

pretentious



pretentious

Word of the Day - for Toastmasters everywhere
Friday 17th November 2023



pretentious

(adjective) pre-TEN-shus

Showy, ostentatious, self-important, grandiose; acting as though one were more important than is the case.

He does veer towards pseudos corner more than the long-time Who drummer when he says: "*My soul moves to quite fine changes in tempo*" but he is self-deprecating and recognises the fact that he played "***pretentious** rock with too many notes*".

Jane Martinson, *Guardian*, 16 March 2007. *Guardian*

He is pitched against Bates's enemies, including the taxman whom he encourages one daughter to seduce in *The Darling Buds of May*, the **pretentious** new rich, the graspingness of the French, never idealised as the intelligentsia preferred (*A Breath of French Air*), finally the future EU, Channel Tunnel, and M20.

Peter J Conradi, *Guardian*, 3 February 2007 *Guardian*

From the opening in Anna Pavlovna's **pretentious** drawing room, I fell under the spell of the gentle and seductive elegance of Jason's voice.

Rachel Redford, *The Observer*, 17 December 2006, *Observer* reviewing the audio book recording of Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace*: Volumes 1 & 2, read by Neville Jason.

A curved staircase, clad in **pretentious** tigerwood with brushed stainless steel handrails, looks imported from a Park Avenue office building.

Nicolai Ouroussoff, *The New York Times*, 22 March 2007. *New York Times*