

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING -ENGLISH VOCABULARY
Word List 28

lament v. //grieve;

express sorrow. Even advocates of the war *lamented* the loss of so many lives in combat. lamentation, n.

lampoon v. //ridicule.

This article lampoons the pretensions of some movie moguls. also n.

languid ADJ. //weary; sluggish;

listless. Her siege of illness left her *languid* and pallid.

languish v. //lose animation; lose strength.

Left at Miss Minchin's school for girls while her father went off to war, Sarah Crewe refused to *languish*; instead, she hid her grief and actively befriended her less fortunate classmates.

languor n. //lassitude; depression.

His friends tried to overcome the languor into which he had fallen by taking him to parties and to the theater.

lap v. //take in food or drink with one's tongue; splash gently.

The kitten neatly *lapped* up her milk. The waves softly *lapped* against the pier.

larceny n. //theft.

Because of the prisoner's record, the district attorney refused to reduce the charge from grand larceny to petty *larceny*.

larder n. //pantry; place where food is kept.

The first thing Bill did on returning home from school was to check what snacks his mother had in the *larder*.

largess n. //generous gift.

Lady Bountiful distributed largess to the poor.

lassitude n. //languor; weariness.

After a massage and a long soak in the hot tub, I gave in to my growing *lassitude* and lay down for a nap.

latent ADJ. //potential but undeveloped; dormant;

hidden. Polaroid pictures are popular at parties, because you can see the *latent* photographic image gradually appear before your eyes.

lateral ADJ. //coming from the side.

In order to get good plant growth, the gardener must pinch off all *lateral* shoots.

latitude n. //freedom from narrow limitations.

I think you have permitted your son too much *latitude* in this matter.

laud v. //praise.

The NFL *lauded* Boomer Esiason's efforts to raise money to combat cystic fibrosis. laudable, laudatory, ADJ.

lavish ADJ. //liberal; wasteful.

The actor's *lavish* gifts pleased her. also v.

lax ADJ. //careless.

We dislike restaurants where the service is *lax* and inattentive.

leaven v. //cause to rise or grow lighter; enliven.

As bread dough is *leavened*, it puffs up, expanding in volume.

lechery n. //lustfulness;

impurity in thought and deed. In his youth he led a life of lechery and debauchery; he did not mend his ways until middle age. lecherous, ADJ.

leery ADJ. //suspicious; cautious.

Don't eat the sushi at this restaurant; I'm a bit leery about how fresh the raw fish is.

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legacy *n.* // a gift made by a will.

Part of my legacy from my parents is an album of family photographs.

legend *n.* // explanatory list of symbols on a map.

The legend at the bottom of the map made it clear which symbols stood for rest areas along the highway and which stood for public camp sites. (secondary meaning)

legerdemain *n.* // sleight of hand.

The magician demonstrated his renowned *legerdemain*.

leniency *n.* // mildness; permissiveness.

Considering the gravity of the offense, we were surprised by the *leniency* of the sentence.

lethal *adj.* // deadly.

It is unwise to leave lethal weapons where children may find them.

lethargic *adj.* // drowsy; dull.

The stuffy room made her lethargic: she felt as if she was about to nod off.

levitate *v.* // float in the air (especially by magical means).

As the magician passed his hands over the recumbent body of his assistant, she appeared to rise and levitate about three feet above the table.

levity *n.* // lack of seriousness; lightness.

Stop giggling and wriggling around in the pew: such levity is improper in church.

levy *v.* // impose (a fine); collect (a payment).

Crying "No taxation without representation," the colonists demonstrated against England's power to levy taxes.

lewd *adj.* // lustful.

They found his lewd stories objectionable.

lexicographer *n.* // compiler of a dictionary.

The new dictionary is the work of many lexicographers who spent years compiling and editing the work.

lexicon *n.* // dictionary.

I cannot find this word in any lexicon in the library.

liability *n.* // drawback; debts.

Her lack of an extensive vocabulary was a liability that she was eventually able to overcome.

liaison *n.* // contact keeping parts of an organization in communication;

go-between; secret love affair. As the liaison between the American and British forces during World War II, the colonel had to ease tensions between the leaders of the two armies. Romeo's romantic liaison with Juliet ended in tragedy.

libel *n.* // defamatory statement;

act of writing something that smears a person's character. If Batman wrote that the Joker was a dirty, 'rotten, mass-murdering criminal, could the Joker sue Batman for libel?

liberator *n.* // one who sets free.

