



INDEX

AGES

AIR CRAFT

ALPHABET AND WRITING SYSTEMS

AMERICAN ENGLISH - BRITISH ENGLISH

ANIMALS AND RELATED ADJECTIVES

ANNIVERSARIES

ARCHAEOLOGY : SOME FREQUENTLY USED TERMS

ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

ART MOVEMENTS

ASTROLOGY

ASTRONOMY

BOOKS

CLOTHES

COLOURS

DRAMA

FURNITURE & FURNITURE STYLES

GEM STONES

GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

LEGAL TERMS

LITERARY TERMS

MANIAS

MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

DOCTOR - DISEASED PART

MEDICINES - WHAT THEY TREAT/CURE

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND THEIR USAGE



SURGICAL OPERATIONS – BODY PART

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

MISCELLANEOUS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

MUSICAL COMPOSITIONS

PAINTINGS AND TERMS RELATED TO ART

PHILOSOPHIES

POETRY RELATED TERMS

THEATRE TERMS

THERAPIES

WEATHER



SPECIAL WORD LIST

This list includes a wide array of words which are used in different fields. They have been grouped according to the area to which they belong and have been listed alphabetically for easy reference. While some of these may be subject specific, others are in everyday use. Entries like anniversaries, gem stones, geographical features and government systems which are not so well-known, but of common interest, also find a place.

The meaning and origin of a number of words which have crept into the English language and hardly seem foreign any more are listed under the language of their source.

Idioms and phrasal verbs are an integral part of the language and probably the most challenging for a learner. So these have been added. Users of English as a second language invariably have trouble with word collocations. The most commonly used noun/adjective collocations have been included.

The art-oriented will find entries related to theatre, painting, poetry and music, interesting.

There is also a list of frequently confused words, with their right usage which will set at rest any doubt about the right word in a given context.

A study of this volume will help you not only from an examination perspective but also enrich your language and strengthen your spoken and written communication skills.

AGES

Nouns that depict the ages of humans

quinquagenarian	: one who is 50 +
sexagenarian	: one who is 60 +
septuagenarian	: one who is 70+
octogenarian	: one who is 80+
nonagenarian	: one who is 90+
centenarian	: one who is 100+

AIR CRAFT

aerostat	: Aircraft that is lighter than air
aerodyne	: Aircraft that is heavier than air
monocoque	: Aircraft fuselage
jet	: Aircraft driven by jet engines
hovercraft	: A vehicle that travels on land and water over a cushion of air
autogyro	: Aircraft with horizontal rotor as well as conventional propellers
canard	: Aircraft that has its tail plane located in front of the main wings
drone	: Air craft operated by remote control
vector	: Aircraft's course or direction when guided by radio
hangar	: Building for parking aircraft
sonic boom	: Explosive bang produced by a shock wave from an aircraft that is flying faster than the speed of sound
volplane	: Gliding without power
altimeter	: Instrument for measuring attitude
sortie	: Single raid or mission by a combat aircraft
yaw	: Spin or wobble in flight

ALPHABET AND WRITING SYSTEMS

cuneiform	: Ancient Middle Eastern script
cyrillic	: Russian and Bulgarian alphabet
devanagari	: Script used in Sanskrit and other some Indian languages
glagolitic	: Early Slavonic alphabet
hieroglyphics	: Ancient Egyptian picture writing
ideography	: Chinese system of symbolic characters to represent entire words or ideas
international phonetic alphabet (ipa)	: Standard set of letters and symbols, to represent the sounds of all languages
kana	: Japanese syllabic scripts, either Hiragana or Katakana
kanji	: Japanese syllabary based on Chinese characters
kufic	: Early Arabic script or alphabet
linear a	: Ancient Cretan script, still undeciphered
linear b	: Ancient script used in Crete and mainland Greece, deciphered in 1952
ogham	: Ancient angular Celtic alphabet and script used mainly in Ireland
romaji	: Roman alphabet as used to transliterate Japanese
pictography	: System of pictures to represent word
roman alphabet	: Standard alphabet of most western and central European languages
runes	: Ancient Germanic, carved alphabetic script
syllabary	: Set of written characters each representing a syllable

