# **Common words 2**

62. Entrenched

**adjective:** fixed firmly or securely

*By the time we reach 60-years old, most of our habits are so****entrenched****that it is difficult for us to change.*

63 Decorous

adjective: characterized by good taste in manners and conduct

Sally's parties are decorous affairs, and instead of the usual beer and music, there is tea and intellectual conversation.

64 inexorable

adjective: impossible to stop or prevent

The rise of the computer was an inexorable shift in technology and culture.

65 conspicuous

adjective: without any attempt at concealment; completely obvious

American basketball players are always conspicuous when they go abroad--not only are they American, but some are over seven feet tall.

66 engender

verb: give rise to

The restrictions of the Treaty of Versailles were so severe that they engendered deep hatred and resentment in the German people.

67 apathetic

adjective: marked by a lack of interest

Mr. Thompson was so talented at teaching math that even normally apathetic students took interest.

68 meticulous

adjective: marked by extreme care in treatment of details

The Japanese noodle maker was meticulous in making his noodles and would never let another person take over the task.

69 cryptic

adjective: mysterious or vague, usually intentionally

Since Sarah did not want her husband to guess the Christmas present she had bought him, she only answered cryptically when he would ask her questions about it.

70 chortle

verb: to chuckle, laugh merrily, often in a breathy, muffled way

Walking into the cafe, I could hear happy, chortling people and smell the rich aroma of roasted coffee beans.

71 impudent (puts a dent on his reputation for being improperly forward)

adjective: improperly forward or bold

In an impudent move, the defendant spoke out of order to say terribly insulting things to the judge.

72 culpability

noun: a state of guilt

Since John had left his banana peel at the top of the stairwell, he accepted culpability for Martha's broken leg.

73 incisive

adjective: having or demonstrating ability to recognize or draw fine distinctions

The lawyer had an incisive mind, able in a flash to dissect a hopelessly tangled issue and isolate the essential laws at play.

74 aesthetic

adjective: concerned with the appreciation of beauty

The director, not known for his aesthetic sensibilities, decided not to use costumes at all, and put on the play in everyday clothing.

noun: a set of principles underlying and guiding the work of a particular artist or artistic movement.

The artist operated according to a peculiar aesthetic, not considering any photograph to be worth publishing unless it contained a marine mammal.

75. mawkish

adjective: overly sentimental to the point that it is disgusting

The film was incredibly mawkish, introducing highly likeable characters only to have them succumb to a devastating illness by the end of the movie.

76 volubility (vocal abilities)

noun: the quality of talking or writing easily and continuously

The professor's volubility knows no bounds; he could talk through a hurricane and elaborate a point from one St. Patrick's Day to the next.

77 predilection

noun: a strong liking

Monte had a predilection for the fine things in life: Cuban cigars, 200 dollar bottles of wine, and trips to the French Riviera.

78 fortuitous

adjective: occurring by happy chance; having no cause or apparent cause

Missing my train turned out to be quite fortuitous since I ran into a childhood friend on the next train and we were able to reconnect after so many years.

79 audacious

adjective: willing to be bold in social situations or to take risks

As all of the other campers cowered in their tents, Bill, armed only with a flashlight, audaciously tracked down the bear that had raided their food.

80 rustic

adjective: characteristic of rural life; awkwardly simple and provincial

The vacation cabin had no electricity and no indoor plumbing, but despite these inconveniences, Nigel adored its rustic charm.

81 didactic

adjective: instructive (especially excessively)

Tolstoy's The Death of Ivan Ilyich is a didactic novel, instructing the reader on how to live a good life.

82. germane

adjective: relevant and appropriate

The professor wanted to tell the jury in detail about his new book, but the lawyer said it wasn't germane to the charges in the cases.

83 reticent

adjective: disinclined to talk, not revealing one's thoughts

When asked about her father, Helen lost her outward enthusiasm and became rather reticent.

84. mitigate

verb: make less severe or harsh

I can only spend so much time mitigating your disagreements with your wife, and at certain point, you need to do it on your own.

verb: lessen the severity of an offense

If it weren't for the mitigating circumstances, he would have certainly lost his job.

85 superfluous

adjective: serving no useful purpose

How can we hope to stay open if we don't eliminate all superfluous spending, like catered meetings and free acupuncture Tuesday?

adjective: more than is needed, desired, or required

The third paragraph in your essay is superfluous and can be deleted.

86 obscure

verb: make unclear

On the Smith's drive through the Grand Canyon, Mr. Smith's big head obscured much of Mrs. Robinson's view, so that she only saw momentary patches of red rock.

adjective: known by only a few

Many of the biggest movie stars were once obscure actors who got only bit roles in long forgotten films.

87. exacerbate

verb: make worse

Her sleeplessness exacerbated her cold--when she woke up the next day, her sinuses were completely blocked.

88 concede

verb: acknowledge defeat

I concede. You win!

verb: admit (to a wrongdoing)

After a long, stern lecture from her father, Olivia conceded to having broken the window.

verb: give over; surrender or relinquish to the physical control of another

The Spanish were forced to concede much of the territory they had previously conquered.

89 querulous

adjective: habitually complaining

The querulous old woman was beginning to wear down even the happier members of the staff with her ceaseless complaining.

90. preclude

verb: keep from happening or arising; make impossible

The manager specified that all other gates be locked, to preclude the possibility of persons without tickets entering the arena undetected.\

91 dictatorial

adjective: expecting unquestioning obedience; characteristic of an absolute ruler

The coach was dictatorial in his approach: no players could ever argue or question his approach.

92. culminate

verb: reach the highest or most decisive point, crowning moment or a final conclusion

Beethoven's musical genius culminated in the 9th Symphony, which many consider his greatest work.

# **Common words 4**

1. intransigent

adjective: unwilling to change one's beliefs or course of action

Despite many calls for mercy, the judge remained intransigent, citing strict legal precedence.

2. pragmatic

adjective: guided by practical experience and observation rather than theory

Rather than make a philosophical appeal to the Congressmen, the Speaker decided to take a far more pragmatic approach, making small side-deals that would add votes to his bill.

3. reconcile (mne) to "bring into agreement and harmony”

verb: make (one thing) compatible with (another)

Peggy was unable to reconcile her kind friend Jane with the cruel and merciless character Jane played on television.

4. opaque

adjective: not clearly understood or expressed

The meaning of the professor's new research was opaque to most people, so no one asked any questions.

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

5. temperance (to control e.g. temper)

noun: the trait of avoiding excesses

Welles wasn't known for his temperance--he usually ate enough for two and drank enough for three.

6. underscore

verb: give extra weight to (a communication)

While the hiking instructor agreed that carrying a first aid kit could be a good idea under certain circumstances, he underscored the importance of carrying enough water.

7. tortuous

adjective: marked by repeated turns and bends; not straightforward

Because the logic behind McMahon's side of the debate was so tortuous, his audience came out either completely confused or, worse, feeling they'd been tricked.

8. implausible

adjective: describing a statement that is not believable

The teacher found it implausible that the student was late to school because he had been kidnapped by outlaws on horseback.

9. exonerate (you get your ex rating back)

verb: pronounce not guilty of criminal charges

The document clearly indicated that Nick was out of the state at the time of the crime, and so served to exonerate him of any charges.

10. forthcoming

adjective: available when required or as promised

The President announced that the senators were about to reach a compromise, and that he was eager to read the forthcoming details of the bill.

adjective: at ease in talking to others

As a husband, Larry was not forthcoming: if Jill didn't demand to know details, Larry would never share them with her.

11. pedantic

adjective: marked by a narrow focus on or display of learning especially its trivial aspects

Professor Thompson was regarded as an expert in his field, but his lectures were utterly pedantic, focused on rigorous details of the most trivial conventions in the field.

12. abstruse

adjective: difficult to understand; incomprehensible

Physics textbooks can seem so abstruse to the uninitiated that readers feel as though they are looking at hieroglyphics.

13. provincial

adjective: characteristic of a limited perspective; not fashionable or sophisticated

Maggie's enthusiasm about her high school teams seemed provincial to her college classmates, all of whom were following a nationally ranked college team.

14. unscrupulous

adjective: without scruples or principles

In the courtroom, the lawyer was unscrupulous, using every manner of deceit and manipulation to secure a victory for himself.

15. aberrant

adjective: markedly different from an accepted norm

When the financial director started screaming and throwing food at his co-workers, the police had to come in to deal with his aberrant behavior.

16. discrete

adjective: constituting a separate entity or part

What was once known as Czechoslovakia has since split into two discrete, independent nations.

17. implacable

adjective: incapable of making less angry or hostile

Win or lose, the coach was always implacable, never giving the athletes an easy practice or a break.

18. exalt

verb: praise or glorify

The teenagers exalted the rock star, covering their bedrooms with posters of him.

19. incorrigible

adjective: impervious to correction by punishment

Tom Sawyer seems like an incorrigible youth until Huck Finn enters the novel; even Sawyer can't match his fierce individual spirit.

20. largess

noun: extreme generosity and giving

Uncle Frank was known for his largess, so his nephew was sad when he did not receive a present for his birthday.

21. refute

verb: prove to be false or incorrect

No one could refute his theories or propositions, and that is why he was esteemed by all his colleagues in the philosophy department.

22. admonitory

adjective: serving to warn; expressing reproof or reproach especially as a corrective

At the assembly, the high school vice-principal gave the students an admonitory speech, warning them of the many risks and dangers of prom night.

23. apocryphal (their is a hidden crypt in this word, hence questionable authenticity)

adjective: being of questionable authenticity

The web is notorious for sandwiching apocryphal stories between actual news.

24. burgeon

verb: grow and flourish

China's housing market is burgeoning, but some predict that the growth is merely a bubble and will burst much like the U.S. real estate bubble of 2008.

25. ostentatious

adjective: intended to attract notice and impress others; tawdry or vulgar

Matt wanted to buy stone lions for front of the house, but Cynthia convinced him that such a display would be too ostentatious for a modest house in an unassuming neighborhood.

26. confound

verb: to cause confusion

Though Harry loved numbers, calculus confounded him.

verb: mistake one thing for another

Americans often confound sweet potatoes with yams, and refer to both vegetables by the same name.

27. apocryphal

adjective: being of questionable authenticity

The web is notorious for sandwiching apocryphal stories between actual news.

28. idiosyncrasy

noun: a behavioral attribute that is distinctive and peculiar to an individual

Peggy's numerous idiosyncrasies include wearing mismatched shoes, laughing loudly to herself, and owning a pet aardvark.

29. construe

verb: interpreted in a particular way

The author's inability to take a side on the issue was construed by both his opponents and supporters as a sign of weakness.

30. ingratiate

verb: gain favor with somebody by deliberate efforts

Even though Tom didn't like his new boss, he decided to ingratiate himself to her in order to advance his career.

31. acerbic

adjective: harsh in tone

Most movie critics are acerbic towards summer blockbusters, often referring to them as garbage.

32. hackneyed

adjective: lacking significance through having been overused

Cheryl rolled her eyes when she heard the lecturer's hackneyed advice to "be true to yourself."

33. exacting

adjective: requiring and demanding accuracy

Though his childhood piano teacher was so exacting, Max is thankful now, as a professional pianist.

34. copious

**adjective:** in abundant supply (hint: multiple copies)

*In midsummer, there are****copious****popsicle stands at the beach; in the winter, there are none.*

35. ignoble

**adjective:** dishonorable

*In 1919, the World Series was rigged--an****ignoble****act which baseball took decades to recover from.*

36. denigrate

**verb:** charge falsely or with malicious intent; attack the good name and reputation of someone

*Count Rumford****denigrated****the new theory of heat, demonstrating that it was wholly inadequate to explain the observations.*

37. espouse

**verb:** to adopt or support an idea or cause

*As a college student, Charlie****espoused****Marxism, growing his beard out and railing against the evils of the free-market.*

38. indifference

**noun:** the trait of seeming not to care

*In an effort to fight****indifference****, the president of the college introduced a new, stricter grading system.*

39. Magoosh Practice Exams

40. expound

**verb:** add details or explanation; clarify the meaning; state in depth

*The CEO refused to****expound****on the decision to merge our department with another one, and so I quit.*

41. contingent

**noun:** a gathering of persons representative of some larger group

*A small****contingent****of those loyal to the king have gathered around the castle to defend it.*

**adjective:** dependent on (usually used with upon)

*Whether the former world champions can win again this year is****contingent****upon none of its star players getting injured.*

42. bumbling

**adjective:** lacking physical movement skills, especially with the hands

*Within a week of starting, the****bumbling****new waiter was unceremoniously fired.*

43. blatant

**adjective:** without any attempt at concealment; completely obvious

*Allen was often punished in school for****blatantly****disrespecting teachers.*

44. soporific

**adjective:** inducing mental lethargy; sleep inducing (so in sopo means sona (sleep))

*Although the professor is brilliant, his bland monotone gives his lectures a****soporific****effect.*

45. laudable

**adjective:** worthy of high praise

*To say that Gandhi's actions were****laudable****is the greatest understatement; he overthrew an empire without violence.*

46. myopic

**adjective:** lacking foresight or imagination

*The company ultimately went out of business because the****myopic****managers couldn't predict the changes in their industry.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

47. decorum

**noun:** propriety in manners and conduct

*"You will obey the rules of****decorum****for this courtroom or spend the night in a jail cell," said the judge to the prosecutor.*

48. pundit

**noun:** someone who has been admitted to membership in a scholarly field

*Steven Pinker's credentials are unquestioned as a****pundit****; he has taught at MIT and Stanford, teaches at Harvard, and has published a number of influential books on cognition, language, and psychology.*

49. adamant

**adjective:** refusing to change one's mind

*Civil rights icon Rosa Parks will forever be remembered for****adamantly****refusing to give up her seat on a public bus--even after the bus driver insisted, she remained rooted in place.*

50. iconoclastic

**adjective:** defying tradition or convention

*Jackson Pollock was an****iconoclastic****artist, totally breaking with tradition by splashing paint on a blank canvas.*

51. eradicate

**verb:** to completely destroy

*I tried****eradicating****the mosquitos in my apartment with a rolled up newspaper, but there were too many of them.*

# **Common words 5**

1. reverent

**adjective:** feeling or showing profound respect or veneration

*The professor could speak objectively about the other composers, but he always lectured about Brahms with a particularly****reverent****air, unable to offer a single criticism of his compositions.*

2. antithetical (anti-theory, so it contrasts your theory)

**adjective:** sharply contrasted in character or purpose

*His deep emotional involvement with these ideas is, in fact,****antithetical****to the detachment Buddhism preaches.*

3. pernicious (par nahi hain for bird it is harmful)

**adjective:** exceedingly harmful; working or spreading in a hidden and injurious way

*The most successful viruses are****pernicious****: an infected person may feel perfectly healthy for several months while incubating and spreading the virus.*

4. inscrutable

**adjective:** not easily understood; unfathomable

*His speech was so dense and confusing that many in the audience found it****inscrutable****.*

5. Magoosh practice questions

6. subversive

**adjective:** in opposition to an established system or institution.

*The ruling political party has begun a campaign to shut down****subversive****websites that it deems as a threat to "national safety."*

7. ravenous

**adjective:** extremely hungry; devouring or craving food in great quantities

*John didn't eat much at all during the week he had the flu, so now that he is regaining his health, it's not surprising that he has a****ravenous****appetite.*

8. precipitous (in rain we try to do things in a hastle)

**adjective:** done with very great haste and without due deliberation

*Instead of calling his financial advisor, Harold acted****precipitously****, buying 4,000 shares of the latest "hot" stock, only to find out that the company had a history of inflating its year end numbers.*

9. circumscribe

**verb:** restrict or confine

*Their tour of South America was****circumscribed****so that they saw only popular destinations and avoided the dangerous parts of cities.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

10. ostracize

**verb:** exclude from a community or group

*Later in his life, Leo Tolstoy was****ostracized****from the Russian Orthodox Church for his writings that contradicted church doctrine.*

11. foment

**verb:** try to stir up public opinion

*After having his pay cut, Phil spread vicious rumors about his boss, hoping to****foment****a general feeling of discontent.*

12. pedestrian

**adjective:** lacking imagination

*While Nan was always engaged in philosophical speculation, her brother was occupied with far more****pedestrian****concerns: how to earn a salary and run a household.*

13. taciturn

**adjective:** habitually reserved and uncommunicative

*While the CEO enthusiastically shares his plans and agenda with all who will listen, the CFO is far more****taciturn****, rarely revealing his perspective.*

14. prodigious (both quality and quantity)

**adjective:** so great in size or force or extent as to elicit awe

*After the relatively small homerun totals in the "dead ball" era, Babe Ruth's homerun totals were truly****prodigious****: every year, he set a new all-time record.*

