# Chapter 1

# Toque – a woman's small hat without a brim made in any of various soft close-fitting shapes

Purdah - seclusion of women from public observation among Muslims and some Hindus especially in India

Hokey-kokey - A communal dance performed in a circle with synchronized shaking of the limbs in turn, accompanied by a simple song.

Chapter 2

Cabochon - a gem or bead cut in convex form and highly polished but not faceted

Tulle - a sheer often stiffened silk, rayon, or nylon net used chiefly for veils or ballet costumes

Tartan - a plaid textile design of Scottish origin consisting of stripes of varying width and color usually patterned to designate a distinctive clan

Chapter 3

Mantilla - a light scarf worn over the head and shoulders especially by Spanish and Latin-American women

Infanta - a daughter of a Spanish or Portuguese monarch

Quote – John said to Philip “I never realized what lovely skin she has.” “Yes, Philip replied. “She’s like that all over.”

Plasticene - a plastic paste used for models and sculptures

Equerry - an officer of the British royal household in personal attendance on the sovereign or a member of the royal family

Flagging – languid, weak

Preternatural - exceeding what is natural or regular

Chapter 4

Homburg - a man's felt hat with a stiff curled brim and a high crown creased lengthwise

Catafalque - an ornamental structure sometimes used in funerals for the lying in state of the body

Nonplussed – at a loss as to what to say, think, or do: perplex

Inexorable - not to be persuaded, moved, or stopped

Investiture - the act of establishing in office or ratifying

Skirling – to play music on the bagpipe

Strathspey - a Scottish dance that is similar to but slower than the reel

Landau - a four-wheel carriage with a top divided into two sections that can be let down, thrown back, or removed and with a raised seat outside for the driver

Wimple - a cloth covering worn over the head and around the neck and chin especially by women in the late medieval period and by some nuns

Ampulla - a glass or earthenware flask with a globular body and two handles used especially by the ancient Romans to hold ointment, perfume, or wine

Cloche - a woman's close-fitting hat usually with deep rounded crown and narrow brim

Catch out - to detect in error or wrongdoing

Jolly (verb) - to put or try to put in good humor especially to gain an end

Pipe (verb) to receive aboard or attend the departure of by sounding a boatswain's pipe \* the Queen was piped aboard

Chapter 6

Paillette - a small shiny object (as a spangle) applied in clusters as a decorative trimming (as on women's clothing)

Beignet – a light square doughnut usually sprinkled with powdered sugar

Savarin - a rich yeast cake baked in a ring mold and soaked in a rum or kirsch syrup

Chapter 7

Phlegmatic - having or showing a slow and stolid temperament

Assiduity – diligence

Chatelaine – castellan – a governor or warden of a castle

Outré – violating convention or propriety – bizarre

Toff – chiefly British – dandy, swell

Donnish – of, relating to, or characteristic of a university don

Chapter 8

Tabard - a herald's official cape or coat emblazoned with his lord's arms

Untrammeled – unimpeded

Shambolic – chiefly British – obviously disorganized or confused

Superbery – type of cake

Chapter 10

Rivalrous – competitive

Piquant - engagingly provocative

Mews house - stables usually with living quarters built around a court, or living quarters adapted from such stables

Caftan - a usually cotton or silk ankle-length garment with long sleeves that is common throughout the Levant

Levant – the countries bordering on the East Mediterranean

Chapter 11

Bonhomie – good-natured easy friendliness

Trooping the Colour - a ceremony performed by regiments of the British and Commonwealth armies

Plangent – having an expressive and especially plaintive quality \*plangent lyrics

Hostas - any of a genus (Hosta) of Asian perennial herbaceous plants of the lily family with densely growing basal leaves and tall racemes of white or violet flowers

Chapter 12

Cenotaph in London - a monument to those killed or wounded during the First World War

Gentian - any of numerous herbs (family Gentianaceae, the gentian family, and especially genus Gentiana) with opposite smooth leaves and showy usually blue flowers

Arrant – extreme

Sybaritic – sensual

Solipsistic – extremely egocentric

Chapter 13

Swotting – grinding - analyzing?

Chapter 14

Ruched - pleated, fluted, or gathered

Chapter 16

Pilaster - an upright architectural member that is rectangular in plan and is structurally a pier but architecturally treated as a column and that usually projects a third of its width or less from the wall

Halcyon – happy, golden

Abstemious – marked by restraint

Naffness – tastelessness

Question – why can’t royal residences be commercially insured?

Because no other structures exist for comparison?

Chapter 17

Redoubt – a secure retreat, stronghold

Chapter 18

Discursive – moving from topic to topic without order, rambling

Meaning – the small p politics of something

Ineffably – inexpressibly

Chapter 19

Equipoise – a state of equilibrium

Anodyne – not likely to offend or arouse tensions - innocuous

Chapter 20

Piebald – of different colors, especially spotted or blotched with black and white

Scapegrace – an incorrigible rascal

Opsimath – a person who begins to learn or study only late in life

Cocrico – a bird similar in appearance to a turkey

Maquillage – makeup

Chapter 21

Flat on his back with admiration – full of admiration?

Interesting – praised Islam for its belief that there is no separation between man and nature

Meaning – the last thing they want to do is crawl all over their own funerals

Primogeniture – the state of being the firstborn of the children of the same parents

Interesting – grief is the price you pay for love

Take the mickey – tease or ridicule

Forbearance – patience