**Word of the Day: 1/20/2014**

## **ephemeral**

## ***əˈfem(ə)rəl/***

## *Adjective*

***1. lasting for a very short time.***

***noun***

***1. an ephemeral plant.***

“Patriotism is an ephemeral motive that scarcely ever outlasts the particular threat to society that aroused it.”

*Word selected using* Dictionary.com: <http://dictionary.reference.com/>

**Word of the Day: 1/21/2014**

## **circumspect**

## **\ SUR-kuhm-spekt \**

*Adjective***1. Marked by attention to all circumstances and probable consequences; cautious; prudent.**

**“When the evidence is plentiful and the theories wellconfirmed, we can be more confident of the historicalscenarios we propose; when theories are weak orevidence scarce, we ought to be more circumspect.”**

***-- Robert J. Richards, "You Can't Get There FromHere", New York Times , February 27, 2000***

## http://zxing.org/w/chart?cht=qr&chs=350x350&chld=L&choe=UTF-8&chl=http%3A%2F%2Fdictionary.reference.com%2Fbrowse%2Fsacrosanct%3Fs%3Dt*Word selected using Dictionary*.com: <http://dictionary.reference.com/>

**WOW Word Wednesday: 1/22/2014**

## **afflatus**

## \ **uh-FLAY-tuhs \** *noun*

1. **A divine imparting of knowledge; inspiration.**

**Whatever happened to passion and vision and the divine afflatus  in poetry?**

## **-- *Clive Hicks, "From 'Green Man' (Ronsdale)", Toronto Star , November 21, 1999***

*Word selected using* Dictionary.com:

<http://dictionary.reference.com/>

**Word of the Day: 1/23/2014**

## **exigency**

**\ EK-suh-jun-see; ig-ZIJ-un-see \  
Noun**

**1. The quality or state of requiring immediate aid or action; urgency.**

**2. A case demanding immediate action or remedy; a pressing or urgent situation.**

**3. That which is demanded or required in a particular situation -- usually used in the plural.**

**Better than any other species, they had adapted to the exigencies of the Ice Ages.**

***-- David Fromkin, The Way of the World: From the Dawn of Civilizations to the Eve of the Twenty-firstCentury*** *Word selected using* Dictionary.com: <http://dictionary.reference.com/>