15. insolent

**adjective:** rude and arrogant

*Lilian could not help herself from being****insolent****, commenting that the Queen's shoes were showing too much toe.*

16. obsequious

**adjective:** attentive in an ingratiating or servile manner; attempting to win favor from influential people by flattery

*The****obsequious****waiter did not give the couple a moment's peace all through the meal, constantly returning to their table to refill their water glasses and to tell them what a handsome pair they made.*

17. austere

**adjective:** practicing self-denial

*His lifestyle of revelry and luxurious excess could hardly be called****austere****.*

**adjective:** unadorned in style or appearance

*Late Soviet architecture, although remaining largely****austere****, moved into experimental territory that employed previously unused shapes and structures.*

**adjective:** harsh in manner of temperament

*The principal of my elementary school was a cold,****austere****woman; I could never understand why she chose to work with children.*

18. dilettante

**noun:** an amateur who engages in an activity without serious intentions and who pretends to have knowledge

*Fred has no formal medical training; while he likes to claim authority on medical issues, he is little more than a****dilettante****.*

20. scrupulous

**adjective:** characterized by extreme care and great effort

*Because of his****scrupulous****nature, Mary put him in charge of numbering and cataloging the entire collection of rare stamps.*

**adjective:** having a sense of right and wrong; principled

*Everyone trusted what he said and followed his example because he was****scrupulous****and honest.*

21. constituent

**noun:** a citizen who is represented in a government by officials for whom he or she votes

*The mayor's****constituents****are no longer happy with her performance and plan to vote for another candidate in the upcoming election.*

**noun:** an abstract part of something

*The****constituents****of the metal alloy are nickel, copper, and tin.*

22. haphazard

**adjective:** marked by great carelessness; dependent upon or characterized by chance

*Many golf courses are designed with great care, but the greens on the county golf course seem entirely****haphazard****.*

23. sanction

**verb:** give authority or permission to

*The authorities have****sanctioned****the use of the wilderness reserve for public use; many expect to see hikers and campers enjoying the park in the coming months.*

**noun:** a legal penalty for a forbidden action

*International****sanctions****have been placed on certain shipping lanes that were thought to be involved in human trafficking.*

24. sporadic

**adjective:** recurring in scattered and irregular or unpredictable instances

*The signals were at first****sporadic****, but now we detect a clear, consistent pattern of electromagnetic radiation emanating from deep space.*

25. inveterate (from veterans which means people who are experienced in a domain)

**adjective:** habitual

*He is an****inveterate****smoker and has told his family and friends that there is no way he will ever quit.*

26. lionize

**verb:** assign great social importance to

*Students in the U.S. learn to****lionize****Jefferson, Franklin, and Washington because they are the founding fathers of the nation.*

27. accolade

**noun:** an award or praise granted as a special honor

*Jean Paul-Sartre was not a fan of****accolades****, and as such, he refused to accept the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1964.*

28. garrulous

**adjective:** full of trivial conversation

*Lynne was****garrulous****: once, she had a fifteen minute conversation with a stranger before she realized the woman didn't speak English.*

29. tractable

**adjective:** readily reacting to suggestions and influences; easily managed (controlled or taught or molded)

*Compared to middle school students, who have an untamed wildness about them, high school students are somewhat more****tractable****.*

30. prolific

**adjective:** intellectually productive

*Schubert was the most****prolific****composer, producing hundreds of hours of music before he died at the age of 31.*

31. poignant (something that's *pungent* pricks your sense of smell, whereas *poignant* refers to something that pricks your emotions)

**adjective:** emotionally touching

*After the Montagues and Capulets discover the dead bodies of Romeo and Juliet, in the play's most****poignant****moment, the two griefstricken families agree to end their feud once and for all.*

32. gauche ( ohh goshh! That was **socially awkward**)

**adjective:** lacking social polish

*Sylvester says the most****gauche****things, such as telling a girl he liked that she was much prettier when she wore makeup.*

33. arbitrary

**adjective:** based on a random, groundless decision

*One of the****arbitrary****decrees in place during the emperor's rule is that all citizens pay him weekly homage at his palace.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

34. repudiate (mne)

**verb:** reject as untrue or unfounded

*Many in the public believed the rumors of a UFO crash outside town, so the chief of police did everything he could to****repudiate****the rumors.*

35. intrepid (mne)

**adjective:** fearless

*Captain Ahab was an****intrepid****captain whose reckless and fearless style ultimately lead to his downfall.*

36. munificent

**adjective:** very generous

*Uncle Charley was known for his****munificence****, giving all seven of his nephews lavish Christmas presents each year.*

37. winsome

**adjective:** charming in a childlike or naive way

*She was****winsome****by nature, and many people were drawn to this free and playful spirit.*

38. audacity

**noun:** aggressive boldness in social situations

*Mike was upset at the man who not only cut in front of him at the ticket counter but also had the****audacity****to cut in front of him at the bathroom line.*

39. tempered (his temper was tempered, i.e. moderated)

**adjective:** moderated in effect

*The wide-eyed optimism of her youth was now****tempered****after she had worked many years in the criminal justice system.*

40. myriad

**noun:** a large indefinite number

*There are a****myriad****of internet sites hawking pills that claim to boost energy for hours on end.*

41. rescind

**verb:** cancel officially

*The man's driver's license was****rescinded****after his tenth car accident, which meant he would never be allowed to legally drive again.*

42. propitious

**adjective:** presenting favorable circumstances; likely to result in or show signs of success

*The child's heartbeat is still weak, but I am seeing many****propitious****signs and I think that she may be healing.*

43. irrevocable

**adjective:** incapable of being retracted or revoked

*Once you enter your plea to the court, it is****irrevocable****so think carefully about what you will say.*

44. trite

**adjective:** repeated too often; overfamiliar through overuse

*Many style guides recommend not using idioms in writing because these****trite****expressions are uninteresting and show a lack of imagination on the part of the writer.*

45. brazen

**adjective:** unrestrained by convention or propriety

*Their large "donations" to the local police department gave the drug cartel the****brazen****confidence to do their business out in the open.*

46. hegemony (mne)

**noun:** dominance over a certain area

*Until the Spanish Armada was defeated in 1587, Spain had****hegemony****over the seas, controlling waters stretching as far as the Americas.*

47. vacillate

**verb:** be undecided about something; waver between conflicting positions or courses of action

*Some students****vacillate****between schools when deciding which to attend, while others focus only on one school.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

48. resurgent

**adjective:** rising again as to new life and vigor

*The team sank to fourth place in June, but is now****resurgent****and about to win the division.*

*The share sales will also be helped by a****resurgent****stock market.*

49. admonish (‘adm’ in admonish stands for administrators, as its their role to warn)

**verb:** to warn strongly, even to the point of reprimanding

*Before the concert began, security personnel****admonished****the crowd not to come up on stage during the performance.*

50. arcane (~urgain is understood or known by a few people)

**adjective:** requiring secret or mysterious knowledge

*Most college fraternities are known for****arcane****rituals that those hoping to join the fraternity must learn.*

51. sycophant

**noun:** a person who tries to please someone in order to gain a personal advantage

*The CEO was unaware of the damaging consequences of his choices, largely because he surrounded himself with****sycophants****who would never dare criticize him.*

# **COMMON WORDS 6**

1. reproach

**verb:** to express criticism towards

*At first, Sarah was going to yell at the boy, but she didn't want to****reproach****him for telling the truth about the situation.*

2. polemic

**noun:** a strong verbal or written attack on someone or something.

*The professor launched into a****polemic****, claiming that Freudian theory was a pack of lies that absolutely destroyed European literary theory.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

3. efficacious

**adjective:** producing the intended result

*Since Maggie's cough syrup, which had expired five years back, was no longer****efficacious****, she coughed through the night.*

3. contrition (derived from contrite SPLIT AS cont (COUNT) - rite (RIGHT). COUNT THE CASH RIGHT, ELSE YOU WILL REGRET IT)

**noun:** the feeling of remorse or guilt that comes from doing something bad

*Those who show****contrition****during their prison terms--especially when under review by a parole board--often get shortened sentences.*

4. posit

**verb:** assume as fact

*Initially, Einstein****posited****a repulsive force to balance Gravity, but then rejected that idea as a blunder.*

5. misconstrue

**verb:** interpret in the wrong way

*The politician never trusted journalists because he thought that they would****misconstrue****his words and misrepresent his positions.*

6. edifying (like edison enlightened everyone)

**adjective:** enlightening or uplifting so as to encourage intellectual or moral improvement

*I recently read an article in the Times about whether good literature is****edifying****or not; specifically, does reading more make a person more moral.*

7. jovial

**adjective:** full of or showing high-spirited merriment

*The presidential candidate and her supporters were****jovial****once it was clear that she had won.*

8. maverick

**noun:** someone who exhibits great independence in thought and action

*Officer Kelly was a****maverick****, rarely following police protocols or adopting the conventions for speech common among his fellow officers.*

9. specious (mne)

**adjective:** based on pretense; deceptively pleasing

*Almost every image on TV is****specious****and not to be trusted.*

**adjective:** plausible but false

*He made a career out of****specious****arguments and fictional lab results, but lost his job and reputation when his lies were exposed by an article in The New York Times.*

10. craven (crave for brave i.e. cowardly)

**adjective:** pathetically cowardly

*Though the man could have at least alerted the police, he crouched****cravenly****in the corner as the old woman was mugged.*

11. erudite

**adjective:** having or showing profound knowledge

*Before the Internet, the library was typically where you would find****erudite****readers.*

12. anomaly

**noun:** something that is not normal, standard, or expected

*After finding an****anomaly****in the data, she knew that she would have to conduct her experiment again.*

13. deleterious

**adjective:** harmful to living things

*The BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was****deleterious****to the fishing industry in the southern states.*

14. timorous

**adjective:** timid by nature or revealing fear and nervousness

*Since this was her first time debating on stage and before an audience, Di's voice was****timorous****and quiet for the first 10 minutes.*

15. duress (undue stress)

**noun:** compulsory force or threat

*The witness said he signed the contract under****duress****and argued that the court should cancel the agreement.*

16. antipathy

**noun:** an intense feeling of dislike or aversion

*Maria had an****antipathy****for tour groups, often bolting to the other side of the museum as soon as she saw a chaperone leading a group of wide-eyed tourists.*

17. nonplussed

**adjective:** unsure how to act or respond

*Shirley was totally****nonplussed****when the angry motorist cut her off and then stuck his finger out the window.*

18. ignominious

**adjective:** (used of conduct or character) deserving or bringing disgrace or shame

*Since the politician preached ethics and morality, his texting of revealing photographs was****ignominious****, bringing shame on both himself and his party.*

19. dispassionate

**adjective:** unaffected by strong emotion or prejudice

*A good scientist should be****dispassionate****, focusing purely on what the evidence says, without personal attachment.*

20. furtive (you make fur in test to cheat)

**adjective:** marked by quiet and caution and secrecy; taking pains to avoid being observed

*While at work, George and his boss Regina felt the need to be as****furtive****as possible about their romantic relationship.*

21. imprudent (student who needs to improve)

**adjective:** not wise

*Hitler, like Napoleon, made the****imprudent****move of invading Russia in winter, suffering even more casualties than Napoleon had.*

22. banality

**noun:** a trite or obvious remark

*Herbert regarded the minister's remark as a mere****banality****until Sharon pointed out profound implications to the seemingly obvious words.*

23. Magoosh Score Estimator

24. opulence

**noun:** wealth as evidenced by sumptuous living

*Russian oligarchs are famous for their****opulence****, living in fancy homes and dining on expensive caviar.*

25. harried

**adjective:** troubled persistently especially with petty annoyances

*With a team of new hires to train, Martha was constantly****harried****with little questions and could not focus on her projects.*

26. placate

**verb:** cause to be more favorably inclined; gain the good will of

*I was able to****placate****the angry mob of students by promising to bring cookies on Monday.*

27. esoteric (mne)

**adjective:** confined to and understandable by only an enlightened inner circle

*Map collecting is an****esoteric****hobby to most, but to geography geeks it is a highly enjoyable pastime.*

28. rebuke

**verb:** criticize severely or angrily; censure

*The police chief****rebuked****the two officers whose irresponsible decisions almost led to the deaths of seven innocent by-standers.*

29. flux

**noun:** a state of uncertainty about what should be done (usually following some important event)

*Ever since Elvira resigned as the head of marketing, everything about our sales strategy has been in a state of****flux****.*

30. askance (when someone asked you an answer)

**adverb:** with a look of suspicion or disapproval

*The old couple looked****askance****on the teenagers seated next to them, whispering to each other, "They've got rings through their noses and purple hair!"*

31. dilatory (when you dilate something you waste it)

**adjective:** wasting time

*Lawyers use****dilatory****tactics so that it takes years before the case is actually decided.*

32. pejorative (not decorative but term of abuse)

**adjective:** expressing disapproval (usu. refers to a term)

*Most psychologists object to the****pejorative****term "shrink", believing that they expand the human mind, not limit it.*

33. maladroit (not adroit)

**adjective:** clumsy

*As a child she was quite****maladroit****, but as an adult, she has become an adept dancer.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

34. mendacity

**noun:** the tendency to be untruthful

*I can forgive her for her****mendacity****but only because she is a child and is seeing what she can get away with.*

35. arduous (hard)

**adjective:** demanding considerable mental effort and skill; testing powers of endurance

*In order to deal with the****arduous****cross-country journey, truck drivers often survive on a string of caffeinated drinks, staying awake for up to 30 hours at a time.*

36. impartial

**adjective:** free from undue bias or preconceived opinions

*The judge was not****impartial****since he had been bribed by the witness's family.*

37. bolster (boost)

**verb:** support and strengthen

*The case for the suspect's innocence was****bolstered****considerably by the fact that neither fingerprints nor DNA were found at the scene.*

38. stringent

**adjective:** demanding strict attention to rules and procedures

*Most of the students disliked the teacher because of his****stringent****homework policy, but many students would later thank him for demanding so much from them.*

39. economical

**adjective:** avoiding waste, efficient

*Journalists favor an****economical****style of writing, in which no unnecessary words are used and every sentence is as short as possible.*

40. mundane (mne)

**adjective:** repetitive and boring; not spiritual

*Nancy found doing dishes a thorougly****mundane****task, although Peter found a kind of Zen pleasure in the chore.*

**adjective:** relating to the ordinary world

*Though we think of the pope as someone always dealing in holy matters, he is also concerned with****mundane****events, such as deciding when to set his alarm each morning.*

41. truncate

**verb:** reduce the length of something

*The soccer game was****truncated****when the monsoon rain began to fall.*

42. capricious (mne)

**adjective:** determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason

*Nearly every month our****capricious****CEO had a new plan to turn the company around, and none of them worked because we never gave them the time they needed to succeed.*

43. transient

**adjective:** lasting a very short time

*The unpredictable and****transient****nature of deja vu makes it a very difficult phenomenon to study properly.*

44. elicit

**verb:** call forth (emotions, feelings, and responses)

*Just smiling--even if you are depressed--can****elicit****feelings of pleasure and happiness.*

45. disseminate (comes from the word seed)

**verb:** cause to become widely known

*Before the effects of anesthesia were****disseminated****, patients had to experience the full pain of a surgery.*

46. fastidious

**adjective:** overly concerned with details; fussy

*Whitney is****fastidious****about her shoes, arranging them on a shelf in a specific order, each pair evenly spaced.*

# **BASIC 1**

8/3/20

1. affable

**adjective:** likeable; easy to talk to

*For all his surface****affability****, Marco was remarkably glum when he wasn’t around other people.*

2. thrifty (spending fifty rupees also carefully)

**adjective:** spending money wisely

*He was economical, spending his money****thriftily****and on items considered essential.*

3. mesmerize

**verb:** to spellbind or enthrall

*The plot and the characters were so well developed that many viewers were****mesmerized****, unable to move their eyes from the screen for even a single second.*

4. demure (opp of demur)

**adjective:** to be modest and shy

*The portrait of her in a simple white blouse was sweet and****demure****.*

5. censor

**verb:** to examine and remove objectionable material

*Every fall, high school English teachers are inundated by requests to****censor****their curriculum by removing The Catcher in the Rye and Scarlet Letter from their reading lists.*

**noun:** an official who censors material

*The****censor****insisted that every reference to drugs should be removed from the manuscript.*

6. summit

**noun:** the peak or highest point

*After hiking for seven days, the climbers finally reached the****summit****of Mount Kilimanjaro.*

**noun:** a meeting of high-level leaders

*Since climate change policy has been mired in congressional fighting, this****summit****should help set the goals for president's next term.*

