

Word Lists 04

Part 01

Word Series 04: List 01

➤ Level 1 Words in the list: Let's get warmed up

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Dismal	Depressing	The dismal performance of the Indian contingent at the last Olympics when it came back empty-handed, has prompted many analysts to suggest that India should temporarily stop sending its sports teams abroad.
Dismiss	Eliminate, from consideration reject	1. He might not be holding any party post at the moment, but the fact of his influence in getting things done his way cannot be dismissed as such.
Domestic	Tame	The cow was probably one of the first animals to be domesticated by man as it was very docile, gave him milk and required little training.
Obese	Exceedingly	The researchers findings the idea that drinking too

	fat	much beer makes people obese.
Rectify	To correct	The P.M. promised that his government will try its best to rectify all the wrongs committed by the previous government.

➤ **Level 2 Words in the list: Let's take it up a notch**

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Avert	Turn away	The crisis could have been averted, had the administration acted with a bit of farsightedness and pro-activeness.
Migrate	Mover from place to place	Because of the fear of Pakistani invasion, many people from this area have migrated to other, safer regions.
Miniature	Small scale	The paintings by the artist done on grains of rice are truly miniature-scale and that they have to be magnified

		several times before they are visible to the naked eye.
Narration	story	The story was narrated to me by the master story-teller in his own unique style.
Negligent	Apt to omit what ought to be done.	The negligent zookeeper failed to close the door to the elephant house.
Recuperate	Recover	Marie has still not recuperated from her illness in full measure; she is still on medicines and needs a crutch to help her walk.
Redundant	Exceeding what is natural or necessary, superfluous	With the introduction of extensive computerization in the bank, many clerks wondered if they would be rendered redundant because computers could do their job more effectively and efficiently.
Speculate	To ponder	Nobody will come to know of the election result before it is officially declared; whatever anybody says about the result is nothing but a matter of speculation.

Spineless	Lacking courage	You cannot expect such a spineless person to fight for the country at the Indo-Pak border.
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➤ **Level 3 Words in the list: Time to be a master**

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Chagrin	Disappointment	She again emerged as the topper, despite all efforts by her rivals, much to their chagrin and her delight.
Disparage	Belittle	Calling this swank five-star hotel a dhaba is nothing but a vicious attempt to disparage its status as a prominent eating joint.
Foible	Weakness	All humans have some foibles, which ought to be overlooked in the

		interest of mutual social relationships; it is only the bigger mistakes which should command our attention.
Galore	In abundance	With problems galore and few solutions in sight, it is indeed a tough situation for Rinu.
Geniality	Warmth and kindness of disposition	He is appreciated for his geniality towards others.
Gesticulate	To gesture with the arms	Since he could not speak during the chairman's speech, he gesticulated to me by hand, indicating me to come in the front row for some consultation.
Ghastly	Hideous	His room was a ghastly mess.
Giddy	Dizzy	Ah! The giddy feeling you experience when

		you stand on the top floor of a 110-storeyed building.
Indolent	Disinclined to work, habitually lazy	He is indolent and loves to sleep rather than work.
Innate	From birth	Most psychologists now agree that a person's personality is shaped by an interplay of innate traits and environmental factors.
Intangible	Cannot be touched, impalpable, indefinable	Many accounting firms opine that many intangible corporate assets like company goodwill, brand recognition etc., though not easily measurable, must be considered while evaluating the worth of a company.
Naïve	Unsophisticated, inexperienced	Only the naïve would vote for such a

crooked fellow in elections, whose infamous stories are rampant everywhere in the constituency.

Prodigal

Recklessly wasteful, extravagant, profuse, lavish

The prodigal municipality was busy in decorating the city, be damned with the economy drive, while what was required was a better sanitation system in anticipation of the minister's visit.

Proffer

Offer

The doctor shook the hand proffered by the visiting patient.

Proficient

Expert ability

Hoshiar Singh has considerable proficiency in Mathematics apart from English, which is his pet subject.

