

Word Lists

Part 01

Word Series 01: List 01

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

| Word | Primary Meaning | Usage Example |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Abnormal | Not normal | The child displayed abnormal behavior in class by suddenly shouting out loudly. |
| Elucidate | To make clear | The scholarly speaker elucidated on the topic in great details and at the end of his seminar, things were crystal-clear to us. |
| Pacify | To calm | The wise, elderly man tried to pacify both the warring parties, but they were hell bent on going ahead with their fight. |
| Query | Question | Since the teacher could not think of a suitable reply to Neha's query, he honestly pleaded his ignorance in the matter. |
| Queue | Line | As soon as the teacher announced that she would be giving a |

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| | | chocolate to each of the boys, they quickly queued up to get their share. |
| Quiet | Making no noise | I told them to be quiet and go to sleep. |
| Rapid | Having great speed | He walked at a rapid pace along the street when it became dark. |
| Stationary | Unchanging | A stationary object, if propelled with a force, will move in proportion to the force you apply on it. |
| Uproarious | Noisy | I entered the market to find out that it was completely chaotic and uproarious. |
| Urgent | Required immediately | This task requires your urgent attention as tomorrow is the last day to finish it. |

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

| Word | Primary Meaning | Usage Example |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Abject | Miserable | The abject condition in which Gulzari Lal Nanda lived in his last days was testimony to the fact that despite being the P.M. twice, he had hardly made any money for himself in his political career. |
| Abrade | Wear away | The long drawn-out war abraded the army's morale and ultimately led to its dismal surrender. |
| Formidable | Overwhelming, alarming, dreadful | Considering his formidable fan following in the city, it is no surprise that he has won with a huge margin of 3 lakh votes. |
| Knotty | Puzzling | Whether the hen came first or the egg has been one of the knottiest problems facing our |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---|
| | | scientists for long. |
| Nullify | Make void | The Sukhigeeli Party, by going back on its election-time promises, has nullified the entire goodwill and support it enjoyed at the time of coming to power. |
| Oust | To eject | He was oust from his community due to his different ideological thought process. |
| Palatial | Like a palace | The palatial Maharaja's Haveli, comprising 300 rooms, 5 banquet halls and 3 swimming pools, was auctioned last week. |
| Radical | Extreme | Osho Rajneesh's radical ideas, which were in direct opposition to those of prevailing and popular religions, obviously gave rise to lots of criticism. |
| Rampage | Violence | The frenzied mob, enraged by the police excesses, went on a rampage and |

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------|---|
| | | set ablaze several government buildings. |
| Wry | Twisted | His wry face was testimony to his contemptuous feelings towards the fellow. |
| Zombie | A frightening person | He was sleep walking and looked like a zombie. |

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

| Word | Primary Meaning | Usage Example |
|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| Callous | Insensitive | Such a callous government, which is not moved even by the plight of a pregnant woman being slit open in her stomach, ought to go instantly. |
| Cantankerous | Quarrelsome, irascible | A candidate having even a shade of cantankerous nature in her is a strict no-no for a receptionist's job. |

| | | |
|---------------------|--|---|
| Fastidious | Careful in all details, meticulous, very difficult to please | A fastidious film-maker as he was, RonuSen sometimes did not okay a shot despite 50 re-takes. |
| Forsake | To abandon | Though Piyush was getting a private-sector job worth Rs. 50000/- a month, he was not ready to forsake the security of his government job. |
| Gauche | Tactless | NarendraModi's gauche and childish handling of the Gujarat riots has deservedly earned him a dubious distinction. |
| Haughty | Proud | The late actor Raj Kumar was well-known for the haughty way in which he used to treat other co-stars on and off-screen. |
| Inextricable | Cannot be taken out, irredeemable | Had the government intervened earlier, the situation could have been salvaged, but right now it seems we are |

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------|--|
| | | caught in an inextricable diplomatic crisis. |
| Macabre | Horrible | The scene of mass killings in the village presented a macabre sight to the visitors, enough to scare even the brave-hearted. |
| Ostensible | Apparent | The ostensible reason given for the boss' absence from the meeting was his ill health, while everybody knew deep down the heart that the boss had absented himself because of his differences with the management. |
| Overt | In the open | In an overt move against the CEO, the GM put the blame of failure on his head. |

