



WORD LIST II—MEDIUM FREQUENCY WORDS

2

In this chapter, words that have a medium frequency (to be clear, words that are regularly appearing in CAT examinations, but not as frequent as those in Chapter 1) are being discussed. Here even, the treatment has been done in such a manner, the meaning is given first, followed by the synonym (denoted by the letter *S*), and antonym (denoted by the letter *A*).

No.	Word	Definition
A		
1.	abashed	<i>embarrassed</i>
2.	abeyance	<i>suspended action, not being used</i>
3.	abject	<i>miserable</i> <i>S: Pitiful, Despicable</i> <i>A: Noble, Lofty</i>
4.	abnegation	<i>self-denial</i>
5.	abominate	<i>to detest, to dislike strongly</i>
6.	abrogate	<i>repeal or annul by authority</i>
7.	absolve	<i>to free from guilt or duty</i> <i>S: Pardon, Exonerate</i> <i>A: Accuse, Inculpate</i>
8.	abstemious	<i>restraint, especially of food and alcohol</i>
9.	abstinence	<i>keeping away from all food, liquor, etc.</i> <i>S: Moderation, Temperance</i> <i>A: Excess, Wantonness</i>
10.	abut	<i>border on, next to</i>
11.	acarpous	<i>effete; no longer fertile; worn out</i>
12.	accentuate	<i>emphasise</i> <i>S: Stress, Highlight, Underline</i> <i>A: De-emphasise, Hide</i>
13.	acclimate	<i>to adapt, get used to</i>
14.	accretion	<i>growing of different things into one</i>
15.	acoustics	<i>branch of physics dealing with sound</i>

16.	acrophobia	<i>an abnormal fear of being in high places</i>
17.	ad infinitum	<i>forever, endlessly</i>
18.	addendum	<i>something added as a supplement</i>
19.	ad hoc	<i>for a specific purpose, Specially arranged for a purpose</i>
20.	adjunct	<i>something added; assistant</i>
21.	ad-lib	<i>(i) Improvise</i> <i>S: Spontaneous, Extemporised</i> <i>A: Rehearsed, Deliberate</i> <i>(ii) Do as one pleases</i>
22.	adumbrate	<i>to suggest or hint; overshadow</i>
23.	ad-valorem	<i>in proportion to the estimated value of goods</i>
24.	aegis	<i>Shield, Protection</i>
25.	aestival	<i>appearing in summer</i>
26.	affectation	<i>artificial, behaviour</i> <i>S: Pretence, Artificiality, Un-naturalness</i> <i>A: Simplicity, Naivete</i>
27.	afforest	<i>convert into forest</i> <i>A: Deforest, Denude</i>
28.	affray	<i>fight in a public place, battle</i> <i>S: Conflict, fight</i> <i>A: Tranquillity, Peace</i>
29.	affront	<i>insult openly</i> <i>S: Provoke, Humiliate</i> <i>A: Placate, Please</i>
30.	aggrandise	<i>to make greater, more powerful, richer</i> <i>S: Exalt, Advance</i> <i>A: Degrade, Debase</i>
31.	agnostic	<i>one who believes that it is impossible to know if God exists</i> <i>A: Theist</i>
32.	agnostic	<i>non-committal</i>
33.	akimbo	<i>with hands on hips and elbows bent outwards</i>
34.	albeit	<i>although</i>

2.28 How to Prepare for Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for the CAT

35. alchemy	<i>chemistry of the middle ages with the chief aim of changing base metals to Gold</i>	59. antithetical	<i>direct opposing</i>
36. algorithm	<i>a special way of solving a mathematical problem</i>	60. apartheid	<i>brutal racial discrimination</i>
37. allegory	<i>a story in which people, things, events have a symbolic meaning</i>	61. apathy	<i>lack of emotion</i> S: Indifference, Passiveness A: Care, Sympathy
38. allude	<i>to refer indirectly</i>	62. aphasia	<i>loss of the power to use or comprehend words</i>
39. alter ego	<i>one's other self, a constant companion</i> A: Enemy	63. aplomb	<i>self-confidence</i>
40. altercate	<i>to dispute angrily or noisily</i>	64. apogee	<i>a point farthest from a heavenly body, the earth, powerful position</i>
41. ambidextrous	<i>able to use the left hand or the right equally well</i>	65. apologue	<i>moral fable especially one in which animals speak</i>
42. ambivalent	<i>having both of two contrary meanings</i>	66. apparition	<i>a ghost</i>
43. ameliorate	<i>improve; to make or become better</i> S: Improve A: Worsen	67. appendage	<i>thing added to something larger or a natural part of a large thing</i> S: Adjunct, Addition
44. amnesty	<i>a general pardon (especially for political offences)</i> A: Punishment	68. approbation	<i>approval</i>
45. amortise	<i>end (a debt) by setting aside money</i>	69. appurtenance	<i>a minor possession or piece of property</i>
46. anachronism	<i>anything out of its proper historical time</i>	70. apropos	<i>appropriate to the situation; apt</i>
47. anagram	<i>a word made by rearranging letters</i>	71. archetype	<i>an original model, Prototype, ideal model which is not changed</i>
48. anamnesis	<i>recollection (especially of previous existence)</i>	72. ardour	<i>enthusiasm</i>
49. anathema	<i>something loathed; curse</i>	73. arduous	<i>steep; difficult; ascent; laborious</i>
50. anchorite	<i>a religious recluse, hermit</i>	74. argot	<i>jargon; slang</i>
51. androgynous	<i>hermaphrodite, having characteristics of both sexes</i>	75. arrant	<i>in the highest degree, total</i>
52. anecdote	<i>a short entertaining account of a real event or person</i>	76. artifice	<i>skill or ingenuity, Trickery</i> S: Wile, Guile, Fraud, Cunning A: Innocence, Candour, Honesty
53. anodyne	<i>dull, Unlikely to cause offence, that relieves pain (Drug)</i>	77. ascribe	<i>consider to be the origin of or belonging to</i>
54. antagonism	<i>opposition or hostility</i> S: Antipathy, Enmity A: Harmony, Accord, Agreement	78. aseptic	<i>surgically clean</i>
55. antecedent	<i>that which goes before something else</i>	79. asinine	<i>stupid, foolish</i> S: Silly A: Learned, Knowledgeable
56. anthology	<i>collection of literary works</i>	80. askance	<i>to look with suspicion</i>
57. antipathy	<i>strong dislike</i> S: Hatred, Repugnance, Abhorrence A: Honour, Admiration, Love, Esteem	81. askew	<i>not in a straight or level position</i> S: Awry, Crooked
58. antithesis	<i>a contrast of position (especially of ideas)</i>	82. asperity	<i>roughness; harshness; ill temper; irritability</i>
		83. asseverate	<i>to state positively, Assert</i>
		84. assuage	<i>make something (pain, desire) less</i>
		85. astute	<i>clever; quick at seeing to get an advantage</i>
		86. asunder	<i>into pieces</i> S: Apart A: United, Harmonious
		87. athwart	<i>lying across, side-wise</i> S: Across, Against, Crosswise

