

PTE Word List for Academic (C)

calamity

n. Syn. disaster; misery

event that brings terrible loss, lasting distress, or severe affliction; disaster; misery

calcium

n.

silvery, moderately hard metallic element

calorie

n.

unit of heat; unit of heat equal to the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 kilogram of water by 1 degree

canal

n. Syn. tube

artificial channel filled with water; tube or duct

cane

n. Syn. stick

any plant with long, hard, elastic stems; walking stick

cannon

n.

great gun; firearm for discharging heavy shot with great force; loop at the top of a bell by which it is hung

canteen

n.

vessel used by soldiers for carrying water, liquor, or other drink; snack bar or small cafeteria, as on a military installation

canvas

n.

heavy closely woven fabric; background against which events unfold, as in a historical narrative

capsule

n. Syn. pill

small container; pill in form of small rounded gelatinous; shortened version of a written work

caption

n. Syn. title

title; chapter heading; text under illustration

captive

n.
prisoner taken by force; one kept in power of another; one charmed or subdued by beauty, excellence, or affection

carcass

n.
dead body of an animal especially one slaughtered and dressed for food

cardinal

a. Syn. chief
chief; serving as an essential component

carpenter

n.
skilled worker who makes, finishes, and repairs wooden objects and structures

carrier

n. Syn. messenger
one that carries or conveys; messenger

carton

n.
pasteboard for paper boxes; pasteboard box

cartoon

n.
design or study drawn of full size to serve as a model for transferring or copying; drawing depicting a humorous situation

carve

v. Syn. cut; sculpt
cut; sculpt

cashier

n.
one who has charge of money; cash keeper

cassette

n.
container that holds a magnetic tape used for recording or playing sound or video

casualty

n.
serious or fatal accident; someone injured or killed in an accident

catalogue

n.
list or enumeration of names; articles arranged methodically, often in alphabetical order

catalyst

n. Syn. enzyme; stimulus

agent which brings about chemical change while it remains unaffected and unchanged

catastrophe

n. Syn. calamity; disaster

calamity; disaster; state of extreme ruin and misfortune

category

n. Syn. group

group; class; collection of things sharing a common attribute

cater

v.

supply what is needed or desired; provide food professionally for special occasion

caustic

a.

capable of burning, corroding, dissolving, or eating away by chemical action

caution

n. Syn. care

care; being attentive to possible danger

cautious

a. Syn. conservative; careful

conservative; careful

cavity

n. Syn. hole; cavern

hole; cavern; hollow area within the body

cease

v. Syn. stop; terminate

stop; terminate; put an end to; discontinue

cement

n.

any substances used for making bodies adhere to each other; bond of union; concrete pavement

censor

n.

overseer of morals; official responsible for removal of objectionable or sensitive content

census

n.

official examination of the details of a country's population

centenary

a.
relating to a 100-year period; occurring once every 100 years

ceramic

a.
of or pertaining to pottery; relating to the art of making earthenware; as, ceramic products; ceramic ornaments for ceilings.

certainty

n. *Syn.* clearness
quality or condition of being certain; fact or truth unquestionable established; clearness

certify

v.
give certain information to; assure; make certain

chant

v. *Syn.* praise; melody
utter with a melodious voice; celebrate in song; make melody with the voice

characterize

v. *Syn.* distinguish
distinguish; be characteristic of; be a distinctive trait or mark of

charter

v. *Syn.* license; authorize
license; authorize; hold under a lease or rental agreement of goods and services

chasm

n.
deep opening in the earth surface

chaste

a. *Syn.* pure
morally pure in thought or conduct; decent and modest

checkup

n.
thorough physical examination

cheque

n.
written order directing a bank to pay money

chic

n. *Syn.* fashion
good form; style; elegance by virtue of being fashionable

chisel

v. Syn. cheat

practice trickery or fraud; cheat

chord

n.

combination of three or more notes that blend harmoniously when sounded together

chore

n.

a specific piece of work required to be done as a duty or for a specific fee

chorus

n.

any utterance produced simultaneously by a group

chronic

a.

