

Vocabulary and Related Issues in the 2012 AFYE book:

One Amazing Thing (C. Divakaruni)

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[updated: Saturday, March 17, 2012]

Preface

The CSUN freshman reading for 2012 uses a vocabulary that is perhaps more advanced than recent freshmen readings at CSUN. This document was generated to help students address potential difficulties. This document should also stimulate English faculty and other faculty to generate one or more short exercises to assist our motivated freshmen. Any errors or omissions in this document should be attributed to Wayne only.

This document contains five sections:

1. Vocabulary – English
2. Vocabulary – Other
3. Composition
4. Reference – Literature
5. Reference - Music

The page numbers below refer to the 2009 paperback edition.

Section 1: – Vocabulary – English

The following are some of the more challenging American English terms in the AFYE Common Reading for 2012.

Notes:

1. If a word appears more than once in the text, only the first page number is referenced below.
2. Terms more associated with *British English* than *American English* are listed in the “Vocabulary – Other” section.
3. Proper nouns used in this book—and there are many—are not listed (except that foreign terms for objects are listed in the “Vocabulary – Other” section).

Chap.	Page	Term			
			1	3	sullen
1	1	trepidation	1	4	scowl
1	2	erudite	1	5	bootlicking
1	2	caprice	1	6	retinue

1	6	rhapsodized	3	22	lolloped
1	6	hedonistic	3	22	docile
1	6	dyspepsia	3	23	allusion
1	7	blithe	3	24	improvident
1	7	plaintive	3	24	indignant
2	11	keening	3	25	unfathomable
2	11	inexorable	3	27	sheepish
2	12	weeper	3	27	undulate
2	12	acrid	3	28	rueful
2	13	expiation	3	29	enfold
2	14	supplication	3	30	innocuously
2	15	ecumenical	3	30	stutters
2	15	lecherous	3	30	disheveled
2	15	sly	3	31	magnanimous
2	15	dowries	3	31	exuberant
2	16	capacious	3	31	hackneyed
2	16	swashbuckling	3	31	retort
2	16	paunch	3	32	demurely
2	17	wistful	3	33	consternation
2	17	tectonic	3	33	haggard
2	18	elation	4	35	countenance
2	18	sanguinely	4	36	petticoat
2	19	shards	4	36	tamped
2	19	premeditated	4	40	gaunt
2	19	miasma	4	41	frisson
2	19	wisps	4	44	bolsters
3	22	abashed	5	48	lethargy

5	48	squelch	7	85	admonitions
5	48	daft	7	86	garland
5	49	curtly	7	86	garotte
5	50	mutinous	7	87	spores
5	51	thrum	7	88	demurred
5	54	surreptitious	7	90	gamine
5	58	querulous	8	100	rumple
5	59	ebullience	8	104	clouted
6	66	wicker [basket]	8	107	entreaties
6	69	rejoinder	8	108	assented
6	69	quavery	9	110	lascivious
6	69	incredulity	9	110	coiffed
6	70	impish	9	111	gallant
6	70	recriminations	9	113	appellation
6	71	calligraphy	9	118	bane
6	71	benign	9	118	perfidy
6	73	quells	9	119	blasphemy
6	75	ardent	9	119	slathered
6	75	marzipan	9	120	piqued
6	76	carrels	9	123	tresses
6	77	besotted	9	123	unguents
6	77	hostel	9	123	invectives
6	78	boon	9	125	peals
6	78	bewailed	10	127	mousy
6	78	petitions	10	129	imperative
6	81	buffeted	10	129	yawing
6	83	bemused	10	129	melancholy

10	131	serrated	14	183	palmistry
10	131	sallow	14	185	pursed
11	137	reparations	14	185	delusional
11	140	milling	14	185	malaise
12	147	embouchure	14	185	calamity
12	149	progeny	14	186	primal
12	150	flitted	14	187	malevolent
12	152	nocturnes	15	189	beatific
12	158	equanimous	15	190	hilarity
12	159	mausoleum	15	191	patronizing
12	159	heft	15	191	infatuation
12	159	founded	15	193	granularity
13	161	assiduously	15	193	snigger
13	162	stoically	15	194	hospice
13	163	anthologies	15	197	reproach
13	164	jovially	16	201	martyrs
13	164	rumbles	16	202	blanched
13	168	conflagration	16	202	platitudinous
13	168	hearth	16	203	filial
13	168	dreary	16	206	desultory
13	170	dilapidated	16	206	conjunction
13	170	scruples	16	206	tyrannical
13	172	bleats	16	207	monosyllabic
13	173	grimace	16	207	remonstrated
14	177	dawdles	16	207	suavity
14	178	adroitly	16	209	metaphysical
14	180	shucking	16	209	rhetorical