Rarefied

Made less dense (of a gas)

The amount of oxygen in the

atmosphere goes on decreasing sharply as we move up; it becomes so rarefied in the upper reaches that we are forced to use an oxygen cylinder to breathe.

Ruse

Trick

I could see through the trickster's ruse, leading me to call his bluff.

Spinster

A woman who has never been married

To ensure her parent's care, she decided to remain a spinster.

Surfeit

Excess

The surfeit of political parties in India tends to confuse the voter, leading many to suggest that more stringent criteria should be applied so that there are very few parties around.

Surmount

To conquer

With perseverance

and patience, a man can surmount probably any kind of difficulty in life.

Surrogate

Substitute

Though nothing can act as a surrogate for a real space flight, yet this simulation exercise is the closest in terms of the "real" experience.

Sustenance

Support, livelihood, living

The kidnapped policeman had to sustain himself on whatever little food was provided to him by his captors.

Tenable

Defendable

Since the theory was not tenable on the basis of scientific evidence, it could not enjoy much acceptance.

Unwieldy

Awkward

The apparent reason given by the British for the partition of

Bengal was that the province had become too unwieldy for effective governance.

Whittle

Reduce slowly

Originally, the government had planned to spend Rs. 500 Crore on this scheme, but because of other pressing reasons, the allocation has now been whittled down to only Rs. 300 Crore.

Word Series 04: List 02

➤ Level 1 Words in the list: Let's get warmed up

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Axis	The center line	Afghanistan is thought to be the major axis of the Golden Triangle through which illegal drugs are routed to different destinations across the whole of Asia.
Enhance	Increase, improve	Most of the film-stars do not look as good off screen as they do on screen; mostly they use cosmetics to enhance their physical attractiveness while shooting for movies.
Gigantic	Enormous	The elimination of poverty from the whole of India is indeed a gigantic task and requires great effort.
Necessity	A need	Our friends show their true colours only in times of necessity.
Negate	Cancel out, nullify, deny	The present government's proposal to impose dividend

		tax on shareholders totally negates its earlier stand that it wants to reduce the tax burden on common people.
Negotiable	Can be passed on	Though the old road is paved with potholes and other obstructions, it is still negotiable for an expert driver.
Uniformity	Consistency	We must maintain uniformity in applying these rules to each and every government department lest any department should accuse us of being partial.

➤ **Level 2 Words in the list: Let's take it up a notch**

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Berate	Scold	The father berated his son on his failure to produce the expected result in the final examination.
Captivate	To attract and hold by charm,	The musician captivated the audience with his performance.

beauty, or
excellence

Dismantle

Take apart

Once the function is over, the tentwallah workers will dismantle the whole shamiana and cart it back to the shop.

Encroach

Trespass

The Municipal Council has warned the general public against encroaching on government land and has further said that they will demolish any such construction without any notice.

Needle

To tease

Zarina was never interested in doing law, it was her father's constant needling and tormenting that ultimately led her to join the law school.

Oscillate

Vibrate
pendulumlike,
waver

The way the party has been oscillating from one extreme to the other on the issue at different times makes me wonder if it has got any

		concrete policy.
Palpable	Obvious	There were palpable signs of relief on the party members' faces after the crucial budget motion was passed with the required majority.
Passive	Inactive	A passive acceptance of their fate is the biggest cause for the lack of progress among the uneducated citizenry.
Sanctuary	Refuge	The Satyamanglam forests of Karnataka offer a safe sanctuary to Veeraappan and his accomplices, who have been hiding there for years after committing various heinous crimes.
Scamper	To go quickly	As soon as the news of a fire on the third floor spread, the workers scampered down the stairs in haste.
Serene	Calm	The serene environment by the side of the lake was a perfect setting for someone

		wanting to do serious study or thinking.
Terminate	To put an end or stop to	The employee was terminated once he was caught stealing stationary from office.

