

Word Lists 02

Part 01

Word Series 02: List 01

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

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Consensus	The general opinion	Despite so much of discussion on this issue, no consensus has emerged on it.
Defraud	Cheat	Many plantation and chit fund companies have defrauded the gullible investors of their hard-earned money.
Durable	Long lasting	The peace, if any, achieved through these ad-hoc measures will not be durable in any case and will be disrupted at the slightest provocation.
Engross	Absorb	The comedy show was so interesting with its witty remarks that it kept me totally

Infectious	Affecting others	engrossed till the end.
		The infectious disease did not take long to spread among other localities and soon the hospital was facing a shortage of doctors and beds.
Opaque	Slow to understand	Such opacity of mind and a desire to enroll for the Ability Classes! Are you crazy, apart from being dull?

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

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Affinity	Similarity of structure	Since Gaiinda was from his hometown, some kind of affinity for him was natural on his part.
Anarchy	Absence of any form of government or law,	There was complete anarchy in the house with the members hurling microphones, tearing

	disorder	away the copies of the bill and shouting slogans against the government.
Calibre	Ability; distinction	Raj proved himself to be a musician of high calibre
Dominion	Rule	During Akbar's dominion in India, there prevailed an unprecedented level of mutual religious acceptance and understanding, partly attributable to Akbar's liberal policies.
Errant	Straying, mischievous, offending, lawless	The errant son was brought back on line by the combined efforts of his family, friends and a baba whom he respected a lot.
Finesse	Skill	The finesse with which the 5-year old girl performed the Bharatnatyam dance left everybody spellbound.
Glean	Gather	Information has been gleaned from many different sources and a lot

		of effort has gone into compiling it in the form of a composite booklet.
Hustle	To hurry	To “safeguard” the visiting movie star from her fans, her personal security guards hustled her into a hotel room, where the fans could not trouble her.
Immaculate	Flawless	I Could not find even a single fault with her essay, it was just immaculate.
Jeopardy	Danger	Why are you putting your job in jeopardy by openly speaking against the management?
Nocturnal	Done at night	Several nocturnal animals like lizards, owls and snakes cannot see well during the day, as their eyes are designed for the dim lighting of nights.
Venom	The poisonous fluid that certain	Some snakes have venom dangerous enough to kill a man in few seconds.

animals
secrete

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

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Ameliorate	To make better or more tolerable	To ameliorate the economic conditions of poor ruralites, the department has come up with a new food-work-programme, which assures at least 180 days of productive work to at least one member of each household.
Appease	To pacify, often by satisfying, conciliate, calm, soothe	The ruling party tried its best to appease the hurt sentiments of the Muslims, but the community's wounds were beyond any kind of attempt at soothing.
Asperity	Harshness	The asperity in her voice was an indicator of her

		wickedness.
Bestial	Coarse or savage	The bestial treatment meted out to our PoWs by the Pak government is in sharp contrast to the humane and dignified way India has handled such issues in the past.
Cogent	Appealing forcibly to the mind or reason, convincing	My opponent's reasoning was so cogent and powerful that I could not help but agree with him on the pertinent issues that he had raised.
Conscientious	Honest	Being a conscientious officer, he said a firm no to all offers of bribes and underhand dealings by the visitors, who wanted to influence his purchase decisions.
Disingenuous	Not native, sophisticated	Unlike his simple and innocent brother Bholu, Tolu is quite disingenuous and smart and take you for a ride

		easily.
Evanescence	Vanishing	As evanescent as drops of rain in the hot desert.
Forte	A strong point.	To succeed in life one should regularly upgrade his forte.
Gaiety	Cheerfulness	Id was celebrated with traditional gaiety and enthusiasm, despite the highly charged atmosphere in the town.
Gallant	Brave	Shivaji's acts of gallantry while fighting the Mughals have earned him a permanent place in Indian History's Hall of Fame.
Imbibe	Drink, absorb, assimilate	Let my child imbibe the great musical traditions under the guidance of a renowned Guru like you.
Jocular	Joking	Such a jocular mood is not appropriate for a very serious occasion like this