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Quip | Witty remark | When confronted with this question "Do you like e-mail?", he quipped, "No, I like female". |
| Rapport | Harmony | KaviRakesh was appointed to the post of Chairman, Sahitya Academy because he enjoyed a close rapport with the members of the selection panel. |
| Recalcitrant | Obstinately defiant of authority, difficult to manage | His recalcitrant refusal to step down from the Chief Ministership of the state, despite all-round demand for his dismissal, only indicates his disregard for public sentiments. |
| Stealth | Secret | The thief moved about stealthily around the house, so as to get an idea about a safe entry and exit route. |
| Urbane | Courteous | He was a very polished, soft spoken and urbane |

| | | |
|---------------------|--|--|
| | | speaker. |
| Wretchedness | Extreme misery or unhappiness | They lived in a wretched state and had to work hard to meet their daily requirements. |
| Wrought | Worked into shape by artistry or effort, fashioned, formed | The heated iron is wrought into different beautiful shapes by the workmen who must know the appropriate temperature needed for an article to get its proper shape. |
| Zany | Silly, crazy | The zany expression on her face belied her intellectual core. |
| Zenith | Peak | Today's newcomers in the film industry are charging prices, which Amitabh Bachchan could never think of, even at the zenith of his career in the late 1970s and early 1980s. |

Word Series 01: List 02

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

| Word | Primary Meaning | Usage Example |
|------------------|---------------------|---|
| Aggregate | Gather, accumulate | In polymerization, many identical molecules aggregate in groups and get joined by chemical bonds sometimes leading to chains of hundreds and even thousands of molecules. |
| Alienate | To force separation | The hastily patched up coalition of 18 parties at the center is finding the going tough mainly because Vajpyee has to keep all of them in good humour, taking care not to alienate any of them. |
| Bizarre | Grotesque | Fact is sometimes stranger than fiction and it is amply proved by the many bizarre incidents that keep on getting |

| | | |
|------------------|---|--|
| | | reported in the media every day. |
| Feasible | Likely | Before the Planning Commission puts the plan into effect on a countrywide scale, it will conduct a feasibility study by implementing it in some selected villages to assess its effectiveness. |
| Harass | To trouble with importunities, cares, or annoyances | The landlord harassed the tenants despite rent being paid on time |
| Hilarious | Funny | I split my sides watching the first episode of the hilarious comedy. |
| Hinder | To obstruct | The travelers were hindered by storms. |
| Historic | Famous in history | The start of the process of economic reforms and liberalization was a historic event in India's economic history. |
| Illegible | Not readable | Your answer sheet is so illegible that even an |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| | | expert examiner cannot read it properly. |
| Scarcity | Insufficiency of supply for needs or ordinary demands | There is a lot of water scarcity in my locality. |

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

| Word | Primary Meaning | Usage Example |
|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Bereave | To deprive of | Bereft of all his belongings and money by the robbers, the traveller simply wondered how he would do without even a single penny in his pocket. |
| Bestow | To give | Mother Earth has bestowed so many gifts on all her children alike, irrespective of any bias. |
| Ferocious | Savage | This sanctuary is home to many ferocious animals like the lion, the leopard and the hyena, which if |

| | | |
|----------------------|---|--|
| | | provoked even a little, will simply pounce on you and cut you into pieces. |
| Foretell | To predict | A good astrologer can clearly foretell future events. |
| Gratification | Satisfaction. | Eating good chocolate gives me a sense of intense gratification. |
| Illicit | Not legal | The illicit distillation of country liquor has been going on in this border village for the past many years. |
| Intrusion | The act of entering without warrant or invitation; encroachment | Intrusion prevention measures are required, corresponding to the state of the art for web applications. |
| Knickknack | A small article, more for ornament than use. | What are those on your shelf? Oh, those are my knick knacks and collectibles. |
| Liquidate | Settle an account | 1. The clauses on liquidation of a company |

clearly state that the company, before shutting shop, must repay the loans first and thereafter repay other liabilities.

2. “You won’t be able to liquidate us, if you kill one, hundred more will come to fight you”, was the proud Sikh chief’s response to the rival army.

Pretext

Excuse

Under the pretext of cleaning up, he snooped through her room. The leaders used the insults as a pretext to declare war.

Primate

a monkey

The Primate Research Centre at the university department of zoology has suffered great decline in research output ever since the use of monkeys and other similar animals in research was banned by the environment ministry.

