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# Index

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This book is divided into three parts. Part I tries to make learning vocabulary more interesting than just mugging up a word list. It suggests ideas about how meaning of many words can be identified by being aware of roots and pre-fixes. It also makes an attempt to create an interest in learning the etymology, the story behind a word so that learning vocabulary is fun and is an on-going process. Part II provides a word list and Part III deals with Idioms.

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# How to improve vocabulary

## Why is Vocabulary important?

A degree in Modern Languages requires a number different kinds of learning. Learning vocabulary is very different from writing a literature or history essay or understanding grammar concepts. Whilst it is possible to absorb some vocabulary passively through reading and listening, it is not possible to increase it significantly without some **very pro-active learning**. Looking up a word and establishing its meaning is not the same as learning it so that you can remember it if you come across it again. Effective vocabulary learning will speed up your reading, improve your understanding and increase the ease with which you can communicate.

Much of the learning necessary to learn vocabulary is to do with memorising. **Memorising is a crucial skill in language learning**, but because it has been ‘out of fashion’ in schools you may neither have been taught how to do it, nor practised it very effectively. We all have different ways of doing it, so committing something to memory challenges us to work out the ways that work best for us. It requires some commitment but is very satisfying once accomplished.

The purpose of these pages is first to suggest ways in which memory works best and then to look at how you might use the ideas to learn vocabulary.

### Some points to bear in mind:

**Understand what works for you.** We all have different ways of making our memory work best for us, depending on our previous experience, what we need to learn and on our individual learning preferences.

**Be pro-active.** No-one can do it for you. Only you can decide whether you know something or not. Think of it as a process of discovering how you learn.

**Talk to other people** about how they learn and consider working with friends

## Making your memory work for you

We have to **put things into** our memory and be able to **find them** again when we need them, usually to **generate some kind of output**. For some kinds of learning, this involves transferring things from our short term to our long term memory.

### Input

It helps to use all of our senses, but we tend to have individual preferences that feel most effective.

**Visual:** colour, shape, pictures, diagrams, flow charts, mind maps, posters

**Auditory:** record, listen, verbalise (aloud), music, rhythm

**Kinaesthetic:** move, write, draw, touch

## Output

We have to **check regularly** if we have remembered something. If we do not, it will not transfer to long term memory.

Use **structured reviews**, i.e. check 15 mins, then 24 hours, then 2 or 3 days, etc. after learning. This need not take long and can be done informally, e.g. while standing at the bus stop!

Think of **materials and resources** that might help: prompt cards, PC files, a sound recording, asking friends to test

Use each of the following aspects of memorizing better:

**Beginnings:** We tend to remember what we learn at the beginning of a session

**Endings:** We remember what we learned recently

**Patterns:** The brain likes patterns and structure. Create your own such as stories, time lines, mnemonics

**Chunks:** We remember best in small chunks. Identify points where to break down what you need to learn. Keep the chunks small

**Links:** We like to link things with something we know already, hang information onto something so that it cannot float away. Create your own links, no matter how silly.

**Interest:** We remember things that interest us. Make it interesting

**Novelty:** We remember things that stand out as different

Do not try to learn too much at once and check regularly what you have just learned.

Applying memory strategies to learning vocabulary:

Decide HOW LONG you are going to spend	Establish a routine for doing it regularly, say 15 minutes at the beginning of each work session.
Identify WHAT you need to learn	<p>Read through any passage/article/news-paper without stopping to look up words.</p> <p>Identify which words you know, which you think you can guess from context and which you definitely do not know.</p> <p>Use highlights, underlining – whichever works for you.</p> <p>Read through again checking words in a dictionary. Decide if your guesses were accurate or if you need to learn.</p>

<p>Using a DICTIONARY</p>	<p>Check if there are electronic or on-line dictionaries that would speed up the process. These days you get electronic dictionaries in cell-phones as well.</p> <p>Look at all the meanings and make sure you have chosen the right one for the context.</p> <p>Make sure you have the whole phrase, the gender, the following preposition etc.</p>
<p>KEEP A RECORD of what you intend to learn</p>	<p>Decide on the materials you need. You might use a notebook, index cards or a computer file.</p> <p>Then decide how to organise the words. It could be according to topic i.e. all the words to do with advertising.</p> <p>You will always have general words that are not topic specific, so think about how you are going to organise those –alphabetically, by date with a note of the text in which they occur, according to whether they are verbs or nouns etc. with colour coding for gender</p> <p>You may want to put them in a sentence to give them a context.</p>
<p>Think about HOW you will learn them</p>	<p>Decide how many words at a time you will learn. Remember small chunks are best. Try three or four at a time to start with.</p> <p>Use all of your senses (visual, auditory, kinaesthetic) unless you know you learn best using one in particular. If so use your strengths.</p> <p>Make links. It does not matter if they only make sense to you.</p> <p>Auditory: Saying the word aloud; sing them! Record yourself saying them and then saying the meaning</p> <p>Visual: Write in colour; create symbols that mean something to you; make posters of the week’s words and put up on the wall. You are trying to create a picture you can use to help you recall.</p> <p>Links: Look for similarities with words you know already that are connected in meaning, recognise root words and analyse, order the words to make up a story, no matter how silly.</p>

<p>If you have to work hard at remembering the spelling...</p>	<p>Identify the parts of the word you cannot remember.</p> <p>Say it, read it, write it. Does it help to keep on writing and saying?</p> <p>Write with finger on the desk or in the air and say it.</p> <p>Focus on the difficult part, highlight it, put a box round it, look for a link that will help you remember,</p> <p>break the word down into chunks that mean something for you.</p> <p>Use look, cover, write, check –look at the word, cover it up, try writing it and check it. Increase the time between looking at it and writing it.</p>
<p>When you are confident with the first three or four words, move on to the next.</p>	
<p>Reviewing or Checking how well you are remembering</p>	<p>Look back at page 2 for structured reviews.</p> <p>Keep checking if you have remembered the words already learned.</p> <p>Highlight any that are problematic and focus on them.</p>

The ultimate test of how well you know the words is to be able to read the passage in which they occur without any problems.

You will need to keep reviewing them as the number of words increases. If you are remembering them after several weeks and noticing that you understand them if you come across them in different contexts, then you have most probably got them safely stored in your long term memory!

## Diagnostic Test

Before we start preparing let us try and find out where we stand in terms of our Vocabulary. Following 50 words are all gathered from contemporary Media i.e. Newspapers, Magazines, T.V channels Movies etc.

The purpose of this diagnostic is

To introduce you to a higher level of vocabulary which is present in our daily lives but often ignored

To help you and us gauge your current level of Vocabulary which will help you plan your studies better.

Rationale guessing is welcome in the test, so get going.



## Diagnostic Test

---

Instructions for questions 1- 25, choose the option which is closest in meaning to the given word.

1. Commending
  - a. Denouncing
  - b. embarrassing
  - c. Praising
  - d. Mocking
2. Offence
  - a. breaking the law
  - b. violence
  - c. protection
  - d. fault
3. Jack Up
  - a. card trick
  - b. pull
  - c. Hike
  - d. empower
4. Taxing
  - a. Driving
  - b. paying tax
  - c. difficult
  - d. tiring
5. Charred
  - a. painted
  - b. Burnt
  - c. cleared
  - d. forced
6. Abrupt
  - a. Sudden
  - b. torn
  - c. Clear
  - d. Slow
7. Albeit
  - a. Although
  - b. However
  - c. Since
  - d. Because
8. Streak
  - a. a run
  - b. dead end
  - c. Color
  - d. Fire
9. Contingent
  - a. emergency
  - b. team
  - c. Small island
  - d. Slow moving
10. Whimper
  - a. aspire
  - b. attempt
  - c. Cry
  - d. Act
11. Profligate
  - a. Wasteful
  - b. accurate
  - c. Shy
  - d. Arrogant
12. Exuberance
  - a. Anger
  - b. Youth
  - c. Joy
  - d. shortage

13. Clobber  
a. Slam                      b. Help                      c. Protect                      d. Make shoes
14. Blemish  
a. Beautify                      b. blame                      c. deface                      d. marks
15. Clinch  
a. unfasten                      b. Seize                      c. Release                      d. Sink
16. Esteem  
a. car                      b. property                      c. Dignity                      d. courage
17. Pinnacle  
a. Peak                      b. nadir                      c. trough                      d. system
18. Anguish  
a. Pleasure                      b. Agony                      c. put down                      d. start
19. Budge  
a. Hold                      b. Remain                      c. Move                      d. Still
20. Humble  
a. Overbearing                      b. Arrogant                      c. Haughty                      d. Modest
21. Brash  
a. Dangerous                      b. Impulsive                      c. young                      d. wary
22. Pittance  
a. Pity                      b. Small amount                      c. pit entrance                      d. kindness
23. Siege  
a. Support                      b. engines                      c. Enclose                      d. capture
24. Stakes  
a. Guards                      b. Poles                      c. Fence                      d. Rewards
25. Hype  
a. downplay                      b. Understatement                      c. a disease                      d. Publicity

Instructions for questions 26 to 35 : Try and deduce the meaning of the highlighted word/phrase from the given sentences.

26. Sunita Williams set for space **odyssey**. \_\_\_\_\_
27. Foreign minister Taro Aso, who has called for discussion of Japan's non-nuclear policy also **asserted** in parliament that the **pacifist** constitution does not **forbid** possession of the bomb  
\_\_\_\_\_
28. The U.S **urged** **reclusive** North Korea on Thursday to get out of the nuclear business and rejoin a treaty that aims to **curb** the spread of nuclear weapons  
\_\_\_\_\_
29. North Korean **envoy** Kim gwan was **amicable** but **adamant** about not giving up the country's nuclear programmes.  
\_\_\_\_\_
30. The **bipartisan** Iraq study group reached a **consensus** on Wednesday on a final report that will call for a gradual pullback of the 15 American combat brigades now in Iraq but **stop short** of setting a firm time table for their withdrawal, according to people familiar with the panel's **deliberation**  
\_\_\_\_\_
31. But he went a step further on Wednesday in **soundly rapping** security agencies for providing **vague** reports of possible attacks.  
\_\_\_\_\_
32. After initially refusing to comment on LTTE chief's **war cries**, India was more **eloquent** following Sri Lankan president's meeting with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Wednesday for detailed talks on the peace process  
\_\_\_\_\_
33. No surprise if Bharti turns **hostile**  
\_\_\_\_\_
34. Even before the **tryst** with icy winds and **treacherous crevasses** in south pole could begin, the navy adventure team was **confronted** with an unexpected emergency in the skies over Europe and as is their **wont** they emerged with flying colors.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
35. Security **beefed** up in the city.  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Roots trees and families

## An Introduction

Look at the following set of words; Telescope, Telephone, Telegraph, Telecommunication, Telemarketing, and the ever present Television. What is common between these words?

At a very simple level you may think that all of them start with the word 'Tele'. Even this is a step ahead in mastering vocabulary, because if you can fix the meaning of 'Tele' in your head, you have access to a whole set of words beginning or having 'Tele' in them.

So rather than learning words one at a time, start focusing on the roots, suffixes or prefixes, or in simpler words start looking for commonalities between words because one root can give you a whole family of words, basically making your vocabulary learning a lot faster.

Let us go back to the original set and see what each of them means.

Telescope: an optical instrument for making **distant** objects appear larger and therefore nearer.

Telephone: an apparatus, system, or process for transmission of sound or speech to a **distant** point, esp. by an electric device.

Telegraph: an apparatus, system, or process for transmitting messages or signals to a **distant** place, esp. by means of an electric device consisting essentially of a sending instrument and a distant receiving instrument connected by a conducting wire or other communications channel.

Telecommunications: the transmission of information, as words, sounds, or images, usually over great **distances**, in the form of electromagnetic signals, as by telegraph, telephone, radio, or television.

Television: a device which shows us vision from far away or from a **distance**.

Once again what is common?

If you are thinking distance you are correct. And putting things together it should not be too difficult to guess that the word 'Tele' = 'Distance'

Now in this case you probably already knew the meaning of all the words, but imagine the advantage you can generate if you understand the meaning of a root and easily pick up a cluster of words.

Now try and guess the meaning of these words which have the same prefix

**Telekinesis** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Telepathy** : \_\_\_\_\_

If you did not get the answer on your own please do use the dictionary, as mentioned in the previous chapter vocabulary building has to be a very active process.

Vocabulary building is also a lot about curiosity, for example the moment one comes across the word telepathy he should think of what other words end with **'Pathy'**, let me help you out with the words and you try to guess the meanings.

**Sympathy** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Empathy** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Apathy** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Antipathy** : \_\_\_\_\_

The root in the above word is **pathos**, which means **feelings**. Guessing the meanings of the words above would be slightly difficult because you are not yet familiar with many prefixes, but once again do not shy away from the dictionary.

Now sometimes working on the roots alone may not give you the meaning of the word but it makes the process of memorizing a lot easier.

Let us try and go further away from 'Tele' as a root and look at the word 'Anti'. Now 'Anti' is an easy prefix we have heard many words beginning with 'Anti' (Antimalaria, Antisocial).

