

scopes

## Barron's 333 High Frequency

1. **Abate** - *v.* to subside; to reduce, mitigate.
  - Rather than leaving immediately, they waited for the storm to *abate*.
2. **Aberrant** - *adj.* abnormal or deviant, antic, anomalous, preternatural, atypical, grotesque, bizarre.
  - Given the *aberrant* nature of the data, we came to doubt the validity of the entire experiment.
3. **Abeyance** - *n.* suspended action, hiatus
  - The deal was held in *abeyance* until her arrival.
  - Expansion plans for the middle school are in *abeyance*.
4. **Abscond** - *v.* depart secretly and hide.
  - The teller *absconded* with bonds went uncaptured until someone recognized him from his photograph on *America's Most Wanted*.
5. **Abstemious** - *adj.* sparing in eating and drinking; temperate, sober, austere, ascetic, puritanical, spartan.
  - Concerned whether her vegetarian son's *abstemious* diet provided him sufficient protein, the worried mother pressed food on him.
  - The monks here have willingly chosen this *abstemious* life.
6. **Admonish** - *v.* warn; reprove, reprimand, rebuke, rant, rail, scold, reproach, upbraid, chastise, chide, berate, criticize, browbeat.
  - He *admonished* his listeners to change their wicked ways. **Admonition** *n.*
  - She *admonished* him to drink less.
7. **Adulterate** - *v.* make impure by adding inferior or tainted substances. Violate and sanctity, besmirch, defile, desecrate, taint, profane, sully.
  - It is a crime to *adulterate* foods without informing the buyer; when consumers learn that Beechnut had *adulterated* its apple juice by mixing the juice with water, they protested vigorously. **Adultration** - *n.*
8. **Aesthetic** - *adj.* artistic; dealing with or capable of appreciating the beautiful. Pulchritude.
  - The beauty of Tiffany's stained glass appealed to Alice's *aesthetic* sense. **Aesthete** - *n.*
9. **Aggregate** - *v.* gather; accumulate.
  - Before the Wall Street scandals, dealers in so-called junk bonds manage to *aggregate* great wealth in short period of time.
10. **Alacrity** - *n.* cheerful promptness; eagerness, Effervescence, Exuberance, Gusto, Verve, Furor, Vim, Zeal.
  - Phil and Dave were raring to get off to the mountains; they packed up their ski gear and climbed into the van with *alacrity*.
  - She accepted the invitation with *alacrity*.

11. **Alleviate** - *v.* relieve. Allay, Appease, Assuage, Condole, Console, Mollify, Pacify, Concialiate, Placate, Propitiate.  
· This should *alleviate* the pain; if it does not we shall have to use stronger drugs.
12. **Amalgamate** - *v.* combine; unite in one body.  
· The unions will attempt to *amalgamate* their groups into one national body.
13. **Ambiguous** - *adj.* unclear or doubtful in meaning.  
· His *ambiguous* instruction misled us; we didn't know which road to take. **ambiguity**-*n.*
14. **Ambivalence** - *n.* the state of having contradictory or conflicting emotional attitudes.  
· Torn between loving her parents one minute and hating them the next, she was confused the ambivalence of her feelings. **Ambivalent** - *adj.*
15. **Ameliorate** - *v.* improve  
· Many social workers are attempted to ameliorate the conditions of living in the slums.
16. **Anachronism** - *n.* something or someone misplaced in time  
· Shakespeare's reference to clocks in *Julius Caesar* is an *anachronism*; no clocks existence in Caesar's time.
17. **Analogous** - *adj.* comparable.  
· She called our attention to think that had been done in an *analogous* situation and recommended that we do the same.
18. **Anarchy** - *n.* absence of governing body; state of disorder  
· The assassination of the leaders led to the period of *anarchy*.
19. **Anomalous** - *adj.* abnormal; irregular.  
· She was placed to *anomalous* position of seeming to approved procedures that she despised.
20. **Antipathy** - *n.* aversion; dislike.  
· Tom's extreme *antipathy* for disputes keeps him from getting into arguments with his temperamental wife. Noise in any form is *antipathetic* to him. Among his other *antipathies* are honking cars, boom boxes and heavy metal rock.
21. **Apathy** - *n.* lack of caring; indifference.  
· A firm believer in democratic government, she couldn't understand the *apathy* of people who never bothered to vote. **Apathetic** - *adj.*
22. **Appease** - *adj.* pacify or soothe; relieve.  
· Tom and Jody tried to *appease* the crying baby by offering him toy one after another. However he couldn't calm down until they *appeased* his hunger by giving him a bottle. **Appeasement**-*n.*
23. **Apprise** - *adj.* inform.  
· When she was *apprised* of the dangerous weather conditions, she decided to postponed her trip.

