

CATKing's 555

Most repeated GRE words



1. Aberration: a departure from what is normal, usual, or expected
2. Abreast: Up to date with the latest news, ideas, or information
3. Adept: Very skilled or proficient at something
4. Agog: Very eager or curious to hear or see something
5. Altruism: the belief in or practice of selfless concern for the well-being of others
6. Annul: Declare invalid
7. Audacious: adjective, showing a willingness to take surprisingly bold risks
8. Austere: adjective, Having an extremely plain and simple style or appearance
9. Artless: adjective, without guile or deception
10. abyss : a bottomless gulf or pit
11. accretion: an increase by natural growth or addition
12. acidulous: being sour to the taste
13. acme : the highest point of something
14. adulterate: make impure by adding a foreign or inferior substance
15. ameliorate: make better
16. amortize: liquidate gradually
17. amulet: a trinket thought to be a magical protection against evil
18. anachronism :something located at a time when it could not have existed
19. antagonize: provoke the hostility of
20. antipathy: a feeling of intense dislike
21. apathy: an absence of emotion or enthusiasm
22. apocryphal: being of questionable authenticity
23. apostate: not faithful to religion or party or cause
24. approbation: official acceptance or agreement
25. arbitrary: based on or subject to individual discretion or preference
26. arbitrate: act between parties with a view to reconciling differences
27. archaic : so extremely old as seeming to belong to an earlier period
28. ardor: feelings of great warmth and intensity
29. arrogate: seize and take control without authority
30. articulate: express or state clearly
31. banal: repeated too often; overfamiliar through overuse
32. belfry :a bell tower; usually stands alone unattached to a building
33. bevy : a flock of birds
34. bifurcate: split or divide into two
35. bilk: cheat somebody out of what is due, especially money
36. blight : any plant disease resulting in withering without rotting
37. blithe :carefree and happy and lighthearted
38. bolster : support and strengthen

39. Blowhard: a person who blusters and boasts in an unpleasant way
40. Bucolic: pastoral, rustic, countrified
41. Burgeon: grow forth, expand or increase quickly, bloom
42. Brazen: bold or open to the point of shocking
43. Bedlam: uproar, confusion
44. Belligerent: seeking war, hostile
45. Besiege: to surround
46. Besmirch: stain, soil, dim the reputation
47. Bizarre: weird
48. Blatant: disagreeably loud
49. Badger: to pester; nag; annoy persistently
50. Cacophony: a harsh, discordant mixture of sounds
51. Confound: Prove (a theory, expectation, or prediction) wrong
52. Coda: a concluding event, remark or section
53. Calumny: slander, defame
54. Cache: secret hiding place
55. Cajole: coax, wheedle
56. Callow: inexperienced, youthful
57. complacent: self-satisfied
58. carnage: slaughter
59. chagrin: disappointment
60. Cliché: a phrase or an expression that has been used so often that it is no longer original or interesting
61. conflagration: great fire
62. conjecture: guess
63. corpulent: excessively fat, fleshy, obese
64. corroborate: confirm, support
65. countenance: approve, tolerate
66. coup revolution, overthrow
67. Capricious: unpredictable
68. Caustic: bitterly sarcastic
69. Chicanery: trickery or deception
70. Commensurate: proportional
71. Condone: to forgive, allow or approve
72. Consequential: as a result of
73. Contentious: controversial
74. Contrite: remorseful, apologetic, penitent
75. Covet: to crave for, to desire

