

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING -ENGLISH VOCABULARY

WORD LIST-19

fallacious ADJ. //false;

misleading. Paradoxically, fallacious reasoning does not always yield erroneous results: even though your logic may be faulty, the answer you get may nevertheless be correct. fallacy, N.

fallible ADJ. //liable to err.

I know I am fallible, but I feel confident that I am right this time.

fallow ADJ. //plowed but not sowed;

uncultivated. Farmers have learned that it is advisable to permit land to lie fallow every few years.

falter V. //hesitate

. When told to dive off the high board, she did not falter, but proceeded at once.

fanaticism N. //excessive zeal;

extreme devotion to a belief or cause. When Islamic fundamentalists demanded the death of Salman Rushdie because his novel questioned their faith, world opinion condemned them for their fanaticism.

fancy N. //notion;

whim; inclination. Martin took a fancy to paint his toenails purple. Assuming he would outgrow such fanciful behavior, his parents ignored his fancy feet. also ADJ.

fanfare N. //call by bugles or trumpets.

The exposition was opened with a fanfare of trumpets and the firing of cannon.

farce N. //broad comedy;

mockery. Nothing went right; the entire interview degenerated into a farce. farcical, ADJ.

fastidious ADJ. //difficult to please;

squeamish. Bobby was such a fastidious eater that he would eat a sandwich only if his mother first cut off every scrap of crust.

fatalism N. //belief that events are determined by forces beyond one's control.

With fatalism, he accepted the hardships that beset him. fatalistic, ADJ.

fathom V. //comprehend;

investigate. I find his motives impossible to fathom; in fact, I'm totally clueless about what goes on in his mind.

fatuous ADJ. //foolish;

inane. He is far too intelligent to utter such fatuous remarks.

fauna N. //animals of a period or region.

The scientist could visualize the fauna of the period by examining the skeletal remains and the fossils.

fawning ADJ. //courting favor by cringing and flattering.

She was constantly surrounded by a group of admirers who hoped to win some favor. fawn, V.

faze V. //disconcert;

dismay. No crisis could faze the resourceful hotel manager.

feasible ADJ. //practical.

Is it feasible to build a new stadium for the Yankees on New York's West Side? Without additional funding, the project is clearly unrealistic.

fecundity N. //fertility;

fruitfulness. The fecundity of his mind is illustrated by the many vivid images in his poems.

feign V. //pretend.

Lady Macbeth feigned illness although she was actually healthy.

feint N. //trick;

shift; sham blow. The boxer was fooled by his opponent's feint and dropped his guard. also V.

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felicitous ADJ. //apt;

suitably expressed; well chosen. He was famous for his felicitous remarks and was called upon to serve as master-of-ceremonies at many a banquet. felicity, N.

felicity N. //happiness;

appropriateness (of a remark, choice, etc.). She wrote a note to the newlyweds wishing them great felicity in their wedded life.

fell ADJ. //cruel;

deadly. The newspapers told of the tragic spread of the fell disease.

fell V. //cut or knock down;

bring down (with a missile). Crying "Timber!" Paul Bunyan felled the mighty redwood tree. Robin Hood loosed his arrow and felled the king's deer.

felon N. //person convicted of a grave crime.

A convicted felon loses the right to vote.

feral ADJ. //not domestic;

wild. Abandoned by their owners, dogs may revert to their feral state, roaming the woods in packs.

ferment N. //agitation;

commotion. With the breakup of the Soviet Union, much of Eastern Europe was in a state of ferment.

ferret V. //drive or hunt out of hiding.

She ferreted out their secret.

fervent ADJ. //ardent;

hot. She felt that the fervent praise was excessive and somewhat undeserved.

fervid ADJ. //ardent.

Her fervid enthusiasm inspired all of us to undertake the dangerous mission.

fervor N. //glowing ardor;

intensity of feeling. At the protest rally, the students cheered the strikers and booed the dean with equal fervor.

fester V. //rankle;

produce irritation or resentment. Joe's insult festered in Anne's mind for days, and made her too angry to speak to him.

festive ADJ. //joyous;

celebratory. Their wedding in the park was a festive occasion.

fetid ADJ. //malodorous

. The neglected wound became fetid.

fetter V. //shackle.