7. acme

**noun:** the highest point of achievement

*The new Cessna airplanes will be the****acme****of comfort, offering reclining seats and ample legroom.*

8. inflammatory

**adjective:** extremely controversial, incendiary

*It only takes one person to leave an****inflammatory****comment on an Internet thread for that thread to blow up into pages upon pages of reader indignation.*

9. diabolical (dian vali bolli - devil)

**adjective:** to be extremely wicked like the devil

*The conspirators, willing to dispatch anyone who stood in their way, hatched a****diabolical****plan to take over the city.*

10. vindictive

**adjective:** to have a very strong desire for revenge

*Though the other girl had only lightly poked fun of Vanessa's choice in attire, Vanessa was so****vindictive****that she waited for an entire semester to get the perfect revenge.*

11. dog (jaise kutte piche pad jaate hai)

**verb:** to pursue relentlessly; to hound

*Throughout his life, he was****dogged****by insecurities that inhibited personal growth.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

12. underwrite

**verb:** to support financially

*The latest symphony broadcast was made possible with****underwriting****from the Carnegie Endowment.*

13. candid

**adjective:** straightforward and honest

*Even with a perfect stranger, Charles was always****candid****and would rarely hold anything back*

14. hound

**verb:** to pursue relentlessly

*An implacable foe of corruption, Eliot Ness****hounded****out graft in all forms—he even helped nab Al Capone.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

15. tender

**verb:** offer up something formally

*The government was loath to****tender****more money in the fear that it might set off inflation.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

16. voracious (wolflike appetite)

**adjective:** very hungry; approaching an activity with gusto

*Steven was a****voracious****reader, sometimes finishing two novels in the same day.*

17. telltale (accidently tells the tale)

**adjective:** revealing

*The many****telltale****signs of chronic smoking include yellow teeth, and a persistent, hacking cough.*

18. embroiled (~like embedded in boiled discussions)

**verb:** involved in argument or contention

*These days we are never short of a D.C. politician****embroiled****in scandal—a welcome phenomenon for those who, having barely finished feasting on the sordid details of one imbroglio, can sink their teeth into a fresh one.*

14/03/19

19. serendipity (mne)

**noun:** the instance in which an accidental, fortunate discovery is made

*By pure****serendipity****, Sarah discovered, at a flea market in Peoria, a matching earring to replace the one that fell down the storm drain back home.*

20. peruse (mne)

**verb:** to read very carefully

*Instead of****perusing****important documents, people all too often rush to the bottom of the page and plaster their signatures at the bottom.*

21. inundate

**verb:** to flood or overwhelm

*The newsroom was****inundated****with false reports that only made it more difficult for the newscasters to provide an objective account of the bank robbery.*

22. reprobate (he had to go for re-probation because of lacking morals)

**noun:** a person without morals who is disapproved of

*Mr. Smith’s two boys couldn’t be more different; one was a hard-working and principled, the other was the town****reprobate****, always having run-ins with the law.*

23. dupe

**verb:** to trick or swindle

*Once again a get-rich-fast Internet scheme had****duped****Harold into submitting a $5,000 check to a sham operation.*

**noun:** a person who is easily tricked or swindled

*The charlatan mistook the crowd for a bunch of****dupes****, but the crowd was quickly on to him and decried his bald-faced attempt to bilk them.*

24. screed

**noun:** an abusive rant (often tedious)

*Joey had difficulty hanging out with his former best friend Perry, who, during his entire cup of coffee, enumerated all of the government’s deficiencies--only to break ranks and launch into some****screed****against big business.*

25. pinnacle

**noun:** the highest point

*At its****pinnacle****, the Roman Empire extended across most of the landmass of Eurasia, a feat not paralleled to the rise of the British Empire in the 18th and 19th century.*

26. thoroughgoing

**adjective:** very thorough; complete

*As a****thoroughgoing****bibliophile, one who had turned his house into a veritable library, he shocked his friends when he bought a Kindle.*

27. remiss (to miss what your duty expect)

**adjective:** to be negligent in one’s duty

***Remiss****in his duty to keep the school functioning efficiently, the principal was relieved of his position after only three months.*

Nick, I would be **remiss** if I didn't mention that I'm a big fan, of your Netflix series "Big Mouth,"

28. bleak

**adjective:** having a depressing or gloomy outlook

*Unremitting overcast skies tend to lead people to create****bleak****literature and lugubrious music — compare England’s band Radiohead to any band from Southern California.*

29. telling (disclosing unintentionally)

**adjective:** significant and revealing of another factor

*Her unbecoming dress was very****telling****when it came to her sense of fashion.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

30. affluent (he is fluent in his career)

**adjective:** wealthy

*The center of the city had sadly become a pit of penury, while, only five miles away, multi-million dollar homes spoke of****affluence****.*

31. stipend

**noun:** a regular allowance (of money)

*He was hoping for a monthly allowance loan from the government, but after no such****stipend****was forthcoming he realized he would have to seek other means of paying for his college tuition.*

32. variance

**noun:** the quality of being different

*The cynic quipped, “There is not much****variance****in politicians; they all seem to lie”.*

33. insolvent (mne)

**adjective:** unable to pay one's bills; bankrupt

*With credit card bills skyrocketing, a shockingly large number of Americans are truly****insolvent****.*

34. slapdash (I built dash UI in a slapdash manner!)

**adjective:** carelessly and hastily put together

*The office building had been constructed in a****slapdash****manner, so it did not surprise officials when, during a small earthquake, a large crack emerged on the façade of the building.*

35. tirade (mne)

**noun:** an angry speech

*In terms of political change, a****tirade****oftentimes does little more than make the person speaking red in the face.*

36. indignant (india as a nation feels angered)

**adjective:** feeling anger over a perceived injustice

*When the cyclist swerved into traffic, it forced the driver to brake and elicited an****indignant****shout of "Hey, punk, watch where you're going!"*

37. indigenous

**adjective:** originating in a certain area

*The plants and animals****indigenous****to Australia are notably different from those****indigenous****to the U.S—one look at a duckbill platypus and you know you’re not dealing with an opossum.*

38. demean

**verb:** to insult; to cause someone to lose dignity or respect

*At first the soccer players bantered back and forth, but as soon as one of the players became****demeaning****, calling the other's mother a water buffalo, the ref whipped out a red card.*

39. zenith (Ith point is the highest point)

**noun:** the highest point; culmination

*At the****zenith****of his artistic career, Elvis was outselling any other artist on the charts.*

40. indict

**verb:** to formally charge or accuse of wrong-doing

*The bankrobber was****indicted****on several major charges, including possession of a firearm.*

15/03/19

41. pine (pine for wine)

**verb:** to yearn for

*Standing forlornly by the window, she****pined****for her lost love.*

42. retiring

**adjective:** to be shy, and to be inclined to retract from company

*Nelson was always the first to leave soirees—rather than mill about with “fashionable” folk, he was****retiring****, and preferred the solitude of his garret.*

43. erratic (derived from error)

**adjective:** unpredictable; strange and unconventional

*It came as no surprise to pundits that the President’s attempt at re-election floundered; even during his term, support for his policies was****erratic****, with an approval rating jumping anywhere from 30 to 60 percent.*

44. err

**verb:** to make an error

*He****erred****in thinking that "indigent" and "indignant" were synonyms.*

45. miser (one should we wiser than miser)

**noun:** a person who doesn't like to spend money (because they are greedy)

*Monte was no****miser****, but was simply frugal, wisely spending the little that he earned.*

46. spendthrift

**noun:** one who spends money extravagantly

*Taking weekly trips to Vegas, Megan was a****spendthrift****whose excesses eventually caught up to her.*

47. amiable

**adjective:** friendly

*Amy’s name was very apt: she was so****amiable****that she was twice voted class president.*

48. unnerve (derived from nerve)

**verb:** to make nervous or upset

*At one time****unnerved****by math problems, she began avidly “Magoosh-ing”, and soon became adept at even combinations and permutations questions.*

49. profuse (mne)

**adjective:** plentiful; pouring out in abundance

*During mile 20 of the Hawaii Marathon, Dwayne was sweating so****profusely****that he stopped to take off his shirt, and ran the remaining six miles wearing nothing more than skimpy shorts.*

50. macabre (mne)

**adjective:** suggesting the horror of death and decay; gruesome

*Edgar Allen Poe was considered the master of the****macabre****; his stories vividly describe the moment leading up to—and often those moments after—a grisly death.*

# **BASIC 2**

1. cogent (mne)

**adjective:** clear and persuasive

*A****cogent****argument will change the minds of even the most skeptical audience.*

2. disparate (read as: this is separate)

**adjective:** two things are fundamentally different

*With the advent of machines capable of looking inside the brain, fields as****disparate****as religion and biology have been brought together by scientists trying to understand what happens in the brain when people have a religious experience.*

3. apex (apex ultima)

**noun:** the highest point

*The Ivy League is considered the****apex****of the higher education system.*

4. badger (badger is to bother)

**verb:** to pester

***Badgered****by his parents to find a job, the 30-year-old loafer instead joined a gang of itinerant musicians.*

5. exhort (exert-to do something, exhort-to urge someone to do something)

**verb:** to strongly urge on; encourage

*Nelson’s parents****exhorted****him to study medicine, urging him to choose a respectable profession; intransigent, Nelson left home to become a graffiti artist.*

6. moment

**noun:** significant and important value

*Despite the initial hullabaloo, the play was of no great****moment****in Hampton’s writing career, and within a few years the public quickly forgot his foray into theater arts.*

7. heyday

**noun:** the pinnacle or top of a time period or career

*During the****heyday****of Prohibition, bootlegging had become such a lucrative business that many who had been opposed to the 18th Amendment began to fear it would be repealed.*

8. virago (got a virago guide using trivago)

**noun:** an ill-tempered or violent woman

*Poor Billy was the victim of the****virago****’s invective—she railed at him for a good 30-minutes about how he is the scum of the earth for speaking loudly on his cellphone in public.*

"the campaigns of these indignant viragoes will come to naught"

9. wax (mne)

**verb:** to gradually increase in size or intensity

*Her enthusiasm for the diva’s new album only****waxed****with each song; by the end of the album, it was her favorite CD yet.*

10. amok (like havoc)

**adverb:** in a frenzied or uncontrolled state

*Wherever the bowl haircut teen-idol went, his legions of screaming fans ran through the streets****amok****, hoping for a glance at his boyish face.*

17/03/19

11. preemptive

**adjective:** done before someone else can do it

*Just as Martha was about to take the only cookie left on the table, Noah****preemptively****swiped it.*

12. unconscionable (derived from conscience - unethical)

**adjective:** unreasonable; unscrupulous; excessive

*The lawyer’s demands were so****unconscionable****that rather than pay an exorbitant sum or submit himself to any other inconveniences, the defendant decided to find a new lawyer.*

13. hodgepodge

**noun:** a confusing mixture or jumble

*Those in attendance represented a****hodgepodge****of the city's denizens: chimney sweepers could be seen sitting elbow to elbow with stockbrokers.*

14. raft (rafting involves large water waves)

**noun:** a large number of something

*Despite a****raft****of city ordinances passed by an overzealous council, noise pollution continued unabated in the megalopolis.*

15. pittance (pity allowance)

**noun:** a small amount (of money)

*Vinny’s uncle beamed smugly about how he’d offered his nephew fifty dollars for his Harvard tuition; even twice the amount would have been a mere****pittance****.*

16. imponderable

**adjective:** impossible to estimate or figure out

*According to many lawmakers, the huge variety of factors affecting society make devising an efficient healthcare system an****imponderable****task.*

17. scintillating (scientific + illuminating)

**adjective:** describes someone who is brilliant and lively

*Richard Feynman was renowned for his****scintillating****lectures—the arcana of quantum physics was made lucid as he wrote animatedly on the chalkboard.*

18/03/20

18. melee

**noun:** a wild, confusing fight or struggle

*After enduring daily taunts about my name, I became enraged and pummeled the schoolyard bully and his sycophantic friends in a brutal****melee****.*

19. lassitude (after drinking lassi you become tired)

**noun:** extreme tiredness, either mental or physical

*Upon finishing a 6-hour standardized exam, Dahlia emerged from the testing center overcome by****lassitude****.*

20. extenuating (mne)

**adjective:** making less guilty or more forgivable, justifying

*The jury was hardly moved by the man’s plea that his loneliness was an****extenuating****factor in his crime of dognapping a prized pooch.*

21. junta (dusre ko juta mar ke rule karna)

**noun:** an aggressive takeover by a group (usually military); the group that executes such a takeover

*As dangerous of a threat as North Korea is, some analysts believe that were a****junta****suddenly to gain power, it could be even more unpredictable and bellicose than the current leadership*

22. fleece (to deceive and flee)

**verb:** to deceive

*Many people have been****fleeced****by Internet scams and never received their money back.*

23. errant (refers to things out of place: "misbehaving" or "naughty,")

**adjective:** to be wandering; not sticking to a circumscribed path

*Unlike his peers, who spent their hours studying in the library, Matthew preferred****errant****walks through the university campus.*

An errant bomb can hit a house instead of an army base

24. replete (~replenish)

**adjective:** completely stocked or furnished with something

*Only weeks after the hurricane made landfall, the local supermarket shelves were****replete****with goods, so quick was the disaster relief response.*

25. corroborate (mne)

**verb:** to confirm or lend support to (usually an idea or claim)

*Her claim that frog populations were falling precipitously in Central America was****corroborated****by locals, who reported that many species of frogs had seemingly vanished overnight.*

26. stem

**verb:** to hold back or limit the flow or growth of something

*To****stem****the tide of applications, the prestigious Ivy requires that each applicant score at least 330 on the Revised GRE.*

27. immaterial

**adjective:** not relevant

*The judge found the defendant’s comments****immaterial****to the trial, and summarily dismissed him from the witness stand.*

28. aboveboard (things are honest above, below all negative things happen)

**adjective:** open and honest

*The mayor, despite his avuncular face plastered about the city, was hardly****aboveboard****– some concluded that it was his ingratiating smile that allowed him to engage in corrupt behavior and get away with it.*

*“their business was open and aboveboard”*

28. bellicose

**adjective:** warlike; inclined to quarrel

*Known for their****bellicose****ways, the Spartans were once the most feared people from Peloponnesus to Persia.*

29. misanthrope ( *anthropology* is "the study of humans." )

**noun:** a hater of mankind

*Kevin is such a****misanthrope****that he refused to attend the Christmas party, claiming that everyone's happiness was "fake" and "annoying."*

30. cadaverous (mne - kadha)

**adjective:** emaciated; gaunt, looking corpse-like

*Some actors take challenging roles in which they have to lose so much weight that they appear****cadaverous****.*

31. checkered

**adjective:** marked by disreputable or unfortunate happenings

*One by one, the presidential candidates dropped out of the race, their respective****checkered****pasts— from embezzlement to infidelity—sabotaging their campaigns.*

32. sanctimonious

**adjective:** making a show of being pious; holier-than-thou

*Even during the quiet sanctity of evening prayer, she held her chin high, a****sanctimonious****sneer forming on her face as she eyed those who were attending church for the first time.*

20/03/20

33. ferret (ferrets are mammals that are great at digging)

**verb:** to search for something persistently

*Ever the resourceful lexicographer, Fenton was able to****ferret****out the word origin of highly obscure words.*

34. sanguine (sounds like genuine, a genuine person is cheerful and optimistic)

**adjective:** cheerful; optimistic

*With the prospect of having to learn 3,000 words during the course of the summer, Paul was anything but****sanguine****.*

35. pugnacious (~pug)

**adjective:** eager to fight or argue; verbally combative

*The comedian told one flat joke after another, and when the audience started booing, he****pugnaciously****spat back at them, “Hey, you think this is easy – why don’t you buffoons give it a shot?”*

36. becoming

**adjective:** appropriate, and matches nicely

*Her dress was****becoming****and made her look even more beautiful.*

37. flush

**adjective:** to be in abundance

*The exam's passage is****flush****with difficult words, words that you may have learned only yesterday.*

38. start

**verb:** to suddenly move in a particular direction

*All alone in the mansion, Henrietta****started****when she heard a sound.*

39. avarice (there is greed for rice during corona)

**noun:** greed (one of the seven deadly sins)

*The Spanish conquistadors were known for their****avarice****, plundering Incan land and stealing Incan gold.*

40. beatific

**adjective:** blissfully happy

*Often we imagine all monks to wear the****beatific****smile of the Buddha, but, like any of us, a monk can have a bad day and not look very happy.*

41. catalyst

**noun:** something that speeds up an event

*Rosa Parks's refusal to give up her bus seat acted as a****catalyst****for the Civil Rights Movement, setting into motion historic changes for African-Americans.*

42. desecrate (mne)

**verb:** to willfully violate or destroy a sacred place

*After****desecrating****the pharaoh's tomb, the archaeologist soon fell victim to a horrible illness.*

43. contrite

**adjective:** to be remorseful

*Though he stole his little sister’s licorice stick with malevolent glee, Chucky soon became****contrite****when his sister wouldn't stop crying.*

44. cardinal

**adjective:** of primary importance; fundamental

*Most cultures consider gambling a****cardinal****sin and thus have outlawed its practice.*

45. chauvinist

**noun:** a person who believes in the superiority of their group

*The****chauvinist****lives on both sides of the political spectrum, outright shunning anybody whose ideas are not consistent with his own.*

46. Vicarious

There are a few vicarious thrills to be gleaned from Kafka’s writing, for his characters, which typically embody ideas, are not fleshed out enough for the reader to become fully immersed in their plights.

