

Anomaly

- Deviation from the normal or common order, form, or rule.
- A person who is unusual.

Imagine walking through the busy streets of Dhaka where every building looks similar, every shop sells similar goods, and suddenly, you stumble upon a vibrant pink house amidst all the gray ones. It catches your eye, doesn't it? That house is an anomaly—a deviation from the usual. Now think about a classroom where everyone is preparing for IBA led by Magnus, but one student is designing his own materials. That student is also an *anomaly*, someone who stands out because they are so different. In life, anomalies make us pause, notice, and remember—whether they're unusual situations, people, or patterns that don't follow the norms.

Other Forms:

- **Anomalies:** Plural form; unusual cases or deviations.
- **Anomalistic:** Relating to or marked by irregularity.
- **Anomalistically:** In a manner that deviates from the usual or expected.

Synonyms:

Aberration, deviation, irregularity, oddity, peculiarity, rarity, exception, variance, abnormality, inconsistency.

Antonyms:

Norm, regularity, standard, uniformity, conformity.

Usage Sentences:

1. The recent flooding in Feni, occurring during the dry season, was an *anomaly* that puzzled climate scientists.
2. In the Bangladeshi education system, she was considered an *anomaly*, excelling in both arts and sciences when most students specialized in just one.
3. The data collected by Dhaka Bytes IT revealed an *anomaly* in traffic patterns, with a sudden spike in internet usage late at night.

IBA MBA June-18

Modern political campaigns are so full of misrepresentations, the candor is an ____.

- A) aphorism B) anecdote C) **anomaly** D) augmentation
E) None of these

Equivocal

- Open to two or more interpretations.
- Uncertain as a sign or indication.
- Open to question.

Have you ever asked a friend for advice about a tough decision, and they gave you an answer that could mean two completely different things? For example, you ask, "Should I take this job?" and they reply, "Well, it depends on how you see it." That's *equivocal* advice—unclear, open to multiple interpretations, and leaving

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you even more confused. In our day-to-day lives, politicians often make *equivocal* statements to avoid being pinned down. Even the cloudy sky before a storm in Dhaka can be seen as *equivocal*, uncertain about whether it wants to rain or not.

Other Forms:

- **Equivocally:** In an ambiguous or unclear way.
- **Equivocality:** The quality of being open to multiple interpretations.
- **Unequivocal:** The opposite; clear and direct.

Synonyms:

Ambiguous, vague, unclear, dubious, puzzling, indefinite, misleading, evasive, cryptic, uncertain.

Antonyms:

Clear, unequivocal, straightforward, obvious, definite, unambiguous.

Usage Sentences:

1. The mayor's *equivocal* remarks about the new bridge project left Dhaka residents unsure if it would ever be completed.
2. Her response to the committee's proposal was deliberately *equivocal*, avoiding commitment to either side.
3. The tea vendor's weather prediction in Old Dhaka—"It might rain, or it might not"—was so *equivocal* that everyone laughed in agreement.

IBA BBA 17-18

Completely impenetrable to the layperson, the text was ____ even to experts.

- A) clear B) **unequivocal** C) abstruse D) obtuse E) **equivocal**

IBA BBA 15-16

Choose the incorrect suffix/prefix

- A) Equilateral B) **Equivocal** C) Equilibrate D) Equidivision E) No Error

Lucid

- Transparently clear; easily understandable.
- Having a clear mind.
- Capable of thinking in a clear and consistent manner.
- Transmitting light; able to be seen through with clarity.

You are studying late at night in Dhaka during a power cut, and suddenly the lights come back on. Everything becomes clear and bright—that's *lucid* in a literal sense. Now think about those rare moments during a busy day when your thoughts are sharp, and you can solve a problem effortlessly. That's the mental clarity we call *lucid* thinking. Teachers who explain complex ideas in a simple, easy-to-understand way have a *lucid* teaching style. Whether it's clarity in thought, expression, or light, *lucid* moments feel like a breath of fresh air.

Other Forms:

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- **Lucidity:** The quality of being clear or easy to understand.
- **Lucidly:** In a clear and easy-to-understand manner.
- **Lucidness:** The state of being clear or comprehensible.

Synonyms:

Clear, intelligible, coherent, articulate, luminous, transparent, rational, logical.

Antonyms:

Obscure, vague, ambiguous, clouded, irrational, murky, opaque.

Usage Sentences:

1. Sam's explanation of Kaplan 52 Words was so *lucid* that even aspirants with no solid background could understand it.
2. During her interview for IBA, she gave such *lucid* answers that the panel was thoroughly impressed with her clarity of thought.
3. The water of the hill streams in Bandarban appeared so *lucid* that one could see the colorful pebbles lying at the bottom.

IBA BBA 15-16

The investors were not fooled by the manager's ____ proposal; his plan was obviously ____.

- A) specious - untenable
- B) cogent - brilliant
- C) dubious - infallible

D) **lucid** - intelligible

E) none of these

Precipitate

- Bring about abruptly.
- Hurl or throw violently.
- Fall or cause to fall vertically, sharply, or headlong.
- Done with very great haste and without due deliberation.
- Fall from clouds.

So you're at a crowded tea stall of TSC in the University of Dhaka, and someone accidentally spills a cup of tea on another person. The small incident suddenly *precipitates* a heated argument. This is how quickly events can escalate when something happens abruptly. Similarly, consider a student who makes a *precipitate* decision to quit their studies without thinking about the consequences—that's haste without deliberation. Even in nature, rain is an example of precipitation; water vapor cools and suddenly falls from the clouds. Life is full of *precipitate* moments that happen fast and demand immediate reactions.

Other Forms:

- **Precipitation:** The act of precipitating; also refers to rain, snow, or other forms of water falling from the sky.
- **Precipitant:** Causing a situation to happen abruptly.
- **Precipitately:** Done in a hasty or abrupt manner.

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Synonyms:

Hasten, expedite, provoke, accelerate, impel, trigger, plunge, instigate, foment, catalyze.

Antonyms:

Hinder, delay, obstruct, restrain, impede, deliberate, halt.

Usage Sentences:

1. The government's sudden announcement of fuel price hikes *precipitated* widespread protests across Dhaka.
2. In her *precipitate* attempt to finish the assignment early, she overlooked several key instructions.
3. Heavy monsoon clouds gathered above, and within minutes, rain began to *precipitate*, flooding the streets of Chattogram.

Assuage

- Provide physical relief, as from pain.
- Satisfy, as thirst.
- Cause to be more favorably inclined.

Think about the sweltering heat of summer in Dhaka. Now imagine the sheer joy of drinking a chilled glass of lemonade—it instantly *assuages* your thirst, doesn't it? Similarly, when a friend is upset, your comforting words might *assuage* their emotional pain. In both cases, you're bringing relief, whether physical or emotional. Life is filled with moments when we seek to *assuage* discomfort or challenges,

whether by finding solutions or simply offering kindness.

Other Forms:

- **Assuagement:** The act of relieving or soothing.
- **Assuaging:** The present participle form, meaning the process of easing discomfort.

Synonyms:

Alleviate, appease, mollify, mitigate, soothe, pacify, placate, relieve, allay.

Antonyms:

Aggravate, intensify, exacerbate, irritate, worsen, provoke.

Usage Sentences:

1. The government implemented several measures to *assuage* public concerns about rising inflation in Bangladesh.
2. After hours in Dhaka's infamous traffic, the air-conditioned café offered a much-needed respite to *assuage* their fatigue.
3. He donated blankets and food to the flood-affected families in Rangpur, hoping to *assuage* their suffering.

IBA MBA June 13

Correct Usage of Words:

- i. He is a growing boy; only a hearty meal will assuage his hunger!

