

# IBA

Name :

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## ENGLISH LECTURE - 01

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## DIAGNOSTIC TEST

Time: 20 min

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instruction:** Choose the most appropriate word(s)/phrase to fill in the blank in the given sentences.

1. Many modern architects insist \_\_\_\_\_ materials native to the region that will blend into the surrounding landscape.  
(A) use                      (B) the use of                      (C) to use                      (D) using                      (E) on using
2. He thought so high of his power and capabilities that he considered himself to be \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) omnipresent      (B) omnipotent                      (C) ubiquitous                      (D) garrulous                      (E) Credulous
3. The senior manager was angry at being taken for a junior level executive. He was \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) indigent                      (B) indignant                      (C) intransigent                      (D) indolent                      (E) none of these
4. Although gregarious by nature, Sara became quiet and \_\_\_\_\_ after she was unexpectedly laid off from the work.  
(A) withdrawn                      (B) susceptible                      (C) assertive                      (D) autonomous                      (E) belligerent
5. Gauhar Jamil, \_\_\_\_\_ of the pioneers of modern dance, didn't begin dancing until he was 21.  
(A) who, as one                      (B) he was                      (C) one                      (D) was one                      (E) whose one

**Instruction:** For each of the questions below, choose the word from the alternatives, where the prefix or suffix (that are given in all capital) has not been properly used.

1. UN  
(A) unassuming      (B) unbelievable                      (C) unabated                      (D) undaunted                      (E) uncourteous
2. IM  
(A) imfathomable      (B) immaterial                      (C) immemorial                      (D) impalpable                      (E) impracticable
3. EN  
(A) golden                      (B) wooden                      (C) blurreden                      (D) woolen                      (E) none of these

**Instruction:** Each of the following sentences contains four underlined words or phrases. Select the word or phrase that is incorrect. If the sentence is correct as it stands, then mark (E).

1. He has not only violated the law but also he has escaped punishment. No Error  
(A) (B)                      (C) (D)                      (E)
2. Today oysters are grown and harvested much like any another crop. No Error  
(A)                      (B) (C)                      (D)                      (E)
3. Students in Bangladesh often support themselves by tutoring or they drive CNG taxis. No Error  
(A)                      (B)                      (C)                      (D)                      (E)
4. The research is based on unreliable data, which was collected by an irresponsible research assistant. No Error  
(A)                      (B)                      (C)                      (D)                      (E)
5. The athlete was disqualified from the tournament for participating at an illegal demonstration.  
(A)                      (B)                      (C)                      (D)  
No Error  
(E)

**Instruction:** In each of the following sentences, some part or the whole is underlined. Each sentence is followed by five alternative versions of the underlined portion. Select the alternative that you consider most correct according to the requirement of standard written English. Answer A is the same as the original version; if you think the original version is best, select answer A.

1. Having slammed her books on the desk, Safa felt angry about failing the test.  
(A) Having slammed her books on the desk, Safa felt angry about failing the test.  
(B) Having felt angry about failing the test, Safa slams her books on the desk.  
(C) Slamming her books on the desk, angry about failing the test.  
(D) Angry about failing the test, Safa slammed her books on the desk.  
(E) Safa failed the test, therefore, angrily slammed her books on the desk.
2. It is extremely important for an engineer to know to use a computer.  
(A) to use a computer  
(B) how to use a computer  
(C) use of the computer  
(D) use of a computer  
(E) usage of a computer
3. He was stricken by remorse.  
(A) was stricken  
(B) is being struck  
(C) was struck  
(D) was stricken  
(E) is struck
4. Please repeat the sentence again.  
(A) Please repeat the sentence again.  
(B) Repeat the sentence again.  
(C) Please repeat the sentence.  
(D) Again please repeat the sentence.  
(E) Repeat again the sentence please.
5. The origins of most sports is unknown.  
(A) sports is unknown  
(B) sports have been unknown  
(C) sports are unknown  
(D) sports has been unknown  
(E) sports are now unknown

**Instruction:** Find out in which one or more of the following sentences in each set, the underlined word is being used correctly.