88. atrophy	<i>wasting away or failure to grow (especially of body tissue)</i>	113. belabor	<i>beat hard</i>
89. attenuate	<i>make thin; weaken; enervate</i>	114. beleaguer	<i>to besiege by encircling, to harass</i>
90. attrition	<i>wearing away by or as by friction</i>	115. bellicose	<i>belligerent; pugnacious; warlike</i>
91. atypical	<i>not typical</i> <i>S: Abnormal</i> <i>A: Typical, Normal</i>	116. belligerent	<i>(person, nation) waging war</i>
92. augury	<i>omen; sign</i>	117. benison	<i>blessing</i> <i>A: Curse</i>
B			
93. babel	<i>a scene of confusion of noises, sounds, etc.</i> <i>S: Confusion</i> <i>A: Distinctness</i>	118. bequeath	<i>to leave to another by one's will</i>
94. badinage	<i>Playful talk</i> <i>S: Banter</i> <i>A: Discourse</i>	119. bequest	<i>arrangement to give something at death</i>
95. bagatelle	<i>thing of little value, trifle, game</i>	120. besmirch	<i>to soil, to damage the reputation</i> <i>S: Defile, Sully</i>
96. bauble	<i>a trinket, worthless thing</i>	121. bibliography	<i>a list of writings on a given subject</i>
97. balderdash	<i>odd mixture, nonsense</i> <i>S: Drivel, Gibberish</i> <i>A: Wisdom, Logic</i>	122. bibliophile	<i>one who loves or collects books</i>
98. baneful	<i>causing harm or ruin; pernicious; destructive</i>	123. bilious	<i>bad-tempered</i> <i>S: Peevish, Pessimistic</i> <i>A: Optimistic, Lively</i>
99. banter	<i>playful teasing</i>	124. bilk	<i>to cheat</i>
100. baritone	<i>the range of a male voice between tenor and bass</i>	125. blasphemy	<i>profane, abuse of god or sacred things</i>
101. bastion	<i>any strong defence</i>	126. bleary	<i>Dim or blurred</i>
102. bathos	<i>anticlimax</i> <i>A: Decent</i>	127. blithe	<i>cheerful; casual; carefree</i>
103. baulk	<i>stumbling block (N), To hinder (V)</i> <i>S: Hindrance</i> <i>A: Gratify, Fulfil</i>	128. bluster	<i>to talk or act with noisy swaggering threats</i>
104. bawdy	<i>indecent, obscene</i> <i>A: Decent</i>	129. bounteous	<i>generous, abundant</i> <i>S: Benevolent, Liberal, Generous</i> <i>A: Miserly</i>
105. beatify	<i>to bless; make happy or ascribe a virtue to</i>	130. bourgeois	<i>middle class</i>
106. beatitude	<i>perfect blessedness or happiness</i> <i>A: Curse, Condemnation</i>	131. bovine	<i>Of an ox or cow, Slow and stupid</i> <i>A: Sharp, Intelligent, Sprightly</i>
107. bedlam	<i>any place or situation with noise and confusion</i>	132. braggart	<i>An offensively boastful person</i>
108. bedraggle	<i>to make wet, limp or dirty</i> <i>S: Wet, Dirty</i> <i>A: Clean, spotless</i>	133. brevity	<i>Brief</i> <i>S: Brief, Short, Terse, Concise</i> <i>A: Lengthy, Elaborate</i>
109. befuddle	<i>to confuse, Perplex</i>	134. broach	<i>To start a discussion of</i>
110. begrudge	<i>to resent another's success</i>	135. brook	<i>not allow; a small stream</i>
111. beguile	<i>to mislead or deprive of; to delight</i>	136. browbeat	<i>to intimidate</i> <i>S: Force</i> <i>A: Coax, Cajole</i>
112. behest	<i>a command or earnest request</i>	137. brusque	<i>rough and abrupt in manner of speech</i> <i>S: Curt, Blunt</i> <i>A: Rambling</i>
		138. bucolic	<i>rural, rustic</i> <i>A: Urban</i>
		139. bulbous	<i>swollen, shaped like a bulb</i>
		140. bulwark	<i>a defence</i>
		141. buoyant	<i>able to float; light-hearted</i>
		142. burnish	<i>to polish, rub to a shine</i>
		143. buttress	<i>a strong Support</i> <i>S: Bolster, Prop-up</i>

2.30 How to Prepare for Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for the CAT



144. cabal	<i>a scheme or plot; a group of plotters</i>	168. caucus	<i>a meeting of a party or faction (Usually derogatory)</i>
145. cadaverous	<i>of or like a cadaver (Corpse) S: Pale, Ghastly A: Cheerful, Youthful</i>	169. cavalcade	<i>A procession, Sequence of events to raise trivial and frivolous objection</i>
146. cadence	<i>rhythmic modulation of sound</i>	170. cavil	<i>leader of a unit of 100 soldiers to think</i>
147. cadge	<i>to beg or get by begging</i>	171. centurion	<i>quack or fraud</i>
148. calligraphy	<i>art of producing beautiful handwriting</i>	172. cerebrate	<i>cautious; wary</i>
149. callow	<i>immature, inexperienced S: Raw, Unfledged, Inexperienced A: Mature, Wise, Sagacious</i>	173. charlatan	<i>punishment</i>
150. calumny	<i>slander; aspersion</i>	174. chary	<i>a blindly devoted patriot</i>
151. canard	<i>a false especially malicious report S: Hide/Hoax A: Expose</i>	175. chastisement	<i>Marked by vicissitudes</i>
152. canker	<i>a spreading sore</i>	176. chauvinist	<i>to tease or annoy with persistent petty attacks</i>
153. canonise	<i>to glorify, to declare (a dead person) a saint</i>	177. chequered	<i>irritable; bad-tempered</i>
154. canorous	<i>melodious, Resonant S: Melodious A: Harsh, Discordant</i>	180. churl	<i>bad-tempered person</i>
155. capacious	<i>Roomy S: Spacious A: Narrow, Limited, Confined</i>	181. closure	<i>closing device (in Parliament) to end a debate by voting</i>
156. capitulate	<i>surrender</i>	182. coagulation	<i>change to a thick and solid state</i>
157. capricious	<i>subject to caprices (Eccentricities), erratic S: Fanciful, Odd, Whimsical A: Staid, Steadfast</i>	183. coalescing	<i>coming together and uniting into one substance</i>
158. captious	<i>Critical</i>	184. coddle	<i>treat with care and tenderness</i>
159. carmine	<i>a red or purplish red colour</i>	185. coeval	<i>of the same period; coexisting</i>
160. carnage	<i>extensive slaughter, Massacre S: Butchery, Destruction</i>	186. cogent	<i>strong; convincing</i>
161. carnal	<i>of the flesh S: Sensual, Lustful, Concupiscent A: Spiritual, Ethereal</i>	187. cognomen	<i>surname, last name</i>
162. carp	<i>to find fault or complain querulously</i>	188. coherent	<i>sticking together, logically connected S: Unity, A: Separation</i>
163. carrion	<i>decaying flesh of a dead body</i>	189. collateral	<i>a) Parallel or corresponding S: Secondary, Parallel, Concurrent b) Security towards a loan</i>
164. cartel	<i>an association of business firms etc. establishing a national or international monopoly</i>	190. comity	<i>courtesy S: Friendly A: Hostility</i>
165. catastrophe	<i>any sudden, great disaster S: Calamity, Cataclysm A: Blessing</i>	191. commemorate	<i>keep the memory of</i>
166. catatonic	<i>immobile</i>	192. commodious	<i>having plenty of space for what is needed</i>
167. catechise	<i>to question searchingly</i>	193. complaisance	<i>tending to comply; obliging willingness to please</i>
		194. complement	<i>the amount needed to fill or complete</i>
		195. compliment	<i>a formal act of courtesy, praise S: Flatter, Felicitate A: Disparage, Censure, Blame</i>
		196. conciliatory	<i>reconciling; soothing; comforting; mollifying</i>
		197. concomitant	<i>accompanying</i>
		198. condescend	<i>to deal with others patronisingly, do something below one's dignity; comedown</i>