76. Cringe: shrink back as if in fear; cower
77. culpable: deserving blame; blameworthy
78. culprit: one guilty of a crime
79. culvert: artificial channel for water; drain crossing under a road
80. Cumbersome: heavy and awkward to carry or wear; burdensome; Ex. cumbersome parcel/uniform
81. Cumulative: growing by addition; accumulative
82. cunning: clever in deceiving; sly; N: cleverness in deceiving; deceit
83. curmudgeon: churlish, miserly individual; bad-tempered old person
84. cursive: (of writing) flowing; running; having the successive letters joined
85. cursory: casual; hastily done with little attention to detail
86. curtail: shorten; reduce
87. cynical: skeptical or distrustful of human motives
88. daub: smear (as with paint); cover with something sticky
89. daunt: intimidate; frighten; discourage; dishearten
90. Dauntless: bold; fearless
91. dawdle: loiter; hang around; waste time doing nothing
92. daze: stun as with a blow or shock; bemuse; benumb; N.
93. deprecate: express disapproval
94. destitution: extreme poverty
95. diatribe: bitter criticism
96. dilettante: one with little knowledge and great interest recognize
97. disdain: scorn
98. debilitate: weaken
99. divulge: reveal, disclose
100. docile easy to manage
101. dazzle: make blind with a sudden intense light; amaze; fill with wonder
102. Deadlock: standstill resulting from the opposition of two unrelenting forces; stalemate
103. Disparage: to belittle
104. Disparate: dissimilar to such a degree that comparison is not possible
105. Disseminate: to spread widely
106. Dissonance: a clash between two elements that don't blend well
107. Diminution: lessening; reduction in size; V. diminish
108. Din: continued loud noise; V: make a din; instill by wearying repetition
109. Dinghy: small boat (often ship's boat)
110. dingy: (of things and place) dirty and dull; Ex. dingy street/curtain
111. dint: means; effort; Ex. by dint of hard work

112. diorama life-size, three-dimensional scene from nature or history; three dimensional scenes with modeled figures against a painted background
113. dire: warning of disaster; disastrous; (of needs and dangers) very great; urgent; Ex. dire prediction/need of food
114. Dupe: to deceive or fool
115. Ebullient: zestful enthusiasm
116. Eccentric: quirky or unusual
117. Eclectic: composed of variety of styles, themes, motifs
118. Efficacy: effectiveness
119. Eloquence: persuasive and articulate speech
120. Eminent: well known
121. Empirical: based on evidence
122. Emulate: to imitate or attempt to equal in accomplishment
123. Enervate: to exhaust or drain of energy
124. Engender: to cause or give rise to
125. Enigma: puzzle; mystery; ADJ. enigmatic: obscure; puzzling
126. Enormity: hugeness (in a bad sense); excessive wickedness
127. Enthrall: capture; enslave; captivate; hold the complete attention of (as if magic); hold spellbound
128. Enunciate: announce; proclaim; utter or speak, especially distinctly; pronounce clearly;
129. Epicure: connoisseur of food and drink
130. Epitaph: inscription in memory of a dead person (as on a tombstone)
131. Epitome: perfect example or embodiment; brief summary;
132. Epoch: period of time erudite (of a person or book) learned; full of learning; scholarly; N. erudition
133. escapade: prank; flighty conduct; reckless adventure that disobeys rules
134. euthanasia: mercy killing
135. evanescent: fleeting; vanishing; soon disappearing; V. evanesce
136. evasive: not frank; trying to hide the truth
137. euphony: any pleasing and harmonious sounds
138. exacerbate: make worse
139. exculpate: pronounce not guilty of criminal charges
140. exigent: demanding immediate attention
141. exonerate: pronounce not guilty of criminal charges
142. explicit: precisely and clearly expressed or readily observable
143. Excoriate: criticize severely
144. Expatriate: an exile
145. Euphemism: saying something in a less direct way

146. encomium: high praise
147. ennui: boredom
148. exult: rejoice greatly
149. expunge: erase
150. exponent: notation of how many times to multiply a quantity by itself
151. expurgate: edit by omitting or modifying parts considered indelicate
152. fallow : left unplowed and unseeded during a growing season
153. fanatical: marked by excessive enthusiasm for a cause or idea
154. fatuous: devoid of intelligence
155. fawn: a young deer
156. fecund: capable of producing offspring or vegetation
157. fervid: characterized by intense emotion
158. fetid: offensively malodorous
159. flag : a rectangular piece of cloth of distinctive design
160. florid : elaborately or excessively ornamented
161. foment : try to stir up
162. ford : cross a river where it's shallow
163. forestall: keep from happening or arising; make impossible
164. fortuitous : occurring by happy chance
165. fractious : easily irritated or annoyed
166. frenetic : excessively agitated
167. frugality : prudence in avoiding waste
168. Fastidious: difficult to please; squeamish; fussy; finicky
169. febrile: feverish
170. felon: person convicted of a grave crime
171. fervent: ardent; zealous; hot
172. fervor: glowing ardor; intensity of feeling;
173. fictitious: imaginary; non-existent;
174. fidelity: loyalty; accuracy
175. gambol :play or run boisterously
176. garner : assemble or get together
177. garrulous : full of trivial conversation
178. gestation: the period during which an embryo develops
179. glib: artfully persuasive in speech
180. glower: look angry or sullen as if to signal disapproval
181. gradation: relative position in a graded series
182. gregarious: temperamentally seeking and enjoying the company of others
183. grievous :causing or marked by grief or anguish