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ii. Even though we are in a team, you cannot really expect us to **assuage** your scheme to win this project.

iii. In the dead of the night, when a baby wakes up and cries, only a mother's touch can **assuage** her.

A. i and ii

B. ii and iii

C. i and iii

D. ii only

E. all three

IBA MBA Dec 11

The briefing was called to ____ confusion and to put speculation to rest after a newspaper had reported ____ information on the issue.

A) stimulate; incongruous

B) relieve; consistent

C) **assuage**; complementary

D) kindle; contrary

E) allay; contradictory

Erudite

• **Having or showing profound knowledge.**

You are sitting in a room with someone who seems to have an answer to every question, quoting ancient texts, and explaining complex theories with ease. That person is *erudite*—someone whose knowledge is deep and extensive. The late Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed is often admired for his *erudite* speeches that inspired generations of students. Whether it's a teacher, a scholar, or even a friend, an *erudite* person

is like a treasure trove of knowledge, always ready to share wisdom.

Other Forms:

- **Erudition:** Deep, extensive learning or scholarship.
- **Eruditely:** In a scholarly or knowledgeable manner.

Synonyms:

Scholarly, learned, knowledgeable, intellectual, wise, academic, cultured, sagacious.

Antonyms:

Ignorant, uneducated, uninformed, illiterate, simple-minded, superficial.

Usage Sentences:

1. The *erudite* senior delivered a lecture on vocabulary for IBA preparation that left the entire audience spellbound.
2. His *erudite* analysis of the economic policies of Bangladesh demonstrated his profound understanding of global markets.
3. Even as a young student, she impressed her teachers with her *erudite* insights into complex mathematical theories.

IBA MBA June 13

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Select the choice that best expresses the underlined word in each sentence.

I felt honored to be invited to the academic conference, where the most erudite people in the field of business research were expected to present.

- A. exposed B. experienced C. learned D. intelligent
E. advanced

Opaque

- Not transmitting or reflecting light or radiant energy.
- Not clearly understood or expressed.

Think about an old, frosted glass window that you can't see through clearly—that's *opaque* in a literal sense. But the word also applies to ideas or explanations that feel equally unclear. For example, a financial report filled with jargon might seem *opaque* to someone without a business background. Whether it's a physical barrier to light or a lack of clarity in communication, *opaque* things make us pause, scratch our heads, and try harder to understand.

Other Forms:

- **Opacity:** The state or quality of being opaque.
- **Opaqueness:** Another noun form meaning the same.

Synonyms:

Cloudy, obscure, impenetrable, murky, dense, turbid, ambiguous, arcane.

Antonyms:

Transparent, clear, lucid, intelligible, straightforward.

Usage Sentences:

1. The tinted windows of luxury cars in Dhaka are often *opaque*, ensuring VIP privacy for the passengers.
2. His instructions for the group project were so *opaque* that no one knew what they were supposed to do.
3. The legal jargon in the new trade agreement was deliberately *opaque*, making it difficult for ordinary citizens to understand its implications.

Prodigal

- Recklessly wasteful.
- Giving or having in a lavish, abundant, or bountiful way.
- One who returns after a period of reckless behavior.

Your partner who spends their entire month's salary on a single day of shopping in Bashundhara City Mall without a second thought about their future expenses—that's *prodigal* behavior: recklessly wasteful. On the other hand, think about a wedding in Bangladesh, where food and decorations are so abundant and lavish that it feels like no expense was spared. That's the *prodigal* nature of giving. Lastly, consider the joy when a friend, who had left home after years of reckless decisions, returns to make amends. They are the *prodigal* one, coming back with a sense of redemption.

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Other Forms:

- **Prodigality:** The quality of being wastefully extravagant.
- **Prodigally:** In a lavish or wasteful manner.

Synonyms:

Extravagant, lavish, excessive, reckless, spendthrift, wasteful, opulent, immoderate, intemperate.

Antonyms:

Frugal, economical, prudent, thrifty, careful, conservative.

Usage Sentences:

1. Despite her *prodigal* spending habits, she managed to save enough money to start her business in Dhaka.
2. The *prodigal* generosity of the event sponsors ensured that every guest at the charity gala received luxurious gifts.
3. After years of living recklessly abroad, the *prodigal* son returned to his family home in Sylhet, seeking forgiveness.

Enigma

- Something that baffles understanding and cannot be explained.
- A difficult problem.

Life is full of mysteries, like the Sundarbans' elusive Royal Bengal Tigers that people rarely see. These

tigers are an *enigma*—captivating and puzzling. You can think about Magnus Sam too! When you encounter a person who is hard to figure out, whose thoughts and actions are unpredictable, they feel like an *enigma*. Even the development of Dhaka's traffic system might seem like an *enigma* to those trying to find a solution. Mysteries, whether in people, nature, or systems, leave us curious and searching for answers.

Other Forms:

- **Enigmatic:** Difficult to interpret or understand.
- **Enigmatically:** In a mysterious or puzzling manner.

Synonyms:

Mystery, puzzle, conundrum, riddle, paradox, quandary, perplexity, labyrinth.

Antonyms:

Clarity, solution, explanation, answer, transparency.

Usage Sentences:

1. The sudden disappearance of his research papers from the lab in Dhaka University remains an *enigma* to this day.
2. Her enigmatic smile during the presentation left the audience wondering about her true intentions.
3. The rise of a new political leader in Bangladesh is an *enigma* for analysts trying to predict the country's future.

Fervid

- Characterized by intense emotion.
- Extremely hot.

Picture a football fan in Bangladesh passionately cheering for their favorite team during the World Cup, their voice trembling with excitement and tears streaming down their face. That's *fervid* emotion—intense and overwhelming. On a scorching summer day in Dhaka, when the heat feels unbearable, you can also describe the weather as *fervid*. Whether it's extreme emotions or extreme heat, *fervid* captures that intensity in its purest form.

Other Forms:

- **Fervidly:** In an intensely emotional or passionate manner.
- **Fervidity:** The quality of being fervid.

Synonyms:

Passionate, intense, fervent, zealous, ardent, fiery, enthusiastic, blazing.

Antonyms:

Apathetic, indifferent, calm, subdued, tepid, unenthusiastic.

Usage Sentences:

1. The *fervid* speeches of the freedom fighters during the Liberation War inspired millions across Bangladesh.

2. The *fervid* heatwave during Ramadan made fasting particularly challenging for the people of Dhaka.
3. Her *fervid* devotion to teaching ensured that every student in her class succeeded.

Placate

- Cause to be more favorably inclined.

Imagine being stuck in Dhaka's traffic for hours, and someone offers you a bottle of water and a smile. Instantly, your frustration lessens. That's what it means to *placate*—to calm or appease someone. Similarly, when someone is upset with you, small gestures like an apology or a thoughtful gift can *placate* their anger. It's about easing tensions and restoring harmony, a skill we often need in our daily lives.

Other Forms:

- **Placation:** The act of pacifying or appeasing.
- **Placatory:** Intended to soothe or calm.

Synonyms:

Pacify, appease, mollify, soothe, calm, reconcile, conciliate, propitiate.

Antonyms:

Provoke, irritate, inflame, agitate, antagonize, enrage.

Usage Sentences:

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1. The company's quick response to customer complaints helped to *placate* the frustrated clients in Dhaka.
2. His heartfelt apology *placated* his parents after they discovered he skipped classes to attend a concert.
3. During the protests, the mayor attempted to *placate* the crowd by promising immediate reforms.

IBA MBA 2011-12

Choose the most appropriate Antonyms to the words in capital letters.

PLACATE

- A) Pacify B) Ameliorate C) Enrage
D) Dais E) Occupy

IBA BBA 05-06

The point of this ____ is to explore the environment in which she was ____.

