Fidelity is the quality of being faithful or loyal. Dogs are famous for their fidelity.

Fidelity comes from the Latin root fides, which means faith, so fidelity is the state of being faithful. Marital fidelity is faithfulness to your spouse. If you’re a journalist, your reports should have fidelity to the facts. Someone without fidelity to a religion or group belief is called an infidel.

Usage:

- The Japanese had observed the 1902 treaty with absolute fidelity.
- The guiding principle of gravity gives strict fidelity to what Newton actually wrote.
- The student’s academic success was a direct result of the fidelity with which he approached homework.
- Fidelity is absolutely essential to a successful marriage.

DIRECTIONS: Discuss the meaning of the word with your students, with special emphasis on any variations or nuances of the word specific to your discipline. Consider taking it a step further by using one or all of the following ideas as you involve students with the new vocabulary. Remember to preview all content you intend to share with students. Not all items on the lists provided below are appropriate for all classes or age levels.

#1 Read this article entitled “English May Have Retained Words From an Ice Age Language” from Science (the word fidelity is used in the next to the last paragraph):
http://news.sciencemag.org/2013/05/english-may-have-retained-words-ice-age-language?rss=1
#2 Read this article from the “Business and Money” section of Time about fostering customer fidelity:  

#3 Discuss one or more of these types of fidelity as they may relate to your discipline:  
- Constancy—faithfulness and dependability in personal attachments (especially sexual fidelity)  
- Dedication—complete and wholehearted fidelity  
- Loyalty, trueness—the quality of being loyal  
- Staunchness, steadfastness—loyalty in the face of trouble and difficulty  
- Allegiance, fealty—the loyalty that citizens owe to their country (or subjects to their sovereign)  
- Nationalism, patriotism—love of country and willingness to sacrifice for it  
- Regionalism—loyalty to the interests of a particular region

#4 Read this article about the future of gaming and “graphical fidelity” from The Guardian.  
This might be a good topic to have students journal about after they have finished reading the article. Is the “graphical fidelity” that makes gaming so realistic something to be lauded or feared?  
http://www.theguardian.com/technology/gamesblog/2013/jul/02/watch-dogs-preview-interview

#5 Read the lyrics and listen to the song “Fidelity” (3 min., 46 sec.) performed by Regina Spektor. Have students pick out which lyrics seem to best justify the title of the song by supporting the idea of fidelity (or its absence—infidelity).  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=blrnWm3tnAc

#6 Mandarin Ducks, which are referred to by the Chinese as Yuan-yang. In the eyes of ancient Chinese, Mandarin Ducks form a life-time couple, unlike many other species of ducks. Hence they are frequently featured in Oriental art and are regarded as a symbol of conjugal affection and fidelity.  
A Chinese proverb for loving couples uses the Mandarin Duck as a metaphor: “Two mandarin ducks playing in water.”  
The Mandarin Duck symbol is also used in Chinese weddings, because in traditional Chinese lore they symbolize wedded bliss and fidelity.  
This video is a little hokey, but the song is all about fidelity and the pictures of the Mandarin Ducks are gorgeous (4 min., 2 sec.).  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6RODcQOLw  
Just Mandarin Ducks, in Regent’s Park: (1 min., 24 sec.): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWBr6OqDmmQ

#7 It is all about technology, health, and science. Watch this short news report on High Fidelity Mannequins (1 min., 50 sec.) and have the students discuss not only the merits of such mannequins, but why they are called “high fidelity.”  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d-elSV1xOY
Other related ideas to discuss:

- High fidelity: The electronic reproduction of sound, especially from broadcast or recorded sources, with minimal distortion.
- Infidel: a person who does not believe in a religion that someone regards as the true religion
- Look at Panama’s carbon in high fidelity (the accuracy with which an electronic system reproduces the image of its input signal—the quality of being near to the true value). 58 seconds.
  [Link](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_fQwv4coRR8)