

English Language for Competitive Exams
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Week - 08
Lecture -37
Foreign words & names

The English language has borrowed words from all over the world, and from all languages possible. Now we have already done couple of sessions before, where we talked about the influence of Latin and Greek very specifically and of course, French, Italian, German, and Spanish, languages on English languages. Today we are going to continue with that.

We are going to look at foreign words that have come to become part of the English language, and also how important they are today. In fact, they have become so one with English language, that today we are we do not even stop to think, whether they are of English origin of some other language. We almost take it as a part of, as something that has always been a part of the English language it has not like that always. So, remember it as not been like that always.

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So, these are the word that I am going to look at. I will be talking about the meanings, difficulties with the pronunciation or the spellings so it all there for

you Foreign words in the English language. First word is accolade, I am trying to go alphabetically, but there will be some backing and forwarding so do not get tense about that, Keep your dictionaries open, and see what is the exact meaning, and how you can use that expression or term in your own language. What is the usage given according to the dictionary? So, this is accolade, you win accolades at, the original meaning is embrace, to embrace. It is French words, and it has swung into the modern language, modern English language, it means crowning praise. It has become one of the most tired words I should say.

We say someone has won accolades and laurels, this is meant to mean that someone was one awards, rewards, praise, and honour those are the synonyms. Ambience is another very commonly used term, it means milieu or environment, that the idea of pervading atmosphere and aura or a settings; that is an ambience, I do not like the ambience of a particular place. So, it is not for me. Ambience, the complete ambience of collage a restaurant, the movie theatre, shopping mall; people say we go there for the ambience, many people say we like going to a particular coffee shop for it is ambience less for the coffee and more for the ambience, the atmosphere, the environment, the aura is so good. So, that is what some people go for.

Aplomb is complete self assuredness (Refer Time: 03:38) self-position. I am interested in some word formation. So, prefix is a, and you have the word aplomb. So, aplomb is the lead word here, referent is to the plum at the plum line code that as weight attached at one end of the, at a verticality or test verticality. When a man gets as a aplomb, he has been tested for his ability to stand up straight.

So, someone does things with aplomb, complete confidence. Next is arcane; it comes from the Latin word arcane, which means close, secrete, mysterious as constructed with. So, antonyms would be clear, lucid, direct, arcane, hidden, recondite, and antonyms clear lucid direct. Au courant which is something in the current; I am au courant with the politics of a the united states, never avail informed up to date, a brash of in the no, or you can ignorant, blissfully unaware of what is so, au courant is in the current. Next word is avant-garde; a favourite artist and especially theatre practiseness and also film makers.

Avant-garde, it means creators of new ideas, artists and writer who are unconventional, unorthodox. So, the adjective would be off bit, way out fount. So, that is avant-gardish. Every one cannot be, just because you have a couple of unconventional ideas that does not make you avant garde person. Avant garde is a way people. It is a complete life style. You cannot pretend to have, to be non conform is non traditional person, and orthodox person, at a same time you have, you know very very, a couple of very strong ideas about certain things. Avant garde person is able to be flexible to adopt himself or herself, according to the changing trends.

In case. So, not exactly flexible, the flexible is not be exact meaning here, but someone who is very unorthodox and untraditional in his or her outlook. Even fashions can avant gardish. Bete noir, literally black beast in French language; in the French language bete is a beast, the bete human the human beast, no eye black. So, a pet aversion; person or thing that is hated or detested by someone, a bete noir, my bete noir very strong word. You just cannot say this music is my bete noir this kind of music; no. You have to have a very strong feeling of dislike, someone as to have a very strong feeling of dislike towards you, and that is when you become a black beast bete noir for someone.

Next is bonanza. Bonanza is prosperity gold mine. So, you win a lottery ticket and you get a bonanza; Spanish word. It came into English language in the days of the, in some time when the minus (Refer Time: 07:37). So, bonanza is rich fine, something very profitable venture, a source of great riches. Bellwether write is for the sports and financial pages love these words, is another way of identifying leader in a particular sport, or in a stock market trend.

