

English Language for Competitive Exams
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Week - 09
Lecture – 41
Vocabulary: More Uncommon Words

Good morning. Please look at the first slide and start doing these exercises. The word is Asthenic, first word of the day for you is Asthenic.

(Refer Slide Time: 00:20)

- **Asthenic:** (a) weak (b) cultivated (c) baseless (d) breathing heavily
- **Asyndeton:** (a) flowery language (b) lack of cooperation (c) omission of conjunctions (d) poetic fancy
- **Austral:** (a) primitive (b) severe (c) eastern (d) southern
- **Avuncular:** (a) relating to one's ancestor (b) curvaceous (c) like an uncle (d) precious

We are doing more uncommon words today, in continuation with whatever we have doing so far. Asthenic choices are weak, cultivated, baseless, breathing heavily. Asyndeton, is it a it is a literary word. Is it a flowery language or lack of cooperation, omission of conjunctions, or poetic fancy. Austral choices are a, primitive b, severe c, eastern d, southern. Next word is, avuncular a, relating to ones ancestor b, curvaceous c, like an uncle d, precious.

(Refer Slide Time: 01:19)

- **Cicatrix:** (a) chirping insect (b) female cyclist
(c) scar tissue (d) sharp spur
- **Colander:** (a) grinder (b) Oriental potentate
(c) strainer (d) container
- **Covert:** (a) hidden (b) ditch (c) lid
(d) boon companion
- **Cozen:** (a) ridicule (b) convince (c) flatter
(d) cheat

Next slide please look at it. Cicatrix, is it a chirping insect b, female cyclist c, scar tissue d, sharp spur; a tricky one. Colander: a grinder, b oriental potentate, c strainer, d container. Next word, covert: a hidden, b ditch, c lid, d boon companion. Next, cozen it is pronounced as cozen or you know rhymes with does not. So, cozen, not cousin, cozen a, ridicule, convince, flatter, chea. It is a verb to cozen.

(Refer Slide Time: 02:10)

- **Deciduous:** (a) downcast (b) not evergreen
(c) acidulous (d) trifling
- **Decoction:** (a) liquid preparation (b) stew
(c) effervescent drink (d) a turning away
- **Deglutition:** (a) stickiness (b) cosmetic treatment
(c) swallowing food (d) tearing apart

Next slide please look at it. Deciduous: a downcast, b not evergreen, acidulous and d, trifling. Next word, decoction: liquid preparation, stew, effervescent drink, a turning away. Next word, deglutition: a stickiness, b cosmetic treatment, c swallowing food, d tearing apart.

(Refer Slide Time: 02:41)

- **Dulcimer:** (a) sweet song (b) small scimitar (c) musical instrument (d) soothing remedy
- **Ecdysis:** (a) migration (b) frenzy (c) partition (d) molting
- **Edacious:** (a) eatable (b) bold (c) haughty (d) devouring
- **Edentate:** (a) indented (b) saw-toothed (c) tooth less (d) idyllic
- **Effigy:** (a) image (b) fireplace (c) scaffold (d) attachment

Next word, dulcimer is it a sweet song, a small scimitar, musical instrument or soothing remedy. Ecdysis is it a migration b, frenzy c, partition d, molting.

Next word is edacious a, eatable b, bold c, haughty d, devouring. Next word is edentate: a indented, b saw toothed, c tooth less, d idyllic. Next word effigy: a image, b fireplace, c scaffold, d attachment.

(Refer Slide Time: 03:25)

- **Exoteric:** (a) strong (b) easily understood
(c) strange (d) final
- **Expostulation:** (a) violent threat
(b) remonstrance (c) outburst of temper
(d) seriousness
- **Empyrean:** (a) the firmament on high (b) basis of
(c) praise (d) obstinate belief.
- **Emulate:** (a) adulate (b) overcome
(c) strive to equal (d) begrudge

Next slide please look at it. Exoteric a, strong b, easily understood c, strange d, final. Expostulation: a violent threat, b remonstrance, c outburst of temper, d seriousness. Empyrean: a the firmament on high, b basis of something praise or praise, word d or obstinate belief. Emulate is a verb, adulate, overcome, strive to equal, begrudge.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:03)