- A) outcry, placated
B) dilemma, gathered
C) outline, raised
D) critique, startled
E) anecdote, wiped out

Zeal

- A feeling of strong eagerness.
- Prompt willingness.

- Excessive fervor to do something or accomplish some end.

Think about the excitement and determination of a student preparing for the IBA admission test—they wake up early, study late, and solve every question with *zeal*. That strong eagerness to achieve a goal is what *zeal* is all about. Whether it's a Bangladeshi entrepreneur working tirelessly to launch their startup or a cricket fan cheering for the Tigers, *zeal* drives people to give their all. It's passion in action, fueled by purpose.

Other Forms:

- **Zealous:** Full of zeal or enthusiasm.
- **Zealously:** In a passionate or eager manner.

Synonyms:

Enthusiasm, passion, fervor, eagerness, intensity, ardor, dedication, devotion.

Antonyms:

Apathy, indifference, lethargy, disinterest, reluctance, detachment.

Usage Sentences:

1. Her *zeal* for promoting education in rural areas of Bangladesh earned her nationwide recognition.
2. The volunteers worked with *zeal*, distributing relief supplies to flood-affected areas in Sylhet.
3. His *zeal* for achieving his dream of studying abroad inspired his entire family.

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IBA MBA June 15

Correct Usages of Underlined Word

Zeal

- i. The world is the way it is because of the way we understand and deal with zealots in general.
- ii. The most acknowledged minds of times gone by have always been over-zealous in their pursuit of knowledge and accomplishments.
- iii. What I like about her is that she never gives up—after an exam had not gone well, she just goes ahead with renewed zeal in preparing herself for the next one.
- A) i only
- B) both i and ii
- C) both ii and iii
- D) i, ii, and iii
- E) iii only

IBA MBA June 13

Select the choice that best expresses the underlined word in each sentence.

His mother was much relieved to see a return of her son's former enthusiasm in schoolwork after getting all A's in his latest works.

- A. **zeal** B. interest C. apathy D. unconcern E. keen

IBA BBA 06-07

Find the Odd word:

- A) Lackadaisical B) Apathy C) **Zeal** D) Disinterest

E) Nonchalance

Abstain

- Refrain from doing, consuming, or partaking in something.
- Refrain from voting.

Imagine your friend preparing for IBA who decides to *abstain* from gossiping or browsing social media until he achieves his goal. It's a tough choice but helps them stay focused. Similarly, think about someone avoiding a tempting plate of biryani during a religious fast. This self-control is what it means to *abstain*—to voluntarily hold back. Even during elections, some people might choose to *abstain* from voting because they feel undecided or uninspired by the candidates.

Other Forms:

- **Abstinence:** The practice of abstaining.
- **Abstainer:** Someone who abstains.
- **Abstention:** The act of abstaining, especially in voting.

Synonyms:

Refrain, withhold, renounce, forgo, desist, avoid, decline.

Antonyms:

Indulge, partake, consume, embrace, engage.

Usage Sentences:

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1. During Ramadan, many people choose to *abstain* from food and water from dawn to dusk as an act of devotion.
2. She decided to *abstain* from the debate, feeling it was best not to take sides in the heated discussion.
3. The village elders *abstained* from voting in the election, citing a lack of trustworthy candidates.

IBA MBA June 13

Select the choice that best expresses the underlined word in each sentence.

Official code of ethics always encourages employees to abstain from accepting pecuniary benefits from external parties.

A. significant B. considerable C. subtle D. illegal E. financial

Audacious

- Disposed to venture or take risks.
- Not held back by conventional ideas of behavior.
- Invulnerable to fear or intimidation.

Picture a young entrepreneur in Dhaka launching a business with no guarantee of success, breaking all conventional norms to bring an innovative idea to life. That's *audacious*—bold and daring. Or think about a student who challenges outdated teaching methods in their school, refusing to be limited by fear of authority. This fearless spirit and willingness to take risks define *audacious* behavior, inspiring others to dream big and think outside the box.

Other Forms:

- **Audacity:** Boldness or daring, especially with confidence.
- **Audaciously:** In a bold or daring manner.

Synonyms:

Bold, daring, fearless, intrepid, adventurous, brazen, courageous.

Antonyms:

Timid, cautious, reserved, fearful, shy, hesitant.

Usage Sentences:

1. The startup's *audacious* move to challenge established brands in Bangladesh's tech industry gained widespread attention.
2. Her *audacious* remarks during the meeting left the room in awe of her fearless attitude.
3. The artist's *audacious* display of unconventional sculptures at the Dhaka Art Summit was the talk of the event.

Desiccate

- Lacking vitality or spirit; lifeless.
- Remove water from.
- Lose water or moisture.
- Preserve by removing all water and liquids.

Imagine walking through the arid plains of Rajshahi during the peak of summer, where the ground seems *desiccated*, cracked, and lifeless due to the heat. On the other hand, think about fruits like mangoes that are *desiccated* to make dried mango snacks—a popular

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treat in Bangladesh. Whether it's the lifelessness caused by extreme dryness or the process of preserving food, *desiccate* reminds us of both nature's harshness and human ingenuity.

Other Forms:

- **Desiccation:** The process of drying out.
- **Desiccated:** Completely dried out.

Synonyms:

Dry, dehydrate, parched, shriveled, arid, withered.

Antonyms:

Moist, hydrated, lively, fresh, verdant, fertile.

Usage Sentences:

1. The *desiccated* fields in Barind Tract were a stark reminder of the impact of prolonged drought.
2. To extend the shelf life of spices, vendors in Bangladesh often *desiccate* them under the sun.
3. His lectures were so *desiccated* of enthusiasm that the students often struggled to stay awake.

Gullible

- Naive and easily deceived or tricked.
- Easily tricked because of being too trusting.

Think of someone in Dhaka who eagerly buys every new product advertised as a "magic cure" for all

problems, only to find it doesn't work. That's being *gullible*—too trusting and easily deceived. It's like believing every street vendor's claim that their snacks are the best in the city without question. While trusting people can be good, being overly *gullible* can lead to unnecessary loss or disappointment.

Other Forms:

- **Gullibility:** The tendency to be easily deceived.

Synonyms:

Naive, trusting, credulous, innocent, unsuspecting, impressionable.

Antonyms:

Skeptical, wary, cynical, shrewd, astute.

Usage Sentences:

1. The con artist took advantage of the *gullible* tourists by selling fake antiques in Dhaka's markets.
2. Her *gullible* nature often led her to fall for online scams.
3. The elders warned the young villagers not to be *gullible* when strangers offered them business deals.

IBA BBA 12-13

Find the synonyms

TANTAMOUNT

- A) Equal B) Huge C) Highest D) **Gullible**
E) Trifling

Laudable

- Worthy of high praise.

Think about a student who aces their IBA admission test through sheer hard work and determination—that's a *laudable* achievement. Similarly, a farmer in Bangladesh adopting eco-friendly practices to protect the environment is making a *laudable* contribution. Anything that deserves admiration, respect, or applause—whether big or small—can be described as *laudable*, inspiring others to follow in those footsteps.

Other Forms:

- **Laudability:** The quality of being praiseworthy.
- **Laudably:** In a manner deserving praise.

Synonyms:

Commendable, praiseworthy, admirable, meritorious, exemplary, noteworthy.

Antonyms:

Discreditable, shameful, blameworthy, reprehensible.

Usage Sentences:

1. The NGO's *laudable* efforts to educate underprivileged children in rural Bangladesh have been recognized internationally.
2. Her *laudable* commitment to her community earned her the Best Volunteer Award.

3. The government's initiative to reduce traffic congestion in Dhaka was *laudable*, though challenging to implement.

IBA BBA 15-16

Synonyms of FULMINATE

- A) Approve B) Denounce C) Praise D) Defend
E) **Laud**

Pedant

- A person who is preoccupied with rules and learning.