- 184. grovel: show submission or fear
- 185. guile :shrewdness as demonstrated by being skilled in deception
- 186. gullible :naive and easily deceived or tricked
- 187. Garner: gather; store up; amass
- 188. gaunt: lean and angular; thin and bony; emaciated; barren
- 189. geniality: cheerfulness; kindness; sympathy
- 190. genuflect: bend the knee as in worship
- 191. gibberish: nonsense; nonsensical or unintelligible talk or writing; babbling
- 192. gibe: mock; make jeering remarks
- 193. girth: distance around something; circumference
- 194. gist: essence; main point; substance
- 195. glare: shine intensely and blindingly; stare fixedly and angrily
- 196. grandiose: affectedly grand; pretentious; high-flown;
- 197. granulate: form into grains or granules;
- 198. gregarious: sociable; (of an animal) tending to form a group
- 199. grievance: cause of complaint; complaint
- 200. Grim: causing great fear;
- 201. grotesque: fantastic; comically hideous;
- 202. grovel: crawl or creep on ground
- 203. gust: strong abrupt rush of wind
- 204. hapless: unfortunate and deserving pity
- 205. hegemony: the dominance or leadership of one social group over others
- 206. hermetic: completely sealed or airtight
- 207. heterogeneous: consisting of elements not of the same kind or nature
- 208. Heresy: lack of faith, dissent, unbelief
- 209. Hirsute: hairy
- 210. Harbinger: forerunner
- 211. hoary: having gray or white hair as with age
- 212. homogeneous: all of the same or similar kind or nature
- 213. husband: a male partner in a marriage
- 214. hyperbole: extravagant exaggeration
- 215. Haggard: wasted away; gaunt
- 216. Halcyon: calm; peaceful;
- 217. Harangue: long, passionate, and vehement speech
- 218. Haven: place of safety; refuge
- 219. Heedless: not noticing; disregarding
- 220. Herald: messenger; sign of something to come;
- 221. Hilarity: boisterous mirth (merriment; laughter)

222. Histrionic: theatrical; excessively dramatic or emotional;
223. Hoodwink: deceive; delude
224. Horde: crowd; swarm
225. Hysteria: excessive or uncontrollable excitement;
226. Hypocritical: pretending to be virtuous; deceiving
227. Hummock: small hill; hillock
228. iconoclast: someone who attacks cherished ideas or institutions
229. idiosyncrasy: a behavioral attribute peculiar to an individual
230. ignoble: completely lacking nobility in character or purpose
231. imbue: spread or diffuse through
232. impasse: a situation in which no progress can be made
233. impecunious: not having enough money to pay for necessities
234. imperturbable: marked by extreme calm and composure
235. impervious: not admitting of passage or capable of being affected
236. impetuous: characterized by undue haste and lack of thought
237. impious: lacking piety or reverence for a god
238. implacable: incapable of being appeased or pacified
239. imprecation: the act of calling down a curse that invokes evil
240. impugn: attack as false or wrong
241. incarnadine: redden or make flesh-colored
242. inchoate: only partly in existence; imperfectly formed
243. inculcate: teach and impress by frequent repetitions or admonitions
244. indolent: disinclined to work or exertion
245. inexorable: not to be placated or appeased or moved by entreaty
246. ingenuous: lacking in sophistication or worldliness
247. ingrate: a person who shows no gratitude
248. ingratiate: gain favor with somebody by deliberate efforts
249. inimical : not friendly
250. iniquity :absence of moral or spiritual values
251. innocuous: not injurious to physical or mental health
252. inquest: an inquiry into the cause of an unexpected death
253. insipid: lacking interest or significance or impact
254. insurrection: organized opposition to authority
255. inter: place in a grave or tomb
256. interregnum : the time between two reigns or governments
257. intractable: difficult to manage or mold
258. intransigent: impervious to pleas, persuasion, requests, or reason
259. intrepid : invulnerable to fear or intimidation

