

250 Best Words, Phrases, and Idiomatic Expressions!

If you have your exam in the next few days, and you cannot go through our extensive word lists, just complete these 250 words before your exam and you should be good! It's an accelerated vocabulary lesson!

Assignment: [IMPORTANT] To ensure you really learn everything here, make sure to make 5 sentences DAILY with each new word, phrase, or expression you learn!

100 Advanced Words:

1. Aberration - a deviation from the norm
2. Acumen - keen insight; shrewdness
3. Alacrity - brisk and cheerful readiness
4. Aplomb - self-confidence or assurance, especially in a demanding situation
5. Banal - so lacking in originality as to be obvious and boring
6. Belligerent - hostile and aggressive
7. Boondoggle - work or activity that is wasteful or pointless but gives the appearance of having value
8. Byzantine - excessively complicated, typically involving a great deal of administrative detail
9. Cacophony - a harsh, discordant mixture of sounds
10. Cajole - persuade someone to do something by sustained coaxing or flattery
11. Capitulate - cease to resist an opponent or an unwelcome demand; surrender
12. Circumspect - wary and unwilling to take risks
13. Clamor - loud and confused noise, especially that of people shouting vehemently
14. Cognizant - having knowledge or being aware of
15. Concomitant - naturally accompanying or associated
16. Confluence - the junction of two rivers, especially rivers of approximately equal width
17. Conundrum - a confusing and difficult problem or question
18. Credulous - having or showing too great a readiness to believe things
19. Culpable - deserving blame
20. Debacle - a sudden and ignominious failure; a fiasco
21. Decry - publicly denounce
22. Demagogue - a political leader who seeks support by appealing to the desires and prejudices of ordinary people rather than by using rational argument
23. Denigrate - criticize unfairly; disparage
24. Derivative - (especially of an artist or work of art) imitative of the work of another person, and usually disapproved of for that reason
25. Despot - a ruler or other person who holds absolute power, typically one who exercises it in a cruel or oppressive way
26. Diatribe - a forceful and bitter verbal attack against someone or something
27. Diffidence - modesty or shyness resulting from a lack of self-confidence

28. Dilettante - a person who cultivates an area of interest, such as the arts, without real commitment or knowledge
29. Disparate - essentially different in kind; not allowing comparison
30. Draconian - (of laws or their application) excessively harsh and severe
31. Ebullient - cheerful and full of energy
32. Eclectic - deriving ideas, style, or taste from a broad and diverse range of sources
33. Effrontery - insolent or impertinent behavior
34. Egregious - outstandingly bad; shocking
35. Enervate - cause (someone) to feel drained of energy or vitality; weaken
36. Ennui - a feeling of listlessness and dissatisfaction arising from a lack of occupation or excitement
37. Ephemeral - lasting for a very short time
38. Epitome - a person or thing that is a perfect example of a particular quality or type
39. Equanimity - mental calmness, composure, and evenness of temper, especially in a difficult situation
40. Esoteric - intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with a specialized knowledge or interest
41. Euphemism - a mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing
42. Exacerbate - make (a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling) worse
43. Exculpate - show or declare that (someone) is not guilty of wrongdoing
44. Exigent - pressing; demanding
45. Exonerate - (especially of an official body) absolve (someone) from blame for a fault or wrongdoing
46. Expunge - erase or remove completely (something unwanted or unpleasant)
47. Extant - (especially of a document) still in existence; surviving
48. Extrapolate - extend the application of (a method or conclusion, especially one based on statistics) to an unknown situation by assuming that existing trends will continue or similar methods will be applicable
49. Facetious - treating serious issues with deliberately inappropriate humor; flippant
50. Fastidious - very attentive to and concerned about accuracy and detail
51. Fecund - producing or capable of producing an abundance of offspring or new growth; fertile
52. Filibuster - an action such as a prolonged speech that obstructs progress in a legislative assembly while not technically contravening the required procedures