47. animosity (mne)

**noun:** intense hostility

*The governor’s****animosity****toward his rival was only inflamed when the latter spread false lies regarding the governor’s first term.*

48. paucity (~scarcity) (inko paana mushkil hai)

**noun:** a lack of something

*There is a****paucity****of jobs hiring today that require menial skills, since most such jobs have either been automated or outsourced.*

49. check

**verb:** to limit (usually modifying the growth of something)

*Deserted for six months, the property began to look more like a jungle and less like a residence—weeds grew****unchecked****in the front yard*

**noun:** the condition of being held back or limited

*When government abuses are not kept in****check****, that government is likely to become autocratic.*

This word has other definitions, but these are the most important ones to study

# **BASIC 3**

22/03/20

1. flounder (a founder is always struggling, unsteady or uncertain)

**verb:** behave awkwardly; have difficulties

*Sylvia has excelled at advanced calculus, but ironically, when she has to deal with taxes, she****flounders****.*

2. morose (more ro)

**adjective:** ill-tempered and not inclined to talk; gloomy

*After Stanley found out he was no longer able to go on vacation with his friends, he sat in his room****morosely****.*

3. boon

**noun:** a desirable state

*Modern technology has been a****boon****to the travel industry.*

**adjective:** very close and convivial

*He was a****boon****companion to many, and will be sadly missed.*

4. archaic

**adjective:** so old as to appear to belong to a different period

*Hoping to sound intelligent, Mary spoke in****archaic****English that was right out of Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice--needless to say, she didn't have many friends.*

5. renege (rehne de)

**verb:** fail to fulfill a promise or obligation

*We will no longer work with that vendor since it has****reneged****on nearly every agreement.*

6. ascendancy (opp to dependency)

**noun:** the state that exists when one person or group has power over another

*The****ascendancy****of the Carlsbad water polo team is clear—they have a decade of championships behind them.*

7. advocate

**verb:** speak, plead, or argue in favor of

*While the senator privately approved of gay marriage, he was unwilling to****advocate****for the cause in a public venue.*

**noun:** a person who pleads for a cause or propounds an idea

*Martin Luther King Jr. was a tireless****advocate****for the rights of African-Americans in the United States.*

8. appreciable

**adjective:** large enough to be noticed (usu. refers to an amount)

*There is an****appreciable****difference between those who say they can get the job done and those who actually get the job done.*

9. jocular

**adjective:** characterized by jokes and good humor

*My uncle was always in a****jocular****mood at family gatherings, messing up people's hair and telling knock-knock jokes to anyone who would listen.*

10. ingenuity (mne)

**noun:** the power of creative imagination

*Daedalus was famous for his****ingenuity****; he was able to fashion his son Icarus with a pair of wings, using wax to hold them together.*

11. respite (rest a bit)

**noun:** a pause from doing something (as work)

*Every afternoon, the small company has a****respite****in which workers play foosball or board games.*

**noun:** relief from harm or discomfort

***respite****for the homeless*

12. pithy (mne)

**adjective:** concise and full of meaning

*I enjoy reading the Daodejing for its****pithy****and insightful prose; it always gives me something to think about.*

13. muted

**adjective:** softened, subdued

*Helen preferred****muted****earth colors, such as green and brown, to the bright pinks and red her sister liked.*

14. guffaw (mne)

**verb:** laugh boisterously

*Whenever the jester fell to the ground in mock pain, the king****guffawed****, exposing his yellow, fang-like teeth.*

15. fete (mne)

**verb:** to celebrate a person

*After World War II, war heroes were****feted****at first but quickly forgotten.*

16. moot (whether I should watch voot, is open to argument)

**adjective:** open to argument or debate; undecidable in a meaningless or irrelevant way

*Since the Board just terminated Steve as the CEO, what the finance committee might have thought of his proposed marketing plan for next year is now a****moot****point.*

17. dearth

**noun:** a lack or shortage

*I am surprised by the****dearth****of fast food chains; this is America and I assumed they were on every street.*

18. consummate (if you totally consume in something, you master it)

**adjective:** having or revealing supreme mastery or skill

*Tyler was the****consummate****musician: he was able to play the guitar, harmonica, and the drum at the same time.*

**verb:** to make perfect and complete in every respect

*The restoration of the ancient church was only****consummated****after a twenty years of labor.*

19. disenfranchise

**verb:** deprive of voting rights

*The U.S. Constitution****disenfranchised****women until 1920 when they were given the right to vote.*

20. snide

**adjective:** expressive of contempt; derogatory or mocking in an indirect way

*The chairman interpreted Taylor's question about promotions as a****snide****remark, but in all innocence Taylor was trying to figure out the company's process.*

25/03/20

21. meander (sounds like wander)

**verb:** to wander aimlessly

*A casual observer might have thought that Peter was****meandering****through the city, but that day he was actually seeking out those places where he and his long lost love had once visited.*

22. proponent (you’re in favor of something, i.e. you’re pro for it)

**noun:** a person who pleads for a cause or propounds an idea

*Ironically, the leading****proponent****of Flat-Earth Theory flies all over the world in an effort to win more adherents.*

23. stolid (like a solid, showing no emotions)

**adjective:** having or revealing little emotion or sensibility; not easily aroused or excited

*Elephants may appear****stolid****to casual observers, but they actually have passionate emotional lives.*

24. malleable

**adjective:** capable of being shaped or bent or drawn out

*The clay became****malleable****and easy to work with after a little water was added.*

**adjective:** easily influenced

*My little brother is so****malleable****that I can convince him to sneak cookies from the cupboard for me.*

25. elusive (like exclusive, exclusive content is difficult to get)

**adjective:** difficult to capture or difficult to remember

*Many first time skydivers say that describing the act of falling from the sky is****elusive****.*

26. avid

**adjective:** marked by active interest and enthusiasm

*Martin is an****avid****birdwatcher, often taking long hikes into remote mountains to see some rare eagle.*

27. patronize (patron means to support, however to patronize someone is to condescend)

**verb:** treat condescendingly

*She says she genuinely wanted to help me, but instead she****patronized****me, constantly pointing out how I was inferior to her.*

28. fledgling (mne)

**adjective:** young and inexperienced  
**noun:** any new participant in some activity

*Murray has years of experience in family practice, but he is just a****fledgling****in surgery.*

29. discriminate

**verb:** recognize or perceive the difference

*Sarah couldn't****discriminate****between a good wine and a bad wine, so she avoided wine tastings.*

This word has other definitions but this is the most important one to study

30. endemic (pan-demic means widespread, endemic means native)

**adjective:** native; originating where it is found

*Irish cuisine makes great use of potatoes, but ironically, the potato is not****endemic****to Ireland.*

31. raffish (mne)

**adjective:** marked by a carefree unconventionality or disreputableness

*The men found him****raffish****, but the women adored his smart clothes and casual attitude.*

32. thwart

**verb:** hinder or prevent (the efforts, plans, or desires) of

*I wanted to spend a week in New York this autumn, but the high costs of travel and lodging****thwarted****my plans.*

33. incessant (in-cease)

**adjective:** uninterrupted in time and indefinitely long continuing

*I don't mind small children in brief doses, but I think the****incessant****exposure that their parents have to them would quickly wear me down.*

34. obdurate (mne)

**adjective:** unable to be persuaded or moved emotionally; stubborn; unyielding.

*No number of pleas and bribes would get him to change his****obdurate****attitude.*

35. disheartened

**adjective:** made less hopeful or enthusiastic

*After the visiting team scored nine times, the home team's fans were****disheartened****, some leaving the game early.*

36. autonomously

**adverb:** Acting independently; self-governing (of a country)

*Many of the factory workers are worried about being replaced by machines and computers that will work completely****autonomously****.*

37. deter

**verb:** turn away from by persuasion

*His mother tried to****deter****him from joining the army, but he was too intoxicated with the idea of war to listen.*

**verb:** try to prevent; show opposition to

*The government's primary job should involve****deterring****paths to war, not finding ways to start them.*

38. robust

**adjective:** sturdy and strong in form, constitution, or construction

*Chris preferred bland and mild beers, but Bhavin preferred a beer with more****robust****flavor.*

39. quandary (kon diary bharega ?)

**noun:** state of uncertainty or perplexity especially as requiring a choice between equally unfavorable options

*Steve certainly is in a****quandary****: if he doesn't call Elaine, she will blame him for everything, but if he does call her, the evidence of where he currently is could cost him his job.*

40. entice

**verb:** get someone to do something through (often false or exaggerated) promises

*Harold****enticed****his wife, Maude, to go on a vacation to Hawaii, with promises of luaus on the beach and all-you-can-eat seafood buffets.*

27/03/20

41. transitory

**adjective:** lasting a very short time

*If we lived forever and life was not****transitory****, do you think we would appreciate life less or more?*

42. resolve

**verb:** reach a conclusion after a discussion or deliberation

*After much thought, Ted****resolved****not to travel abroad this summer because he didn't have much money in his bank account.*

43. degrade

**verb:** reduce in worth or character, usually verbally

*Jesse had mockingly pointed out all of Nancy's faults in front of their friends, publicly****degrading****the poor girl.*

44. ornate (~ornament)

**adjective:** marked by elaborate rhetoric and elaborated with decorative details

*The****ornate****Victorian and Edwardian homes spread throughout San Francisco are my favorite part of the city.*

45. apprehension

**noun:** fearful expectation

*Test day can be one of pure****apprehension****, as many students worry about their test scores.*

46. impede (hindrance to important work)

**verb:** be a hindrance or obstacle to

*Since the police sergeant had to train the pair of new hires, progress in his own case was****impeded****.*

47. plodding (~plotting, it is a slow process to create a plot)

**adjective:** (of movement) slow and laborious

*Charlie may seem to run at a****plodding****pace, but he is an ultramarathoner, meaning he runs distances of up to 100 miles, and can run for ten hours at a stretch.*

48. impermeable

**adjective:** does not allow fluids to pass through

*The sand bags placed on the river formed an****impermeable****barrier, protecting the town from flooding.*

49. inclement (in-climate)

**adjective:** (of weather) unpleasant, stormy

*After a week of****inclement****weather, we finally are able to go outside and enjoy the sun.*

**adjective:** used of persons or behavior; showing no mercy

*Marcus Aurelius, though a fair man, was****inclement****to Christians during his reign, persecuting them violently.*

50. malady (~malaria)

**noun:** a disease or sickness

*The town was struck by a****malady****throughout the winter that left most people sick in bed for two weeks.*

# **BASIC 4**

1. perpetuate

**verb:** cause to continue

*If you do not let him do things for himself, you are merely****perpetuating****bad habits that will be even harder to break in the future.*

2. tawdry (you keep towel for drying that looks cheap)

**adjective:** tastelessly showy; cheap and shoddy

*Carol expected to find New York City magical, the way so many movies had portrayed it, but she was surprised how often****tawdry****displays took the place of genuine elegance.*

3. facetious (~face, - Anything *facetious* is a joke)

**adjective:** cleverly amusing in tone

***Facetious****behavior will not be tolerated during sex education class; it's time for all of you to treat these matters like mature adults.*

4. conducive (like conductors make it likely for electricity to pass through)

**adjective:** making a situation or outcome more likely to happen

*Studying in a quiet room is****conducive****to learning; studying in a noisy environment makes learning more difficult.*

5. altruism (mne)

**noun:** the quality of unselfish concern for the welfare of others

*Albert Schweitzer spent most of his life doing missionary work as a doctor in Africa, seeking no reward, apparently motivated only by****altruism****.*

6. commendable

**adjective:** worthy of high praise

*The efforts of the firefighters running into the burning building were****commendable****.*

7. unruly (un-rule i.e. unable to govern)

**adjective:** (of persons) noisy and lacking in restraint or discipline; unwilling to submit to authority

*Walk in to any preschool and I am sure that you will find an****unruly****and chaotic scene—unless it's nap time.*

8. spurn (you can reject sperm with disdain)

**verb:** reject with contempt

*She****spurned****all his flattery and proposals, and so he walked off embarrassed and sad.*

9. irresolute (ir-resolution)

**adjective:** uncertain how to act or proceed

*He stood****irresolute****at the split in the trail, not sure which route would lead back to the camp.*

10. jargon

**noun:** a characteristic language of a particular group

*To those with little training in medicine, the****jargon****of doctors can be very difficult to understand.*

28/03/20

11. glib (mne)

**adjective:** (of a person) speaking with ease but without sincerity

*I have found that the more****glib****the salesman, the worse the product.*

12. elaborate

**adjective:** marked by complexity and richness of detail

*Thomas, on returning from Morocco, replaced his dirty gray carpet with an****elaborate****one he'd brought back with him.*

**verb:** explain in more detail

*Most high school physics teachers find themselves****elaborating****the same point over and over again, since many concepts confuse students.*

13. derisive (mne)

**adjective:** abusing vocally; expressing contempt or ridicule

*I was surprised by her****derisive****tone; usually, she is sweet, soft spoken, and congenial.*

14. lucid

**adjective:** (of language) transparently clear; easily understandable

*Though Walters writes about physics and time travel, his writing is always****lucid****, so readers with little scientific training can understand difficult concepts.*

15. fickle (mne)

**adjective:** liable to sudden unpredictable change, esp. in affections or attachments

*She was so****fickle****in her politics, it was hard to pinpoint her beliefs; one week she would embrace a side, and the next week she would denounce it.*

16. smattering (mne)

**noun:** a slight or superficial understanding of a subject; a small amount of something

*I know only a****smattering****of German, but Helen is able to read German newspapers and converse with natives.*

*But only a****smattering****of customers sat in the restaurant.*

17. vacuous (like a vacuum — hollow, empty, devoid of substance.)

