

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING- ENGLISH VOCABULARY

WORD LIST 16

duration N. / /length of time something lasts.

Because she wanted the children to make a good impression on the dinner guests, Mother promised them a treat if they'd behave for the *duration* of the meal.

duress N. / (/forcible restraint, especially unlawfully.

The hostages were held under duress until the prisoners' demands were met.

dutiful ADJ. / respectful; obedient

. When Mother told Billy to kiss Great-Aunt Hattie, the boy obediently gave the old woman a dutiful peck on her cheek.

dwarf V. / /cause to seem small.

The giant redwoods and high cliffs *dwarfed* the elegant Ahwahnee Hotel, making it appear a modest lodge rather than an imposing hostelry.

dwindle V. / /shrink; reduce. The food in the life boat gradually *dwindled* away to nothing; in the end, they ate the ship's cook.

dynamic ADJ. /energetic; vigorously active.

The dynamic aerobics instructor kept her students on the run; she was a little *dynamo*.

earthy ADJ /unrefined; coarse.

His *earthy* remarks often embarrassed the women in his audience.

ebb /recede; lessen.

Sitting on the beach, Mrs. Dalloway watched the tide *ebb*: the waters receded, drawing away from her as she sat there all alone. also **N.**

ebullient ADJ /showing excitement;

overflowing with enthusiasm. Amy's *ebullient* nature could not be repressed; she' was always bubbling over with excitement. ebullience, **N.**

eccentric ADJ. /irregular; odd;

whimsical; bizarre. The comet veered dangerously close to the earth in its *eccentric* orbit. People came up with some *eccentric* ideas for dealing with the emergency: someone even suggested tying a knot in the comet's tail!

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING- ENGLISH VOCABULARY

WORD LIST 16

eccentricity N. / /oddity; idiosyncrasy

. Some of his friends tried to account for his rudeness to strangers as the *eccentricity* of genius.

ecclesiastic ADJ. / /pertaining to the church.

The minister donned his *ecclesiastic* garb and walked to the pulpit. also **N.**

eclectic ADJ. / /composed of elements drawn from disparate sources.

His style of interior decoration was

eclectic: bits and pieces of furnishings from widely divergent periods, strikingly juxtaposed to create a unique decor. eclecticism, **N.**

eclipse V. / darken; extinguish; surpass.

The new stock market high *eclipsed* the previous record set in 1995.

ecologist N. /a person concerned with the interrelationship between living organisms and their environment.

The *ecologist* was concerned that the new dam would upset the natural balance of the creatures living in Glen Canyon.

economy N /efficiency or conciseness in using something.

Reading the epigrams of Pope, I

admire the economy of his verse: in few words he conveys worlds of meaning. (secondary meaning)

ecstasy N. / /rapture; joy;

any overpowering emotion. When Allison received her longhoped-for letter of acceptance from Harvard, she was in *ecstasy*. ecstatic, **ADJ.**

eddy N. / /swirling current of water, air, etc.

The water in the tide pool was still, except for an occasional *eddy*.

edict N. /decree

(especially issued by a sovereign); official command. The emperor issued an *edict* decreeing that everyone should come see him model his magnificent new clothes.

edify V. / /instruct; correct morally.

Although his purpose was to *edify* and not to entertain his audience, many of his listeners were amused rather than enlightened.

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING- ENGLISH VOCABULARY

WORD LIST 16

eerie ADJ. / /weird.

In that *eerie* setting, it was easy to believe in ghosts and other supernatural beings.

efface V. / rub out.

coin had been handled so many times that its date had been *effaced*.

effectual ADJ. / /able to produce a desired effect;

valid. Medical researchers are concerned because of the development of drug-resistant strains of bacteria; many once useful antibiotics are no longer effectual in curing bacterial infections.

effervescence N. /inner excitement or exuberance; bubbling from fermentation or carbonation. Nothing depressed Sue for long; her natural *effervescence* soon reasserted itself. Soda that loses its *effervescence* goes flat. effervescent, **ADJ.** effervesce, **V.**

efficacy N. / /power to produce desired effect.

The efficacy of this drug depends on the regularity of the dosage. efficacious, **ADJ.**

effigy N. / /dummy.

The mob showed its irritation by hanging the judge in *effigy*.

effrontery N. / shameless boldness.

She had the effrontery to insult the guest.

effusive ADJ. / pouring forth; gushing.

Her *effusive* manner of greeting her friends finally began to irritate them. effusion, **N.**

egoism N. / /excessive interest in one's self;

belief that one should be interested in one's self rather than in others. His egoism prevented him from seeing the needs of his colleagues.

egotistical ADJ. / /excessively self-centered;

self-important; conceited. Typical egotistical remark: "But enough of this chit-chat about you and your little problems. Let's talk about what's really important: *Me!*"

egregious ADJ. / notorious;

conspicuously bad or shocking. She was an egregious liar; we all knew better than to believe a word she said. Ed's housekeeping was egregious:

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING- ENGLISH VOCABULARY

WORD LIST 16

he let his dirty dishes pile up so long that they were stuck together with last week's food.

egress N. / /exit.

Barnum's sign "To the *Egress*" fooled many people who thought they were going to see an animal and instead found themselves in the street.

ejaculation N. /exclamation

. He could not repress an *ejaculation* of surprise when he heard the news.

elaboration N. / /addition of details; intricacy.