1. Second  
(i) I do believe my idea was well accepted since it was seconded by the chairperson.  
(ii) She was ranked second; her performance was absolutely unparalleled.  
(iii) The competition was at its peak as only a few seconds remained.  
(A) i and ii            (B) ii and iii            (C) i and iii            (D) ii only            (E) all three
2. Move  
(i) The artist gave a moving rendition of the musical piece.  
(ii) As he receives more training, his position is constantly moving.  
(iii) The chess player is one move away from victory.  
(A) iii only            (B) i and ii            (C) i and iii            (D) ii and iii            (E) all three

# PART – I: STRUCTURE AND WRITTEN EXPRESSION

## PARTS OF SPEECH

The words that we use in a sentence are called parts of speech. There are eight types of parts of speech; that means English words can be classified into eight types.

**Noun Pronoun Verb Adjective Adverb Preposition Conjunction Interjection**

**Nouns** are the names of persons, objects, places, or anything else. A noun can be either Count or Non-count. Count nouns are measured in numbers. They can take singular or plural form. Non-count nouns are measured in quantities. They always take a singular form.

**Pronouns** are used to substitute the nouns. Pronouns can be subject, object, relative, reflexive (or emphatic) and possessive. There is a basic difference between possessive pronoun and possessive adjective. When you say “This is **my** pen”, you are using a possessive adjective. You are using a possessive pronoun when you say, “This pen is **mine**”.

**Verbs** are action words. They are driving forces of any sentence. Verbs can take present, past, or participle forms. You have to change the form of the verb according to the subject and tense of your sentence.

**Adjectives** are words that describe or qualify other words. Suppose you are praising your girlfriend saying that she is **pretty**, or your teacher scolds you by saying that you are **lazy**. Please remember that adjectives qualify only nouns and pronouns.

**Adverbs** qualify the other parts of speech. It describes adjectives, verbs, and even adverbs. In most cases, we get an adverb by just adding “-ly” or “-ally” at the end of an adjective. For example: He is an **efficient** worker. He works **efficiently**.

**Prepositions** are short words that express the relationship between two parts of speech. Suppose, you see a book lying **on** the table; the preposition **on** helps you to connect the words “~~book~~” and “~~the~~ table”.

**Conjunctions** are words used to connect two independent clauses or items in a series. Hasan is a brilliant student **and** he is regular at his studies.

**Interjections** are simple translations of Bengali words like *hay-hay*, *o-ma*, *yahoo* etc. They express sudden expression or outburst of emotional feeling. **Hurray!** Ashraful has been selected for the Asian Eleven!

## SUBJECT

The subject is the agent of the sentence in the active voice; it is the person or thing that performs or is responsible for the action of the sentence, and it normally proceeds the verb. NOTE: *Every sentence and every clause in English must have a subject.* (In the case of commands, the subject [you] is understood.)

The subject may be a single noun.

Coffee is delicious.

Milk contains calcium.

The subject may be a noun phrase. A noun phrase is a group of words ending with a noun and it cannot begin with a preposition.

The bottle is on the table.

That new blue car belongs to Ashraf.

*It* can act as a pronoun for a noun or can be the subject of an impersonal verb. As the subject of an impersonal verb, the pronoun is not actually used in place of a noun, but is part of an idiomatic expression.

It rains quite often here in the summer.

It is hard to believe that he stole me pen.

NOTE: In some sentences, the true subject does not appear in normal subject position. *There* can act as a pseudo-subject and is treated like a subject when changing word order to a question. However, the true subject appears after the verb, and the number of the true subject controls the verb.

There was a fire in that building last month.

Was there a fire in that building last month?

### **COMPLEMENT/OBJECT**

A complement completes the verb. It is similar to the subject because it is usually a noun or noun phrase; however, it generally follows the verb when the sentence is in the active voice. NOTE: Every sentence does not require a complement. The complement CANNOT begin with a preposition. A complement answers the questions what? or whom?

