

**Aptitude Advanced**

# Vocabulary

**eBook 02**

## Table of Contents

Chapter. No.	Topic	Page No.
1	Vocabulary- Groups	
	1.1 Different types of friends	
	1.2 Different types of mania	
	1.3 Different types of people	1-10
	1.4 Different types of phobia	
	1.5 Words according to their Grammatical Function: Adjectives:	
2	Essential Words	
	2.1 Word List 1	
	2.2 Word List 2	11-20
	2.3 Word List 3	
	2.4 Word List 4	
3	Idioms	21

## Chapter 1: Vocabulary- Groups

### 1.1 Different types of Friends

Word	Meaning
Acquaintance	A relationship less intimate than friendship
Ally	An associate who provides cooperation or assistance
Amigo	A friend or comrade
Backer	Someone who provides financial support for some venture
Beau	A man who is the lover of a girl or young woman
Benefactor	A person who helps people or institutions (especially with financial help)
Chum	A close friend who accompanies his buddies in their activities
Cohort	A company of companions or supporters
Compadre	A close friend who accompanies his buddies in their activities
Companion	A friend who is frequently in the company of another
Comrade	A friend who is frequently in the company of another
Confidant	Someone to whom private matters are confided

Patron	Someone who supports or champions something
Sidekick	A close friend who accompanies his buddies in their activities
Well-wisher	A close friend who accompanies his buddies in their activities

## 1.2 Different types of Mania

Word	Meaning
Ablutomania	the mania for washing oneself
Arithmomania	obsessive preoccupation with numbers
Bibliomania	the craze for books or reading
Clinomania	excessive desire to stay in bed
Dinomania	mania for dancing
Dipsomania	an abnormal craving for alcohol
Egomania	irrational self-centred attitude or self-worship
Ergo mania	excessive desire to work; workaholism
Graph mania	obsession with writing
Hydro mania	irrational craving for water
Hyper mania	severe mania
Hypomania	minor mania
Kleptomania	an irrational predilection for stealing
Megalomania	the abnormal tendency towards grand or grandiose behaviour
Monomania	An abnormal obsession with a single thought or idea

Nymphomania	excessive or crazed sexual desire
Pluto mania	mania for money
Pyromania	the craze for starting fires
Theo mania	the belief that one is a god
Xenomania	inordinate attachment to foreign things

### 1.3 Different types of People

Word	Meaning
Able	(usually followed by 'to') having the necessary means, skill, know-how or authority to do something
Absent-minded	Lost in thought; showing a preoccupation
Adventurous	Willing to undertake or seeking out new and daring enterprises
Apathetic	Showing little or no emotion or animation
Ardent	Characterized by intense emotion
Awful	Exceptionally bad or displeasing
Boisterous	Noisy and lacking in restraint or discipline
Callous	Emotionally hardened
Cantankerous	Stubbornly obstructive and unwilling to cooperate
Churlish	Rude and boorish
Circumspect	Heedful of potential consequences

Conceited	Characteristic of false pride; having an exaggerated sense of self-importance
Condescending	(used of behaviour or attitude) characteristic of those who treat others with condescension
Conscientious	Characterized by extreme care and great effort
Crabby	Annoyed and irritable
Dainty	Delicately beautiful
Demonic	Extremely evil or cruel; expressive of cruelty or befitting hell
Dowdy	Lacking in smartness or taste
Egotistical	Characteristic of those having an inflated idea of their importance
Fastidious	Giving careful attention to detail; hard to please; excessively concerned with cleanliness
Ferocious	Marked by extreme and violent energy
Fervent	Characterized by intense emotion
Glutinous	Able or tending to stick; having the properties of an adhesive
Immodest	Having or showing an exaggerated opinion of your importance, ability, etc
Irascible	Quickly aroused to anger
Listless	Marked by low spirits; showing no enthusiasm
Lithe	Moving and bending with ease
Lively	Full of life and energy