Try and write 20 such words in the space given below.

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

The purpose of the above exercise was to sensitize you towards the advantages of working on roots/ prefixes/suffixes etc. Where understanding the meaning of one word will often give you a treasure load of words.

Let us now take a closer look at the word Telegraph, which is easily enough 'tele+graph', which mean writing something at a distance.

Graph means to write. Again a familiar root, Indians are crazy about cricketers' **autograph**, most people were impressed with Mahatma Gandhi's **biography**, and family **photographs** are a fairly important part of our lives.

A photograph is simply writing down light, a biography is writing down somebody's life (bio = life). Add an Auto to it and it becomes autobiography, which is writing down the accounts of your life yourself, so easily enough an autograph is writing yourself which is nothing but a signature.

Some more words from the graph family.

**Lithograph:** writing on the stone (litho=stone)

**Epigraph:** An inscription, as on a statue or building or a motto or quotation, as at the beginning of a literary composition, setting forth a theme. Here 'Epi' means upon, so writing upon something is an epigraph.

**Graphology:** Study of handwriting, 'graph + logy' which means study of, easy examples would be Biology (study of life), Theology (study of religion) and Ideology (study of Ideas).

**Calligraphy:** the art of writing beautifully, 'calli' is a form of 'kallos' which means beauty.

And just to get you to work, try and find out the meaning of as many of the following word as possible

Anemograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Astrophotography: \_\_\_\_\_

Autograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Autoradiograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Barograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Bathymograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardiograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Choreograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Chromatograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Chromolithograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Chronograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Cinematograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Coronagraph: \_\_\_\_\_

Coronograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Cryptograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Diagraph: \_\_\_\_\_

Electrocardiograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Electroencephalograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Electromyography: \_\_\_\_\_

Electroretinograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Encephalograph: \_\_\_\_\_

Epigraph: \_\_\_\_\_



## The Good and the Bad

Let us go back again to our starting point Tele, and look in detail now look at the word Telephone, a simple enough everyday word, but look at the second half and it will open the doors for many other word families.

'Tele+Phone', where '**phone**' means **sound** so understanding the meaning of the word should be easy enough (even if you were born before the advent of the telephone)

Some more words using the root 'phone',

**Euphony:** good sound, pleasing effect to the ear, esp. a pleasant sounding or harmonious combination or succession of words:

We know Phone means sound, so '**Eu**' must bring the good in it. We will look at more words beginning with 'Eu' later.

**Cacophony:** a loud harsh or strident noise.

Cacophony is the opposite of Euphony. We remember looking at the word Calligraphy which meant a beautiful handwriting, well cacography is the opposite of that. Try and guess the meaning of the prefix '**caco**'.

**Symphony:** harmony of sounds

Try and connect this with an earlier word **Sympathy**.

**Homophone:** Words which sound the same, may or may not be spelled identically, some examples of homophones are all and awl; bare and bear; rite, write, right, and Wright.

'Homos' is again somewhat of a known root, 'homos' means **same**, I am sure we have heard of homogenous mixtures and homosexuality (Which has become a taboo in recent times. What is a taboo? When does something become taboo?)

**Diaphone:** a foghorn that makes a signal consisting of two tones.

'**Di**' here means two and is a prefix we will come back to later.

And now let us mix graph and Phone together and create

**Phonograph:** A machine that reproduces sound by means of a stylus in contact with a grooved rotating disk.

I know the definition sounds complicated but that is because the days of the Phonograph are over. But basically a phonograph, writes down sound (phono+graph)

Some easier words from the phone family are as follows. If you are not familiar with any of the following, once again do not shy away from a dictionary

Microphone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Headphone: \_\_\_\_\_

Speakerphone: \_\_\_\_\_ Megaphone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phonetics: \_\_\_\_\_



As promised, let us now look at the word root 'Eu'. Again let us go back a step back and take a look at Euphony, again since we know that Eu means good. Let us try and guess/find from the dictionary the meanings of the following words:

Euphoria: \_\_\_\_\_ Eulogy: \_\_\_\_\_ Eupeptic: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Euphemism: \_\_\_\_\_ Eugenics: \_\_\_\_\_ Eutrophy: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Euthanasia: \_\_\_\_\_

'Eu' is good and we must look at the bad side of things too, the prefix for making things bad is a familiar one 'Dys', dysfunctional being an easy example of the same. And Dyspeptic means something that causes bad digestion.

Write down 5 words starting with the prefix '**Dys**'.

It is often a good idea to look up a synonym of a new word too while we are trying to fix the meaning of the word.

Just like 'Eu', a similar meaning prefix is '**bene**'. Easy examples to get your ideas going would be Benefits, Beneficent, and Beneficiary. Some more words, we arrive at are:

**Benediction:** an utterance of good wishes., where 'bene' is good 'dict' as a root deals with words, for example, Dictionary, Dictate.

**Benevolence:** desire to do good to others; goodwill; charitableness.

**Benefactor:** a person who confers a benefit; kindly helper

**Benign:** Of a kind and gentle disposition

The root that lies diametrically opposite to 'bene' and 'Eu' is '**Mal**' which at a very basic level means bad. Some common words most of us are familiar with are Malnutrition, Malfunction, and Malpractice. Now for some quality words

**Malediction:** the utterance of a curse. Compare it with the 'bene' set of words and you will see where good words (bene+diction) meant a blessing, bad words (mal+diction) implies a curse.

**Malevolence:** wishing evil or harm to another or others; showing ill will. If we look closely at benevolence as well as malevolence it should not be too hard to deduce the meaning of the root 'volence', it means **will**. For example: voluntary: of, pertaining to, or acting in accord with the will; volition: a choice or decision made by the will.

**Malefactor:** a person who does harm or evil, esp. toward another

Some more words for you to work out are

Malign: \_\_\_\_\_ Malice: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Malapropism: \_\_\_\_\_ Malady: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Malaise: \_\_\_\_\_ Malodorous: \_\_\_\_\_

## Time, Tide and Others

Hope so far the journey was a comfortable one, and you were able to see the merit in the “divide and conquer” method of learning the vocabulary. Let’s try and pick up a little speed now and also try and learn tougher words.

English as a language is derived principally from two ancient languages, Greek and Latin. And the roots we have learnt so far were actually Greek/Latin words using which many more words were created over a period of few hundred years. Focusing on these roots, study of these roots and trying to learn from them is known as **Etymology**.

Funnily enough all of us have always known a little bit of it, for example ‘able’ when prefixed with ‘UN’ becomes unable, ‘complete’ when added with ‘IN’ becomes ‘incomplete’.

So what we are trying to learn is not something really new, just that the scope and depth has to increase.

In this part we will try and learn more roots some Greek some Latin and some common, and through them a lot of words.

And I assure you, you do not have to be a genius to understand the roots being discussed. O.K I just wanted to use the word genius. Genius contains the root ‘**GEN**’ meaning ‘giving birth to’.

Given below are words formed using the root ‘GEN’, each highlighted in a sentence, try and workout their meaning . You may use a dictionary.

These are some of the plants **indigenous** to Canada

The **progeny** of William Shakespeare and Brittany Spears had his looks and her intelligence.

“Every cloud **engenders** not a storm” (Shakespeare).

War’s **genesis** lies in the despotic lust for power.

Parts of the eco-system have completely **degenerated**.

Notice how each word is linked to the concept of creation or birth.

Let’s try another exercise, a simple old fashioned match the following.

1. Gene	A. Existing from birth
2. Eugenics	B. Study of the family tree
3. Congenital	C. Inheritance of the first
4. Genealogy	D. Unit of heredity
5. Primogeniture	E. Science of improving
6. Offspring	F. Born in or caused by the mind.
7. Psychogenic	G. Descendant

You might be wondering why not just give roots and related words straight away, why make you do the work, why make you solve problems. Well the answer is simple. Learning has to be an active process, a process where you are engaged in doing, using the words, thinking about the words, thumbing through the dictionary. All this helps in long term retention.

Just mugging up the words is a very **temporary** solution. Temporary comes from the root '**tempor**' which means **time** in Latin. And since we do not want the learning to be temporary let's make you work again.

Using the root or part of it, complete the word fragments to form the word defined. The dashes represent the number of letters missing.

1. Happening at the present or the same time Contempor \_ \_ \_
2. To act to gain time; to delay Tempor \_ \_ \_
3. Said or composed on the spur of the moment Extempor \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
4. Not permanent Tempor \_ \_ \_

Often there are both Greek and Latin roots for the same word, one such example is '**chrono**' for **time**, which is the Greek counterpart of the Latin 'tempor'. Once again let's try and fix them by performing a match the following task.

1. Synchronize	Story of events in order of time
2. Chronology	Timepiece
3. Anachronism	Lasting a long time
4. Chronometer	Science of measuring time
5. Chronic	Make agree in time
6. Chronicle	Event placed out of its proper time

What is the similarity between the 'The Times of India' and 'The Deccan Chronicles'?

Working further on the possible confusion that can be created by Latin and Greek roots let us look at the Latin root '**ped**' which means feet. It has left its imprint on many English words, some of them easily recognizable like, pedestrian, pedal, pedestal, pedometer, quadruped and centipede. Words where the 'ped' may not be easily visible are

**Impede:** to retard in movement or progress by means of obstacles or hindrances; obstruct; hinder.

To impede someone's progress is to place something in the way of his or her feet thus barring their way or tripping them up.

**Expedite:** to speed up the progress of; hasten

Now knowing this root well, what do you think does a **pediatrician** do??

No he does not specialize in the diseases of the feet. He specializes in children's diseases. The 'ped' in this word is an altered spelling of '**Paidos**', the Greek word for boy.

So a **pedagogue** is a teacher and **pedagogy** is the method of teaching.

The purpose of the above discussion was to highlight the fact that, though Etymology is extremely useful, it is not an exact science based on formulas. And the ease and the speed with which you pick up words will often depend on how much efforts are you willing to put in.

## Few Roots

Now let us just focus on few roots and the words associated with it.

**'VER', 'veri'** means true and gives us a better insight into such familiar words as

<b>Verily</b>	Truly
<b>Verity</b>	Truth
<b>Veracity</b>	truthfulness
<b>Veracious</b>	truthful
<b>Verdict</b>	a true saying, therefore just judgment made on the basis of verified evidence.
<b>Verisimilitude</b>	likeness to truth or reality. For example the play lacked verisimilitude.

**'CRUX'** is the Latin root for cross. The crux of a matter is the point that needs to be decided or resolved in order to clear up the situation — hence the crucial or the critical point.

<b>Crucifix</b>	a cross with the figure of Jesus crucified upon it, or any cross
<b>Crusade</b>	any vigorous, aggressive movement for the defense or advancement of an idea, cause, etc.: a crusade against child abuse.
<b>Crucify</b>	to put to death by nailing or binding the hands and feet to a cross, or treat with gross injustice; persecute; torment; torture
<b>Crucible</b>	a severe, searching test or trial.
<b>Cruciform</b>	shaped like a cross
<b>Excruciating</b>	because the Romans used the cross as a form of capital punishment, excruciating implies extreme pain.

**'DOUR'**, which rhymes with tour, means **hard, severe or sour**. Some easy words are during, enduring, durable, duration.

<b>Obdurate</b>	an obdurate person is somebody who is hard to move, obstinate, stubborn
<b>Duress</b>	compulsion by threat or force; coercion; constraint.
<b>Indurate</b>	to make hard; harden, as rock, tissue, etc.

**‘LUMEN’** and the related Latin root **‘LUC’** mean to **light up or depict**.

<b>Luminary</b>	a shining light; person who has attained eminence in his or her field or is an inspiration to others: one of the luminaries in the field of medical science.
<b>Luminous</b>	shining
<b>Lucid</b>	clear
<b>Elucidate</b>	light up, clarify, make easy to understand
<b>Pellucid</b>	crystal clear
<b>Lucubrate</b>	to burn the midnight oil in laborious studies.
<b>Lucite</b>	a trade name for translucent plastic

**‘TORT’** is a Latin root which means **twisted**. Tort itself is an English word meaning, **too tough**.

<b>Retort</b>	to twist back a reply
<b>Distort</b>	to twist out of shape
<b>Contort</b>	to twist together, or upon itself, a face can be contorted with pain
<b>Extort</b>	to twist our by force
<b>Torture</b>	twisting parts of body has always been a form of torture

**‘ROG’** as a root means **to ask**

<b>Abrogate</b>	to abolish by formal or official means; ask away
<b>Arrogance</b>	offensive display of superiority or self-importance; overbearing pride
<b>Interrogate</b>	to ask questions of (a person), sometimes to seek answers or information that the person questioned considers personal or secret.
<b>Surrogate</b>	a person appointed to act for another, as substitute, ask in place of someone
<b>Prerogative</b>	an exclusive right, privilege, etc., exercised by virtue of rank, office, or the like
<b>Supererogatory</b>	greater than that required or needed;
<b>Derogatory</b>	tending to lessen the merit or reputation of a person or thing, insulting

Hope the above roots gave you some confidence in the process of etymology.

