
Synonymies

from a dictionary of synonyms:

foretell, predict, forecast, prophesy, prognosticate mean to tell before hand.

Foretell applies to the telling of a future event by any procedure or from any source of information <seers *foretold* of calamitous events.>

Predict commonly implies inference from facts or from accepted laws of nature <astronomers *predicted* the return of the comet.>

Forecast adds the implication of anticipating eventualities and differs from *predict* in being usually concerned with probabilities rather than certainties <*forecast* a snowfall of six inches.>

Prophesy connotes inspired or mystic knowledge of the future, especially as the fulfilling of divine threats or promises, or implies great assurance in predicting <preachers *prophesying* a day of divine retribution>.

Prognosticate suggests prediction based on the learned or skilled interpretation of signs or symptoms <economists are *prognosticating* a slow recovery>.

caustic, mordant, acrid, scathing mean stingingly incisive.

Caustic suggests a biting wit <caustic comments about her singing ability>. **ant.** genial

Mordant suggests a wit that is used with deadly effectiveness <*mordant* reviews put the play out of its misery>.

Acrid implies bitterness and often malevolence <a speech marked by *acrid* invective>. **ant.** benign, kindly.

Scathing implies indignant attacks delivered with fierce or withering severity <a *scathing* satire of corporate life>.

proud, arrogant, haughty, lordly, insolent, overbearing, supercilious, disdainful mean showing superiority toward others or scorn for inferiors.

Proud may suggest a feeling or attitude of pleased satisfaction in oneself or one's accomplishments that may or may not be justified and may or may not be demonstrated offensively <a *proud* man, unwilling to admit failure>. **ant.** humble, ashamed

Arrogant implies a claiming for oneself of more consideration or importance than is warranted and often suggests an aggressive, domineering manner <an *arrogant* business executive used to being kowtowed to>. **ant.** meek, unassuming

Haughty suggests a blatantly displayed consciousness of superior birth or position <a *haughty* manner that barely concealed his scorn>. **ant.** lowly

Lordly implies pomposity or an arrogant display of power <*lordly* indifference to the consequences of their carelessness>.

Insolent implies insultingly contemptuous haughtiness <suffered the stares of *insolent* waiters>. **ant.** deferential

Overbearing suggests a tyrannical manner or an intolerable insolence <wearied by demands from her *overbearing* in-laws>. **ant.** subservient

Supercilious implies a cool, patronizing haughtiness <*supercilious* parvenus with their disdainful sneers>.

Disdainful suggests a more active and openly scornful superciliousness <*disdainful* of their pathetic attempts>. **ant.** admiring, respectful

adapted from *The Merriam-Webster Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms*,
Springfield: Merriam-Webster, 1992. Print.