Meddlesome	Intrusive in a meddling or offensive manner
Mercurial	Liable to sudden unpredictable change
Meticulous	Marked by precise accordance with details
Moronic	Having a mental age of between eight and twelve years
Obnoxious	Causing disapproval or protest
Paternalistic	Benevolent but sometimes intrusive
Peevish	Easily irritated or annoyed
Persnickety	(used colloquially) overly conceited or arrogant
Prejudiced	Emanating from a person's emotions and prejudices
Querulous	Habitually complaining
Resourceful	Having inner resources; adroit or imaginative
Sentimental	Given to or marked by sentiment or sentimentality
Slovenly	Negligent of neatness especially in dress and person; habitually dirty and unkempt
Stoic	Someone who is seemingly indifferent to emotions
Testy	Easily irritated or annoyed
Volcanic	Relating to or produced by or consisting of volcanoes
Zealous	Marked by active interest and

## enthusiasm

### 1.4 Different types of Phobia

Word	Meaning
Ablutophobia	Fear of Bathing, washing and cleansing.
Acrophobia	Fear of heights
Agoraphobia	Fear of Open Spaces.
Anthropophobia	Fear of people or the company of people, a form of social phobia.
Autophobia	Fear of being alone or isolated.
Bibliophobia	Fear of books.
Chrematophobia	Fear of money.
Claustrophobia	Fear of closed spaces.
Cynophobia	Fear of dogs.
Emetophobia	Fear or anxiety pertaining to vomiting.
Ergophobia	Fear of work
Gamophobia	Fear of marriage.
Herpetophobia	Fear of reptiles.
Hydrophobia	Fear of water.
Ophthalmophobia	Fear of being stared at.
Paedophobia	Fear of children; fear of dolls or fear of infants, childhood.
Pantophobia	Fear of everything.
Pentheraphobia	Fear or hatred of one's mother-in-law.



Phonophobia	Fear of noise or of speaking aloud.
Photophobia	Fear of light.
Pyrophobia	Fear of fires or flames. Pyro means fire.
Spectrophobia	Fear of looking in a mirror
Technophobia	Fear of technology.
Thanatophobia	Fear of death.
Triskaidekaphobia	Fear of the number thirteen.
Xenophobia	Fear of foreigners or strangers.

### 1.5 Words according to their Grammatical Function: Adjectives:

Word	Meaning
Altruistic	Showing a selfless concern for the well-being of others
Ample	Full and broad
Anguished	Experiencing or expressing severe mental or physical pain or suffering
Austere	Severe or strict in manner or attitude
Avaricious	Having or showing extreme greed for wealth or material gain
Bite-sized	Very small or short
Buoyant	cheerful or optimistic
Bustling	Move in an energetic and busy manner
Cautious	Careful to avoid potential problems or dangers
Clumsy	Awkward in movement and handling

	things
Courteous	Polite, respectful, or considerate in manner
Crafty	Clever at achieving one's aims by indirect or deceitful methods
Cultured	Characterised by good education and manners
Cumbersome	Slow or complicated and there inefficient
Dapper	Neat and trim in dress and appearance
Delirious	In the acutely disturbed state of mind characterised by restlessness, illusions and incoherence
Dimwitted	Stupid or silly
Doting	Extremely and uncritically fond of someone
Enormous	Very large in size or quantity
Exemplary	Serving as a desirable model
Eminent	Famous and respected with a particular sphere
Extraneous	Irrelevant or unrelated to the subject being dealt with
Flimsy	Easily damaged
Frivolous	Not having any serious purpose or value
Frigid	A disinterested, cold personality
Immaculate	Free from moral blemish or impurity
Indolent	Having or showing a disposition to avoid exertion

Insidious	Stealthily, treacherous or deceitful
Juvenile	Acting immaturely; childish

## Chapter 2: Essential Words

### 2.1 Word List 1

Words	Meaning
Abasement	humiliation; degradation
Abhor	hate
Abrasive	rough; coarse; harsh
Abrogate	cancel; deny; repeal
Absolution	forgiveness; pardon; release
Abstain	desist; go without; withdraw
Abstemious	self-denying; refraining from indulging
Abstruse	difficult to understand; obscure
Accolade	tribute; honor; praise
Acquiesce	to agree to; give in to
Acrid	sharp; pungent (used of smells and tastes)
Acrophobia	fear of heights
Acuity	sharpness (mental or visual)
Adamant	forceful; inflexible
Adroit	skilful
Adulation	strong admiration; worship
Adversity	hardship