- 260. inundate: fill or cover completely, usually with water
- 261. inure: cause to accept or become hardened to
- 262. invective: abusive language used to express blame or censure
- 263. investiture: the ceremonial promotion of a person to an office or rank
- 264. invidious: containing or implying a slight or showing prejudice
- 265. irascible: quickly aroused to anger
- 266. itinerant: traveling from place to place to work
- 267. jargon: technical terminology characteristic of a particular subject
- 268. jettison: throw away, of something encumbering
- 269. jingoism: fanatical patriotism
- 270. jeopardize endanger
- 271. jubilant in high spirits, joyful
- 272. juxtapose to place side by side
- 273. jocular: characterized by jokes and good humor
- 274. judicious: marked by the exercise of good judgment in practical matters
- 275. juncture: the shape or manner in which things come together
- 276. kindle: catch fire
- 277. kinetic: relating to the motion of material bodies and their forces
- 278. knell: the sound of a bell rung slowly to announce a death
- 279. kudos: an expression of approval and commendation
- 280. Laconic: taciturn, reserved, succinct
- 281. Laudable: praiseworthy
- 282. Litigation: legal proceedings
- 283. Loquacious: talkative
- 284. Lucid: clear and coherent
- 285. Luminous: magnanimity
- 286. Lunatic: brainsick, crackpot, affected with a disordered state of mind
- 287. lachrymose: showing sorrow
- 288. lament: a cry of sorrow and grief
- 289. lampoon: ridicule with satire
- 290. languid: lacking spirit or liveliness
- 291. lapidary: relating to precious stones or the art of working with them
- 292. Larceny: the act of taking something from someone unlawfully
- 293. largess :liberality in bestowing gifts
- 294. lassitude: a feeling of lack of interest or energy
- 295. latent: potentially existing but not presently evident or realized
- 296. licentious: lacking moral discipline
- 297. limpid: clear and bright

- 298. lionize: assign great social importance to
- 299. lissome: moving and bending with ease
- 300. Lithe: graceful
- 301. Livid: pale
- 302. lugubrious: excessively mournful
- 303. lumber: the wood of trees prepared for use as building material
- 304. lackluster: lacking brightness
- 305. levity: humor, lightness of disposition
- 306. lurid: sensational
- 307. lush: luxurious
- 308. magnanimous noble, generous
- 309. maim cripple, disable
- 310. malignant: becoming progressively worse
- 311. malleable: capable of being formed or shaped
- 312. malnutrition: inadequate diet
- 313. mammoth: huge
- 314. maudlin: sentimental
- 315. mendacious: false, lying
- 316. mortify: humiliate, embarrass
- 317. murky: dark, obscure
- 318. maladroit: clumsy, awkward, inept
- 319. meticulous: paying close attention to detail
- 320. maudlin: effusively or insincerely emotional
- 321. Meretricious: tastelessly showy
- 322. metaphor: a figure of speech that suggests a non-literal similarity
- 323. mirth: great merriment
- 324. misanthrope: someone who dislikes people in general
- 325. multifarious :having many aspects
- 326. myopic: unable to see distant objects clearly
- 327. Morose: ill-humored; sullen; melancholy
- 328. Negate: cancel out; nullify; deny
- 329. Neophyte: recent convert; beginner
- 330. Nadir: lowest point
- 331. Naïve: unsophisticated, unworldly
- 332. Nascent: beginning to develop or exist
- 333. Nebulous: vague, not clear
- 334. Nefarious: villainous
- 335. Negligible: inconsiderable, trifling

