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Advanced Vocabulary Master-class

This cheat sheet compiles high-frequency GRE/GMAT and academic vocabulary roots, prefixes, suffixes, and commonly confused terms.

1. Essential Greek & Latin Roots

Root	Meaning	Example
<i>Amphi</i>	Both	Amphibian
<i>Bene</i>	Good	Beneficial
<i>Chron</i>	Time	Chronological
<i>Dem</i>	People	Democracy
<i>Flu/Flux</i>	Flow	Fluorescent
<i>Mal</i>	Bad/Evil	Malevolent
<i>Omni</i>	All	Omnipotent
<i>Pater</i>	Father	Paternalistic
<i>Scrib</i>	Write	Inscribe
<i>Ver</i>	Truth	Veracity

2. High-Frequency Prefixes

- **A-, An-** (Without, lacking): *Apathy, Anarchy*
- **Anti-** (Against): *Antagonistic*
- **Circum-** (Around): *Circumlocution*
- **Contra-** (Against): *Contravene*
- **Dys-** (Bad, abnormal): *Dysfunctional*
- **Hyper-** (Excessive): *Hyperbole*

- **Sub-** (Under, below): *Subservient*
- **Super-** (Above): *Supercilious*

3. Crucial GRE Words

Aberrant: Deviating from the norm.

Alacrity: Brisk and cheerful readiness.

Capricious: Given to sudden changes of mood.

Enervate: Cause to feel drained of energy.

Garrulous: Excessively talkative.

Iconoclast: Criticizing cherished beliefs.

Lachrymose: Inducing tears; sad.

Nadir: The lowest point in the fortunes of a person.

Obdurate: Stubbornly refusing to change.

Parsimonious: Extremely unwilling to spend money.

Quixotic: Exorbitantly idealistic.

Recalcitrant: Having an uncooperative attitude.

Soporific: Tending to induce drowsiness.

Truculent: Eager or quick to argue.

Vacillate: Alternate between opinions.

4. Confusing Pairs

- **Averse vs. Adverse:** *Averse* means feeling opposed to; *adverse* means harmful or unfavorable.
- **Compliment vs. Complement:** *Compliment* is praise; *complement* completes something.
- **Discreet vs. Discrete:** *Discreet* means careful; *discrete* means distinct/separate.
- **Mitigate vs. Militate:** *Mitigate* lessens severity; *militate* works against.