**adjective:** devoid of intelligence, matter, or significance

*To the journalist's pointed question, the senator gave a****vacuous****response, mixing a few of his overall campaign slogans with platitudes and completely avoiding the controversial subject of the question.*

18. urbane (derived from urban)

**adjective:** showing a high degree of refinement and the assurance that comes from wide social experience

*Because of his service as an intelligence officer and his refined tastes, W. Somerset Maugham became the inspiration for the****urbane****and sophisticate spy James Bond.*

19. banish (~ban)

**verb:** expel from a community, residence, or location; drive away

*The most difficult part of the fast was****banishing****thoughts of food.*

20. assail (assault)

**verb:** attack in speech or writing

*In the weekly paper, the editor****assailed****the governor for wasting hundreds of thousands of dollars in public projects that quickly failed.*

21. assuage (mne)

**verb:** make something intense less severe

*Her fear that the new college would be filled with unknown faces was****assuaged****when she recognized her childhood friend standing in line.*

22. detrimental (mental people cause harm/damage)

**adjective:** (sometimes followed by "to") causing harm or injury

*Many know that smoking is****detrimental****to your health, but processed sugar in large quantities is equally bad.*

23. perennial

**adjective:** lasting an indefinitely long time; eternal; everlasting

*Even at the old-timers games, Stan Musial would get the loudest cheer: he was a****perennial****favorite of the fans there.*

24. empathetic

**adjective:** showing understanding and ready comprehension of other peoples' states and emotions

*Most discrimination and hatred is based on a lack of****empathetic****awareness of people that have the same aspirations and fears.*

25. credence (you give credit to something you believe in)

**noun:** belief in something

*He placed no****credence****in psychics, claiming that they offered no special powers beyond the ability to make people part with their money.*

29/03/20

26. benign

**adjective:** kind

*I remember my grandfather's face was wrinkled,****benign****, and calm.*

**adjective:** (medicine) not dangerous to health; not recurrent or progressive

*The tumor located in your ear lobe seems to be****benign****and should not cause you any trouble.*

27. martial (martial-arts)

**adjective:** suggesting war or military life

*Americans tend to remember Abraham Lincoln as kindly and wise, not at all****martial****, despite the fact that he was involved in the fiercest war America has even fought.*

28. sentimental

**adjective:** effusively or insincerely emotional, especially in art, music, and literature

*I don't like romanticism for the same reason I don't like melodramatic acting and soap operas—overly****sentimental****.*

29. precedent

**noun:** an example that is used to justify similar occurrences at a later time

*The principal explained that even though one student had done modelling work outside of school, the outfits that student wore in those photographs in no way established a****precedent****for what could be worn at school dances.*

30. genial

**adjective:** agreeable, conducive to comfort

*Betty is a****genial****young woman: everyone she meets is put at ease by her elegance and grace.*

31. rankle (mne)

**verb:** gnaw into; make resentful or angry

*His constant whistling would****rankle****her, sometimes causing her to leave in a huff.*

32. egotist (ego)

**noun:** a conceited and self-centered person

*An****egotist****, Natasha had few friends because of her inability to talk about anything except her dream of becoming the next American Idol.*

33. genteel (*gentle*, as in *gentleman, noble*)

**adjective:** marked by refinement in taste and manners

*A live string quartet would provide a more****genteel****air to the wedding than would a folk singer.*

34. buck (when you duck, you resist)

**verb:** resist, go against

*The profits at our firm****bucked****the general downturn that affected the real estate industry.*

35. pertinent

**adjective:** having precise or logical relevance to the matter at hand

*While the salaries of the players might draw attention in the media, such monetary figures are not****pertinent****to the question of who plays the best on the field.*

3/04/20

36. surly

**adjective:** inclined to anger or bad feelings with overtones of menace

*Every morning, Bhavin was a****surly****, unhappy person, but once he ate breakfast, he became loving, laughing, and a joy to be around.*

37. hamstrung (when you get stung by a bee, you become powerless)

**verb:** made ineffective or powerless

*The FBI has made so many restrictions on the local police that they are absolutely****hamstrung****, unable to accomplish anything.*

38. whimsical (whim means impulse)

**adjective:** determined by impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason

*Adults look to kids and envy their****whimsical****nature at times, wishing that they could act without reason and play without limitation.*

39. illicit (mne)

**adjective:** contrary to or forbidden by law

*Though Al Capone was engaged in many****illicit****activities, he was finally arrested for income tax evasion, a relatively minor offense.*

40. grovel (darshan greval shows submission and fear in his songs)

**verb:** show submission or fear

*Every time Susan comes to the office, Frank****grovels****as if she were about to fire him.*

41. augment

**verb:** enlarge or increase; improve

*Ideally, the restaurant's****augmented****menu will expand its clientele and increase its profits.*

he augmented his summer income by painting houses

42. debase

**verb:** reduce the quality or value of something

*The third-rate script so****debased****the film that not even the flawless acting could save it from being a flop.*

43. euphoria

**noun:** a feeling of great (usually exaggerated) elation

*The****euphoria****of winning her first gold medal in the 100 meter dash overwhelmed Shelly-Ann Fraser and she wept tears of immense joy.*

44. cornucopia (corn are in abundance)

**noun:** an abundant supply of something good

*The International Food Expo was a****cornucopia****of culinary delights: gourmet foods from every continent were under one roof.*

45. contemptuous

**adjective:** scornful, looking down at others with a sneering attitude

*Always on the forefront of fashion, Vanessa looked****contemptuously****at anyone wearing dated clothing.*

46. uncompromising

**adjective:** not making concessions

*The relationship between Bart and Hilda ultimately failed because they were both so****uncompromising****, never wanting to change their opinions.*

47. tumult (mne)

**noun:** a state of chaos, noise and confusion

*Riots broke out just in front of our apartment building, and the****tumult****continued late into the night.*

04/04/20

48. pristine (prime things have not been touched by all, hence also clean)

**adjective:** Unspoiled, untouched (usu. of nature)

*The glacial lake was****pristine****and we filled our canteens to drink deeply.*

**adjective:** Immaculately clean and unused

*Drill sergeants are known for demanding****pristine****cabinets, uniforms, and beds, and often make new recruits clean and clean and clean until they meet the expected high standards.*

49. inadvertent (mne)

**adjective:** happening by chance or unexpectedly or unintentionally

*Although Prohibition was rooted in noble ideals, the****inadvertent****and costly consequences of making alcohol illegal in the U.S. led to its repeal.*

50. impeccable (mne)

**adjective:** without fault or error

*He was****impeccably****dressed in the latest fashion without a single crease or stain.*

# **BASIC 5**

1. diligent

**adjective:** characterized by care and perseverance in carrying out tasks

*Michael was a****diligent****gardener, never leaving a leaf on the ground and regularly watering each plant.*

2. savvy (like business savvy)

**noun:** a perceptive understanding

*Although a great CEO, he did not have the political****savvy****to win the election.*

**verb:** get the meaning of something

*The student savvies the meaning of astrophysics with little effort.*

**adjective:** well-informed or perceptive

*With his****savvy****business partner, the company was able to turn a profit within a year.*

3. enmity (~enemy)

**noun:** a state of deep-seated ill-will

*The rude remark Charles made toward Sarah yesterday was due to his illness, not due to any real****enmity****toward Sarah.*

4. squander (to squander is to scatter, time or money)

**verb:** spend thoughtlessly; waste time, money, or an opportunity

*Fearing his money would be****squandered****by his family, he gave all of it to charity when he died.*

5. presumption

**noun:** an assumption that is taken for granted

*When Mr. Baker found out the family car was gone, he acted under the****presumption****that his rebellious son had taken the car, calling his son's phone and yelling at him; only later did Mr. Baker realize that Mrs. Baker had simply gone out to get her nails done.*

**noun:** audacious (even arrogant) behavior that you have no right to

*The new neighbor quickly gained a reputation for her****presumption****; she had invited herself to several neighbors' homes, often stopping over at inopportune times and asking for a drink.*

6. tarnish

**verb:** make dirty or spotty, as by exposure to air; also used metaphorically

*Pete Rose was one of the best baseball players of his generation, but his involvement with gambling on baseball games has****tarnished****his image in the eyes of many.*

7. unseemly (mne)

**adjective:** not in keeping with accepted standards of what is right or proper in polite society

*He acted in an****unseemly****manner, insulting the hostess and then speaking ill of her deceased husband.*

05/04/20

8. serene

**adjective:** calm and peaceful

*I'd never seen him so****serene****; usually, he was a knot of stress and anxiety from hours of trading on the stock exchange.*

9. candidness

**noun:** the quality of being honest and straightforward in attitude and speech

*Although I was unhappy that the relationship ended, I appreciated her****candidness****about why she was ready to move on from the relationship.*

10. perturb

**verb:** disturb in mind or cause to be worried or alarmed

*Now that Henry is recovering from a major illness, he no longer lets the little trivialities, such as late mail,****perturb****him.*

11. maxim (baat ka maximum nichod in one line)

**noun:** a short saying expressing a general truth

*Johnson initially suggests that the secret to business can be summarized in a single****maxim****but then requires a 300-page book to explain exactly what he means.*

12. smug

**adjective:** marked by excessive complacency or self-satisfaction

*When Phil was dating the model, he had a****smug****attitude that annoyed his buddies.*

13. embellish

**verb:** make more attractive by adding ornament, colour, etc.; make more beautiful

*McCartney would write relatively straightforward lyrics, and Lennon would****embellish****them with puns and poetic images.*

14. unprecedented

**adjective:** having never been done or known before; novel

*When America first created its national parks, the idea of setting aside the most beautiful land in a country was****unprecedented****in the history of mankind.*

15. peevish (one who wishes to pee but cannot will be annoyed)

**adjective:** easily irritated or annoyed

*Our office manager is****peevish****, so the rest of us tip-toe around him, hoping not to set off another one of his fits.*

16. irk (this 3 letter word is itself annoying)

**verb:** irritate or vex

*My little sister has a way of****irking****and annoying me like no other person.*

17. reservation

**noun:** an unstated doubt that prevents you from accepting something wholeheartedly

*I was initially excited by the idea of a trip to Washington, D.C. but now that I have read about the high crime statistics there, I have some****reservations****.*

18. discord (when the cords dont match, there is a disagreement)

**noun:** lack of agreement or harmony

*Despite all their talented players, the team was filled with****discord****--some players refused to talk to others--and lost most of their games.*

19. travail

**noun:** use of physical or mental energy; hard work; agony or anguish, laborious

*While they experienced nothing but****travails****in refinishing the kitchen, they completed the master bedroom in less than a weekend.*

20. ploy (clever plot)

**noun:** a clever plan to turn a situation to one's advantage

*Dennis arranged an elaborate****ploy****, involving 14 different people lying for him in different situations, so that it could appear that he was meeting Mary completely by chance at the wedding reception.*

21. brusquely

**adverb:** in a blunt, direct manner

*Not one for social pleasantries, the Chief of Staff would****brusquely****ask his subordinates for anything he wanted, even coffee.*

22. taxing

**adjective:** use to the limit; exhaust

*The hike to the summit of Mt. Whitney was so****taxing****that I could barely speak or stand up.*

23. steadfast (person who becomes steady fast, is firm and resolute)

**adjective:** marked by firm determination or resolution; not shakable

*A good captain needs to be****steadfast****, continuing to hold the wheel and stay the course even during the most violent storm.*

24. rash

**adjective:** marked by defiant disregard for danger or consequences; imprudently incurring risk

*Although Bruce was able to make the delivery in time with a nighttime motorcycle ride in the rain, Susan criticized his actions as****rash****.*

25. impending (I am pending and about to happen)

**adjective:** close in time; about to occur

*The****impending****doom of our world has been discussed and debated for 2000 years—maybe even longer.*

26. retract

**verb:** pull inward or towards a center; formally reject or disavow a formerly held belief, usually under pressure

*Email is wonderfully efficient, but once something awkward or damaging has been sent, there is no way to****retract****it.*

27. exasperate (to exacerbate is to make worse, to exasperate is to annoy)

**verb:** to irritate intensely

*As a child, I****exasperated****my mother with strings of never-ending questions.*

10/04/20

28. credulity

**noun:** tendency to believe readily

*Virginia's wide-eyed****credulity****as a five-year old was replaced by suspicion after she learned that Santa Claus didn't really exist.*

29. complacent

**adjective:** contented to a fault with oneself or one's actions

*After the water polo team won their sixth championship, they became****complacent****and didn't even make it to the playoffs the next year.*

30. tout (people who pout do show-off)

**verb:** advertize in strongly positive terms; show off

*At the conference, the CEO****touted****the extraordinary success of his company's Research & Development division.*

31. goad (even though he didn’t want to go, usko goda maar ke le gae)

**verb:** urge on with unpleasant comments

*Doug did not want to enter the race, but Jim, through a steady stream of taunts,****goaded****him into signing up for it.*

32. convoluted

**adjective:** highly complex or intricate

*Instead of solving the math problem in three simple steps, Kumar used a****convoluted****solution requiring fifteen steps.*

33. derogative

**adjective:** expressed as worthless or in negative terms

*Never before have we seen a debate between two political candidates that was so****derogative****and filthy.*

34. obstinate (opposite to abstain)

**adjective:** resistant to guidance or discipline; stubbornly persistent

*The coach suggested improvements Sarah might make on the balance beam, but she remained****obstinate****, unwilling to modify any of the habits that made her successful in the past.*

35. foible (synonym are: eccentricity, idiosyncrasy)

**noun:** a behavioral attribute that is distinctive and peculiar to an individual

*When their new roommate sat staring at an oak tree for an hour, Marcia thought it indicated a mental problem, but Jeff assured her it was a harmless****foible****.*

36. leery (trust kia to le lega)

**adjective:** openly distrustful and unwilling to confide

*Without checking his references and talking to previous employers, I am****leery****of hiring the candidate.*

*If you're leery that someone won't keep a secret, you won't confide in them*

37. aphoristic (mne)

**adjective:** something that is concise and instructive of a general truth or principle

*Sometimes I can't stand Nathan because he tries to impress everyone by being****aphoristic****, but he just states the obvious.*

38. eke out (to "squeeze out," or "win after a struggle,")

**verb:** To live off meager resources, to scrape by

*Stranded in a cabin over the winter, Terry was able to****eke****out an existence on canned food.*

39. placid (mne)

**adjective:** not easily irritated

*Doug is normally****placid****, so we were all shocked to see him yelling at the television when the Mets lost the game.*

*A ribbon of sand between the angry sea and the placid bay.*

40. connive (~ conspire)

**verb:** taking part in immoral and unethical plots

*With the help of the prince, the queen****connived****to overthrow the king.*

41. devolve (dissolve the task by delegating to other)

**verb:** pass on or delegate to another

*The company was full of managers known for****devolving****tasks to lower management, but never doing much work themselves.*

**verb:** grow worse (usually "devolve into")

*The dialogue between the two academics****devolved****into a downright bitter argument.*

42. impregnable

**adjective:** immune to attack; incapable of being tampered with

*As a child, Amy would build pillow castles and pretend they were****impregnable****fortresses.*

43. tact (you are tactful and keep everyone intact by talking carefully)

**noun:** consideration in dealing with others and avoiding giving offense

*In a tremendous display of****tact****, Shelly was able to maintain a strong friendship with Marcia, even though Marcia's husband, Frank, confessed to finding Shelley more attractive than Marcia.*

44. exemplify (If you exemplify something, you're the perfect example of it.)

**verb:** be characteristic of

*Lincoln****exemplified****the best of not only America, but also the potential greatness that exists within each person.*

**verb:** clarify by giving an example of

*Please present some case studies that****exemplify****the results that you claim in your paper.*

45. quip (equipped with wittiness)

**noun:** a witty saying or remark

*In one of the most famous****quips****about classical music, Mark Twain said: "Wagner's music is better than it sounds."*

**verb:** to make a witty remark, to say in jest

*When an old English teacher criticized Churchill for ending a sentence with a preposition, he****quipped****, "This is the kind of criticism up with which we will not put!"*

46. destitute (mne)

**adjective:** poor enough to need help from others

*Jean Valjean, is at first****destitute****, but through the grace of a priest, he makes something of his life.*

**adjective:** completely wanting or lacking (usually "destitute of")

*Now that the mine is closed, the town is****destitute****of any economic activity.*

*Young recruits destitute of experience.*

47. collusion (~ conspire, connive)

**noun:** agreement on a secret plot

*Many have argued that Lee Harvey Oswald, JFK's assassin, was in****collusion****with other criminals; others maintain that Oswald was a lone gunman.*

11/04/20

48. malevolent (male always thinks evil of others)

**adjective:** wishing or appearing to wish evil to others; arising from intense ill will or hatred

*Villains are known for their****malevolent****nature, oftentimes inflicting cruelty on others just for enjoyment.*

49. elude (evade or escape)

**verb:** escape understanding

*While some physics concepts might****elude****newbies, with a little grit and a good teacher, almost anyone can develop a deep understanding of the subject.*

*The thief eluded the police*

I recognized some of the faces, but most of the names **eluded** me.