53. Florid - having a red or flushed complexion; elaborately or excessively intricate or complicated
54. Garrulous - excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters
55. Gratuitous - uncalled for; lacking good reason; unwarranted
56. Hubris - excessive pride or self-confidence
57. Ignominious - deserving or causing public disgrace or shame
58. Impetuous - acting or done quickly and without thought or care
59. Impugn - dispute the truth, validity, or honesty of (a statement or motive); call into question
60. Incontrovertible - not able to be denied or disputed
61. Indefatigable - (of a person or their efforts) persisting tirelessly
62. Indolent - wanting to avoid activity or exertion; lazy
63. Ineffable - too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words
64. Inexorable - impossible to stop or prevent
65. Inscrutable - impossible to understand or interpret
66. Insidious - proceeding in a gradual, subtle way, but with harmful effects
67. Insipid - lacking flavor; weak or tasteless
68. Intransigent - unwilling or refusing to change one's views or to agree about something
69. Inundate - overwhelm (someone) with things or people to be dealt with
70. Irrascible - having or showing a tendency to be easily angered
71. Jejune - naive, simplistic, and superficial
72. Jingoism - extreme patriotism, especially in the form of aggressive or warlike foreign policy
73. Juxtapose - place or deal with close together for contrasting effect
74. Laconic - (of a person, speech, or style of writing) using very few words
75. Lamoon - publicly criticize (someone or something) by using ridicule, irony, or sarcasm
76. Largesse - generosity in bestowing money or gifts upon others
77. Loquacious - tending to talk a great deal; talkative
78. Malevolent - having or showing a wish to do evil to others
79. Mendacious - not telling the truth; lying
80. Mercurial - (of a person) subject to sudden or unpredictable changes of mood or mind
81. Misanthrope - a person who dislikes humankind and avoids human society
82. Misnomer - a wrong or inaccurate name or designation
83. Nadir - the lowest point in the fortunes of a person or organization
84. Nefarious - (typically of an action or activity) wicked or criminal

85. Obfuscate - render obscure, unclear, or unintelligible
86. Obsequious - obedient or attentive to an excessive or servile degree
87. Ostensible - stated or appearing to be true, but not necessarily so
88. Panacea - a solution or remedy for all difficulties or diseases
89. Paradigm - a typical example or pattern of something; a model
90. Parsimonious - unwilling to spend money or use resources; stingy or frugal
91. Pedantic - excessively concerned with minor details or rules; over-scrupulous
92. Pernicious - having a harmful effect, especially in a gradual or subtle way
93. Plethora - a large or excessive amount of (something)
94. Prevaricate - speak or act in an evasive way
95. Propensity - an inclination or natural tendency to behave in a particular way
96. Quixotic - exceedingly idealistic; unrealistic and impractical
97. Recalcitrant - having an obstinately uncooperative attitude toward authority or discipline
98. Sagacious - having or showing keen mental discernment and good judgment; shrewd
99. Sanguine - optimistic or positive, especially in an apparently bad or difficult situation
100. Ubiquitous - present, appearing, or found everywhere

50 Advanced Idiomatic Expressions:

1. Break the ice - To initiate a conversation in a social setting.
2. Hit the nail on the head - To describe exactly what is causing a situation or problem.
3. Bite the bullet - To endure a painful or otherwise unpleasant situation that is seen as unavoidable.
4. Barking up the wrong tree - Looking in the wrong place or accusing the wrong person.
5. A piece of cake - Something that is very easy to do.
6. Let the cat out of the bag - To reveal a secret.
7. Costs an arm and a leg - Very expensive.
8. The ball is in your court - It's your decision or responsibility to do something now.
9. Judge a book by its cover - Form an opinion about someone or something based purely on appearance.
10. Hit the sack - Go to bed or go to sleep.
11. Under the weather - Feeling ill or sick.
12. Spill the beans - Reveal secret information unintentionally or indiscreetly.
13. Out of the blue - Something happening unexpectedly.
14. The best of both worlds - An ideal situation where one can enjoy two different opportunities.
15. Speak of the devil - The person we were just talking about actually appears at that moment.
16. Once in a blue moon - An event that happens infrequently.
17. A blessing in disguise - A good thing that seemed bad at first.
18. Burn the midnight oil - To work late into the night.
19. Caught between two stools - When someone finds it difficult to choose between two alternatives.
20. Miss the boat - To miss an opportunity.
21. Take with a grain of salt - Not to take what someone says too seriously.
22. Go on a wild goose chase - To do something pointless.
23. Hear it on the grapevine - To hear rumors about something or someone.
24. Kill two birds with one stone - To solve two problems at once.
25. Last straw - The final problem in a series of problems.
26. Let sleeping dogs lie - To avoid causing a problem.
27. On the ball - Doing a good job, being prompt, or being responsible.

28. Once bitten, twice shy - After an unpleasant experience, people are careful to avoid something similar.
29. Play devil's advocate - To argue the opposite, just for the sake of argument.
30. Sit on the fence - This is used when someone does not want to choose or make a decision.
31. Steal someone's thunder - To take the credit for something someone else did.
32. Take the bull by the horns - To face a problem head-on.
33. The elephant in the room - An obvious problem or difficult situation that people do not want to talk about.
34. Throw in the towel - To give up.
35. Up in the air - Something that has not been finalized or decided.
36. Add insult to injury - To worsen an already bad situation.
37. At the drop of a hat - Willing to do something immediately.
38. The ball is in your court - It is up to you to make the next decision or step.
39. Bend over backwards - To do whatever it takes to help.
40. Bite off more than you can chew - To take on a task that is way too big.
41. By the skin of your teeth - Just barely.
42. Cut corners - When something is done badly to save money.
43. Devil's advocate - To present a counter argument.
44. Don't count your chickens before they hatch - Don't make plans for something that might not happen.
45. Drastic times call for drastic measures - When you are extremely desperate you need to take drastic actions.
46. Elvis has left the building - The show has come to an end. It's all over.
47. Feeling a bit under the weather - Feeling slightly ill.
48. Give the benefit of the doubt - Believe someone's statement, without proof.
49. Hear something straight from the horse's mouth - To hear something from the authoritative source.
50. Your guess is as good as mine - To have no idea or no knowledge about something.

