

# BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING ENGLISH VOCABULARY

## WORD LIST 48

**ulterior ADJ.** / /situated beyond; unstated

. You must have an *ulterior* motive for your behavior, since there is no obvious reason for it.

**ultimate ADJ.** / /final; not susceptible to further analysis.

Scientists are searching for *ultimate* truths.

**unaccountable ADJ.** / /inexplicable; unreasonable or mysterious'

. I have taken an *unaccountable* dislike to my doctor: "I do not love thee, Doctor Fell. The reason why, I cannot tell."

**unanimity N.** / /complete agreement.

We were surprised by the *unanimity* with which members of both parties accepted our proposals. unanimous, **ADJ.**

**unassailable ADJ.** / /not subject to question; not open to attack

. Penelope's virtue was *unassailable*; while she waited for her husband to come back from the war, no other man had a chance.

**unassuming ADJ.** / /modest.

He is so *unassuming* that some people fail to realize how great a man he really is.

**unbridled ADJ.** / /violent

. She had a sudden fit of *unbridled* rage.

**uncanny ADJ.** / /strange; mysterious.

You have the *uncanny* knack of reading my innermost thoughts.

**unconscionable ADJ.** / /unscrupulous; excessive.

She found the loan shark's demands *unconscionable* and impossible to meet.

**uncouth ADJ.** / /outlandish; clumsy; boorish.

Most biographers portray Lincoln as an *uncouth* and ungainly young man.

**unctuous ADJ.** / /oily; bland; insincerely suave.

Uriah Heep disguised his nefarious actions by *unctuous* protestations of his "humility."

**underlying ADJ.** / /fundamental; lying below.

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The *underlying* cause of the student riot was not the strict curfew rule but the moldy cafeteria food. Miss Marple seems a sweet little old lady at first, but there's an iron will *underlying* that soft and fluffy facade.

**undermine V.** / /weaken; sap.

The recent corruption scandals have *undermined* many people's faith in the city government. The recent torrential rains have washed away much of the cliffside; the deluge threatens to *undermine* the pillars supporting several houses at the edge of the cliff.

**underscore V.** / /emphasize

. Addressing the jogging class, Kim *underscored* the importance to runners of good nutrition.

**undulating ADJ.** / /moving with a wavelike motion.

The Hilo Hula Festival was an *undulating* sea of grass skirts.

**unearth V.** / /dig up.

When they *unearthed* the city, the archeologists found many relics of an ancient civilization.

**unequivocal ADJ.** / /plain; obvious; unmistakable.

My answer to your proposal is an *unequivocal* and absolute "No."

**unerringly ADJ.** / /infallibly.

My teacher *unerringly* pounced on the one typographical error in my essay.

**unfathomable ADJ.** / /incomprehensible; impenetrable.

Unable to get to the bottom of the mystery, Watson declared it was *unfathomable*.

**unfetter V.** / /liberate; free from chains.

Chained to the wall for months on end, the hostage despaired that he would ever be *unfettered*.

**unfrock V.** / /to strip a priest or minister of church authority.

To disbar a lawyer, to *unfrock* a priest, to suspend a doctor's license to practice-these are extreme steps that the authorities should take only after careful consideration.

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**ungainly ADJ.** / /awkward; clumsy; unwieldy. "

If you want to know whether Nick's an *ungainly* dancer, check out my bruised feet," said Nora. Anyone who has ever tried to carry a bass fiddle knows it's an *ungainly* instrument.

**uniformity N.** / /sameness; monotony

. At *Persons* magazine, we strive for uniformity of style; as a result, all our writers wind up sounding exactly alike.

**unimpeachable ADJ.** / /blameless and exemplary.

Her conduct in office was *unimpeachable* and her record is spotless.

**uninhibited ADJ.** / unrepressed.

The congregation was shocked by her *uninhibited* laughter during the sermon.

**unintimidating ADJ.** / /unfrightening.

Though Phil had expected to feel overawed when he met Steve Young, he found the famous quarterback friendly and *unintimidating*.

**unique ADJ.** /without an equal; single in kind.

You have the *unique* distinction of being the only student whom I have had to fail in this course.

**universal ADJ.** / /characterizing or affecting all;

present everywhere. At first, no one shared Christopher's opinions; his theory that the world was round was met with universal disdain.

**unkempt ADJ.** / /disheveled;

uncared for in appearance. Jeremy hated his neighbor's unkempt lawn: he thought its neglected appearance had a detrimental effect on neighborhood property values.

**unmitigated ADJ.** /; /unrelieved or immoderate;

absolute. After four days of *unmitigated* heat, I was ready to collapse from heat prostration. The congresswoman's husband was an *unmitigated* jerk: not only did he abandon her, he took her campaign funds, too!

**unobtrusive ADJ.** / /inconspicuous; not blatant.

Reluctant to attract notice, the governess took a

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chair in a far corner of the room and tried to be as *unobtrusive* as possible.

**unpalatable ADJ.** / /**distasteful; disagreeable**

. "I refuse to swallow your conclusion," said she, finding his logic unpalatable.

**unprecedented ADJ.** / /**novel; unparalleled.**

For a first novel, Margaret Mitchell's novel *Gone with the Wind* was an *unprecedented* success.

