PTE Word List for Academic (D)

*dairy*

n.  
place where milk is produced, kept, or converted into butter or cheese

*dam*

n.  
barrier to prevent the flow of liquid, especially built across a water course

*damp*

a.  Syn. humid; moist; wet  
humid; moist; slightly wet

*dart*

v.  Syn. rush; cast  
move suddenly and rapidly

*dash*

v.  
throw with violence or haste; break, as by throwing or by collision; form or sketch rapidly

*database*

n.  
collection of data arranged for ease and speed of search and retrieval

*dazzle*

v.  
overpower with light; confuse the sight of by brilliance of light; bewilder or surprise with brilliancy

*deadlock*

n.  Syn. standstill; stalemate  
standstill resulting from opposition of two forces or factions; stalemate

*dearth*

n.  Syn. scarcity  
scarcity; shortage of food; famine from failure or loss of crops

*debris*

n.  Syn. rubble  
remains of something that has been destroyed or broken up

*decade*

n.  
a group of ten, especially a period of ten years
decay
v. Syn. decompose; rot
decompose; break sown; disintegration; rottenness; decline; worsen; decadence

deceive
v. Syn. fool
fool; cause to believe what is not true; mislead

decipher
v.
convert code into ordinary language; read with difficulty

declaration
n. Syn. announcement; avowal; statement
announcement; explicit statement; formal public statement

decline
n. Syn. deterioration; decay
change toward something smaller or lower; gradual falling off from a better state

decompose
v. Syn. decay
decay

decorate
v. Syn. adorn; embellish
adorn; embellish

decrease
v. Syn. lessen; reduce; abate
lessen; reduce; make a quantity smaller

decree
n.
order from one having authority; decision, order, or sentence by court

decrepit
a. Syn. weak
weakened, worn out, or broken down by old age, illness, or hard use

dedicate
v.
set apart for a deity or for special purposes; devote; consecrate

deduce
v.
lead forth; reach a conclusion by reasoning; trace the origin or derivation of

deduct
lead forth or out; take away, separate, or remove, in numbering, estimating, or calculating; subtract

**deem**

v.
decide; judge; sentence; condemn

**default**

n.
failure to act; an option that is selected automatically

**defect**

v.
abandon or turn against; cease or change one's loyalty

**defence**

n.
act of defending against attack, danger, or injury

**defer**

v. Syn. delay; postpone
delay till later; put off; hold back to a later time

**defiance**

n. Syn. resistance
refusal to yield; readiness to contend or resist

**deficiency**

n. Syn. scarcity; insufficiency
scarcity; lack or shortage, especially of something essential to health

**deficit**

n. Syn. shortfall; shortage
inadequacy or insufficiency; sum of money falls short of required amount; shortage

**defile**

v. Syn. pollute
pollute; make dirty or spotty

**definitive**

a. Syn. final; complete
final; complete; precisely defined or explicit

**deflate**

v.
reduce from an inflated condition; release contained air or gas from

**deflect**
v.
turn aside; draw someone's attention away from something

defraud
v.
deprive of some right, interest, or property, by a deceitful device

deft
a. Syn. neat; skillful
quick and skillful; neat in action or performance

defy
v.
refuse to submit to or cooperate with; be unaffected by; resist or withstand

degenerate
v. Syn. deteriorate
become worse; decline; fall

degrade
v. Syn. humiliate; debase
reduce level; lower grade of something

delectable
a. Syn. delightful; delicious
delightful; delicious; extremely pleasing to the sense of taste

delegate
n. Syn. representative; deputy; agent
person authorized to act as representative for another; deputy

delete
v. Syn. erase
erase; strike out; remove or make invisible

deliberate
v. Syn. consider; ponder
consider; think about carefully; weigh

delinquency
n.
failure or omission of duty; fault; misdeed; offense or crime

delirium
n. Syn. insanity; madness
mental disorder marked by confusion

delude
v. Syn. deceive
deeceive mind or judgment of; lead from truth or into error; frustrate or disappoint