100 Advanced Phrasal Verbs:

1. Act up - Behave badly or strangely.
2. Back down - Withdraw a claim or assertion in the face of opposition.
3. Bear out - Confirm the truth.
4. Blow over - Pass without creating a problem.
5. Boil down to - Simplify, reduce to the essentials.
6. Branch out - Expand or extend one's interests.
7. Bring about - Cause to happen.
8. Brush up on - Improve or refresh one's knowledge of something.
9. Burn out - Lose enthusiasm due to overwork.
10. Call off - Cancel something.
11. Carry over - Continue in a different context or time.
12. Catch on - Become popular or understood.
13. Check up on - Verify or control.
14. Chew over - Think deeply about something.
15. Churn out - Produce something at a fast rate.
16. Clamp down on - Suppress or prevent something forcefully.
17. Come across - Find by chance.
18. Come up with - Think of an idea or plan.
19. Count on - Rely on.
20. Crack down on - Enforce laws or rules more strictly.
21. Crank up - Increase intensity.
22. Cross off - Eliminate from a list.
23. Cut back on - Reduce in amount or frequency.
24. Delve into - Research or investigate deeply.
25. Die down - Decrease in intensity.
26. Do away with - Abolish, get rid of.
27. Draw up - Create a document or plan.
28. Dress up - Wear fancy clothing.
29. Drop off - Decrease; also, deliver something or someone.
30. Drum up - Generate interest or support.
31. Dwell on - Spend a lot of time thinking about.
32. Ease off - Reduce in intensity.
33. Egg on - Encourage someone to do something.
34. Embark on - Start a major effort; set off.

35. Fall through - Fail to happen.
36. Feel up to - Be capable or in the mood to do something.
37. Fend off - Defend oneself against.
38. Figure out - Understand, find the answer.
39. Fill in for - Substitute for someone.
40. Fizzle out - Gradually end.
41. Flare up - Suddenly worsen.
42. Flesh out - Add more details or information.
43. Flip out - React strongly and emotionally.
44. Fool around - Waste time; also, engage in sexual activity.
45. Gear up for - Prepare for an event or task.
46. Get along with - Have a good relationship.
47. Get around to - Finally find time to do.
48. Get at - Imply.
49. Get away with - Do without being noticed or punished.
50. Get over - Recover from.
51. Give in to - Relent, yield.
52. Go over - Review or check thoroughly.
53. Grapple with - Struggle to understand or deal with.
54. Hammer out - Negotiate and come to an agreement.
55. Hand over - Give control or responsibility to someone else.
56. Hang onto - Keep, hold.
57. Hash out - Discuss in detail.
58. Head off - Prevent something from happening.
59. Hold off on - Delay, postpone.
60. Hone in on - Focus closely on something.
61. Iron out - Remove minor difficulties or problems.
62. Jot down - Write something quickly.
63. Jump in - Enter into an activity with enthusiasm.
64. Keep up with - Stay at the same point/level as.
65. Kick off - Start, initiate.
66. Knock off - Stop working; also, reduce the price.
67. Lay off - Dismiss from employment.
68. Lead up to - Result in, culminate in.
69. Lean on - Pressure someone to do something.
70. Leave out - Exclude, omit.
71. Let down - Disappoint.
72. Live up to - Meet expectations or standards.

73. Look down on - Consider as inferior.
74. Make up for - Compensate.
75. Mull over - Think deeply about something.
76. Narrow down - Reduce the number of possibilities.
77. Nod off - Fall asleep briefly.
78. Opt out of - Choose not to participate.
79. Pan out - Succeed, go well.
80. Pass up - Decline an opportunity.
81. Pay back - Return money owed.
82. Peel off - Remove from the main group.
83. Piece together - Understand something by considering all its connected parts.
84. Pin down - Determine something precisely.
85. Play down - Make something seem less important.
86. Plow through - Proceed in a slow, laborious way.
87. Point out - Draw attention to.
88. Pore over - Study or examine closely.
89. Put forward - Propose, suggest.
90. Put up with - Tolerate.
91. Rattle off - Say quickly without much thought.
92. Reel off - Recite quickly and from memory.
93. Rule out - Exclude as a possibility.
94. Run by - Explain an idea to get an opinion.
95. Set aside - Save or reserve for a particular purpose.
96. Smooth over - Try to make a problem seem less serious.
97. Spell out - Explain in detail.
98. Stand up for - Support or defend.
99. Step up - Increase in amount or intensity.
100. Touch on - Mention briefly.