➤ Level 3 Words in the list: Time to be a master

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Abstruse	Difficult to understand	The abstruse Sanskrit text is beyond my understanding, unless some expert volunteers to help me out.
Babble	Talk thoughtlessly, prattle	The babble of a child, though sometimes beyond understanding, is nevertheless pleasing and enjoyable.
Brash	Offensive	The brash manners of the overconfident girl were quite offensive to the interview panel.
Breech	Part of a gun	He loaded the bullets in

		the breech and waited for his prey.
Capricious	Inclined to change one's mind impulsively, erratic, unpredictable	The capricious ways in which share prices tumble down or zoom up should give you sufficient warning that you may change from a crorepati to roadpati or vice-versa in minutes.
Carcass	The dead body of an animal, especially one slaughtered for food.	The carcass of the neighbours dog was found a hundred kilometers away from the house.
Discrepancy	Lake of consistency, difference	Upon close examination, we found a glaring discrepancy in the marks obtained by Nonu mentioned on the Marks Sheet and those in the result gazette.
Disdain	Scorn	The BSP's disdain for the "communal" politics of the BJP soon turned into

		a grudging liking for it, because it had to form a government in UP.
Glib	Marked by ease or informality, lacking in depth, superficial	A smart salesman, by definition, has to be glib-talking, otherwise convincing a customer is no easy job.
Grapple	To take hold of, fight with	Poor grapple everyday with the inflation.
Gratuity	That which is given without demand or claim. Tip.	A 15 percent gratuity is automatically added to the restaurant bill by giving tip to the waiter.
Irresolute	Uncertain how to act, weak	Kamzordil's irresolute nature has landed him in this dilemma; had he acted with determination, he would not have faced this problem.
Nepotism	Favoritism to relatives	The large number of his relatives in key government positions indicates that probably he has been indulging in nepotism while doling out

		major postings.
Omnivorous	Taking in everything	We do not have any reservations about eating anything, be it meat, vegetables or whatever, in fact, we are omnivores
Provocative	Stimulating	Just yesterday, I heard a very stimulating lecture by a visiting management expert, which demolished all well-established theories as junk and offered a fresh new perspective on "real" management.
Ratify	To approve	Finally the POTO was ratified by the joint session of both the houses.
Rigorous	Very strict	The rigorous training routine in the Army, involving 8 hours of physical exercise, 6 hours of study and 4 hours of classroom lectures left him with little energy to

		do anything else
Ruthless	Cruel	Balban was quite ruthless in dealing with instances of official corruption and never spared even the religious nobles while handing out punishments for misconduct.
Saccharine	Overly sweet, overly sentiment	The saccharine-coated speech given by Mithu Lal made us believe that he had forgotten all his enmity towards his pet-hate Kanastar Nath.
Specious	Having deceptive attraction or allure	At the most, this kind of specious logic may convince a person who is not familiar with the ways of these tricksters, but me, no-no.
Wary	Very cautious	Having already burnt his fingers in many such schemes, he is quite wary of participating in any new scheme of this kind.

Word Series 04: List 03

➤ Level 1 Words in the list: Let's get warmed up

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Depression	A falling of the spirits.	He went into depression on failing to get into a good B school.
Disregard	Neglect	In complete disregard of official norms, the CM's cousin was appointed even though he did not have the qualifications or the experience for the job.
Eliminate	To separate and cast aside	If you think you may be allergic to a food or drink, eliminate it from your diet.
Generate	To produce or cause to be	In a debate, healthy discussion generate interest among audience.
Moderate	Make less extreme	His previously critical stand against privatization has moderated with positive results being produced by the privatization of some

		government undertakings.
Obstacle	Blockade, hindrance	History stands testimony to the fact that every social reformer has come across hindrances in his path from his own people.
Sedate	To calm	I had expected a noisy, boisterous atmosphere at the party; this kind of sedate atmosphere is hardly found at parties.
Trait	characteristic	I inherited these artistic traits from my mother, who was an artist of no small repute.