Confidence is an interesting word which has a family of its own, the root in confidence is **'FID'** which means **faith**, and therefore confidence implies a faith in self, try and workout the meaning of other words from the 'fid' family

**Diffidence:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Perfidy:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Infidel:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Hi-fi:** \_\_\_\_\_

**'BELL'** comes from Latin word meaning **war**

**Antebellum:** before or existing before the war, esp. the American Civil War

**Bellicose:** inclined or eager to fight; aggressively hostile

**Belligerent:** of warlike character; aggressively hostile

**Rebellion:** resistance to or defiance of any authority, control, or tradition

**'FLU'**, flux means **to flow**

**Affluent:** “flowing to”; abundant; rich

**Confluence:** “a flowing together”; junction of two rivers

**Fluctuate:** waver, vacillate

**Flume:** a narrow gorge or ravine

**Flux:** a constant flow

**Influence:** “a flowing in” a power to affect persons or events

**Influx:** arrival of a great number

**Mellifluous:** “flowing with honey”, smooth, sweet

**Superfluity:** “a flowing beyond and above”; an overflow; and oversupply; excess



**'LOCUT'**, Loqu is **to speak**

- Circumlocutory:** "speaking around" or talking in circles, said in a round about way, long winded
- Colloquial:** "relating to speaking together", or part of common language
- Colloquy:** "a speaking together"; a dialogue; conference
- Grandiloquence:** lofty speech; pompous speech; using big words and ideas in a speech, Magniloquence
- Interlocutor:** "One who speaks in between"; a middle man or an arbitrator
- Loquacious:** talkative; garrulous
- Obloquy:** "act of speaking against"; abuse; strong condemnation; calumny
- Ventriloquist:** "one who talks from his stomach"
- Eloquent:** marked by forceful and fluent expression

**'LAT'**, to carry, to bear

- Collate:** "brought together"; to assemble in proper order
- Dilate:** "brought apart"; widen; expand; speak at length
- Dilatory:** "Carried apart; defer; carry over to another time, postpone
- Elation:** "act or state of being carried outside one self"; great joy exultation
- Oblation:** "something brought in"; usually a religious offering
- Prelate** "carried or placed before other things"

Try and generate as many words as possible with the following roots

**Vert/Vers:** means to turn

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Spec/t:** means to see

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Tin/ten/tain:** means to hold

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Superman, Spiderman, Anti-terrorists - Prefixes

## An Introduction

Adding a super to an ordinary man makes him the mighty superman, above and beyond ordinary men, adding a spider makes him a super hero with extraordinary webs and adding an Anti to terrorists changes the meaning from destroyer to savior.

Prefixes are powerful tools, for they can determine where the word is going, if it is positive or negative, dealing with the future or the past or is the word above or under other words.

Let's get familiar with prefixes with this small test in which you are asked to change the direction the word takes by substituting another prefix for the one now appearing in the word. The word you supply should have a meaning opposite to the one given

Examples:

Attract : distract

Import : Export

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. <u>antemeridian</u> : _____ | 2. <u>assent</u> : _____       |
| 3. <u>converge</u> : _____     | 4. <u>deficient</u> : _____    |
| 5. <u>deflate</u> : _____      | 6. <u>promote</u> : _____      |
| 7. <u>destructive</u> : _____  | 8. <u>eject</u> : _____        |
| 9. <u>epilogue</u> : _____     | 10. <u>immigration</u> : _____ |
| 11. <u>include</u> : _____     | 12. <u>introvert</u> : _____   |
| 13. <u>prefix</u> : _____      | 14. <u>prenatal</u> : _____    |
| 15. <u>presence</u> : _____    | 16. <u>proponent</u> : _____   |
| 17. <u>prospect</u> : _____    | 18. <u>regenerate</u> : _____  |
| 19. <u>subjective</u> : _____  | 20. <u>synonym</u> : _____     |

Once again, you must have realized that just like use of roots, you are intrinsically aware of use of prefixes at a very basic level. Lets us now try and learn a few important prefixes, which will in turn open the door for many words.



## Directions Please

### In, On, Upon, Into, Within

**IN**(Latin): 'In' changes its spelling before certain letters to 'il' before 'l' as in illogical, to 'im' before 'b', 'm' or 'p' as in imbibe, immediate, implant and into 'Ir' before 'r' as in irradiate.

This process where a prefix changes form depending on the letters of the word it is prefixing, is called **assimilation**. Now we all know what 'In' means, but assimilation often hides the word. Look at the following examples

Immure:	“Wall in”; enclose within walls (murus = wall)
Inject:	“throw in or into”
Inscribe:	“write in or on”; engrave upon

**EN**(Greek) means **in or into**. Encaustic means burnt in, emblem and empathy are other words beginning with 'en', after assimilation of course.

**EPI**(Greek) means **upon**

Epigraph:	an inscription, writing upon something
Epitaph:	writing upon a tomb

**INTRA**(Latin) means **within** and is a fairly common word, we have surely used the word intra-college sometime or the other for activities within the college.

**INTRO**(Latin) once again means **within**. Introspection or looking within one self is again a common word.

**ENDO**(Greek) is the Greek counterpart of Intro/Intra and means **within**. Endocrine, endoskeleton being a couple of examples.

### To, Toward

**AD**(Latin) this prefix, post assimilation changes to 'ac', 'af', 'ag', 'an', 'ap', 'ar', 'as', and 'at' as in accord, affable, alleviate, annotate, appeal, arrogant, assume and attract.

**PRO** is the Greek counterpart for 'Ad'

### Away from, Out of

**AB**(Latin)

Abnormal:	“away from normal”
Abstain:	“keep from”; refrain

**APO**(Greek)

Apocryphal:	“hidden away”, far from the truth
Apogee:	the point in the orbit farthest from the earth

**E, EX**(Latin). The 'ex' may change to 'ef', as in effective

- Exorbitant: "out of the usual track", excessive  
 Extirpate: "tear out by stock or stem, trunk or root"; eradicate; wipe out

**EC, EX, ECO**(Greek) mean **out of, outside of**.

- Ecstasy: a state of rapturous delight, in which one is standing (stas) outside of oneself  
 Exorcise: "to swear out"; to drive away an evil spirit

**EXTRO**(Latin) means **outside, outward**, opposite of intro and extrovert which is opposite of introvert.

**SE**(Latin), **away aside, apart**

- Secede: "go away"; withdraw from  
 Seclude: "hide away"; to withdraw from others  
 Sedulous: "apart from guile or deceit"

Below, Down

**DE**(Latin) means **down**

- Dejected: "thrown down"; downcast; depressed  
 Depository: place where things are "put down" for safekeeping.

**CATA**(Greek) means **down**

- Cataclysm: "a washing down"; a tremendous flood; catastrophe, disaster  
 Catapult: "hurl down or against"

**INFRA**(Latin) means **below, lower**

- Infrared: lying outside or below the red end of the spectrum  
 Infrasonic: below the level of human audibility

**SUB**(Latin) means **under**

- Subliminal: "below the threshold; influencing though below the level of personal awareness  
 Subterranean: "beneath the earth", under ground

This prefix also occurs as 'suc', 'suf', 'sug', 'sup', and 'sur' and as a result of assimilation appears as in succeed, suffer, suggest, support and surrogate

**HYPO**(Greek) means **under**

- Hypocaust: "burned under"; ancient heating system with underground furnace  
 Hypodermic: "beneath the skin"; 'derm' being the Greek word for skin



## Above, Over, Beyond, Outside Of

**EXTRA**(Latin) means **beyond, outside of**

- Extrasensory: beyond the ordinary senses  
 Extravagant: “wandering beyond”; beyond reasonable limits; spending beyond what is necessary

**ULTRA**(Latin) opposite of **infra**

- Ultraviolet: beyond the violet in the spectrum, similarly Ultrasonic beyond the range of human audibility

**TRANS**(Latin) means **beyond**

- Transcend: “to climb beyond”; rise above; exceed

**SUPER**(Latin) means **above, beyond**

- Supernumerary: “above the number”; superfluous, extra  
 Surreal: “above realism” producing imagery by unnatural combinations

**HYPHER**(Greek) means **above, beyond**

- Hyperbole: “a throwing beyond”; an exaggeration  
 Hyperborean: “beyond the north”; relating to far north, arctic; frozen

**OVER**(Anglo-Saxon) means **beyond**

- Overweening: overconfident, or proud; exaggerated, excessive, or arrogant  
 Overbearing: domineering; dictatorial

## Across Through

**PER**(Latin) means **through**

- Peregrination: a wandering through many lands

**DIA**(Greek) means **through, across**

- Diaphanous: allowing light to go through  
 Diathermy: “heating through”

**TRANS** (Latin) means **across**

- Transient: “going across”; transitory; fleeting; short lived; ephemeral  
 Transatlantic: across the Atlantic

**META** (Greek) means **across, beyond**

- Metamorphosis: change of form or shape; transformation  
 Metaphor: a figure of speech or trope in which one thing is spoken as if it were another

**INTER** (Latin) means **between, among**

- Interpolate: to insert words in a text as additional or explanatory matter

## After, Behind, Back, Backward

**RE, RETRO** (Latin) means **back, backward**

Recede:	“to go back”; withdraw
Retrogress:	“to step backward”; to revert to an earlier condition

## Before, In front of, Forward

**ANTE** (Latin) means **before**

Antechamber:	a room before the main apartment; a waiting room
Antepenult:	“before almost the last”

**PRE** (Latin) means **before, in front of**

Predilection:	“act of choosing ahead”, inclination, liking, preference
Preposition:	“placed before”

**PRO** (Latin) means **before, forward**

Propel:	“drive forward”
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## Around, About

**CIRCUM** (Latin) means **around**

Circumambient:	“going around”; encircling; surrounding
Circumlocution:	“talking around”; a roundabout manner of saying something

**PERI** (Greek) means around

Peripatetic:	“walking around”
Periphrastic:	talking in a roundabout way

## Time Out

In this section we will deal with prefixes that control time (in a matter of speaking of course).

**ARCHAEO, ARCHAE** (Greek) means **old**

Archeology:	the study in depth of ancient peoples and their culture
Archaic:	belong to an earlier time, old-fashioned

**NEO** (Greek) means **new**

Neologism:	a newly coined word
Neophyte:	a beginner, a novice, a tyro



**ANTE** (Latin) means **before**. Unlike the earlier discussion on ‘ante’ here we use before in terms of time, rather than place.

Antediluvian: “before the flood”; antiquated; behind the times  
Antebellum: “before the war”; again ancient

**PRE** (Latin) means **before**

Prelude: “before the play”; introductory matter; preface  
Premeditate: “to think beforehand”; plan in advance

**PRO** (Latin) means **before**

Prognosis: “a knowing before”, act of foretelling the progress of a disease

**POST** (Latin) means **after**

Postscript: “written after”; often something that is written as an afterthought

## Few Sizes and Many Shapes

**MACRO** (Greek) means **large**

Macrocosm: “the large world”; the universe; a complex system which is a world in itself

**MICRO** (Greek) means **small**

Microcosm: “small world”; miniature universe

**MEGA, MEGALO** (Greek) means **great, large**

Megalith: “great stone”; one of the huge unadorned stones found in prehistoric structures  
Megalomania: disease characterized by delusions of grandeur  
Megaton: “large ton”; the explosive force of million tones of TNT

**MULTI** (Latin) means **many**

Multilingual: able to speak many languages

**POLY** (Greek). Greek counter of ‘multi’, meaning **many**

Polyglot: multilingual

**OMNI** (Latin) means **all**

Omnipotent: all powerful  
Omnivorous: “all devouring”; eating everything

**PAN** (Greek) means **all**

Panacea: “all healing”; cure-all; universal remedy

**HOLO** (Greek) means **wholly, entire, complete**

Holocaust: complete destruction by burning  
Holograph: “wholly written” in the hand of the author

## Negatives and the Positives

These are prefixes which have a firm hold of the steering wheel of a word for they make things right or wrong, good or bad.

**A**(Greek) means **not**. Appears as 'an' before vowels and before 'h', as in anomaly and anhydrous

Amorphous:	shapeless
Anodyne:	without pain

**IN** (Latin)

Inexorable:	not to be moved by prayer or entreaty, inflexible, unyielding, relentless
Intangible:	“untouchable”; vague; imperceptible

**NON** (Latin)

Nonage:	“not of an age” youth; childhood
Nonpartisan:	politically independent; impartial

**UN**(Anglo-Saxon)

Unstinting:	giving generously; not holding back
Unyielding:	relentless, not giving up

**CONTRA, CONTRO**(Latin) means **against**, sometimes also appears as **counter**

Contravene:	“come against”; act contrary to; contradict; infringe; obstruct
Controversy:	“turned against”; disagreement; dispute; strife
Countermand:	“order against”; oppose; resist

And on the other side

**CO, COM, CON** means **together with**

'Com' is used before 'b', 'm' and 'p' as in combat, commiserate and compensate; 'col' before 'l' as in collaborate and 'cor' before 'r' as in correlate.