336. Nepotism: favoritism towards relatives

337. Nettle: irritate

338. Neurotic: having a nervous disorder

339. Neutralize: counteract

340. Nonplussed: confused and baffled

341. Noisome: foul, causing or able to cause nausea

342. obdurate: stubbornly persistent in wrongdoing

343. oblique: slanting or inclined in direction or course or position

344. obsequious: attempting to win favor from influential people by flattery

345. obstinate: marked by tenacious unwillingness to yield

346. obviate: do away with

347. occlude: block passage through

348. Officious: intrusive in a meddling or offensive manner

349. onerous: not easily borne; wearing

350. opaque: not transmitting or reflecting light or radiant energy

351. opine: express one's view openly and without fear or hesitation

352. Opprobrium: a state of extreme dishonor

353. orotund: ostentatiously lofty in style

354. ossify: become bony

355. ostensible: appearing as such but not necessarily so

356. ostentation: pretentious or showy or vulgar display

357. Obloquy: dishonor, disgrace, shame

358. Odium: dishonor, shame, disgust, hostility

359. Paltry: of little importance

360. Panacea: cure-all

361. Pandemonium: uproar, disorder

362. Parable: a moralistic story

363. Paradox: seemingly self-contradictory situation

364. Paragon: model of excellence

365. Paramount: foremost, supreme

366. Pariah: social outcast

367. Paroxysm: violent outburst

368. Pernicious: damaging, harmful

369. Perpetuate: to cause to continue

370. Perspicacious: shrewd

371. Pertinent: appropriate

372. Peruse: read carefully

373. Perverse: contrary

- 374. Pesky: annoying
- 375. phlegmatic: calm, sluggish
- 376. poignant: painful to the feelings, moving
- 377. precipitate: hasten
- 378. preclude: prevent
- 379. premonition: forewarning
- 380. prerogative: an exclusive power or right
- 381. prestigious: well-known
- 382. pretext: an excuse
- 383. prevalent: general, common, prevailing
- 384. prevarication: lying, deviation from the truth
- 385. prodigious: enormous, extraordinary
- 386. prodigy: phenomenon, marvel
- 387. profligate: wasteful
- 388. profound: intense, deep
- 389. profuse: abundant, overflowing
- 390. progeny: descendants
- 391. prognosticate: to be able to tell what will happen in the future
- 392. promulgate: make public, proclaim
- 393. propagate: multiply, spread, produce
- 394. propensity: bent, inclination, disposition
- 395. propinquity: nearness in time and place
- 396. propitious: favorable
- 397. propriety: correctness, suitability
- 398. proximity: nearness
- 399. prudent: cautious, wise
- 400. pugnacious: combative
- 401. puissant: powerful
- 402. pungent: sharply stimulating
- 403. qualm: twinge of conscience
- 404. quandary: dilemma, doubt
- 405. quarry: something hunted or pursued
- 406. quell: crush, stop
- 407. quip: to joke
- 408. Quotidian: relating to the everyday or mundane
- 409. querulous: habitually complaining
- 410. quiescent: being quiet or still or inactive
- 411. quixotic: not sensible about practical matters

- 412. Raconteur: a skilled storyteller
- 413. Rampant: flourishing
- 414. Rebuke: reprimand, reproach, criticize
- 415. Recant: renounce previous statements
- 416. Recondite: obscure, hidden
- 417. Redolent: fragrant
- 418. Refute: prove wrong, disprove
- 419. Relegate: banish, assign to inferior position
- 420. Remuneration: reward
- 421. Repent: desire to make amends, regret
- 422. Repertoire: works that an artist is ready to perform
- 423. Replenish: to restock, fill again
- 424. Replete: completely filled with
- 425. Repose: state of rest
- 426. Reprehensible: blameworthy
- 427. repress: to put down
- 428. reprimand: to scold severely
- 429. reproach: rebuke, reprimand
- 430. repudiate: disown, refuse to accept
- 431. repugnant: repulsive, distasteful
- 432. Rescind: to take back or cancel, retract
- 433. Reverent: solemn and respectful
- 434. Restive: being in a rest state
- 435. Rife: widespread
- 436. Rudimentary: basic
- 437. sacrosanct :must be kept sacred
- 438. sagacious: acutely insightful and wise
- 439. salient: conspicuous, prominent, or important
- 440. salubrious: promoting health
- 441. sanguine: confidently optimistic and cheerful
- 442. sardonic: disdainfully or ironically humorous
- 443. satiate: fill to satisfaction
- 444. scintilla: a tiny or scarcely detectable amount
- 445. sedition: an illegal action inciting resistance to lawful authority
- 446. Sanctimonious: hypocritically religious
- 447. Senile: infirm, weak as a result of old age
- 448. Servile: submissive, slavish
- 449. Shibboleth: slogan, pet phrase