- **Esulent:** (a) greedy (b) hungry (c) lovable
(d) edible
- **Estivate:** (a) cram full (b) give incentive to
(c) procrastinate (d) spend the summer
- **Esurient:** (a) inaudible (b) crafty (c) voracious
(d) refractory
- **Euphuism:** (a) excessive elegance of language
(b) constant attention to health
(c) pleasing harmony of sound
(d) concise manner of speech

Esculent it is an adjective greedy, hungry, lovable, edible and then estivate: cram full, give incentive to, procrastinate, spend the summer. Next word is esurient: a inaudible, b crafty, c voracious, d refractory. Next is euphuism: a excessive elegance of language, b constant attention to health, c pleasing harmony of sound, d concise manner of speech.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:44)

- **Eirenic:** (a) working for peace (b) Irish ballads
(c) satire (d) devilish
- **Eristic:** (a) argumentative (b) amorous
(c) fortunate (d) inquiring
- **Etiolated:** (a) exultant (b) branching out
(c) bleached (d) fan-shaped

Next set please look at it. Eirenic working for peace, look at these spelling it is not ironic, so working for peace: b Irish ballads, c satire, d devilish. Next word eristic is it argumentative or amorous or fortunate or inquiring. Next word is etiolated exultant, branching out, bleached, fan shaped.

(Refer Slide Time: 05:15)

- **Flippancy:** (a) levity (b) clumsiness
(c) arrogance (d) lack of understanding
- **Foray:** (a) raid (b) campaign (c) fodder
(d) noise
- **Frenetic:** (a) psychological (b) wildly excited
(c) cheering (d) exhausted

Flippancy, next word is it levity, clumsiness, arrogance, lack of understanding. Foray: raid, campaign, fodder, noise. Next is frenetic: psychological, wildly excited, cheering or exhausted.

(Refer Slide Time: 05:34)

- **Fustian:** (a) antique (b) dusty (c) bombastic
(d) patrician
- **Fane:** (a) strong desire (b) temple (c) maze
(d) willingness
- **Farrier:** (a) tanner (b) carriage maker
(c) blacksmith (d) tavern keeper

Next is fustian: a antique, b dusty, c bombastic, d patrician. Next is fane: a strong desire, b temple, c maze, d willingness. Next word is farrier: tanner, carriage maker, blacksmith, tavern keeper. Clearly a non English word related to a profession.

(Refer Slide Time: 05:59)

- **Ferial pertaining to:** (a) weekday (b) embryology
(c) diplomacy (d) plenitude
- **Fuliginous:** (a) sooty (b) thundering
(c) gleaming (d) overflowing
- **Labefaction:** (a) rubbing (b) weakening
(c) civil strife (d) immorality
- **Labile:** (a) pertaining to the lips (b) unstable
(c) elapsing (d) arduous

Next words is ferial pertaining to or ferial the word ferial relates to, please look at the choices; weekday, embryology, diplomacy, plenitude. Next is fuliginous: a sooty, b thundering, c gleaming, d overflowing. Next word is labefaction: a rubbing, b weakening, c civil strife, d immorality. Next is labile: a pertaining to the lips related to the lips, unstable, elapsing, arduous.

(Refer Slide Time: 06:43)

- **Marmot:** (a) tureen (b) rodent (c) tile
(d) monkey
- **Martingale:** (a) warbler (b) harness strap
(c) period costume (d) atmospheric disturbance
- **Maunder:** (a) hesitate (b) chew thoroughly
(c) talk incoherently (d) weep
- **Mayhem:** (a) murder (b) act of chance
(c) criminal mutilation (d) deep sigh

Next set marmot: a tureen, b rodent, c tile, d monkey. Next word martingale: a warbler, b harness strap, c period costume, d atmospheric disturbance. Next word is maunder: a hesitate, b chew thoroughly, c talk incoherently, d weep. Next word is mayhem: a murder, b act of chance, c criminal mutilation, d deep sigh.

