

Competitive Exams: Word List: Vocabulary A

Word List: A

- abacus: Frame with balls for calculating
- abate: To lessen, to subside
- abdication: Giving up control, authority
- abdomen: Stomach and bowels
- aberration: Straying away from what is normal
- abeyance; suspended action
- abhor: To hate, to detest
- abide: Be faithful to; endure
- abjure: Promise or swear to give up
- abraded: Rubbed off, worn away by friction
- abrasion: Rubbing, scraping, wearing off
- abrogate: Repeal or annul by authority
- abscond: To go away suddenly (to avoid arrest)
- abstruse: Difficult to comprehend; obscure
- abundant: Plentiful
- abut: Border on
- abysmal: Bottomless, extreme
- acarous: Effete, no longer fertile, worn out
- accentuate: Give more force or attention to
- acclaimed: Welcomed with shouts and approval
- accolade: Praise, approval
- accretion: The growing of separate things into one
- acquiesce: In agree (without protest)

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- acquisition: Smth acquired, acquiring
- adamant: Kind of stone; inflexible
- adhere: Remain faithful, stick fast to
- adhesion: Adhering, support
- adjacent: Lying near, next
- admonitory: Containing warning
- adorn: Add beauty; decorate
- adulteration: Making unpure, poorer in quality
- affinity: Close connection, relationship
- aggravate: Make worse; irritate
- agile: Active, quick-moving
- ail: Trouble; be ill
- alacrity: Eager and cheerful readiness
- alienate: Estrange
- allegiance: Duty, support, loyalty
- alleviate: Make (pain) easier to bear
- alloy: To debase by mixing with something inferior
- aloof: Reserved, indifferent
- amalgamate: Mix, combine, unite societies
- ambidextrous: Able to use the left hand or the right equally well
- ambiguous: Doubtful, uncertain
- ambivalent: Having both of two contrary meanings
- ameliorate: Improve, make better
- amendment: Improving
- amicable: Friendly
- amortize: End (a debt) by setting aside money
- amplify: Make large or fuller, increase the strength
- animosity: Strong dislike

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- annul: Put an end to
- anticlimax: Sudden fall
- antidote: Medicine used against a poison or a disease
- antithetical: Direct opposing
- apartheid: Brutal racial discrimination
- apathetic: Indifference
- aplomb: Self-confidence
- apostate: One who abandons long-held religious or political convictions
- apotheosis: Deification, glorification to godliness
- appease: Make quiet or calm
- apprehensive: Grasping, understanding; fear, unhappy feeling about future
- apprise: Give notice to, inform
- approbation: Approval
- appropriate: Take for one's own use, acquire, set aside
- apropos: Appropriate to the situation; apt
- apt: Well-suited, quick-witted
- arabesque: a complex, ornate design
- arabesque: Whimsical
- arbitrate: Decide by arbitration
- arboreal: Of connected with trees
- ardently: With full of ardor
- ardor: Enthusiasm
- arduous: Steep, difficult ascent; laborious
- argot: Jargon, slang
- arrant: In the highest degree
- arrogance: Proud, superior manner of behaviour
- articulate: Speak distinctly, connect by joints
- ascend: Go or come up

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- ascent: The act of ascending
- ascertain: Get to know
- ascetic: Practicing self-denial, austere, stark
- ascribe: Consider to be the origin of or belonging to
- asperity: Roughness, harshness, ill temper, irritability
- aspersion: Slander
- assail: With attack violently
- asset: Valuable quality, smth that has money value
- assiduous: Diligent, hard-working, sedulous
- assuage: Make smth (pain, desire) less
- assumption: Smth supposed but not proved
- asterisk: The mark * (e. g. Omitted letters)
- astringent: Substance that shrinks
- astute: Clever; quick at seeing to get an advantage
- atonement: Repayment; death of Jesus
- attenuate: Make thin. Weaken, enervate
- audacious: Daring, foolishly bold, impudent
- augury: Omen, sign
- august: Majestic, venerable
- auspice: Protection or support, patronage
- auspicious: Favorable, successful, prosperous
- austere: Severely moral and strict; simple and plain
- auxiliary: Helping, supporting
- aver: Affirm, assert, prove, justify
- aversion: Strong dislike
- avid: Eager, greedy
- avow: Admit. Declare openly

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- acumen: Quickness of intellectual insight, or discernment; keenness of discrimination.
Adage: An old saying.
- adamant: Any substance of exceeding hardness or impenetrability. Admonition: Gentle reproof.
- adumbrate: To represent beforehand in outline or by emblem.
- affable: Easy to approach.
- aggrandize: To cause to appear greatly.
- aggravate: To make heavier, worse, or more burdensome.
- agile: Able to move or act quickly, physically, or mentally.
- agog: In eager desire.
- alacrity: Cheerful willingness.
- alcove: A covered recess connected with or at the side of a larger room. Alleviate: To make less burdensome or less hard to bear. Aloof: Not in sympathy with or desiring to associate with others. Amalgamate: To mix or blend together in a homogeneous body. Ambidextrous: Having the ability of using both hands with equal skill or ease. Ambiguous: Having a double meaning. Ameliorate: To relieve, as from pain or hardship anathema: Anything forbidden, as by social usage. Animadversion: The utterance of criticism or censure. Animosity: Hatred.
- antediluvian: Of or pertaining to the times, things, events before the great flood in the days of Noah.
- antidote: Anything that will counteract or remove the effects of poison, disease, or the like:
- aplomb: Confidence; coolness.
- apprise: To give notice to; to inform.
- approbation: Sanction.
- arboreal: Of or pertaining to a tree or trees.
- ardor: Intensity of passion or affection.
- argot: A specialized vocabulary peculiar to a particular group. Arrant: Notoriously bad.
- ascetic: Given to severe self-denial and practicing excessive abstinence and devotion.
- ascribe: To assign as a quality or attribute. Asperity: Harshness or roughness of temper. Assiduous: Unceasing; persistent
- assuage: To cause to be less harsh, violent, or severe, as excitement, appetite, pain, or disease. Astringent: Harsh in disposition or character. Astute: Keen in discernment.

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- atonement: Amends, reparation, or expiation made from wrong or injury.
- audacious: Fearless.
- augury: Omen
- auspicious: Favorable omen
- austere: Severely simple; unadorned.
- autocrat: Any one who claims or wields unrestricted or undisputed authority or influence.
Auxiliary: One who or that which aids or helps, especially when regarded as subsidiary or accessory. Avarice: Passion for getting and keeping riches. Aver: To avouch, justify or prove