

Atomistic Competition	Numerous small sellers and buyers, none of which have the power to influence market price or output.
Auction Market	A securities market where the prices of securities are determined by the actions of buyers and sellers transacting at a specified locations.
Audit Accountability	Performance measurement of service delivery including cost, timeliness and quality against agreed service levels.
Audit Authority	A statement of the position within the organisation, including lines of reporting and the rights of access.
Audit Charter	A document which defines the IS audit function's responsibility, authority and accountability.
Audit Risk	The risk of giving an incorrect audit opinion.
Automated Banking Machines (ABMs)	Terminals that allow customers to perform many everyday banking tasks, e.g., deposits, withdrawals, bill payments and transfers between accounts.
Automated Teller Machines (ATMs)	A computerized machine used for banking transactions, e.g. paying or withdrawing money, statement inquiries and transfers; operated by magnetic plastic cards and personal identification numbers (PINs).
Available Balance	The portion of a customer's account balance on which the bank has placed no restrictions, making it available for immediate withdrawals.
Average life	The weighted average of the maturities of various loans or bonds after taking into account agreed amortizations.
Back end value	The amount paid to remaining shareholders in the second stage of a two-tier or partial tender offer.
Balloon Payment	A large extra payment that may be charged at the end of a loan or lease.

Bancassurance	Bancassurance symbolises the convergence of banking and insurance. The term has its origins in France and involves distribution of insurance products through a bank's branch network. While bancassurance has developed into a tremendous success story in Europe, it is a relatively new concept in Australia and Asia.
Bank Card	A card issued by a financial institution that identifies the holder as a customer of the institution and allows access to accounts through an ABM; also, a credit or debit card issued by a financial institution.
Bank Card Center	The physical facility where bank card operations are conducted.
Bank credit	It includes Term Loan, Cash Credit, Overdrafts, Bills purchased & discounted, Bank Guarantee, Letter of Guarantee, Letter of credit
Bank Debits	The sum of all checks and other instruments charged against the deposited funds of a bank's customers.
Bank Examiner	The individual who performs the bank examination.
Bank For International Settlements (BIS)	The BIS, located in Basle, Switzerland, was established in 1930 to administer the post-World War I reparations agreements. Since the 1960s, the BIS has evolved into an important international monetary institution, and has provided a forum in which central bankers meet and consult on a monthly basis. As an independent financial organization, the BIS performs a variety of banking, trustee, and agent functions, primarily with central banks. At present the BIS has 29 members, 28 of which are central banks.
Bank Identification	A series of digits used to identify a particular bank.
Bank Rate	The interest rate paid by major financial institutions if they borrow from the Central Bank. The Bank Rate influences the rates of interest major financial institutions charge and pay their customers.
Bank Run	Refers to a situation of banking crisis in which depositors rush ('run') to the bank to withdraw their deposits. This creates a severe liquidity problem.

Credit Scoring System	A statistical system used to determine whether or not to grant credit by assigning numerical scores to various characteristics related to creditworthiness.
Creditworthiness	A creditor's measure of a consumer's or company's past and future ability and willingness to repay debts.
CRISIL	Credit Rating and Investment Services of India Ltd.
Cross default	Two loan agreements connected by a clause that allows one lender to recall the loan if the borrower defaults with another, and vice versa.
Cross-rate	The exchange rate between two currencies.
Crown jewels	The most valuable segments of a company; the parts most wanted by an acquirer.
CRR	Cash reserve requirements is one of the tools available to the Central Bank of a country to influence and control the monetary aggregates of the country. Commercial banks are required to maintain with the central bank every fortnight a minimum average daily cash reserve equivalent to a specified percentage of its Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL) outstanding as on the Friday of the previous week.
CSO	Central Statistical Organization
Cumulative abnormal return	In event studies, the sum of daily abnormal returns over a period relative to the event.
Cumulative Dividends	A feature of preferred stock that requires all past dividends on preferred stock to be paid before any equity dividends are paid.
Cumulative voting	Instead of one vote per candidate selected, shareholders can vote (the number of shares they hold times the number of directors to be elected) for one candidate or divide the total votes among a desired number of candidates. Examples: A shareholder has 100 shares; six directors are to be elected. With cumulative voting the shareholders has 600 votes to distribute among six candidates however he or she chooses.
Currency basket	Arrangements whereby two or more currencies are clubbed together with defined weights, and whose exchange rate/ interest rate is determined by computing weighted average market rates.