		funeral.
Listless	Inattentive	Listless mood
Mawkish	Sickening or insipid	The tea has a very mawkish taste to it.
Obliterate	Erase	Great names may be forgotten for a while, but they are difficult to obliterate from the pages of our collective human history.
Omnipotent	All powerful	The delusions of omnipotence, which Ravana suffered and which made him think of himself as all-powerful, ultimately proved to be his undoing.
Paradigm	A model	This miniature paradigm of the machine will help you in understanding its working
Penitent	Repentant	A sociopathic criminal never feels penitent over his wrongdoings, which sets him apart from

		other, normal people, who do feel a sense of remorse sometime.
Portent	Omen	The dark skies can be a portent of the storm that is to follow.
Retort	A sharp answer	To Dhania's comment calling him "a leech-like man sticking to his chair", Bhajpayee retorted with "At least, I stick to one thing and cleanse the system of evils like you".
Smug	Complacent	You people should not remain smug in the belief that since the rival army has been driven out, they cannot come again. On the contrary, we should be more vigilant to prevent such happenings in future.

Word Series 02: List 02

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

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Crux	Main point	The crux of the long-winding speech by the Chairman was that unless the company does something innovative and extraordinary, it would be difficult to survive after the next 2 years.
Dispassionate	Calm	Do not be emotionally charged over this thing; jut try to think dispassionately over it and you will realize that you too had a role to play in this whole episode.
Encapsulate	Condense	The 2-month crash course is basically an encapsulated form of the 1-year regular program
Ethical	Moral	The candidate was in a great ethical dilemma when he heard the

		interviewer's question: Who would you choose to save in a crisis situation : your mother or your wife?
Fluent	To speak easily	She, being a trained public speaker, is quite fluent with words and sentences and you will hardly find her struggling to choose the right expression to describe her feelings.
Irrefutable	Cannot be disproved	The irrefutable statistical evidence proves beyond doubt that most of the poverty elimination programmes have been a big fraud.
Juncture	Point of joining	At this juncture, I cannot say anything for sure because the matter is still under investigation by the police.
Lenient	Not harsh	In view of the personal hardships faced by him, the Principal took a lenient view of his

misconduct and let him off with a simple warning.

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

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Enigma	A riddle.	The death of the doctor still remains an enigma.
Forthright	With directness.	Sherlock Holmes forthright is appreciated by one & all.
Hypocrisy	Extreme insincerity	He accused newspapers of hypocrisy in their treatment of the story.
Imbecile	A very foolish person	The timid and imbecile smile of the clerk showed that he didn't understand a word of what his superior said.
Infer	Conclude	On the basis of the information available till date, it is not possible to infer that the Brahmins'

		insistence on rituals in ancient times was only due to monetary motives.
Knead	To press and work	The flour is kneaded into dough and subsequently made into chapattis.
Liberate	to free	The task of liberating our dear motherland from the clutches of the British empire took more than three centuries.
Meticulous	Excessively careful, painstaking, scrupulous	This fragile material requires meticulous packing and handling in order to be transported safely to its destination.
Myriad	Countless	Myriad animals such as fish, crab and shrimp live in sea water.
Placate	To appease, to pacify	Earlier, it could have been possible to pacify him, but if you ask me to placate him now, I would have to decline your request.

Sinister	Evil	The Home Minister claimed that the government had done everything possible to defeat the sinister designs of the terrorist from across the border.
Workmanship	The art or skill of a workman	People thought he was a skilled worker though he lacked workmanship in that area.

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

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Cozen	To cheat	The poor girl was cozened of her hard-earned money by the smart salesman.
Forbearance	Patience	He cast aside his Christian forbearance and forgiveness when it came to the survival of his family.