deluge
n. Syn. flood; rush
great flood; heavy downpour; any overflowing of water

democracy
n.
a political system in which the supreme power lies in a body of citizens who can elect people to represent them

demolish
v. Syn. raze; destroy; devastate
raze; destroy; do away with completely; put an end to

demonstrate
v. Syn. show; confirm; prove; manifest
show clearly and deliberately; manifest; confirm; prove

denomination
n. Syn. sect
class, society, or collection of individuals called by the same name; specifically, a religious sect

denote
v. Syn. signify; indicate; show
indicate; signify directly; refer to specifically

dense
a. Syn. thick; compact
thick; crowded closely together; compact

depart
v. Syn. leave
take off; leave; set out

depict
v. Syn. portray; describe
represent in a picture or sculpture; portray in words; describe

deplete
v. Syn. reduce; exhaust
decrease fullness of; use up or empty out

depletion
n.
act of emptying, reducing, or exhausting

deplore
v. Syn. regret
feel or express strong disapproval of; condemn; express sorrow or grief over; regret

depress
v. Syn. lower
lower in spirits; press down

deprive
v.
deny; take away

derelict
a. Syn. abandoned; negligent
left and abandoned; negligent in performing a duty

derive
v. Syn. obtain; extract
obtain or receive from a source; trace the origin or development of

descend
v.
move downward and lower; come from; be connected by a relationship of blood

descent
n. Syn. ancestry; origin
ancestry; origin; the descendants of one individual; drop; fall; a movement downward

designate
v. Syn. nominate; assign; name
indicate or specify; point out; assign a name or title to

desirable
a. Syn. worthwhile
worthwhile; worth doing or achieving; advisable

desolate
a. Syn. unpopulated; deserted
unpopulated; providing no shelter or sustenance; devoid of inhabitants

despair
n.
loss of hope; utter hopelessness; complete despondency

destination
n. Syn. goal; end
ultimate goal; place to which one is going or directed

destine
**detach**

v.
part; separate or disunite; disengage

**detain**

v.
keep back or from; withhold; restrain from proceeding; stay or stop; delay

**detect**

v. Syn. feel; discover the presence of; discern; sense; identify
feel; discover the presence of; identify

**deter**

v.
keep from; stop; prevent or discourage from acting

**detergent**

n.
cleansing agent; substance that acts similarly to soap

**deteriorate**

v. Syn. decline
become worse; decline

**determination**

n. Syn. resolve; decision
act of making or arriving at a decision; putting an end to; termination

**detest**

v. Syn. abhor; loathe
dislike intensely; feel antipathy or aversion towards

**detriment**

n. Syn. harm; damage; injury
harm; damage; injury; something that causes damage, harm, or loss

**detrimental**

a. Syn. harmful; damaging
causing damage or harm; injurious

**devastate**

v. Syn. ruin; destroy
ruin; lay waste; destroy; make desolate

**devastating**
a. Syn. destructive
destructive; highly critical; causing or capable of causing complete destruction

deivate
v. Syn. depart; diverge
turn away from a principle, norm; depart; diverge

device
v. Syn. invent; plan
form, plan, or arrange in the mind; transmit or give by will

devote
v. Syn. dedicate; contribute
dedicate; contribute

devour
v. Syn. consume; gorge; gobble
consume; eat greedily; destroy completely

diagnose
v. Syn. analyze; examine; identify
analyze; examine; identify

diagram
n. Syn. graph; chart
graph; chart; figure or drawing made to illustrate a statement; plan

dialect
n.
vocabulary that is for a specific group of people

diameter
n.
length of straight line passing through the center of a circle and connecting two points on the circumference

dictate
v. Syn. prescribe; determine
prescribe; rule as a dictator

differ
v.
be or stand apart; disagree; be unlike; be distinguished

differentiate
v. Syn. distinguish; discriminate
set apart; distinguish; perceive or show difference in or between