Examples of complements:

Mashrur bought a cake yesterday. (*What* did Mashrur buy yesterday?)

Anika was driving a new car. (*What* was Anika driving?)

They called Nadia last night. (*Whom* did they call last night?)

### **MODIFIER**

A modifier tells the time, place, or manner of the action. Very often it is a prepositional phrase. A prepositional phrase is a group of words that begins with a preposition and ends with a noun. NOTE: A modifier of time usually comes last if more than one modifier is present.

Examples of prepositional phrases:

in the morning, at the university, on the table

A modifier can also be an adverb or an adverbial phrase.

last night, hurriedly, next year, outdoors, yesterday

NOTE: Every sentence does not require a modifier. A modifier answers the question when? where? or how?

Examples of modifiers:

Rituraj was swimming in the pool yesterday. (*Where* was Rituraj swimming?)  
*modifier of place* *modifier of time* (*When* was Rituraj swimming?)

Susmi bought a book at the bookstore. (*Where* did Maliha buy a book?)  
*modifier of place*

He was driving very fast. (*How* was he driving?)  
*modifier of manner*

## **SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT**

Remember that the subject and verb in a sentence must agree in **person** and **number**.

The elevator works very well. The elevators work very well.

singular singular                      plural plural

- **Number**

Number shows whether the subject of the verb is singular or plural.

Maggie drives well. (Singular)

Adam and Peter drive dangerously. (Plural)

John's grandmother is in Atlanta. (Singular)

Arthur's parents are from Texas. (Plural)

**A verb must always agree in number with its subject**

Emily lives alone. (Subject and verb both singular)

Dennis and Ananta live together. (Subject and verb both plural)

- **Person**

Person tells whether the subject of the verb is speaking, being spoken to or being spoken about

I am the person in charge. (First person)

You are my best friend. (Second person)

Rituraj speaks French and Tamil. (Third person)

**All three persons may be singular or plural in number.**

	<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
<b>First person</b>	I run	We run
<b>Second person</b>	You run	You run
<b>Third person</b>	He runs She runs It runs Barsha runs	They run The girls run

### **Some Basic Rules**

#### **RULE 1**

Subjects joined by “**and**” take a plural verb.

Both Jill and Linda are leaving town.

You, he and I are to be blamed for the Padma Bridge fiasco.

Exceptional:

When two subjects joined by “**and**” are considered as one unit (like ham and eggs, horse and buggy), then the subject is considered singular.

Bread and butter is my favorite breakfast.

#### **RULE 2**

When singular subjects are joined by “**or**” the subject is considered to be singular.

One or the other of us *has* to buy the tickets.

He or his brother is going to be the President.

#### **RULE 3**

When the subjects joined by “**or**” or “**nor**” are different persons, **the subject nearer the verb** determines the **person**

She or you are responsible.

Neither my friend nor I *am* married.

Either you or I *am* to marry her.

#### **RULE 4**

When two subjects are joined by **–either . . . or,** **–neither . . . nor,** **–not only . . . but also** the verb agrees with the subject which is **closest to the verb**:

Neither Harry nor his friends *are* going to his class.

Not only the principal but also the teachers *have* had their pay increased.

Neither Kylie nor Jason measure up to Carrie. No error

A B C D E

Even though the sentence mentions two people (Jason and Kylie) who don't measure up to Carrie, both of those people are singular nouns. Therefore, the verb must be singular. *Measure* is a plural verb, when it should be a singular one, so **C** is the answer

#### **RULE 5**

Either and neither are singular if they are not used with or and not.

If either of you *takes* a vacation now, we will not be able to finish the work.

#### **RULE 6**

If two subjects are joined using the following expressions, the verb agrees with the **first subject**:

accompanied by	as well as
along with	in addition to
Among	together with
Even	

Zahid, together with Saif, *is* going fishing.

Muktadir, along with his naughty friends, *was* severely punished for their misdeeds

The three brothers together with their uncle *were* going to the market

#### **RULE 7**

When **“several”**, **“many”**, **“both”** and **“few”** are used as subjects, they take a plural verb.