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Advocate	support
Aesthetic	concerning art or beauty
Affable	friendly; social; easygoing
Bigot	narrow-minded, prejudiced person
Bilk	cheat; defraud
Billowing	swelling; fluttering; waving
Blasphemy	speech which offends religious sentiments
Blatant	obvious
Blighted	damaged; destroyed; ruined
Blithe	free-spirited; carefree
Blunderbuss	1. ancient weapon (a type of gun); 2. a clumsy person
Bolster	support; prop up
Bombast	arrogant, pompous language
Boorish	ill-mannered
Bourgeois	middle class
Braggart	someone who boasts
Brawny	muscular
Brevity	being brief
Bristle	to show irritation
Broach	start to discuss; approach
Brusque	blunt; abrupt
Bulwark	fortification; barricade; wall
Bureaucracy	officialdom
Counterfeit	fake; false
Cower	recoil in fear or servility; shrink away from

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Credible	believable
Creditable	praiseworthy
Credulous	gullible; ready to believe anything
Crepuscular	active at dawn and dusk
Cringe	recoil; flinch; shy away
Cryptic	puzzling; enigmatic
Curtail	cut short
Cynical	believing that people act only out of selfish motives
Debility	weakness; incapacity
Debunking	exposing false claims or myths
Decathlon	an athletic competition with ten events
Decorum	dignified, correct behaviour [decorous]
Decoy	lure; trap; trick
Deference	respect
Defoliate	cause leaves to fall off
Defunct	no longer in existence
Degradation	deprivation; poverty; debasement

## 2.2 Word List 2

Words	Meaning
Enfranchise	give voting rights
Engender	cause
Enhance	improve; make better or clearer
Enigma	puzzle; mystery
Ensconce	establish firmly in a position
Enshroud	cover
Enunciation	clear pronunciation; accent; articulation
Envenom	to cause bitterness and bad feeling
Ephemeral	short-lived
Epicure	someone who appreciates good food and drink
Epistle	a letter (a form of communication)
Epistolary	concerned with letters; through correspondence
Epitomized	typified; characterised; personified
Equivocate	speak ambiguously; avoid telling the truth
Erratic	wandering; irregular
Esoteric	obscure and difficult to understand
Espouse	promote; take up; support
Etymology	the study of word origins
Eulogy	praise
Hamper	hinder; obstruct
Hangar	storage area (like garage) for a plane
Harangue	noisy, attacking speech

Harbingers	indicators; bringers of warnings
Hasten	hurry; accelerate; rush
Haughtiness	arrogance; pride
Headstrong	stubborn; wilful
Hedonism	self indulgence; pleasure-seeking
Hedonist	a pleasure seeker
Heed	listen to
Heresy	against the orthodox opinion
Hiatus	interruption; pause
Hidebound	rigid in opinions
Hieroglyphics	1. picture writing; 2. writing which is difficult to read or enigmatic
Hinder	obstruct
Histrionic	theatrical; exaggerated
Hoary	old
Hone	sharpen; increase; whet
Hyperbole	grossly exaggerated speech
Hypochondriac	a person obsessed with health; having imaginary illnesses

## 2.3 Word List 3

Words	Meaning
Kindle	to start a fire
Knotty	complex; difficult to solve
Labyrinth	a maze
Labyrinthine	complicated; highly convoluted
Laceration	a cut
Lachrymose	tearful; sad
Lacklustre	dull; monotonous; bland
Laconic	using few words; brief; to the point
Lamentation	expression of regret or sorrow
Lampoon	ridicule; spoof
Lance	spear; spike; javelin
Languid	tired; slow
Languish	decay; fade away; get weaker
Larceny	theft; robbery; stealing
Largess	generosity
Laud	praise
Lavish	on a grand scale; wasteful
Lax	careless; not strict
Legend	1. key to the map; 2. myth or story
Legion	in large numbers
Noxious	harmful; poisonous; lethal
Nuance	something subtle; a fine shade of meaning
Nullify	to counter; make unimportant
Nuzzle	cuddle; snuggle