So, bellwether, male sheep of, it has been origin in which is sheep weather, which as a bell tied round it is neck, and other sheep, and other being sheep follow him. The bellwether is a. Now also it has come to develop and additional meaning and it is influence by the word weather rain, by indicating that which way the wind is blowing, the kind of barometer, something which a prediction can be made.

Next word is canard. Canard is a hoax; a fabricated report, misleading, deceptive report, something that has been, that has no bearings in facts or truth, the

groundless story. Carte blanche now (Refer Time: 09:00) is black, Blanche is white. So, white paper. you're given a carte blanche to do something which is a huge honour, which means you have achieved or attained that kind of credibility, where you are given the permission to write your own terms, almost like blank check. Cavalier. Cavalier means is nob, is nebbish person. Someone who is cavalier as a bad attitude and regards other people as inferior, the word cavalier dates from mid and 16 century French from the Latin word *cabales* meaning horse. If you have cavalier attitude you look down another on other people.

Coup d'état; military dictatorships often a stage. Coup d'état a blow stroke of his state, a sudden overthrow or return of the government, and unexpected action of a government, usually implying this use of force. *Cognoscenti*. So, knowing, this plural form is given, because we do not meet the singular, the *cognoscente* although there is word call *cognoscente*, *cognoscenti* is a plural. These people are the experts, is a very high praise, the *cognoscenti*, begin. Now a days we use words very loosely the *twitterati*, people who are twitting I mean you do not have to be expert to twitter, unless and until you are in league of your own. I do not think that anybody's opinions are that important, but we have a way of coining our own words. So, *twitterati*.

So, there is just an assign, coming back toward we are doing here. *Cognoscenti* is an expert, and equivalent of. So, *cognoscenti* is Italian words which means an expert, it has come to become a part of English language, *connoisseur* is French equivalent *cognoscenti*; *connoisseur* spelling *c o n n o i s s e u r* *connoisseur*. Next word is *echelon*. Latin word is *scala*, is ladder, and now it is used to indicator level of rank or grade, a rang of the ladder upper or lower. So, generally we say upper echelon of society, upper echelons of hierarchy. Next we come to *epiphany*. *Epiphany* comes from a lead Greek word, meaning appearance or manifestation, the feast of *epiphany* in capital E, celebrating the manifestation of Christ to the (Refer Time: 12:04) is also called twelfth night. So, that is *epiphany*, in common language, when inspiration hits you out of the blue, we call it an *epiphany*. The writer had a sudden *epiphany*, you had a *epiphany* and you started putting pen to paper, sudden kind of a bust of inspiration.

In a sudden burst of inspiration [FL], we say fancy, imagination. So, when inspiration hits you out of nowhere epiphany. *Fait accompli*; it is an accomplished fact or deed, something accomplished and irrevocable. A program decided upon and presented, as a final action without warning or a chance to debate.

So, something has been accomplished, without discussion, without warning. *Fetish*, it is right on top of bonanza. This word comes from Latin word, from which we get the word *facticus*. A *fetish* something that has been made up, or falls or artificial. It refers to an object image or ideal, believed among primitive people; that is the origin to have magical powers of protection. Now a day's a *fetish* obsession for something, you people say I have a shoe *fetish*, which means obsession, but that is the origin here. It magical power of protection or something. So, from some object, but that is not the origin, today it has come to know or come to mean something else *fetish*. *Fetish* for, the colour red; someone else *fetish* for, let say table cloths, so that a kind of you know, some kind of an obsession, which one may understand other may not, others may not.

Fulsome. Now it is used to describe an ingratiating manner for excess of latterly, *fulsome* praise, nobody wants *fulsome* phrases from anyone. The movement someone start exaggerating, your accomplishment your attributes; that means, there in sincere here.

It is a figurative word to mean something, for which someone has a kind of a blind or unreasoning of action, but *fulsome* compliments are something that all of us should stay clear of. We do not; we should stay clear of paying someone and receiving someone, *fulsome* phrases and compliments.