Primitive

Crude and

Computers have

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| | simple | continuously evolved from their primitive beginnings as slow, mechanical and hand-driven machines to the modern -day superfast, intelligent and talking gizmos. |
| Reconcile | To settle a quarrel | In many communities, the elderly are called upon to bring about reconciliation between the warring parties. |
| Tenacity | The quality of adherence or persistence to something valued | During preparation for any competitive test, there are moments of self-doubt and depression, tenacious students are the ones who succeed finally. |

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

| Word | Primary Meaning | Usage Example |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Abrogate | To cancel | The previous orders have been abrogated as the court had found them to be in violation of natural justice and fairness. |
| Alacrity | Cheerful promptness, eagerness | A lazy man like SustNath and such alacrity in replying to your letter! I cannot simply believe it. |
| Allegiance | Loyalty | The Governor has asked for a list from Mulayam Singh of all those party MLAs who owe allegiance to him; His Excellency wants to satisfy himself about the legislative support Mulayam enjoys for government formation. |

| | | |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Blasphemy | Irreverent, profanity | Speaking out against such a widely-esteemed personality like Mother Teresa amounts to an act of blasphemy. |
| Convolutd | Coiled around, involved, intricate | The convoluted, winding, plant leaf-like carvings on the walls of the TajMahal, are in fact, ayats from the holy Quran. |
| Disseminate | Distribute, spread, scatter (like seeds) | Guru Nanak's ideas quickly disseminated across the whole world in no time due to the dedicated efforts of his followers everywhere. |
| Egregious | Outstandingly bad, flagrant, outrageous | The fluorescent yellow suit made him egregiously visible among all the group members. |
| Emollient | Something that softens or soothes | He applied emollients on her cracked soles, so as to relieve her |

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Firmament | Sky | pain during walking. On a clear night, the stars on the firmament look like glittering pieces of diamond studded on dark cloth. |
| Gratuitous | Free | "There is nothing like a free lunch in the world"-- this American saying very aptly illustrates the point that nothing comes gratuitously in this world. |
| Harangue | A long pompous speech, tirade | The opposition chief launched into a harangue over the rise in tax rates as soon as the members had settled in their seats. |
| Malediction | A curse | The maledictions you hurled at him may not bring him a bad future, but will certainly create a new |

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|---|
| Ogre | Hideous man | enemy for you. The man painted by him is more of an ogre : teeth protruding out of an abnormally large mouth, knee-long hair, scary eyes and large, curved hooves on the head – enough to scare anybody. |
| Plagiarize | To steal ideas | Most of Anu Malik's tunes have been plagiarized from other well-known songs in the name of getting inspiration. |
| Vociferous | Noisy | Their vociferous cries were enough to wake up the whole colony from its sleep. |
| Wearisome | Fatiguing | The typist's job is really wearisome as she keeps sitting in one posture for hours. |

Word Series 01: List 03

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

| Word | Primary Meaning | Usage Example |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Adverse | Unfavorable, detrimental | The drug has so far had no adverse effect on patients. |
| Backfire | To bring a result opposite to that which was planned or expected: | Once the engine is running smoothly, a backfire can be dangerous. |
| Bandit | Outlaw | The bandit, on the run for the past 15 years in the Chambal ravines, surrendered before the police and vowed to give a permanent break to her criminal career. |
| Blunder | A bad mistake | The blunder of a mistake you have committed by calling the company chairman a "worthless joker" is bound to cost |

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | | you dearly. |
| Deduce | Reason out | How can you deduce such a conclusion on the basis of such insufficient and misleading information? |
| Fabricate | To build | When the student could not come up with a satisfactory explanation for his inability to do home work, he blurted out with a fabricated account of his mother's illness to justify his case. |
| Glimmer | A faint, wavering, unsteady light | Moonlight glimmered on the pond. |
| Hypothesis | A tentative theory or explanation | Upon seeing the phenomenon spread of scent all around the room upon opening the bottle, Graham came up with the hypothesis that it must have been due to the movement of scent molecules from the |

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|--|
| | | bottle to other areas. |
| Nuisance | Pest | What a nuisance this dog is creating! Always doing this or that, messing up the things and making life difficult for me. |
| Pilgrimage | Religious long journey | The first group set forth today for its pilgrimage to the Amarnath Temple. |

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

| Word | Primary Meaning | Usage Example |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Affable | Friendly, good-natured, amiable | The affable manners of the programme host created a friendly and jocular atmosphere at the recording and everybody enjoyed it a lot. |
| Bonafide | Authentic | All the bonafide residents of the state, having a residence certificate, are |