(Refer Slide Time: 07:19)

- **Mantic:** (a) grotesque (b) entranced
(c) having meaning (d) prophetic
- **Meiosis:** (a) disease of the tissues
(b) under- statement (c) minor inflammation
(d) indefatigability
- **Melic pertaining to:** (a) honey (b) darkness
(c) song (d) ancient Spartan slave

Next slide please look at it. Mantic: a grotesque, b entranced, c having meaning, d prophetic. Next word meiosis: a disease of the tissues, b under-statement, c minor inflammation, d indefatigability. Next word is Melic pertaining to that relates to honey, darkness, song or ancient Spartan slave.

(Refer Slide Time: 07:48)

- **Minion:** (a) power (b) wing (c) small measure
(d) hanger-on
- **Moiety:** (a) half (b) delicacy (c) easy disposition
(d) majority share
- **Mordacious:** (a) surly (b) deathly (c) bold
(d) caustic
- **Motley:** (a) abundant (b) undistinguished
(c) dirty (d) variegated

Next word minion: a power, b wing, c small measure, d hanger on. Next is moiety: a half, b delicacy, c easy disposition, d majority share. Next is mordacious: a surly, b deathly, c bold, d caustic. Next word is motley: a abundant, b undistinguished, c dirty, d variegated.

(Refer Slide Time: 08:18)

- **Pluvial:** (a) mighty (b) wealthy (c) deadly
(d) rainy
- **Polity:** (a) diplomatic action (b) rules of etiquette
(c) tenure of office
(d) basic structure of a government
- **Predatory:** (a) carnivorous (b) powerful
(c) anticipatory (d) plundering

Next, pluvial: choices are a mighty, b wealthy, c deadly, d rainy. Next word polity: choices are a diplomatic action, b rules of etiquette, c tenure of office, d basic structure of a government.

Next word predatory: a carnivorous, b powerful, c anticipatory, d plundering.

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- **Predicate:** (a) base upon facts (b) notify in advance
(c) dictate (d) assume without inquiry
- **Preempt:** (a) place a bet (b) establish prior claim
(c) vacate (d) substitute
- **Petard:** (a) explosive device (b) pulley (c) stratagem
(d) winch

Next is predicate; a, base upon facts b, notify in advance c, dictate d, assume without inquiry. Preempt; a, place a bet b, establish prior claim c, vacate d, substitute. Next is petard; explosive device, pulley, stratagem, winch.

(Refer Slide Time: 09:09)

- **Germination:** (a) jewel setting (b) budding
(c) doubling (d) incandescence
- **Glair:** (a) splendor (b) glen
(c) slimy substance (d) mountain shelf
- **Heuristic:** (a) following a formula
(b) stirring up strife (c) employing
(d) specious

Next is, please look at the next slide. Germination is your word choices are jewel setting, b, budding c, doubling d, incandescence and next is glair. It is not g l a r e, g l a i r choices are a, splendor b, glen c, slimy substance d, mountain shelf. Next is heuristic; a, following a formula b, stirring up strife c, employing d, specious.

(Refer Slide Time: 09:39)

- **Illative:** (a) enthusiastic
(b) unrelated (c) in-ferential (d) demonstrative
- **Imbricate:** (a) overlap evenly (b) rain heavily
(c) accuse of complicity (d) caught in thorns

Next is, illative; a, enthusiastic b, unrelated c, in-ferential d, demonstrative. Imbricate; a, overlap evenly b, rain heavily c, accuse of complicity d, caught in thorns.

(Refer Slide Time: 09:59)

- **Orison:** (a) early rising (b) the east
(c) distant view (d) prayer
- **Ormolu:** (a) old clock (b) reed furniture
(c) imitation gold (d) delicate filigree
- **Prodigality:** (a) great fame (b) sinfulness
(c) lavishness (d) negligence

Next, orison: a early rising, b the east, c distant view, d prayer. Next ormolu: a old clock, b reed furniture, c imitation gold, d delicate filigree. Next prodigality: a great fame, b sinfulness, c lavishness, d negligence.

