

In the Name of God

University of Tehran

Technical English

A Useful List of Technical Words

Word	Part of Speech	Prefix	Definition
1. output	noun	out (beyond, more than, out)	the power, energy, or work produced by an engine or a system
2. outlet	noun	out	- a point in a wiring system from which current can be taken to supply electrical devices - a channel that drains a body of water
3. outline	noun, verb	out	- a general description covering the main points of a subject - to give the main features or various aspects of
4. overload	noun, verb	over (too, excessively, over)	- an electrical load that exceeds the available electrical power - place too much a load on
5. oversupply	noun, verb	over	- a supply in excess of what is appropriate or required - overload
6. overdrive	noun, verb	over	- a very high gear in a motor vehicle used at high speeds to reduce wear and save fuel - to drive too hard or too far; overwork or overuse
7. overflow	noun, verb	over	- a condition that occurs when numeric operations produce results too large to store in the register available - to cause to fill beyond capacity
8. overlap	noun, verb	over	to have an area or range in common with
9. overbalance	noun, verb	over	- an excess in weight or quantity - be larger in number, quantity, power, status or importance
10. unleash	verb	un (not, lack of, remove or release from)	to free from restraint or control
11. unstuck	verb,	un	- freed from being stuck, glued, fastened, etc.

	adjective		- to fail
12. unwind	verb	un	- to reverse the winding or twisting of - to disintegrate
13. unbalance	noun, verb	un	to upset the balance, stability, or equilibrium of
14. unbiased	adjective	un	fair; not leaning to a special direction
15. undercurrent	noun	under (beneath, lower, insufficient)	a current, as of air or water, below another current or beneath a surface
16. undergraduate	noun, adjective	under	a college-level student who has not received a first, esp. a bachelor's, degree
17. underestimate	noun, verb	under	- to make too low an estimate of the quantity, degree, or worth of - opposite of overestimate
18. undermanned	adjective	under	inadequate in number of workers or assistants etc.
19. upgrade	noun, verb	up (upward, up)	- to replace (a software program) with a more recently released, enhanced version - to replace (a hardware device) with one that provides better performance
20. update	noun, verb	up	- bring to the latest state of technology - upgrade
21. upkeep	noun	up	the maintenance, repairs, etc., necessary for the proper functioning of a machine, building, household, etc.
22. abrasion	noun	ab (from, away, off, not)	the process of wearing down or rubbing away by means of friction
23. absolute	noun, adjective	ab	- relating to measurements or units of measurement derived from fundamental units of length, mass, and time. - (of a constant) never changing in value; (of an inequality) unconditional; (of a term) not containing a variable
24. adaptor/adapter	noun	ad (to, toward, near)	- a device which enables an electrical plug of one type to be used in a socket of another type, or several plugs to be used in the same socket at the same time - an accessory to convert a machine, tool, or part to a new or modified use - a hardware device, such as a printed circuit board, that enables a personal computer to use additional peripheral devices or hardware
25. adjust	verb	ad	- to bring the components of into a more effective or efficient calibration or state

			- alter or regulate so as to achieve accuracy or conform to a standard
26. postgraduate	noun, adjective	post (after, opposite of ante)	a student who has obtained a degree from a university, etc., and is pursuing studies for a more advanced qualification
27. bifocals	noun (pl.), adjective	bi (two)	- having two focal lengths - having one section that corrects for distant vision and another that corrects for near vision, as an eyeglass lens - (bifocals) eyeglasses with bifocal lenses
28. binary	noun, adjective	bi	- of or relating to a system of numeration having 2 as its base - (of an alloy) consisting of two components or phases
29. semiconductor	noun	semi (half, partly)	- any of various solid crystalline substances, such as germanium or silicon, having electrical conductivity greater than insulators but less than good conductors, and used especially as a base material for computer chips and other electronic devices - an integrated circuit or other electronic component containing a semiconductor as a base material
30. erode	verb	e, ex (out, away, from)	to cause to diminish or deteriorate as if by eating into or wearing away
31. eject	verb	e, ex	to throw out forcefully; expel or emit
32. emit	verb	e, ex	to give or send out (matter or energy); discharge
33. expire	verb	e, ex	to come to an end; terminate
34. extract	noun, verb	e, ex	- to draw or pull out, often with great force or effort - to obtain from a substance by chemical or mechanical action, as by pressure, distillation, or evaporation - to determine or calculate (the root of a number)
35. e-mail	noun, verb	e (abbreviation for electronic)	- a system for sending and receiving messages electronically over a computer network, as between personal computers - a message or messages sent or received by such a system.
36. e-cash	noun	e	money available as an electronic account, used in Internet commerce
37. impede	verb	im, in (into, against, on, over)	to retard or obstruct the progress of
38. impedance	noun	im, in	a measure of the total opposition to current flow in an alternating current circuit, made up of two components, ohmic resistance and reactance, and usually represented in complex notation as $Z = R + iX$, where R is the

