

# BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING-ENGLISH VOCABULARY

## Word List 1

**abase V. /lower; humiliate.**

Defeated, Queen Zenobia was forced to *abase* herself before the conquering Romans, who made her march in chains before the emperor in the procession celebrating his triumph. abasement, **N.**

**abash V. /embarrass.**

He was not at all *abashed* by her open admiration.

**abate V. //subside; decrease, lessen.**

Rather than leaving immediately, they waited for the storm to *abate*. abatement, **N.**

**abbreviate V. //shorten.**

Because we were running out of time, the lecturer had to *abbreviate* her speech.

**abdicate V. //renounce; give up.**

When Edward VIII *abdicated* the British throne to marry the woman he loved, he surprised the entire world.

**abduction N. //kidnapping.**

The movie *Ransom* describes the attempts to rescue a multimillionaire's son after the child's *abduction* by kidnappers. abduct, **V.**

**aberrant N. //abnormal or deviant.**

Given the *aberrant* nature of the data, we doubted the validity of the entire experiment. also **N.**

**abet V. /aid,**

usually in doing something wrong; encourage. She was unwilling to *abet* him in the swindle he had planned.

**abeyance N. //suspended action.**

The deal was held in *abeyance* until her arrival.

**abhor V. //detest; hate.**

She *abhorred* all forms of bigotry. abhorrence, **N.**

**abject ADJ. //wretched; lacking pride.**

On the streets of New York the homeless live in *abject* poverty, huddling in doorways to find shelter from the wind.

**abjure V. //renounce upon oath.**

He *abjured* his allegiance to the king. abjuration, **N.**

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**ablution N. /washing.**

His daily *ablutions* were accompanied by loud noises that he humorously labeled "Opera in the Bath."

**abnegation N. repudiation; self-sacrifice.**

No act of *abnegation* was more pronounced than his refusal of any rewards for his discovery.

**abolish V. cancel; put an end to.**

The president of the college refused to *abolish* the physical education requirement. abolition, **N.**

**abominable ADJ. /detestable; extremely unpleasant; very bad.**

Mary liked John until she learned he was dating Susan; then she called him an *abominable* young man, with *abominable* taste in women.

**aboriginal ADJ., N. /being the first of its kind in a region; primitive; native.**

Her studies of the primitive art forms of the *aboriginal* Indians were widely reported in the scientific journals. aborigines, **N.**

**abortive ADJ. /unsuccessful; fruitless.**

Attacked by armed troops, the Chinese students had to abandon their *abortive* attempt to democratize Beijing peacefully. abort, **V.**

**abrade V. /wear away by friction; scrape; erode.**

The sharp rocks *abraded* the skin on her legs, so she put iodine on her *abrasions*.

**abrasive ADJ. rubbing away; tending to grind down.**

Just as *abrasive* cleaning powders can wear away a shiny finish, *abrasive* remarks can wear away a listener's patience. abrade, **V.**

**abridge V. /condense or shorten.**

Because the publishers felt the public wanted a shorter version of *War and Peace*, they proceeded to *abridge* the novel.

**abrogate ADJ./abolish.**

He intended to *abrogate* the decree issued by his predecessor.

**abscond V. //depart secretly and hide.**

The teller who *absconded* with the bonds went

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uncaptured until someone recognized him from his photograph on "America's Most Wanted."

**absolute ADJ. /complete; totally unlimited; certain**

. Although the King of Siam was an *absolute* monarch, he did not want to behead his unfaithful wife without absolute evidence of her infidelity.

**absolve V. /pardon (an offense).**

The father confessor *absolved* him of his sins. absolution, **N.**

**absorb V. //assimilate or incorporate; suck or drink up; wholly engage.**

During the nineteenth century, America *absorbed* hordes of immigrants, turning them into productive citizens. Can Huggies diapers *absorb* more liquid than Pampers can? This question does not *absorb* me; instead, it bores me. absorption, **N.**

**abstain V. //refrain; hold oneself back voluntarily from an action or practice.**

After considering the effect of alcohol on his athletic performance, he decided to *abstain* from drinking while he trained for the race. abstinence, **N.**

**abstemious ADJ. //sparing in eating and drinking; temperate. Concerned whether her vegetarian**

son's *abstemious* diet provided him with sufficient protein, the worried mother pressed food on him.