diffuse
v.
spread out widely; scatter freely; pour out and cause to spread freely

digest
v. Syn. assimilate; ingest
break down; make more concise; convert food into absorbable substances

digital
a.
of or performance to fingers, or to digits; done with the fingers

dilapidated
a.
in disrepair, run down; of very poor quality or condition

dilate
v. Syn. expand; enlarge; widen
make wider or larger; cause to expand; enlarge; widen

dilemma
n. Syn. predicament
predicament; state of uncertainty or between equally unfavorable options

diligent
a. Syn. assiduous; industrious
assiduous; industrious; hard-working

dilute
v. Syn. weaken; attenuate
weaken; make thinner or less concentrated by adding a liquid such as water

dim
a. Syn. weak; faint
emitting only a small amount of light; lacking in brightness

diminish
v. Syn. dwindle; reduce; decrease
dwindle; reduce; make smaller or less or to cause to appear so

din
n. Syn. clamor; roar
loud, confused, harsh noise; loud, continuous, rattling or clanging sound

dine
v.
eat principal regular meal of the day; take dinner; give a dinner to

dingy
a. Syn. rusty; dull
darkened with smoke and grime; dirty or discolored

**diploma**
n.
document certifying the successful completion of a course of study

**diplomat**
n.
one who is in charge to deal with others, like an ambassador, who is appointed to represent a
government in relations with other governments

**diplomatic**
a. Syn. tactful; politic
relating to diplomacy; marked by tact and sensitivity in dealing with others

**disable**
v.
deprive of capability or effectiveness; unable; impair; diminish

**disarray**
v.
throw into disorder; break the array of.

**disc**
n.
flat round plate; circular structure either in plants or animals

**discard**
v.
throw out something from one's hand; get rid of

**discern**
v. Syn. detect; perceive
detect; perceive

**discharge**
v. Syn. release
relieve of a burden or of contents; unload; pour forth or release; complete or carry out; give off

**disclose**
v.
unclose; open; remove a cover or envelope from; lay open or expose to view

**discord**
n. Syn. conflict
conflict; lack of agreement among persons, groups, or things

**discreet**
free from ostentation or pretension; distinct; distinguishable

discrepancy
n. Syn. difference
lack of consistency; difference

discrete
a. Syn. separate; distinct
separate; consisting of unconnected distinct parts

discriminate
v.
make a clear distinction; distinguish; make sensible decisions; judge wisely

disdain
v. Syn. despise
view with scorn or contempt; feel with aversion

disgust
n.
strong feelings of dislike; offend the taste or moral sense of

dismay
v. Syn. discourage; frighten
destroy courage or resolution by exciting dread; cause to lose enthusiasm

dismiss
v. Syn. reject
stop considering; end employment or service of; discharge; refuse to accept or recognize

dispatch
n. Syn. expedition; sending off
act of sending off something; property of being prompt and efficient; message usually sent in haste

dispel
v. Syn. scatter
scatter; drive away; cause to vanish

disperse
v. Syn. scatter
move away from each other; cause to separate; cause to become widely known

displace
v. Syn. move; replace; substitute
move or shift from the usual place or position, especially to force to leave a homeland

dispose
v. get rid of; settle or decide a matter; place or set in a particular order; arrange

disposition
n. Syn. temperament; nature; tendency
natural or acquired habit with tendency; act or means of getting rid of something

dispute
n. Syn. argument; debate
argument; angry altercation; quarrel; verbal controversy; debate

disregard
v. Syn. ignore; discount
ignore; discount; take no notice of

disrupt
v. Syn. upset; interrupt
upset; throw into confusion or disorder

dissertation
n. Syn. thesis; discourse
formal essay; paper written by candidate for doctoral degree at university

dissipate
v. Syn. waste; scatter
spend or expend wastefully; vanish by dispersion; drive away; disperse