# **BASIC 6**

1. cerebral (cerebral cortex relates to brain)

**adjective:** involving intelligence rather than emotions or instinct

*A****cerebral****analysis of most pop music finds it to be simple and childish, but that ignores the point--the music's effect on the listener.*

2. evenhanded

**adjective:** without partiality

*Teachers often have trouble being****evenhanded****to all of their varied students.*

3. foolhardy (foolishly brave)

**adjective:** marked by defiant disregard for danger or consequences

*The police regularly face dangerous situations, so for a police officer not to wear his bullet-proof vest is****foolhardy****.*

4. behoove (mne)

**verb:** to be one's duty or obligation

*The teacher looked down at the student and said, "It would****behoove****you to be in class on time and complete your homework, so that you don't repeat freshman English for a third straight year."*

*"it* ***behoves*** *the House to assure itself that there is no conceivable alternative"*

5. rile (if you have a rail track in front of your house, it will annoy/irritate you)

**verb:** cause annoyance in; disturb, especially by minor irritations

*Dan is usually calm and balanced, but it takes only one intense glare from Sabrina to****rile****him.*

6. implicate

**verb:** convey a meaning; imply

*By saying that some of the guests were uncomfortable, the manager****implicated****to the hotel staff that it needed to be more diligent.*

**verb:** to indicate in wrongdoing, usually a crime

*The crime boss was****implicated****for a long list of crimes, ranging from murder to disturbing the peace.*

7. besmirch (tumne bekar me mirchi laga di uske naam par)

**verb:** damage the good name and reputation of someone

*The prince's distasteful choice of words****besmirched****not only his own name but also the reputation of the entire royal family.*

8. humdrum (the word even sounds boring)

**adjective:** dull and lacking excitement

*Having grown up in a****humdrum****suburb, Jacob relished life in New York City after moving.*

9. belittle

**verb:** lessen the importance, dignity, or reputation of

*A good teacher will never****belittle****his students, but will instead empower them.*

10. wanton (if you want a ton of something, it should be without check or limitation)

**adjective:** without check or limitation; showing no moral restraints to one's anger, desire, or appetites

*Due to****wanton****behavior and crude language, the drunk man was thrown out of the bar and asked to never return.*

11. conundrum (none could solve the problem)

**noun:** a difficult problem

*Computers have helped solve some of the mathematical****conundrums****which have puzzled man for many centuries.*

12. buttress (mne)

**verb:** make stronger or defensible

*China's economy has been****buttressed****by a global demand for the electronic parts the country manufactures.*

*Buttress your thesis*

13. preempt (preemptive measures)

**verb:** take the place of or have precedence over

*A governmental warning about an imminent terrorist attack would****preempt****ordinary network programming on television.*

14. glean

**verb:** collect information bit by bit

*Herb has given us no formal statement about his background, but from various hints, I have****gleaned****that he grew up in difficult circumstances.*

15. cohesive

**adjective:** well integrated, forming a united whole

*A well-written,****cohesive****essay will keep on topic at all times, never losing sight of the main argument.*

16. uncanny

**adjective:** suggesting the operation of supernatural influences; surpassing the ordinary or normal

*Reggie has an****uncanny****ability to connect with animals: feral cats will readily approach him, and sometimes even wild birds will land on his finger.*

17. delegate

**verb:** give an assignment to (a person)

*Since the senior manager had to go on many international business trips, she was forced to****delegate****many of her responsibilities to two lower-level managers.*

18. intermittent

**adjective:** stopping and starting at irregular intervals

*The****intermittent****thunder continued and the night was punctuated by cracks of lightning—a surreal sleepless night.*

12/4/20

19. tribulation (tribal people suffer due to oppression)

**noun:** something, especially an event, that causes difficulty and suffering

*As of 2013, nearly 1.5 million Syrians have fled their country hoping to escape the****tribulations****of a civil war tearing their country to pieces.*

20. rakish (rakesh would be rakish when he was young)

**adjective:** marked by a carefree unconventionality or disreputableness

*As soon as he arrived in the city, the****rakish****young man bought some drugs and headed straight for the seedy parts of town.*

21. analogous

**adjective:** similar in some respects but otherwise different

*In many ways, the Internet's transformative effect on society has been****analogous****to that of the printing press.*

22. piquant (something spicy/stimulating piques your interest)

**adjective:** having an agreeably pungent taste

*The chef, with a mere flick of the salt shaker, turned the bland tomato soup into a****piquant****meal.*

*Someone who's piquant engages you with charm and wit.*

*A story that's filled with piquant details has plenty of juicy, provocative points.*

23. coalesce

**verb:** fuse or cause to grow together

*Over time, the various tribes****coalesced****into a single common culture with one universal language.*

24. finagle (mne)

**verb:** achieve something by means of trickery or devious methods

*Steven was able to****finagle****one of the last seats on the train by convincing the conductor that his torn stub was actually a valid ticket.*

25. prevail

**verb:** be widespread in a particular area at a particular time; be current:

*During the labor negotiations, an air of hostility****prevailed****in the office.*

**verb:** prove superior

*Before the cricket match, Australia was heavily favored, but India****prevailed****.*

26. melancholy (mal word root means bad, so ‘mel’ also means gloomy)

**noun:** a deep, long-lasting sadness

*Hamlet is a figure of tremendous****melancholy****: he doesn't have a truly cheerful scene throughout the entire play.*

27. precarious

**adjective:** fraught with danger

*People smoke to relax and forget their cares, but ironically, in terms of health risks, smoking is far more****precarious****than either mountain-climbing or skydiving.*

28. insipid (mne- in-spit)

**adjective:** dull and uninteresting

*The movie director was known for hiring beautiful actors in order to deflect attention away from the****insipid****scripts he would typically use.*

25/04/20

29. ascribe (when you subscribe a channel, you ascribe it, give credit to it)

**verb:** attribute or credit to

*History****ascribes****The Odyssey and The Iliad to Homer, but scholars now debate whether he was a historical figure or a fictitious name.*

30. emulate

**verb:** strive to equal or match, especially by imitating; compete with successfully

*To really become fluent in a new language,****emulate****the speech patterns of people who speak the language.*

31. begrudge (grudge)

**verb:** to envy someone for possessing or enjoying something

*Sitting all alone in his room, Harvey****begrudged****the happiness of the other children playing outside his window.*

**verb:** to give reluctantly

*We never****begrudge****money spent on ourselves.*

32. lethargic

**adjective:** lacking energy

*Nothing can make a person more****lethargic****than a big turkey dinner.*

33. docile (mne)

**adjective:** easily handled or managed; willing to be taught or led or supervised or directed

*Barnyard animals are considerably more****docile****than the wild animals.*

34. deride (people with contempt the act of de – riding i.e. jumping from moving train)

**verb:** treat or speak of with contempt

*The nun****derided****the students for trying to sneak insects and worms into the classroom.*

35. incense

**verb:** make furious

*When Herb bought football tickets for a game on the day of their wedding anniversary, Jill was****incensed****.*

36. clemency (opp. to inclement)

**noun:** leniency and compassion shown toward offenders by a person or agency charged with administering justice

*In the final moments of the trial, during his closing speech, Phillips was nearly begging the judge for****clemency****.*

26/04/20

37. irascible (~rash-able you become rash when you are aroused with anger)

**adjective:** quickly aroused to anger

*If Arthur's dog is not fed adequately, he becomes highly****irascible****, even growling at his own shadow.*

38. consecrate (*secr* part of *consecrate* comes from the Latin *sacer* "sacred”, can mean "dedicated to God" to "dedicated to whatever")

**verb:** to make holy or set apart for a high purpose

*At the church of Notre Dame in France, the new High Altar was****consecrated****in 1182.*

*“Today, we recommit and****consecrate****our lives in protecting those precious ideals.”*

39. presumptuous

**adjective:** excessively forward

*Many felt that Barney was****presumptuous****in moving into the large office before the management even made any official announcement of his promotion.*

40. industrious

**adjective:** characterized by hard work and perseverance

*Pete was an****industrious****student, completing every assignment thoroughly and on time.*

41. antedate (date)

**verb:** precede in time

*Harry was so unknowledgable that he was unaware the Egyptian pharaohs****antedate****d the American Revolution.*

42. redress

**noun:** an act of making something right

*Barry's****redress****for forgetting his wife's birthday two years in a row was surprising her with a trip to Tahiti.*

43. fawn (people give you flora fauna – flowers for flattery)

**verb:** try to gain favor by extreme flattery

*The media****fawned****over the handsome new CEO, praising his impeccable sense of style instead of asking more pointed questions.*

44. incumbent

**adjective:** necessary (for someone) as a duty or responsibility

*Middle managers at times make important decisions, but real responsibility for the financial well-being of the corporation is ultimately****incumbent****on the CEO.*

45. cavalier (people in cavalry give haughty disregard)

**adjective:** given to haughty disregard of others

*Percy dismissed the issue with a****cavalier****wave of his hand.*

46. profusion (mne)

**noun:** the property of being extremely abundant

*When Maria reported that she had been visited by Jesus Christ and had proof, a****profusion****of reporters and journalists descended on the town.*

30/04/20

47. Eccentric

48. veneer

**noun:** covering consisting of a thin superficial layer that hides the underlying substance

*Mark Twain referred to the Victorian Period in America as the "Gilded Age", implying the ample moral corruption that lay beneath a mere****veneer****of respectability.*

49. avert

**verb:** turn away

*Afraid to see the aftermath of the car crash, I****averted****my eyes as we drove by.*

**verb:** ward off or prevent

*The struggling video game company put all of its finances into one final, desperate project to****avert****bankruptcy.*

50. forthright

**adjective:** characterized by directness in manner or speech; without subtlety or evasion

*I did not expect the insurance agent to give us any straight answers, but I was pleasantly surprised by how****forthright****he was.*

01/05/20

# **BASIC 7**

1. complementary

**adjective:** enhancing each other's qualities (for two things or more).

*The head waiter was careful to tell the amateur diners that red wine was****complementary****with beef, each bringing out subtle taste notes in the other.*

2. cumbersome (mne)

**adjective:** difficult to handle or use especially because of size or weight, complex

*Only ten years ago, being an avid reader and a traveler meant carrying a****cumbersome****backpack stuffed with books--these days we need only an e-reader.*

*"organizations with cumbersome hierarchical structures"*

3. abysmal (mne) (20 mile chal ke aana pada only to see a bad performence)

**adjective:** extremely bad, very deep

*Coach Ramsey took his newest player off the field after watching a few painful minutes of her****abysmal****performance.*

*"waterfalls that plunge into abysmal depths"*

4. discreet (discrete and discreet come from the same source, but *discreet*has taken its own advice and quietly gone its separate way. - to be politely private about something and to be aware of consequences if everyone finds out what you're doing.)

**adjective:** careful to protect one's speech or actions in order to avoid offense or draw attention

*The professor thought that he was****discreet****, subtly wiping the stain off of his shirt, but as soon as he stepped off the podium a heckler in the audience burst out, "You missed a spot".*

5. obliging (helpful)

**adjective:** showing a cheerful willingness to do favors for others

*Even after all his success, I found him to be accommodating and****obliging****, sharing with me his "secret tips" on how to gain wealth and make friends.*

6. convivial (~ Christmas carnival has lively atmosphere)

**adjective:** describing a lively atmosphere

*The wedding reception was****convivial****; friends who hadn't seen each other for ages drank and ate together before heading to the dance floor.*

7. misogynist

**noun:** a person who dislikes women in particular

*Many have accused Hemingway of being a quiet****misogynist****, but recently unearthed letters argue against this belief.*

8. inkling (small drop of understanding)

**noun:** a slight suggestion or vague understanding

*Lynne speaks four Romance languages, but she doesn't have an****inkling****about how East Asian languages are structured.*

9. cosmopolitan (mne)

**adjective:** comprising many cultures; global in reach and outlook

*There are few cities in the world as diverse and****cosmopolitan****as New York.*

10. colossal (so big that it seems very close to us)

**adjective:** so great in size or force or extent as to elicit awe

*Few appreciate the****colossal****scale of the sun: if hollow, it could contain a million Earths.*

11. stymie (tie me)

**verb:** hinder or prevent the progress or accomplishment of

*The engineers found their plans****stymied****at every turn and were ultimately able to make almost no progress on the project.*

12. dispatch

**noun:** the property of being prompt and efficient

*She finished her thesis with****dispatch****, amazing her advisors who couldn't believe she had written 60 scholarly pages so quickly.*

**verb:** dispose of rapidly and without delay and efficiently

*As soon as the angry peasants stormed the castle, they caught the king and swiftly****dispatched****him.*

13. debunk (take the bunk (nonsense) out of something)

**verb:** expose as false ideas and claims, especially while ridiculing

*Richard Dawkins tries to****debunk****religious belief, but his ridicule tends to push people away from his points rather than convince them.*

14. vanquish

**verb:** come out better in a competition, race, or conflict

*For years, Argentina would dominate in World Cup qualifying matches, only to be****vanquished****by one of the European countries during the late stages of the tournament.*

15. resignation

**noun:** the acceptance of something unpleasant that can't be avoided

*Since Jack could not think of a convincing reason why he had to miss the seminar, he attended it with a sense of****resignation****.*

16. inarticulate

**adjective:** without or deprived of the use of speech or words

*Although a brilliant economist, Professor Black was completely****inarticulate****, a terrible lecturer.*

17. champion (asli champion fights for a cause)

**verb:** to fight for a cause

*Martin Luther King Jr.****championed****civil rights fiercely throughout his short life.*

18. amply (~ derived from amplification)

**adverb:** more than is adequate

*The boat was****amply****supplied for its year at sea—no man would go hungry or thirsty.*

19. paradoxical

**adjective:** seemingly contradictory but nonetheless possibly true

*That light could be both a particle and a wave seems****paradoxical****, but nonetheless, it is true.*

20. chivalrous

**adjective:** being attentive to women like an ideal knight

*Medieval tales are full of stories of****chivalry****, in which a young knight must commit deeds of heroism to win the hand of a fair maiden.*

02/05/20

21. laborious

**adjective:** characterized by effort to the point of exhaustion; especially physical effort

*The most****laborious****job I've had was working 20 hours a day as a fisherman in King Salmon, Alaska.*

22. morph (derived from metamorphosis)

**verb:** To undergo dramatic change in a seamless and barely noticeable fashion.

*The earnestness of the daytime talk shows of the 1970's has****morphed****into something far more sensational and vulgar: today guests actually stand up and threaten to take swings at one another.*

23. differentiate

**verb:** be a distinctive feature, attribute, or trait (sometimes in positive sense)

*Mozart's long melodic lines****differentiate****his compositions from other works of late 18th century music.*

**verb:** evolve so as to lead to a new species or develop in a way most suited to the environment

*Animals on Madagascar****differentiated****from other similar animal species due to many years of isolation on the island.*

24. futile

**adjective:** producing no result or effect; unproductive of success

*I thought I could repair the car myself, but after two days of work with no success, I have to admit that my efforts were****futile****.*

25. evasive

**adjective:** avoiding or escaping from difficulty or danger or commitment

*His responses were clearly****evasive****; he obviously did not want to take on any responsibility or any new work.*

**adjective:** deliberately vague or ambiguous

*Every time I call the bank, I receive the same****evasive****answers about our mortgage and never get a clear response.*

26. deliberate

**verb:** think about carefully; weigh the pros and cons of an issue

*Emergency situations such as this call for immediate action and leave no room to****deliberate****over options.*

27. compound (a compound is a combination or mixture of two or more things.)

**verb:** make more intense, stronger, or more marked

*Her headache was****compounded****by the construction crew outside, which had six jackhammers going at the same time.*

28. decimation

**noun:** destroying or killing a large part of the population

*The****decimation****after atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki is incomprehensible.*

29. Magoosh Score Guarantee

30. snub

**verb:** refuse to acknowledge; reject outright and bluntly

*Wheeler was completely qualified for the committee, but the board****snubbed****him, choosing an obviously lesser qualified candidate instead.*

03/05/20

31. malodorous (malicious odor)

**adjective:** having an unpleasant smell

*Some thermally active fountains spew sulfur fumes--the air around them is sometimes so****malodorous****that many have to plug their noses.*

32. enumerate

**verb:** determine the number or amount of

*The survey****enumerates****the number of happy workers and the number of unhappy workers.*

**verb:** specify individually, one by one

*I sat and listened as she****enumerated****all of the things she did not like about the past three months.*

33. boorish

**adjective:** ill-mannered and coarse or contemptible in behavior or appearance

*Bukowski was known for being a****boorish****drunk and alienating close friends and family.*

34. carping (mne)

**noun:** persistently petty and unjustified criticism

*What seemed like incessant nagging and****carping****about my behavior from my mother turned out to be wise and useful advice that has served me well.*

35. antiquated

**adjective:** old-fashioned; belonging to an earlier period in time

*Aunt Betty had****antiquated****notions about marriage, believing that a man should court a woman for at least a year before receiving a kiss.*

36. constraint

37. dispatch

**noun:** the property of being prompt and efficient

*She finished her thesis with****dispatch****, amazing her advisors who couldn't believe she had written 60 scholarly pages so quickly.*

**verb:** dispose of rapidly and without delay and efficiently

*As soon as the angry peasants stormed the castle, they caught the king and swiftly****dispatched****him.*

38. besiege

**verb:** harass, as with questions or requests; cause to feel distressed or worried

*After discovering a priceless artifact in her backyard, Jane was****besieged****by phone calls, emails, and reporters all trying to buy, hold or see the rare piece of history.*

39. qualm (lose calm – feel uneasy)

**noun:** uneasiness about the fitness of an action

*While he could articulate no clear reason why Harkner's plan would fail, he nevertheless felt****qualms****about committing any resources to it.*

40. creditable

**adjective:** deserving of praise but not that amazing

*Critics agreed the movie was****creditable****, but few gave it more than three out of five stars.*

41. sordid

**adjective:** involving ignoble actions and motives; arousing moral distaste and contempt; foul and run-down and repulsive

*The nightly news simply announced that the senator had had an affair, but the tabloid published all the****sordid****details of the interaction.*

42. excruciating

**adjective:** extremely painful

*After the boulder rolled a couple of feet, pinning my friend's arm, he experienced****excruciating****pain.*

43. perquisite ("perks" that come along with a job.)