Several *have* already left the party.

#### **RULE 8**

Indefinite pronouns like **–most**”, **“all”**, **“some”**, **“any”** can be either singular or plural, depending on whether they refer to one thing or entity or more than one thing or entity. The meaning of the sentence will help determine this; if these words are followed by a prepositional phrase, the singular or plural nature of the object of the preposition will determine if the indefinite pronoun acting as a subject is singular or plural.

Some of the stolen money *has* been found in his bag.

Some of my friend *are* going to Chittagong tomorrow night.

#### **RULE 9**

With words that indicate portions – percent, fraction, part, majority, some, all, none, remainder etc. – look at the noun in your object phrase (object of the preposition) to determine whether to use a singular or plural verb. If the object of the preposition is singular, use a singular verb. If the object of the preposition is plural, use a plural verb.

Fifty percent of the pie *has* disappeared.

Pie is the object of the preposition *of*.

Fifty percent of the pies *have* disappeared.

Pies is the object of the preposition *of*.

One-third of the city *is* unemployed.

One-third of the people *are* unemployed.

### **RULE 10**

The expression “**a number of** (meaning “**several**”) is plural. The expression “**the number of**” is singular.

A number of items *have been deleted*.  
The number of deleted items *is* small.

### **RULE 11**

When a word indicating nationality refers to a language, it is singular. When it refers to the people, it is plural.

Japanese *was* a difficult language for me to learn.  
The Japanese *are* very inventive people.

### **RULE 12**

Even if the verb comes before the subject, the verb agrees with the true subject, **not the words preceding it**.

Are the cat and dog fighting?

Coming at us from the left *was* an ambulance.

There *are* two things you can do.

There *is* only one book left.

### **RULE 13**

Words such as „**where**“, „**here**“, „**there**“, „**who**“, „**what**“, „**when**“ do not affect the verb when they introduce a sentence

*What are* the addresses of some good restaurants?

Who *are* the guys who want to beat us up?

Here *come* my parents.

### **RULE 14**

When a predicate noun (following a linking verb) differs in number from the subject, the verb must agree with the subject

Our biggest problem *is* angry customers.

More corrupt politicians *aren't* what the country needs.

One of the most beautiful zila is the Rangamati zila, located in Chittagong Division.

A

B

C

D

### ***C is wrong***

The correct pattern is one of the + superlative adjective + plural noun. The plural noun (zilas) must therefore be used.

### **RULE 15**

#### **NONE/NO**

None + of the + non-count noun + singular verb

None of the counterfeit money *has* been found.

None + of the + plural count noun + plural verb

None of the students *have* finished the exam yet.

No can take either a singular or plural verb depending on the noun which follows it.

$no + \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{sin gular noun} \\ \text{non - count noun} \end{array} \right\} + \text{sin gular verb}$

No example is relevant to this case.

No + plural noun + plural verb

No examples are relevant to this case.

### Exercise 1: Choose the correct verb

1. The dog or the cats (is, are) outside.
2. The data on my computer (was/were) lost when the hard drive failed.
3. Neither of the twins (is/are) allergic to penicillin.
4. Much of what I hear in those lectures (go/goes) in one ear and out the other.
5. Among the lilies and wildflowers (were/was) one solitary rose.
6. There (is/are) hardly even a speck of dirt left on the carpet.
7. The number of cyclists in Dhaka (is, are) increasing very rapidly.
8. The players, as well as the captain, (want, wants) to win.
9. Beyond that hill (is/are) hundreds of bison.
10. All of the CDs, even the scratched one, (is, are) in this case.
11. Three-quarters of the student body (is/are) against the tuition hike.
12. Some of the grain (appear/appears) to be contaminated.
13. All of the chicken (is/are) gone.
14. A high percentage of the population (is/are) voting for the new school.
15. There (has/have) to be some people left in the town after yesterday's tornado.