dissolve
v. melt; liquefy; cause to pass into solution; cause to disappear or vanish

distend
v. Syn. expand
swell out or expand from or as if from internal pressure

distil
v. drop; fall in drops; flow in a small stream

distinct
a. Syn. definite; separate; different
definite; separate; different

distinction
n. Syn. contrast; discrimination
excellence or eminence; note or mark of difference

distinguish
v. Syn. characterize; differentiate; recognize
characterize; differentiate; recognize

distort
v. Syn. deform; twist
twist out of proper or natural relation of parts; misshape; misrepresent

distribute
v. Syn. disseminate; allocate
hand out; disseminate; allocate

disturbance
n. Syn. disorder; turmoil
disorder; turmoil; mental or emotional unbalance or disorder

diverse
a. Syn. various
differing in some characteristics; various

diversion
n. Syn. a turning aside
act of turning aside; pastime; activity that relaxes or entertains

divert
v. Syn. distract
distract; withdraw money and move into a different location

dividend
n.
sum of money to be divided and distributed; share of a sum divided that falls to each individual; a
distribute sum, share, or percentage

doctrine
n.
principles presented for belief, as by religious; principle of law; act of teaching; instruction

dole
n.
share of money, food, or clothing that has been charitably given

domain
n. Syn. field
field; territory over which rule or control is exercised; networked computers that share a common
address

dome
n.
building or house, especially as great hall, church, or temple; anything shaped like cupola
dominant
a. Syn. major; important
major; important; outweighing

dominate
v. Syn. monopolize; command; rule
monopolize; command; rule; prevail; be prevalent in

doom
n.
judgment; judicial sentence; penal decree; condemnation

dormant
a. Syn. hibernated; lethargic
sleeping; not active but capable of becoming active

doubtful
a. Syn. distrustful; skeptical
distrustful; skeptical; full of doubt; having doubt; not settled in opinion

doubtless
ad.
free from fear or suspicion; very probably, in all likelihood; doubtlessly

downpour
n.
pouring or streaming downwards, especially a heavy or continuous shower

doze
v.
slumber; sleep lightly; be in dull or stupefied condition, as if half asleep; be drowsy


drainage
n.
emptying accomplished by draining; gradual flowing off, as of a liquid

drastic
a. Syn. radical; severe
radical; taking effect violently or rapidly

drawback
n.
disadvantage or inconvenience; shortcoming; refund or remittance, such as a discount on duties or taxes

dread
n. Syn. fear; terror; horror
fearful or distasteful anticipation; terror; horror
**dreadful**
a. Syn. fearful
very unpleasant; distasteful or shocking

**dreary**
a. Syn. gloomy; dismal
gloomy; dismal; dark, colorless, or cheerless

**drench**
v.
wet through and through; soak; put potion down throat of; steep in moisture; wet thoroughly

**drift**
v. Syn. float; moving aimlessly; wander
float; moving aimlessly; wander

**drought**
n. Syn. aridity
dry period; aridity; long period of abnormally low rainfall

**drowse**
v.
sleep imperfectly or unsoundly; slumber; be heavy with sleepiness; doze.

**drudgery**
n. Syn. tedium; toil; moil
hard monotonous routine work

**dual**
a.
expressing, or consisting of, the number two; belonging to two

**dub**
v.
confer knighthood upon; honor with a new title or description; entitle; adorn

**dubious**
a. Syn. questionable
questionable; filled with doubt

**duly**
ad.
as it ought to be; properly; regularly

**duplicate**
n. Syn. copy
one that corresponds exactly to another, especially an original; identical copy; facsimile

**durable**
a. Syn. lasting; enduring
lasting; long-lasting; enduring

duration
n. Syn. length; period
length of time something lasts

dwarf
v.
cause to seem small; check natural growth or development of

dwindle
v. Syn. shrink; reduce
shrink; reduce in size; become less

dynamic
a. Syn. energetic
energetic; vigorously active