Obdurate	stubborn
Obfuscate	deliberately make something difficult to understand
Objective	unbiased; not subjective
Oblique	indirect; slanting
Obliterate	destroy; demolish; eradicate
Oblivious	totally unaware
Obscure	difficult to understand; partially hidden
Obscured	hidden; covered; buried
Obsequious	servile; submissive
Obsession	a dominating concern
Obsolete	no longer valid
Obstreperous	noisy and boisterous
Obtuse	mentally dull
Obviate	avoid; make unnecessary
Odious	hateful
Officious	domineering; intrusive; meddlesome

## 2.4 Word List 4

Words	Meaning
Placid	calm; peaceful
Plagiarism	taking credit for someone else's writing or ideas
Plaintiff	petitioner (in court of law)
Plaudit	statement giving strong praise

Plausible	can be believed; reasonable
Plethora	an excess
Pliable	flexible; not stubborn
Plumage	feathers of a bird
Plummet	fall suddenly and steeply
Podium	raised platform
Poignant	deeply moving; strongly affecting the emotions
Poised	calm; collected; self-possessed
Polemical	causing debate or argument
Ponderous	weighty; slow and heavy
Pontificate	speak pompously or dogmatically
Portend	foretell
Portent	a warning sign; omen
Poseur	someone who puts on an act
Posterity	future generations
Posthumous	after death
Remuneration	payment for work done
Replete	full
Reprehensible	shameful; very bad
Reprieve	a respite; postponement of a sentence
Repudiate	shun; eschew
Rescind	retract; repeal
Resignation	acceptance of fate
Resolution	determination
Resonant	echoing
Respite	a break; intermission
Resplendent	shining; glowing

Restorative	a tonic
Retention	preservation; withholding
Reticent	restrained; holding something back; uncommunicative
Retraction	withdrawal; cancellation of a statement
Revere	worship
Riddled	full of (usually full of holes)
Rife	common
Rigor	thoroughness
Talisman	lucky charm
Tangent	going off the main subject
Tangible	can be touched
Tardy	slow; late; overdue; delayed
Tawdry	of little value; gaudy
Tedium	boredom
Temper	to moderate; soften
Tenacious	stubborn; resolute; holding firm to a purpose
Tentative	not certain
Tenuous	flimsy; not solid
Terse	concise; to the point
Therapeutic	medicinal; curative
Thwart	prevent; frustrate
Timorous	cowardly; fearful
Tirade	a stream of verbal abuse
Titter	giggle quietly
Tome	large book

Torpid	inactive; lazy; stagnant
Torpor	dormancy; sluggishness; inactivity
Totter	walk unsteadily

### Chapter 3: Idioms

Idioms are words, phrases, or expressions that are unusual either grammatically, as in "Long time, no see!" or there is a meaning that cannot be derived from the conjoined meanings of its elements, as in "It's raining cats and dogs!" Every language has idioms, and they are challenging for students to learn.

Let us take an example.

**Read the two sentences given below and deduce the meaning of the italicised phrase:**

- Before the bartender made the drink, he *broke the ice* with a spoon and dropped it into the glass.
- Before the conference began, the speaker *broke the ice* with a joke.

to break the ice =

1. To make a beginning
2. To get through the first difficulties in starting a conversation or discussion

Idioms	Meaning
A Blessing In Disguise	Something good that isn't recognised at first.
A Chip On Your Shoulder	Angry attitude from someone who feels unfairly treated.
Dime A Dozen	Anything that is common and easy to get/ inexpensive.
A House Divided Against Itself Cannot Stand	Success comes from sticking together and to do anything else is to invoke disaster.
A Leopard Can't Change His Spots	A person cannot change who they are (their character).
A Penny Saved Is A Penny Earned	Wise to save money/Saving your money and not spending.
A Picture Paints a Thousand Words	A visual presentation is far more descriptive than words.
A Piece of Cake	A task that can be accomplished very easily.
A Slap on the Wrist	A very mild punishment.