(Refer Slide Time: 10:22)

- **Pylon:** (a) gateway (b) synthetic fabric
(c) accumulation (d) asp
- **Peristyle:** (a) decoration (b) quill pen
(c) nautical instrument
(d) enclosure formed by a row of columns
- **Quagmire:** (a) gradual rise (b) large clam
(c) bog (d) underbrush

Next is pylon; a, gateway b, synthetic fabric c, accumulation d, asp. Next is peristyle; a, decoration b, quill pen c, nautical instrument d, enclosure formed by a row of columns. Next is quagmire; a, gradual rise b, large clam c, bog d, underbrush. The first word was Asthenic and the choice choices were; weak, cultivated, baseless and breathing heavily and the answer is a, weak lacking in vigor. Asyndeton that was the next word is flowery language, lack of cooperation, omission of conjunctions, poetic fancy. Those are the choices the answer is, answer c, choice c, omission of conjunctions. Abraham Lincoln's famous speech, government of the people by the people for the people; he does not say and, but anywhere. Conjunctions are linking words.

We are doing the grammar soon next week onwards and then you will find lot of coordinators, send linking words. So, those are also conjunctions. Parts of speech; remember your parts of speech and conjunctions like and, but whenever they are omitted in order to create a dramatic effect. Public speakers use ascendant, when they want to emphasize the seriousness or drama of the topics. Similarly, they want to be very radical

and dramatic. So, they do not want to slow down or divide by the usual conjunction, in order to feel like more imminent and more momentous.

In Greek language, asyndeton simpliment unconnected, so that is where it comes from. Next word was austral and it is related to southern think Australia, southern hemisphere. So, eastern was one of the choices, austral mean southern. Avuncular you have choice c, as your answer like in uncle. He has very avuncular feeling towards that girl, uncle like. Cicatrix is scar tissue when a scar heals or sorry a wound heals, but the scar remains, a wound heals so the scar remains. There is a mark there, it is a cicatrix; scar of a healed wound. Colander is related to your kitchen stuff. It is a strainer, colanders are used for draining anything, draining water when you wash vegetables and fruit in your kitchen you generally use a colander. It is very useful. It is a bowl shaped strainer used to wash or drain things in the kitchen.

Next word was covert and covert is hidden, is the opposite of overt; o v e r t which means obvious or in full view. So, all this, the deal was done very covertly and when we say overtly it was all out in the open. Covert things are hidden secretive, private is stealthy and they come from the old French word covert, which is covered. Next word was cozen and the answer is to cheat to cozen is to be dishonest to defraud to mislead or fool someone. Next word was a deciduous; deciduous is your choice b, not evergreen. They shed their leaves for part of the year. This is a botanical word those interested in this subject, they would know at immediately. It is not evergreen and next word was decoction, answer is a, liquid preparation a concentrated liquor resulting from heating or boiling a substance.

Sometimes we often use the word in terms of coffee in relation to coffee de kock. I will make the de kock ready and you can add water or sugar to it. Generally for medicinal preparation made from a plant, but now a days it is used for something which is not really related to medicine.

Next word was, deglutition; it means swallowing food; deglutition, thin gluten and deglutition is an act of swallowing food. Next word was dulcimer; it is a very musical poetic word, very nice word. It means musical instrument choice c, in Kubla Khan,

Samuel Taylor, Coleridge uses the word to great effect. A damsel with the dulcimer in a vision once I saw. So, that is where it has been used and for people who are interested in literature it has been immortalized. So, dulcimer is a musical instrument. Next word is ecdysis, that is molting; choice d. The process of shedding the old skin, specially related to in reptiles, humans do not do that casting of the outer cutical so that is a process in insects and other anthropoids.

Edacious is devouring choice d; sometimes word edacious is used to simple mean related to eating, but it is glutinous way of eating devouring of food that makes you feel really uncomfortable if you see someone doing that. Sometimes you say teenagers are edacious, a group of teenage footballers they enter a restaurants they way they eat it, you can think of the word edacious. Glutinous, voracious it comes from the Latin word, edeax; e d e a x to eat. Next word was edentate; answer is c, tooth less; a mammal of an order distinguish by lack of canine teeth. There are certain kinds of animals, armadillo etcetera who do not have teeth. So, toothless organs. Effigy is a very popularly word, they generally carry the effigy when they trying to protest against someone. People are unhappy with someone; they want to show that displeasure. In old English it meant an image.

It most often refers to a likeness since, the eighteen century effigies are destroyed in place of individuals. When there is an angry crowd who wants to express their anger. So, effigies are burnt.