### SUBJECT SEPARATED FROM THE VERB

Sometimes it is difficult to decide exactly what the subject is if the subject and verb are separated. This is true especially in case of long sentences, where the **actual** subject has to be identified, ignoring prepositional or parenthetical phrases. For example,

According to the World Health Organization's annual survey in 2012, no school-going child living in the rural areas of African countries suffer/suffers from Polio.

The correct answer will be suffers as the subject is singular (*school-going child*) and the verb should also be singular.

Very often, if the subject and verb are separated, they will be separated by a **prepositional phrase**. The prepositional phrase has no effect on the verb.

**Subject + [prepositional phrase] + verb**

The study of languages *is* very interesting.

Several theories on this subject *have been* proposed.

The danger of forest fires *is* not to be taken lightly.

The effects of that crime *are* likely to be devastating.

**Parenthetical phrases** or other modifiers that come between the subject and verb do not change the number or person of the true subject - which the verb agrees with.

The amount shown, plus interest, *is* due on Friday.

Mr. Ananta Jalil, one of the greatest actors in the history of world cinema, *has* finally completed his BBA from The University of South Asia.

**Exercise 2: Choose the correct form of the verb in the following sentences.**

1. The effect of frequent hartals on both large and small businesses (is, are) often understated.
2. In response to the talk-show host's snarky comments about his guests, one of the hot-headed audience members present in the studio (is, are) now heading to the stage to protest.
3. The analysis of vast amounts of financial data (is , are) truly exciting to him.
4. Many of my colleagues, in addition to my boss, (is, are) going to be present at the event.
5. The risk of severe head trauma due to negligence in wearing helmets (is, are) very high.
6. Franz Beckenbauer, one of the finest football players in history, (is, are) often credited for having invented the role of the modern sweeper.
7. The chances of a batsman with poor shot timing getting a test century (is, are) very low.
8. A bonus of just a few marks (is, are) what I need to pass.

**PREFIX**

A *prefix* is a short string of letters (usually only one syllable long) affixed to the beginning of a word in order to change its meaning. For example, the prefix *pre* means “comes before.” When *pre-* is attached to the root *-fix*, which means “attach,” you can determine that a *prefix* is a group of letters attached to the front of a word. Following are some of the most commonly used prefixes and examples that will help you to identify them.

**a- or ab-**

The prefix *a-* or *ab-* means “away from,” “from,” or “not.”

Examples	Meanings
The men <i>averted</i> their eyes from the accident.	The men turned their eyes <i>away</i> from the accident. (See <i>-vert</i> in the “Roots” section later in the chapter.)
The man's skin growth was <i>abnormal</i> .	The man's skin growth was <i>not</i> normal.
The women <i>abducted</i> the young boy.	The women led the boy <i>away</i> , meaning she kidnapped him.
Sheila was <i>absent</i> yesterday.	Sheila was <i>not</i> present yesterday.
It is <i>atypical</i> .	It is <i>not</i> typical.

**a- or an-**

The prefix *a-* can have another meaning, which is the same as the meaning of the prefix *an-*. As the following examples show, this prefix means “without.”

Examples	Meanings
It is <i>amorphous</i> .	It is <i>without</i> shape.
It is <i>anhydrous</i> .	It is <i>without</i> water.
He is <i>amoral</i> .	He is <i>without</i> morals.
It is <i>aseptic</i> .	It is <i>without</i> disease-causing microorganisms.

**ad-**

The prefix *ad-* means “to” or “toward.” When this prefix is attached to a root that starts with certain letters — *d*, *f*, *g*, *l*, *m*, *q*, *r*, *s*, and *t* — the *d* drops out and the first letter of the root is repeated. For example, when *ad-* is added to the root *-fix*, the resulting word is *affix* (rather than *adfix*); the *d* drops out and the letter *f* is repeated. Verbs that contain this prefix are often followed by the preposition *to* (even though the word *to* is part of the definition of *ad-*).

Examples	Meanings
The university <i>admitted</i> Bill.	The university granted Bill entrance <i>to</i> the university
The glue has dried and will not <i>adhere</i> to the surface.	The glue has dried and will not stick <i>to</i> the surface.
She has found it easy to <i>adapt</i> to her new situation.	She has found it easy to fit well <i>to</i> her new situation.
She used tape to <i>affix</i> the picture to the wall.	She used tape to attach or fix the picture <i>to</i> the wall.