**noun:** a right reserved exclusively by a particular person or group (especially a hereditary or official right)

*Even as the dishwasher at the French restaurant, Josh quickly learned that he had the****perquisite****of being able to eat terrific food for half the price diners would pay.*

44. balk (when a dog barks, he refuses to comply)

**verb:** refuse to comply

*The students were willing to clean up the broken glass, but when the teacher asked them to mop the entire floor, they****balked****, citing reasons why they needed to leave.*

45. provisional

**adjective:** under terms not final or fully worked out or agreed upon

*Until the corporate office hands down a definitive decision on use of the extra offices, we will share their use in a****provisional****arrangement.*

46. aphorism (a phrase that is witty/astute)

**noun:** a short instructive saying about a general truth

*Nietzsche was known for using****aphorisms****, sometimes encapsulating a complex philosophical thought in a mere sentence.*

47. staid

**adjective:** characterized by dignity and propriety

*Frank came from a****staid****environment, so he was shocked that his college roommate sold narcotics.*

48. miscreant

**noun:** a person who breaks the law

*"Come back you****miscreant****!" yelled the woman who just had her purse stolen.*

49.

50.

05/05/20

# **Advanced 1**

1. base

**adjective:** the lowest, without any moral principles

*She was not so****base****as to begrudge the beggar the unwanted crumbs from her dinner plate.*

2. perfunctory

**adjective:** done routinely and with little interest or care

*The short film examines modern****perfunctory****cleaning rituals such as washing dishes, doing laundry and tooth-brushing.*

3. vicissitude

**noun:** change in one’s circumstances, usually for the worse

*Even great rulers have their****vicissitudes****—massive kingdoms have diminished overnight, and once beloved kings have faced the scorn of angry masses.*

4. factious (when you don’t agree on facts, you dissent )

**adjective:** produced by, or characterized by internal dissension

*The controversial bill proved****factious****, as dissension even within parties resulted*

5. apostate (post-state, if you leave your state you desert your cause)

**noun:** a person who has abandoned a religious faith or cause

*An****apostate****of the Republican Party, Sheldon has yet to become affiliated with any party and dubs himself an independent.*

6. anathema (if you say thamba to something, you vehemently dislike it)

**noun:** a detested person; the source of somebody's hate

*Hundreds of years ago, Galileo was****anathema****to the church; today the church is****anathema****to some on the left side of the political spectrum.*

7. catholic

**adjective:** of broad scope; universal

*Jonah’s friends said that Jonah’s taste in music was eclectic; Jonah was quick to point out that not only was his taste eclectic but it was also****catholic****: he enjoyed music from countries as far-flung as Mali and Mongolia.*

8. prosaic

**adjective:** dull and lacking imagination

*Unlike the talented artists in his workshop, Paul had no such bent for the visual medium, so when it was time for him to make a stained glass painting, he ended up with a****prosaic****mosaic.*

9. beg

**verb:** assume something is true (usu. followed by "the question", meaning that you ask a question in which you assume something that hasn't been proven true)

*By assuming that Charlie was headed to college—which he was not—Maggie****begged****the question when she asked him to which school he was headed in the Fall.*

10. equivocate

**verb:** to speak vaguely, usually with the intention to mislead or deceive

*After Sharon brought the car home an hour after her curfew, she****equivocated****when her parents pointedly asked her where she had been.*

11. nadir (mne)

**noun:** the lowest point

*For many pop music fans, the rap– and alternative-rock–dominated 90s were the****nadir****of musical expression.*

12. diatribe (mne)

**noun:** a strong verbal attack against a person or institution

*Steve’s mom launched into a****diatribe****during the PTA meeting, contending that the school was little more than a daycare in which students stare at the wall and teachers stare at the chalkboard.*

13. overweening (mne)

**adjective:** arrogant; presumptuous

*Mark was so convinced of his basketball skills that in his****overweening****pride he could not fathom that his name was not on the varsity list; he walked up to the basketball coach and told her she had forgotten to add his name.*

14. penurious

**adjective:** lacking money; poor

*Truly****penurious****, Mary had nothing more than a jar full of pennies.*

**adjective:** miserly

*Warren Buffett, famous multi-billionaire, still drives a cheap sedan, not because he is****penurious****, but because luxury cars are gaudy and impractical.*

15. expansive

**adjective:** communicative, and prone to talking in a sociable manner

*After a few sips of cognac, the octogenarian shed his irascible demeanor and became****expansive****, speaking fondly of the “good old days”.*

16. choleric (mne)

**adjective:** prone to outbursts of temper; easily angered

*While a brilliant lecturer, Mr. Dawson came across as****choleric****and unapproachable—very rarely did students come to his office hours.*

17. feckless (like reckless – irresponsible, ineffectual)

**adjective:** lazy and irresponsible

*Two years after graduation, Charlie still lived with his parents and had no job, becoming more****feckless****with each passing day.*

18. churlish

**adjective:** lacking manners or refinement

*The manager was unnecessarily****churlish****to his subordinates, rarely deigning to say hello, but always quick with a sartorial jab if someone happened to be wearing anything even slightly mismatching.*

19. hector (mne)(bog brother hector)

**verb:** to bully or intimidate

*The boss’s****hectoring****manner put off many employees, some of whom quit as soon as they found new jobs.*

20. exegesis (I need a critical explanation for this difficult word)

**noun:** critical explanation or analysis, especially of a text

*The Bible is fertile ground for****exegesis****—over the past five centuries there have been as many interpretations as there are pages in the Old Testament.*

*Dean Baquet, the executive editor, will retire in a few years, and Mr. Smith offered a lengthy****exegesis****on who might succeed him.*

06/05/20

21. conciliate (kon gaand silega)

**verb:** to make peace with

*His opponents believed his gesture to be****conciliatory****, yet as soon as they put down their weapons, he unsheathed a hidden sword.*

22. supercilious

**adjective:** haughty and disdainful; looking down on others

*Nelly felt the Quiz Bowl director acted****superciliously****towards the underclassmen; really, she fumed, must he act so preternaturally omniscient each time he intones some obscure fact—as though everybody knows that Mt. Aconcagua is the highest peak in South America.*

23. indigent (India has many poor people)

**adjective:** poor; having very little

*In the so-called Third World, many are****indigent****and only a privileged few have the resources to enjoy material luxuries.*

**noun:** a poor or needy person

*The****indigents****, huddled under the overpass, tried to start a small bonfire in the hope of staying warm.*

24. attenuate (if you don’t pay attention you become weak)

**verb:** to weaken (in terms of intensity); to taper off/become thinner.

*Her animosity towards Bob****attenuated****over the years, and she even went so far as to invite him to her party.*

25. lascivious (mne)(las vegas)

**adjective:** lecherous; sexually perverted

*Lolita is a challenging novel for many, not necessarily because of the elevated prose style but because of the depravity of the main character, Humbert Humbert, who, as an old,****lascivious****man, lusts after a girl.*

26. apogee

**noun:** the highest point

*The****apogee****of the Viennese style of music, Mozart’s music continues to mesmerize audiences well into the 21st century.*

27. arrant (it’s simply a rant to put emphasis on other negative words)

**adjective:** complete and wholly (usually modifying a noun with negative connotation)

*An****arrant****fool, Lawrence surprised nobody when he lost all his money in a pyramid scheme that was every bit as transparent as it was corrupt.*

28. truculent

**adjective:** having a fierce, savage nature

*Standing in line for six hours, she became progressively****truculent****, yelling at DMV employees and elbowing other people waiting in line.*

29. chary (sounds like sherry – siddhu used to be cautious of everything)

**adjective:** cautious, suspiciously reluctant to do something

*Having received three speeding tickets in the last two months, Jack was****chary****of driving at all above the speed limit, even on a straight stretch of highway that looked empty for miles ahead.*

30. malfeasance

**noun:** misconduct or wrongdoing (especially by a public official)

*Not even the mayor’s trademark pearly-toothed grin could save him from charges of****malfeasance****: while in power, he’d been running an illegal gambling rink in the room behind his office.*

07/05/20

31. precipitate (it rains hastily and suddenly)

**adjective:** hasty or rash

*Instead of conducting a thorough investigation after the city hall break-in, the governor acted****precipitately****, accusing his staff of aiding and abetting the criminals.*

**verb:** to cause to happen

*The government's mishandling of the hurricane's aftermath****precipitated****a widespread outbreak of looting and other criminal activity.*

32. contentious

**adjective:** likely to argue

*Since old grandpa Harry became very****contentious****during the summer when only reruns were on T.V., the grandkids learned to hide from him at every opportunity.*

33. zeitgeist (~zeal, spirit)

**noun:** spirit of the times

*Each decade has its own****zeitgeist****—the 1990’s was a prosperous time in which the promise of the American Dream never seemed more palpable.*

34. pariah (tumhe paraya kar dia - rejected)

**noun:** an outcast

*The once eminent scientist, upon being found guilty of faking his data, has become a****pariah****in the research community.*

35. expunge (eliminate dust with sponge)

**verb:** to eliminate completely

*When I turned 18, all of the shoplifting and jaywalking charges were****expunged****from my criminal record.*

36. artless

**adjective:** without cunning or deceit

*Despite the president's seemingly****artless****speeches, he was a skilled and ruthless negotiator.*

37. kowtow (touching toes to flatter)

**verb:** to bow or act in a subservient manner

*Paul****kowtowed****to his boss so often the boss herself became nauseated by his sycophancy.*

38. saturnine (if youre at home on Saturday night till nine, you’ll be gloomy)

**adjective:** morose or gloomy

*Deprived of sunlight, humans become****saturnine****; that’s why in very northerly territories people are encouraged to sit under an extremely powerful lamp, lest they become morose.*

39. ponderous

**adjective:** weighed-down; moving slowly

*Laden with 20 kilograms of college text books, the freshman moved****ponderously****across the campus.*

40. untoward (not asked for )

**adjective:** unfavorable; inconvenient

*Some professors find teaching****untoward****as having to prepare for lectures and conduct office hours prevents them from focusing on their research.*

*I haven’t heard from my friend in a few days, I hope nothing untoward has happened to him*

41. turpitude (mne)(Turpitude often follows the word moral : moral turpitude)

**noun:** depravity; a depraved act

*During his reign, Caligula indulged in unspeakable sexual practices, so it is not surprising that he will forever be remembered for his****turpitude****.*

42. jingoist

**noun:** a person who thinks their country is always right and who is in favor of aggressive acts against other countries

*In the days leading up to war, a nation typically breaks up into the two opposing camps: doves, who do their best to avoid war, and****jingoists****, who are only too eager to wave national flags from their vehicles and vehemently denounce those who do not do the same.*

43. defray (mne)

**verb:** to help pay the cost of, either in part or full

*In order for Sean to attend the prestigious college, his generous uncle helped****defray****the excessive tuition with a monthly donation.*

44. byzantine (mne)

**adjective:** intricate and complex

*Getting a driver’s license is not simply a matter of taking a test; the regulations and procedures are so****byzantine****that many have found themselves at the mercy of the Department of Motor Vehicles.*

45. fractious (person who is picking fights, making snarky comments, and being frustratingly stubborn will get fractures)

**adjective:** irritable and is likely to cause disruption

*We rarely invite my****fractious****Uncle over for dinner; he always complains about the food, and usually launches into a tirade on some touchy subject.*

*Tennis remains very popular across the world but its governance remains****fractious****with as many as seven associations running different parts of the game.*

46. insufferable

**adjective:** intolerable, difficult to endure

*Chester always tried to find some area in which he excelled above others; unsurprisingly, his co-workers found him****insufferable****and chose to exclude him from daily luncheons out.*

47. sedulous

**adjective:** done diligently and carefully

*An avid numismatist, Harold****sedulously****amassed a collection of coins from over 100 countries—an endeavor that took over fifteen years across five continents.*

48. alacrity (willingness to impress girl acrity)

**noun:** an eager willingness to do something

*The first three weeks at his new job, Mark worked with such****alacrity****that upper management knew it would be giving him a promotion.*

49. imbibe

**verb:** to drink or absorb as if drinking

*Plato****imbibed****Socrates’ teachings to such an extent that he was able to write volumes of work that he directly attributed, sometimes word for word, to Socrates.*

50. cow

**verb:** to intimidate

*Do not be****cowed****by a 3,000-word vocabulary list: turn that list into a deck of flashcards!*

08/05/20

# **Advanced 2**

1. execrate

**verb:** to curse and hiss at

*Though the new sitcom did decently in the ratings, Nelson railed against the show, saying that it was nothing more than an****execrable****pastiche of tired clichés and canned laughter.*

*Americans****execrate****“outsourcing,” which supposedly involves sending “American jobs” overseas.*

2. peremptory (param means ultimate, so *Peremptory* comments put an end to a discussion, and that’s final!)

**adjective:** bossy and domineering

*My sister used to****peremptorily****tell me to do the dishes, a chore I would either do perfunctorily or avoid doing altogether.*

3. benighted (A benighted person is in the dark about things)

**adjective:** fallen into a state of ignorance

*Far from being a period of utter****benightedness****, The Medieval Ages produced some great works of theological speculation.*

4. mulct (koi maal le ke kat lia)

**verb:** to defraud or swindle

*The so-called magical diet cure simply ended up****mulcting****Maria out of hundreds of dollars, but did nothing for her weight.*

5. blinkered (abhi aankh khuli bhi nahi tumhari, limitied outlook)

**adjective:** to have a limited outlook or understanding

*In gambling, the****blinkered****addict is easily influenced by past successes and/or past failures, forgetting that the outcome of any one game is independent of the games that preceded it.*

6. disabuse (free them from abuses (false beliefs))

**verb:** to persuade somebody that his/her belief is not valid

*As a child, I was quickly****disabused****of the notion that Santa Claus was a rotund benefactor of infinite largess—one night I saw my mother diligently wrapping presents and storing them under our Christmas tree.*

7. vituperate (vit means -ve)

**verb:** to criticize harshly; to berate

*Jason had dealt with disciplinarians before, but nothing prepared him for the first week of boot camp, as drill sergeants****vituperate****d him for petty oversights such as forgetting to double knot the laces on his boots.*

8. sartorial

**adjective:** related to fashion or clothes

*Monte was astute at navigating the world of finance;****sartorially****, however, he was found wanting*

9. limpid (~ clear like liquid)

**adjective:** having clarity in terms of expression

*Her****limpid****prose made even the most recondite subjects accessible to all.*

10. parvenu (par venu tu to garib tha..)