lasting for long period; marked by frequent recurrence, as certain diseases

chronological

a.

arranged in order of time of occurrence

chunk

n.

a thick mass or piece, amount

circulate

v.

move through a space, circuit or system, returning to the starting point

circumference

n. Syn. perimeter; periphery

boundary line of a circle, figure, area, or object

circumstance

n. Syn. situation; condition

situation; condition; detail accompanying or surrounding an event

cite

v. Syn. quote

quote; adduce as an instance

civic

a.

relating to city or citizen; relating to man as a member of society

clamp

n.
any of various devices used to join, grip, support, or compress mechanical or structural parts

clan

n. Syn. *faction*; *tribe*
faction; tribe; division of a tribe tracing descent from a common ancestor; a large group of relatives

clarify

v. Syn. *illuminate*; *elucidate*
make clear and comprehensible; elucidate

clarity

n.
clearness of thought or style; brightness; splendor

clash

v.
make noise by striking against something; dash noisily together; meet in opposition

clasp

n.
fastening device; firm grip

classical

a.
standard and authoritative rather than new or experimental; relating to the ancient Greeks and Romans, especially art, architecture, and literature

classify

v.
declare unavailable, as for security reasons; arrange or order by classes or categories

clause

n. Syn. *sentence*; *phrase*
sentence; phrase; distinct article, stipulation, or provision in a document

cliche

n.
obvious remark; overused expression or idea

climax

n.
upward movement; steady increase; the highest point; the greatest degree

cling

v. Syn. *stick*
hold fast or adhere to something; stick together and resist separation; remain emotionally

clockwise

ad.
in the direction that the hands of a clock move

clumsy

a. Syn. awkward; inept
awkward; showing lack of skill or aptitude

cluster

n. Syn. flowers; curls; group; bunch
group; bunch; group of the same or similar elements gathered or occurring closely

clutch

v. Syn. grasp
grasp and hold tightly; attempt to grasp or seize

coalition

n. Syn. partnership; league; union
partnership; league; state of being combined into one body

coarse

a. Syn. rough; harsh
rough; harsh; of low, common, or inferior quality

coed

a.
relating to an education system in which both men and women attend

coeducation

n.
system of education in which both men and women attend the same institution or classes

cognitive

a.
knowing or perceiving; part of mental functions that deals with logic

coherent

a. Syn. adhesive; cohesive
adhesive; cohesive; sticking together ; logical; sound; capable of thinking and expressing yourself in a clear and consistent manner

coil

n. Syn. ring; roll
a series of connected spirals or concentric rings formed by gathering or winding; spiral pipe or series of spiral pipes

coincide

v. Syn. correspond
occur at the same time as; correspond

collaboration

n.

act of working together; act of cooperating with an enemy, especially it occupying one's own country

collapse

v.

breakdown; failure

colleague

n. Syn. associate

fellow worker; associate; co-worker

collide

v.

bump; hit; conflict

collision

n. Syn. crash; impact

crash; conflict of opposed ideas or attitudes or goals

colonial

a.

of or relating to or characteristic of or inhabiting a colony

colony

n. Syn. group; community

region politically controlled by a distant country; a dependency; a community of social insects, as ants, bees

colossal

a. Syn. huge

of extraordinary size; huge; gigantic

combine

v. Syn. blend; fuse; merge

blend; fuse; merge

combustible

a. Syn. flammable; burnable; inflammable

capable of igniting and burning; easily aroused or excited

comet

n.

an object that goes around the sun

commemorate

v. Syn. remember; memorialize

serve as a memorial to; honor the memory of with a ceremony

commence

v. Syn. originate; start; begin
have a beginning or origin; originate; start; begin

commend

v.
commit, entrust, or give in charge for care or preservation; recommend as worthy of confidence or regard

commentary

n.
written explanation or criticism or illustration that is added to a book or other textual material

commodity

n. Syn. goods
goods; article of trade; advantage; benefit.