199. congeal	<i>make or become stiff and solid</i>	230. dastard	<i>coward</i>
200. congenital	<i>existing from birth; inherent</i>	231. daunt	<i>intimidate; make fearful</i>
201. conjecture	<i>inferring or predicting from incomplete evidence</i> <i>S: Guesswork</i> <i>A: Affirmation</i>	232. dawdler	<i>person who is slow; waste of time</i>
202. connoisseur	<i>a person with good judgement (e.g., in art)</i>	233. debauch	<i>to corrupt</i> <i>S: Corrupt, Debase, Defile</i>
203. connotation	<i>suggestion in addition to</i>	234. debilitate	<i>to make weak</i> <i>S: Enervate</i> <i>A: Strengthen, Invigorate</i>
204. connubial	<i>Of marriage, Conjugal</i> <i>S: Matrimonial</i>	235. debonair	<i>dashing, Courteous</i>
205. conscientious	<i>governed by one's conscience</i> <i>S: Scrupulous, Painstaking</i>	236. decadence	<i>A process, condition or period of decline as in morals, art, etc.</i>
206. console	<i>give comfort or sympathy to</i>	237. decant	<i>Pour off</i>
207. conspectus	<i>a general view</i> <i>S: Summary</i>	238. decimate	<i>To destroy or kill a large part of</i>
208. consternation	<i>surprise and fear; dismay</i>	239. defalcate	<i>to steal or misuse funds entrusted to one</i> <i>S: Embezzle</i>
209. consummate	<i>perfect; make perfect, complete</i>	240. deferential	<i>showing respect</i>
210. condemn	<i>to scorn or despise</i>	241. defray	<i>to pay</i> <i>S: Settle, Adjust</i> <i>A: Decamp, Repudiate, Disown</i>
211. contemptible	<i>deserving contempt, scorn</i> <i>S: Despicable, Mean, Cowardly</i> <i>A: Good, Worthy, Brave</i>	242. defunct	<i>no longer existing</i> <i>S: Extinct, Dead</i> <i>A: Alive, Fashionable</i>
212. contemptuous	<i>full of contempt, scornful</i>	243. deify	<i>to look upon as a God</i>
213. contentious	<i>argumentative; pugnacious; combative; quarrelsome</i>	244. deign	<i>to condescend; to give</i>
214. contiguous	<i>touching; neighboring</i>	245. delineate	<i>to portray, depict, sketch out</i>
215. contingent	<i>a) a group of people sharing particular characteristics b) dependent c) troops part of a larger force</i>	246. deluge	<i>great flood; heavy rush of water</i>
216. convivial	<i>fond of feasting, drinking and good company</i>	247. delusion	<i>a false belief, the act of deluding</i> <i>S: Hallucination, Illusion, Error</i> <i>A: Certainty, Reality, Fact</i>
217. convoluted	<i>complicated; coiled; twisted</i>	248. demeanour	<i>outward Behaviour</i> <i>S: Behaviour, Manner, Conduct</i>
218. cordon	<i>line (of police acting as a guard)</i>	249. denigrate	<i>blacken; belittle; defame</i>
219. corporeal	<i>physical of or for the body</i>	250. deposition	<i>dethronement; depositing</i>
220. corpulent	<i>having a large bulky body</i>	251. deprave	<i>make morally bad, corrupt</i>
221. countervail	<i>counterbalance</i>	252. deprecate	<i>protest against; express disapproval of</i>
222. covert	<i>disguised</i>	253. depredation	<i>damage caused by an attack or an accident</i>
223. cozen	<i>to cheat</i>	254. deride	<i>to ridicule</i> <i>S: Taunt, Mock, Scorn</i> <i>A: Encourage, Cheer, Incite</i>
224. cravat	<i>piece of linen worn as a necktie</i>	255. derision	<i>ridicule; mockery; deriding</i>
225. craven	<i>cowardly</i>	256. descry	<i>catch sight of; see something in the distance</i>
226. credulous	<i>ready to believe things</i>	257. deseccrate	<i>to violate the sacredness of</i> <i>S: Profane, Misuse, Pollute</i> <i>A: Sanctify, Purify, cleanse</i>
227. crotchet	<i>highly individual and usually eccentric opinion</i>	258. desperado	<i>dangerous criminal</i>
228. dank	<i>disagreeably damp</i> <i>S: Moist, Soggy, Wet</i>	259. despondency	<i>dejection</i> <i>S: Melancholy, Depression</i> <i>A: Buoyancy, Elation</i>
229. dapper	<i>small and active</i> <i>S: trim, Neat</i> <i>A: Awkward, Untidy</i>		

2.32 How to Prepare for Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for the CAT

260. desultory	<i>aimless; haphazard; digressing at random</i>		
261. detention	<i>detaining</i>	294. effervesce	<i>S: Womanly, Feminine, Unmanly A: Manly, Masculine, Virile to be lively S: Buoyant, Gleeful A: Staid, Sober, Sedate</i>
262. devolve	<i>to pass on to another, said of duties, responsibilities etc.</i>	295. effete	<i>infertile; worn out; weak</i>
263. diacritic	<i>distinguishing</i>	296. effrontery	<i>boldness; impudence; arrogance</i>
264. diaphanous	<i>transparent; gauzy</i>	297. effusion	<i>unrestrained expression in speaking or writing; Heavy flow A: Reticence</i>
265. diatribe	<i>bitter and violent attack in words</i>	298. egalitarian	<i>advocating full political and social equality for all people A: Fanatic</i>
266. dichotomy	<i>division into two parts</i>	299. egregious	<i>flagrant</i>
267. diligent	<i>hardworking S: Perseverance, Earnest A: Lazy, Careless, Lethargic</i>	300. elision	<i>leaving out a sound or part of a word in pronunciation as in Don't, Let's</i>
268. dirge	<i>A song, poem, etc., of grief or mourning</i>	301. elucidate	<i>to make something clear S: Explain, Illustrate, Clarify A: Obscure, Confuse, Disorder</i>
269. disconcert	<i>upset the self-possession of</i>	302. emancipate	<i>to set free (a slave etc.) S: Liberate, Release A: Suppress, Hold, Restrain</i>
270. disconsolate	<i>cheerless; dejected</i>	303. emasculate	<i>to weaken</i>
271. discursive	<i>wandering from one topic to another</i>	304. embargo	<i>any legal restriction of commerce</i>
272. disenchanted	<i>disillusioned; Having lost one's good opinion of something</i>	305. emollient	<i>soothing to the skin; mollifying</i>
273. disencumber	<i>free from encumbrance</i>	306. empathy	<i>intellectual or emotional identification with another S: Understanding, Sensitivity A: Insensitivity</i>
274. disgorge	<i>to pour or let out people or things in a mass</i>	307. empirical	<i>relying on experiment</i>
275. disheveled	<i>untidy</i>	308. encomium	<i>warm or glowing praise; eulogy; panegyric</i>
276. disingenuous	<i>sophisticated; artful; trying to deceive; cunning</i>	309. endemic	<i>prevalent in or restricted to a particular locality A: Pandemic</i>
277. disparage	<i>to Discredit A: Praise, Eulogise</i>	310. enervate	<i>to deprive of strength, vigour etc. S: Weaken, Enfeeble, Devitalise A: Strengthen, Energise</i>
278. disport	<i>to play</i>	311. enfeeble	<i>weaken; deprive of strength; attenuate</i>
279. disquiet	<i>to take away the peace or tranquility</i>	312. enigma	<i>something that is puzzling</i>
280. disquisition	<i>a long or elaborate spoken or written report</i>	313. ensconce	<i>to place or settle snugly or securely A: Estrange, Alienate</i>
281. disseminate	<i>distribute (esp. ideas)</i>	314. entourage	<i>A group of personal attendants</i>
282. distend	<i>to swell, to expand</i>	315. epicurean	<i>devoted to pleasure (sensual enjoyment)</i>
283. divestiture	<i>taking off; getting rid of; giving up</i>	316. epigram	<i>terse or witty and often paradoxical saying</i>
284. doggerel	<i>trivial, poorly constructed verse</i>	317. epistle	<i>letter</i>
285. dolorous	<i>marked by misery or grief</i>		
286. droll	<i>jesting</i>		
287. dulcet	<i>melodious; harmonious</i>		
288. duress	<i>threats to compel somebody</i>		
E			
289. ebullience	<i>exuberance; outburst of feeling</i>		
290. ebullient	<i>overflowing with enthusiasm; showing excitement</i>		
291. eclat	<i>brilliant success</i>		
292. efface	<i>to make indistinct</i>		
293. effeminate	<i>show qualities attributed to a woman such as delicacy, weakness, etc.</i>		