Imagine a teacher who spends more time correcting minor grammar errors than inspiring creativity in their students. That's a *pedant*—someone overly focused on details and rules. While they might be knowledgeable, their obsession with precision often takes the joy out of learning. In day-to-day life, a *pedant* can be the friend who insists on following every traffic rule to the letter, even when the road is empty.

Other Forms:

- **Pedantic:** Overly concerned with details or formalities.
- **Pedantry:** Excessive concern with minor details or rules.

Synonyms:

Nitpicker, perfectionist, scholar, dogmatist, formalist, purist.

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Antonyms:

Free-thinker, innovator, visionary, nonconformist.

Usage Sentences:

1. The professor's *pedant* tendencies often irritated his students, as he focused more on citations than the content of their essays.
2. While his advice was helpful, his *pedant* nature made group discussions less enjoyable.
3. The *pedant* librarian insisted that every book be placed exactly according to the Dewey Decimal System.

Vacillate

- Be undecided about something.
- Move or sway in a rising and falling or wavelike pattern.

Imagine standing in front of a street food stall in Dhaka, torn between ordering fuchka or chotpoti. You keep changing your mind as both options are equally tempting. This is *vacillating*—being indecisive and swaying back and forth between choices. On a deeper level, life decisions, like choosing between a job abroad or staying close to family, often make us *vacillate*, moving between options like waves in the ocean.

Other Forms:

- **Vacillation:** The act of being indecisive.

- **Vacillating:** Wavering or indecisive behavior.

Synonyms:

Waver, hesitate, fluctuate, oscillate, dither, falter, sway, alternate.

Antonyms:

Decide, determine, resolve, settle, persist.

Usage Sentences:

1. He continued to *vacillate* between studying at IBA or applying to foreign universities, unable to make a firm decision.
2. The politician's *vacillating* stance on the tax reform confused both his supporters and critics.
3. The kite danced in the wind, *vacillating* between rising and falling over the Dhaka skyline.

Adulterate

- Make impure by adding a foreign or inferior substance.
- Mixed with impurities.

Imagine buying honey from a local market in Bangladesh, only to discover it's been *adulterated* with sugar syrup. That feeling of betrayal is what the word captures. Similarly, when pure intentions or good work are *adulterated* by greed or dishonesty, it loses its value. Whether it's food, products, or even

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morals, *adulteration* always reduces the quality of something originally pure.

Other Forms:

- **Adulteration:** The act of adulterating something.
- **Adulterant:** A substance used to adulterate.

Synonyms:

Contaminate, taint, corrupt, dilute, spoil, degrade, weaken.

Antonyms:

Purify, refine, cleanse, enhance.

Usage Sentences:

1. The government's crackdown on *adulterated* food products in Dhaka markets reassured consumers about food safety.
2. She refused to *adulterate* her work by including irrelevant data just to impress her supervisor.
3. The water supply in rural areas was found to be *adulterated*, posing serious health risks.

Capricious

- Determined by chance or impulse rather than by necessity.
- Changeable.

Picture Dhaka's unpredictable weather—it's sunny one moment and pouring rain the next. That's

capricious, changing unexpectedly. People can also be *capricious*, like a boss who suddenly changes project priorities without explanation or a friend who makes last-minute plans. This unpredictability might be frustrating, but it keeps life interesting!

Other Forms:

- **Capriciously:** In a sudden or unpredictable manner.
- **Capriciousness:** The quality of being unpredictable.

Synonyms:

Unpredictable, whimsical, erratic, impulsive, fickle, temperamental.

Antonyms:

Stable, consistent, reliable, predictable, steadfast.

Usage Sentences:

1. His *capricious* behavior made it difficult for the team to stick to a consistent schedule.
2. The *capricious* winds in Cox's Bazar forced fishermen to delay their trips.
3. Her *capricious* shopping habits meant her wardrobe was full of mismatched items.

IBA MBA Dec 11

Synonyms of underlined word

Shakespeare invented his share of stock characters, but truly great characters, particularly his tragic

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heroes, are unequalled in literature, dwarfing even the sublime creations of the Greek tragedians.

A) **capricious** B) precocious C) inspiring D) imperious E) elemental

Engender

- Call forth.
- Make children.

Imagine starting a community project in Dhaka to clean up local parks, and it *engenders* a sense of civic pride among residents. This is what the word means: to inspire or bring about something new. It could also refer to creating life, like parents *engendering* children. In both cases, *engender* captures the idea of creating, inspiring, or bringing something into existence.

Other Forms:

- **Engendered:** Created or brought about.
- **Engendering:** The act of causing or producing.

Synonyms:

Generate, produce, foster, provoke, incite, induce, stimulate.

Antonyms:

Suppress, destroy, hinder, stifle, extinguish.

Usage Sentences:

1. The new policy aimed to *engender* trust between the citizens and local authorities in Dhaka.
2. His speech on women's empowerment *engendered* a wave of enthusiasm among young activists.
3. Frequent power cuts in rural areas *engendered* frustration among villagers.

Homogeneous

- All of the same or similar kind or nature.

Imagine visiting a tea garden in Sylhet, where rows of tea plants look identical, creating a *homogeneous* landscape. Similarly, a group of students wearing the same uniform, working together in harmony, reflects *homogeneity*. While diversity can be enriching, *homogeneous* groups often make processes simpler and more unified.

Other Forms:

- **Homogeneity:** The quality of being uniform or similar.
- **Homogeneously:** In a uniform or similar manner.

Synonyms:

Uniform, identical, consistent, unvaried, similar, analogous.

Antonyms:

Heterogeneous, diverse, varied, dissimilar.

Usage Sentences:

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MAGNUS SAM SPECIAL – KAPLAN 52 WORDS

1. The new housing development aimed to create a *homogeneous* community with identical houses and gardens.
2. Rural areas in Bangladesh often have a more *homogeneous* cultural identity compared to urban regions.
3. The classroom was anything but *homogeneous*, with students from diverse backgrounds and interests.

Loquacious

- Full of trivial conversation.

Think about a friend who always talks non-stop, sharing every little detail about their day, from what they ate to who they met. They are *loquacious*—talkative and fond of trivial conversations. While their chatter can sometimes be overwhelming, it also adds life to any gathering. In a bustling city like Dhaka, where conversations flow freely, *loquacious* people are never in short supply!

Other Forms:

- **Loquacity:** The quality of being talkative.
- **Loquaciously:** In a talkative manner.

Synonyms:

Talkative, chatty, verbose, garrulous, wordy, expansive.

Antonyms:

Taciturn, reserved, reticent, silent, quiet, concise.

Usage Sentences:

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1. The *loquacious* vendor at the market shared stories about his life while selling fruits.
2. Her *loquacious* nature made her popular among her peers, but sometimes they struggled to keep up with her energy.
3. The *loquacious* taxi driver entertained his passengers with endless tales about Dhaka's history.

Pragmatic

- Concerned with practical matters.
- Concerning a theory of observable practical consequences.
- Guided by experience and observation rather than theory.

Imagine a business owner in Bangladesh who wants to expand but chooses to focus on small, achievable goals rather than dreaming of overnight success. This is a *pragmatic* approach—practical, realistic, and grounded in experience. Whether it's solving traffic issues in Dhaka or managing personal finances, being *pragmatic* means focusing on what works rather than what's idealistic.

Other Forms:

- **Pragmatism:** A practical approach to problems and affairs.
- **Pragmatically:** In a practical and realistic manner.

Synonyms:

Practical, realistic, sensible, logical, grounded, matter-of-fact.

Antonyms:

Idealistic, impractical, unrealistic, visionary, theoretical.

