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BSc Degree

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English – II (Advanced English)
Professor Rajesh Kumar
Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
Advanced Vocabulary

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Advanced Vocabulary

Rajesh Kumar



Welcome to the class. Today, we are going to look at certain vocabulary items, which can be considered as part of the advanced vocabulary for English language users. We are going through the course, we are learning English, and for many of you we are improving it.

As I have discussed always the process of learning and a quick understanding of the process of learning is important for understanding what we need to learn. This may not sound directly important, but it yields result and then it becomes critical for us. Sometimes we learn very fast that is because subconsciously, we have paid attention to how processing works in our subconscious.

In short, if we look at how we learn, that is how we process input that is information in our subconscious, which is not primarily directed towards learning of language, then we end up learning those elements which get processed in our subconscious, and we begin using them too. So, learning has two parts, one, learning, two, learning to use. Learning the process and two, learning to use what we learn.

In the context of vocabulary, as you know, vocabulary means a collection of words. We do not use too many words every day, but to be able to use specific words in specific contexts, which can be socio-culturally dependent we need to be aware of certain specific vocabulary items to suit the requirement of the context. In that process and for that purpose, we are going to talk about certain vocabulary items, which have been borrowed in English from different sources.

If we understand these vocabularies, these vocabulary items, they add to our understanding or our familiarity with English at large, at the same time, we enable ourselves in a different domain of practitioner in English. It makes you use of vocabulary from different domains and use of borrowed vocabulary in English from different languages makes us advanced learners and makes our language impressive in addition.

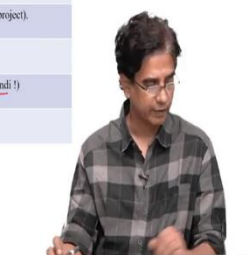
So, having said this much, what we are going to look at is, what certain words mean, which have come from different sources and how we are going to use them in different contexts. The important thing again is to remember that we need to know the context in which they are used and how, that will assure, how we are going to use when we come across a particular context of that type.

Again, these are part of advanced vocabulary, which means these are low-frequency words. Low frequency, in terms of use requires higher the level of cognition. In short, it simply means we use these words once in a while. Our familiarity and increasing our frequency of using these words is going to add a lot to how we sound in our English.

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Words from Latin

WORDS	MEANING
Bona fide	Authentic (She has established her position as a <u>bona fide</u> celebrity).
De facto	Existing but <u>not accepted</u> (He has established himself as the <u>de facto</u> leader of the party).
Impromptu	'Spontaneous' without preparation (He made an <u>impromptu</u> speech about honor and responsibility).
Quid pro quo	Something for something in exchange (The CEO was sued over a <u>quid pro quo</u> sexual harassment case).
Ad hoc	For time being/ a specific case (The judge appointed an <u>ad hoc</u> committee to study the project).
Pro rata	Proportionately (Fees are calculated on a <u>pro rata</u> basis).
Modus operandi	A specific way of doing something (Bad bosses often have a recognizable <u>modus operandi</u> !)
Status Quo	Current situation (There is no desire to change the current <u>status quo</u>).



Let us go through some of the examples. I am only going to talk about few examples and the context and thus these examples and these types of items that is vocabulary items when you come across them and you learn them on your own, that is another list of these, it is just going to add to your database. So, let us see how these things work.

When, and knowing the counterpart in English, that is regular English is also a process of helping us learn vocabulary. So, let us look at this. So, there is a word from all these words are loanwords from Latin, in English. So, the first one is bona fide; we also call it as bona fide. Bona fide, it means authentic. The context we can use, we can create a context for the use of this word is she has established her position as a bona fide celebrity. She has established her position as a bona fide celebrity.

So, look at the use of this word, bona fide. When you use that, you can also say, she has established her position as an authentic celebrity, but the use of this item, this phrase bona fide displays your larger degree of familiarity with words in English. And particularly when you write or you have to give a talk, you have to use English in a formal context. Use of these words, use of these phrases are going to help you to a great.

De facto, it means existing. It is something that exists but not accepted. She has established, he has established himself as a De facto leader of the party. De facto also means without alternative. So, we have, it does exist; it is a reality, but it is not really totally assimilated and accepted.

Impromptu, impromptu, spontaneous, without preparation. So, we can say he made an impromptu speech about honour and responsibility. So, just look at this word; this is being used as a noun because we use a determiner here an impromptu speech. It comes from the another word prompt comes from this root impromptu.

quid pro quo, something for which, something for, something in exchange. Like exchange relation, I do something for you, you do something for me. So, this is called quid pro quo situation. The CEO was sued over for a quid pro quo sexual harassment case. It is a Latin word, but important thing is it means exchange for a favour. It does not have to be used only in harassment cases, but in general also when we do a favour to somebody, and we take favour in return, such a situation is called quid pro quo situation.

