Every meaning in this set was written by Quinn, the team's word-chooser, after reading a dictionary page for the word. Angela checks them before the bus goes live. Every sentence is hers, word for word.

Holiday, fantasy and travel words

Each card shows a word and how it is labelled: formal or everyday. The magick card is marked as Angela's chosen archaic spelling.

Under it are its meaning and Angela's sentence.

Then you see the piece it comes from and who wrote the meaning.

Try it: Use this word in a sentence of your own.

benevolent (formal)

Say it: /bɪˈnɛvələnt/

Kind and loving; wanting to do good for others.

“Coolness becomes a clarity,
self-reflection becomes self-charity,
opening future roads to better days and more benevolent ways.”

New Year page (the Holidays Book), piece 1

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

cathedral (everyday)

Say it: /kəˈθiːdrəl/

A large, grand and important church. Used as here, it means a place or feeling that is holy and deeply important to the soul.

“Thanksgiving is my soul cathedral.”

Thanksgiving page (the Holidays Book), piece 3

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

cauldron (everyday)

Say it: /ˈkɔːldrən/

A large metal pot, shaped like a bowl, for boiling things over an open fire. In stories, witches and wizards brew their spells in one.

“Apprentice, my dreams are an antique cauldron, a mystical vessel of the old faith.”

Fairy Queen page (the Faith and Fantasy Book), piece 1 (The Fairy Queen dialogue)

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

Ages 7 to 11 use this piece with its last line left off for schools. This sentence is not the last line.

celebrate (everyday)

Say it: /ˈsɛlɪbreɪt/

To do something joyful to mark a special day or a happy event.

“You see, my loves, you are my gold; you are my pride and joy; you are the ones my heart beats for. So come and celebrate on my special day and I will be there on yours.”

Birthday page (the Holidays Book), piece 5

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

coastal (everyday)

Say it: /ˈkəʊstəl/

By the sea, or near the coast.

“Each stone carried the heart of the sea, the breath of soothing brine, the sea shanties of coastal birds.”

Roads page (the Transport Book), Example Four

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

festive (everyday)

Say it: /ˈfɛstɪv/

Bright, joyful and full of the feeling of a festival or a celebration.

“Birthday emotions unwrap the past as they look toward future gifts, sensing the present as a Rubicon. For if the festive seasons are as a train ride, the birthday is a motorbike.”

Birthday page (the Holidays Book), piece 3

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

fireflies (everyday)

Say it: /ˈfaɪəflaɪz/

Small beetles that light up and glow in the dark, especially on summer evenings.

“Wishes upon New Year's Eve are as the glowing fireflies, wings and hearts a-beating.”

New Year page (the Holidays Book), piece 2

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

firework (everyday)

Say it: /ˈfaɪəwɜːk/

A device that burns with bright flames, sparks and bangs to entertain people, often sent high into the sky on celebration nights.

“New Year's Eve comes as a firework: bright, joyful and passing.”

New Year page (the Holidays Book), piece 7

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

gratitude (everyday)

Say it: /ˈgrætɪtjuːd/

The feeling of being thankful; wanting to thank someone for the good they have done or given.

“Thanksgiving of my heartful days, when love flames as the hearth of Camelot. Whence I feel gratitude as sweetened air, and my finer feelings are the warmth of care - gratitude flares.”

Thanksgiving page (the Holidays Book), piece 2

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

journey (everyday)

Say it: /ˈdʒɜːni/

An act of travelling from one place to another; a trip. It can also mean any long process, such as growing up or learning something.

“Deep down in the Earth magma sent up warmth, just enough to keep its road-grip strong. And, so it was that the little car made a journey that reason and science declared it could not.”

Car page (the Transport Book), Example Eight

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

kindred (formal)

Say it: /ˈkɪndrɪd/

People who feel like family, or things of the same nature. A kindred spirit is someone who feels the way you do.

“It is a fellow traveller, wild and free, never a servant. It is kindness, yet only to its kindred.”