Usage Sentences:

1. His *pragmatic* decision to start with a small ghee business helped him build a strong foundation for future expansion.
2. The mayor proposed a *pragmatic* solution to Dhaka's traffic congestion, focusing on small, immediate changes.
3. Her *pragmatic* approach to preparing for the IBA exam emphasized time management and practice over theoretical knowledge.

IBA BBA 08-09

To list Begum Rokeya's achievements in a fragmentary way is ____, for it distracts our attention from the ____ themes of her work.

- (A) unproductive, disparate
(B) misleading, integrating
(C) **pragmatic**, comprehensive
(D) logical, important
(E) inevitable, unsettling

Volatile

- Liable to lead to sudden change or violence.
- Marked by erratic changeableness in affections.
- Tending to vary often or widely.
- Evaporating readily at normal temperatures and pressures.

Think about a heated debate in Dhaka's parliament that suddenly escalates into chaos—that's *volatile* behavior: quick to change and unpredictable. Or think about Dhaka's financial markets, where prices rise and fall dramatically in a single day. Even in science class, you might recall chemicals described as *volatile*, evaporating quickly under normal conditions. Whether in people, markets, or substances, *volatile* captures the essence of instability and unpredictability.

Other Forms:

- **Volatility**: The quality of being unpredictable or unstable.
- **Volatileness**: Another noun form for instability.

Synonyms:

Unstable, unpredictable, erratic, explosive, capricious, changeable.

Antonyms:

Stable, consistent, predictable, calm, steady.

Usage Sentences:

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1. The political climate in Bangladesh became increasingly *volatile* following the controversial election results.
2. His *volatile* temper made it difficult for his colleagues to approach him with suggestions.
3. Petrol is a *volatile* substance, evaporating quickly when exposed to air.

IBA BBA 11-12

There is a huge demand, especially in these ____ markets, to grasp opportunity out of the chaos, but it's really about the management controls that are in place to allow that to happen in a ____ manner.

- A) stable; unstructured
- B) fickle; disorganized
- C) steady; controlled
- D) **capricious**; inchoate
- E) **volatile**; coordinated

Apathy

- An absence of emotion or enthusiasm.
- The trait of lacking enthusiasm for or interest in things.

Imagine a student in Dhaka who shows no interest in their studies, even with exams approaching—that's *apathy*, a lack of enthusiasm or concern. It's like seeing people ignore environmental issues, even when it affects their own neighborhoods. While some *apathy* can be a way to conserve energy, too much of it leads to missed opportunities and stagnation.

Other Forms:

- **Apathetic**: Lacking interest or concern.
- **Apathetically**: In an indifferent or uninterested manner.

Synonyms:

Indifference, unconcern, disinterest, lethargy, detachment, passivity.

Antonyms:

Enthusiasm, interest, passion, fervor, zeal.

Usage Sentences:

1. The citizens' *apathy* toward voting has resulted in low turnout during the last few elections in Dhaka.
2. Her *apathetic* attitude toward her career goals worried her family.
3. Despite the rising pollution, there's still widespread *apathy* about adopting sustainable practices.

IBA MBA 08-09

Correct usages of words

Apathy

- i) His apparent **apathy** toward the welfare of his organization has scared off investors.
 - ii) The miserable event left her with a feeling of **apathy** toward everything else.
 - iii) An **apathetic** attempt was made to save the day.
- A) I only B) both I and II C) both II and III D) both I and III E) All three

MAGNUS SAM SPECIAL – KAPLAN 52 WORDS

IBA MBA June 15

Find antonyms: While the men died, the women, living in comparative **indolence**, lived longer lives.

- A) accompanied B) diligence C) happiness D) **apathy**
E) serenity

IBA MBA June 13

Find Synonyms: His mother was much relieved to see a return of her son's former **enthusiasm** in schoolwork after getting all A's in his latest works.

- A. zeal
B. interest
C. **apathy**
D. unconcern
E. keen

Corroborate

- Give evidence for.
- Support with evidence or authority or make more certain.
- Establish or strengthen as with new evidence or facts.

Imagine investigating a robbery in Dhaka, and a witness steps forward with CCTV footage that matches the suspect's description. This evidence *corroborates* the witness's account, making the case stronger. Whether it's proving a scientific theory or validating a friend's story, to *corroborate* is to provide

supporting evidence, turning speculation into certainty.

Other Forms:

- **Corroboration:** The act of confirming or supporting with evidence.
- **Corroborative:** Tending to strengthen or confirm.

Synonyms:

Confirm, verify, substantiate, validate, authenticate, reinforce.

Antonyms:

Contradict, refute, disprove, invalidate, negate.

Usage Sentences:

1. The police report *corroborated* the victim's claim, leading to a swift resolution of the case.
2. His alibi was *corroborated* by multiple witnesses in the bustling streets of Old Dhaka.
3. The scientist's findings were *corroborated* by independent studies conducted at Dhaka University.

IBA MBA June 16

A number of scientific theories that are ___ today were once treated with ___ by the scientific establishment.

- A) **corroborated** - approval
B) dismissed - contempt

MAGNUS SAM SPECIAL – KAPLAN 52 WORDS

C) accepted - approbation

D) unchallenged - disdain

E) unrivaled - reverence

Ephemeral

- Anything short-lived, as an insect that lives only for a day.
- Lasting a very short time.

Think about the fleeting beauty of a flower that blooms for just a day or the joy of a sunset over the Buriganga River that fades into night. These are *ephemeral* moments—brief but memorable. Just like life's small joys, the word reminds us to appreciate what doesn't last forever.

Other Forms:

- **Ephemerality:** The state of being short-lived.
- **Ephemerally:** In a fleeting or short-lived manner.

Synonyms:

Short-lived, transient, fleeting, temporary, momentary, evanescent.

Antonyms:

Permanent, lasting, enduring, eternal, perpetual.

Usage Sentences:

1. The cherry blossoms in Dhaka's botanical garden are breathtaking but *ephemeral*, lasting only a week.
2. His fame as a social media influencer proved to be *ephemeral*, fading quickly after a few months.
3. The *ephemeral* nature of childhood makes every moment with family all the more precious.

Laconic

- Brief and to the point.

Imagine a teacher in Dhaka who explains a complex topic in just a few sentences, yet it becomes crystal clear to the students. That's *laconic*—being brief but effective. In today's fast-paced world, where people prefer quick and clear communication, a *laconic* style is a valuable skill.

Other Forms:

- **Laconically:** In a brief and concise manner.

Synonyms:

Concise, terse, succinct, pithy, brief, curt.

Antonyms:

Verbose, wordy, talkative, long-winded, expansive.

Usage Sentences:

1. The professor's *laconic* lecture covered the entire syllabus in just 30 minutes, leaving the students amazed.

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2. His *laconic* reply to the journalist's question left everyone wondering about his real intentions.
3. The manager's *laconic* email outlined the new strategy without wasting any words.

Mitigate

- Lessen or try to lessen the seriousness or extent of.
- Make less severe or harsh.

Imagine a flood in a rural area of Bangladesh, and volunteers arrive with food, water, and medicine to ease the suffering. Their efforts *mitigate* the impact of the disaster, making life a little easier for those affected. In daily life, whether it's reducing stress, pain, or conflict, to *mitigate* is to soften the blow and make things better.

Other Forms:

- **Mitigation:** The act of reducing severity.
- **Mitigative:** Having a softening or reducing effect.

Synonyms:

Alleviate, reduce, ease, lessen, diminish, soften, relieve.

Antonyms:

Aggravate, worsen, intensify, exacerbate, amplify.

Usage Sentences:

1. The government introduced measures to *mitigate* the economic impact of inflation in Bangladesh.
2. She spoke calmly to *mitigate* the tension during the heated argument.
3. Planting more trees can help *mitigate* the effects of air pollution in Dhaka.