Tell what happened simply, without any *elaboration*.

elaborate, **V.**

elated ADJ. / /overjoyed;

in high spirits. Grinning from ear to ear, Bonnie Blair was clearly *elated* by her fifth Olympic gold medal. elation, **N.**

elegy N. / poem or song expressing lamentation.

On the death of Edward King, Milton composed the *elegy* "Lycidas." elegiacal, **ADJ.**

elicit V. draw out by discussion.

The detectives tried to elicit where he had hidden his loot.

elixir N. / cure-all; something invigorating.

The news of her chance to go abroad acted on her like an elixir.

ellipsis N. omission of words from a text.

Sometimes an ellipsis can lead to a dangling modifier, as in the sentence "Once dressed, you should refrigerate the potato salad."

elliptical ADJ. /oval;

ambiguous, either purposely or because key words have been left out.

An elliptical billiard ball wobbles because it is not perfectly round; an elliptical remark baffles because

it is not perfectly clear.

eloquence N. /expressiveness; persuasive speech.

The crowds were stirred by Martin Luther King's *eloquence*. eloquent, **ADJ.**

elucidate V. explain; enlighten.

He was called upon to *elucidate* the disputed points in his article.

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING- ENGLISH VOCABULARY

WORD LIST 16

elusive ADJ. / evasive;

baffling; hard to grasp. Trying to pin down exactly when the contractors would be finished remodeling the house, Nancy was frustrated by their *elusive* replies.

elude, **V.**

emaciated ADJ. / thin and wasted.

His long period of starvation had left him *emaciated*.

emanate V. / issue forth.

A strong odor of sulphur *emanated* from the spring.

emancipate V. / set free.

At first, the attempts of the Abolitionists to *emancipate* the slaves were unpopular in New England as well as in the South.

embargo N. / ban on commerce or other activity.

As a result of the embargo, trade with the colonies was at a standstill.

embark V. / commence;

go on board a boat or airplane; begin a journey. In devoting herself to the study of gorillas, Dian Fossey *embarked* on a course of action that was to cost her her life.

embed V /enclose;

place in something. Tales of actual historical figures like King Alfred have become *embedded* in legends.

embellish V /adorn; ornament.

The costume designer *embellished* the leading lady's ball gown with yards and yards of ribbon and lace.

embezzlement N. /stealing.

The bank teller confessed his *embezzlement* of the funds.

embody V. /personify;

make concrete; incorporate. Cheering on his rival Mark McGwire's efforts to break Roger Maris's home run record, Sammy Sosa *embodied* the spirit of true sportsmanship.

embrace V/hug; adopt or espouse;

accept readily; encircle; include. Clasp Maid Marian in

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING- ENGLISH VOCABULARY

WORD LIST 16

his arms, Robin Hood *embraced* her lovingly. In joining the outlaws in Sherwood Forest, she had openly *embraced* their cause.

embroider V / decorate with needlework;

ornament with fancy or fictitious details. For her mother's birthday, Beth *embroidered* a lovely design on a handkerchief. When asked what made her late getting home, Jo *embroidered* her account with tales of runaway horses and rescuing people from a ditch. embroidery, **N.**

embroil V / throw into confusion;

involve in strife; entangle. He became *embroiled* in the heated discussion when he tried to arbitrate the dispute.

embryonic ADJ. // undeveloped; rudimentary.

The evil of class and race hatred must be eliminated while it is still in an *embryonic* state; otherwise, it may grow to dangerous proportions.

emend **V. correct;** correct by a critic. The critic *emended* the book by selecting the passages which he thought most appropriate to the text.

emendation N. // correction of errors; improvement.

Please initial all the *emendations* you have made in this contract.

eminent ADJ. / high; lofty.

After his appointment to this *eminent* position, he seldom had time for his former friends.

emissary N. // agent; messenger.

The secretary of state was sent as the president's special emissary to the conference on disarmament.

emollient N. // soothing or softening remedy.

The nurse applied an *emollient* to the inflamed area. also **ADJ.**

empathy N. /, / ability to identify with another's feelings, ideas, etc.

What made Ann such a fine counselor was her *empathy*, her ability to put herself in her client's place and feel his emotions as if they were her own. empathize, **V.**

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING- ENGLISH VOCABULARY

WORD LIST 16

empirical ADJ. //based on experience.

He distrusted hunches and intuitive flashes; he placed his reliance entirely on empirical data.

emulate V. /; /imitate; rival.

In a brief essay, describe a person you admire, someone whose virtues you would like to *emulate*.

enamored ADJ. /; /in love.

Narcissus became *enamored* of his own beauty.

encipher V. //encode; convert a message into code.

One of Bond's first lessons was how to *encipher* the messages he sent to Miss Money Penny so that none of his other lady friends could decipher them.

enclave N. //territory enclosed within an alien land

. The Vatican is an independent *enclave* in Italy.

encomium N. /high praise; eulogy.

Uneasy with the *encomiums* expressed by his supporters, Tolkien felt unworthy of such high praise.

encompass V. /surround.

Although we were *encompassed* by enemy forces, we were cheerful for we were well stocked and could withstand a siege until our allies joined us.

encroachment N. /gradual intrusion.

The *encroachment* of the factories upon the neighborhood lowered the value of the real estate.