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| 318. equanimity | <i>calmness of temperament</i> | | |
| 319. equestrian | <i>of horses or horsemanship</i> | 344. expansive | <i>A: Bedevil
effusive, open</i> |
| 320. equipoise | <i>equal distribution of weight;
equilibrium</i> | | <i>S: Unreserved, Broad, Demonstrative</i> |
| 321. equitable | <i>Fair</i> | | <i>A: Laconic, Cantankerous</i> |
| | <i>S: Impartial, Fair, Just</i> | 345. expatiate | <i>to roam; wander freely</i> |
| | <i>A: Prejudiced, Partial</i> | 346. expiation | <i>ending; expiring</i> |
| 322. equivocal | <i>having a double or doubtful
meaning; suspicious</i> | 347. expostulate | <i>argue earnestly; to dissuade,
correct or protest</i> |
| 323. equivocate | <i>try to deceive by equivocal lan-
guage</i> | 348. expurgate | <i>to remove obscenity, purify, cen-
sor</i> |
| 324. erroneous | <i>containing an error</i> | 349. extant | <i>still in existence</i> |
| | <i>S: False, Inaccurate, Erring</i> | 350. extenuate | <i>reduce the strength; lessen seri-
ousness; partially excuse</i> |
| | <i>A: Accurate, Genuine, Factual</i> | 351. extirpate | <i>to destroy; exterminate</i> |
| 325. escapade | <i>Reckless adventure</i> | 352. extralegal | <i>outside the law</i> |
| 326. eschew | <i>avoid</i> | 353. extraneous | <i>extrinsic; not forming an essen-
tial part</i> |
| 327. esoteric | <i>abstruse; intended only for a
small circle of people</i> | 354. extricable | <i>that can be freed</i> |
| 328. estrangle | <i>to turn from an affectionate atti-
tude to an indifferent or un-
friendly one</i> | 355. exuberance | <i>state of growing vigorously; be-
ing full of life</i> |
| | <i>S: Alienate, Withdraw, Disagree</i> | | |
| | <i>A: Unite, Conjoin, Harmonise</i> | | |
| 329. ethos | <i>the characteristic attitude, hab-
its etc. of an individual or group</i> | | |
| 330. euphemism | <i>the use of a less direct word or
phrase instead of an unpleasant
one</i> | 356. facetious | <i>humorous; funny; jocular</i> |
| 331. evince | <i>to show clearly; to indicate</i> | 357. facile | <i>easily done</i> |
| 332. exacerbate | <i>to make more violent, bitter or
severe</i> | 358. fait accompli | <i>foreign phrase, thing done be-
yond recall, accomplished fact</i> |
| 333. exacting | <i>making severe demands, Strict</i> | 359. fallow | <i>left without seeding after being
ploughed to make fertile</i> |
| 334. exactitude | <i>The quality of being exact</i> | 360. fatuous | <i>without sense; foolish self-satis-
faction</i> |
| 335. exalt | <i>to praise, glorify, to raise in rank</i> | 361. feckless | <i>lacking purpose or vitality; inef-
fective</i> |
| | <i>A: Degrade, Condemn, Despise</i> | 362. fecund | <i>fertile</i> |
| 336. excision | <i>pruning</i> | 363. feint | <i>pretend</i> |
| 337. excruciating | <i>intensely painful</i> | 364. ferret | <i>discover by searching; search</i> |
| | <i>S: Agonising, Intense, Severe</i> | 365. fervid | <i>showing earnest feeling</i> |
| | <i>A: Soothing</i> | 366. fervour | <i>enthusiasm</i> |
| 338. exegesis | <i>interpretation of a word, pas-
sage, etc. in the Bible</i> | | <i>S: zeal, ardour, passion, fervent</i> |
| 339. exemplary | <i>serving as a model or example</i> | | <i>A: coolness, indifference, impass-
siveness</i> |
| | <i>S: Model, Pattern</i> | 367. fetid | <i>stinking</i> |
| 340. exhort | <i>to urge earnestly</i> | 368. fetter | <i>to shackle; put in chains</i> |
| | <i>S: Urge, Advise</i> | 369. filch | <i>steal slyly in small amounts</i> |
| | <i>A: Deter, Prevent, Oppose</i> | | <i>S: Snitch, swipe, pilfer, purloin</i> |
| 341. exiguous | <i>scanty</i> | 370. filial | <i>befitting a son or daughter</i> |
| | <i>S: Meagre, Small</i> | 371. firmament | <i>sky</i> |
| | <i>A: Huge, Enormous</i> | 372. flay | <i>to skin; to excoriate</i> |
| 342. exoneration | <i>set somebody clear, free (e.g.,
from blame)</i> | 373. fledged | <i>able to fly; trained, experienced</i> |
| 343. exorcise | <i>to expel (an evil spirit) by incan-
tations, etc.</i> | 374. flinch | <i>draw; move back; wince</i> |
| | | 375. flippancy | <i>lack of seriousness</i> |
| | | | <i>S: levity, pertness, impudence</i> |

F

2.34 How to Prepare for Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for the CAT

376. flounder	<i>to struggle to move; to proceed clumsily</i>	401. galore	<i>in abundance, plentiful</i>
377. foible	<i>defect of character (a person is wrongly proud)</i>		<i>S: ample, bounteous, prodigal</i>
378. foppish	<i>like a man who pays too much attention to his clothes</i>	402. gambit	<i>A: Scarce, deficient</i>
379. forage	<i>food for horses and cattle</i>		<i>an action intended to gain an advantage</i>
380. ford	<i>shallow place in a river (to cross)</i>	403. garner	<i>to gather and save to store up</i>
381. forebode	<i>to foretell or predict</i>	404. garrulity	<i>talkativeness</i>
382. forestall	<i>prevent by taking action in advance, preempt</i>	405. garrulous	<i>too talkative</i>
383. foretoken	<i>premonitory sign</i>	406. gastronomy	<i>the art of cooking and eating good food</i>
384. forswear	<i>renounce; disallow; repudiate</i>	407. gazebo	<i>An open structure with an enjoyable view</i>
385. fortitude	<i>courage</i>	408. genealogy	<i>recorded history of one's ancestry</i>
	<i>S: Heroism, Spirited</i>	409. genesis	<i>origin</i>
	<i>A: Cowardice, Shyness</i>	410. genitor	<i>a father/parent</i>
386. fortuitous	<i>happening by chance</i>	411. genuflect	<i>to bend the knee as in worship</i>
	<i>S: Incidental, Adventitious, Accidental</i>	412. gibber	<i>to speak rapidly and incoherently</i>
	<i>A: Deliberate, planned</i>		<i>A: Enunciate</i>
387. fragrant	<i>sweet-smelling</i>	413. gizmo	<i>a gadget, device, mechanism</i>
388. frenetic	<i>frantic, frenzied</i>	414. glean	<i>gather facts in small quantities</i>
389. fresco	<i>art of painting on a plaster surface especially when the surface is moist</i>	415. glitch	<i>a small hurdle or problem</i>
		416. gloat	<i>look at with selfish delight</i>
390. fritter	<i>to waste (money, time, etc.)</i>	417. glut	<i>supply too much; fill to excess</i>
391. frivolous	<i>of little value, Trivial, Silly</i>	418. glutino	<i>sticky</i>
	<i>S: Petty, Worthless, Futile</i>		<i>S: Viscous</i>
	<i>A: Serious, Important</i>	419. gnome	<i>A: Dry</i>
392. fulsome	<i>disgusting; offensive due to excessiveness, insincere praise</i>		<i>A dwarf (like an old man) living in a cave</i>
393. furore	<i>a widespread commotion or uproar</i>	420. gnomic	<i>characterised by aphorism</i>
394. furtive	<i>done secretly</i>	421. graffiti	<i>a crude inscription or drawing on a wall or other public surface</i>
	<i>S: stealthy, clandestine</i>		<i>impressive, Showy</i>
	<i>A: open, apparent</i>	422. grandiose	<i>to seize, to hold tightly</i>
395. fusillade	<i>simultaneous discharge of many firearms</i>	423. grapple	<i>pregnant</i>
	<i>S: volley, salvo, broadside</i>	424. gravid	<i>living in societies; liking the company</i>
396. fusty	<i>musty; rigidly old-fashioned or reactionary</i>	425. gregarious	<i>terrifying</i>
		426. grisly	<i>S: Horrible, Terrible, Ghastly</i>
			<i>A: Attractive, Charming, Dainty</i>
		427. grizzle	<i>of a grey colour</i>
		428. grouch	<i>to grumble, grouse</i>
		429. guffaw	<i>to laugh loudly</i>
		430. guile	<i>deceit, wile, cunning, jugglery</i>
397. gabble	<i>to talk or utter rapidly, or incoherently</i>	431. gumption	<i>initiative and courage</i>
	<i>S: Chatter, Babble, Jabber</i>		<i>S: Commonsense, Sagacity, Acumen</i>
398. gaff	<i>a large hook on a pole for landing fish</i>		<i>A: Apathy, Indifference</i>
399. gaffe	<i>a blunder</i>	432. gustatory	<i>of the sense of taste</i>
400. gainsay	<i>to deny; to oppose</i>	433. gusto	<i>zest, enjoyment</i>
			<i>S: Relish, Pleasure, Enthusiasm</i>
			<i>A: Apathy</i>

434. **guttural** *pertaining to the throat, formed in the throat*

H

435. **habitué** *one who frequents a certain place*

436. **hackneyed** *made trite by overuse*

S: stereotyped Commonplace,

437. **haggard** *having a wild, wasted, worn look,*

S: Gaunt, Tired, weary

A: strong, Robust, Exuberant

438. **hallow** *to make holy; consecrate*

439. **hapless** *unfortunate*

S: Luckless, Unlucky

A: Fortunate, Successful, Happy

440. **harangue** *a long passionate speech*

441. **harbinger** *something or somebody that foretells the coming of*

442. **harrow** *to distress; create stress or torment*

443. **harrowing** *upsetting*

444. **heckle** *to harass, (a speaker) with questions or taunts*

445. **heckle** *to harass with questions, challenges or gibes*

446. **hedonism** *the doctrine that pleasure is the principal good*

S: Epicureanism, Sensualism, debauchery

A: Slavery, Servility

447. **herculean** *calling for great strength, size and courage*

S: Rugged, Enduring, Steadfast

448. **hermetic** *sealed by fusion, a closed group*

449. **heterodox** *opposed to the usual beliefs especially in religion*

S: Unorthodox

A: Orthodox

450. **hew** *make by hard work cut (by striking)*

451. **hiatus** *a gap or break as where a part is missing*

452. **histrionic** *of acting*

453. **hoary** *Very old and well known; Grey or white (of hair) with age*

454. **hobgoblin** *Something that causes fear, A frightening apparition*

455. **hogwash** *insincere talk, writing, etc.*

456. **holster** *leather case for a pistol*

457. **homonym** *a word with the same pronunciation and spelling as another but with a different meaning, origin*

