

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING –ENGLISH VOCABULARY

WORD LIST 13

deciduous ADJ. /falling off as of leaves

. The oak is a *deciduous* tree; in winter it looks quite bare.

decimate V. /kill, usually one out of ten.

We do more to *decimate* our population in automobile accidents than we do in war.

decipher V. /interpret secret code.

Lacking his code book, the spy was unable to *decipher* the scrambled message sent to him from the KGB.

declivity N. /downward slope.

The children loved to ski down the *declivity*.

decollete ADJ. /having a low-necked dress

. Current fashion decrees that evening gowns be *decollete* this season; bare shoulders are again the vogue.

decomposition N. /decay.

Despite the body's advanced state of *decomposition*, the police were able to identify the murdered man.

decorum N. /propriety; orderliness and good taste in manners.

Even the best-mannered students have trouble behaving with decorum on the last day of school. decorous, ADJ.

decoy N. /lure or bait.

The wild ducks were not fooled by the decoy. also V.

decrepit ADJ. /worn out by age.

The decrepit car blocked traffic on the highway.

decrepitude N. /state of collapse caused by illness or old age

. I was unprepared for the state of *decrepitude* in which I had found my old friend; he seemed to have aged twenty years in six months.

decry V. /express strong disapproval of; disparage

. The founder of the Children's Defense Fund, Marian Wright Edelman, strongly decries the lack of financial and moral support for children in America today.

deducible ADJ. /derived by reasoning.

If we accept your premise, your conclusions are easily *deducible*.

deface V. /mar; disfigure.

If you *deface* a library book, you will have to pay a hefty fine.

defame V. /harm someone's reputation; malign; slander

. If you try to *defame* my good name, my lawyers will see you in court.
If rival candidates persist in *defaming* one another, the voters may conclude that all politicians are crooks. defamation, N.

default N. /failure to act.

When the visiting team failed to show up for the big game, they lost the game by *default*. When Jack failed to make the payments on his Jaguar, the dealership took back the car because he had *defaulted* on his debt.

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defeatist **ADJ.** /attitude of one who is ready to accept defeat as a natural outcome.

If you maintain

your *defeatist* attitude, you will never succeed. also **N.**

defection **N.** //desertion.

The children, who had made him an idol, were hurt most by his *defection* from our cause.

defer **V.** /delay till later; exempt temporarily. In wartime, some young men immediately volunteer to serve; others

defer //making plans until they hear from their draft boards

. During the Vietnam War, many young men, hoping to be *deferred*, requested student *deferments*.

defer **V.** /give in respectfully; submit.

When it comes to making decisions about purchasing software, we must *defer* to Michael, our computer guru; he gets the final word. Michael, however, can *defer* these questions to no one; only he can decide.

deference **N.** //courteous regard for another's wish.

In *deference* to the minister's request, please do not take photographs during the wedding service.

defiance **N.** //refusal to yield; resistance

. When John reached the "terrible two's," he responded to every parental request with howls of *defiance*. *defy*,**V.**

defile **V.** //pollute; profane

. The hoodlums *defiled* the church with their scurrilous writing.

definitive **ADJ.** //final; complete.

Carl Sandburg's *Abraham Lincoln* may be regarded as the *definitive* work on the life of the Great Emancipator.

deflect **V.** //turn aside.

His life was saved when his cigarette case *deflected* the bullet.

defoliate **V.** //destroy leaves

. In Vietnam the army made extensive use of chemical agents to *defoliate* the woodlands.

defray **V.** //pay the costs of

. Her employer offered to *defray* the costs of her postgraduate education.

deft **ADJ.** //neat; skillful.

The *deft* waiter uncorked the champagne without spilling a drop.

defunct **ADJ.** //dead; no longer in use or existence.

The lawyers sought to examine the books of the *defunct* corporation.

defuse **V.** //remove the fuse of a bomb

; reduce or eliminate a threat. Police negotiators are trained to *defuse* dangerous situations by avoiding confrontational language and behavior.

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degenerate v. // **become worse; deteriorate**

. As the fight dragged on, the champion's style *degenerated* until he could barely keep on his feet.

degradation n. // **humiliation;**

debasement; degeneration. Some secretaries object to fetching the boss a cup of coffee because they resent the *degradation* of being made to do such lowly tasks. *degrade*, v.

dehydrate v. **remove water from;**

dry out. Running under a hot sun quickly *dehydrates* the body; joggers soon learn to carry water bottles and to drink from them frequently.

deify v. // **turn into a god; idolize.**

Admire Elvis Presley all you want; just don't *deify* him.

deign v. // **condescend; stoop.**

The celebrated fashion designer would not *deign* to speak to a mere seamstress; his overburdened assistant had to convey the master's wishes to the lowly workers assembling his great designs.

delectable adj. // **delightful; delicious.**

We thanked our host for a most *delectable* meal.

delete v. // **erase; strike out.**

Less is more: if you *delete* this paragraph, your whole essay will have greater appeal.

deleterious adj. // **harmful**

. If you believe that smoking is deleterious to your health (and the Surgeon General certainly does), then quit!

deliberate v. // **consider; ponder.**

Offered the new job, she asked for time to *deliberate* before she told them her decision,

delineate v. // **portray; depict; sketch.**

Using only a few descriptive phrases, Austen *delineates* the character of Mr. Collins so well that we can predict his every move. *delineation*, n.