Ad hoc for being, for the time being or a specific case, as in a specific case, the judge appointed an ad hoc committee for the study of the project. So temporary in nature, just related to a specific case, not really something that is sustainable in nature.

Pro rata is the next one. Pro rata means proportionately. When we say when we, let us take a situation when we are going to when we are committed to work for six hours a day, and we only work for four hours. So, if we are going to say going to receive 600 rupees as remuneration for 600 hours, then on a pro rata basis, if we work only for four hours, then the remuneration is going to be 400 rupees. So, this is the meaning of pro rata proportionately.

So, fees are calculated on a pro rata basis. So, if certain things are not done, then fees are also going to be calculated accordingly. Not as the whole amount that one has to pay. So, such a situation is called pro rata.

Modus operandi. A very commonly used word, this is probably or pro data or ad hoc, these are not low-frequency word probably they have acquired a space in our social context as high frequency words that we use in our language. Because, ad hoc, I am sure you would have heard, many times, pro rata not sure, but most likely you would have heard modus operandi. It is a unique way of doing something.

So, when we say bad bosses often have recognizable modus operandi. A way of doing something which is specific to a particular group or an individual that is the meaning of modus operandi. The words operations, mode, so basically, it means mode of working. These words have probably come from these sources. Status quo means current situation. There is no desire to change the current status quo. Look at this example; there is no desire to change the current status quo, meaning the current situation.

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Words from French



WORDS	MEANING
A-la-carte	Individual items on a list which are not a part of a pre-decided package (It was more expensive to eat a-la-carte).
Faux pas	A socially inappropriate behaviour (He was a master of the faux pas).
En masse	In a large group all together (The people marched en masse)
Chauffeur	A driver specifically for a rich person or celebrity (Her father's car and chauffeur are waiting).
Deja vu	A feeling that you have already seen or experienced the current situation. (When the car broke down again, it was déjà vu).
Bouquet	A bunch of flowers (She placed a bouquet of roses on the table).
Souvenir	Something kept as a reminder as of a place one has visited (He bought a model of red London bus as a souvenir of his trip to London).



Now, let us look at few words from French. Now, it is not French, or Latin is not important; what is important is our ability to use these words in our English or, when these words are used, our ability to understand them, that is the purpose of this discussion.

Look at this ala carte which means individual items on a list, which are not a part of the pre-decided packets. So, when we pick each item and create something on our own that is called ala carte. Which is, and the things that are not, in other words, it means, things that are not part of a package. So often we use these things so this is a French word. There is another French word, a very commonly used that we use in English restaurant. It is called, it has different French pronunciation it is called restaurant, but in our English we call it restaurant.

So, in different restaurants we have ala carte food materials, which is probably, which is, when certain things are not part of a buffet package, we need to order ala carte meaning items individually. So, it was more expensive to eat ala carte because when things are part of a buffet package, then it becomes less expensive.

Faux pas. Please check this may have slightly different French pronunciation, but this is a very useful term for us to use which is a metaphor for socially inappropriate behaviour. Anything that is not socially acceptable. It can be used for that he was master of the Faux pas. It was the Faux pas on his behalf. So and they also let you know about the situations too.

En masse, in a large group or in a large group altogether. The people marched en masse. So, when huge number of people do something that is called en masse. Chauffeur, a designated

driver, the specific driver not a not part of a taxi. So, father's car and Chauffeur are waiting. So, when we have specialized or specifically assigned drivers that is called Chauffeur.


Deja vu, it is about a situation; another word deja vu comes from French, it refers to a situation which we get reminded of and while doing something or speaking something we get reminded of a situation that I have seen this before. It has happened before such a situation is called deja vu.

So, and we use this phrase in such situations that when the car broke it was déjà vu. Bouquet is specifically used words in the context of flowers. So, when a lot of different flowers or the same flowers are put together in one collection, that is called a bouquet. It does not have to be the same type of flowers in a bunch. So, she placed the bouquet of roses on the table.

Souvenir, something that is related to memory or something that reminds us of a situation or will remind us of a situation later that is called a Souvenir. So, he bought a model of red London, Red London bus as a Souvenir of his trip to London. So, when we go to someplace, and we buy a memoir or something that will remind us of that visit that such a thing is called Souvenir.

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Words from Italian



WORDS	MEANING
Zucchini	A vegetable (<u>Zucchini</u> grows during summer).
Vendetta	A long lasting revenge (Jim was arrested for acting on a <u>vendetta</u> against the man who killed his wife).
Inferno	Hell, a large fire (Can you believe a lit cigar started the <u>inferno</u> that consumed the public library?)
Pizza	Food item of Italian origin (She cancelled her order for a <u>pizza</u>).
Pasta	Food item of Italian origin (Pour the sauce over the <u>pasta</u>).