458. **honorific** *conferring or conveying honor*

459. **horology** *the science of measuring time or making time pieces*

460. **horrendous** *horrible*

S: Frightful, Horrifying, Fearful

A: Appealing, Pleasant, Charming

461. **hubbub** *noise; confusion*

462. **hyperbole** *extravagant exaggeration*

I

463. **iconoclast** *person who attacks popular beliefs*

464. **ides** *in ancient Roman calendar, 15th day of May, March, July or October or 13th of the other months*

personal mannerism

465. **idiosyncrasy** *excessive admiration of*

466. **idolatry** *a carefree episode or experience*

467. **idyll** *of fire, fiery, type of rock*

468. **igneous** *dishonorable; common; undignified*

469. **ignoble** *a person with abnormally low intelligence*

S: Weak-minded, Deranged, Childish

A: Strong-minded, Intellectual, Genius

470. **imbecile** *complicated and embarrassing situation*

471. **imbroglio** *to permeate with ideas, feelings etc.*

S: Pervade, Suffuse, Inspire

A: Discourage, Condemn

472. **imburse** *operating within, Inherent*

S: Indwelling

A: Transcendent

473. **immanent** *that cannot be changed*

474. **immutable** *to pierce with a sharp stake through the body*

475. **impale** *not perceptible to touch*

476. **impalpable** *S: Intangible, Vague*

A: Material, Solid, Definite

477. **impeccable** *Flawless*

S: Immaculate, Faultless, Perfect

A: Defective, Rowdy

2.36 How to Prepare for Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for the CAT

478. imperil	<i>To put in danger</i> S: Endanger, Hazard, Jeopardise A: Safeguard, Protect, Preserve	513. insatiable	<i>that cannot be satisfied</i> S: Unquenchable, Greedy, Unappeasable A: Appeasable, Quenchable
479. imperious	<i>commanding; haughty; arrogant</i>	514. inscrutable	<i>not easily understood</i> S: Incomprehensible, Baffling, Mysterious A: Obvious, Plain, Evident
480. imperviousness	<i>not permeable; not moved easily</i>	515. inscrutable	<i>incapable of being discovered or understood</i>
481. impetuous	<i>having sudden energy; impulsive</i>	516. insouciant	<i>unconcerned; carefree</i>
482. impiety	<i>lack of reverence or dutifulness</i>	517. insularity	<i>narrow-mindedness; isolated</i>
483. impinge	<i>to strike, hit, etc. (on or upon)</i> S: Strike, Hit	518. insurrection	<i>rising of people to open resistance to</i>
484. implicate	<i>show that somebody has a share</i>	519. interpose	<i>to come between</i>
485. implosion	<i>collapse; bursting inward</i>	520. intersperse	<i>place here and there</i>
486. impromptu	<i>without preparation</i>	521. intransigence	<i>unwillingness to compromise; stubbornness; intractability</i>
487. impropriety	<i>being improper</i>	522. intransigent	<i>uncompromising</i>
488. impugned	<i>challenged; to be doubted</i>	523. intrepid	<i>fearless; brave; undaunted</i>
489. impunity	<i>exemption from punishment, harm or loss</i>	524. introspection	<i>examining one's own thoughts and feelings</i>
490. impute	<i>to attribute; to a cause or source; ascribe</i>	525. inured	<i>accustomed to, adapted</i>
491. inchoate	<i>not yet fully formed; rudimentary; elementary</i>	526. inveigh	<i>to attack verbally; denounce; deprecate</i>
492. incipient	<i>beginning</i>	527. invincible	<i>too strong to be defeated</i>
493. incognito	<i>disguised under an assumed name, rank, etc.</i> S: Unidentified	528. involute	<i>complex</i>
494. incorrigibility	<i>cannot be cured or corrected</i>	529. irascible	<i>irritable; easily angered</i>
495. incredulous	<i>skeptical; unwilling to believe</i>	530. irrevocable	<i>final and unalterable</i>
496. incubus	<i>A nightmare</i>	531. itinerate	<i>to travel from place to place; to peregrinate</i>
497. incumbents	<i>official duties</i>		
498. incursion	<i>a raid; a sudden attack</i>		
499. indict	<i>to charge with a crime</i> S: Accuse, Incriminate		
500. indigenous	<i>native</i>		
501. indite	<i>to compose and write</i> S: Compose		
502. indubitable	<i>too evident to be doubted</i>	532. jackass	<i>a fool, a blockhead</i>
503. ineffable	<i>too great to be described in words</i>	533. jalopy	<i>a battered old car</i>
504. inferno	<i>hell, large fire</i>	534. janitor	<i>Attendant, caretaker, doorkeeper</i>
505. infinitesimal	<i>Too small to be measured</i>	535. jargon	<i>The terminology of a specific group or profession</i> A: confused talk, chatter
506. infraction	<i>a violating of a law or pact</i> S: Violation, Infringement A: Compliance, Submission	536. jaunt	<i>an excursion, jaunt, to make a short journey</i>
507. ingenuous	<i>naïve; young; artless; frank</i>	537. jaunty	<i>Having a sprightly manner</i> S: cheerful, Confident, vivacious A: gloomy, listless, dull
508. inimical	<i>harmful</i>	538. jeopardy	<i>danger, insecurity, peril, hazard</i>
509. inkling	<i>a hint</i> S: Intimation, Idea	539. jettison	<i>to get rid of as superfluous or encumbering</i>
510. innate	<i>Inborn, Natural (an innate sense of style)</i> S: Intrinsic A: Extrinsic, Alien	540. jinx	<i>a person or thing supposed to bring bad luck</i>
511. innocuous	<i>causing no harm</i>	541. jocose	<i>full of jokes, merry, playful, jocular</i>
512. inordinate	<i>exceeding reasonable limits</i>		

J

542. **jocund** *playful, pleasant, cheerful, merry, jovial*
 543. **john bull** *a person who brings bad luck; a typical Englishman*
 544. **jovian** *of the planet Jupiter*
 545. **judas** *a traitor*
 546. **judicature** *jurisdiction, power of dispensing justice by legal trial*
 547. **jugular** *Pertaining to the neck veins*
 548. **junket** *a picnic, an outing, a spree, a feast, a paid excursion*
 549. **jurassic** *the Jurassic period, very old period*
 550. **jurisprudence** *science of laws*

K

551. **Kaiser** *a German emperor*
 552. **kaleidoscope** *an optical toy showing a changing variety of forms*
 553. **kaleidoscopic** *constantly changing*
 554. **kaput** *Rendered useless; unable to function*
 555. **kickback** *percentage given back to a person who has enabled one to make money*
 556. **kilt** *pleated knee-length skirt of tartan wool, worn by men as part of Scottish costume*
 557. **kindred** *related, congruous, akin*
 558. **kinetic** *related to motion, not static*
 559. **kink** *a whim, a mental twist, imperfection*
 560. **kleptomania** *an abnormal, persistent impulse to steal*
 561. **knap-sack** *a rucksack, a case/ bag strapped onto the shoulders*
 562. **knave (nave)** *A false / deceitful fellow, a serving boy*
 563. **knead** *press and stretch with the hands to form a firm smooth paste; knead the dough*
 564. **knell** *to ring slowly, toll (omen of death, failure, etc.)*
 565. **knick-knack** *a small trifling toy, plaything, amusement, trinket*
 566. **kurd** *one of the people of Kurdistan*