			ohmic resistance and X is the reactance
39. impel	verb	im, in	to drive forward; propel
40. impulse	noun, adjective	im, in	- a less common word for pulse - a surge of electrical power in one direction - the product obtained by multiplying the average value of a force by the time during which it acts; the impulse equals the change in momentum produced by the force in this time interval
41. extracurricular	adjective	extra (outside)	- being outside the regular curriculum of a school or college - being outside the usual duties of a job or profession
42. intracellular	adjective	intra (within)	occurring or situated within a cell or cells
43. ultramicroscopic	adjective	ultra (to an extreme degree, beyond, very)	too small to be seen with an optical microscope
44. ultraviolet	noun, adjective	ultra	of or relating to the range of invisible radiation wavelengths from about 4 nanometers, on the border of the X-ray region, to about 380 nanometers, just beyond the violet in the visible spectrum
45. ultrasound	noun	ultra	ultrasonic waves at frequencies above the audible range (above about 20 kHz), used in cleaning metallic parts, echo sounding, medical diagnosis and therapy, etc.
46. supercomputer	noun	super (above, over, upon)	a powerful computer that can process large quantities of data of a similar type very quickly (used in advanced military and scientific applications)
47. superconductivity	noun	super	the property of certain substances that have no electrical resistance; in metals it occurs at very low temperatures, but higher temperature superconductivity occurs in some ceramic materials
48. superconductor	noun	super	a substance capable of becoming superconducting at sufficiently low temperatures
49. infrared	noun, adjective	infra (below, sub)	of or relating to the range of invisible radiation wavelengths from about 750 nanometers, just longer than red in the visible spectrum, to 1 millimeter, on the border of the microwave region
50. infrastructure	noun	infra	- an underlying base or foundation especially for an organization or system - the basic facilities, services, and installations needed for the functioning of a community or society, such as transportation and communications systems, water and power lines, and public institutions including schools,

			post offices, and prisons
51. interrupt	noun, verb	inter (between)	- to break the continuity or uniformity of - the signal to initiate the stopping of the running of one computer program in order to run another, after which the running of the original program is usually continued
52. interject	verb	inter	to interpose abruptly or sharply; interrupt with; throw in
53. immaculate	adjective	in, im, il, ir (not, un)	free from fault or error
54. inaccessible	adjective	in, im, il, ir	not accessible; remote or unapproachable
55. maladjusted	adjective	mal, male (evil, ill, badly)	poorly adjusted
56. debug	noun, verb	de (down, down from opposite of)	- to remove a hidden electronic device, such as a microphone, from (a room, etc.) - to locate and remove defects in (a device, system, plan, etc.)
57. demodulation	noun	de	the act or process by which an output wave or signal is obtained having the characteristics of the original modulating wave or signal; the reverse of modulation
58. defragment	noun	de	to reorganise the way information is stored on a computer disk so that all of the information belonging to a file is stored in a single, contiguous area the disk
59. deviate	verb	de	diverge; to depart, as from an accepted procedure, standard, or course of action
60. converge	verb	con, co, col, cor (together, with)	to tend to meet in a point or line; incline toward each other, as lines that are not parallel; opposite of diverge
61. coherent	adjective	con, co, col, cor	- logically connected; consistent - (of two or more waves) having the same phase or a fixed phase difference
62. correspond	verb	con, co, col, cor	- be compatible, similar or consistent; coincide in their characteristics - to communicate by exchange of letters or emails
63. distract	verb	dis (opposite of, apart, away, differently)	to cause to turn away from the original focus of attention or interest; divert
64. discrepancy	noun	dis	divergence or disagreement, as between facts or claims; difference
65. disintegrate	verb	dis	- to decompose, decay, or undergo a nuclear transformation - to become reduced to components, fragments, or particles
66. circumference	noun	circum (around, round)	the length of a closed geometric curve, esp. of a circle

67. obstruct	verb	ob (against, in the way of, over)	to impede, retard, or interfere with; hinder
68. permeate	verb	per (through, to the end)	to spread through or penetrate something
69. preview	noun, verb	pre (before, beforehand)	an introductory or preliminary message, sample, or overview
70. project	noun, verb	pro (forward, forth)	- a plan or proposal; a scheme - to thrust outward or forward
71. propel	verb	pro	to impel, drive, or cause to move forwards

Word	Part of Speech	Root	Definition
72. fluctuate	verb	flu, fluc, flux (flow)	- to rise and fall in or as if in waves - to change or cause to change position constantly; be or make unstable
73. flux	noun	flu, fluc, flux	- a flow or flowing - the rate of flow of fluid, particles, or energy through a given surface - the lines of force of an electric or magnetic field - the strength of a field in a given area expressed as the product of the area and the component of the field strength at right angles to the area
74. influx	noun	flu, fluc, flux	an act of flowing in; inflow
75. degenerate	noun, verb, adjective	gen, gener, genit (birth, class, kind)	- to diminish in quality; fall from a high or normal standard - (of modes of vibration of a system) having the same frequency - (of a code) containing symbols that represent more than one letter, figure, etc.
76. regenerate	noun, verb, adjective	gen, gener, genit	- to re-create, reconstitute, or make over, esp. in a better form - (in a digital system) to reshape (distorted incoming pulses) for onward transmission
77. incoherent	adjective	here, hes (stick)	- lacking cohesion, connection, or harmony; not coherent - (of two or more waves) having the same frequency but not the same