commonplace

a. Syn. ordinary; common
ordinary; having no remarkable features

commotion

n. Syn. riot; excitement
disturbed or violent motion; agitation; public disturbance; riot; excitement

commute

v.
obtain or bargain for exemption or substitution; travel regularly from a place of residence to another place

commuter

n.
someone who travels regularly from home in a suburb to work in a city

compact

a. Syn. compressed; condensed; concise
closely and firmly united or packed together; briefly giving gist of something

comparable

a. Syn. similar
similar or equivalent; being of equal regard; worthy to be ranked with

compartment

n.
one of parts or spaces into which an area is subdivided; separate room, section, or chamber

compass

v.
go about or entirely round; make the circuit of; enclose on all sides; surround

compatible

a. Syn. harmonious

harmonious; having similar disposition and tastes

compel

v.

force; coerce; necessitate or pressure by force

compensate

v. Syn. make up; reimburse

make amends for; reimburse

compensation

n.

something given or received as payment as for a service or loss or injury

competence

n.

quality of being adequately or well qualified physically and intellectually

compile

v. Syn. assemble; gather; accumulate

put together or compose from materials gathered from several sources

complement

v. Syn. complete; consummate

complete; consummate; make perfect

complexion

n. Syn. combination; complex

state of being complex; complexity; combination; complex

compliance

n.

readiness to yield; happy friendly agreement

complication

n. Syn. complexity; intricacy

complexity; intricacy; any disease or disorder that occurs during the course of another disease

component

n. Syn. element; ingredient

element; ingredient; abstract part of something

compose

v. Syn. write; create

write; create; make or create by putting together parts or elements

composite

a.
made up of distinct parts or elements; compounded

comprehensive

a. Syn. thorough; inclusive
thorough; including all or everything; broad in scope

compress

v. Syn. squeeze; contract
close; squeeze or press together; contract

comprise

v. Syn. include
include; consist of; be composed of

compulsory

a. Syn. mandatory; obligatory
mandatory; obligatory; required by rule

compute

v. Syn. reckon; calculate
reckon; make mathematical calculation

conceal

v. Syn. hide; secrete
keep from being seen, found, observed, or discovered; secrete

concede

v. Syn. admit; yield
admit; yield; give up physical control of another

conceive

v. Syn. design; consider
form or develop in the mind; devise; become pregnant with; begin or originate in a specific way

conception

n. Syn. thought; idea
beginning; forming of an idea; act of conceiving

concerted

a.
planned or accomplished together; combined

concession

n.
act of yielding; point yielded; acknowledgment or admission

concise

a. Syn. succinct; terse

brief and compact; expressing much in few words

conclude

v. Syn. deduce; infer

enclose; reach as an end of reasoning; make final determination ; judge or decide; bring to an end

concoct

v.

digest; convert into nourishment by the organs of nutrition.

concurrent

a. Syn. simultaneous; coincident

simultaneous; coincident; occurring or operating at the same time

condemn

v. Syn. blame; denounce

blame; denounce; express strong disapproval of

condense

v.

change from a gaseous to a liquid state and fall in drops; compress or concentrate

conditioning

n.

process of modifying person's behavior; preparation or training, especially athletic training of body

condolence

n.

expression of sympathy with another in sorrow or grief.

confer

v.

bestow; present; have a conference in order to talk something over

configuration

n.

arrangement of parts or elements; outline

confine

v. Syn. limit; circumscribe

restrict in movement; circumscribe

conform

v.

comply with; follow; fit; meet

confuse

v. Syn. disorient; mix up

cause to be unable to think with clarity or act with intelligence or understanding; mix up

congestion

n. Syn. overcrowding

act of gathering or heaping together or forming a mass

congruent

a.

possessing congruity; suitable; agreeing; corresponding

conjunction

n.

state of being conjoined, united, or associated; union; association; league

conquer

v.

gain or acquire by force; take possession of by violent means; gain dominion over

conquest

n.