AMERICAN ENGLISH - BRITISH ENGLISH

AMERICAN ENGLISH	BRITISH ENGLISH
billfold	: wallet
broiler	: griller
candidacy	: candidature
cotton candy/	
spun sugar	: fairy floss
cookie	: sweet biscuit
derby	: bowler hat
diaper	: nappy
drapes	: curtains
druggist	: chemist
faucet	: tap
fender	: mud guard
flashlight	: torch
freeway	: highway
furlough	: leave of absence from military duty
gas	: petrol
garbage can	: dust bin
hood	: bonnet
installment plan	: hire purchase
jelly	: jam
laundromat	: launderette
monkey wrench	: spanner
mortician	: undertakers
muffler	: silencer (of a car)
pacifier	: baby's dummy
pitcher	: jug

realtor	:	estate agent
solitaire	:	card game of patience
sophomore	:	second year student
suspenders	:	braces
thumbtack	:	drawing pin
trunk	:	boot of car
tuxedo	:	dinner jacket
vest	:	waist coat
veteran	:	ex-serviceman
zip code	:	post code

ANIMALS AND RELATED ADJECTIVES

ape, monkey	-	simian, pongid
ass, donkey	-	asinine
badger	-	meline
bear	-	ursine
pig	-	porcine
cat	-	feline
cattle	-	bovine
deer	-	cervine
dog	-	canine
elephant	-	elephantine
fox	-	vulpine
frog	-	ranine, batrachian
goat	-	capric, hircine
horse	-	equine
kangaroo	-	macropine
lion	-	leonine

ANNIVERSARIES

3 years	-	triennial
5 years	-	quinquennial
100 years	-	centenary
150 years	-	sesquicentennial
200 years	-	bicentenary
300 years	-	tricentennial
500 years	-	quincentenary
1000 years	-	millennium

(Wedding anniversaries and celebrations)

1st year	-	cotton
2nd year	-	paper
3rd year	-	leather
4th year	-	flower/fruit
5th year	-	wood
6th year	-	iron/sugar candy
7th year	-	wool
8th year	-	bronze
9th year	-	copper/pottery
10th year	-	tin
11th year	-	steel
12th year	-	silk and fine linen
13th year	-	lace
14th year	-	ivory
15th year	-	crystal
20th year	-	china
25th year	-	silver
30th year	-	pearl
35th year	-	coral
40th year	-	ruby
45th year	-	sapphire
50th year	-	gold
55th year	-	emerald
60 - 65	-	diamond

ARCHAEOLOGY : SOME FREQUENTLY USED TERMS

barrow	:	burial mound covered with earth
crannog	:	artificial island supporting buildings
dendrochronology	:	dating of past events by analyzing tree rings
dolmen	:	chamber or tomb formed by a horizontal stone atop two or more vertical ones
eoilithic	:	earliest period of human culture
menhir	:	large, free-standing stone
mesolithic	:	refers to Middle Stone Age
neolithic	:	refers to New Stone Age
paleolithic	:	refers to Old Stone Age when man began to make tools
palaeontology	:	study of fossils and ancient forms of life
sherd	:	a piece of broken pottery found during excavation
stratigraphy	:	the dating of objects, depending on the layers in which they lie

ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

baroque	:	An elaborate style developed in the 17 th century Europe
brutalism	:	Very plain modern style, functionalist architecture without any decorations
byzantine	:	Styles predominated by domes and minarets
classical	:	Formal, precise style found especially in Rome and Greece
colonial	:	Georgian style of the 17 th and 18 th century English settlements in North America
gothic	:	13 th to 15 th century style with pointed windows and arches
neo classical	:	Late 18 th century style, which revived the precision and symmetry of Greece and Rome
palladian	:	18 th century style based on Italian architecture
regency	:	Style of 18 th century that used tall windows and delicate iron balconies
renaissance	:	A style that reopened Greek and Roman ideals
rococo	:	A greatly elaborate style of eighteenth century Europe
romanesque	:	European 9 th to 12 th century style

ART MOVEMENTS

Art Deco	:	art that uses plastic and steel and has a distinctive design with bold geometric shapes
Art Nouveau	:	decorative style using narrow wavy lines and swirling forms.
Barbizon School	:	art that depicts landscapes
Constructivism	:	geometric art not representing anything particular
Cubism	:	art begun in the early twentieth century which introduced multiple view points using many lines and geometric shapes

Expressionism	: art which believed in the direct expression of the 'artists' feeling
Fauvism	: the use of bright and vibrant colours
Futurism	: early 20 th century Italian movement displaying the energy of the machine age
Impressionism	: 19 th century French movement which concentrated on the visual impact of drawings
Neoclassicism	: late 18 th and 19 th century movement marked by a revival of classical proportion and restraint
Post impressionism	: movement in painting advancing from Impressionism towards compositions based on the arrangement of solid forms
Realism	: 19 th century movement in arts which recorded life objectively with no idealization
Romanticism	: early 19 th century movement in arts emphasising individual emotions and free imagination
Surrealism	: 20 th century art movement dealing with fantasy, dreams and the subconscious
Vorticism	: English movement which started in 1914 marked by the expression of energy through abstract forms