**abstinence N. /restraint from eating or drinking.**

The doctor recommended total *abstinence* from salted foods. abstain, **V.**

**abstract ADJ. theoretical; not concrete; nonrepresentational. To him, hunger was an *abstract* concept;**

he had never missed a meal.

**abstruse ADJ. //obscure; profound; difficult to understand.**

She carries around *abstruse* works of philosophy, not because she understands them but because she wants her friends to think she does.

**abundant ADJ. /plentiful; possessing riches or resources.**

At his immigration interview, Ivan listed his

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*abundant* reasons for coming to America: the hope of religious freedom, the prospect of employment, the promise of a more *abundant* life.

**abusive ADJ.** // **coarsely insulting; physically harmful.**

An *abusive* parent damages a child both mentally and physically.

**abut V.** // **border upon; adjoin.**

Where our estates *abut*, we must build a fence.

**abysmal ADJ./bottomless.**

His arrogance is exceeded only by his *abysmal* ignorance.

**abyss N.** // **enormous chasm; vast bottomless pit.**

Darth Vader seized the evil emperor and hurled him down into the abyss,

**academic ADJ.** // **related to a school; not practical or directly useful.**

The dean's talk about reforming the college admissions system was only an *academic* discussion: we knew little, if anything, would change.

**accede V.** // **agree.**

If I *accede* to this demand for blackmail, I am afraid that I will be the victim of future demands.

**accelerate V.** // **move faster.**

In our science class, we learn how falling bodies accelerate.

**accentuate V. /, /emphasize; stress.**

If you *accentuate* the positive and eliminate the negative, you may wind up with an overoptimistic view of the world.

**accessible ADJ.** // **easy to approach; obtainable.**

We asked our guide whether the ruins were *accessible* on foot.

**accessory N.** // **additional object; useful but not essential thing.**

She bought an attractive handbag as an accessory for her dress. also **ADJ.**

**acclaim V. /, /applaud; announce with great approval.**

The NBC sportscasters *acclaimed* every American victory in the Olympics and decried every American defeat. also **N.**

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**acclimate V. // adjust to climate.**

One of the difficulties of our present air age is the need of travelers to acclimate themselves to their new and often strange environments.

**acclivity N. // sharp upslope of a hill.**

The car would not go up the *acclivity* in high gear.

**accolade N. // award of merit.** In Hollywood, an "Oscar" is the highest *accolade*.

**accommodate V. // oblige or help someone; adjust or bring into harmony; adapt. Mitch always**

did everything possible to accommodate his elderly relatives, from driving them to medical appointments to helping them with paperwork. (secondary meaning)

**accomplice N. // partner in crime.**

Because he had provided the criminal with the lethal weapon, he was arrested as an accomplice in the murder.

**accord N. // agreement.**

She was in complete accord with the verdict.

**accost V. // approach and speak first to a person.**

When the two young men accosted me, I was frightened because I thought they were going to attack me.

**accoutre V. // equip.**

The fisherman was accoutred with the best that the sporting goods store could supply.

accoutrements, **N.**

**accretion N. // growth; increase.**

The *accretion* of wealth marked the family's rise in power.

**accrue V. // come about by addition.**

You must pay the interest that has *accrued* on your debt as well as the principal sum. accrual, **N.**

**acerbity N. // bitterness of speech and temper.**

The meeting of the United Nations General Assembly was marked with such *acerbity* that informed sources held out little hope of reaching any

useful settlement of the problem. acerbic, **ADJ.**

**acetic ADJ. // vinegary.**

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The salad had an exceedingly acetic flavor.

**acidulous ADJ.** //slightly sour; sharp, caustic.

James was unpopular because of his sarcastic and *acidulous* remarks.