The prisoner was fettered to the wall.

fiasco N. //total failure.

Our ambitious venture ended in a fiasco and we were forced to flee.

fickle ADJ. //changeable;

faithless. As soon as Romeo saw Juliet, he forgot all about his old girlfriend Rosaline. Was Romeo *fickle*?

fictitious ADJ. //imaginary.

Although this book purports to be a biography of George Washington, many of the incidents are fictitious.

fidelity N. //loyalty.

A dog's fidelity to its owner is one of the reasons why that animal is a favorite household pet.

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figment *n.* //invention;

imaginary thing. That incident never took place; it is a *figment* of your imagination.

figurative *adj.* //not literal,

but metaphorical; using a figure of speech. "To lose one's marbles" is a figurative expression; if you're told that Jack has lost his marbles, no one expects you to rush out to buy him a replacement set.

figurine *n.* //small ornamental statuette.

In The *Maltese Falcon*, Sam Spade was hired to trace the missing *figurine* of a black bird.

filament *n.* //fine thread or fiber;

threadlike structure within a light bulb. A ray of sunlight illuminated the *filaments* of the spider web, turning the web into a net of gold.

filch *v.* //steal.

The boys *filched* apples from the fruit stand.

filial *adj.* //pertaining to a son or daughter.

Many children forget their filial obligations and disregard the wishes of their parents.

filibuster *v.* //to block legislation by making long speeches.

Even though we disapproved of Senator Foghorn's political goals, we were impressed by his ability to *filibuster* endlessly to keep an issue from coming to a vote.

finale *n.* //conclusion.

It is not until we reach the finale of this play that we can understand the author's message.

finesse *n.* //delicate skill.

The finesse and adroitness with which the surgeon wielded her scalpel impressed all the observers in the operating room.

finicky *adj.* //too particular;

fussy. The little girl was finicky about her food, leaving over anything that wasn't to her taste.

firebrand *n.* //hothead:

troublemaker. The police tried to keep track of all the local *firebrands* when the President came to town.

fissure *n.* //crevice.

The mountain climbers secured **footholds** in tiny fissures in the rock.

fitful *adj.* //spasmodic;

intermittent. After several *fitful* attempts, he decided to postpone the start of the project until he felt more energetic.

flabbergasted *adj.* //astounded;

astonished; overcome with surprise. In the film *Flubber*, the hero invents a remarkable substance whose amazing properties leave his coworkers *flabbergasted*. flabbergast, *v.*

flaccid *adj.* //flabby.

His sedentary life had left him with *flaccid* muscles.

flag *v.* //droop;

grow feeble. When the opposing hockey team scored its third goal only minutes into the first quarter, the home team's spirits *flagged*. flagging, *adj.*

flagrant *adj.* //conspicuously wicked;

blatant; outrageous. The governor's appointment of his brother-in-law to the State Supreme Court was a *flagrant* violation of the state laws against nepotism (favoritism based on kinship).

flair *n.* //talent.

She has an uncanny flair for discovering new artists before the public has become aware of their existence.

flamboyant *adj.* //ornate.

Modern architecture has discarded the *flamboyant* trimming on buildings and emphasizes simplicity of line.

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flaunt v./ /display ostentatiously.

Mae West saw nothing wrong with showing off her considerable physical charms, saying, "Honey, if you've got it, flaunt it!"

fleck v./ /spot.

Her cheeks, *flecked* with tears, were testimony to the hours of weeping.

fledgling ADJ./ /inexperienced.

While it is necessary to provide these *fledgling* poets with an opportunity to present their work, it is not essential that we admire everything they write. also n.

fleece n./ /wool coat of a sheep.

They shear sheep of their *fleece*, which they then comb into separate strands of wool.

fleece v./ /rob;

plunder. The tricksters fleeced him of his inheritance.

flick n./ /light stroke as with a whip.

The horse needed no encouragement; one *flick* of the whip was all the jockey had to apply to get the animal to run at top speed.

flinch v./ /hesitate,

shrink. He did not *flinch* in the face of danger but fought back bravely.