ASTROLOGY

ascendant	: a section of the zodiac rising above the eastern horizon at a given moment
combust	: star or planet too close to the sun to be visible
constellation	: group of stars forming a recognized pattern
cusps	: transition between two signs of the zodiac
descendent	: elliptical opposite of ascendant
horoscope	: a diagrammatic representation of the position of the stars and planets at a given time
nativity	: horoscope based on the time when one is born
quintile	: positioning of two stars that are 72° apart.
trine	: positioning of two stars that are 120° apart
zodiac	: imaginary band of the planets in the celestial sphere

ASTRONOMY

apogee	: point at which an orbiting object is farthest from the earth
asteroid	: a small rocky body in orbit around the sun
azimuth	: horizontal bearing of a celestial object measured clockwise from a given direction
Big bang theory	: the belief that the universe came into existence after a huge explosion
black hole	: a region in space which has such a great gravitational pull that even light cannot escape from it

heliocentric or copernican theory	: belief that the sun and not the earth is the centre of the solar system
corona	: the halo of light around the Sun and the Moon
nebula	: cloud of dust and gas in a galaxy
nutations	: a periodic variation in the inclination of an axis of rotation
perigee	: point at which an orbiting object is closest to the earth
perihelion	: point at which an orbiting object is closest to the sun
pulsar	: rapidly rotating star that sends out a regular flash of radiation
quasar	: an extremely brilliant object that may be the nucleus of a distant galaxy

BOOKS

almagest	: Arabic version of Ptolemy's astronomical treatise
almanac	: a book containing important dates and statistical information
annal	: record of historical events
anthology	: collection of writing by a single author or on a single theme
armorial	: book listing details about arms
baedeker	: a tourist guide book
bestiary	: a book about animal fables
breviary	: prayer/hymn book for Roman Catholic clergymen
cambist	: book showing exchange rates and conversion charts for weights and measures
festschrift	: book of essays by scholars and compiled as a tribute to a learned colleague
formulary	: a collection of set forms especially for religious use; formula used in the preparation of medical drugs
hornbook	: elementary text book introducing a subject
incunabulum	: book printed before 1501
lectionary	: a list of portions of scripture appointed to be read at divine service
lexicon	: dictionary
missal	: prayer book, especially for the Roman Catholic Mass
monograph	: booklet or a pamphlet on a specific subject or a single aspect of it
omnibus	: a volume containing or assembling several related writings
pharmacopoeia	: officially published book with a list of drugs and directions for their use
primer	: introductory book especially for language teaching
psalter	: book of psalms
thesaurus	: a book that lists words in groups of synonyms and related concepts
vade mecum	: a manual that can be used for quick reference
variorum	: a text with notes by several editors or commentator

CLOTHES

bandana	:	large brightly coloured scarf.
bermuda short	:	knee-length shorts.
bolero	:	a woman's short jacket.
burnous	:	long hooded Arabic cloak.
chemise	:	woman's loose undergarment
corset	:	tight undergarment worn by ladies used for support of waist and hips.
cravat	:	man's small light knotted scarf.
dashiki	:	loose tunic worn by African men.
dungarees	:	trousers with a bib held up by straps over the shoulder.
duffle coat	:	short woollen coat with hood and toggles
guernsey	:	a knitted sweater or jersey.
halter	:	woman's bodice, tied behind the neck.
jerkin	:	short jacket with/without collar.
jodhpurs	:	riding breeches.
kilt	:	pleated skirt worn by Scottish men.
mantilla	:	lace shawl used by Spanish women.

COLOURS

alabaster	-	white
amaranth	-	reddish purple
amber	-	honey yellow
amethyst	-	violet
aubergine	-	violet
azure	-	blue
barium	-	yellow
beige	-	brown
burgundy	-	reddish purple
celadon	-	green
chamois	-	brownish yellow
citron	-	yellow or brownish yellow
cinnabar	-	red
cinnamon	-	brown
crimson	-	red
ebony	-	black
ecru	-	off-white/yellowish grey
emerald	-	green
fallow/fawn	-	yellow as brownish yellow
flamingo	-	reddish yellow
gentian	-	blue
henna	-	reddish brown
jade	-	green
jonquil	-	yellow or brownish yellow
magenta	-	mauvish cruison
mauve	-	pale purple
mahogany	-	reddish brown
nutmeg	-	brown
nutria	-	grey
ochre	-	reddish brown
roan	-	reddish brown
rubiginous	-	rust brown
sable	-	black
salmon	-	reddish yellow or orange
sapphire	-	blue
sepia	-	brown
sorrel	-	reddish brown
subfusc	-	black
taupe	-	grey tinged with brown
tawny	-	yellowish brown
terre-verte	-	greyish green

titian	-	golden auburn
tortoise shell	-	brown
ultramarine	-	blue
umber	-	dark yellowish brown
walnut	-	brown