24. **Approbation** - *adj.* approval.  
· Wanting her parents regard, she looked for some sign of their *approbation*.
25. **Appropriate** - *adj.* acquire; take possession of for one's own use.  
· The ranch owners *appropriated* the lands that had originally been set aside for the Indian's use.
26. **Arduous** - *adj.* hard; strenuous; onerous; Herculean.  
· Her *arduous* effort had sapped her energy.
27. **Artless** - *adj.* without guile; open and honest.  
· Red Riding Hood's *artless* comment "Grandma, What big eyes you have!" indicates the child's innocent surprise at her "grandmother's" changed appearance.
28. **Ascetic** - *adj.* practicing self-denial; austere.  
· The wealthy shelf-indulgent young man oddly drawn to the strict, ascetic life led by the members of some monastic orders. also **asceticism**-*n*.
29. **Assiduous** - *adj.* Careful; Meticulous; Punctilious; Scrupulous; Sedulous; Demure; Diligent; Circumspect; Painstaking; Politic; Prudent; Wary; Chary; Leery.  
· It took Rembrandt weeks of *assiduous* labour before he was satisfied with his portrait of his son.
30. **Assuage** - *adj.* ease or lessen (pain); satisfy (hunger); soothe (anger); Calm, Mollify, Pacify; Alleviate; Appease; Condole; Console; Conciliate; Placate; Propitiate.  
· Dick tried to *assuage* heartache by indulging in ice cream. One gallon later, he has *assuaged* his appetite but not his grief. **assuagement**-*n*.
31. **Attenuate** - *adj.* make thinner; Ebb; Damp; Alloy.  
· By withdrawing their forces, the generals hoped to *attenuate* the enemy lines.
32. **Audacious** - *adj.* daring; bold.  
· Audiences cheered as Luke Skywalker and princes Leia made their *audacious*, death-defying leap to freedom and escape Darth Vader's troops. **audacity**-*n*.
33. **Austere** - *adj.* forbiddingly stern; severely simple and unornamented.  
· The Head Master's *austere* demeanor tended to scare off the more timid students, who never visited his study willingly. The room reflected the man austere and bare, like a monk's cell, with touches of luxury to moderate its *austerity*.
34. **Autonomous** - *adj.* self-governing; independent.  
· Although the University of California at Berkeley is just a part of state university system Cal Berkeley is *autonomous*, for it runs several programs that are not subject to outside control. **autonomy**-*n*.
35. **Aver** - *adj.* assert confidently or declare; as used in law, state formally as a fact.  
· I wish to *aver* I am certain of success.
36. **Banal** - *adj.* hackneyed; commonplace; trite; lacking originality.  
· The hack writer's worn-out clichés made his comic sketch seem *banal*. He even restored the *banality* of having someone sleep on a banana peel.

37. **Belie** - *adj.* contradict; give a false impression  
· His coarse, hard-bitten exterior *belied* his innate sensitivity.
38. **Beneficent** - *adj.* kindly; doing good  
· The over generous philanthropist had to curb his *beneficent* impulses before he gave away all his money and left himself with nothing.
39. **Bolster** - *adj.* support; reinforce.  
· The debaters amassed file boxes full of evidence to bolster their arguments.
40. **Bombastic** - *adj.* pompous; using inflated language ·
41. **Aver** - *adj.* assert ·
42. **Aver** - *adj.* assert ·
43. **Aver** - *adj.* assert ·

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