			phase
78. translucent	adjective	luc, lum (light)	allowing light to pass through partially or diffusely; semitransparent
79. manual	noun, adjective	man, manu (hand)	operated by hand rather than mechanically or automatically
80. suspension	noun	pend, pens (hang)	- the act of suspending or the condition of being suspended - a system of springs, shock absorbers, etc., that supports the body of a wheeled or tracked vehicle and insulates it and its occupants from shocks transmitted by the wheels
81. simulate	verb	simil, simul (similar, like, same)	to create a representation or model of (a physical system or particular situation, for example)
82. simultaneous	adjective	simil, simul	happening, existing, or done at the same time
83. asynchronous	adjective	chron, chrono (time)	- not occurring at the same time; not synchronous - (of a computer or other electronic device) beginning each operation only after finishing the preceding one
84. invisible	adjective	vid, vis (see, look, sight)	impossible to see; not visible
85. visual	noun, adjective	vid, vis	- another word for optical - capable of being seen; visible - of or relating to the sense of sight
86. automatic	noun, adjective	aut, auto (self)	- opposite of manual - (of a device, mechanism, etc.) able to activate, move, or regulate itself
87. automaton	noun	aut, auto	a self-operating machine or mechanism, especially a robot
88. orthogonal	adjective	ortho (straight, correct)	- relating to, consisting of, or involving right angles; perpendicular - of or relating to a linear transformation that preserves the length of vectors
89. homogeneous	adjective	gen, geno, genea (race, kind, birth)	- uniform in structure or composition throughout - (of a polynomial) containing terms of the same degree with respect to all the variables, as in $x^2 + 2xy + y^2$ - (of a function) containing a set of variables such that when each is multiplied by a constant, this constant can be eliminated without altering the value of the function, as in $\cos x/y + x/y$
90. barometer	noun	meter, metr (measure)	- an instrument for measuring atmospheric pressure, usually to determine altitude or weather changes

			- anything that shows change or impending change
91. chronometer	noun	meter, metr chron, chrono	a timing device of extreme accuracy, frequently with a device for checking and adjusting its accuracy
92. diameter	noun	meter, metr	a straight line connecting the centre of a geometric figure, esp. a circle or sphere, with two points on the perimeter or surface
93. odometer	noun	meter, metr	an instrument for measuring distance traveled, as by an automobile; mileometer
94. photometer	noun	meter, metr	an instrument used in photometry, usually one that compares the illumination produced by a particular light source with that produced by a standard source
95. speedometer	noun	meter, metr	a device fitted to a vehicle to measure and display the speed of travel
96. symmetry	noun	meter, metr	- an exact correspondence in position or form about a given point, line, or plane - the independence of a property with respect to direction; isotropy
97. cellophane	noun	phan, phen (show, appear)	a thin, flexible, transparent cellulose material made from wood pulp and used as a moisture proof wrapping
98. phenomenon	noun	phan, phen	- an occurrence, circumstance, or fact that is perceptible by the senses - an observable event
99. diathermy	noun	therm, thermo (heat)	the therapeutic generation of local heat in body tissues by high-frequency electromagnetic currents
100. thermometer	noun	therm, thermo meter, metr	an instrument used to measure temperature, esp. one in which a thin column of liquid, such as mercury, expands and contracts within a graduated sealed tube
101. thermostat	noun	therm, thermo	a device that maintains a system at a constant temperature; it often consists of a bimetallic strip that bends as it expands and contracts with temperature, thus breaking and making contact with an electrical power supply
102. thermonuclear	adjective	therm, thermo	of, relating to, or derived from the fusion of atomic nuclei at high temperatures
103. protocol	noun	prot, proto (first)	a standard procedure for regulating data transmission between computers
104. prototype	noun	prot, proto	one of the first units manufactured of a product, which is tested so that the design can be changed if necessary before the product is manufactured

			commercially
105. synthesis	noun	thesis, thet (set, part)	the process of combining objects or ideas into a complex whole
106. thesis	noun	thesis, thet	- a subject for a composition or essay - a proposition stated or put forward for consideration, esp. one to be discussed and proved or to be maintained against objections
107. asterisk	noun, verb	aster, astr, astro (star)	a small star-like symbol (*), used in writing and printing as a reference mark or to indicate omission, doubtful matter, etc.
108. graphite	noun	gram, graph (letter, writing)	a blackish soft allotropic form of carbon in hexagonal crystalline form: used in pencils, crucibles, and electrodes, as a lubricant, as a moderator in nuclear reactors, and, in a carbon fibre form, as a tough lightweight material for sporting equipment
109. EEG (electroencephalogram)	noun	gram, graph	a recording of the potentials on the skull generated by currents emanating spontaneously from nerve cells in the brain, with fluctuations in potential seen as waves
110. ECG (electrocardiogram)	noun	gram, graph	a graphic tracing of the variations in electrical potential caused by the excitation of the heart muscle and detected at the body surface