DRAMA

anagnorisis	:	moment of recognition of the truth by the protagonist in classical tragedy
black comedy	:	comedy that deals with grim subjects
catharsis	:	drama that figuratively purges the emotions of the audience
denouement	:	final outcome or solution of a play
duologue	:	play or scene in which only two actors have dialogues
epilogue	:	speech or poem after the end of a play
figurant	:	character in a play who does not speak
grand Guignol	:	short horrifying play
interlude	:	entertainment between the acts of a play
kabuki	:	elaborate Japanese drama with music and dance
masque	:	drama based on mythical or allegorical theme
miracle/		
mystery plays	:	dramatization of events from the Bible
mise en scene	:	stage props
mummer	:	actor in a traditional folk drama or mime dealing with death and destruction
peripeteia	:	a twist in the plot
protasis	:	introductory part of the play especially of classical tragedy
repertory	:	permanent theatre company producing a succession of plays
soliloquy	:	monologue or the speaking aloud of a character of his innermost thoughts
stichomythia	:	dialogue in Greek drama in which alternate lines of verse are spoken by different characters
tableau	:	silent motionless group in a stage scene
tetralogy	:	a group of four related dramas
unities	:	three principles which are the basis of good drama – unity of time, place and action

FURNITURE & FURNITURE STYLES

armoire	:	ornate or antique cupboard
biedermeier	:	19 th century style of furniture developed in Germany.
bouille	:	brass or shell decorative inlay especially on furniture
chaise longue	:	a reclining chair
cheval glass	:	a large mirror mounted on swivels
chippendale	:	English style
console table	:	table fixed to a wall
davenport	:	small writing desk with drawers
dos-à-dos	:	seat in which two people can sit back to back

fauteuil	: upholstered armchair
ottoman	: long cushioned seat without a back
queen Anne	: early 18 th century English style furniture with fine upholstery
regency	: decorative early 19 th century English style
sheraton	: late 18 th century English style, delicate and graceful
teapoy	: small tea table with three legs

GEM STONES

agate
amber
amethyst
aquamarine
citrine
diamond
emerald
jade
opal
peridot
ruby
sapphire
topaz
turquoise

GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

archipelago	: a cluster of islands in the sea
barrier reef	: coral reef that runs parallel to the coast
fjord	: deep and long inlet of the sea, between high cliffs
lay	: low islet of coral or sand
glacier	: a large mass of moving ice
isthmus	: strip of land connecting two large bodies of land
pamir	: high grassland in Central Asia
pampas	: grasslands of Argentina and Uruguay
prairies	: grasslands of North America
savannah	: grasslands of tropical and subtropical regions
sierra	: high range of mountains with jagged peaks.
tundra	: large flat areas of land in the north of Europe, Asia and America where there is no vegetation

LEGAL TERMS

affidavit	: a sworn, written statement
codicil	: something added as an afterthought to a will
corpus delicti	: evidence of a crime such as a corpse
delict	: wrongful act which entitles the injured party to a compensation
deposition	: a sworn, written statement
distrain	: to seize goods as compensation
easement	: right of a house-owner or landowner over another's property
entail	: settling of the inheritance of an estate beyond one generation so as to prevent its disposal by an individual heir
equity	: legal rules supplementing common law
escrow	: goods, money, contract or the like that is kept for safekeeping with a third party after certain conditions are met
estovers	: articles that tenants are legally allowed to remove from their landlords' estate
ex parte	: a court application or injunction made on behalf of one side only
habeas corpus	: a writ requiring that a detainee be produced before a court and reasons being given for his detention
in camera	: court proceedings which exclude the public from the court
indemnity	: legal exemption from penalties
indictment	: written accusation
injunction	: a court order
laches	: negligence or unreasonable delay in pursuing a legal claim
lien	: right to take or hold another's property as security for a debt
mens rea	: criminal intent
nolle prosequi	: an entry in court records showing that a case was not proceeded with
parole	: release of a prisoner before the end of a sentence on condition of good behaviour
probate	: document certifying the validity of a will
pupillage	: apprenticeship as an advocate or a barrister
sequestration	: seizure of goods until conditions laid down in a decree have been met
sub judice	: under deliberation by a court and therefore not open to public comment
subpoena	: writ requiring a person to appear and give evidence in a court
tort	: breach or violation of civil law, other than breach of contract
ultra vires	: beyond the legal powers of a person or institution
usufruct	: right to use and benefit from another's property so long as it remains undamaged