Coagulate:	curdle; clot; gather together in a mass
Collusion:	“act of playing together”; secret agreement for fraudulent or illegal purposes
Concomitant:	attending, accompanying

**SYN, SYM** (Greek) means **together**

Symmetrical:	“measuring together”; having a pleasing harmonious balance
Synthesis:	“Act of putting together”; combination of parts from a whole



## Exercise

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In the left hand column is a list of words whose meanings are given only in the sense that the component parts are literally translated. You are asked to place a prefix before the decapitated word on the right that will produce a meaning more or less opposite to that of the corresponding word on the left. In the processes you will learn the meanings of some important Latin and Greek roots.

1. accelerate	“speed up”	___celerate
2. benevolent	“well wishing”	___volent
3. confident	“having faith with”	___fident
4. consecrate	“make holy”	___secrate
5. Consonance	“sounding together”	___sonance
6. Dyspeptic	“having bad digestion”	___peptic
7. Encourage	“put heart into”	___courage
8. Euphony	“pleasant sound”	___phony
9. Exhibit	“hold out for display”	___hibit
10. Explicit	“unfolded for all to see”	___plicit
11. homogenous	“of the same kind”	___genous
12. Inculcate	“place blame upon”	___cuplate
13. Ingress	“a stepping in”	___gress
14. Intramural	“within the walls”	___mural
15. Macrocosm	“large world”	___cosm
16. Malefactor	“evildoer”	___factor
17. Persuade	“urge thoroughly”	___suade
18. Philanthropist	“Lover of mankind”	___anthropist
19. Progression	“a stepping forward”	___gression



# The Numbers game

*“If two wrongs don’t make a right, try three.”*

It is often said that to really understand Mathematics you must understand language, I think it works the other way round too, many words in the English language have derived from word numbers, before we began our journey into the world of numbers let us take a small test.

A number from 1 to 10 is contained in each of the words listed below. Try and guess the number in each case.

- a. Decade: \_\_\_    b. octopus: \_\_\_    c. Duplicity: \_\_\_    c. Pentathlon: \_\_\_    d. Hebdomadad: \_\_\_  
 d. quadrille: \_\_\_    e. monolithic: \_\_\_    f. Semester: \_\_\_    g. novena: \_\_\_    h. trident: \_\_\_

Hope that wasn’t too difficult. Let us now get started and get familiar with scores of words which derive themselves from numbers. In most of the examples we will look the roots are still Latin and Greek, or simply, the Latin and Greek Numbers will open another treasure for us.

## 1.

The number one lies at the beginning of things, first of the numbers, it also implies a certain indivisibility, the Latin word for one us **Unus** which gives us **uni**, as in unit and Unity for unity implies a feeling of oneness, other words with uni are

- Unique:**                    One of a kind  
**Unison:**                    “One sound”; coincidence in pitch of two or more musical tones, voices, etc.  
**Unilateral:**                “one sided”; undertaken or done by or on behalf of one side, party, or faction only; not mutual  
**Universe:**                 “sum total of all things, earth and space taken as one”; the whole world, esp. with reference to humanity

The Anglo-Saxon word one itself lends to two beautiful words Atone (at one) an

Atonement (“act of being one”) which in religious doctrine contain the idea of being one

With the god and or the universe.

The Greek counter part for **Uni** is **Mono**, which means single and it gives us the following list of words

- Monolith:**                 “a single huge stone”; something having a uniform, massive, redoubtable, or inflexible quality or character.  
**Monarch:**                 “one leader”; king, supreme leader  
**Monk:**                     “one who lives alone”; a man who has withdrawn from the world for religious reasons  
**Monastery:**                “a residence of monks”  
**Monism**                     a system of thought seeking to deduce all phenomena from a single substance.

<b>Monocle</b>	a glass for one eye
<b>Monogamy</b>	state of being married to only person at a time
<b>Monogram</b>	the combining of two or more letters to form one
<b>Monograph</b>	a treatise or a piece of writing on one subject
<b>Monologue</b>	a long talk or speech by one person while other listen but do not participate
<b>Monomania</b>	form of insanity in which the sufferer is irrationally fixated on only one thing
<b>Monophobia</b>	morbid dread of being left alone; fear of being alone
<b>Monopoly</b>	exclusive possession or control by one individual or entity
<b>Monotheism</b>	doctrine or belief that only one god exists

The Greek word for first is **Proto**; it may indicate the first of a group to whose name it is attached for example

<b>Proto-Hellenic</b>	“first or earliest of the Greeks”
<b>Proto-martyr</b>	first of the martyrs
<b>Prototype</b>	first of its type
<b>Protocol</b>	an original draft, minute, or record from which a document, esp. a treaty, is prepared. ; Method or practices
<b>Protagonist</b>	the first actor; the main character of the story

## 2.

Two heads may be better than one, but two also causes division and gives options which sometimes can be confusing. Doubt and Dubiety, doubtful and dubious, double and duplicity are derived from **duo** the Latin root for two. Indubitable, “not able to be doubted’ means certain, unquestionable.

Other Latin word elements containing the idea of two are **bi** and **bini**, some words with these elements are.

<b>Biannual:</b>	occurring twice an year
<b>Biennial</b>	happening every two years
<b>Bicameral</b>	having two houses or chambers, like our parliament
<b>Bifurcate</b>	to branch into two parts
<b>Bigamy</b>	State of being married to two persons at the same time
<b>Binary</b>	Consisting of two parts
<b>Binocular</b>	adopted for the use of two eyes at the same time
<b>Binomial</b>	consisting of two terms or names
<b>Combine</b>	to put together two or more things.

The Greek element for two is **Di**, try and work out the meaning of the following words

**Dichotomy:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dilemma:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Diploma:** \_\_\_\_\_

## 3.

In the system of the ancient philosopher Pythagoras, the number three was the perfect number, expressive of a beginning a middle and an end. In religion also the number 3 plays an important role, with the holy trinity in Christianity and the three lords, the creator, the destroyer and the preserver.

Among the word elements representing the number 3 are the Latin, tri, ter and trini and the Greek **tri**, some interesting words using these elements are as follows.

<b>Triad</b>	a group of three
<b>Trilogy</b>	work of literature or music in three parts
<b>Triptych</b>	a three part picture ; a set of three panels or compartments side by side, bearing pictures, carvings, or the like.
<b>Tercentenary</b>	a 300 <sup>th</sup> anniversary
<b>Travail</b>	hardship, suffering,
<b>Trident</b>	a three pronged spear of gods
<b>Trimester</b>	name given to a college term where a year is divided into 3 parts
<b>Triumvirate</b>	an official group of three men
<b>Trivet</b>	a three footed stand for holding a kettle

## 4.

The first perfect square after one, also considered sacred because of the four elements earth, air, fire and water and because of four cardinal directions, the Latin root for 4 is **Quadra**, some words using this element are listed below

<b>Quadrangle:</b>	a figure with four sides
<b>Quadrant:</b>	an instrument with an arc of 90 degrees which is one fourth of a circle
<b>Quadrennial</b>	held every fourth year
<b>Quarto</b>	size of a piece of paper cut four from a sheet
<b>Quatrain</b>	a four line stanza
<b>Quadriga</b>	a four wheeled chariot

## 5.

Five fingers, five toes, five senses, the five pointed star was used as a magic symbol because it can be drawn continuously without lifting pencil from the paper the technical name for it is the Pentacle or the Pentagram. Since the Greek word for five is **pente**. Some additional English words with **penta** in them are.

<b>Pentagon:</b>	“a five sided plane figure “
<b>Pentameter</b>	a line of poetry having five metrical feet
<b>Pentateuch</b>	the first five books of the Old Testament
<b>Pentathlon</b>	an athletic event in which each participant participates in 5 activities



The Latin word for five is **quinque**, which gives us words like

- Quintet** any set or group of five persons or things.  
**Quintuplets** five children or offspring born of one pregnancy.  
**Quinquennium** a five year period  
**Quintessence** the fifth essence; the most perfect embodiment of something.

By now the idea linking numbers and words should be clear to you. Given below are numbers and their Latin and Greek roots and some words, try and work out the meaning, or find it out from a dictionary. Happy counting.

6.

Latin root: **Sex**; Greek root: **Hex**

Sestet: \_\_\_\_\_ Sextant: \_\_\_\_\_ Sextet: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Semester: \_\_\_\_\_ Hexameter: \_\_\_\_\_ Hexagon: \_\_\_\_\_

Please keep a dictionary handy for the above and the following.

7.

Latin root: **Sept**; Greek root: **Hepta**

8.

Latin root: **octa**

Octave: \_\_\_\_\_ Octet: \_\_\_\_\_ Octagon: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Octopus: \_\_\_\_\_ October: \_\_\_\_\_

10.

Greek root: **deca**

Decade: \_\_\_\_\_ Decagon: \_\_\_\_\_ Decalogue: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Decameron: \_\_\_\_\_ Decathlon: \_\_\_\_\_ Decimate: \_\_\_\_\_

Identify the numeric associated with each of the following:

<b>Bireme</b>	<b>Centime</b>	<b>Cinquefoil</b>	<b>Duodenal</b>
<b>Farthing</b>	<b>Fortnight</b>	<b>Kilowatt</b>	<b>Myriad</b>
<b>Nonce</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Octachord</b>	<b>Quarantine</b>
<b>Samite</b>	<b>Septentrional</b>	<b>Tierce</b>	<b>Tithe</b>

# Celebrities

Wickets are like wives... you never know which way they will turn!

– Navjot Singh Siddhu

If you are a cricket fan then you surely have heard Mr. Siddhu, there are many such words of wisdom which have made Mr. Siddhu extremely popular and which are collectively known as Siddhuisms. As of now this word is not in the dictionary, but it is a popular word none the less, imagine 300 years from now, that the word is still used but the character is forgotten. The English language has many such old celebrities, characters who left their name behind which became ideas, hidden between the words, let's try and get familiar with some of them.

## Bowdlerize

Dr. Thomas Bowdler in 1818 published the family Shakespeare, an edition in which “those words and expressions are omitted, which can not be read aloud in the family”. To bowdlerize, therefore means to expurgate a book by leaving out or changing passages or words considered indecent or offensive.

## Galvanize

Luigi Galvani, professor of physiology at Bologna, Italy is called the father of animal electricity. His name has been perpetuated in many terms associated with electricity. In everyday speech the word Galvanize means to electrify, to stir into action as if with an electric shock.

## Machiavellian

Niccolo Machiavelli was a Florentine who wrote a famous book called The Prince as a handbook of government for the rulers of his time. He set down principles of taking and holding power. The word Machiavellian is now used to mean Cunning, Crafty, and deceitful.

## Martinet

A martinet is a military taskmaster, a stickler for details of discipline. A rigid disciplinarian in any activity is called a Martinet. The Original was a General Martinet in the army of the French king Louis XVI

## Masochism

Leopold Von Sacher-Masoch was an Austrian novelist who described an abnormal condition in which a person derived pleasure in being abused and punished by someone he loved. The word Masochism is often used more broadly to mean self-torture.

## Mausoleum

Mausolus was the King of Caria, a country in Asia Minor. After his death his wife Artemisia erected an enormous and beautiful tomb which was ranked as one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. The word Mausoleum is now used not only for large tombs but for any tomb like structure.

## Maverick

Samuel A. Maverick was a Texan rancher of the 1840's who did not bother to brand his calves (which was an important practice followed by the community). At first the word Maverick was only used for unbranded Calves then the meaning was extended to apply one who doesn't follow the common herd, somebody different and a little far from the crowd of rule followers.

## Mesmerize

F.A Mesmer created a sensation in Vienna and Paris about 1775 by his assertion that there existed a power which he called animal magnetism. At first the name mesmerism was given to this power; later the term hypnotism. To mesmerize means to hypnotize

## Sadistic

The count de Sade, who was infamous for his misdeeds and his writings, described a situation in which a person derived pleasure from tormenting the person he loved. Such a person is called a sadist. The word sadistic often refers to somebody who is abnormally cruel.

## Thespian

Thespian is an overused word meaning an actor. Thespis is often called the father of Greek tragedy. Until his time, dramatic presentation in Greece consisted of singing by chorus. He is supposed to have invented the role of the first actor.

## Quixotic

If we refer to somebody as quixotic, we are politely dismissing him as an unrealistic visionary, one whose heart is bigger than his head. We get the word from Cervantes's great Satire Don Quixote de la Mancha. Where the protagonist was a would be Knight whose excited imagination turned lonely inns into castles and windmills into fearsome Giants.

## Draconian

In about 621 B.C Draco compiled the first written code of laws in ancient Athens. Death was the punishment for most crimes, even petty ones, so that the saying arose that his laws were written in blood and not in ink. Hence Draconian means very rigorous and severe.

## Fabian

Quintus Fabius Maximus, appointed dictator in 217 B.C to lead the roman army against Hannibal, decided that cautious delaying tactics would be more successful than engaging the enemy in straight battles. He therefore harassed Hannibal's army, cut off its supplies and raided its lines. Fabius earned the appellation of "the delayer". Today such a policy in any field is known as Fabian. In politics Fabianism means a slow step by step evolutionary change.