**ante-**

The prefix *ante-* means “before.”

Examples	Meanings
This room is called the <i>anteroom</i> .	This room comes <i>before</i> another room.
It is from the <i>antediluvian</i> period.	It is from the period <i>before</i> the flood.
This is from the <i>antebellum</i> period.	This is from the period <i>before</i> the war.

**anti- or ant-**

The prefix *anti-* or *ant-* means “opposite” or “counteracting.”

Examples	Meanings
Michelle drank the <i>antacid</i> .	Michelle drank the substance to <i>counteract</i> acid.
They haven't found a suitable <i>antibody</i> .	They haven't found a suitable substance to <i>counteract</i> the harmful one.
The plane was shot down by an <i>antiaircraft</i> weapon.	The plane was shot down by a weapon that <i>counters</i> aircraft.
This is the <i>antithesis</i> of that.	This is the exact <i>opposite</i> of that.
They say that Mary is <i>antisocial</i> .	They say that Mary is the <i>opposite</i> of social; she is not sociable.

**SUFFIX**

A *suffix* is a group of letters attached at the end of a word. Usually, suffixes indicate the word's part of speech. For example, a suffix may indicate that the word is a noun, adjective, or adverb, and it may indicate the verb tense, aspect, or person.

A suffix often tells whether the word is a noun, verb, or other form. The following table offers an example of how suffixes work.

Root	Suffix	Word	Part of speech
imagin-	-e	imagine	verb
imagin-	-ation	imagination	noun
imagin-	-ary	imaginary	adjective
imagin-	-ative	imaginative	adjective
imaginative-	-ly	imaginatively	adverb

**Noun Endings**

The following endings normally indicate that the word is a noun: **-sion, -tion, -ition, -ation, -ance, -ence, -or, -er, -hood, -ship, -ty, -ity, -cy, -ment, -ness, -ism, and -ist.**

All of these suffixes are added to the root of verbs except *-ship* and *-hood*, which are added to nouns, and *-ness* and *-ty*, which are added to adjectives.

**Suffix (Noun Ending)**

suffix	noun
-ion	action
-sion	explosion
-tion	invention
-ation	communication
-ition	composition
-ance	insurance
-ence	correspondence
-or	professor
-er	computer
-hood	neighborhood, childhood

-ship	friendship, membership
-ty	loyalty
-ity	reality
-cy	complacency
-ment	judgment, argument
-ness	stubbornness, happiness
-ism	capitalism
-ist	capitalist

Occasionally, *-ant* or *-ent* can indicate a noun, although they normally indicate an adjective and *-ance* and *-ence* indicate the related noun. Examples of *-ant* and *-ent* as noun suffixes are *confidant* and *correspondent*.

## PART – II: TAKE-HOME EXERCISE

### Choose the correct form of the verb:

1. In every teaspoon of soil (are/is) over two million tiny microorganism.
2. Our English teacher believes that students who major in economics (ruin/ruins) their imaginations.
3. All of my important keys (is/are) now stuck in the drain pipe of my bathroom sink.
4. There (is/are) a great many production problems to iron out before show time.
5. There (is/are), in my opinion, far too few primary physicians working in the district.
6. Never before (have/has) there been such voices heard on the public airwaves.
7. Interesting news (is/are) what sells the paper.
8. Burdon, along with his brothers, (is/are) going to the zoo.
9. Neither the legends of the crop circles nor the story of the Bermuda triangle (seem/seems) credible to me.
10. Either his attachment to his country or his prejudices against western culture (is/are) going to prevent him from leaving Bangladesh.
11. Neither of the two rangers (is/are) going beyond The Wall
12. Each of your friends (have/has) to contribute a minimum amount for the party.
13. That Nazif is one of the most talented speakers (is/are) an understatement to those who are really familiar with the field of literature.
14. Even though Caroline created a petition to protest the crowning of a Prom Queen, there (was/were) many people who refused to sign, saying they supported the 1950's tradition.
15. Neither Niloy nor Ishmam's friends (dances/dance) well.

