**Word of the Day: 10/14/2014**

**alacrity**

[uh-LACK-ruh-tee]

**Part of speech: noun**

1. A cheerful or eager readiness or willingness, often manifested by brisk, lively action or promptness in response.

**Example Sentence:**

As for his homemade meatloaf sandwich with green tomato ketchup, a condiment he developed while working in New York, I devoured it with an **alacrity** unbecoming in someone who gets paid to taste carefully.

-- R.W. Apple Jr., "Southern Tastes, Worldly Memories", New York Times , April 26, 2000

**Word of the Day: 10/15/2014**

**execrable**

 [EK-sih-kruh-buhl]



**Part of speech: adjective**

1.Deserving to be execrated; detestable; abominable.

2.Extremely bad; of very poor quality; very inferior.

**Example Sentence**:

*His human-rights record was abysmal. His relations with Washington were adversarial. He rivaled Zimbabwe's* ***execrable*** *Robert Mugabe for the title "Africa's Saddam."*

*-- James S. Robbins, "The Liberian Opportunity", National Review , July 8, 2003***Word of the Day: 10/16/2014**

**quash**

[KWOSH]



**Part of Speech: verb**

1. (Law) To abate, annul, overthrow, or make void; as, "to quash an indictment."

2. To crush; to subdue; to suppress or extinguish summarily and completely;

**Example Sentence:**

*The army was there to quash the rebellion.*

**Word of the Day: 10/17/2014**

**chimera**

[ky-MIR-uh]

**Part of Speech: noun**

1. (Capitalized) A fire-breathing she-monster represented as having a lion's head, a goat's body, and a serpent's tail.
2. Any imaginary monster made up of grotesquely incongruous parts.
3. An illusion or mental fabrication; a grotesque product of the imagination.
4. An individual, organ, or part consisting of tissues of diverse genetic constitution, produced as a result of organ transplant, grafting, or genetic engineering.

**Example Sentence:**

*The chimera had quickly become a fixture of my fitful sleep; the star of all my nightmares.*