A Taste Of Your Own Medicine	When you are mistreated the same way, you mistreat others.
Actions Speak Louder Than Words	It's better to do something than just talk about it.
Add Fuel To The Fire	To make an argument or bad situation worse.
Against The Clock	Rushed and short on time.
All Bark And No Bite	When someone is threatening and/or aggressive but not willing to engage in a fight.
All Greek to me	Not understanding something that is said or written.
All In The Same Boat	When everyone is facing the same challenges.
An Axe To Grind	To have a strong personal opinion and want others to accept and understand it.
Apple of My Eye	The person who someone loves most and is very proud of.
At The Drop Of A Hat	To do something immediately without thinking about it first.
Back Seat Driver	A person who keeps giving advice that is not asked for.

Back To Square One	Having to start all over again.
Back To The Drawing Board	After a failed attempt to go back to the start and begin again.
Barking Up The Wrong Tree	Trying to do something in a way that will not work.
Beat A Dead Horse	To waste effort on something with no chance of succeeding.
Beating Around The Bush	Avoiding the main topic. Not speaking directly about the issue.
Bite Off More Than You Can Chew	To try to do something that is too difficult for you.
Bite Your Tongue	To stop yourself from saying what you really want to say.
Blood Is Thicker Than Water	The family bond is closer than anything else.
Blue Moon	A rare event or occurrence.
Break A Leg	Wishing someone good luck, mostly before a performance.
Chew someone out	To criticise someone angrily.
Cock and Bull Story	An unbelievable tale.

Cross Your Fingers	To hope that something happens the way you want it to.
Cry Over Spilt Milk	To regret something in the past or something that cant change.
Cry Wolf	Intentionally raise a false alarm.
Curiosity Killed The Cat	A warning to not ask too many questions about something.
Cut to the Chase	Leave out all the unnecessary details and just get to the point.
Dark Horse	A person who keeps their interests and ideas secret, especially when they have surprising ability or skills.
Desperate times call for desperate measures	When you face extreme and undesirable situations, it is sometimes necessary to take extreme actions.
Devil's Advocate	Someone who pretends, in an argument or discussion, to be against an idea or plan that a lot of people support, to make people discuss and consider it in more detail.



Don't count your chickens before they hatch	Don't rely on every plan or action having a good or positive outcome.
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Don't Look A Gift Horse In The Mouth	Don't refuse something good that is being offered.
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Don't Put All Your Eggs In One Basket	Don't concentrate all your efforts and resources into one area or future possibility.
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Drink like a fish	To drink too much alcohol.
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Drive someone up the wall	To irritate and/or annoy someone a lot.
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Dry Run	Rehearsal / practice of a particular activity.
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Every Cloud Has A Silver Lining	Every difficult or unpleasant situation has some advantage.
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Have a Field Day	To take advantage of an opportunity to do something you enjoy.
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Find Your Feet	To become familiar with and confident in a new situation.
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Flash In The Pan	Something that happened only once or for a short time and was not repeated
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Flesh and Blood	What people are made of, or someone in your family.
From Rags To Riches	To go from being very poor to being very wealthy.
Get Over It	To move beyond something that is bothering you.
Woke Up On The Wrong Side Of The Bed	Someone who is having a horrible day.
Get Your Walking Papers	Get fired from a job.
Give Him The Slip	To get away from. To escape.
Go Down Like A Lead Balloon	To be poorly received by an audience.
Go For Broke	To gamble or risk everything; to try as hard as possible.
Go The Extra Mile	Going above and beyond whatever is required for the task at hand.
Good Samaritan	Someone who helps people in trouble.
Graveyard Shift	A period of work that begins late at night and ends early in the morning.