## Vocabulary Section

### LIST OF VOCABULARY - 1

**abridge** V. condense or shorten. Because the publishers felt the public wanted a shorter version of War and Peace, they proceeded to abridge the novel.

**abstemious** ADJ. sparing in eating and drinking; temperate. Concerned whether her vegetarian son's abstemious diet provided him with sufficient protein, the worried mother pressed food on him.

**abstruse** ADJ. obscure; profound; difficult to understand. Baffled by the abstruse philosophical texts assigned in class, Dave asked Lexy to explain Kant's Critique of Pure Reason.

**accessible** ADJ. easy to approach; obtainable. We asked our guide whether the ruins were accessible on foot.

**acclaim** V. applaud; announce with great approval. The NBC sportscasters acclaimed every American victory in the Olympics and decried every American defeat. also N.

**accomplice** N. partner in crime. Because he had provided the criminal with the lethal weapon, he was arrested as an accomplice in the murder.

**acknowledge** V. recognize; admit. Although Iris acknowledged that the Beatles' tunes sounded pretty dated nowadays, she still preferred them to the hip-hop songs her brothers played.

**acrimonious** ADJ. bitter in words or manner. The candidate attacked his opponent in highly acrimonious terms. *acrimony*, N.

**adulation** N. flattery; admiration. The rock star thrived on the adulation of his groupies and yes men. *adulate*, V.

**adversary** N. opponent. The young wrestler struggled to defeat his adversary.

**adversity** N. poverty; misfortune. We must learn to meet adversity gracefully.

**advocate** V. urge; plead for. The abolitionists advocated freedom for the slaves. also N.

**aesthetic** ADJ. artistic; dealing with or capable of appreciation of the beautiful. The beauty of Tiffany's stained glass appealed to Esther's aesthetic sense. *aesthete*, N.

**affable** ADJ. easily approachable; warmly friendly. Accustomed to cold, aloof supervisors, Nicholas was amazed at how affable his new employer was.

**aggregate** V. gather; accumulate. Before the Wall Street scandals, dealers in so-called junk bonds managed to aggregate great wealth in short periods of time. *aggregation*, N.

**alleviate** V. relieve. This should alleviate the pain; if it does not, we shall have to use stronger drugs.

**aloof** ADJ. apart; reserved. Shy by nature, she remained aloof while all the rest conversed.

**altruistic** ADJ. unselfishly generous; concerned for others. In providing tutorial assistance and college scholarships for hundreds of economically disadvantaged youths, Eugene Lang performed a truly altruistic deed. *altruism*, N.

**ambivalence** N. the state of having contradictory or conflicting emotional attitudes. Torn between loving her parents one minute and hating them the next, she was confused by the ambivalence of her feelings. *ambivalent*, ADJ.

**amorphous** ADJ. formless; lacking shape or definition. As soon as we have decided on our itinerary, we shall send you a copy; right now, our plans are still amorphous.

**anachronistic** ADJ. having an error involving time in a story. The reference to clocks in Julius Caesar is anachronistic: clocks did not exist in Caesar's time. *anachronism*, N.

**analogous** ADJ. comparable. She called our attention to the things that had been done in

an analogous situation and recommended that we do the same.

**anecdote** N. short account of an amusing or interesting event. Rather than make concrete proposals for welfare reform, President Reagan told anecdotes about poor people who became wealthy despite their impoverished backgrounds.

**animosity** N. active enmity. He incurred the animosity of the ruling class because he advocated limitations of their power.

**anomalous** ADJ. abnormal; irregular. He was placed in the anomalous position of seeming to approve procedures which he despised.

**anomaly** N. irregularity. A bird that cannot fly is an anomaly.

**antagonism** N. hostility; active resistance. Barry showed his antagonism toward his new stepmother by ignoring her whenever she tried talking to him. *antagonistic*, ADJ.

