



THE ELIXIR OF LOVE VOCABULARY

Words and expressions found in Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love*.

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| addio | “goodbye,” in Italian |
| amore | “love,” in Italian |
| amorous | easily falling in love |
| baffled | to defeat or check by confusing |
| bewildered | to be confused especially with a great many things to worry about |
| born and bred | having grown up in a place and having the typical character of someone who lives there |
| bright as a button | An expression meaning “very intelligent” or “smart.” |
| cabernet | a red wine |
| capitulate | to surrender usually on terms agreed upon in advance |
| carbuncles | a painful inflammation of the skin and deeper tissues that releases pus from several openings |
| doofus | An incompetent, foolish, or stupid person. |
| elixir | a substance held to be capable of changing metals into gold; a substance held to be capable of extending life; a sweetened usually alcoholic liquid containing medicine. |
| fathom the ocean | to determine the depths of the ocean |
| fickle | likely to change frequently without good reason |
| fine and dandy | a popular expression meaning, “All right,” “excellent” |
| flighty | silly, frivolous |
| furtive | done in a sneaky or sly manner |
| hypertension | high blood pressure |
| lamenting | to express sorrow for |
| languid sighs | let out a long loud breath weakly, as if exhausted |
| leap into the saddle | to get into a position of control |
| libidos | desires |

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| mockery | insulting action or speech; someone or something that is laughed at; a ridiculous or poor imitation |
| mortified | to be greatly embarrassed |
| nonchalant | having a confident and easy manner |
| philanthropy | a spirit of goodwill toward all people especially when expressed in active and generous efforts to help others; a charitable act or gift |
| pittance | a small portion, amount, or allowance especially of money |
| progenitor | a direct ancestor |
| quack | a shortened form of earlier quacksalver, "a person who pretends to have medical skill"; of Dutch origin; a person who makes false claims to special knowledge or ability; especially : one who pretends to have medical skill |
| quack medicine | unproven, usually ineffective, and sometimes dangerous medicines and treatments |
| raving loony | an extremely crazy person |
| rivalry | competition |
| robust | being strong and vigorously healthy |
| salvage | the act of saving something in danger of being lost |
| scanty | very small in size or amount |
| scoffing | the act of making fun of someone or something |
| silver lining | comforting or hopeful aspect of an otherwise desperate or unhappy situation |
| snickering | to give a small and often mean or sly laugh |
| sugar-candy | a confection made from a concentrated solution of sugar in water, to which flavorings and colorants are added. |
| taboo | from <i>tabu</i> , a word in a language of the people of a South Sea island, a prohibition established by social custom |
| prohibited | forbidden by authority |
| top of the world | feeling wonderful; glorious; ecstatic. |
| turnabout | change from one direction or one way of thinking or acting to the opposite |
| vim and vigor | robust energy and enthusiasm with an active strength or energy of body or mind |
| wed in haste | to join in marriage quickly without thinking it through |