E

567. **labyrinthine** *to entangle; the state of affairs*

568. **lacuna** *a blank space, especially a missing portion in a text, etc.*
S: Gap
 569. **laggard** *A slow person, especially one who falls behind*
S: Slowpoke, Dawdler
 570. **lapidary** *(i) Concerned with stone, Engravings on stone (ii) A cutter or polisher of precious stones*
 571. **lascivious** *characterised by or expressing lust*
S: Immoral, Lustful, Lecherous
A: Pure, Chaste, virtuous
 572. **lassitude** *weariness; tiredness*
 573. **laudatory** *expressing or giving praise*
 574. **leer** *A sly, sidelong look showing lust, malicious triumph*
 575. **levee** *formal reception; embankment*
 576. **levitation** *the power of raising a body in the air (against gravity) with no support*
 577. **levity** *lack of seriousness*
 578. **libertine** *immoral person*
 579. **licentious** *morally unrestrained.*
S: Wanton, Lustful
A: Continent, Chaste
 580. **lien** *legal claim until a debt on it is repaid*
 581. **limber** *easily bent, flexible, to exercise in preparation for a sport*
 582. **limbo** *in an uncertain state*
 583. **lionise** *treat as a famous person*
 584. **logistics** *the military science of procuring, maintaining and transporting material and personnel*
 585. **lope** *move along with long strides*
 586. **loquacious** *talkative; garrulous*
 587. **lucre** *riches, money, used chiefly in a derogatory sense*
 588. **ludicrous** *causing laughter because it is absurd or ridiculous*
S: Absurd, Laughable, Preposterous
 589. **lurid** *shocking, Sensational, Violent*
A: Bright, Pleasant, highly coloured

M

590. **macabre** *gruesome; suggesting death*
 591. **maladroit** *tactless; clumsy*

2.38 How to Prepare for Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for the CAT

592. malaise	<i>A vague feeling of physical discomfort or of uneasiness</i>	620. misogynist	<i>one who hates women, females</i>
593. malediction	<i>curse; execration</i>	621. monomania	<i>excessive concentration on a single object or idea</i>
594. malefaction	<i>evil deed; crime</i>	622. mottle	<i>surface having colored spots or blotches</i>
595. malefactor	<i>An evil doer or criminal</i>	623. munificent	<i>characterised by great liberality or generosity</i>
596. maleficent	<i>baleful</i>		
597. malevolence	<i>wishing to do evil</i>		
598. mammoth	<i>Huge, Enormous</i>		
599. maraud	<i>To raid, Plunder</i>		
600. martinet	<i>Strict disciplinarian</i>	624. narcissistic	<i>conceited, vain</i>
601. masquerade	<i>disguise</i>	625. natation	<i>act or art of swimming</i>
602. maudlin	<i>sentimental in a silly or tearful way</i>	626. nebulous	<i>cloud-like; hazy; vague</i>
603. maunder	<i>To talk or move in a confused, aimless way</i>	627. necromancy	<i>magic, especially that practiced by a witch</i>
604. maverick	<i>rebel; nonconformist</i>	628. nefarious	<i>very wicked</i>
605. mawkish	<i>sickly or puerilely sentimental</i>		<i>S: Unlawful, Villainous</i>
606. mayhem	<i>Any violent destruction or disorder.</i>	629. nemesis	<i>A: Virtuous, Innocent</i>
	<i>S: Havoc, Chaos</i>		<i>(i) Just punishment, Deserved fate (ii) Goddess of vengeance</i>
607. megalomania	<i>A mental disorder characterised by delusions of power, grandeur etc.</i>	630. neologism	<i>new use of a word</i>
	<i>A: Peace, Tranquility</i>	631. neophyte	<i>person who has been converted to a belief</i>
608. melee	<i>A confused fight, Confused crowd of people</i>	632. nepotism	<i>favouritism shown by a person in high position to relatives especially in securing jobs,</i>
	<i>S: Scuffle, Brawl, Affray</i>		<i>A: Impartiality</i>
	<i>A: Order</i>	633. nescient	<i>ignorant</i>
609. mellifluous	<i>sweetly flowing, sweet sounding</i>		<i>A: Knowledgeable</i>
610. menage	<i>a household</i>	634. nettle	<i>to sting, annoy, bother, exasperate</i>
611. mercenary	<i>working or done for payment only</i>	635. niggard	<i>a stingy person, miser</i>
	<i>S: Venal, Pecuniary, Avaricious</i>		<i>S: Stingy</i>
	<i>A: Altruistic</i>		<i>A: Generous, Spendthrift, Bounteous</i>
612. meretricious	<i>attractive on the surface but of little value</i>	636. nimbus	<i>a halo, aura, cloud</i>
613. mete	<i>distribute in portions</i>	637. nincompoop	<i>a stupid, silly person, Fool</i>
614. meteoric	<i>momentarily brilliant</i>		<i>S: Simpleton, Stupid, Fool</i>
	<i>S: Rapid, Transient</i>		<i>A: Genius</i>
	<i>A: Gradual, Dull, Slow</i>	638. nit-picking	<i>carping, fault-finding</i>
615. miasma	<i>vaporous exhalation causing disease</i>	639. noisome	<i>injurious to health</i>
616. microcosm	<i>a miniature representation of a whole</i>	640. noisome	<i>offensive; disgusting (smell)</i>
	<i>S: Portion</i>	641. nonchalant	<i>not having interest</i>
	<i>A: Macrocosm</i>	642. nondescript	<i>belonging to no definite class or type</i>
617. middling	<i>fairly good but not very good</i>	643. nonpareil	<i>unequaled</i>
618. milieu	<i>environment, especially a social setting,</i>		<i>S: Unrivalled, Peerless</i>
	<i>S: Background, Atmosphere</i>	644. nonplus	<i>confuse</i>
619. minatory	<i>menacing; threatening</i>	645. nonplussed	<i>greatly surprised</i>
		646. nostalgia	<i>a longing for something far away or long ago</i>

N

647. **nouveau riche** *a newly rich person of poor tastes*
 648. **novitiate** *period of being a novice; house where novices are trained*
 649. **nuance** *A slight variation in tone, colour, meaning etc.*
 650. **nugatory** *trifling; worthless*
 651. **numskull** *stupid, fool*

O

652. **obdurate** *hardened and unrepenting; stubborn; inflexible*
 653. **obeisance** *a gesture of respect*
S: deep bow, Homage, Reverence, Deference
A: Irreverence, Impudence
 654. **oblation** *An offering or sacrifice to God*
 655. **obliterate** *to blot out, to erase,*
S: Delete, Raze
A: Preserve, Build
 656. **oblivion** *Forgetfulness*
S: Obscurity
 657. **obloquy** *abusively detractive language; sharp criticism*
 658. **obviate** *to make unnecessary; get rid of*
 659. **occult** *(i) Hidden, mysterious (ii) Supernatural, Magical*
of, for, or like the eye
 660. **ocular** *giving off an odour, especially a fragrant one*
S: Fragrant, Sweet-smelling
A: Malodorous
 662. **officious** *too eager or ready to help; offer advice*
 663. **ogre** *in fairy tales and folklore, a man-eating giant*
S: Monster, Demon
 664. **olfactory** *of the sense of smell*
 665. **oligarchy** *a government in which a few persons have the ruling power*
having unlimited power or authority,
S: All-powerful
A: Weak, Powerless
 667. **omnipresent** *present at all places at all times*
 668. **onerous** *needing effort; burdensome*
 669. **opiate** *anything quieting*
 670. **oracle** *the revelation by a medium or priest*
 671. **ornithology** *the branch of zoology dealing with the study of birds*

672. **ossify** *to turn to bone; to settle rigidly into an idea*
 673. **ostensible** *seeming; appearing as such; professed*
 674. **ostracism** *shut out from society; refuse to meet, talk*
 675. **overweening** *presumptuously arrogant; being a jerk*

P

676. **palpitate** *tremble; beat rapidly and irregularly*
 677. **paltry** *very small*
 678. **panegyric** *formal praise; eulogy*
 679. **panorama** *perspective, land*
 680. **paper tiger** *a person or thing that is threatening but is actually weak*
 681. **parry** *block*
 682. **parsimonious** *too economical; miserly*
 683. **pedantic** *bookish; showing off learning*
 684. **pellucid** *transparent; easy to understand*
 685. **per se** *by itself*
 686. **perambulate** *to travel over or through (esp. on foot)*
 687. **percipient** *capable of perception; discerning*
 688. **peripatetic** *wandering*
 689. **perspicacity** *quick judging and understanding*
 690. **pestilent** *deadly*
 691. **petrous** *like a rock, hard, stony*
 692. **phalanx** *a group of similar things standing close*
 693. **pied** *of mixed colors*
 694. **piffle** *nonsense*
 695. **pillage** *rob or steal with violence*
 696. **piquant** *agreeably pungent; stimulating*
 697. **plaintiff** *a person who brings a case against another in the court*
 698. **platitude** *a trite or banal statement; unoriginality*
 699. **plumb** *get to the root of*
 700. **plummet** *fall; plunge steeply*
 701. **poignant** *deeply moving; keen*
 702. **pollster** *a person who takes opinion polls*
 703. **ponderous** *heavy; bulky; dull*
 704. **posit** *to postulate; to suggest*
 705. **potentate** *ruler; one who wields great power or sway*
 706. **prate** *to talk long and idly*
 707. **precepts** *rules establishing standards of conduct*