450. Sinecure: soft job
451. Skirmish: small battle
452. Slovenly: disorderly, carelessly
453. Sojourn: temporary stay
454. Sordid: filthy, ignoble
455. Spurious: counterfeit, false, specious
456. Stentorian: loud
457. Stigmatize: to mark with a disgrace
458. Strident: rough, harsh, shrill
459. Stymie: to hinder
460. Subjugate: conquer
461. Subservient: obsequious, servile
462. Subterfuge: a trick, deception
463. Succinct: concise, brief
464. Sullen: grim, ill-humored
465. Surfeit: superabundance, excess
466. Surge: to rush suddenly
467. Surmise: guess
468. Surreptitious: accomplished by secret
469. Susceptible: easily affected
470. slake: satisfy, as thirst
471. sobriquet: a familiar name for a person
472. stolid: having or revealing little emotion or sensibility
473. Sublime: of high moral or intellectual value
474. sully: make dirty or spotty
475. Supplant: take the place or move into the position of
476. Sycophant: a person who tries to please someone to gain an advantage
477. symbiosis: the relation between two interdependent species of organisms
478. syncopation: a musical rhythm accenting a normally weak beat
479. tacit: implied by or inferred from actions or statements
480. taciturn: habitually reserved and uncommunicative
481. talon: a sharp hooked claw especially on a bird of prey
482. tangential :of superficial relevance if any
483. tawdry :tastelessly showy
484. terrestrial: of or relating to or characteristic of the planet Earth
485. tirade: a speech of violent denunciation
486. toady : a person who tries to please someone to gain an advantage
487. tome: a large and scholarly book

488. torpor: a state of motor and mental inactivity
489. transitory: lasting a very short time
490. Temerity: foolish boldness
491. Tenable: supportable; defensible
492. Tenacious: stubborn, tough
493. Termagant: a shrew, a scolding woman
494. Terse: compact, brief, concise
495. Thwart: to hinder
496. Timorous: fearful
497. Tranquil: peaceful
498. Transient: fleeting, passing, short-lived
499. Tremulous: trembling
500. Trenchant: keen, sharp, biting
501. Truisms: a true statement that is very commonly heard, banality
502. Turpitude: evil, wickedness, vileness
503. Tussle: a rough struggle
504. Turgid: ostentatiously turgid in style
505. umbrage: a feeling of anger caused by being offended
506. Unconscionable: greatly exceeding bounds of reason or moderation
507. unequivocal: admitting of no doubt or misunderstanding
508. upbraid: express criticism towards
509. usury: the act of lending money at an exorbitant rate of interest
510. Unkempt: neglected, untidy
511. Urbane: polished, civilized
512. Usurp: annex, grab, seize
513. Utopia: place of perfection
514. Ubiquitous: present everywhere, universal
515. Unmitigated: as bad as can be, unrelieved
516. Vacillate: fluctuate, hesitate
517. Valor: courage
518. Vapid: dull, uninteresting
519. Vehemently: passionately, violently, eagerly
520. Veneer: thin covering
521. Venerable: respected, worshipped
522. Venial: forgivable, pardonable
523. Venom: poison
524. Vertigo: dizziness
525. Vestige: evidence, trace

526. Vexatious: annoying
527. veracity: unwillingness to tell lies
528. verbose: using or containing too many words
529. verdant: characterized by abundance of vegetation and green foliage
530. Vicissitude: a variation in circumstances or fortune
531. vituperate: spread negative information about
532. volatile: liable to lead to sudden change or violence
533. voluble: marked by a ready flow of speech
534. Virile: manly, masterful
535. Virtuosity: great technical skill
536. Virulent: harmful
537. Vitiate: destroy the use or value
538. Vivacious: gay, lively
539. Vogue: fashion
540. Volition: willpower; choice
541. Wan: pale
542. Wane: decline, decrease
543. Wary: watchful, shrewd
544. Wheedle: persuade, coax, cajole
545. Whet: stir up, stimulate
546. Whimsical: witty, humorous
547. Wince: flinch, draw back
548. wraith: a mental representation of some haunting experience
549. xenophobia: a fear of foreigners or strangers
550. Yen: strong desire, strong longing
551. yoke: a wooden frame across the shoulders for carrying buckets
552. zeal: a feeling of strong eagerness
553. zealot: a fervent and even militant proponent of something
554. zenith: the point above the observer directly opposite the nadir
555. zephyr: a slight wind