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Great Minds Think Alike	Said to someone just after you have discovered that they had the same idea as you.
Haste Makes Waste	Quickly doing things results in an unsatisfactory ending.
Head Over Heels	Completely in love.
High on the Hog	Living in Luxury.
Hit The Books	To study, especially for a test or exam.
Hit The Nail on the Head	Do something exactly right or say something exactly right.
Hit The Sack	Go to bed or go to sleep.
Hocus Pocus	Tricks or words used to hide what is happening/unclear.
Hold Your Horses	Be patient.
Icing On The Cake	Something that makes a good situation even better.
If It's Not One Thing, It's Another	Used when bad things keep happening to you.
In The Heat Of The Moment	To say or do it without thinking because you are overwhelmed by what is happening at the moment.
In Your Face	A shocking and annoying

	confrontation that is difficult to ignore.
It Takes Two To Tango	A two-person conflict where both people are at fault.
It's A Small World	You frequently see the same people in different places.
Its Anyone's Call	A competition where the outcome is difficult to judge or predict.
Keep An Eye On Him	You should carefully watch him.
Keep your chin up	To remain joyful in a tough situation.
Kick The Bucket	Die.
Knee Jerk Reaction	A quick and automatic response.
Lend Me Your Ear	To politely ask for someone's full attention.
Let Bygones Be Bygones	To forget about a disagreement or argument.
Let Sleeping Dogs Lie	To avoid restarting a conflict
Let The Cat Out Of The Bag	To share a secret as it wasn't supposed to be shared.
Level playing field	A fair competition where no side has an advantage.

Like a chicken with its head cut off	To act in a frenzied manner.
Make No Bones About	To not try to hide something or say you are sorry about it.
Mum's the word	To keep quiet. To say nothing.
Never Bite The Hand That Feeds You	Importance of acting respectfully toward those you depend upon.
New kid on the block	Someone new to the group or area.
Get Off On The Wrong Foot	To make an unsuccessful start in something or with someone.
Off The Hook	No longer have to deal with a tough situation.
Off the Record	Not intended for publication or disclosure; confidential.
On Pins And Needles	Worried or excited about something that is going to happen.
On The Same Page	When multiple people all agree on the same thing.
Out Of The Blue	Something that suddenly and unexpectedly occurs.
Out On A Limb	When someone puts themselves in a risky situation.

Over the Top	Very excessive.
Pass The Buck	Shift the responsibility for something to someone else.
Prick up your ears	To listen very carefully.
Pig In A Poke	Something that you buy or accept without first seeing it or finding out if it is good.
Pig Out	To eat a lot or too much.
Pipe Down	To stop talking or making unnecessary noise.
Pull the plug	To stop something. To bring something to an end.
Pulling Your Leg	Tricking someone as a joke.
Raining Cats and Dogs	A very loud and noisy rain storm.
Rise and Shine	Time to get out of bed and get ready for work/school.
Rome Wasn't Built In A Day	You cannot expect to do important things in a short period of time.
Run out of steam	To be entirely out of energy.
Scapegoat	Someone else who takes the blame.
Scot-free	To escape and not have to pay.

Sick As A Dog	To be very ill (with the flu or a cold).
Riding Shotgun	Riding in the front passenger seat of a car.
Smell A Rat	To detect someone in the group is betraying the others or to recognize that something is not as it appears and something dishonest is happening.
Something smells Fishy	Detecting that something isn't right and there might be a reason for it.
Start From Scratch	To do it all over again from the beginning.
The Ball Is In Your Court	It is your decision and up to you to make the next move.
The Best Of Both Worlds	A situation where you enjoy the advantages of two very different things at the same time.
The Last Straw	The final irritation or problem that stretches one's endurance or patience beyond the limit.
To Make A Long Story Short	Used to end an account of events quickly.

To Steal Someone's Thunder	Win praise for oneself by pre-empting someone else's attempt to impress.
Tongue in Cheek	Speaking or writing in an ironic or insincere way.
Turn A Blind Eye	To ignore something that you know is wrong.
Under the weather	Feeling ill or sick.
Water Under The Bridge	Anything from the past that isn't significant or important anymore.
Wear Your Heart On Your Sleeve	To make your feelings and emotions obvious rather than hiding them.