IBA MBA June 16

If there is nothing to absorb the energy of sound waves, they travel on ___ but their intensity ___ as they travel further from their source.

- A) erratically - **mitigates**
- B) eternally - alleviates
- C) forever - increases
- D) steadily - stabilizes
- E) indefinitely - diminishes

Propriety

- **Correct behavior.**

Picture a formal event in Dhaka where everyone follows the dress code, greets others respectfully, and behaves politely. That's *propriety* in action—acting in a way that's socially and morally acceptable. Whether it's table manners, how we speak, or how we conduct ourselves, *propriety* reflects our respect for societal norms.

Other Forms:

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- **Proprieties:** Accepted standards of behavior.

Synonyms:

Decorum, etiquette, civility, correctness, appropriateness, respectability.

Antonyms:

Impropriety, rudeness, indecency, bad manners, unseemliness.

Usage Sentences:

1. His *propriety* during the formal meeting impressed the international delegates.
2. Observing *propriety* in public behavior is essential in a culturally rich country like Bangladesh.
3. She questioned the *propriety* of his casual tone in the official email.

Advocate

- A person who pleads for a person, cause, or idea.
- A lawyer who pleads cases in court.
- Speak, plead, or argue in favor of.
- Push for something.

Imagine a passionate environmentalist in Dhaka who speaks tirelessly about reducing pollution and planting trees. They are an *advocate*, fighting for a cause they deeply care about. Similarly, think of a lawyer standing in court, defending a client's rights—that's also an *advocate*. Whether it's pushing for social change, supporting a friend's dream, or defending

someone in need, *advocacy* is all about standing up and speaking out for what matters.

Other Forms:

- **Advocacy:** The act of supporting or promoting a cause.
- **Advocated:** Past tense of pushing for something.

Synonyms:

Supporter, proponent, defender, promoter, champion, lawyer, pleader.

Antonyms:

Opponent, critic, detractor, adversary, antagonist.

Usage Sentences:

1. She is a passionate *advocate* for women's education in rural Bangladesh.
2. The lawyer *advocated* for a more lenient sentence, citing the client's difficult upbringing.
3. Environmentalists in Dhaka have been *advocating* for stricter laws to curb air pollution.

IBA MBA June 15

Since when did you become an *advocate* of the nuclear family?

- A) did you became
B) have you became
C) have you become

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D) you became

E) are you becoming

IBA MBA 09-10

The ____ of the program charged with developing a revolutionary reactor based on nuclear fusion confidently predicted that there would soon be proof of the reactor's ____.

A) directors...redundancy

B) adversaries...profitability

C) originators...futility

D) critics...efficiency

E) advocates...feasibility

Cacophony

- Loud, confusing, disagreeable sounds.
- A loud, harsh, or strident noise.

Picture the streets of Dhaka during rush hour: honking cars, shouting street vendors, and clanging construction work. That's a *cacophony*, a chaotic mixture of unpleasant sounds. It's not just about physical noise—it can also describe situations where ideas or opinions clash loudly, leaving everyone overwhelmed and confused.

Other Forms:

- **Cacophonous:** Having a harsh or discordant sound.

Synonyms:

Discord, dissonance, noise, clamor, racket, uproar, tumult.

Antonyms:

Harmony, melody, silence, peace, tranquility.

Usage Sentences:

1. The *cacophony* of sounds in the Old Dhaka market can be overwhelming but also charmingly vibrant.
2. The protest turned into a *cacophony*, with multiple groups shouting over each other.
3. The classroom became a *cacophony* of laughter and chatter as the teacher stepped out for a moment.

Enervate

- Weaken physically, mentally, or morally.
- Disturb the composure of.

Think about walking through Dhaka's scorching summer heat—it leaves you feeling *enervated*, drained of energy. Similarly, a long day of work or emotional stress can *enervate* you mentally and morally. It's a feeling of exhaustion, where every task feels heavier than it should.

Other Forms:

- **Enervation:** The state of being weakened.
- **Enervating:** Causing one to feel drained or weakened.

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Synonyms:

Weaken, exhaust, sap, debilitate, drain, fatigue.

Antonyms:

Energize, invigorate, strengthen, refresh, fortify.

Usage Sentences:

1. The relentless summer heat *enervated* the workers, forcing them to take frequent breaks.
2. The shocking news *enervated* her spirit, leaving her unable to focus on work.
3. The marathon runner felt *enervated* after pushing herself beyond her limits.

Ingenuous

- Lacking in sophistication or worldliness.
- Characterized by an inability to mask your feelings.

Imagine a child from a small village in Bangladesh arriving in bustling Dhaka, amazed by the skyscrapers and crowds. Their wide-eyed innocence is *ingenuous*, reflecting a lack of worldliness. Similarly, someone who speaks their mind openly, without pretension or deceit, is also *ingenuous*, honest to a fault. This trait can be refreshing but sometimes leaves them vulnerable to manipulation.

Other Forms:

- **Ingenuousness:** The quality of being open and innocent.
- **Ingenuously:** In a sincere or naive manner.

Synonyms:

Naive, innocent, candid, sincere, guileless, honest.

Antonyms:

Devious, cunning, sophisticated, worldly, deceitful.

Usage Sentences:

1. Her *ingenuous* remarks during the meeting surprised the seasoned executives.
2. The child's *ingenuous* curiosity about the world was both endearing and inspiring.
3. His *ingenuous* nature made him well-loved but also vulnerable to exploitation.

IBA MBA Dec 16

Our Head of Audit is so **obtuse** (A) that he **had** (B) no inkling that funds were being **ingenuously** (C) diverted (D). No Error (E).

Misanthrope

- Someone who dislikes people in general.

Imagine someone who avoids social gatherings, doesn't trust anyone, and finds comfort only in solitude. That's a *misanthrope*, someone who distrusts or dislikes humanity. While it's a rare trait, life's challenges and disappointments can sometimes turn even the friendliest person into a *misanthrope* for a while.

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Other Forms:

- **Misanthropic:** Having a dislike for humankind.
- **Misanthropy:** Hatred or distrust of people.

Synonyms:

Cynic, recluse, pessimist, loner, hermit.

Antonyms:

Humanitarian, philanthropist, optimist, sociable person.

Usage Sentences:

1. After years of betrayal, he became a *misanthrope*, avoiding all human interaction.
2. The *misanthrope* spent his days alone in his quiet countryside home.
3. Her sarcastic remarks and distrust of others often made her seem like a *misanthrope*.

Paradox

- A statement that contradicts itself.
- Someone or something with contradictory qualities.

Think about this: “Less is more.” It sounds contradictory, but it’s a *paradox* that highlights how simplicity can be powerful. Life in Dhaka often feels like a *paradox*, where the chaos of the city somehow brings a unique sense of order and rhythm. Paradoxes make us pause and think, revealing unexpected truths hidden in contradictions.

Other Forms:

- **Paradoxical:** Contradictory but true.
- **Paradoxically:** In a paradoxical manner.

Synonyms:

Contradiction, irony, inconsistency, anomaly, enigma.

Antonyms:

Consistency, clarity, certainty, straightforwardness.

Usage Sentences:

1. The *paradox* of Dhaka’s traffic is that everyone rushes, but it only leads to more delays.
2. Her quiet demeanor and bold ideas made her a living *paradox*.
3. It’s a *paradox* that the more you give away knowledge, the more you seem to gain.

Venerate

- Regard with feelings of respect and reverence.

Think about the immense respect and reverence Bangladeshis feel for national heroes. To *venerate* someone is to honor them deeply, recognizing their greatness and contributions. It’s not just limited to people; historical landmarks and traditions are also *venerated* as symbols of cultural pride.