Fairy Queen page (the Faith and Fantasy Book), piece 1 (The Fairy Queen dialogue)

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026), UK spelling fixed in the sentence before

Spelling made UK: traveler to traveller (UK spelling, in the sentence before).

Meaning written by Quinn

Ages 7 to 11 use this piece with its last line left off for schools. This sentence is not the last line.

magick (Angela's chosen archaic spelling)

Say it: /ˈmædʒɪk/

Magic that is real, as in old stories and beliefs, rather than the pretend magic of card tricks. Angela writes 'magic' for card tricks and 'magick' for real magic; 'magick' is an old spelling she uses on purpose.

“My kitten, Merlin, was born of the ancient magick, the deep lore - fashioned from a simple swirling spark.”

Merlin the Magic Cat page (the Faith and Fantasy Book), story section 1

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

merriment (everyday)

Say it: /ˈmɛrimənt/

Happy fun and laughter; a state of enjoyable cheer.

“The birdsong fluttered as the liveliest of flutes, heady with youth’s merriment.”

A Magic Pear Tree page (the Faith and Fantasy Book), piece 1 (The Happy Pear Tree)

On the bus: The Happy Pear Tree

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

motorcade (formal)

Say it: /ˈməʊtəkeɪd/

A procession of cars or other vehicles travelling together.

“Upon the age worn lane, the serpentine bleached out lane, the motorcade did wend.”

Car page (the Transport Book), Example Six

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

phoenix (everyday)

Say it: /ˈfiːnɪks/

A mythical bird said to live for centuries, then burn to ashes and be born again from them. A phoenix can mean anything that rises again after being destroyed.

“Everybody knows the story of the phoenix, born of fire only to return to ashes and be reborn.”

Superhero page (the Faith and Fantasy Book), piece 6 (Aqua Phoenix)

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

This sentence comes from a piece flagged for sad words, with a phoenix returning to ashes and a future battle, so it suits the older groups only.

For ages: 11 to 14, 14 and over.

resolutions (everyday)

Say it: /ˌrɛzəˈluːʃənz/

Firm promises to yourself to do something, often made at New Year. A resolution is a firm decision.

“This is what resolutions are for, to quietly ask the soul to do more, to find the most loving open door.”

New Year page (the Holidays Book), piece 3

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

resonate (everyday)

Say it: /ˈrɛzəneɪt/

To ring with sound; used as here, it means to feel deeply in tune with something, so it feels true to you.

“It is the day we resonate with our good fortune and make plans for the year ahead to give to others.”

Thanksgiving page (the Holidays Book), piece 10

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

shanty (everyday)

Say it: /ˈʃænti/

A sea shanty is a rhythmic song that sailors sang while they worked on the ships. A shanty can also mean a roughly built hut.

“Their never changing sea shanty did ring out.”

Trains page (the Transport Book), Example Five

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

sorcery (everyday)

Say it: /ˈsɔːsəri/

Magic, especially the kind worked by a sorcerer. In Angela's sentence it is a good, heaven-sent magic.

“Yes, sorcery from divine source is the restorer of all the good treasure, restorer of the spirit for which saints endeavour.”

Magic page (the Faith and Fantasy Book), piece 6

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

Ages 7 to 11 use this piece with its last line left off for schools. This sentence is not the last line.

triumph (everyday)

Say it: /ˈtraɪʌmf/

A great win or victory; the joy of succeeding.

“Turn Merlin did, spinning on the spot, in happiest and gayest shock. For though he was the greatest mage of ancient days, victory, triumph, was ever a long shot, a dream that can only be born of champion's chest.”

Magic page (the Faith and Fantasy Book), piece 5

Not yet on the bus

Angela's original, from the source library (live page, read 22 October 2026)

Meaning written by Quinn

This is the last line of a piece that ages 7 to 11 read with the last line left off for schools, so this card suits the older groups only.

For ages: 11 to 14, 14 and over.

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