**acknowledge V.** //recognize; admit.

Although I *acknowledge* that the Beatles' tunes sound pretty dated today, I still prefer them to the "gangsta rap" songs my brothers play.

**acme N.** //top; pinnacle.

His success in this role marked the acme of his career as an actor.

**acoustics N.** //science of sound;

quality that makes a room easy or hard to hear in. Carnegie Hall is liked by music lovers because of its fine acoustics.

**acquiesce V.** //assent; agree without protesting.

Although she appeared to *acquiesce* to her employer's suggestions, I could tell she had reservations about the changes he wanted made. acquiescence, N.; acquiescent, ADJ.

**acquire V.** //obtain; get.

Frederick Douglass was determined to acquire an education despite his master's efforts to prevent his doing so.

**acquittal N.** //deliverance from a charge.

His acquittal by the jury surprised those who had thought him guilty. acquit, V.

**acrid ADJ.** //; /sharp; bitterly pungent.

The acrid odor of burnt gunpowder filled the room after the pistol had been fired.

**acrimonious ADJ.** //bitter in words or manner.

The candidate attacked his opponent in highly acrimonious terms. acrimony,

**acrophobia N.** //fear of heights.

A born salesman, he could convince someone with a bad case of *acrophobia* to sign up for a life membership in a sky-diving club.

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**actuarial ADJ.** //calculating; pertaining to insurance statistics.

According to recent actuarial tables,  
life expectancy is greater today than it was a century ago.

**actuate V.** //motivate.

I fail to understand what actuated you to reply to this letter so nastily.

**acuity N.** //sharpness.

In time his youthful acuity of vision failed him, and he needed glasses.

**acumen N.** /mental keenness.

His business *acumen* helped him to succeed where others had failed.

**acute ADJ.** //quickly perceptive; keen; brief and severe.

The acute young doctor realized  
immediately that the gradual deterioration of her patient's once acute hearing was  
due to a chronic  
illness, not an acute one.

**adage N.** //wise saying; proverb.

There is much truth in the old adage about fools and their money.

**adamant ADJ.** //hard; inflexible

. Bronson played the part of a revenge-driven man, adamant in his  
determination to punish the criminals who destroyed his family. **adamancy, N.**

**adapt V.** //alter; modify.

Some species of animals have become extinct because they could not adapt to  
a changing environment.

**addendum N.** //an addition or supplement.

As an addendum to the minutes, let me point out that Susan  
moved to appoint Kathy and Arthur to the finance committee.

**addiction N.** /compulsive, habitual need.

His addiction to drugs caused his friends much grief.

**addle V.** /muddle; drive crazy; become rotten.

This idiotic plan is confusing enough to *addle*  
anyone. **addled, ADJ.**

**address V.** //direct a speech to; deal with or discuss.

Due to address the convention in  
July, Brown planned to address the issue of low-income housing in his speech.

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**adept ADJ /expert at.**

She was adept at the fine art of irritating people. also **N.**

**adhere V. //stick fast.**

I will adhere to this opinion until proof that I am wrong is presented. adhesion, **N.**

**adherent N. //supporter; follower.**

In the wake of the scandal, the senator's one-time *adherents* quickly deserted him.

**adjacent ADJ. //adjoining; neighboring;**

close by. Philip's best friend Jason lived only four houses down the block, close but not immediately adjacent.

**adjunct N. //something added on or attached** (generally nonessential or inferior). Although I don't absolutely need a second computer, I plan to buy a laptop to serve as an adjunct to my desktop model.

**admonish V. /warn; reprove.**

He *admonished* his listeners to change their wicked ways. admonition, **N.**

**admonition N. //warning.**

After the student protesters repeatedly rejected Chairman Deng's *admonitions*, the government issued an ultimatum: either the students would end the demonstration at once or the soldiers would fire on the crowd.

**adorn V. //decorate.**

Wall paintings and carved statues *adorned* the temple. adornment, **N.**

**adroit ADJ. //skillful.**

His adroit handling of the delicate situation pleased his employers