So, an image which is very close to the real person; Exoteric is opposite of esoteric; exoteric means easily understood, antimonies is esoteric; e s o t e r i c when a subject is esoteric it is hard to understand, very knish kind of a subject specialized, exoteric general and easily understandable. Next word was expostulation which means remonstrance, this is an expression of protest yeah a lengthy protest. So, remonstrance, expostulation; the public resorted to expostulation and the next word was empyrean; choice a, is the right answer. The firmament on high is a religious word and religious idea of heaven. It can also describe the (Refer Time: 19:09), poets use the word firmament. Points like the romantic especially they use the word (Refer Time: 19:16) especially the to denote the sky something that is aspiring. Next word was emulate, you want to emulate someone

because you are odd by them, impressed by them. You want to be they are equal. So, answer is choice c.

Esculent, is edible something which can be eaten choice d, and next word was estivate answer is d; choice d. To spend the summer to and particularly sleep during the summer, in other words hibernate; that is estivate. Next word was esurient answer is c; voracious. In the sense of famished capable of eating unbelievable amount of food. So, we are just seeing the word like glut and edacious. So, it implies a greediness that goes beyond near hunger. Edere is the Latin root, e d e r e to eat.

Next word was euphuism or euphuism that is a excessive elegance of language the choice a. Now what is elegance of elegance of language? You do not just say someone is short, we say vertically challenged. It is not a short person if you call a short person, short the person will be very a offended. We do not call women who are aging as old ladies or middle aged women. We call them women of a certain age; that means, they are no longer young, women of a certain age, but. So, that is a nice way elegant way of talking. So, you (Refer Time: 21:23), it is very popular word in literature.

Next word was ironic or ironic, it is working for peace. It has got nothing to do with iron or Irish ballets choice a; working for peace and the next word was eristic which is again choice a, argumentative or debatable. In philosophy and rhetoric eristic refers to argument that aims to successfully dispute another argument rather than searching for truth. It comes from the ancient Greek Goddess, Eris; e r i s goddess of chaos, strife argumentation and discord. So, eristic, next word is etiolated which means bleached. Again a botanical word to a cause a plant a to whiten or grow pale by excluding light. So, etiolated and next word was is a very popular word flippancy. It is a noun flippant is an adjective which means someone who is not serious (Refer Time: 22:42). So the choice a, fits in a, levity; you are being, you made a flippantly mark, the speaker was saying something serious and there was a flippantly mark, flippant way of behavior. Flippant people are not good people they distract, they disturb.

Next word is foray. Foray is a raid. So, a choice a, it also mean excursion derives from the Latin word straw or fuerre; f u e r r e and it means search for food. Armies attack,

people and when soldiers steal food from the enemy, it is this is how the word came into existence. Soldiers attacking the enemy, entering their houses and raiding them raiding the houses for food; the foray; now it has come to denote something else like venturing into something, my foray into journalism just happened. It is not a raiding or in looking around for food. So, venturing into something.

But still moving, it is a just movement and going into some other territory. So, remember foray, next word was frenetic wildly excited. So, choice b, it is frenzy in a state of frenzy or frenetic so frenetic. Next word was fustian and fustian is bombastic choice c, stuffed; that means, speeches can be fustian; bombastic. Next word was fane, f a n e is an archaic word means temple or place of worship so choice b. Next word was farrier, for professions, tanner, carriage maker, blacksmith, tavern keeper answer is c, blacksmith and ferial relates to a week days so choice a.

Next word was ferial. So, it is related to weekday choice a. Next word was fuliginous; a, sooty b, thundering c, gleaming d, overflowing; answer is a sooty. Sooty in the sense living a cloud of smoke and next word is labefaction which is the choice is b, the answer is b; weakening or downfall. It is not rubbing or civil strife or immorality, it is weakening and causing downfall. Next word was labile, labile is unstable it may sound or look like pertaining to the lips because of labio, but it is not a choice say it is choice b, unstable.

Something or someone that is frequently changed come from the Latin word labile or labile to slide or slip. Labile is often found in technical context especially in science to refer to some sort of instability. In chemistry we can use these words for elements or compounds. It can also be used in psychology to describe that someone is emotionally unstable. So thank you very much, that is all for today we will continue in the next class.