Hope you enjoyed this acquaintance with old heroes and sometime villains of history, in the next chapter we will look at romantic history of more words

## Romancing the words

Imagine you meet a stranger on the road; he tells you his name and moves on. How long would you remember that name? Now imagine that he tells you his name, tells you where he has been, what he is doing and where he is heading, in short he tells you his story, now wouldn't that make the act of remembering him a lot easier.

Words are not so different from people, most of the time when we look up a word in a dictionary it is almost like saying hello to a stranger, in order to really know the word, we need to get to know it, etymology is an attempt in that direction. But beyond etymology most words have amazing stories, some dealing with their origin, some about their use or abuse and some just about how they influenced us. In this chapter we take a look at some of those stories.

### Procrustean

Once in ancient Greece, there was a robber called Procrustes who would tie his victims to the bed and then began to alter them so that they would fit. If they were long, he hacked off their limbs; if they were too short, he stretched them. This mythical tale gave us the helpful word Procrustean. We can say for example that Adolf Hitler had a procrustean determination to force all minds into his mould.

### Pyrrhic

Pyrrhus was the first among the generals. The genius and the daring of Pyrrhus did bring many success in battle, but at Asculum in 279 B.C his victory against the Romans was won at a tragic cost. The bulk of his army was destroyed. Upon this occasion he was supposed to have said "one more such victory and we are lost". Thus a Pyrrhic victory is one in which the losses are so great that it is no victory at all.

### Saturnine

When a man is gloomy and morose, we say that the man has a saturnine expression. It all comes from the Roman god Saturn after whom the planet was named. Since Saturn was so remote it was thought of as chilly and gloomy and these are qualities which are now attributed to saturnine people.

### Vandal

When people wantonly destroy property particularly public and cultural property they are called Vandals and the act is known as an act of vandalism. Almost a millennium ago vandals were a Germanic tribe who almost destroyed the Holy Roman Empire; their conquests were usually marked by a lot of looting and destroying cultural heritage.

### Sybarite

In early historical times multitudes of Greeks emigrated to the southern shore of Italy and eventually built cities there. Sybaris was one of the most famous of these. It became so notorious as a city of fabulous wealth and soft living and extreme luxury that when we call a person a sybarite we mean that he is given to wanton luxury and an easy living.

## Utopia

When we speak of utopia we imagine a perfect state of society, and ideal society, the name comes from a famous book by an English philosopher Sir Thomas Moore. In the book the author described an imaginary island with perfect social and political and social systems

## Assassin

From the old Arabic word “hashshshin,” which meant, “someone who is addicted to hash,” that is, marijuana, and a drug of a kind. Originally referred to a group of warriors who would smoke up before battle. Who later became hired killers, and hence the meaning.

## Barbarians

From the Greek “barbaroi,” meaning “babblers,” used to mean non-Greeks, i.e., people who didn’t speak Greek; from the sound that the Greeks thought they were making: “bar bar bar bar...”

## Emancipate

According to Roman law there were prescribed ceremonies for the purchase and liberation of slaves. When they were bought the master laid his hand upon them in token of possession. This act was called mancipium so emancipate turns the meaning completely around and it means to let go or to free someone or something a literal taking away of the hand.

## Lunatic

Down through the century there has been a widespread notion that madness is related to the moon and the intensity or the violence of madness changes with the phases of the moon. The roman goddess for moon was named Luna and it is from her name that we derive this crazy word Lunatic.

## Tantalize

Tantalus was a god in the Greek mythology and he was given an unusual punishment by Zeus the lord of gods, he was put chin deep in the water and fruits were kept hanging just over his head, the second he would reach out for the fruits they will be taken away. So when we tantalize people we too give them hopes which are desirable but out of reach

## Hazard

This term evolved from the Arabic al zahr, which means the dice. In Western Europe the term came to be associated with a number of games using dice, which were learned during the Crusades whilst in the Holy Land. The term eventually took on the connotation of danger because, from very early on, games using dice were associated with the risky business of gambling and con artists using corrupted dice



## Phony (or Phoney)

British thieves and swindlers of old used many secret code words. One such word was fawney, which referred to a gilt ring. They would sell these, saying that they were made of real gold. But the rings were not genuine gold, and the word phony – from fawney – came to be used for anything that is fake or not genuine.

## Quarantine

From the French quarante (=forty). Adding the suffix –aine to French numbers gives a degree of roughness to the figure (like –ish in English), so quarantaine means about forty. Originally when a ship arriving in port was suspected of being infected with a malignant, contagious disease, its cargo and crew were obliged to forego all contact with the shore for a period of around forty days. This term came to be known as period of quarantine.

## Addict

Slaves given to Roman soldiers to reward them for performance in battle were known as addicts. Eventually, a person who was a slave to anything became known as an addict.

## Debonair

French for “of good air.” In the middle Ages, people’s health was judged partly by how they smelled. A person who gave off “good air” was presumed healthier and happier. Now days when we use debonair we mean courteous, gracious, and having a sophisticated charm

## Ostracize

“Ostron” is a Greek word for pottery. Periodically the Greeks would hold an election to determine if someone was a danger to their community. Everyone would write their votes on broken pieces of pottery (“ostron”) and if the vote was successful, the person was banished or “ostracized.”

## Trivia

The derivation of the word trivia comes from the Latin for “crossroads”: “tri-” + “via”, which means three streets. This is because in ancient times, at an intersection of three streets in Rome (or some other Italian place), they would have a type of kiosk where ancillary information was listed. You might be interested in it, you might not, and hence they were bits of “trivia.”

Hope that was a good enough appetizer and it got you to think a little beyond only the meaning of the word. Vocabulary building has to be a very involved process if it is to remain effective, so remember to ask for the story the next time around.



## Word – List

**ABATE:** to reduce in amount, degree, or severity

As the hurricane's force ABATED, the winds dropped and the sea became calm.

Words with similar meanings:

EBB	LAPSE
LET UP	MODERATE
RELENT	SLACKEN
SUBSIDE	WANE

**ABSCOND:** to leave secretly

The patron ABSCONDED from the restaurant without paying his bill by sneaking out the back door.

Words with similar meanings:

FLEE	DECAMP
ESCAPE	

**ABSTAIN:** to choose not to do something:

During Lent, practicing Catholics ABSTAIN from eating meat.

Words with similar meanings:

FORBEAR	REFRAIN
WITHHOLD	

**ABYSS:** an extremely deep hole

The submarine dove into the ABYSS to chart the previously unseen depths.

Related words:

ABYSSAL: pertaining to great depth

ABYSMAL: extremely bad

Words with similar meanings:

CHASM	VOID
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**ADULTERATE:** to make impure

The restaurateur made his ketchup last longer by ADULTERATING it with water.

Related words:

UNADULTERATED: pure

ADULTERY: an illicit relationship; an affair

Words with similar meanings:

DOCTOR

**ADVOCATE:** to speak in favor of

The vegetarian ADVOCATED a diet containing no meat.

Related words:

ADVOCACY: active support for

Words with similar meanings:

BACK	CHAMPION
SUPPORT	

**AESTHETIC:** concerning the appreciation of beauty

Followers of the AESTHETIC Movement regarded the pursuit of beauty as the only true purpose of art.

Related words:

AESTHETE: someone unusually sensitive to beauty

AESTHETICISM: concern with beauty

Words with similar meanings:

ARTISTIC	TASTEFUL
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**AGGRANDIZE:** to increase in power, influence, and reputation

The supervisor sought to AGGRANDIZE himself by claiming that the achievements of his staff were actually his own.

Words with similar meanings:

AMPLIFY	APOTHEOSIZE
AUGMENT	DIGNIFY
ELEVATE	ENLARGE
ENNOBLE	EXALT
GLORIFY	MAGNIFY
SWELL	UPLIFT
WAX	

**ALLEVIATE:** to make more bearable:

Taking aspirin helps to ALLEVIATE a headache.

Words with similar meanings:

ALLAY	ASSUAGE
COMFORT	EASE
LESSEN	LIGHTEN
MITIGATE	PALLIATE
RELIEVE	

**AMALGAMATE:** to combine; to mix together

Giant Industries AMALGAMATED with Mega Products to form Giant-Mega Products Incorporated.

Related Words:

AMALGAM: a mixture, especially of two metals

Words with similar meanings:

ADMIX	BLEND
COMBINE	COMMINGLE
COMMIX	COMPOUND
FUSE	INTERMINGLE
INTERMIX	MERGE
MINGLE	MIX

**AMBIGUOUS:** doubtful or uncertain; able to be interpreted several ways

The directions he gave were so AMBIGUOUS that we disagreed on which way to turn.

Related Words:

AMBIGUITY: the quality of being ambiguous

Words with similar meanings:

CLOUDY	DOUBTFUL
DUBIOUS	EQUIVOCAL
NEBULOUS	INDETERMINATE
OBSCURE	UNCLEAR
VAGUE	

**AMELIORATE:** to make better; to improve

The doctor was able to AMELIORATE the patient's suffering using painkillers.

Words with similar meanings:

AMEND	BETTER
IMPROVE	PACIFY
UPGRADE	

**ANACHRONISM:** something out of place in time

The aged hippie used ANACHRONISTIC phrases like *groovy* and far out that had not been popular for years.

Words with similar meanings:

ARCHAISM	INCONGRUITY
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**ANALOGOUS:** similar or alike in some way; equivalent to

In a famous argument for the existence of God, the universe is ANALOGOUS to a mechanical timepiece, the creation of a divinely intelligent "clockmaker".

Related words:

ANALOGY: a similarity between things that are otherwise dissimilar

ANALOGUE: something that is similar in some way to something else

Words with similar meanings:

ALIKE	COMPARABLE
CORRESPONDING	EQUIVALENT
HOMOGENEOUS	PARALLEL
SIMILAR	

**ANOMALY:** deviation from what is normal

Albino animals may display too great an ANOMALY in their colouring to attract normally coloured mates.

Related words:

ANOMALOUS: deviating from what is normal

Words with similar meanings:

ABERRANCE	ABERRATION
ABNORMALITY	DEVIANCE



DEVIATION                      IRREGULARITY  
PRETERNATURALNESS

**ANTAGONIZE:** to annoy or provoke to anger

The child discovered that he could  
ANTAGONIZE the cat by pulling its tail.

Related Words:

ANTAGONISTIC: tending to provoke conflict

ANTAGONIST: someone who fights another

Words with similar meanings:

CLASH	CONFLICT
INCITE	IRRITATE
OPPOSE	PESTER
PROVOKE	VEX

**ANTIPATHY:** extreme dislike

The ANTIPATHY between the French and  
the English regularly erupted into open  
warfare.

Words with similar meanings:

ANIMOSITY	ANIMUS
ANTAGONISM	AVERSION
ENMITY	HOSTILITY
REPELLENCE	

**APATHY:** lack of interest or emotion

The APATHY of voters is so great that less  
than half the people who are eligible to vote  
actually bother to do so.

Words with similar meanings:

COOLNESS	DISINTEREST
DISREGARD	IMPASSIVITY
INDIFFERENCE	INSENSIBILITY
LASSITUDE	LETHARGY
LISTLESSNESS	PHLEGM
STOLIDITY	UNCONCERN
UNRESPONSIVENESS	

**ARBITRATE:** to judge a dispute between two  
opposing parties

Since the couple could not come to  
agreement, a judge was forced to  
ARBITRATE their divorce proceedings.

Related words:

ARBITRATION: a process by which a conflict  
is resolved

ARBITRATOR: a judge

Words with similar meanings:

ADJUDGE	ADJUDICATE
DECIDE	DETERMINE
JUDGE	MODERATE
REFEREE	RULE

**ARCHAIC:** ancient, old-fashioned

Her ARCHAIC Commodore computer could  
not run the latest software.

Related words:

ARCHAISM: an outdated word or phrase

Words with similar meanings:

ANCIENT	ANTEDILUVIAN
ANTIQUUE	BYGONE
DATED	DOWDY
FUSTY	OBSOLETE
OLD-FASHIONED	OUTDATED
OUTMODED	PASSE
PREHISTORIC	STALE
SUPERANNUATED	SUPERSEDED
VINTAGE	

**ARDOR:** intense and passionate feeling

Bishop's ARDOR for landscape was evident  
when he passionately described the beauty  
of the scenic Hudson Valley.

Related words:

ARDENT: expressing ardor; passionate

Words with similar meanings:

DEVOTION	ENTHUSIASM
FERVENCY	FERVIDITY
FERVIDNESS	FERVOR
FIRE	PASSION
ZEAL	ZEALOUSNESS



**ARTICULATE:** able to speak clearly and expressively

She is such an ARTICULATE defender of labor that unions are among her strongest supporters.

Words with similar meanings:

ELOQUENT	EXPRESSIVE
FLUENT	LUCID
SILVER-TONGUED	SMOOTH-SPOKEN

**ASSUAGE:** to make something unpleasant less severe

Like many people, Philip Larkin used alcohol to ASSUAGE his sense of meaninglessness and despair.