16	210	decadent	16	211	snatches
16	210	ennui	16	212	righteous
16	210	seedy	16	212	berated
16	210	exorcise	16	212	miser
16	210	regaled	16	213	emaciated
16	210	treacheries	16	213	complicity
16	210	frenetic	16	214	carnal
16	211	pang	16	216	enacted
16	211	illicit	16	217	surmised
16	211	Impressionist [paintings]	16	220	surreal
16	211	ramshackle			

Section 2: - Vocabulary - Other

The following are some of the more challenging Foreign terms in the AFYE Common Reading for 2012.

Notes:

1. If a word appears more than once in the text, only the first page number is referenced below.
2. In most cases, the source of the “Language Origin” is Wikipedia.

Chapter	Page	Term	Language Origin	Context	Notes
1	4	rucksack	British English	Object	
1	5	volte-face ("about face")	French	Concept	
1	6	Kulu Manali	Hindi	Place	
1	6	Goa	Konkani	Place	
1	7	Agra	Hindi	Place	
1	7	Taj Mahal	Hindi	Place	
1	7	ayurvedic [spa]	Sanskrit	Medicine	
1	15	Coimbatore	Tamil	Place	
1	15	sambar [powder]	Tamil	Food	
1	15	avakaya [pickle]	Telugu	Food	
2	16	maisoorpak (Mysore pak)	Kannada	Food	

2	19	[Lord] Ganapathi (Ganesha) staccato	Sanskrit	Religion
3	25	(detached/shortened)	Italian	Music
3	27	Dhuhur prayer	Arabic	Religion
3	27	namaz (Salah) cap	Arabic	Religion
3	28	chai (tea)	?	Drink
3	28	s(h)alwa[a]r kameez	Hindi?	Clothing
3	28	masjid (Mosque)	Arabic	Place
3	28	hajib	Arabic	Clothing
3	29	Allah	Arabic	Religion
3	29	Mecca kohl [-lined]	Arabic	Place
3	30	(mascara?)	(many?)	Cosmetic
3	33	Insha[']llah (future) bindi (forehead decoration?)	Arabic	Concept
4	36	(Mohandas) Ghandi ahimsa ("do no harm")	Sanskrit	Concept/Religion/Cosmetic
4	36	Freudian (Sigmund Freud)	Gujarait/Hindi	Person English translation?
4	37	Freud)	Sanskrit	Concept/Religion
4	38	bidet	German	Person
5	54	Kali neem sticks (wood/tree)	French?	Object
5	55	[fresh] Lychee	Sanskrit	Religion
6	67	carpe diem	Urdu	Plant
6	70	petit[s] four	Latin	Food
6	75	gold krugerrands	Latin	Concept
6	81	aneurysm	French	Food
8	98	brambles (blackberry bush?)	German/English	Coin/Money
8	98	bitter gourd (melon?) parasol (small umbrella?)	Greek?	Medical
9	111	Chennai	German	Plant
9	111	Bangalore	French?	Food
9	114	bongas	Latin?	Object
9	115	idli [-sambar]	Tamil	Place
9	116	(Mohandas) Gandhiji	Kannada	Place
9	123	Andaman [aborigine]	Telugu	Food
9	125	goonda (hired thug?)	Kannada	Food
11	133	non-Desi (not Indian)	Gujarait/Hindi	Person original?
11	134	Delhi	Hindi/Arabic?	Race
			Hindi/Urdu	Concept
			(many)	Concept
			Hindi?	Place