2.40 How to Prepare for Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for the CAT

708. preclude	<i>prevent; make impossible</i>
709. predilection	<i>special liking; mental preference</i>
710. premonition	<i>a feeling that something bad is about to happen</i>
711. presage	<i>warning sign</i>
712. presumption	<i>arrogance</i>
713. preternatural	<i>not normal or usual</i>
714. primp	<i>to dress or arrange in a careful or finicky manner</i>
715. probity	<i>uprightness; incorruptibility</i>
716. prodigious	<i>enormous; wonderful</i>
717. profane	<i>worldly; having contempt for God</i>
718. profligacy	<i>shameless immorality</i>
719. profligate	<i>wasteful; prodigal; extravagant</i>
720. prognosticate	<i>to foretell from signs or symptoms; presage</i>
721. prolix	<i>tiring because too long</i>
722. promiscuous	<i>having many brief sexual relationships</i>
723. prosaic	<i>everyday; mundane; commonplace</i>
724. proscribe	<i>denounce as dangerous</i>
725. protracted	<i>prolonged</i>
726. pucker	<i>wrinkle</i>
727. pugnacious	<i>fond of, in the habit of fighting</i>
728. puissance	<i>strength</i>
729. pundit	<i>pedant; authority on a subject</i>
730. purvey	<i>provide supply</i>

Q

731. quadruped	<i>an animal with four legs</i>
732. quadruple	<i>multiply four times</i>
733. quail	<i>lose courage; turn frightened</i>
734. quaintness	<i>Pleasing, odd and old fashioned S: Freakish A: Modern</i>
735. quandary	<i>state of doubt or perplexity</i>
736. quarry	<i>(i) An animal etc. being hunted down (ii) To extract laboriously from books (iii) Excavation made by removing stone</i>
737. quart	<i>measure of capacity for liquids</i>
738. quartz	<i>any of various types of hard metals</i>
739. quaver	<i>To shake or tremble (of voice or sound)</i>
740. quay	<i>landing place</i>
741. queasy	<i>Squeamish, Easily nauseated</i>
742. querulous	<i>habitually complaining</i>
743. quick-silver	<i>very quickly, like lightning, mercury</i>

744. quintuple	<i>multiply five times</i>
745. quittance	<i>Discharge from a debt</i>
746. quiver	<i>skate slightly, holder for arrows</i>
747. quixotic	<i>generous; unselfish</i>
748. quizzical	<i>amused</i>

R

749. rabid	<i>Violent, Intense S: Frantic, Fanatical A: Sober, Sane, Rational</i>
750. raffish	<i>low; vulgar</i>
751. ragamuffin	<i>ragged; often disreputable person</i>
752. rakish	<i>(i) Gay and dashing, Carefree (ii) Looking smart and as if built for speed</i>
753. ramify	<i>to be divided or subdivided; to branch out</i>
754. ramshackle	<i>loose and rickety, Likely to fall to pieces S: Shaky</i>
755. rancorous	<i>feeling bitterness; spitefulness</i>
756. rapacious	<i>greedy (esp. for money)</i>
757. raucous	<i>hoarse, Irritating</i>
758. ravenous	<i>greedy, very hungry S: Voracious A: Assuaged, Full</i>
759. recant	<i>take back as being false; give up</i>
760. recapitulate	<i>To repeat, To summarise</i>
761. recompense	<i>make payment to reward; punish</i>
762. recondite	<i>little known; abstruse</i>
763. recumbent	<i>lying down, reclining</i>
764. recuperate	<i>become strong after illness, loss, exhaustion</i>
765. redoubtable	<i>formidable; causing fear</i>
766. refractory	<i>stubborn; unmanageable; untractable</i>
767. refurbish	<i>to freshen or polish again</i>
768. regression	<i>The act of going back, S: Reversion, Retrogression A: Progress, Advancement</i>
769. reiterate	<i>say or do again several times</i>
770. relegate	<i>to consign or assign especially to an inferior position</i>
771. reminiscence	<i>remembrance</i>
772. remiss	<i>careless S: Negligent, Unmindful A: Careful, Scrupulous, Mindful</i>
773. remonstrate	<i>to protest, object</i>
774. renaissance	<i>rebirth or revival</i>
775. reprisal	<i>recurrence, renewal or resumption of an action</i>

776. **reprobate** *person hardened in sin; one devoid of decency*
 777. **repudiate** *disown; refuse to accept or pay*
 778. **resilience** *quality of quickly recovering the original shape*
 779. **restive** *refusing to move; reluctant to be controlled*
 780. **resuscitation** *coming back to consciousness*
 781. **reticent** *reserved; untalkative*
 782. **ribald** *crude; characterised by coarse indecent humor*
 783. **rivet** *fix; take up; secure metal pin*
 784. **rotund** *rich and deep; plump and round*
 785. **rumple** *make rough*
S: Latent, Mysterious, Secretive
A: Plain, Clear, Evident, Worldly

S

786. **sacrosanct** *most sacred or holy; immune from criticism or violation*
 787. **sagacious** *having sound judgment; perceptive; wise like a sage*
 788. **sally** *(i) Sudden breaking out by soldiers surrounded by enemy*
(ii) lively, witty remark
 789. **salubrious** *healthful*
 790. **sanguine** *cheerful; confident; optimistic*
 791. **scruple** *minute part or quantity; qualm*
 792. **scrupulous** *having moral integrity; punctiliously exact*
 793. **seamy** *Unpleasant or sordid*
A: Pleasant, Decent
 794. **sedulous** *persevering*
 795. **seminal** *like a seed; constituting a source; originative*
 796. **sere** *make hard and without feeling*
 797. **shard** *piece of broken earthenware*
 798. **shibboleth** *any phrase, custom etc., peculiar to a certain class, faction etc., a slogan*
 799. **shiftless** *lacking in resourcefulness; lacking in ambition*
 800. **shrew** *ill-tempered, scolding woman*
 801. **sidereal** *of or expressed in reference to the stars*
S: Starry, Astral
 802. **simper** *(give a) silly, self-conscious smile*
 803. **simulate** *to give a false appearance, Feign*
S: Pretend, Imitate, Feign

804. **sinew** *power; chief supporting force*
 805. **sinuous** *winding, undulating, serpentine*
 806. **sire** *a father or forefather*
 807. **skiff** *small boat*
 808. **skinflint** *miser*
S: Niggard
A: Spendthrift
 809. **skittish** *Lively, Playful*
 810. **slake** *to assuage*
 811. **sleight** *skill with the hands, especially in deceiving onlookers as in magic*
 812. **sobriquet** *a nickname*
 813. **sodden** *soaked; saturated*
 814. **solicitude** *being solicitous, care, concern*
S: Anxiety
A: Apathy, Indifference
 815. **sop** *something given to appease*
 816. **soporific** *producing sleep*
 817. **sordid** *wretched; comfortless*
 818. **sot** *A habitual drunkard*
A: Teetotaler
 819. **sphinx** *enigmatic or mysterious person*
 820. **squalid** *foul; filthy*
 821. **squeamish** *easily upset; having strong moral views, Stale*
A: Original, Fresh, Novel
 822. **stentorian** *extremely loud and powerful*
 823. **sterling** *excellent*
S: Genuine, Valuable
A: Spurious, Trivial
 824. **stickler** *person who insists on importance of something*
 825. **stipulate** *state or put forward as a necessary condition*
 826. **stodgy** *dull, Uninteresting*
A: Interesting, Attractive, Magnetic
 827. **stoical** *showing indifference to joy, grief pain, etc.*
S: Insensitive
A: Sensitive
 828. **stolid** *showing no emotion; impassive*
 829. **strait-laced** *narrowly strict in behaviour or moral views*
 830. **striated** *striped; grooved or banded*
 831. **stricture** *something that limits; adverse criticism*
 832. **stupefy** *to amaze, stun*
 833. **stupendous** *astonishing*
S: Amazing, Prodigious
A: Minuscule, Meager