**unprepossessing ADJ.** / /**unattractive.**

During adolescence many attractive young people somehow acquire the false notion that their appearance is *unprepossessing*.

**unravel V.** **disentangle; solve.**

With equal ease Miss Marple *unraveled* tangled balls of yarn and baffling murder mysteries.

**unrequited ADJ.** / /**not reciprocated**

. Suffering the pangs of *unrequited* love, Olivia rebukes Cesario for his hardheartedness.

**unruly ADJ.** / /**disobedient; lawless.**

The only way to curb this *unruly* mob is to use tear gas.

**unscathed ADJ.** / /**unharmed**

. They prayed he would come back from the war *unscathed*.

**unseemly ADJ.** / /**unbecoming**

; indecent; in poor taste. When he put whoopie cushions on all the seats in the funeral parlor, his conduct was most *unseemly*.

**unsightly ADJ.** / /**ugly**

. Although James was an experienced emergency room nurse, he occasionally became queasy when faced with a particularly *unsightly* injury.

**unstinting ADJ.** / /**giving generously; not holding back.**

The dean praised the donor of the new science building for her *unstinting* generosity.

**untenable ADJ.** / /**indefensible; not able to be maintained.**

Wayne is so contrary that, the more *untenable* a position is, the harder he'll try to defend it.

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**unwarranted ADJ.** / /unjustified; groundless

; undeserved. Your assumption that

I would accept your proposal is *unwarranted*, sir; I do not want to marry you at all. We could not

understand Martin's *unwarranted* rudeness to his mother's guests.

**unwieldy ADJ.** / /awkward; cumbersome; unmanageable. The large carton was so *unwieldy* that

the movers had trouble getting it up the stairs.

**unwitting ADJ.** / /unintentional; not knowing.

She was the *unwitting* tool of the swindlers.

**upbraid V.** / /severely scold; reprimand

. Not only did Miss Minchin *upbraid* Ermengarde for her disobedience, but she hung her up by her braids from a coat rack in the classroom. uproarious

**ADJ.** marked by commotion; extremely funny; very noisy

. The *uproarious* comedy hit Ace

Ventura: Pet Detective starred Jim Carrey, whose comic mugging provoked gales of uproarious

laughter from audiences coast to coast.

**upshot N.** / /outcome.

The upshot of the rematch was that the former champion proved that he still possessed all the skills of his youth.

**urbane ADJ.** / /suave; refined; elegant.

The courtier was *urbane* and sophisticated.

urbanity, **N.**

**usurp V.** / /seize another's power or rank.

The revolution ended when the victorious rebel general succeeded in his attempt to usurp the throne.

**utopia N.** / /ideal place, state, or society.

Fed up with this imperfect universe, Don would have liked to

run off to Shangri-la or some other imaginary utopia. utopian, **ADJ.** vacillate **V.** waver; fluctuate. Uncertain which suitor she ought to marry, the princess vacillated, saying now one, now the

other. The big boss likes his people to be decisive: when he asks you for your opinion, whatever you

do, don't vacillate. vacillation, **N.**

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**vacuous ADJ.** / /empty; inane.

The vacuous remarks of the politician annoyed the audience, who had hoped to hear more than empty platitudes.

**vagabond N.** / /wanderer; tramp.

In summer, college students wander the roads of Europe like carefree *vagabonds*. also **ADJ.**

**vagrant N.** / /a homeless wanderer.

Because he was a stranger in town with no visible means of support, Martin feared he would be jailed as a vagrant. *vagrancy*, **N.**

**valedictory ADJ.** / /pertaining to farewell

. I found the valedictory address too long; leave-taking should be brief.

**valid ADJ.** / /logically convincing

; sound; legally acceptable. You're going to have to come up with a better argument if you want to convince me that your reasoning is valid.

**validate V** /confirm; ratify.

I will not publish my findings until I validate my results.

**valor N.** / /bravery.

He received the Medal of Honor for his valor in battle.

**vampire N.** / /ghostly being that sucks the blood of the living.

Children were afraid to go to sleep because of the many legends of vampires roaming at night.

**vanguard N.** / /forerunners; advance forces.

We are the vanguard of a tremendous army that is following us.

**vantage N.** position giving an advantage.

They fired upon the enemy from behind trees, walls and any other point of *vantage* they could find.

**vapid ADJ.** / /dull and unimaginative; insipid and flavorless

. "Bor-ing!" said

Jessica, as she suffered through yet another vapid lecture about Dead White Male Poets.

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**\*vaporize V.** / /turn into vapor (steam, gas, fog, etc.). "Zap!" went Super Mario's atomic ray gun as he vaporized another deadly foe.

**variegated ADJ.** / /many-colored.

Without her glasses, Gretchen saw the fields of tulips as a *variegated* blur.

**veer V.** / /change in direction

. After what seemed an eternity, the wind *veered* to the east and the storm abated.

**vehement ADJ.** / /forceful;

intensely emotional; with marked vigor. Alfred became so *vehement* in describing what was wrong with the Internal Revenue Service that he began jumping up and down and frothing at the mouth. vehemence, **N.**