Frugal	Thrifty	Her frugal consumption habits enabled her to survive on a paltry salary of Rs. 500/- a month.
Gregarious	Seeking and enjoying the company of others, sociable	Such a gregarious person can be found only in the company of friends, never alone.
Grimace	Show contempt	Public utterances apart, his strong dislike for visiting a slum was very clear from the grimace on his face as soon as the topic was broached.
Gusto	Keen enjoyment	I don't have the gusto to go on a strenuous hike right now.
Hegemony	Dominance	The final key to Europe's world hegemony was her military superiority over other nations.

Hideous	Horrible	The hideous sight of mass killings was enough to scare even the very hard-hearted among us.
Indispensable	Absolutely necessary	If we want to embrace capitalism, we have to allow free competition in every area because the requirement of free competition is an indispensable part of the whole system of capitalism.
Irrational	Not possessed of reasoning powers or understanding.	They behaved in such a bizarre and irrational manner.
Nadir	Lowest point	The nadir in the Congress fortune was registered when the party gained only 3 seats in Punjab elections.
Obnoxious	Offensive	His obnoxious son is

invariably at the heart of every trouble in the household

Obstinacy

Stubborn adherence to opinion, arising from conceit or the desire to have one's own way

His obstinacy to not to move led to accident.

Odious

Offensive

Her odious remarks calling the PM a crazy, insane man, sent the entire house in a tizzy, with many members baying for her head.

Parsimonious

Stingy

He is extremely parsimonious with praise, even the most wonderful of musical shows will get only a "good" from him, given his seemingly high standards.

Pedagogy

The art,

Pedagogy is not just

science, or
profession of
teaching

delivering certain facts
and skills in the class,
rather a teacher's
much more important
job is to create a love
for the subject among
students.

Rife

Plentiful

Bribery and corruption
in the government
services are rife in our
country.

Sarcasm

A sneering
remark

The sarcastic cartoons
making fun of today's
politician seem to have
hardly any impact on
politicians or their
ways of working.

Unflappable

Calm

Anybody else in his
place would have
broken down
completely under the
burden of so many
sufferings, but his
unflappable attitude is
simply amazing.

Voluble

Having great
fluency in
speaking

She is such a voluble
speaker that people
appreciate her for this
quality of hers.

Word Series 02: List 03

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

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Fallacy	A belief or argument deceptive in appearance or meaning	The fallacy of their assumptions regarding the success of this project has landed them in the mess they are facing now.
Foremost	First	The foremost requirement for a radio compere's job is a pleasant voice, coupled with the ability to modulate it suitably according to situational demands.
Guise	Appearance	The ancient kings used to visit their kingdom in the guise of a common man to learn about the problems being faced by their subjects.
Neutralize	To make ineffective, nullify	The anti-poison given by the doctor to the patient was meant to neutralize the effect of the snake-bite on the patient.

Permanent	Long lasting	Such ad hoc measures will not lead to any lasting peace in the valley, we must try to do something which ensures permanent peace in the once-beautiful "Home of Gods".
Prominent	Widely known	Subhash Bose and JL Nehru were two prominent proponents of the concept of complete freedom when the rest were talking of limited self-rule.
Remedy	To right a wrong	The announcement of an extraordinary budgetary allocation for the North-East states was done with a view to remedying the prevailing imbalance.
Fallacy	A belief or argument deceptive in appearance or meaning	The fallacy of their assumptions regarding the success of this project has landed them in the mess they are facing now.

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

Word	Primary	Usage Example
------	---------	---------------

Meaning		
Ambiguity	Unclear or doubtful in meaning	The ambiguity in her statement itself was the reason that every newspaper had interpreted it in a different manner and had led to great confusion.
Amiable	Agreeable	The amiable anchorperson was successful in creating a family-like atmosphere because of his friendly and courteous manners.
Anguish	Agony	The anguish over the separation from her boyfriend was only temporary; she forgot all the pain and sorrow within a few months.
Astute	Wise, shrewd	The Ambanis, being astute businessmen, know how to spot and make use of good business opportunities.
Calamity	Disaster	The Godhra killings are not only a big calamity for