LITERARY TERMS

allegory	:	work in which the characters and events are symbolic of something else
bathos	:	a sudden change from a serious or important subject to a ridiculous or ordinary one
epigram	:	short and meaningful statement
epistolary novel	:	novel in the form of letters
leitmotif	:	a recurring theme in a novel
mimesis	:	imitation in literature of nature or human nature

MANIAS

dipsomania	-	obsession with alcohol	crookes radiometer	-	intensity of radiated light
bibliomania	-	obsession with books	cryometer	-	extremely low temperatures
gephyromania	-	obsession with bridges	cyclometer	-	distance travelled by a wheel
ailuromania	-	obsession with cats	densitometer	-	optical density; degree of transparency
demomania	-	obsession with crowds	dilatometer	-	volume expansion of liquids
necromania	-	obsession with dead bodies	gaussmeter	-	magnetic flux, density
thanatomania	-	obsession with death	goniometer	-	angles, as of crystals.
cynomania	-	obsession with dogs	geiger counter	-	nuclear radiation
narcomania	-	obsession with drugs	hygrometer	-	humidity
phagomania	-	obsession with eating	hyprometer	-	land elevations
pyromania	-	obsession with fire-raising	interferometer	-	wave lengths of light
anthomania	-	obsession with flowers	machmeter	-	speeds at and beyond the speed of light
hippomania	-	obsession with horses	octant	-	altitude of celestial bodies
mythomania	-	obsession with lying and exaggerating	odometer	-	frequency of radio waves
egomania	-	obsession with oneself	piezometer	-	high pressures, compressibility
ablutomania	-	obsession with personal cleanliness	planimeter	-	surface area of a plane figure
hedonomania	-	obsession with pleasure	pluviometer	-	rainfall
megalomania/entheomania	-	obsession with power	polarimeter	-	optical rotation of polarized light
theomania,	-	obsession with religion	potentiometer	-	voltages or potential differences
plutomania/chrematomania-	-	obsession with riches	psychrometer	-	humidity
erotomania/nymphomania/	-	obsession with sex	pycnometer	-	relative density of liquids and solids
satyromania/ monomania -	-	obsession with a single idea or thing.	pyrheliometer	-	solar radiation
kleptomania	-	obsession with stealing	saccharometer	-	sugar content in a solution
tomomania	-	obsession with surgery or undergoing surgery	salimeter	-	salt content in a solution
logomania/verboomania	-	obsession with talking	steelyard	-	weight of heavy loads
dromomania/hodomania/	-		tacheometer	-	distance, elevations and bearings
poriomania	-	obsession with travelling	tellurometer	-	distances, up to about 50 kilometres
ergomania	-	obsession with work	theodolite	-	distances and elevations
			variometer	-	rate of climb or descent of an aircraft
			vinometer	-	alcohol content of wine

MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

actinometer	-	intensity of radiation
almucanter	-	bearing and attitude of celestial bodies
altimeter	-	height of an aircraft above the ground
anemometer	-	wind speed; flow and flow rate of a fluid.
atmometer	-	rate of evaporation
baroscope	-	atmospheric pressure
bathometer	-	depth of water in the sea
cathetometer	-	distance between fluid levels in vertical tubes.
chronometer	-	precise time
clinometer	-	angle of an incline
colorimeter	-	colours; concentration of solutions by comparison colours

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Doctor / Practitioner Treats	Deals With
cardiologist	- heart problems
dermatologist	- skin
gynaecologist	- women
haematologist	- blood
internist	- internal diseases
neurologist	- nervous system

obstetrician	- child birth
ophthalmologist	- eyes
oculist	- eyes
paediatrician	- children
podiatrist	- feet
chiropodist	- feet ailments
orthopaedics	- skeletal system and associated muscles
orthodontist	- straightening the teeth
psychologist	- human mind / human behaviour
cosmetologist	- beauty related problems
osteopath	- manipulation and massage of the skeleton and musculature
chiropractor	- treatment of joints, especially those connected to spinal column
gerontologist	- old age and old people
optometrist	- eyes and corrective lenses
psychiatrist	- mental and emotional disturbances
psychoanalyst	- in the mind of a person
periodontist	- gum

dentist	- teeth
oncologist	- cancer
osteopath	- back pain or muscle injury
orthopaedist	- bones, muscles, joints