Simon Bolivar, who led the South American colonies in their rebellion against Spanish rule, is known as the great liberator. liberate, *v.*

libretto *n.* // text of an opera.

The composer of an opera's music is remembered more frequently than the author of its libretto.

licentious *adj.* // amoral; lewd and lascivious;

unrestrained. Unscrupulously seducing the daughter of his host, Don Juan felt no qualms about the immorality of his licentious behavior.

lilliputian *adj.* // extremely small.

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Tiny and delicate, the model was built on a lilliputian scale. also **n**.

limber **ADJ.** //flexible.

Hours of ballet classes kept him limber.

limerick **N.** //humorous short verse.

The limerick form is the best; its meter is pure anapest. A limerick's fun for most everyone, and the word may occur on your test.

limpid **ADJ.** //clear.

A limpid stream ran through his property.

linchpin **N.** //something that holds or links various parts together.

The *linchpin* in the district attorney's case was a photograph showing the defendant shaking hands with the hired killer.

lineage **N.** //descent; ancestry.

He traced his lineage back to Mayflower days.

linger **V.** //loiter or dawdle;

continue or persist. Hoping to see Juliet pass by, Romeo *lingered* outside the Capulet house for hours. Though Mother made stuffed cabbage on Monday, the smell *lingered* around the house for days.

linguistic **ADJ.** //pertaining to language.

The modern tourist will encounter very little linguistic difficulty as English has become an almost universal language.

liniment **N.** //ointment; lotion; salve.

The trainer carefully applied the *liniment* to the quarterback's bruise, gently rubbing it into the skin.

lionize **V.** //treat as a celebrity.

She enjoyed being *lionized* and adored by the public.

liquidate **V.** //settle accounts; clearup.

He was able to liquidate all his debts in a short period of time.

list **V.** //tilt; lean over.

That flagpole should be absolutely vertical; instead, it lists to one side. (secondary meaning)

listless **ADJ.** //lacking in spirit or energy.

We had expected him to be full of enthusiasm and were surprised by his list/ess attitude.

litany **N.** //supplicatory prayer. On this solemn day,

the congregation responded to the prayers of the priest during the litany with fervor and intensity.

lithe **ADJ.** //flexible; supple.

Her figure was lithe and willowy.

litigation **N.** //lawsuit. Try to settle this amicably;

I do not want to become involved in litigation. litigant, **N.**

livid **ADJ.** //lead-colored; black and blue; enraged.

His face was so *livid* with rage that we were afraid that he might have an attack of apoplexy.

loath **ADJ.** //reluctant; disinclined.

Romeo and Juliet were both loath for him to go.

loathe **V.** //detest. Booing and hissing,

the audience showed how much they *loathed* the wicked villain.

lofty **ADJ.** //very high.

Though Barbara Jordan's fellow students used to tease her about her lofty ambitions, she rose to hold one of the highest positions in the land.

log **N.** //record of a voyage or flight;

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record of day to day activities. "Flogged two seamen today for insubordination" wrote Captain Bligh in the *Bounty's* log. To see how much work I've accomplished recently, just take a look at the number of new files listed on my computer log.

loiter v. //hang around; linger.

The policeman told him not to loiter in the alley.

loll v. //loungue about.

They lolled around in their chairs watching television.

longevity n. //long life.

When he reached ninety, the old man was proud of his longevity.

loom v. //appear or take shape (usually in an enlarged or distorted form).

The shadow of the gallows loomed threateningly above the small boy.

lope v. //gallop slowly.

As the horses loped along, we had an opportunity to admire the ever-changing scenery. loquacious **ADJ.** talkative. Though our daughter barely says a word to us these days, put a phone in her hand and see how loquacious she can be: our phone bills are out of sight!
loquacity, **N.**

lout n. //clumsy person.

That awkward lout dropped my priceless vase!

low v. //moo. From the hilltop,

they could see the herd like ants in the distance; they could barely hear the cattle low.