Other Forms:

- **Veneration:** The act of showing respect or reverence.
- **Venerated:** Treated with reverence.

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Synonyms:

Revere, honor, respect, admire, exalt, worship.

Antonyms:

Disrespect, dishonor, disdain, scorn.

Usage Sentences:

1. People from all over the country visit the Shaheed Minar to *venerate* the language martyrs.
2. His contributions to education were *venerated* by students and teachers alike.
3. Traditional values and elders are *venerated* in Bangladeshi culture.

Antipathy

• A feeling of intense dislike.

• The object of a feeling of intense aversion.

Imagine someone who refuses to eat certain street foods in Dhaka because of a strong dislike for their taste. That's *antipathy*, an intense aversion to something. It can also exist between people, like the rivalry between opposing cricket fans during a match. *Antipathy* often arises from deep-seated emotions or personal experiences.

Other Forms:

- **Antipathetic:** Showing or feeling aversion.

Synonyms:

Aversion, dislike, hatred, animosity, hostility, antagonism, repugnance.

Antonyms:

Affinity, sympathy, fondness, admiration, attraction.

Usage Sentences:

1. His *antipathy* toward corruption drove him to work for transparency in public offices.
2. The villagers' *antipathy* toward the factory grew as pollution levels increased.
3. Despite their *antipathy*, the two rival politicians agreed to work together for the betterment of Dhaka.

Deride

• Treat or speak of with contempt.

Imagine a student nervously presenting an idea in class, only for someone to laugh and mock them. That act of mocking or ridiculing is to *deride* someone—treating them with scorn or contempt. Sadly, this behavior can crush someone's confidence. Whether it's mocking a friend for their dreams or ridiculing a colleague's work, *deriding* others only adds negativity. Instead, encouragement helps people grow and thrive.

Other Forms:

- **Derision:** Contemptuous ridicule or mockery.
- **Derisive:** Expressing ridicule.
- **Derisively:** In a mocking or scornful manner.

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Synonyms:

Mock, ridicule, scorn, belittle, jeer, sneer, taunt, disparage.

Antonyms:

Praise, commend, respect, admire, applaud, encourage.

Usage Sentences:

1. The critics *derided* the artist's unconventional style, but his work later became iconic in Bangladesh.
2. Her suggestion to use renewable energy was initially *derided* by skeptics but later hailed as groundbreaking.
3. Students often feel demotivated when teachers *deride* their efforts instead of offering constructive feedback.

IBA MBA June 12

All the other students made fun of the boy for wearing a bowtie. He felt ____.

A) desperate B) delighted C) endorsed D) elated

E) **derided**

Eulogy

- A formal expression of praise for someone who has died.
- A formal expression of praise.

Imagine attending a memorial ceremony for a teacher who inspired generations of students in Bangladesh. A

heartfelt speech recounting their achievements, kindness, and legacy is a *eulogy*—a formal expression of praise for someone who has passed away. But a *eulogy* isn't limited to funerals; it can also honor someone's contributions during their lifetime. Whether remembering a loved one or appreciating someone's impact, a *eulogy* captures their essence with words of respect and gratitude.

Other Forms:

- **Eulogize:** To deliver or write a eulogy.
- **Eulogist:** A person who delivers a eulogy.
- **Eulogistic:** Containing or resembling eulogy-like praise.

Synonyms:

Tribute, accolade, homage, commendation, panegyric, praise.

Antonyms:

Criticism, condemnation, censure, denunciation.

Usage Sentences:

1. The heartfelt *eulogy* delivered by the principal brought tears to the eyes of everyone at the memorial service.
2. At his retirement party, his colleagues gave a moving *eulogy* celebrating his dedication to the organization.
3. The author's book was a *eulogy* to the beauty of rural life in Bangladesh.

Lethargic

- Deficient in alertness or activity.

Imagine waking up on a humid summer afternoon in Dhaka, feeling drained and unwilling to move. That sluggish, unmotivated state is *lethargic*—lacking energy or alertness. Similarly, after long hours of work or study, people often feel *lethargic*, struggling to focus or stay active. While it's natural to feel this way occasionally, finding ways to rejuvenate yourself can prevent lethargy from holding you back.

Other Forms:

- **Lethargy:** A state of tiredness or inactivity.
- **Lethargically:** In a sluggish or inactive manner.

Synonyms:

Sluggish, weary, inactive, fatigued, drowsy, unenergetic, inert.

Antonyms:

Energetic, alert, lively, active, dynamic, vigorous.

Usage Sentences:

1. After fasting all day during Ramadan, he felt *lethargic* and decided to rest before iftar.
2. The extreme heat in Dhaka left everyone *lethargic*, unwilling to venture outside.
3. A good night's sleep can help students overcome the *lethargic* feeling that often accompanies exam preparation.

Obdurate

- Stubbornly persistent in wrongdoing.
- Showing unfeeling resistance to tender feelings.

Imagine a child refusing to apologize for breaking a vase, even after being repeatedly asked. That's *obdurate* behavior—stubborn and unyielding. Similarly, a person who refuses to acknowledge the harm caused by their actions is being *obdurate*. While determination can sometimes be a strength, being *obdurate* in the face of reason or compassion often causes more harm than good.

Other Forms:

- **Obduracy:** The quality of being stubborn.
- **Obdurately:** In a stubborn manner.

Synonyms:

Stubborn, inflexible, unyielding, intransigent, adamant, rigid, uncompromising.

Antonyms:

Flexible, yielding, compliant, compassionate, tenderhearted, sympathetic.

Usage Sentences:

1. The company's *obdurate* refusal to address workers' grievances led to widespread protests in Dhaka.
2. Despite repeated pleas from his family, he remained *obdurate*, unwilling to admit his mistakes.

3. Her *obdurate* stance on the project delayed its progress, frustrating her entire team.

Philanthropic

- Of or relating to charitable giving.
- Generous in assistance to the poor.

Imagine a wealthy individual in Dhaka funding schools, hospitals, and shelters for the underprivileged. Their generosity reflects *philanthropic* values—helping others and giving back to society. Acts of charity, big or small, show the *philanthropic* spirit that makes the world a kinder place. Whether through donating money or time, being *philanthropic* is about making a positive difference in the lives of those who need it most.

Other Forms:

- **Philanthropy:** The act of giving for charitable purposes.
- **Philanthropist:** A person who practices philanthropy.

Synonyms:

Charitable, humanitarian, generous, benevolent, altruistic, magnanimous.

Antonyms:

Selfish, miserly, greedy, stingy, egocentric.

Usage Sentences:

1. The *philanthropic* efforts of NGOs in Bangladesh have improved the quality of life for countless families.
2. Her *philanthropic* contributions to building schools in rural areas were widely praised.
3. The business tycoon's *philanthropic* initiatives included funding free medical clinics across Dhaka.

IBA MBA June 12

Select the option that is similar in meaning to the underlined word *BUT* has a negative connotation.

You do not always see a man with a generous heart and no ulterior motive.

A) an extravagant B) an open C) a charitable D) a giving E) a philanthropic

Waver

- Pause or hold back in uncertainty or unwillingness.
- Move hesitatingly, as if about to give way.
- Be unsure or weak.
- The act of pausing uncertainly.
- Move in a rising and falling pattern.
- Someone who communicates by a movement of the hand.

Imagine standing in front of a stall selling samosas and pithas in Dhaka, unsure which one to pick. That moment of hesitation captures the essence of *waver*—pausing in uncertainty. Similarly, when someone faces a tough decision, like choosing between two career paths, they may *waver*, moving back and forth between their options. Just as a flame *wavers* in the

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wind, our minds often flicker between confidence and doubt in uncertain situations.