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | | exempted from this payment, nevertheless, those from outside the state will have to make the payment as usual. |
| Deplete | Empty | By the end of the 48-hour journey, he was totally depleted of all his energy and badly needed some rest. |
| Earnest | Ardent in spirit and speech | Earnest prayer, is hard work. |
| Facade | Front of a building, false front | Many politicians in India use religion as a facade to promote their political interests. |
| Gaudy | Showy | Such gaudy colours are not at all suitable for an occasion like somebody's cremation; you need to wear sober colours. |
| Industrious | Diligent | Mr. Hard Working's industrious nature is revealed by the fact that he often puts in an 18-hour workday |

| | | |
|------------------|----------|--|
| Onus | Burden | without any rest. He may have committed some wrongdoing in his own capacity, but since you are the in charge of this department, the entire onus comes on your shoulders. |
| Pertinent | Relevant | It was a pertinent move for him to check his bank balance prior to making his purchase or he would have found himself overdrawn. |
| Pilfer | Steal | Pilfering even a small amount daily from a big treasure will empty it one day. |

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

| Word | Primary Meaning | Usage Example |
|------------------|---|--|
| Chivalry | The qualities idealized by knighthood, such as bravery, honor and gallantry toward women. | The young man made a lasting impression with his chivalry. |
| Choleric | Quick tempered | The choleric fellow that he was, he soon got into a high temper over the small mistake. |
| Decrepit | Worn down from age | The once famous poet used to live in an obscure and decrepit building, which was in dire need of repair. |
| Ebullient | Showing excitement, overflowing with enthusiasm | Khushi Ram's ebullient face told it all: he had earned the well-deserved post of the party general- |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--|
| | | secretary. |
| Entrench | To establish | Competition is bound to be tough as there are at least five very well-entrenched players in this segment at the national level: Maruti, Hyundai, Daewoo, Fiat and Telco. |
| Forebode | Foretell | The committee meeting on his dismissal is yet to take place, but as of now the forebodings are quite ominous. |
| Gnarled | Twisted | The gnarled appearance of the old Peepal tree makes it look like if some expert sculptor has carved this irregular but beautiful shape out of a smooth structure. |
| Heresy | Controversial | Many rivals of the |

or unorthodox view, against established beliefs

established ideas of Hinduism, tried to form their own, rebellious sects based on such heretical thinking in ancient days, but such attempts never got any mass popularity.

Idiosyncrasy Peculiarity of temperament, whims

The objective, multiple choice tests are a big safeguard that protect the test-takers from falling a prey to the examiner's idiosyncrasies, moods and whims, which can lead to many wrong judgments.

Languid Weak

She had grown considerably languid after the tragic accident.

Lewd Lustful

She accused her husband of lewd and lascivious behaviour.

Muzzle Prevent free

The chairman of the

| | | |
|--------------------|--|---|
| | speech | newspapers association criticized the government's attempt to muzzle the freedom of the press by enacting draconian provisions for the journalists. |
| Novice | Beginner | A novice in a job is expected to make many mistakes and learn from them. |
| Repent | To feel sorry and change one's ways | People say that after this soul-searching experience, Sajjan-the thug decided to repent his wrong-doings and in course of time this changed his name and reputation to Sajjan-the-kind. |
| Restitution | Payment of damages, compensation, reparation | The restitution ordered by the Court for the victims of the terrorist crimes is so meager that nobody can |

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------|---|
| | | survive on such small sums of money. |
| Sojourn | Trip | During my numerous sojourns to Bengal, I came in contact with a number of Bengalis, which gave me an initiation into the Bengali language and culture. |
| Thwart | Hinder | We shall do everything possible to thwart the terrorist plans of creating disturbances in different parts of the country. |
| Tumultuous | Noisy crowd | With the assembly already having being witness to such tumultuous scenes of MLAs creating chaos, raising slogans, tearing away papers and the like, it's no surprise that the speaker adjourned the sitting |

as soon as he got a hint.

Tyrant

A cruel leader

The tyrant that the ruler was, he never heeded the public or anyone else and meted out brutal and inhuman punishments to those opposing his rule.

Unmitigated

Unequaled

The fall from fame and grace of the UTI scheme US-64 was an unmitigated disaster for the UTI investors, who had put in their lifetime savings in the scheme.