Words with similar meanings:

ALLAY	COMFORT
LIGHTEN	PACIFY
PROPITIATE	SWEETEN
ALLEVIATE	CONCILIATE
MITIGATE	PALLIATE
RELIEVE	APPEASE
EASE	MOLLIFY
PLACATE	SOOTHE

**ATTENUATE:** to reduce in force or degree; to weaken

The Bill of Rights ATTENUATED the traditional power of government to change laws at will.

Words with similar meanings:

DEBILITATE	DEVITALIZE
DILUTE	ENERVATE
ENFEEBLE	RAREFY
SAP	THIN
UNDERMINE	UNDO
UNNERVE	WATER
WEAKEN	

**AUDACIOUS:** fearless and daring

“And you, your majesty, may kiss my bum!” replied the AUDACIOUS peasant.

Related words:

AUDACITY: the quality of being audacious

Words with similar meanings:

ADVENTURESOME	AGGRESSIVE
ASSERTIVE	BOLD
BRAVE	COURAGEOUS
DARING	DAUNTLESS
DOUGHTY	FEARLESS
GALLANT	GAME
HEROIC	INTREPID
METTLESOME	PLUCKY
STOUT	STOUTHEARTED
UNAFRAID	UNDAUNTED
VALIANT	VALOROUS
VENTURESOME	VENTUROUS

**AUSTERE:** severe or stern in appearance; undecorated

The lack of decoration makes Zen temples seem AUSTERE to the untrained eye.

Related words:

AUSTERITY: severity, especially poverty

Words with similar meanings:

BLEAK	DOUR
GRIM	HARD
HARSH	SEVERE

**BANAL:** predictable, clichéd, boring

He used BANAL phrases like Have a nice day, or Another day, another dollar.

Related words:

BANALITY: the quality of being banal

Words with similar meanings:

BLAND	BROMIDIC
CLICHED	COMMONPLACE
FATUOUS	HACKNEYED
INNOCUOUS	INSIPID
JEJUNE	MUSTY
PLATITUDINOUS	PROSAIC
QUOTIDIAN	SHOPWORN
STALE	STEREOTYPIC



THREADBARE      TIMEWORN  
 TIRED              TRITE  
 VAPID              WORN-OUT

**BOLSTER:** to support; to prop up

The presence of giant footprints  
 BOLSTERED the argument that Sasquatch  
 was in the area.

Words with similar meanings:

BRACE              BUTTRESS  
 PROP                SUPPORT  
 SUSTAIN            UNDERPIN  
 UPHOLD

**BOMBASTIC:** pompous in speech and manner

Mussolini’s speeches were mostly  
 BOMBASTIC; his boasting and outrageous  
 claims had no basis in fact.

Related words:

BOMBAST: pompous speech or writing

Words with similar meanings:

BLOATED            DECLAMATORY  
 FUSTIAN            GRANDILOQUENT  
 GRANDIOSE        HIGH-FLOWN  
 MAGNILOQUENT    OROTUND  
 PRETENTIOUS      RHETORICAL  
 SELF-IMPORTANT

**CACOPHONY:** harsh, jarring noise

The junior high orchestra created an almost  
 unbearable CACOPHONY as they tried to  
 tune their instruments.

Words with similar meanings:

DISCORD            CHAOS  
 DISHARMONY      NOISE  
 CLAMOR            DIN

**CANDID:** impartial and honest in speech

The observations of a child can be charming  
 since they are CANDID and unpretentious.

Words with similar meanings:

DIRECT              FORTHRIGHT  
 FRANK               HONEST  
 SINCERE            STRAIGHT  
 STRAIGHTFORWARD UNDISGUISED

**CAPRICIOUS:** changing one’s mind quickly and  
 often

Queen Elizabeth I **was** quite CAPRICIOUS;  
 her courtiers could never be sure which of  
 their number would catch her fancy.

Related words:

CAPRICE: whim, sudden fancy

Words with similar meanings:

ARBITRARY        CHANCE  
 CHANGEABLE      ERRATIC  
 FICKLE             INCONSTANT  
 MERCURIAL        RANDOM  
 WHIMSICAL        WILLFUL

**CASTIGATE:** to punish or criticize harshly

Americans are amazed at how harshly  
 the authorities in Singapore CASTIGATE  
 perpetrators of what would be considered  
 minor crimes in the united States.

Words with similar meanings:

ADMONISH        CHASTISE  
 CHIDE             REBUKE  
 REPRIMAND      REPROACH  
 REPROVE         SCOLD  
 TAX                UPBRAID

**CATALYST:** something that brings about a  
 change in something else

The imposition of harsh taxes was the  
 CATALYST that finally brought on the  
 revolution.

Related Words:

CATALYZE: to bring about a change in  
 something else

**CAUSTIC:** biting in wit

Dorothy Parker gained her reputation for CAUSTIC wit from her cutting, yet clever, insults.

Words with similar meanings:

ACERBIC	BITING
MORDANT	TRENCHANT

**CHAOS:** great disorder or confusion

In most religious traditions, God created an ordered universe from CHAOS.

Related Words:

CHAOTIC: jumbled, confused

Words with similar meanings:

CLUTTER	CONFUSION
DISARRANGEMENT	DISARRAY
DISORDER	DISORDERLINESS
DISORGANIZATION	JUMBLE
MESS	MUDDLE
SCRAMBLE	SNARL
TOPSY-TURVINESS	TURMOIL

**CHAUVINIST:** someone prejudiced in favour of a group to which he or she belongs

The attitude that men are inherently superior to women and therefore must be obeyed is common among male CHAUVINISTS.

Words with similar meanings:

PARTISAN

**CHICANERY:** deception by means of craft or guile

Dishonest used car salesmen often use CHICANERY to sell their beat-up old cars.

Words with similar meanings:

ARTIFICE	CONNIVING
CRAFTINESS	DECEPTION
DEVIOSNESS	MISREPRESENTATION
PETTIFOGGERY	SHADINESS

SNEAKINESS	SOPHISTRY
SUBTERFUGE	UNDERHANDEDNESS

**COGENT:** convincing and well reasoned

Swayed by the COGENT argument of the defence, the jury had no choice but to acquit the defendant.

Related words:

COGITATE: to think deeply

Words with similar meanings:

CONVINCING	PERSUASIVE
SOUND	TELLING
SOLID	VALID

**CONDONE:** to overlook, pardon, or disregard

Some theorists believe that failing to prosecute minor crimes is the same as CONDONING an air of lawlessness.

Words with similar meanings:

EXCULPATE	EXCUSE
PARDON	REMIT

**CONVOLUTED:** intricate and complicated

Although many people bought **A Brief History of Time**, few could follow its CONVOLUTED ideas and theories.

Words with similar meanings:

BYZANTINE	COMPLEX
ELABORATE	INTRICATE
KNOTTY	LABYRINTHINE
PERPLEXING	TANGLED

**CORROBORATE:** to provide supporting evidence

Fingerprints CORROBORATED the witness's testimony that he saw the defendant in the victim's apartment.

Words with similar meanings:

AUTHENTICATE	BACK
BEAR OUT	BUTTRESS
CONFIRM	SUBSTANTIATE
VALIDATE	VERIFY





**CREDULOUS:** too trusting; gullible

Although some 4-year-olds believe in the Easter Bunny, only the most CREDULOUS 9-year-olds also believe in him.

Related words:

CREDULITY the quality of being credulous

Words with similar meanings:

NONE SUSCEPTIBLE  
TRUSTING

**CRESCENDO:** steadily increasing volume or force

The CRESCENDO of tension became unbearable as Rahul prepared to jump his motorcycle over the school buses.

**DECORUM:** appropriateness of behavior or conduct; propriety

The countess complained that the vulgar peasants lacked the DECORUM appropriate for a visit to the palace.

Related words:

DECOROUS: conforming to acceptable standards

Words with similar meanings:

CORRECTNESS DECENCY  
ETIQUETTE MANNERS  
MORES PROPRIETY  
SEMLINESS

**DEFERENCE:** respect, courtesy

The respectful young law clerk treated the Supreme **Court** justice with the utmost DEFERENCE.

Related words:

DEFER: to delay; to show someone deference

DEFERENT: courteous and respectful

Words with similar meanings:

COURTESY HONOR  
HOMAGE OBEISANCE  
RESPECT REVERENCE  
VENERATION

**DERIDE:** to speak of or treat with contempt; to mock

The awkward child was often DERIDED by his “cooler” peers.

Related words:

DERISION: mockery and taunts

DERISIVE: in a mocking manner

Words with similar meanings:

GIBE JEER  
MOCK RIDICULE  
SCOFF SNEER  
TAUNT

**DESICCATE:** to dry out thoroughly

After a few weeks of lying on the desert’s baking sands, the cow’s carcass became completely DESICCATED.

Related words:

DESICCANT: something that removes water from another substance

Words with similar meanings:

DRY PARCH  
DEHYDRATE

**DESULTORY:** jumping from one thing to another; disconnected

Diane had a DESULTORY academic record; she had changed majors 12 times in 3 years.

Words with similar meanings:

AIMLESS DISCONNECTED  
ERRATIC HAPHAZARD  
INDISCRIMINATE OBJECTLESS  
PURPOSELESS RANDOM  
STRAY UNCONSIDERED  
UNPLANNED



**DIATRIBE:** an abusive, condemnatory speech

The trucker bellowed a DIATRIBE at the driver who had cut him off.

Words with similar meanings:

FULMINATION	HARANGUE
INVECTIVE	JEREMIAD
MALEDICTION	OBLOQUY
TIRADE	

**DIFFIDENT:** lacking self-confidence

Steve's DIFFIDENT manner during the job interview stemmed from his nervous nature and lack of experience in the field.

Words with similar meanings:

BACKWARD	BASHFUL
COY	DEMURE
MODEST	RETIRING
SELF-EFFACING	SHY
TIMID	

**DILATE:** to make larger; to expand

When you enter a darkened room, the pupils of your eyes DILATE to let in more light.

Words with similar meanings:

AMPLIFY	DEVELOP
ELABORATE	ENLARGE
EXPAND	EXPATiate

**DILATORY:** intended to delay

The congressman used DILATORY measures to delay the passage of the bill.

Words with similar meanings:

DRAGGING	FLAGGING
LAGGARD	LAGGING
SLOW	SLOW-FOOTED
SLOW-GOING	SLOW-PACED
TARDY	

**DILETTANTE:** someone with an amateurish and superficial interest in a topic

Jerry's friends were such DILETTANTES that they seemed to have new jobs and hobbies every week.

Words with similar meanings:

AMATEUR	DABBLER
SUPERFICIAL	TYRO

**DIRGE:** a funeral hymn or mournful speech

Melville wrote the poem A DIRGE for James McPherson for the funeral of a Union general who was killed in **1864**.

Words with similar meanings:

ELEGY	LAMENT
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**DISABUSE:** to set right; to free from error

Galilee's observations DISABUSED scholars of the notion that the Sun revolved around the Earth.

Words with similar meanings:

CORRECT	UNDECEIVE
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**DISCERN:** to perceive; to recognize

It is easy to DISCERN the difference between butter and butter-flavoured topping.

Related words:

DISCERNMENT: taste and cultivation

Words with similar meanings:

CATCH	DESCRY
DETECT	DIFFERENTIATE
DISCRIMINATE	DISTINGUISH
ESPY	GLIMPSE
KNOW	SEPARATE
SPOT	SPY

**DISPARATE:** fundamentally different; entirely unlike

Although the twins appear to be identical physically, their personalities are DISPARATE.

Words with similar meanings:

DIFFERENT	DISSIMILAR
DIVERGENT	DIVERSE
VARIANT	VARIOUS



**DISSEMBLE:** to present a false appearance; to disguise one's real intentions or character

The villain could DISSEMBLE to the police no longer-he admitted the deed and tore up the floor to reveal the body of the old man.

Words with similar meanings:

ACT	AFFECT
ASSUME	CAMOUFLAGE
CLOAK	COUNTERFEIT
COVER UP	DISGUISE
DISSIMULATE	FAKE
FEIGN	MASK
MASQUERADE	POSE
PRETEND	PUT ON
SHAM	SIMULATE

**DISSONANCE:** a harsh and disagreeable combination, often of sounds

Cognitive DISSONANCE is the inner conflict produced when long-standing beliefs are contradicted by new evidence.

Words with similar meanings:

CLASH	CONTENTION
DISCORD	DISSENSION
DISSENT	DISSIDENCE
FRICITION	STRIFE
VARIANCE	

**DOGMA:** a firmly held opinion, often a religious belief

Linus' central DOGMA was that children who believed in the Great Pumpkin would be rewarded.

Words with similar meanings:

CREED	DOCTRINE
TEACHING	TENET

**DOGMATIC:** dictatorial in one's opinions

The dictator was DOGMATIC - he, and only he, was right.

Words with similar meanings:

AUTHORITARIAN	BOSSY
DICTATORIAL	DOCTRINAIRE
DOMINEERING	IMPERIOUS
MAGISTERIAL	MASTERFUL
OVERBEARING	PEREMPTORY

**DUPE:** to deceive; a person who is easily deceived

Bugs Bunny was able to DUPE Elmer Fudd by dressing up as a lady rabbit.

