

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

v.

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

deceive 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

v.
decree or designate beforehand; fate

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

deviate

v. Syn. depart; diverge

turn away from a principle, norm; depart; diverge

devise

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

a.
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 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