Other Forms:

- **Wavering:** Hesitating or fluctuating in decisions.
- **Wavered:** Acted hesitantly.

Synonyms:

Hesitate, fluctuate, falter, vacillate, sway, oscillate, dither.

Antonyms:

Decide, resolve, persist, determine, steady.

Usage Sentences:

1. His decision to study abroad began to *waver* after he received an attractive job offer in Dhaka.
2. The kite *wavered* in the wind above the rooftops, threatening to fall but never quite giving in.
3. She *wavered* between accepting the prestigious scholarship and staying with her family in Sylhet.

IBA MBA June 18

One should always strive not to be an ____ presenter, who makes the audience's interest ____.

- A) vivacious...diminish
- B) languid...amplify
- C) rampant...flounder

D) insipid...dwindle

E) zestful...**waver**

IBA BBA 09-10

Once the audience began to applaud and laugh at his jokes, Ashfaq felt more ____ and his delivery became less ____.

- A) professional...engaging
- B) excited...interesting
- C) uncomfortable...reserved
- D) anxious...**wavering**
- E) confident...strained

Bolster

- **Support and strengthen.**
- **Prop up with a pillow.**

Imagine a chair with a shaky leg that needs a cushion to keep it steady—that's a *bolster*, providing support where needed. Similarly, think about a friend encouraging you to keep going when you feel like giving up. Their words *bolster* your confidence. Whether it's physical or emotional, to *bolster* something means to strengthen or support it, ensuring it remains firm and steady.

Other Forms:

- **Bolstered:** Supported or strengthened.
- **Bolstering:** The act of providing support or reinforcement.

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Synonyms:

Support, strengthen, reinforce, fortify, prop up, sustain.

Antonyms:

Weaken, undermine, sap, diminish.

Usage Sentences:

1. The government introduced new subsidies to *bolster* the agriculture sector in rural Bangladesh.
2. He placed a cushion under his back to *bolster* himself while reading on the sofa.
3. The inspiring speech *bolstered* her determination to pass the IBA admission test.

IBA BBA 13-14

The U.S.A. is ___ the most inventive country of the past century, a fact ___ by not only the sheer number of innovations originating from there but also by popular opinion.

- A) strikingly - negated
B) manifestly - backed
C) nebulously - supported
D) conspicuously - undermined
E) indiscernibly - **bolstered**

Dissonance

• Disagreeable sounds.

• The auditory experience of sound that lacks musical quality.

• A conflict of people's opinions or actions or characters.

Picture walking through Dhaka's busy streets, where the honking of cars, shouting vendors, and clanking construction all blend into a *dissonance* of sound. It's unpleasant, noisy, and far from harmonious. But *dissonance* isn't just about sounds—it can also describe conflicts between people's opinions, like a heated debate between two friends. Wherever there's a lack of harmony, whether in sound or ideas, *dissonance* is present.

Other Forms:

- **Dissonant:** Lacking harmony or agreement.
- **Dissonantly:** In a discordant or conflicting manner.

Synonyms:

Discord, cacophony, conflict, friction, clash, disharmony.

Antonyms:

Harmony, agreement, concord, consonance, unity.

Usage Sentences:

1. The *dissonance* of traffic noise in Dhaka made it impossible for him to focus on his phone call.
2. A *dissonance* arose among the team members, delaying the project as they struggled to agree on the best course of action.

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3. The loud *dissonance* of poorly tuned instruments during the rehearsal irritated the audience.

Garrulous

- Full of trivial conversation.

Imagine sitting in a tea stall in Old Dhaka, where an elder is telling story after story about the "good old days," from cricket matches to politics. This person is *garrulous*—talkative, often about small, trivial matters. While their chatter may seem endless, it often adds life and warmth to a gathering. However, too much *garrulous* talk can sometimes distract from important discussions.

Other Forms:

- **Garrulity:** The quality of being excessively talkative.
- **Garrulously:** In a talkative or chatty manner.

Synonyms:

Talkative, chatty, verbose, loquacious, wordy, rambling.

Antonyms:

Taciturn, reserved, reticent, quiet, concise, laconic.

Usage Sentences:

1. The *garrulous* shopkeeper spent more time chatting with his customers than actually selling his products.

2. Her *garrulous* nature made her popular at family gatherings, where she kept everyone entertained with stories.
3. The *garrulous* cab driver shared stories about his adventures in Dhaka traffic, making the long ride more enjoyable.

IBA BBA 14-15

He thought so highly of his power and capabilities that he considered himself to be ____.

- A) omnipresent B) omnipotent C) ubiquitous D) **garrulous** E) credulous

Malleable

- Capable of being shaped or bent.
- Easily influenced.

Picture a piece of soft clay in the hands of a skilled artisan in Dhaka, easily molded into beautiful pottery. That's *malleable*—something that can be shaped or bent without breaking. Now imagine a young child, whose thoughts and behaviors are easily influenced by their surroundings; their mind is *malleable*, shaped by the people and experiences around them. Whether it's physical materials or personality traits, being *malleable* is about flexibility and adaptability.

Other Forms:

- **Malleability:** The quality of being easily shaped or influenced.

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- **Malleably:** In a flexible or adaptable manner.

Synonyms:

Pliable, adaptable, flexible, impressionable, supple, ductile, tractable.

Antonyms:

Rigid, inflexible, stubborn, unyielding, resistant.

Usage Sentences:

1. Young minds are highly *malleable*, which is why early education plays such a crucial role in Bangladesh.
2. The blacksmith demonstrated how *malleable* the heated iron was, shaping it into intricate patterns.
3. Her opinions on environmental issues were *malleable*, easily swayed by the latest research or discussions.

Ostentation

- Pretentious, showy, or vulgar display.
- A gaudy outward display.
- Being pompous and puffed up with vanity.

Imagine walking into a Bangladeshi wedding where the decorations include golden thrones, chandeliers, and hundreds of dishes on display. While beautiful, such grandeur can sometimes feel like *ostentation*—a showy display designed to impress others. Similarly, someone wearing designer clothes covered in logos might come across as *ostentatious*, flaunting their

wealth. *Ostentation* often prioritizes appearances over substance, aiming to draw attention.

Other Forms:

- **Ostentatious:** Showy or designed to impress.
- **Ostentatiously:** In a pretentious or flashy manner.

Synonyms:

Showiness, flamboyance, pretentiousness, gaudiness, extravagance, pomp.

Antonyms:

Simplicity, modesty, understatement, humility.

Usage Sentences:

1. The businessman's *ostentation* at the launch party, complete with fireworks and live performances, drew mixed reactions.
2. Her *ostentatious* jewelry made her stand out at the event, though it seemed unnecessary for the occasion.
3. Critics argued that the new mall's lavish design was more about *ostentation* than functionality.

Prevaricate

- Be deliberately ambiguous or unclear.

Imagine a student in Dhaka who's late for class and, when asked for a reason, starts mumbling something

vague about traffic and losing their keys. This is to *prevaricate*—avoiding the truth by being intentionally unclear. People often *prevaricate* to avoid getting into trouble or making a firm commitment. While it may seem like a harmless way to escape conflict, *prevaricating* can create mistrust and misunderstandings over time.

Other Forms:

- **Prevarication:** The act of being deliberately ambiguous.
- **Prevaricator:** Someone who avoids telling the truth.

Synonyms:

Evade, mislead, equivocate, hedge, deceive, dodge.

Antonyms:

Be honest, clarify, speak plainly, confess, confront.

Usage Sentences:

1. When asked about his role in the project's delay, he began to *prevaricate*, giving vague and conflicting answers.
2. Politicians often *prevaricate* during press conferences to avoid committing to controversial decisions.
3. Her tendency to *prevaricate* when confronted with mistakes made it difficult for her colleagues to trust her.