delirium n. // **mental disorder marked by confusion**

. In his *delirium*, the drunkard saw pink panthers and talking pigs. Perhaps he wasn't *delirious*: he might just have wandered into a movie.

delude v. // **deceive**

. His mistress may have *deluded* herself into believing that he would leave his wife and marry her.

deluge n. // **flood; rush.**

When we advertised the position, we received a *deluge* of applications

delusion n. // **false belief; hallucination.**

Don suffers from *delusions* of grandeur: he thinks he's a worldfamous author when he's published just one paperback book.

delve v. // **dig; investigate.**

Delving into old books and manuscripts is part of a researcher's job

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demagogue *n.* // **person who appeals to people's prejudice**; false leader of people.
He was accused of being a *demagogue* because he made promises that aroused futile hopes in his listeners.

demean *v.* // **degrade; humiliate**
. Standing on his dignity, he refused to *demean* himself by replying to the offensive letter. If you truly believed in the dignity of labor, you would not think it would *demean* you to work as a janitor.

demeanor *n.* // **behavior; bearing.**
His sober *demeanor* quieted the noisy revelers.

demented *adj.* // **insane.**
Doctor Demento was a lunatic radio personality who liked to act as if he were truly *demented*. If you're *demented*, your mental state is out of whack; in other words, you're wacky.

demise *n.* // **death.**
Upon the *demise* of the dictator, a bitter dispute about succession to power developed.

demolition *n.* // **destruction**
. One of the major aims of the air force was the complete *demolition* of all means of transportation by bombing of rail lines and terminals. *demolish*, *v.*

demoniac *adj.* // **fiendish.**
The Spanish Inquisition devised many *demoniac* means of torture. *demon*, *n.*

demur *v.* // **object (because of doubts, scruples); hesitate.**
When offered a post on the board of directors, David *demurred*: he had scruples about taking on the job because he was unsure he could handle it in addition to his other responsibilities.

demure *adj.* **grave; serious; coy.**
She was *demure* and reserved, a nice modest girl whom any young man would be proud to take home to his mother.

demystify *v.* // **clarify;**
free from mystery or obscurity. Helpful doctors *demystify* medical procedures by describing **them** in everyday language, explaining that a myringotomy, for example, is an operation involving making a small hole in one's eardrum.

denigrate *v.* // **blacken.**
All attempts to *denigrate* the character of our late president have failed; the people still love him and cherish his memory.

denizen *n.* // **inhabitant or resident; regular visitor**
. In *The Untouchables*, Eliot Ness fights Al Capone and the other *denizens* of Chicago's underworld. Ness's fight against corruption was the talk of all the *denizens* of the local bars.

denotation *n.* // **meaning**
; distinguishing by name. A dictionary will always give us the *denotation* of a word; frequently, it will also give us the connotations. *denote*, *v.*

denouement *n.* // **outcome**
; final development of the plot of a play. The play was childishly written; the *denouement* was obvious to sophisticated theatergoers as early as the middle of the first act.

denounce *v.* // **condemn; criticize**

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. The reform candidate *denounced* the corrupt city officers for having betrayed the public's trust. *denunciation*, **N.**

depict **v.** // **portray.**

In this sensational exposé, the author *depicts* Beatle John Lennon as a drug-crazed neurotic. Do you question the accuracy of this *depiction* of Lennon?

deplete **v.** // **reduce; exhaust.**

We must wait until we *deplete* our present inventory before we order replacements.

deplore **v.** // **regret; disapprove of**

. Although I *deplore* the vulgarity of your language, I defend your right to express yourself freely.

deploy **v.** // **spread out [troops] in an extended though shallow battle line.**

The general ordered the battalion to *deploy* in order to meet the enemy offensive.

depose **v.** // **dethrone; remove from office.**

The army attempted to *depose* the king and set up a military government.

deposition **n.** // **testimony under oath**

. He made his *deposition* in the judge's chamber.

depravity **n.** // **extreme corruption; wickedness.**

The *depravity* of Caligula's behavior came to sicken even those who had willingly participated in his earlier, comparatively innocent orgies.

deprecate **v.** // **express disapproval of;**

protest against; belittle. A firm believer in old-fashioned courtesy, Miss Post *deprecated* the modern tendency to address new acquaintances by their first names. *deprecatory*, **ADJ.**

depreciate **v.** // **lessen in value**

. If you neglect this property, it will depreciate.

depredation **n.** // **plundering.**

After the *depredations* of the invaders, the people were penniless.

deranged **ADJ.** // **insane**

. He had to be institutionalized because he was mentally *deranged*.

derelict **ADJ.** // **abandoned; negligent.**

The derelict craft was a menace to navigation. Whoever abandoned it in the middle of the harbor was derelict in living up to his responsibilities as a boat owner. also **N.**

deride **v.** // **ridicule; make fun of.**

The critics *derided* his pretentious dialogue and refused to consider his play seriously. *derision*, **N.**

derivative **ADJ.** // **unoriginal**

; derived from another source. Although her early poetry was clearly *derivative* in nature, the critics thought she had promise and eventually would find her own voice.

dermatologist **n.** // **one who studies the skin and its diseases.**

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I advise you to consult a
dermatologist about your acne.

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