		all those concerned, but also are a blot on our so-called secular face.
Cessation	Stopping	The cessation of the war between the PLO and Israel has been brought about by the US pressure and not because of any agreement between the warring parties.
Commodious	Roomy	The auditorium is so commodious that you can accommodate even 5000 people, while you expect a total strength of just 2000 for the seminar.
Fortuitous	Lucky	A fortuitous meeting with a holy man in Hardwar changed his life forever and he became a thoroughly spiritual man.
Imminent	About to happen, impending	The fall of the company was imminent as such; the new CEO was simply made a scapegoat to explain away the failure.
Inevitable	Certain to	The fall of the

	happen, ineluctable, imminent, inescapable, unavoidable	government was inevitable once it had lost majority in the House.
Intermittent	Periodic	Such intermittent displays of patriotism at times of crises are what give us faith in the inherent goodness of the Indians.
Menace	To show an intent to harm	The AIDS menace is hovering over the Asian and African countries like a Damocle's sword.
Pervasive	Spread throughout	The all-pervasive problem of slums in Indian metros requires a thoughtful policy and sincere implementation for its removal.
Stalwart	Unyielding	That the current public mood is strongly against the BJP is proved by the electoral defeats of some of the party stalwarts like LK Advani and AB Vajpayee.

Stringent	Strict	The committee feels that it has not been able to find a suitable candidate because the conditions prescribed are too stringent and they feel that they should be relaxed if we have to fill the post.
------------------	--------	---

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

Word	Primary Meaning	Usage Example
Admonish	Warn, reprove	The admonishment they got from the warden for creating uproar in the hostel mess was enough to “tighten” their loose screws.
Ambivalence	Lack of clarity, ambiguity	Such ambivalence of the party over an important national issue is confusing; it must come

		out with a clear-cut stand on the matter.
Anachronism	Something or someone misplaced in time	Someone justifying or promoting the cursed practice of sati will be taking the society back to medieval times and will certainly be an anachronism in these modern, progressive times.
Aplomb	Poise, composure	The great aplomb with which Sonia Gandhi braved the tragedy of her husband's death belied her inner turmoil.
Assiduous	Diligent	The assiduous hard work put in by the director is obvious in each frame of the movie, it appears as if there could be no better way of presenting it.
Catastrophe	A great, often sudden calamity.	The flood was a catastrophe.
Chaste	Pure	Such a chaste soul and such a wayward son!

		Destiny has strange things in store for us.
Decrement	Waste, decrease	The decrement in the number of people purchasing rations from the fair-price shops is not an indication that people have suddenly become rich, rather it points to unavailability of rations and loss of faith in the system.
Fervor	Glowing ardor, intensity of felling	The fervour with which Joshila has been participating in all these activities strongly suggests that he is very much in love with this new idea.
Fetter	To bind	The fetters of superstition and ignorance keep us Indians from progressing further in today's atmosphere.
Grubby	Dirty	The beggar's grubby clothes suggested that neither had he changed

		nor had he had a bath.
Mettlesome	Full of vigor and stamina, spirited	Such politically incorrect but economically sensible decisions require great courage and I hardly find anybody mettlesome enough to take such risks.
Penchant	Strong inclination, liking	The Bollywood film-makers have great penchant for including "ZindaJalaaDoonga", "Kutte-Kamine, Teri To...." type of front bencher-targetted dialogues in their movies.
Pious	Devout	The government has been quite swift in declaring Amritsar a holy city, but it remains to be seen if the pious status of the city can be maintained, what with paan-cigarette shops and liquor vends in the close vicinity of the gurdwaras.
Pristine	Characteristic of earlier	The beauty of the once-pristine Himalayas has

	times, primitive unspoiled	been spoilt by the mountaineering teams, which leave tonnes of garbage and other litter every time they trek.
Renegade	Deserter	The army has decided to take back all those renegade soldiers who had deserted it in the wake of Operation Blue Star.
Skeptic	Doubter	Such skeptics are always bound to doubt the truth of even the most genuine schemes meant to help the poor people.
Sleazy	Cheap	Such magazines survive on carrying sleazy articles and photos peeping into the private lives of film-stars.