

abstract *adj* **1** dealing with or expressing a quality or idea <the book deals with *abstract* matters such as honesty and integrity on the job as well as practical subjects such as asking for a raise>

synonyms conceptual, ideal, ideational, metaphysical, notional, theoretical (*also* theoretic)

related words conjectural, hypothetical, speculative; cosmic (*also* cosmical), intellectual, mental, spiritual; ethereal, immaterial, incorporeal, insubstantial, non-material, nonphysical, unsubstantial; impalpable, imperceptible, insensible, intangible, invisible; impractical, romantic, transcendent, transcendental, unreal, utopian, visionary

near antonyms material, physical; appreciable, detectable, discernible (*also* discernable), noticeable, observable, palpable, perceptible, sensible, substantial, tangible, visible; defined, definite, distinct; actual, factual, real

antonyms concrete, nonabstract

2 using elements of form (as color, line, or texture) with little or no attempt at creating a realistic picture <Cubism is a style of *abstract* art in which natural forms are broken up into geometric shapes>

synonyms nonfigurative, nonobjective, nonrealistic,

beneficial *adj* promoting or contributing to personal or social well-being <tutoring can often be as *beneficial* and rewarding for the tutor as for the student receiving the help>

synonyms advantageous, benefic, beneficent, benignant, favorable, friendly, good, helpful, kindly, profitable, salutary

related words gratifying, rewarding, satisfying; auspicious, promising, propitious; advisable, desirable, healthful, healthy, salubrious, salutiferous, wholesome; gainful, lucrative, remunerative; ameliorative, amelioratory, bettering, constructive, supportive

near antonyms damaging, deleterious, harmful, injurious, insalubrious

antonyms bad, disadvantageous, unfavorable, unfriendly, unhelpful, unprofitable

benefit *n* **1** a thing that helps <it would be a real *benefit* if you could keep track of what you have already bought> — see HELP 2

2 something that provides happiness or does good for a person or thing <the meal service is a great *benefit* to invalids and the elderly> — see BLESSING 2

benefit *vb* to provide with something useful or desirable <his summer internship *benefited* him in two ways: by

callous *adj* having or showing a lack of sympathy or tender feelings <the *callous* comment “It’s just a fish,” when the boy’s pet died, made him cry> — see HARD 1

callow *adj* lacking in adult experience or maturity <a story about a *callow* youth who learns the value of hard work and self-reliance>

synonyms adolescent, green, immature, inexperienced, juvenile, puerile, raw, unfledged, unformed, unripe, unripened

related words babyish, childish, infantile, infantilized, infantine; boyish, girlish, juvenescent, kiddish, young, youngish, youthful; maidenly, virginal; ingenuous, innocent, naive (*or* naïve), tender; unknowing, unseasoned, unsophisticated, untrained, untried

phrases wet behind the ears

near antonyms advanced, precocious; knowing, savvy, sophisticated, worldly, worldly-wise

antonyms adult, experienced, grown-up, mature, ripe

calm *adj* **1** free from storms or physical disturbance <after a stormy night of high winds and driving rains, the day dawned on a *calm* sea>

synonyms halcyon, hushed, lown [*dialect*], peaceful, placid, quiet, serene, still, stilly, tranquil, untroubled

related words balmy, clement, equable, gentle, mild,