

Barron GRE word list - M

1. Macabre: gruesome; grisly; ghastly;
2. Mace: ceremonial staff used as a symbol of authority;
3. Macerate: soften by soaking in liquid; waste away; Ex. macerate powdered wood to make paper
4. Machiavellian: crafty; double-dealing; of the political doctrine of Machiavelli, which holds that craft and deceit are justified in pursuing political power
5. Machinations: evil schemes or plots; schemes or plots to achieve an evil end; V. machinate
6. Maculated: spotted; stained;
7. Maelstrom: violent whirlpool; violent or turbulent situation;
8. Magisterial: authoritative; imperious; commanding; of a magistrate;
9. Magnanimity: generosity; ADJ. magnanimous: generous
10. Magnate: person of prominence or influence; powerful or influential person (in business or industry); Ex. oil magnate
11. Magniloquent: boastful; pompous
12. Maim: mutilate; injure lastingly; disable; cripple; Ex. maimed for life
13. Maladroit: clumsy; not skillful; awkward; bungling
14. Malady: illness
15. Malaise: uneasiness; vague feeling of ill health (without any particular pain or appearance of disease)
16. Malapropism: comic misuse of a word;
17. Malapropos: inappropriate; ADV.



18. Malcontent: person dissatisfied with existing state of affairs; discontented person; ADJ: discontented
19. Malediction: curse
20. Malefactor: evildoer; criminal
21. Malfeasance: wrongdoing; misconduct (by a public official)
22. Malign: speak evil of; bad-mouth(criticize spitefully); defame; ADJ: harmful; Ex. malign influence
23. Malingerer: one who feigns illness to escape duty; V. malingering: feign illness to avoid work
24. Malleable:(of a metal) capable of being shaped by pounding(beating); pliable; (of someone) impressionable(easily influenced); easily controlled; tractable
25. Malodorous: foul-smelling
26. Manacle: restrain; handcuff; N.
27. Maneuver: strategic military or naval movement (done for training purposes); carefully planned process; stratagem; V: carry out a military maneuver; use maneuvers in gaining an end
28. Manifold: many in number or kind; numerous; varied
29. Maraud: move in search of plunder; Ex. marauding army
30. Maroon: leave helpless on a deserted island or coast; ADJ. red brown
31. Marred: damaged; disfigured; V. mar: spoil; disfigure
32. Marshal: put in order; guide ceremoniously to the correct place; Ex. Marshal the children into the museum; N: military officer; official
33. Martinet: strict disciplinarian; person who demands total obedience to rules and orders



34. Martyr: one who voluntarily suffers death for his or her religion or cause; great sufferer; Ex.
martyr to his rheumatism
35. Matriculate: enroll (in college or graduate school);
36. Maudlin: effusively sentimental
37. Maul: handle roughly; batter; injure by beating; Ex. mauled by his overexcited fans; N:
heavy long-handled hammer
38. Mausoleum: monumental tomb; large stately tomb;
39. Maverick: rebel; nonconformist (in a group)
40. Mawkish: mushy(sentimental) and gushy; icky-sticky sentimental; excessively and
objectionably sentimental
41. Maxim: proverb; truth pithily stated
42. Mayhem: injury to body; crime of willfully maiming or crippling a person; violent disorder;
Ex. mayhem in the zoo;
43. Meager: scanty; inadequate
44. Meander: wind or turn in its course; follow a winding or turning course; move aimlessly and
idly
45. Meddlesome: interfering; V. meddle: interfere
46. Melancholy: gloomy; morose; blue; N. ADJ. melancholic; CF. melancholia
47. Melee: fight
48. Mellifluous: (of words or a voice) sweetly or smoothly flowing; melodious; having a pleasant
tune
49. Mendacious: lying; habitually dishonest; N. mendacity



50. Mendicant: beggar; ADJ: living as a beggar
51. Menial: suitable for servants; lowly; mean; N: someone who does menial work (esp. servant in a house)
52. Mercenary: motivated solely by money or gain; N.
53. Mercurial: capricious; quick and changing; fickle; containing the element mercury; Ex. mercurial temper;
54. Meretricious: flashy; tawdry; attractive on the surface but of no real value;
55. Metamorphosis: change of form; Ex. metamorphosis of caterpillar to butterfly; V. metamorphose: change by metamorphosis
56. Mete: measure; distribute; administer; Ex. mete out justice/punishment
57. Mettle: courage (to continue bravely in spite of difficulties); spirit; ADJ.
58. Microcosm: small representative world; world in miniature; Ex. microcosm of English society
59. Milieu: social environment; means of expression; Ex. feel out of one's milieu; Ex. His proper milieu is watercolor.
60. Militant: combative; bellicose; N.
61. Militate: work against; Ex. militate against the chances of promotion;
62. Minatory: menacing; threatening
63. Minutiae: petty or trivial details;
64. Mirage: unreal reflection; optical illusion
65. Mire: entangle; stick in swampy ground; stick or sink in mire; N: bog; deep mud; Ex. sucked deeper into the mire



66. Mirth: merriment; laughter
67. Misapprehension: error; misunderstanding; V. misapprehend
68. Miscellany: mixture of writings on various subjects; collection of various items
69. Misconstrue: interpret incorrectly; misinterpret; misjudge
70. Miscreant: wretch; wrongdoer; villain; Ex. kindness to the miscreant
71. Misgivings: doubts
72. Misnomer: wrong or improper name; incorrect designation
73. Mitigate: appease; moderate; make or become less in force or intensity
74. Mnemonic: pertaining to memory; assisting the memory; N: device, such as as formula or rhyme, used as a mnemonic aid
75. Modicum: limited quantity; small amount; Ex. He does not have a modicum of sense;
76. Modish: fashionable; conforming to the current fashion
77. Mollify: soothe an angry person
78. Molly: coddle pamper; coddle; baby; indulge excessively
79. Momentous: very important; N. moment; CF. momentary
80. Monastic: related to monks or monasteries; removed from worldly concerns
81. Monotheism: belief in one God
82. Moratorium: legal delay of payment or action; Ex. declare moratorium on the building of new houses
83. Mordant: biting; sarcastic; stinging; (apprec.) incisive; cutting; Ex. Mordant pen/wit
84. Morose: ill-humored; sullen; sullenly melancholy
85. Mortar: vessel in which substances are crushed with a pestle



86. Mortify: humiliate by embarrassing excessively; shame; punish the flesh; discipline (one's body) by self-denial; Ex. mortified by her blunder;
87. Motility: ability to move spontaneously; ADJ. motile: moving spontaneously
88. Muggy: (of weather) warm and damp
89. Mulct: defraud a person of something; swindle; Ex. mulct the boy of his legacy
90. Multifarious: varied; greatly diversified; Ex. multifarious activities
91. Mundane: worldly as opposed to spiritual; everyday; of the ordinary; Ex. mundane existence;
92. Munificent: very generous in giving; Ex. munificent benefactor; N. munificence
93. Mutability: ability to change in form; fickleness; ADJ. mutable: able to change;
94. Mute: silent; without speech; not pronounced; unable to speak; N: one who is incapable of speech; V: soften the sound, color, shade of
95. Mutinous: unruly; rebellious; Ex. mutinous teenagers; N. mutiny: open rebellion;
96. Myopic: nearsighted; lacking foresight; N. myopia
97. Myriad: very large number; ADJ.

