMS *(informal)* in a flap, in a state
OPPOSITES calm, confident

nestle *VERB*
a baby nestling in its mother's arms
cuddle, curl up, snuggle, huddle, nuzzle

neutral *ADJECTIVE*
1 *It's impossible to remain neutral on this issue.*
impartial, detached, uninvolved, disinterested, objective, unbiased, non-partisan
OPPOSITES biased, partisan
2 *a room decorated in neutral colours*
dull, drab, colourless, indefinite, nondescript
OPPOSITES colourful, vibrant

new *ADJECTIVE*
1 *opening a new jar of mayonnaise*
fresh, unused, pristine, brand new
▶ Something new and unused is **in mint condition**.
OPPOSITES old, used
2 *Have you read the new issue of the magazine?*
latest, current, recent, up-to-date
3 *I've added a new paragraph to my story.*
additional, extra, further, supplementary
4 *a whole new style of acting*
fresh, original, novel, innovative, cutting-edge, state-of-the-art, contemporary
5 *Flying was a new experience for me.*
unfamiliar, unknown, different, alternative, strange
OPPOSITE familiar

newly *ADVERB*
The house has been newly refurbished.
recently, lately, not long ago

news *NOUN*
Have you heard the news?
information, word, report, bulletin
(old use) tidings

next *ADJECTIVE*
1 *the house next to the corner*
adjacent, closest, nearest, next door
OPPOSITE distant
2 *I'm going to miss the next episode.*
following, succeeding, subsequent, upcoming
OPPOSITE previous

next *ADVERB*
I don't know what to do next.
from now on, after this, in future
(old use) hereafter
OPPOSITE before

nibble *VERB*
SEE **eat**

nice *ADJECTIVE*
1 *That's not a very nice thing to say!*
pleasant, agreeable
OPPOSITES unpleasant, nasty
2 *There's a nice distinction between copying and plagiarism.*
fine, subtle, delicate, precise

OVERUSED WORD

a nice person
good, kind, pleasant, friendly, agreeable, likeable, amiable, genial, affable, personable, charming, engaging, sympathetic, polite, civil, courteous
*The film features a cast of **likeable** characters.*

a nice experience, nice feeling
enjoyable, pleasant, good, delightful, satisfying, agreeable, entertaining, amusing, wonderful, marvellous, splendid
*Making my own clothes gives me a **satisfying** feeling.*

looking nice
beautiful, attractive, pleasing, lovely, fine, handsome, fetching, striking
*You look particularly **fetching** today, Miss Watson.*

a nice smell
fragrant, pleasant, sweet, perfumed, aromatic
*I prefer a blend of tea with a **fragrant** aroma.*
OPPOSITES smelly, malodorous

a nice taste, nice food
appetizing, tasty, flavoursome, delicious, delectable, mouth-watering
(informal) yummy, scrumptious
*Slow cooking will make the dish more **flavoursome**.*

nice weather, a nice day
fine, sunny, warm, mild, balmy, dry
*If the weather is **fine**, I might venture outside.*
SEE ALSO **good**, **lovely**

night *NOUN*
Vampires only come out at night.
night-time, dark, the hours of darkness
▶ The time immediately after sunset when the sky is still light is **twilight**.
▶ The time when twilight ends is **dusk** or **nightfall**.
▶ A **nightly** event happens every night.
▶ A piece of music which conveys the atmosphere of night is a **nocturne**.
▶ Animals which are active at night are **nocturnal**.
OPPOSITES day, daytime

nil *NOUN*
The score was nil all at half-time.
zero, nought, nothing, none
▶ A score of nil in cricket is a **duck**.
▶ A score of nil in tennis is **love**.