Brio, it is vivacities, energetic, vigour's. So, you get *brio* from something, vivacity, you are on fire, you are charged that is the meaning. It is a positive word. [FL] is inter play of dark and shadowy, a sketch in black and white, a sharp contrast, so light and shadow. Sometime in films you must have seen light emanating from the windows. So, there you have an inter play of light and shadow; a dark room occasionally lit up by the light outside, through the curtain outside, so that is inter play of light and shadow. *Imbroglione* g silent, a violent

and complicated corral, I got into the imbroglia without any playing an active role in, but I got dragged into it, embarrassing and painful situation. Incommunicado, without means of communications, the sellers are incommunicado, deprived of contact with or from the outside world. Someone who is in a state of solidly confinement, he invent incommunicado.

Next word is panache. Panache is a style, heroic gesture, swagger, flamboyance. We just use the words brio. So, vivacious, energetic, having lot of dash and verb. If you have read Serrano, the (Refer Time: 17:11) that is a novel by Adminto Rostko, and he refers to the white plume on the heroes hat. He uses it with a sweep and flourish, and he continues to even die with sweep and flourish.

So, that is panache for your great style, great verb and dash, whether it live or in death. For understanding panache, better I would suggest read Serrano the [FL]; that is French novel, available in English translation as well. tour de force the turn of the strength, it is a feat of skill or strength, you say the author or the artist is tour de force, work done to exhibit the ability of an author, or even a strategist or a politician, just to show that he can do it, towards something that was beyond imagination, but it has been achieved. We do not, say I did, I have performed so well in exam, it was my tour de force, not like that. Have you created a work of aware lasting, a important that if your tour de force alright.

From here we will go on to talk about or discuss certain important terms and names that have come to become a part of a language; one is or English language. Now let us look at Armageddon. Armageddon is the scene of the final battle, also the title of famous movie, but there mythically or biblically it is the scene of the final battle between the kings of the earth, at the end of the world, a huge battle. Armageddon is now; it refers to any catastrophe, or very catastrophically destructive battle. Next word is behemoth, behemoth it comes from the Hebrew word behemoth, meaning beast.

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So, large animals or large entities that make you feel small or powerless, when you have to confront so behemoth. And next word is cynical. A cynical person has a bleak outlook about others, always imagining that people are ruled by the worst. They feel that all the time someone is out there, to get something out of them. The original cynics as in capital C, but ancient Greek philosopher, who never had a good word to say about anyone, so that is a cynic, who always things the worst of someone. jeremiad j e r e m i a d, is a lengthy lamentation or mourning, sometime people launch jeremiad, and let us to the editors, I can only you give you modern, example from modern time are, contemporary times, even on websites we find jeremiad, lamentations, accusing, or giving a list of troubles and woes; that is jeremiad, grievances. Next word is jezebel j e z e b e l, jezebel has now it refers to wicked or immoral woman, traditionally it is biblically, jezebel was the wife of a Ahab, the king of Israel, she was an curial and immoral queen.

So, therefore, a woman it comes, it has come to referred to woman, who are cruel, wicked, immoral. Next word is lampoon. A lampoon is a light mocking satire, it can often be scurrilous you have done these words scurrilous. The word lampoon means to ridicule, ridicule something, and cyanosis pastskinad. We have done all this words.

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So, lampoon, and next word that I want to do is, liturgy. Liturgy comes from Greek words meaning public service, work by the people, for the people so that is liturgy. And maudlin is a next word m a u d l i n not modelling, but maudlin. maudlin is a tear jerker, think film like a titanic, that makes you cry, brings tears to your eye, very sentimental, very monkish, opposite will be practical, reasoning, logical, monkish, maudlin, sentimental.

Next word is sardonic. Sardonic is someone being a scornful, sardonic humour. So, s a r d o n i c. So, being in a sardonic tone, someone is been satiric, mocking. An important word for English for competitive exam is Serendipity. Serendipity look at the spelling. It was coin by a British noble man in the mid eighteen century, from an ancient Persian fairytale. It means good luck in finding valuable things unintentionally, you are not looking for something, but you find it, and it is so good.

So, we got it seren, in which serendipity, making discoveries through chance, if you find good things without actually looking for them. Then serendipity has brought them to you, unexpected good luck. So, thank you very much, and we will meet very soon for our next class with more vocabulary.