success in mastering something difficult; one that has been captivated or overcome

conscientious

a. Syn. diligent; responsible; reliable

diligent; responsible; reliable

consecutive

a. Syn. successive; sequential

following one after another without interruption; sequential

consensus

n. Syn. Agreement; accord

general agreement or accord; opinion reached by a group as a whole

consent

v. Syn. accord; concur; allow

agree in opinion or sentiment; be of the same mind; accord; concur; allow

consequent

a. Syn. resulting

resulting; following as a logical conclusion

conservation

n. Syn. preservation

preservation or restoration from loss, damage, or neglect

conservative

a. Syn. traditional; conventional

favoring traditional views and values; tending to oppose change

conservatory

n.

greenhouse; school of music or dramatic art

conserve

v. Syn. retain; preserve

retain; protect from loss or harm; preserve; use carefully or sparingly, avoiding waste

considerable

a. Syn. significant

worthy of consideration; large in amount, extent, or degree

considerate

a. Syn. thoughtful

thoughtful; marked by consideration or reflection; deliberate

consign

v.

give, transfer, or deliver in a formal manner, as if by signing over into the possession of another

consist

v.

be made up or composed; be comprised or contained in

console

v. Syn. relieve; comfort

cheer from distress or depression; alleviate grief and raise spirits of; relieve; comfort

consolidate

v.

make solid; unite or press together into a compact mass; harden or make dense and firm

conspicuous

a. Syn. noticeable; prominent

noticeable; prominent; easy to notice; obvious

constituent

n. Syn. component; element; ingredient

component or part; citizen, voter

constitute

v. Syn. form

make up; form something

constrain

v. Syn. restrain; confine
restrain; keep within close bounds; confine

constrict

v. Syn. limit; restrict; shrink; contract
restrict; shrink; make smaller or narrower by binding or squeezing

construct

v. Syn. erect; build
form by assembling or combining parts; build; create

consume

v. Syn. devour; eat
devour; eat

consumer

n.
people who buy goods or services

consumption

n.
eating or drinking of something

contaminate

v. Syn. taint; pollute; defile
make impure or unclean by contact or mixture; pollute; defile

contemplate

v. Syn. ponder; meditate
look at attentively and thoughtfully; observe deep in thought

contemporary

a.
modern; belonging to the same period of time

contend

v.
strive in opposition; contest; dispute; struggle for

contention

n. Syn. controversy
competing as for profit or prize

context

n. Syn. circumstance; setting
circumstance

contingency

n.

condition of being dependent on chance; uncertainty; possibility

continuity

n. Syn. coherence

property of a continuous and connected period of time

contradict

v. Syn. confront; oppose

confront; oppose

contradiction

n.

assertion of contrary; denial of the truth of a statement or assertion; opposition, whether by argument or conduct

contrast

n.

act of distinguishing by comparing differences

contribute

v.

provide; bestow a quality on

contribution

n. Syn. impost; levy

act of contributing; payment exacted for special purpose; impost or levy

contrive

v.

form by an exercise of ingenuity; devise; invent; design

controversial

a. Syn. controvertible; disputable

controvertible; disputable

controversy

n. Syn. contention; argument

contentious speech act; argument

convene

v. Syn. assemble

cause to come together formally

convenience

n.

state of being suitable

converge

v. Syn. approach

approach; tend to meet; come together

converse

v. Syn. chat

chat; talk informally; engage in a spoken exchange of thoughts

conversely

ad.

in a converse manner; with change of order or relation; reciprocally.

convert

n. Syn. transform

change something into another form; transform

convey

v.

carry from one place to another; bear or transport

coordinate

v. Syn. integrate; harmonize

bring order and organization to; harmonize

cordial

a. Syn. gracious

gracious; showing warm and friendliness

cork

n.

lightweight elastic outer bark, used especially for bottle closures, insulation, floats

corps

n.

an army unit usually consisting of two or more divisions; a body of people associated together

correlate

v. Syn. relate; associate

relate; associate; bring into a mutual relation

correspond

v.