Words with similar meanings:

BEGUILE	BETRAY
BLUFF	COZEN
DECEIVE	DELUDE
FOOL	HOODWINK
HUMBUG	MISLEAD
TAKE IN	TRICK

**ECLECTIC:** selecting from or made up from a variety of sources

Budapest's architecture is an ECLECTIC mix of eastern and western styles.

Words with similar meanings:

SELECTIVE	CATHOLIC
BROAD	

**EFFICACY:** effectiveness

The EFFICACY of penicillin was unsurpassed when it was first introduced; the drug completely eliminated almost all bacterial infections for which it was administered.

Related Words:

EFFICACIOUS: effective; productive

Words with similar meanings:

DYNAMISM	EFFECTIVENESS
EFFICIENCY	FORCE
POWER	PRODUCTIVENESS
PROFICIENCY	STRENGTH
VIGOR	



**ELEGY:** a sorrowful poem or speech

Although Thomas Gray's "ELEGY Written in a Country Churchyard" is about death and loss, it urges its readers to endure this life, and to trust in spirituality.

Related Words:

ELEGIAC: like an elegy; mournful

Words with similar meanings:

DIRGE                      LAMENT

**ELOQUENT:** persuasive and moving, especially in speech

The Gettysburg Address is moving not only because of its lofty sentiments but also because of its ELOQUENT words.

Words with similar meanings:

ARTICULATE              EXPRESSIVE  
FLUENT                    MEANINGFUL  
SIGNIFICANT              SMOOTH-SPOKEN

**EMULATE:** to copy; to try to equal or excel

The graduate student sought to EMULATE his professor in every way, copying not only how she taught, but also how she conducted herself outside of class.

Words with similar meanings:

APE                        IMITATE  
SIMULATE

**ENERVATE:** to reduce in strength

The guerrillas hoped that a series of surprise attacks would ENERVATE the regular army.

Related Words:

UNNERVE: to deprive of strength or courage

Words with similar meanings:

DEBILITATE              ENFEEBLE  
SAP                        WEAKEN

**ENGENDER:** to produce, cause, or bring about

His fear and hatred of clowns was ENGENDERED when he witnessed the death of his father at the hands of a clown.

Words with similar meanings:

BEGET                      GENERATE  
PROCREATE              PROLIFERATE  
REPRODUCE              SPAWN

**ENIGMA:** a puzzle; a mystery

Speaking in riddles and dressed in old robes, the artist gained a reputation as something of an ENIGMA.

Words with similar meanings:

CONUNDRUM              PERPLEXITY

**ENUMERATE:** to count, list, or itemize

Moses returned from the mountain with tablets on which the commandments were ENUMERATED.

Words with similar meanings:

CATALOG                      INDEX  
TABULATE

**EPHEMERAL:** lasting a short time

The lives of mayflies seem EPHEMERAL to us, since the flies' average life span is a matter of hours.

Words with similar meanings:

EVANESCENT              FLEETING  
MOMENTARY              TRANSIENT

**EQUIVOCATE:** to use expressions of double meaning in order to mislead

When faced with criticism of his policies, the politician EQUIVOCATED and left all parties thinking he agreed with them.

Related Words:

EQUIVOCAL: undecided; trying to deceive

EQUIVOCATION: the act or state of equivocating



Words with similar meanings:

AMBIGUOUS                      EVASIVE  
WAFFLING

**ERRATIC:** wandering and unpredictable

The plot seemed predictable until it suddenly took a series of ERRATIC turns that surprised the audience.

Related Words:

ERRANT: straying, mistaken, roving

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS                      INCONSTANT  
IRRESOLUTE                      WHIMSICAL

**ERUDITE:** learned, scholarly, bookish

The annual meeting of philosophy professors was a gathering of the most ERUDITE, well published individuals in the field.

Related Words:

ERUDITION: extensive knowledge or learning

Words with similar meanings:

SCHOLASTIC                      LEARNED  
WISE

**ESOTERIC:** known or understood by only a few

Only a handful of experts are knowledgeable about the ESOTERIC world of particle physics.

Words with similar meanings:

ABSTRUSE                      ARCANE  
OBSCURE

**ESTIMABLE:** admirable

Most people consider it ESTIMABLE that Mother Teresa spent her life helping the poor of India.

Related Words:

ESTEEM: high regard

Words with similar meanings:

ADMIRABLE                      COMMENDABLE  
CREDITABLE                      HONOWLE  
LAUDABLE                      MERITORIOUS  
PRAISEWORTHY                      RESPECTABLE  
VENERABLE                      WORTHY

**EULOGY:** speech in praise of someone

His best friend gave the EULOGY, outlining his many achievements and talents.

Words with similar meanings:

COMMEND                      EXTOL  
LAUD

**EUPHEMISM:** use of an inoffensive word or phrase in place of a more distasteful one

The funeral director preferred to use the EUPHEMISM “sleeping” instead of the word “dead.”

Words with similar meanings:

CIRCUMLOCUTION      WHITEWASH

**EXACERBATE:** to make worse

It is unwise to take aspirin to try to relieve heartburn; instead of providing relief, the drug will only EXACERBATE the problem.

Words with similar meanings:

ANNOY                      AGGRAVATE  
INTENSIFY                      IRRITATE  
PROVOKE

**EXCULPATE:** to clear from blame; prove innocent

The adversarial legal system is intended to convict those who are guilty and to EXCULPATE those who are innocent.

Words with similar meanings:

ABSOLVE                      ACQUIT  
CLEAR                      EXONERATE  
VINDICATE



**EXIGENT:** urgent; requiring immediate action

The patient was losing blood so rapidly that it was EXIGENT to stop the source of the bleeding.

Words with similar meanings:

CRITICAL	IMPERATIVE
NEEDED	URGENT

**EXONERATE:** to clear of blame

The fugitive was EXONERATED when another criminal confessed to committing the crime.

Words with similar meanings:

ABSOLVE	ACQUIT
CLEAR	EXCULPATE
VINDICATE	

**EXPLICIT:** clearly stated or shown; forthright in expression

The owners of the house left a list of EXPLICIT instructions detailing their house-sitters' duties, including a schedule for watering the house plants.

Related Words:

EXPLICABLE: capable of being explained  
EXPLICATE: to give a detailed explanation

Words with similar meanings:

CANDID	FRANK
STRAIGHTFORWARD	UNEQUIVOCAL

**FANATICAL:** acting excessively enthusiastic; filled with extreme, unquestioned devotion

The stormtroopers were FANATICAL in their devotion to the Emperor, readily sacrificing their lives for him.

Words with similar meanings:

EXTREMIST	FIERY
FRENZIED	ZEALOUS

**FAWN:** to grovel

The understudy FAWNED over the director in hopes of being cast in the part on a permanent basis.

Words with similar meanings:

BOOTLICK	GROVEL
TOADY	PANDER

**FERVID:** intensely emotional; feverish

The fans of Maria Callas were particularly FERVID, doing anything to catch a glimpse of the great opera singer.

Related Words:

FERVENT: enthusiastic

FERVOR: passion

Words with similar meanings:

BURNING	IMPASSIONED
PASSIONATE	VEHEMENT
ZEALOUS	

**FLORID:** excessively decorated or embellished

The palace had been decorated in an excessively FLORID style; every surface had been carved and gilded.

Words with similar meanings:

BAROQUE	ELABORATE
FLAMBOYANT	ORNATE
OSTENTATIOUS	ROCOCO

**FOMENT:** to arouse or incite

The protesters tried to FOMENT feeling against the war through their speeches and demonstrations.

Words with similar meanings:

AGITATE	IMPASSION
INSTIGATE	INFLAME
KINDLE	



**FRUGALITY:** a tendency to be thrifty or cheap

Scrooge McDuck's FRUGALITY was so great that he accumulated enough wealth to fill a giant storehouse with money.

Words with similar meanings:

ECONOMICAL	PARSIMONY
PRUDENCE	SPARING

**GARRULOUS:** tending to talk a lot

The GARRULOUS parakeet distracted its owner with its continuous talking.

Words with similar meanings:

EFFUSIVE	LOQUACIOUS
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**GREGARIOUS:** outgoing, sociable

She was so GREGARIOUS that when she found herself alone she felt quite sad.

Words with similar meanings:

AFFABLE	CONGENIAL
COMMUNICATIVE	SOCIABLE

**GUILE:** deceit or trickery

Since he was not fast enough to catch the roadrunner on foot, the coyote resorted to GUILE in an effort to trap his enemy.

Related Words:

GUILELESS: innocent, without trickery

Words with similar meanings:

ARTIFICE	CHICANERY
CONNIVERY	DUPLICITY

**GULLIBLE:** easily deceived

The con man pretended to be a bank officer so as to fool GULLIBLE bank customers into giving him their account information.

Related Words:

GULL: a person who is easily tricked

Words with similar meanings:

CREDULOUS	EXPLOITABLE
NAIVE	

**HOMOGENEOUS:** of a similar kind

The class was fairly HOMOGENEOUS, since almost all of the students were senior journalism majors.

Related Words:

HOMOGENIZED: thoroughly mixed together

Words with similar meanings:

CONSISTENT	STANDARDIZED
UNIFORM	UNVARYING

**ICONOCLAST:** one who opposes established beliefs, customs, and institutions

His lack of regard for traditional beliefs soon established him as an ICONOCLAST.

Words with similar meanings:

MAVERICK	NONCONFORMIST
REBEL	REVOLUTIONARY

**IMPERTURBABLE:** not capable of being disturbed

The counselor had so much experience dealing with distraught children that she seemed IMPERTURBABLE, even when faced with the wildest tantrums.

Related Words:

PERTURB: to disturb greatly

Words with similar meanings:

COMPOSED	DISPASSIONATE
IMPASSIVE	SERENE STOICAL

**IMPERVIOUS:** impossible to penetrate; incapable of being affected

A good raincoat will be IMPERVIOUS to moisture.

Words with similar meanings:

RESISTANT	IMPREGNABLE
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**IMPETUOUS:** quick to act without thinking

It is not good for an investment broker to be IMPETUOUS, since much thought should be given to all the possible options.

Related Words:

IMPETUS: impulse

Words with similar meanings:

IMPULSIVE                      PRECIPITATE  
RASH                              RECKLESS  
SPONTANEOUS

**IMPLACABLE:** unable to be calmed down or made peaceful

His rage at the betrayal was so great that he remained IMPLACABLE for weeks.

Related Words:

PLACATE: to make peaceful

Words with similar meanings:

INEXORABLE                      INTRANSIGENT  
IRRECONCILABLE              RELENTLESS  
REMORSELESS                  UNFORGIVING  
UNRELENTING

**INCHOATE:** not fully formed; disorganized

The ideas expressed in Nietzsche's mature work also appear in an INCHOATE form in his earliest writing.

Words with similar meanings:

AMORPHOUS                      INCOHERENT  
INCOMPLETE                      UNORGANIZED

**INGENUOUS:** showing innocence or childlike simplicity

She was so INGENUOUS that her friends feared that her innocence and trustfulness would be exploited when she visited the big city.

Related Words:

INGENUE: a naive girl or young woman

DISINGENUOUS: giving a false impression of innocence

Words with similar meanings:

ARTLESS                              GUILELESS  
INNOCENT                              NAIVE  
SIMPLE                                  UNAFFECTED

**INIMICAL:** hostile, unfriendly

Even though a cease-fire had been in place for months, the two sides were still INIMICAL to each other.

Words with similar meanings:

ADVERSE                              ANTAGONISTIC  
DISSIDENT                              RECALCITRANT

**INNOCUOUS:** harmless

Some snakes are poisonous, but most species are INNOCUOUS and pose no danger to humans.

Words with similar meanings:

BENIGN                                  HARMLESS  
INOFFENSIVE

**INSIPID:** lacking interest or flavor

The critic claimed that the painting was INSIPID, containing no interesting qualities at all.

Words with similar meanings:

BANAL                                  BLAND  
DULL                                      STALE  
VAPID

**INTRANSIGENT:** uncompromising; refusing to be reconciled

The professor was INTRANSIGENT on the deadline, insisting that everyone turn the assignment in at the same time.

Words with similar meanings:

IMPLACABLE                      INEXORABLE  
IRRECONCILABLE              OBDURATE  
OBSTINATE                          REMORSELESS





RIGID                      UNBENDING  
UNRELENTING            UNYIELDING

**INUNDATE:** to overwhelm; to cover with water

The tidal wave INUNDATED Atlantis, which was lost beneath the water.

Words with similar meanings:

DELUGE                      DROWN  
ENGULF                      FLOOD  
SUBMERGE

**IRASCIBLE:** easily made angry

Attila the Hun's IRASCIBLE and violent nature made all who dealt with him fear for their lives.

Related Words:

IRATE: angry

Words with similar meanings:

CANTANKEROUS          IRRITABLE  
ORNERY                      TESTY

**LACONIC:** using few words

She was a LACONIC poet who built her reputation on using words as sparingly as possible.