**noun:** a person who has suddenly become wealthy, but not socially accepted as part of a higher class

*The theater was full of****parvenus****who each thought that they were surrounded by true aristocrats.*

11. propitiate (if you’re pro at appreciate, you can placate others)

**verb:** to placate or appease

*The two sons, plying their angry father with cheesy neckties for Christmas, were hardly able to****propitiate****him – the father already had a drawer full of ones he had never worn before or ever planned to.*

12. gerrymander

**verb:** to manipulate voting districts in order to favor a particular political party

*Years ago, savvy politicians had****gerrymandered****the city center to ensure their re-election.*

13. arriviste (Microsoft became rich on arrival of vista)

**noun:** a person who has recently reached a position of power; a social climber

*The city center was aflutter with****arrivistes****who tried to outdo one another with their ostentatious sports cars and chic evening dress.*

14. excoriate (code marna)

**verb:** to criticize very harshly

*Entrusted with the prototype to his company’s latest smartphone, Larry, during a late night karaoke bout, let the prototype slip into the hands of a rival company—the next day Larry was****excoriated****, and then fired.*

15. martinet (mne)

**noun:** a strict disciplinarian

*The job seemed perfect to Rebecca, until she found out that her boss was a total****martinet****; after each project the boss would come by to scrutinize—and inevitably criticize—every little detail of the work Rebecca had done.*

16. arch (an arch comment is teda (teasing) comment like U shape)

**adjective:** to be deliberately teasing

*The baroness was****arch****, making playful asides to the townspeople; yet because they couldn't pick up on her dry humor, they thought her supercilious.*

*He teased his friend with an****arch****comment about his shyness around girls*

17. sybarite (cyber tower is luxury)

**noun:** a person who indulges in luxury

*Despite the fact that he’d maxed out fifteen credit cards, Max was still a****sybarite****at heart: when the police found him, he was at a $1,000 an hour spa in Manhattan, getting a facial treatment.*

18. imbroglio (mind bogling)

**noun:** a confusing and potentially embarrassing situation

*The chef cook-off featured one gourmand who had the unfortunate distinction of mixing the wrong broths, creating an****imbroglio****that diners would not soon forget.*

*Compared with the current drama in American politics, the Brexit****imbroglio****looks almost tame for once.*

09/05/20

19. sententious (‘sententious’ is an adjective that describes somebody who pontificates. only difference is a person who is being sententious isn’t just prattling on about his or her beliefs but is also being preachy and moralistic)

**adjective:** to be moralizing, usually in a pompous sense

*The old man, casting his nose up in the air at the group of adolescents, intoned****sententiously****, “Youth is wasted on the young.”*

20. curmudgeon (jiske karma achhe na hon – bad tempered)

**noun:** a grouchy, surly person, bad-tempered person

*Since Uncle Mike was the family****curmudgeon****, each Thanksgiving he was plied with copious amounts of wine, in the hope that he would become less grouchy.*

21. tendentious

**adjective:** likely to lean towards a controversial view

*Because political mudslinging has become a staple of the 24-hour media cycle, most of us, despite protestations to the contrary, are****tendentious****on many of today’s pressing issues.*

*If you are writing a report on climate change and you ignore evidence that the earth is warming, the paper might be called tendentious.*

22. quixotic

**adjective:** wildly idealistic; impractical

*For every thousand startups with****quixotic****plans to be the next big name in e-commerce, only a handful ever become profitable.*

*In the middle of a recession and high unemployment, it would be quixotic to imagine that you could quit your job and find another easily.*

23. invective (like a vector pointing towards you and abusing)

**noun:** abusive or denunciatory language

*The Internet has unleashed the****invectives****in many of us; many people post stinging criticism on the comments section underneath newspaper articles or YouTube videos.*

24. picayune (mne)

**adjective:** trifling or petty (a person)

*English teachers are notorious for being****picayune****; however, the English language is so nuanced and sophisticated that often such teachers are not being contrary but are only adhering to the rules.*

*Airline disaster investigators spend their lives rummaging through the debris, knowing that it might be the most* ***picayune*** *detail that leads them to understand the cause of a crash.*

25. factitious (not factious)

**adjective:** artificial; not natural

*The defendant’s story was largely****factitious****and did not accord with eyewitness testimonies*

26. sangfroid (if you sing instead of being afraid - sangfroid)

**noun:** calmness or poise in difficult situations

*The hostage negotiator exhibited a****sangfroid****that oftentimes was more menacing than the sword at his throat, or the gun at his head.*

10/05/20

27. Pollyannaish (annie remains optimistic)

**adjective:** extremely optimistic

*Even in the midst of a lousy sales quarter, Debbie remained****Pollyannaish****, never losing her shrill voice and wide smile, even when prospective customers hung up on her.*

28. juggernaut (cannot be stopped)

**noun:** a force that cannot be stopped

*Napoleon was considered a****juggernaut****until he decided to invade Russia in winter; after which, his once indomitable army was decimated by cold and famine.*

29. maudlin (models are emotional and sad when they don’t get films)

**adjective:** overly emotional and sad

*Just as those who were alive during the 70’s are mortified that they once cavorted about in bellbottoms, many who lived during the 80’s are now aghast at the****maudlin****pop songs they used to enjoy—really, just what exactly is a total eclipse of the heart?*

30. pyrrhic

**adjective:** describing a victory that comes at such a great cost that the victory is not worthwhile

*George W. Bush’s win in the 2000 election was in many ways a****pyrrhic****victory: the circumstances of his win alienated half of the U.S. population.*

*But if this is a Brexit victory, it may – possibly – prove in the end to be****pyrrhic****.*

31. Magoosh Video Lessons

32. mellifluous (flowing like melody)

**adjective:** smooth and sweet-sounding

*Chelsea’s grandmother thought Franz Schubert’s music to be the most****mellifluous****ever written; Chelsea demurred, and to her grandmother’s chagrin, would blast Rihanna on the home stereo speakers.*

33. hedge (mne)

**verb:** to limit or qualify a statement; to avoid making a direct statement

*When asked why he had decided to buy millions of shares at the very moment the tech company's stock soared, the CEO****hedged****, mentioning something vague about gut instinct.*

34. mettlesome (Metal and mettle were once used interchangeably meaning a solid material like gold and the "stuff a person is made of”)

**adjective:** filled with courage or valor

*For its raid on the Bin Laden’s compound in Abbottabad, Seal Team Six has become, for many Americans, the embodiment of****mettle****.*

35. sangfroid (you sing even when your’e getting fried - calmness) (synonym - aplomb)

**noun:** calmness or poise in difficult situations

*The hostage negotiator exhibited a****sangfroid****that oftentimes was more menacing than the sword at his throat, or the gun at his head.*

36. histrionic

**adjective:** to be overly theatrical

*Though she received a B- on the test, she had such a****histrionic****outburst that one would have thought that she’d been handed a death sentence.*

37. phantasmagorical (anything fantastic, magical is unreal)

**adjective:** illusive; unreal

*Those suffering from malaria fall into a feverish sleep, their world a whirligig of****phantasmagoria****; if they recover, they are unsure of what actually took place and what was simply a product of their febrile imaginations.*

38. cupidity (greed for money to get cupid (love))

**noun:** greed for money

*Some people believe that amassing as much wealth as possible is the meaning to life—yet they often realize that****cupidity****brings anything but happiness.*

39. expurgate (mne) (sex has to be censored )

**verb:** to remove objectionable material

*The censor****expurgated****every reference to sex and drugs, converting the rapper's raunchy flow into a series of bleeps.*

40. schadenfreude (Whenever you hear the word “***Schadenfreude***”, imagine a psychiatrist named ***Freud***, who is sitting by his table and ***laughing*** at the troubles of his patients)

**noun:** joy from watching the suffering of others

*From his warm apartment window, Stanley reveled in****schadenfreude****as he laughed at the figures below, huddled together in the arctic chill.*

41. remonstrate (you demonstrate peacefully, but you remonstrate with a reproachful protest)

**verb:** to make objections while pleading

*The mothers of the kidnapped victims****remonstrated****to the rogue government to release their children, claiming that the detention violated human rights.*

42. venial (congenial means favorable, so venial crimes are forgivable)

**adjective:** easily excused or forgiven; pardonable

*His traffic violations ran the gamut from the****venial****to the egregious—on one occasion he simply did not come to a complete stop; another time he tried to escape across state lines at speeds in excess of 140 mph.*

*Father Byrnes went on to discuss the difference between mortal and****venial****sins.*

43. jejune (mne)(lacking substance)

**adjective:** dull; lacking flavor

*Although many top chefs have secured culinary foam's popularity in haute cuisine, Waters criticizes it for being****jejune****and unfilling.*

**adjective:** immature; childish

*Her boss further cemented his reputation for being****jejune****after throwing a fit when the water cooler wasn't refilled.*

*His comments in the catalogue interview are disturbingly inarticulate and****jejune****.*

44. malapropism

**noun:** the confusion of a word with another word that sounds similar

*Whenever I looked glum, my mother would offer to share "an amusing antidote" with me—an endearing****malapropism****of "anecdote" that never failed to cheer me up.*

45. impecunious (paisa ni)

**adjective:** lacking money; poor

*In extremely trying times, even the moderately wealthy, after a few turns of ill-fortune, can become****impecunious****.*

46. apotheosis

**noun:** exaltation to divine status; the highest point of development

*As difficult as it is to imagine, the****apotheosis****of Mark Zuckerberg’s career, many believe, is yet to come.*

47. quisling (jo log quiz ke time ling parivartan kar dete hain)

**noun:** a traitor

*History looks unfavorably upon****quislings****; indeed they are accorded about the same fondness as Nero—who watched his city burn down while playing the violin.*

14/05/20 (also doing remaining 3 words in advance 2)

48. palimpsest (pehle ka glimp)

**noun:** something that has been changed numerous times but on which traces of former iterations can still be seen

*The downtown was a****palimpsest****of the city’s checkered past: a new Starbucks had opened up next to an abandoned, shuttered building, and a freshly asphalted road was inches away from a pothole large enough to swallow a small dog.*

49. protean

**adjective:** readily taking on different roles; versatile

*Peter Sellers was truly a****protean****actor—in Doctor Strangelove he played three very different roles: a jingoist general, a sedate President and a deranged scientist.*

50. fell

**adjective:** terribly evil

*For fans of the Harry Potter series, the****fell****Lord Voldemort, who terrorized poor Harry for seven lengthy installments, has finally been vanquished by the forces of good—unless, that is, JK Rowling decides to come out of retirement.*

51. jaundiced (you have a bias for the person who has jaundice)

***adjective:****to be biased against due to envy or prejudice*

*Shelly was****jaundiced****towards Olivia; though the two had once been best friends, Olivia had become class president, prom queen, and, to make matters worse, the girlfriend of the one boy Shelly liked.*

52. bilious (bile juice - "troubled by indigestion" and "irritable)

**adjective:** irritable; always angry

*Rex was****bilious****all morning, and his face would only take on a look of contentedness when he’d had his morning cup of coffee.*

# **Advanced 3**

12/05/20

1. umbrage (rage)

**noun:** a feeling of anger caused by being offended

*Since he was so in love with her, he took****umbrage****at her comments, even though she had only meant to gently tease him.*

2. redoubtable (it isn't the redoubtable person that you doubt — it's yourself or your ability to compete against or be compared to him or her) (synonym - formidable)

**adjective:** inspiring fear or awe

*On television basketball players don't look that tall, but when you stand in front of a seven-foot tall NBA player, he is truly****redoubtable****.*

3. plucky (courageous people who pluck out luck)

**adjective:** marked by courage and determination

*Some scouts initially doubted Pedroia because of his short stature, but he is a****plucky****player, surprising everyone with his boundless energy and fierce determination.*

4. prolixity (mne)(lexikon)

**noun:** boring verbosity

*I loved my grandfather dearly, but his****prolixity****would put me to sleep, regardless of the topic.*

5. temerity (opposite of timid)

**noun:** fearless daring

*No child has the****temerity****to go in the rundown house at the end of the street and see if it is haunted.*

6. quail (wales draw back from the shore)

**verb:** draw back, as with fear or pain

*Craig always claimed to be a fearless outdoorsman, but when the thunderstorm engulfed the valley, he****quailed****at the thought of leaving the safety of his cabin.*

7. semblance

**noun:** an outward or token appearance or form that is deliberately misleading

*While the banker maintained a****semblance****of respectability in public, those who knew him well were familiar with his many crimes.*

8. anemic ()

**adjective:** lacking energy and vigor

*After three straight shows, the lead actress gave an****anemic****performance the fourth night, barely speaking loudly enough for those in the back rows to hear.*

9. impute (mne)

**verb:** attribute (responsibility or fault) to something

*He****imputed****his subpar performance on the test to a combination of stress and poor sleep.*

10. mordant (daant - biting)

**adjective:** biting and caustic in thought, manner, or style

*While Phil frequently made****mordant****remarks about company policy overall, he always was considerably gentler in discussing any person in particular.*

11. litany (leta ke long kar dia)

**noun:** any long and tedious account of something

*Mr. Rogers spoke to a Senate committee and did not give a****litany****of reasons to keep funding the program, but instead, appealed to the basic human decency of all present.*

12. epiphany

**noun:** a sudden revelation or moment of insight

*Gary one day had an****epiphany****that he was a people person; he promptly quit his factory job and began working as a salesman.*

13. probity (mne)

**noun:** integrity, strong moral principles

*The ideal politician would have the****probity****to lead, but reality gravely falls short of the ideal of morally upright leaders.*

14. recapitulation

**noun:** a summary (think of recap)

*Every point of the professors lesson was so clear that the students felt his concluding****recapitulation****was not necessary.*

15. bowdlerize (*bowdlerized* comes from the name of Dr. T. Bowdler, who decided to publish an edition of Shakespeare without sexual references)

**verb:** edit by omitting or modifying parts considered indelicate

*To receive an R rating, the entire movie was****bowdlerized****because it contained so much violence and grotesque subject matter.*

16. primacy

**noun:** the state of being first in importance

*The****primacy****of Apple Computers is not guaranteed, as seen in the recent lawsuits and weak growth.*

17. moribund (band hone ki kagar pe - dead)

**adjective:** being on the point of death; declining rapidly losing all momentum in progress

*Whether you like it or not, jazz as a genre is****moribund****at best, possibly already dead.*

*At a time when mortality is on everyone’s minds,****morbid****humor seems to be a popular coping mechanism.*

18. sagacious

**adjective:** having good judgement and acute insight

*Steve Jobs is surely one of the most****sagacious****CEOs, making Apple one of the most recognizable and valuable companies in the world.*

19. artlessness

**noun:** the quality of innocence

*I, personally, found the****artlessness****of her speech charming.*

20. illustrious

**adjective:** widely known and esteemed; having or conferring glory

*Einstein was possibly the most****illustrious****scientist in recent history.*

13/05/20

21. hail

**verb:** enthusiastically acclaim or celebrate something

*Many college superstar athletes are****hailed****as the next big thing, but then flop at the professional level.*

22. enthrall (mne)

**verb:** hold spellbound

*She was so****enthralled****by the movie that she never heard people screaming, "Fire! Fire!" in the neighboring theater.*

23. maunder (~wander)

**verb:** wander aimlessly

*Max liked to****maunder****down by the seaside and pick up whatever sea shells he would stumble upon.*

**verb:** speak (about unimportant matters) rapidly and incessantly

*After drinking two espressos each, the animated couple would****maunder****loudly, annoying the other patrons in the coffee shop.*

24. duplicity

**noun:** deceitfulness, pretending to want one thing but interested in something else

*A life of espionage is one of****duplicity****: an agent must pretend to be a totally different person than who she or he actually is.*

25. cede

**verb:** relinquish possession or control over

*Eventually, all parents must****cede****control of their growing childrens' educations and allow their offspring some autonomy.*

26. flummox

**verb:** be a mystery or bewildering to

*Mary's behavior completely****flummoxes****me: I never have any idea what her motivations might be.*

27. pecuniary (peculiar word to talk about money)

**adjective:** relating to or involving money

*The defendant was found guilty and had to serve a period of community service as well as pay****pecuniary****damages to the client.*

28. importune (you beg urgently in case of misfortune)

**verb:** beg persistently and urgently

*After weeks of****importuning****the star to meet for a five-minute interview, the journalist finally got what she wanted.*

29. approbatory (you are praised after probation ends)

**adjective:** expressing praise or approval

*Although it might not be her best work, Hunter's new novel has received generally****approbatory****reviews.*

30. charlatan (mne)

**noun:** a flamboyant deceiver; one who attracts customers with tricks or jokes

*You may call him a "motivational speaker," but I call him a****charlatan****--he doesn't have any idea what he's really talking about.*

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31. effrontery (affront means insult, effrontery means audacious)

**noun:** audacious (even arrogant) behavior that you have no right to

*The skateboarders acted with****effrontery****, skating through the church grounds and spray-painting signs warning trespassers.*

32. prognostication (pragmatic is practical but prognostication is about future – a bit impractical)

**noun:** a statement made about the future

*When the Senator was asked about where the negotiations would lead, he said that any guess he could make would be an unreliable****prognostication****.*

33. portentous

**adjective:** ominously prophetic

*When the captain and more than half the officers were sick on the very first night of the voyage, many of the passengers felt this was****portentous****, but the rest of the voyage continued without any problems.*

34. portentous (you are deported to other tent and you hear bad news, to ominously prophetic)

**adjective:** ominously prophetic

*When the captain and more than half the officers were sick on the very first night of the voyage, many of the passengers felt this was****portentous****, but the rest of the voyage continued without any problems.*

35. enjoin (the only thing *enjoin* brings together is a command and the person on the receiving end of that order)

**verb:** give instructions to or direct somebody to do something with authority

*The government agency****enjoined****the chemical company to clean up the hazardous dump it had created over the years.*

36. hagiographic (The two halves of *hagiography* refer to holiness and writing)

**adjective:** excessively flattering toward someone's life or work

*Most accounts of Tiger Woods's life were****hagiographic****, until, that is, his affairs made headlines.*

37. unforthcoming

**adjective:** uncooperative, not willing to give up information

*The teacher demanded to know who broke the window while he was out of the room, but the students understandably were****unforthcoming****.*

38. vitriolic

**adjective:** harsh or corrosive in tone

*While the teacher was more moderate in her criticism of the other student's papers, she was****vitriolic****toward Peter's paper, casting every flaw in the harshest light.*

39. gaffe (*Gaffe* rhymes with *laugh*, and you'll be lucky if that's how people respond to your **social blunder**)

**noun:** a socially awkward or tactless act

*In a famous****gaffe****, Vice President Quayle attempted to correct the spelling of a grade school student, only to find that the child was correct.*

40. raconteur

**noun:** a person skilled in telling anecdotes

*Jude is entertaining, but he is no****raconteur****: beyond the handful of amusing stories he has memorized, he has absolutely no spontaneous story-telling ability.*