MEDICINES - WHAT THEY TREAT/CURE

Medicines	What they treat/cure
analgesic	- pain
antacid and gullet ulcers	- stomach
antibiotic	- bacterial infections
anticoagulant	- in blood clotting
anticonvulsant	- convulsions and epilepsy
antihistamine	- allergies
antipyretic	- fever
antiscorbutic	- scurvy
antitussive	- cough
beta blocker anxiety	- anxiety, hypertension
bronchodilator	- asthma and other breathing difficulties
cathartic	- constipation
cytotoxin	- tumours
decongestant	- blocked nasal passages
demulcent	- mouth ulcers
diuretic	- water retention
emetic	- poisoning by causing vomiting
expectorant	- phlegm in the air passages
soporophic	- sleeplessness
paregoric	- intestinal pain and diarrhoea
sulphonamide, tetracycline	- bacterial infections
tranquilliser, sedative	- anxiety, tension
vasodilator	- angina

DOCTOR - DISEASED PART

Doctor	Diseased Part
audiologist	- ear
aorist	- ear
laryngologist	- throat
nosologyist	- classification of diseases
otolaryngologist	- ear and throat
otologist	- ear
otorhinoloryngologist	- ear, nose and throat
gastroenterorologist	- stomach
ophthalmist	- eyes
rhenmatologist	- diseases of the bones

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND THEIR USAGE

aspirator	- used to remove liquids from a cavity in the body
audiometer	- instrument used to measure the sharpness of one's hearing
bistoury	- surgical knife to make small surgical cuts
cannula	- a thin tube used to administer medication or drain off fluid
cat scanner	- used for X-ray recordings that can create three dimensional images of body tissues
colposcope	- used to examine the cervix
defibrillator	- used to give an electric shock to restore heart rhythm
dermatome	- cut skin for grafting
ecraseur	- a wire loop that is tightened to remove tumours
electrocardiograph	- to measure and record electrical activity in the heart
electroencephalograph	- to measure and record electrical activity in different parts of the brain
electromyography	- records the electrical activity of the muscle tissue
endoscope	- used to view internal parts of the body
forceps	- a pair of pincers used to deliver babies
fiberscope	- an instrument for examining the tissues and organs in the body
gastroscope	- examines the inside of the stomach
gorget	- to remove gall bladder stones
iron lung	- used to provide artificial respiration
kymograph	- records variations in blood pressure
lancet	- a surgical knife used to make incisions in surgery
ophthalmoscope	- for examining the interior of the eye
osteoclast	- to fracture a bone to reset it in order to correct a deformity
otoscope	- examines the eardrum
polygraph	- records changes in hear-beat, breathing rate and blood pressure
raspatory	- used for scraping the bones
retinoscope	- examines the eye to check light refraction
retractor	- for holding open a surgical incision
scalpel	- a knife used for making incisions
snare	- a wire loop for severing tumours and polyps

speculum	- to dilate an orifice or canal
sphygmomanometer	- measures blood pressure
sphygmometer	- measures strength of pulse
stethoscope	- used to listen to heart beat and breathing
tenaculum	- used to lift and hold blood vessels and other parts of tissue
trepan	- used for perforating the skull
xyster	- scrapes bones

SURGICAL OPERATIONS – BODY PART

Surgical operations	Body part		
amniocentesis	- abdominal wall	laparotomy	- abdominal wall
apicectomy	- tooth root	laryngectomy	- larynx
appendectomy	- appendix	leucotomy/lobotomy	- nerve fibres in brain
arterioplasty	- artery	lithonephrotomy	- kidney stones
autograft	- body tissue	masectomy	- breast
caesarean section	- abdominal wall	necrotomy	- dead tissue or bone
cholecystectomy	- gall bladder	nephrectomy	- kidney
cordotomy	- nerve fibres in neck	neurotomy	- nerve
craniotomy	- skull	ovriectomy	- ovary
cryosurgery	- unwanted tissue	orchidectomy	- testicles
cystectomy	- bladder	ostectomy	- bone
fenestration	- ear	otoplasty	- ear
gastrectomy	- stomach	phlebotomy	- vein
goniopuncture	- eye	pneumonectomy	- lung
hepatectomy	- liver	rhinoplasty	- nose
homoplasty	- tissue or organs	rhizotomy	- nerve roots
hysterectomy	- womb	salpingectomy	- fallopian tube
ileostomy	- small intestine	thoractomy	- chest cavity
iridectomy	- iris of the eye	tracheostomy	- windpipe
labioplasty	- lips	vasectomy	- vein