Some words from Italian, like Zucchini, Vendetta, Inferno, Pizza, Pasta, pizza and pasta are food items very commonly used words food item of an Italian origin. So since we, since it is a commonly used food all over the world and used word therefore it has become a commonly used word. So, she cancelled her order for a pizza.

Another food pasta, pour the sauce over the pasta. So, it is a these are different pizza is dry pasta is not dry. I am sure you know about that, but the important part is, these are words from Italian origin. So, Zucchini is a type of vegetable.

Zucchini grows during summer. It has an Indian counterpart to it. It has a different name, but it is just a type of vegetable. Vendetta, revenge. So Jim was arrested for acting in a vendetta against the man who killed his wife. So again, this is not such a low-frequency word, but kind of low-frequency word that is used in a specific context of revenge. People use this quite often. So, Zucchini, as a vegetable Vendetta as revenge, Inferno a large fire box, it is called Inferno.

Can you believe a lit cigar started the inferno that consumed the public library. So, when it can converts small thing, converts into large fire. So, a large fire for a specific purpose is called Inferno. But this context tells you that some accident led to make liability as inferno. So, these are some of the words from Italian origins.

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Words from Japanese

WORDS	MEANING
Typhoon/tsunami	Weather phenomena (After the earthquake shook the ocean, a tsunami wave roared towards the coastline).
Karaoke	Sing-along-songs (If you have a karaoke machine, we can have even more fun).
Anime	Japanese style cartoons (The anime consists of 50 episodes).
Emoji	Digital images expressing emotions (The emoji's primary function is to fill in emotional cues otherwise missing from typed conversations).
Karate, judo, sumo	Marital art forms of Japan (Tony is good at Judo and sumo).
Ninja	Japanese sword fighter/ a person highly skilled in a particular activity. (The BSc programme of IIT Madras will produce a lot of ninja programmers.)



Some very cliché words from Japanese. Though Japanese, the English is not really a preferred language across Japan, for people from Japan, nonetheless, some words from Japanese language its society and culture have made their space in English, and they are quite often used as low-frequency word, but which have Japanese origin.

So, words like tsunami, typhoon or tsunami. A water phenomenon is comes from Japanese languages. And we use them in a sentence like after the earthquake shook the ocean a

tsunami wave rolled towards the coastline. Large flux of water, really large not ordinary tide. So, when we see water emerging in the sea to some extent that is called tide, but when it becomes too large, and it has, it becomes destructive in nature it is called tsunami. But this is used as an adjective or as a noun for large impact and large damages, things that are referred supposed to refer to large damage. We can use these words as adjectives as well.

Karaoke, please check the spelling, the spelling is correct. Please check the pronunciation of this word. I think it is karaoke. Sing along songs, so it has a special way of singing. So, if you have a karaoke machine, we can have even more fun. So, it is a form of song.

Anime, Japanese style cartoon; the Anime consists of 50 episodes. Emoji, a digital form of pictures which are used for expressing emotions in some social networking sites or social short messaging systems, it is called emoji. So, the emoji's primary function is to fill emotional cues otherwise missing from typed conversations.

So, it is a; it just adds additional flavour and adding an emoji is not really done in a formal context. And people do that, in informal contexts, mostly. Karate, Judo, Sumo, these are different forms of martial arts from Japan, and they are quite commonly used in English, quite commonly common form of learning self-defence system, Tony is good at Judo and Sumo, but not at karate, something like that.

Ninja is a word for sword fighter, Japanese sword fighter or a person who is, we also use this word for a person who is highly skilled in something. So, we can say let us say for a program like ours, that a BSc programming degree has the potential to produce a lot of ninja programmers. So, here we use this as an adjective meaning highly skilled programmers.

So, now, once again, I conclude by saying just two things. The purpose of discussing these items, these phrases, is not to give you a whole list of these words because nobody knows the whole list of these words. There is no place where all these words are collected together. There is no list ever made, which has which contains all the words that came from Japanese or all the words that came from any language into English.

If you think hard, not so hard. If you just think about it, you will realize that such a list is not even possible. And that also helps us understand that language is a dynamic thing; it keeps changing. The list that is available today may not available may not remain the same tomorrow. So, it is an everchanging list. Nonetheless, being aware of some of them is going

to open up space for us to keep looking for more such words. And in turn, knowing them, can you help us understand the context of the use as well.

In short, if you pay attention to these things, you become a better speaker. That has been our goal, that is our ambition and we are working towards that. Hope this works, this helps you.

Thank you so much until we meet next, bye-bye.