be compatible, similar or consistent; exchange messages

correspondence

n. Syn. mail

similarity or analogy; communication by the exchange of letters

correspondent

a.
one who communicates information, especially, by letter or telegram to newspaper or periodical

corresponding

a.
accompanying

corrode

v.
destroy metal or alloy gradually, especially by chemical action; be eaten or worn away

corrupt

a. Syn. spoiled; tainted
changed from sound to putrid state; spoiled; tainted

cosmic

a. Syn. vast
pertaining to the universe; vast

cosmopolitan

a. Syn. sophisticated
sophisticated; of worldwide scope

cosy

n.
padded or knitted covering placed especially over a teapot to keep the tea hot; cozy

counterbalance

v.
act as force or influence that balances, checks or limits an opposite one

counterfeit

v. Syn. forge
make a copy of, usually with the intent to defraud; forge

counterpart

n. Syn. version; analogue; match
duplicate copy; analogue; one that closely resembles another

coupon

n.
negotiable certificate attached to a bond; interest warrant; detachable certificates that may be torn off as needed

courier

n. Syn. messenger; carrier
person who carries a message

coverage

n. *Syn. reportage*

extent to which something is covered; news as presented by reporters

cradle

n.

small low bed for an infant, often furnished with rockers; infancy, or very early life

craft

n. *Syn. vessel*

something made by people; vessel

crater

n.

a bowl-shaped opening at the top of a volcano

crease

n.

a line or long thin mark made by folding or doubling

creation

n.

fact or state of having been created; act of investing with a new office or title

credential

n. *Syn. certificate; warrant*

certificate; warrant

credible

a.

capable of being credited or believed; worthy of belief; entitled to confidence; trustworthy

cricket

n.

outdoor game played with bats, a ball, and wickets by two teams of 11 players each

cripple

n. *Syn. handicap; maim; disable*

person or animal that is partially disabled or unable to use a limb or limb

crisp

a.

firm but easily broken or crumbled; brittle

criteria

n.

standard, rule, or test on which a judgment or decision can be based

criterion

n.
standard of judging; any approved or established rule or test

crooked

a. Syn. *curved*
having or marked by bends or angles; not straight or aligned; curved

crop

n.
the top, end, or highest part of anything, especially of plant or tree; grain or other product of field while standing; anything cut off or gathered

crouch

v.
bend down; stoop low; lie close to the ground with the legs bent, as an animal when waiting for prey, or in fear

crude

a.
being in an unrefined or natural state; raw; lacking tact or taste; blunt or offensive

crumb

n.
small fragment or piece, especially, a small piece of bread or other food; broken or cut off

crumble

v. Syn. *fall apart; disintegrate*
break into small pieces; cause to fall in pieces

crumple

v. Syn. *wrinkle; rumple*
fall apart; fold or collapse; crush together or press into wrinkles

crust

n. Syn. *covering; coat; shell*
outer layer ; covering; coat; shell

cube

n.
three-dimensional shape with six square or rectangular sides; cubicle, used for work or study

cucumber

n.
cylindrical green fruit with thin green rind and white flesh eaten as a vegetable; related to melons

culminate

v.
reach the highest or most decisive point; rise to summit

cultivate

v. Syn. farm; domesticate; nurture; teach

improve and prepare, as by plowing or fertilizing, for raising crops; promote the growth of

cumbersome

a. Syn. heavy

heavy; difficult to handle because of weight or bulk

cumulative

a.

increasing by successive addition

cunning

a.

knowing; skillful; artful; designing; deceitful

cupboard

n.

a small room or cabinet used for storage space

curl

v.

form into coiled or spiral shape; twist into ringlets or coils; move in curve or spiral

currency

n. Syn. money

money; general acceptance or use

curriculum

n. Syn. course; program

course; program

curtail

v. Syn. shorten; reduce

cut short or reduce; cut off end or tail, or any part

curve

v.

bend or turn gradually from a given direction, as road curves to the right

cushion

n.

soft pillow or pad usually used for sitting, reclining, or kneeling

custodian

n. Syn. curator; guardian

curator; guardian

custom

n. Syn. tradition; practice

tradition; practice followed by people of a particular group or region

customary

a.

agreeing with or established by common usage; conventional; habitual

cylinder

n.

cylindrical container