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Drums

bongo	: either of a pair of small long bodied drums held between the knees and played with fingers
conga	: a tall, narrow, low toned drum beaten with the hands
kettledrum	: larger bowl shaped drum with a membrane stretched across
pedal drum	: kettledrum with pedals
snare drum	: small cylindrical drum covered with skin at either end
tabla	: Indian drums – a pair of small drums
tabor	: small drum beaten by hand
tambourine	: small drum with jingles set in the frame
tenor drum	: set of two or three kettledrums
tom-tom	: oriental drum

String Instruments

aeolian harp	: a stringed instrument that produces music when the wind passes through it
balalaika	: three stringed guitar-like triangular Russian instrument
bouzouki	: mandolin-like Greek folk instrument
cittern	: 16 th century instrument which looks like a lute
clairschach	: ancient Irish harp
dulcimer	: instrument with strings stretched over a soundboard and struck with hammers
kithara	: ancient Greek lyre with box-shaped frame
kit, pochette	: miniature violin formerly used by dancing masters
koto	: Japanese, 13 stringed instrument in the shape of a box
lute	: a medieval guitar like instrument with a long neck and a pear-shaped body
lyre	: harp-like ancient Greek instrument
mandolin	: plucked instrument, resembling the lute with paired strings
oud	: South African and West Asian lute-like instrument
pandoura	: Persian lute with a long neck
rebeck	: medieval three stringed instrument played with a bow
samisen	: a long three stringed Japanese guitar
sarod	: Indian instrument with 2 sets of strings
sitar	: long necked Indian lute
theorbo	: a two-necked musical instrument of the lute class
ukulele	: Hawaiian guitar, small and four stringed
viol	: a medieval six stringed, violin-like instrument
zither	: many-stringed central European folk instrument

MISCELLANEOUS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

bones	: pair of small bones which make a clicking sound
castanets	: concave wooden discs or shells clicked together in the hand
claves	: wooden sticks beaten together rhythmically
cymbals	: pair of metal cone shaped instruments struck against each other
glockenspiel	: set of tuned metal bars struck with a small hammer
lithophone	: xylophone-like instrument with tuned stones instead of bars
maraca	: seed filled gourd or gourd shaped container shaken as a percussion instrument
marimba	: large, deep pitched xylophone like instrument, played with soft headed hammers
vibraphone	: set of tuned metal bars arranged like a keyboard
washboard	: board with a ridged metal or wooden surface used as percussion instrument
chinese block	: resonant, hollow block of wood struck with wooden sticks
xylophone	: set of tuned wooden bars arranged as a keyboard and struck with small hard hammers

MUSICAL COMPOSITIONS

arabesque	: short, elaborately ornamented piece
aubade	: music thought to be suitable for morning performance
bagatelle	: short unpretentious composition
barcarole	: song with a rhythm resembling that of a rowing gondola
berceuse	: a cradle song
canon	: composition often choral where one part is overlapped by other parts in the same or related key
cantata	: tunes by a choir, an orchestra or even solo singers
concerto	: musical composition for an orchestra or a solo singer
etude	: a musical piece designed to practise a particular technique
fugue	: a musical composition of counter themes
pastorale	: musical rendition by an orchestra which brings to mind a rural scene
prelude	: composition that precedes a larger one, on the piano or by an orchestra
requiem	: composition for a funeral mass
rhapsody	: composition based on folk tunes with no specific form
serenade	: music that is thought to be suitable for an evening performance
sonata	: instrumental music played by three or four independent instruments

PAINTINGS AND TERMS RELATED TO ART

abstract	: a work of art that does not represent any specific object
aquarelle	: painting made using transparent water colours
aquatint	: a process of etching by which tonal effects are produced
chiaroscuro	: contrasting light and shade in a painting
collage	: picture made up of a variety of materials pasted onto a surface.
fresco	: painting on fresh plaster on a wall or a ceiling
frieze	: decorative painting running horizontally all along the wall
gouache	: a technique that uses opaque water colours bound with gum
grotesque	: decoration that combines animal, human and plant forms
impasto	: thick opaque surface paint in oil painting
minimal art	: use of geometric shapes and primary colours
montage	: picture made up of a number of individual pictures
mural	: painting on a wall or a ceiling
opart	: an art form that creates the Impression of movement by using optical illusions
pastel	: drawing or sketch in delicate colours using chalky crayon
pastoral	: painting representing rural life
pieta	: representation of Virgin Mary
putto	: representation of a small boy or angel
secco	: painting on dry plaster on a wall or a ceiling
still life	: representation of inanimate objects
tempera	: paint made of colour mixed with egg white or water
tondo	: circular painting

PHILOSOPHIES

Aestheticism	: belief that beauty is the basic principle of good in life and underlies morality
Behaviorism	: doctrine that behaviour, rather than consciousness is all that can be known or studied about human nature
Nominalism	: a philosophy that believes that essences, universals and abstract concepts exist only in name and that only actual individual objects exist
Ontology	: a philosophy that studies the nature of existence
Perspectivism	: the belief that there can be no absolute knowledge of truth