2.42 How to Prepare for Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for the CAT

834. suborn	<i>induce by bribery; to commit perjury</i>	862. temperance	<i>abstinence from alcohol; self-control; moderation</i>
835. subpoena	<i>written order requiring a person to appear in a law court</i>	863. tempestuous	<i>of or like a tempest, violent</i> <i>S: Stormy</i> <i>A: Sedate, Calm, Peaceful</i>
836. succinct	<i>clear and brief, terse</i> <i>S: Concise</i> <i>A: Circumlocutory</i>	864. temporal	<i>of time</i>
837. succor	<i>assistance, relief in time of distress</i>	865. temporise	<i>to give temporary compliance, evade decision</i>
838. sumptuous	<i>magnificent</i>	866. tenacity	<i>firmness; persistency</i>
839. supernal	<i>Celestial, Heavenly</i> <i>S: Divine</i> <i>A: Earthy</i>	867. tendentious	<i>biased</i>
840. supernumerary	<i>an extra person or thing</i>	868. terse	<i>brief and to the point</i>
841. supervene	<i>to come or happen, a something additional or unexpected</i>	869. tete-a-tete	<i>a private conversation between two people</i>
842. supine	<i>lying on the back; slow to act; passive</i>	870. thrall	<i>enslave</i>
843. suppliant	<i>asking humbly; beseeching</i>	871. timorous	<i>fearful; timid</i>
844. supplicate	<i>make a humble petition to</i>	872. tincture	<i>a light colour, tinge</i>
845. surcease	<i>an end or cessation</i> <i>S: Ceasing</i>	873. tinsel	<i>superficial adornment</i>
846. surfeit	<i>satiating; feed to fulness or to excess</i>	874. titillate	<i>to excite pleasurably</i> <i>S: Stimulate, Excite</i> <i>A: Repulse, Disgust, Annoy</i>
847. surmise	<i>to guess</i> <i>S: Assume</i> <i>A: Certainty</i>	875. toady	<i>obsequious flatterer</i>
848. surrogate	<i>a substitute or deputy</i>	876. topography	<i>description of surface features of a region on maps and charts</i>
849. susceptibility	<i>sensitiveness</i>	877. torpid	<i>sleeping; sluggish; lethargic; dormant</i>
850. swill	<i>to drink greedily</i>	878. torpor	<i>dullness, lack of energy</i> <i>S: Inactivity</i> <i>A: Enthusiasm, Involvement</i>
851. sylvan	<i>Rural, Rustic</i>	879. torque	<i>twisting force causing rotation</i>
852. synchronism	<i>to cause to happen at the same time or rate</i>	880. tractable	<i>easily controlled or guided</i>
T		881. transfigure	<i>to transform so as to glorify.</i> <i>A: Mutilate, Destroy</i>
		882. transfix	<i>to make motionless as if impaled</i> <i>S: Petrify, Paralyse</i> <i>A: Animate, Rejuvenate</i>
853. taciturn	<i>untalkative, silent</i>	883. transient	<i>temporary; fleeting</i>
854. talon	<i>claw of a bird of prey</i>	884. transitory	<i>brief</i>
855. tamp	<i>tap or drive down by repeated light blows</i>	885. transvestite	<i>a person who gets sexual pleasure from dressing in clothes of the opposite sex</i>
856. tantamount	<i>equal in value, effect etc.</i>	886. travail	<i>(i) very hard work, laborious effort (ii) Pains of child birth</i>
857. tardy	<i>(i) Late, Delayed, Dilatory (ii) Slow moving</i> <i>A: Prompt, Punctual, Ready</i>	887. traverse	<i>A farcical imitation in ridicule</i>
858. tautology	<i>a repetition, redundancy</i>	888. travesty	<i>parody; imitation, bad representation</i>
859. taxidermy	<i>the art of preparing, stuffing, etc. the skins of animals to make them appear lifelike</i>	889. trite	<i>not new, much used</i>
860. teeny-bopper	<i>a faddish young teenager, especially a girl of the 1960s</i>	890. truce	<i>(agreement) stop of fighting for a time</i>
861. temerity	<i>boldness; brashness; intrepidity</i>	891. trudge	<i>walk heavily</i>
		892. truism	<i>a statement, the truth of which is obvious</i>
		893. truncate	<i>to cut off a part or top</i>

894. **tryst** *a secret meeting*
 895. **tumid** *swollen, bulging,
S: Distended,
A: Shrunk, Reduced, Concise*
 896. **turbid** *muddy; having the sediment
stirred up*
 897. **tutelage** *guardianship, care, instruction*
 898. **tyro** *tiro; beginner*

U

899. **ubiquitous** *present everywhere*
 900. **ululate** *to howl, hoot or wail loudly*
 901. **umbra** *A shadow from a planet or satel-
lite on the side opposite the sun*
 902. **umbrage** *offense; resentment*
 903. **undulate** *to move in wavelike fashion;
fluctuate*
 904. **unencumbered** *easy-going; trifle*
 905. **unequivocal** *having one meaning, Clear
S: Plain, Clear
A: Ambiguous, Confusing, Vague*
 906. **unfounded** *without any basis in truth*
 907. **unhinge** *mentally unstable
S: Unsettled
A: Sane, Rational, Calm*
 908. **unmitigated** *absolute
S: Complete*
 909. **unpalatable** *not pleasant to the taste, sicken-
ing*
 910. **unsavoury** *disgusting, unpleasant, disagree-
able, notorious*
 911. **unscrupulous** *not restrained by moral scruples
S: unprincipled
A: Scrupulous, Conscientious*
 912. **unversed** *with no experience*
 913. **unwary** *who does not take care, careless
person*
 914. **unwieldy** *large and awkward*
 915. **upbraid** *to scold, censure, rebuke*
 916. **upbraid** *scold; reproach*
 917. **upheaval** *great change, cataclysm*
 918. **usurer** *a person who lends money at
high interest*
 919. **utilitarian** *practical, accessible, within
reach*
 920. **uxorious** *submissively fond of a wife*

V

921. **vacuous** *with no meaning, silly, vacant*
 922. **vagary** *strange act or idea*

923. **vagrant** *wandering, gypsy, nomadic*
 924. **valorous** *brave*
 925. **vanquish** *conquer*
 926. **vantage point** *place from where you can see well*
 927. **vapid** *dull, absentminded, silly*
 928. **vasectomy** *operation on a man to cut the
tube through which sperms flow
to make him sterile*
 929. **vaunt** *to boast*
 930. **vehemence** *forceful way (adj.: vehement =
fierce, furious)*
 931. **venal** *ready to do something dishonest*
 932. **veneer** *surface appearance covering the
true nature*
 933. **veneration** *regard with deep respect*
 934. **venial** *excusable*
 935. **verbatim** *word for word, exactly same
words*
 936. **verbiage** *lot of useless words*
 937. **verbose** *using more words than neces-
sary*
 938. **veritable** *real; rightly named*
 939. **vertigo** *dizziness caused by heights*
 940. **vestibule** *entrance hall, doorway,
approach*
 941. **viaduct** *bridge, overpass*
 942. **vibes** *sensation*
 943. **vicarious** *felt through imagining what
other person feels, indirectly felt*
 944. **viraginous** *of a virago*
 945. **virago** *a loud domineering woman; a
scold or nag*
 946. **virology** *study of viruses*
 947. **virtuoso** *person skilled in an art, expert,
master*
 948. **virulence** *great strength (adj.: virulent)*
 949. **volubility** *fluency; verbosity; easy use of
spoken language*
 950. **voluble** *fluent*
 951. **vouchsafe** *to grant (often in a gracious
manner)*

W

952. **waffle** *talk vaguely and without much
result*
 953. **waft** *scent; waving movement; carry
lightly through*
 954. **wallop** *to beat or defeat soundly
S: Thrash*
 955. **wallow** *to indulge oneself fully in some-
thing sensual*

2.44 *How to Prepare for Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension for the CAT*

956. **warlock** *male equivalent or a witch*
957. **waspish** *bad-tempered, Snappish*
S: Irritable
A: Affectionate
958. **waylay** *to wait for and attack by surprise*
S: Accost
959. **welter** *turmoil; a bewildering jumble*
960. **wend** *to go, proceed*

Y

961. **yahoo** *a rude or violent person*

962. **yokel**
963. **yule**

*a person from the country,
bumpkin
Christmas*

Z

964. **zany**
965. **zephyr**

*a clown or buffoon, half-witted
person
a gentle breeze*