11	134	Nizamuddin East	Hindi?	Place	
11	137	chapatis (flat bread)	Urdu	Food	
11	142	rigor mortis	Latin	Concept	
12	153	pterodactyl (flying dinosaur)	Greek	Animal	
12	159	Alhamdulillah (Thank God)	Arabic	Religion	
13	161	[Thai] Pongal (festival)	Tamil	Religion/Culture/Astronomy	
13	162	[gold] bangles	Hindi	Bracelet/Ornament	
13	163	Cannes [Film Festival]	French	Medical	
13	163	Lod(h)i Gardens	Hindi	Place	
13	168	Ghanian (Ghaniaan?)	Punjabi	Place	not sure...wayne.smith@csun.edu
13	170	baksheesh (bribe?)	Persian?	Concept	
14	176	trifle (a type of dessert)	British English	Food	
14	178	sarcophagus	Greek	Object	
14	186	chutney (condiment/spice)	Sanskrit	Food	
14	186	chocolate pan de huevos	Spanish?	Food	
15	193	obeah (sorcery/mysticism)	Igbo?	Concept	
15	198	metta (Buddhist kindness)	Pali	Concept/Religion	
16	202	Mnemosyne (memory)	Greek	Concept/Mythology	
16	205	retch (to vomit)	British English	Concept	
16	206	Stygian (river of underworld)	Greek	Concept/Mythology	
16	211	batik (Indonesian wax cloths)	Javanese	Object	
16	211	mimosa (shrub)	Greek	Plant	
16	215	aurora borealis	Latin/Greek	Astronomy	
16	218	status quo	Latin	Concept	

Section 3: – Composition

The following are some of the more interesting composition and linguistic issues in the AFYE Common Reading for 2012.

Chapter	Page	Term	Concept	Notes
3	30	letter opener	Analogy?/Simile?/Metaphor?	
4	35	"go bears"	Collegiate Athletics	UC Berkeley
4	38	time-pass girl	Slang?/Jargon?/Dialect?	Colloquial use?

4	48	[Love is] minty and bitter	Cliché?	
5	57	waif-like	Compound word?	
5	57	squid ink	Synonym	for "black ink" (refer to text)
6	70	façade	Orthography	
6	76	"Can fish love birds?"	Analogy	"He told me my marriage would fail."
7	90	sweet[e] my heart	Etymology	early? Middle English for "sweetheart"
8	100	"waxing poetic"	Idiom	U.S. based? Dialectical? used in a derogatory/pejorative sense in text
9	114	"Idahore"	Portmanteau?	
9	118	naïve	Orthography	
11	138	[rich] NRI (people)	Abbreviation	non-resident Indian
12	149	MIT	Abbreviation	
12	152	cliché	Orthography	
14	167	BMW	Abbreviation/Proper Noun	German -> English translation
14	177	café	Orthography	
14	180	IV	Abbreviation	medicine
15	195	AIDS	Abbreviation	medical
16	208	"gerund"	Present Participle	Indeed, what is a gerund?

Section 4: – Reference - Literature

The following are literature references in the AFYE Common Reading for 2012.

Chapter	Page	Term	Notes
1	1	The Wife of Bath's Tale	Chaucer, Canterbury Tales
2	24	Aesop's Cricket	Aesop Fables -- The Ant and the Cricket
4	42	Lancelot	Knights of the Round Table
4	42	Camelot	Knights of the Round Table
4	42	King Arthur	Knights of the Round Table
5	52	Lilliput	J. Swift, Gulliver's Travels
6	67	Lord of the Flies	W. Golding
8	100	The Jungle Book	R. Kipling
9	126	Machiavellian	N. Machiavelli
13	164	Jekylllean	R. L. Stevenson, Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde
14	176	The House of the Sprints	I. Allende
16	215	Lord of the Rings	J.R.R. Tolkien
?	?	Tin Man	L.F. Baum, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

Section 5: – Reference - Music

The following are music references in the AFYE Common Reading for 2012.

Chapter	Page	Term	Notes
5	54	Beethoven's Danse Villageoise	"Village Dance?"
12	147	Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata	Sonata quasi una fantasia (piano sonata)
12	147	Bach	
12	147	Handel	
12	147	Mozart	
12	150	Bach Sonata #5 in E-minor	BWV (Bach Works) 1034 (for piano or flute)? I am not sure of this
14	176	[Eric?] Satie [CD]	reference...wayne.smith@csun.edu
16	209	Rabindra Sangeet [CDs]	famous Bengali composer (folk songs/poems?)