Phenomenalism	: belief that the sense perceptions are the only certainty of knowledge
Phenomenology	: study of awareness
Positivism	: doctrine that knowledge is derived from actual facts
Pragmatism	: a doctrine that believes in a practical approach to political or personal dealings
Prescriptivism	: the belief that statements about good and evil are not absolute but are moral prescriptions
Rationalism	: the belief that knowledge can be acquired only through reason
Reductionism	: the doctrine that analyses problems by reducing them to their components
Solipsism	: belief that self is the only truth
Stoicism	: the belief that man attains virtue by suppressing his emotions
Structuralism	: the study of the structure of language rather than its history
Syndicalism	: theory supporting government by trade unions or syndicates
Transcendentalism	: theory that knowledge is obtained by intuition or reflecting on the reasoning process itself.
Utilitarianism	: the doctrine that the greatest good is what produces maximum happiness for the greatest number of people

POETRY RELATED TERMS

anapaest	- a metrical foot consisting of two short unstressed syllables and one long stressed syllable
alternation	- a figure of speech in poetry involving the repetition of the same consonant sound
ballad	- a story told in verse
blank verse	- unrhymed ten-syllable lines
Canto	- a part or section of a long poem
eclogue	- short pastoral poem often in the form of a dialogue
elegy	- poem lamenting the death of a person
envoi	- short final stanza of some poems (especially French)
foot	- unit of metre in poetry
free verse	- verse without metre or rhyme
haiku	- Japanese poem of three lines with seventeen syllables
heroic couplet	- two lines witty end rhymes and ten syllables
iambic	- metre in poetry consisting of one short unstressed syllable, followed by a long stressed syllable
idyll	- short, lyrical, pastoral poem
internal rhyme	- rhyme occurring within the line
limerick	- short witty poem of five lines, also called nonsense verse
macaronic verse	- humorous verse in a language
ode	- poem written in praise of someone or something
rondeau	- lyrical poem of French origin which uses only two rhymes throughout
stanza	- a complete verse
sonnet	- poem of 14 lines containing 10 syllables per line
quatrain	- a verse of 4 lines in a poem

THEATRE TERMS

amphitheatre	: ancient Roman auditorium
décor	: stage setting / scenery
loggia	: seats in an open balcony
mezzanine	: room under the stage
proscenium	: performing area in Greek theatre

THERAPIES

acupuncture	: puncturing of skin with needles to effect a cure
aromatherapy	: treatment to cure disease and influence mood with sweet-smelling oils.
aversiontherapy	: linking bad habits with something unpleasant so as to eradicate the habit
chemotherapy	: treatment of disease using chemicals
chiropractic	: skilful manipulation of the spine to effect various cures
herbalism	: use of herbs to cure ailments
homeopathy	: use of small amounts of the drug to produce signs of illness in healthy people
hydrotherapy	: use of water to cure on illness
hypnotherapy	: use of hypnosis to cure physical and mental illnesses
moxibustion	: burning of leaves on particular points on the skin, usually along with acupuncture
naturopathy	: promoting healthy habits, and using natural remedies to cure disease
osteopathy	: manipulation of bones and joints to treat backache and muscle pain
photo therapy	: use of light to effect cures, especially tumours
physiotherapy	: use of massage and exercise or heat to treat injury or disability
primal therapy	: system of making a patient relive pain in order to cure neurotic illnesses
rolfing	: use of deep massage to relieve muscular or emotional tension
shiatsu	: acupressure to relieve pain and treat disease
zone therapy	: massage of special zones in the foot to cure disease in some other part of the body

WEATHER

anticyclone	: area of high atmospheric pressure where winds spiral outward
backing	: change of wind direction anticlockwise
black ice	: thin coating of transparent ice
col	: area of intermediate pressure between two anticyclones
convection	: an upward movement within the atmosphere which causes a transfer of heat
cyclone	: a low pressure centre which causes a tropical storm
dust devil	: rapidly swirling column of dust
hurricane	: intense tropical storm
isobar	: line linking places with the same atmospheric pressure
isohyet	: line on a weather map linking places that have the same rainfall
isotherm	: line linking places that have the same temperature
tornado	: intense cyclone with strong winds
trough	: area of low pressure between two areas of higher pressure
typhoon	: cyclone in the China Sea
water spout	: fast-moving column of cloud and often whipped by a small, intense short-lived low-pressure area
wedge	: area of high pressure between two depressions narrower than the ridge