**antediluvian** ADJ. antiquated; extremely ancient. Looking at his great-aunt's antique furniture, which must have been cluttering up her attic since the time of Noah's flood, the young heir exclaimed, "Heavens! How positively antediluvian!" **anthem** N. song of praise or patriotism. Let us now all join in singing the national anthem.

**antipathy** N. aversion; dislike. Tom's extreme antipathy for disputes keeps him from getting into arguments with his temperamental wife. Noise in any form is antipathetic to him. Among his other antipathies are honking cars, boom boxes, and heavy metal rock.

**antiquated** ADJ. old-fashioned; obsolete. Philip had grown so accustomed to editing his papers on word processors that he thought typewriters were too antiquated for him to use.

**apathy** N. lack of caring; indifference. A firm believer in democratic government, she could not understand the apathy of people who never bothered to vote. *apathetic*, ADJ.

**apocryphal** ADJ. untrue; made up. To impress his friends, Tom invented apocryphal tales of his adventures in the big city.

**appease** V. pacify or soothe; relieve. Tom and Jody tried to appease the crying baby by offering him one toy after another, but he would not calm down until they appeased his hunger by giving him a bottle.

**apprehension** N. fear. His nervous glances at the passersby on the deserted street revealed his apprehension.

**arable** ADJ. fit for growing crops. The first settlers wrote home glowing reports of the New World, praising its vast acres of arable land ready for the plow.

**arbiter** N. a person with power to decide a dispute; judge. As an arbiter in labor disputes, she has won the confidence of the workers and the employers.

**arbitrary** ADJ. capricious; randomly chosen; tyrannical. Tom's arbitrary dismissal angered him; his boss had no reason to fire him. He threw an arbitrary assortment of clothes into his suitcase and headed off, not caring where he went.

**archaic** ADJ. antiquated. "Methinks," "thee," and "thou" are archaic words that are no longer part of our normal vocabulary.

**ardent** ADJ. intense; passionate; zealous. Katya's ardor was contagious; soon all her fellow demonstrators were busily making posters and handing out flyers, inspired by her ardent enthusiasm for the cause. *ardor*, N.

**arduous** ADJ. hard; strenuous. Her arduous efforts had sapped her energy.

**articulate** ADJ. effective; distinct. Her articulate presentation of the advertising campaign impressed her employers. also V.

## LIST OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS - 1

Above all	Most importantly
About to	Almost ready to
Add up	Make sense; be logical
All at once	Suddenly; without warning
All of a sudden	All at once; suddenly
As a matter of fact	In reality; actually
As a rule	Generally; customarily
At the drop of a hat	Quickly; without any preparation time
As case	Not nervous; calm
Back out (of)	Withdraw an offer
Bank on	Depend on; count on
Be my guest	Do what you want; feel free; help yourself
Be rusty	Need practice or review
Beats me	I don't know; I have no idea (often used in response to a question)
Better of	In an improved condition
Bite off more than one	Take on more responsibility than one can
Chew	Handle
Bound to	Certain to; sure to
Break down	Stop functioning (a machine, for example)
Break in (on)	Interrupt
Break the ice	Break through social barriers (as at a party)
Break the news (to)	Inform; give bad news
Break up	End (a meeting, for example)
Break up (with)	Stop being a couple a couple (a boyfriend and girlfriend, for example)
A breeze	Something very simple and easy to do (1) raise (a child); (2) introduce (a topic, for example)
Brush up on	Review; study; practice
Bump into	Meet unexpectedly ; run into
By and large	Mostly; generally; on the whole
By heart	By memory; learned word for word
By no means	In no way; not at all
Call off	Cancel
Call on	Visit
Calm down	Relax
Care for	(1) take care of; (2) like; feel affection for
Catch on	Become popular
Catch on (to)	Understand. Learn
Catch up (with)	Go as fast as; catch
Check in (or into)	Register (at a hotel)
Check out (of)	(1) clarify; make understandable; (2) become nice and sunny (used to talk about the weather)
Come across	Find; meet; encounter