➤ **Level 2 Words in the list: Let's take it up a notch**

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Attest	To certify	His honesty is such a well-known fact that even a child of this area can attest to it.
Concur	Agree	I concur with you on this issue in the broad details, but I am certainly not in favour of the extreme steps

		you propose.
Diligence	Constant effort	Both intelligence and diligence are needed to accomplish any task, howsoever unimportant or small it maybe.
Fallacious	False, misleading	If the theory is based on fallacious assumptions, its outcome is bound to be equally wrong.
Frantic	Emotional	Her frantic calls for help, made in a very distressed mood, failed to elicit any help from her stone-hearted friends.
Infamous	Publicly branded or notorious, as for vice, or crime.	His social adventures became somewhat infamous and scandal followed scandal.
Myth	A fictitious narrative presented as historical, but	I read a myth about the constellations today

	without any basis of fact.	
Naught	Nothing	All his big plans of becoming a millionaire came to naught when the government banned the business he was planning to start.
Seduce	To lure	Helen, the stereotypical vamp on the silver screen, has been mostly portrayed as a charming, scheming woman who tries to seduce the hero with her provocative manners.
Somber	Serious	Akbar was in a very sombre mood that evening and even Birbal's jokes could not light up his face for a while.
Subordinate	Belonging to an inferior order in a classification	All members of the committee are subordinate to the chairman.
Verbalize	To speak	His not speaking against the proposal does not imply

that he does not feel anything about it, in reality, he is not able to verbalize his strong feelings.

➤ **Level 3 Words in the list: Time to be a master**

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Apathy	Lack of emotion or feeling, indifference	By choosing to retain the CEO, the management has shown its apathy towards the worker's demand for his removal.
Discernible	Recognizable	I could see a dim figure in the dark, but it was not discernible.
Eloquent	Persuasive	Her eloquent speech at the content left the audience impressed with her depth of ideas.
Ephemeral	Lasting for a brief time, short-lived	Always remember Aristotle's golden rule "Do not be unduly worried or delighted in misery or prosperity, for neither is

going to last, both are ephemeral in nature."

Exude

To give forth,
ooze out

Her face did exude confidence and poise when she faced the camera for the first time, but there was an iota of fear in her mind over her debut performance.

Fortitude

Courage

I have seen so many people with a great sense of courage, but Bidhi Chand – possibly God has not created a better model of fortitude.

Indefatigable

Tireless

An indefatigable campaigner as he was, he was able to address up to 30-35 political rallies in the course of a single day.

Infantile

Babyish

Her infantile response to my mature question made me wonder if she was really grown up as

		she claimed.
Infirmity	Weakness	He was not in a position to walk a few yards due to the infirmity caused by prolonged illness.
Intimidate	To cause to become frightened.	Attempts to intimidate people into voting for them failed.
Intrepid	Characterized by fearlessness and endurance	An intrepid fighter as she was, she fought against all odds in her way to the achievement of her goal.
Merciless	cruel	Hitler was a merciless ruler.
Probity	Adherence to highest principles, uprightness	In the wake of the recent recruitment scandal, the government must ensure that only people with proven probity and integrity of character are appointed to selection panels.
Protean	Readily taking on different	Ah! The protean ways of a typical Indian politician,

	shapes or forms	who speaks in so many different voices at different times, it appears that he is having multiple personalities.
Scribble	Hasty, careless writing	Children usually scribble on the walls when they want to play with colors and pencils.
Seminal	Seed like	His research on nano-electronics was seminal and eventually resulted in what is widely known today as 'solid-state' technology.
Sobriety	Seriousness	His sobriety in this matter is obvious from the fact that he has left everything else and is concentrating on just this affair.
Strut	Pompous walk	Ah! The strutting gait of a newly-rich, foreign-returned Indian, with imported gadgets in hand

and dollars in bulging pockets.

Tractable

Docile , easily managed

As compared to a 6-month old baby who is quite easily controlled, a 1-year old is much less tractable, for it can move and has much more physical strength and independence.

Troupe

A group of theatrical performers, company

He, being the director of the City Drama troupe, used to visit different cities in connection with stage performances.