Words with similar meanings:

CONCISE                      CURT  
PITHY                          TERSE  
TACITURN

**LAMENT:** to express sorrow; to grieve

The children continued to LAMENT the death of the goldfish weeks after its demise.

Words with similar meanings:

BEWAIL                      DEPLORE  
GRIEVE                      MOURN

LAUD: to give praise; to glorify

Parades and fireworks were staged to LAUD the success of the rebels.

Related words:

LAUDABLE: worth of praise

LAUDATORY: expressing praise

Words with similar meanings:

ACCLAIM                      APPLAUD  
COMMEND                    COMPLIMENT  
EXALT                          EXTOL  
HAIL                              PRAISE

**LAVISH:** to give unsparingly (v.); extremely generous or extravagant (adj.)

She LAVISHED the puppy with so many treats that it soon become overweight and spoiled.

Words with similar meanings:

BESTOW                      CONFER  
EXUBERANT                  EXTRAVAGANT  
OPULENT                      PROFUSE  
PRODIGAL                      LUXURIANT  
SUPERABUNDANT

**LETHARGIC:** acting in an indifferent or slow, sluggish manner

The clerk was so LETHARGIC that, even when the store was slow, he always had a long line in front of him.

Words with similar meanings:

APATHETIC                  LANGUID  
LACKADAISICAL              LISTLESS  
TORPID

**LOQUACIOUS:** talkative

She was naturally LOQUACIOUS, which was a problem in situations in which listening was more important than talking.

Related Words:

ELOQUENCE: powerful, convincing speaking

LOQUACITY: the quality of being loquacious

Words with similar meanings:

EFFUSIVE                      GARRULOUS  
VERBOSE



**LUCID:** clear and easily understood

The explanations were written in a simple and LUCID manner so that students were immediately able to apply what they learned.

Related Words:

LUCIDITY: clarity

LUCENT: glowing with light

Words with similar meanings:

CLEAR	COHERENT
EXPLICIT	INTELLIGIBLE
LIMPID	

**LUMINOUS:** bright, brilliant, glowing

The park was bathed in LUMINOUS sunshine which warmed the bodies and the souls of the visitors.

Related Words:

ILLUMINATE: to shine light on

LUMINARY: an inspiring person

Words with similar meanings:

INCANDESCENT	LUCENT
LUSTROUS	RADIANT
RESPLENDENT	

**MALINGER:** to evade responsibility by pretending to be ill

A common way to avoid the draft was by MALINGERING—pretending to be mentally or physically ill so as to avoid being taken by the Army.

Related Words:

LINGER: to be slow in leaving

Words with similar meanings:

SHIRK	SLACK
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**MALLEABLE:** capable of being shaped

Gold is the most MALLEABLE of precious metals; it can easily be formed into almost any shape.

Words with similar meanings:

ADAPTABLE	DUCTILE
PLASTIC	PLIABLE
PLIANT	

**METAPHOR:** a figure of speech comparing two different things; a symbol

The METAPHOR “a sea of troubles” suggests a lot of troubles by comparing their number to the vastness of the sea.

Related Words:

METAPHORICAL: standing as a symbol for something else

Words with similar meanings:

ANALOGY	COMPARISON
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**METICULOUS:** extremely careful about details

To find all the clues at the crime scene, the investigators METICULOUSLY examined every inch of the area.

Words with similar meanings:

CONSCIENTIOUS	PRECISE
SCRUPULOUS	

**MISANTHROPE:** a person who dislikes others

The character Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* is such a MISANTHROPE that even the sight of children singing makes him angry.

**MITIGATE:** to soften; to lessen

A judge may MITIGATE a sentence if she decides that a person committed a crime out of need.

Words with similar meanings:

ALLAY	ALLEVIATE
ASSUAGE	EASE
LIGHTEN	MODERATE
MOLLIFY	PALLIATE
TEMPER	



**MOLLIFY:** to calm or make less severe

Their argument was so intense that it was difficult to believe any compromise would MOLLIFY them.

Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE	ASSUAGE
CONCILIATE	PACIFY

**MONOTONY:** lack of variation

The MONOTONY of the sound of the dripping faucet almost drove the research assistant crazy.

Related Words:

MONOTONE: a sound that is made at the same tone or pitch

Words with similar meanings:

DRONE	TEDIUM
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**NAIVE:** lacking sophistication or experience

Having never travelled before, the hillbillies were more NAIVE than the people they met in Beverly Hills.

Related Words:

NAIVETE: the state of being naive

Words with similar meanings:

ARTLESS	CREDULOUS
GUILELESS	INGENUOUS
SIMPLE	UNAFFECTED

**OBDURATE:** hardened in feeling; resistant to persuasion

The President was completely OBDURATE on the issue, and no amount of persuasion would change his mind.

Words with similar meanings:

INFLEXIBLE	INTRANSIGENT
RECALCITRANT	TENACIOUS
UNYIELDING	

**OBSEQUIOUS:** overly submissive and eager to please

The OBSEQUIOUS new associate made sure to compliment her supervisor's tie and agree with him on every issue.

Related Words:

OBEISANCE: a physical show of respect or submission, such as a bow

Words with similar meanings:

COMPLIANT	DEFERENTIAL
SERVILE	SUBSERVIENT

**OBSTINATE:** stubborn, unyielding

The OBSTINATE child could not be made to eat any food that he disliked.

Words with similar meanings:

INTRANSIGENT	MULISH
PERSISTENT	PERTINACIOUS
STUBBORN	TENACIOUS

**OBVIATE:** to prevent; to make unnecessary

The river was shallow enough to wade across at many points, which OBVIATED the need for a bridge.

Words with similar meanings:

FORESTALL	PRECLUDE
PROHIBIT	

**OCCLUDE:** to stop up; to prevent the passage of

A shadow is thrown across the Earth's surface during a solar eclipse, when the light from the sun is OCCLUDED by the moon.

Words with similar meanings:

BARRICADE	BLOCK
CLOSE	OBSTRUCT



**ONEROUS:** troublesome and oppressive; burdensome

The assignment was so extensive and difficult to manage that it proved **ONEROUS** to the team in charge of it.

Words with similar meanings:

ARDUOUS	BACKBREAKING
BURDENSOME	CUMBERSOME
DIFFICULT	EXACTING
FORMIDABLE	HARD
LABORIOUS	OPPRESSIVE
RIGOROUS	TAXING
TRYING	

**OPAQUE:** impossible to see through; preventing the passage of light

The heavy buildup of dirt and grime on the windows almost made them **OPAQUE**.

Related Words:

**OPACITY** the quality of being obscure and indecipherable

Words with similar meanings:

**OBSCURE**

**OPPROBRIUM:** public disgrace

After the scheme to embezzle the elderly was made public, the treasurer resigned in utter **OPPROBRIUM**.

Words with similar meanings:

DISCREDIT	DISGRACE
DISHONOR	DISREPUTE
IGNOMINY	INFAMY
OBLOQUY	SHAME

**OSTENTATION:** excessive showiness

The **OSTENTATION** of the Sun King's court is evident in the lavish decoration and luxuriousness of his palace at Versailles.

Related Words:

**OSTENSIBLE:** apparent

Words with similar meanings:

CONSPICUOUSNESS	FLASHINESS
PRETENTIOUSNESS	SHOWINESS

**PARADOX:** a contradiction or dilemma

It is a **PARADOX** that those most in need of medical attention are often those least able to obtain it.

Words with similar meanings:

INCONGRUITY	AMBIGUITY
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**PARAGON:** model of excellence or perfection

She is the **PARAGON** of what a judge should be: honest, intelligent, hardworking, and just.

Words with similar meanings:

APOTHEOSIS	IDEAL
QUINTESENCE	STANDARD

**PEDANT:** someone who shows off learning

The graduate instructor's tedious and excessive commentary on the subject soon gained her a reputation as a **PEDANT**.

Related Words:

**PEDANTIC:** making an excessive display of learning

**PERFIDIOUS:** willing to betray one's trust

The actress's **PERFIDIOUS** companion revealed all of her intimate secrets to the gossip columnist.

Related Words:

**PERFIDY:** deceit, treachery

Words with similar meanings:

DISLOYAL	FAITHLESS
TREACHEROUS	TRAITOROUS

**PERFUNCTORY:** done in a routine way; indifferent

The machinelike bank teller processed the transaction and gave the waiting customer a **PERFUNCTORY** smile.

Words with similar meanings:

APATHETIC	AUTOMATIC
MECHANICAL	



**PERMEATE:** to penetrate

This miraculous new cleaning fluid is able to PERMEATE stains and dissolve them in minutes!

Related Words:

IMPERMEABLE: unable to be permeated

Words with similar meanings:

IMBUE                      INFUSE  
SUFFUSE

**PHILANTHROPY:** charity; a desire or effort to promote goodness

New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art owes much of its collection to the PHILANTHROPY of private collectors who willed their estates to the museum.

Related Words:

PHILANTHROPIST: someone who is generous and desires to promote goodness

Words with similar meanings:

HUMANITARIANISM    ALTRUISM

**PLACATE:** to soothe or pacify

The burglar tried to PLACATE the snarling dog by saying, "Nice doggy," and offering it a treat

Related Words:

PLACID: tolerant; calm

IMPLACABLE: unable to be made peaceful

Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE                      CONCILIATE  
MOLLIFY

**PLASTIC:** able to be molded, altered, or bent

The new material was very PLASTIC and could be formed into products of vastly different shape.

Words with similar meanings:

ADAPTABLE                      DUCTILE  
MALLEABLE                      PLIANT

**PLETHORA:** excess

Assuming that more was better, the defendant offered the judge a PLETHORA of excuses.

Words with similar meanings:

GLUT                              OVERABUNDANCE  
SUPERFLUITY                      SURFEIT

**PRAGMATIC:** practical as opposed to idealistic

While daydreaming gamblers think they can get rich by frequenting casinos, PRAGMATIC gamblers realize that the odds are heavily stacked against them.

Related Words:

PRAGMATISM: a practical approach to problem solving

Words with similar meanings:

REALISTIC                      RATIONAL

**PRECIPITATE:** to throw violently or bring about abruptly; lacking deliberation

Upon learning that the couple married after knowing each other only two months, friends and family members expected such a PRECIPITATE marriage to end in divorce.

Related Words:

PRECIPITOUS: very steep

PRECIPICE: a steep cliff

PRECIPITATION: weather phenomena, like rain or snow, that fall from the sky

Words with similar meanings:

ABRUPT                              HASTY  
HEADLONG                              HURRIED  
ILL-CONSIDERED                      IMPETUOUS  
IMPULSIVE                              PROMPT  
RASH                                      RECKLESS  
SUDDEN



**PREVARICATE:** to lie or deviate from the truth

Rather than admit that he had overslept again, the employee PREVARICATED and claimed that heavy traffic had prevented him from arriving at work on time.

Words with similar meanings:

EQUIVOCATE            LIE  
PERJURE

**PRISTINE:** fresh and clean; uncorrupted

Since concerted measures had been taken to prevent looting, the archeological site was still PRISTINE when researchers arrived.

Words with similar meanings:

INNOCENT            UNDAMAGED

**PRODIGAL:** lavish, wasteful

The PRODIGAL Son quickly wasted all of his inheritance on a lavish lifestyle devoted to pleasure.

Related Words:

PRODIGALITY: excessive or reckless spending

Words with similar meanings:

EXTRAVAGANT        LAVISH  
PROFLIGATE        SPENDTHRIFT  
WASTEFUL

**PROLIFERATE:** to increase in number quickly

Although he only kept two guinea pigs initially, they PROLIFERATED to such an extent that he soon had dozens.

Related Words:

PROLIFIC: very productive or highly able to reproduce rapidly

Words with similar meanings:

BREED            MULTIPLY  
PROCREATE        PROPAGATE  
REPRODUCE        SPAWN

**PROPITIATE:** to conciliate; to appease

The management PROPITIATED the irate union by agreeing to raise wages for its members.

Related Words:

PROPITIOUS: advantageous, favorable

Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE            CONCILIATE  
MOLLIFY            PACIFY  
PLACATE

**PROPRIETY:** correct behavior; obedience to rules and customs

The aristocracy maintained a high level of PROPRIETY, adhering to even the most minor social rules.

Related Words:

APPROPRIATE: suitable for a particular occasion or place

Words with similar meanings:

DECENCY            DECORUM  
MODESTY            SEMLINESS

**PRUDENCE:** wisdom, caution, or restraint

The college student exhibited PRUDENCE by obtaining practical experience along with her studies, which greatly strengthened her rksumk.

Related Words:

PRUDE: someone who is excessively concerned with propriety

PRUDISH: prissy and puritanical

Words with similar meanings:

ASTUTENESS        CIRCUMSPECTION  
DISCRETION        FRUGALITY  
JUDICIOUSNESS    PROVIDENCE  
THRIFT

**PUNGENT:** sharp and irritating to the senses

The smoke from the burning tires was extremely PUNGENT.



Words with similar meanings:

ACRID                      CAUSTIC  
PIQUANT                  POIGNANT  
STINGING

**QUIESCENT:** motionless

Many animals are QUIESCENT over the winter months, minimizing activity in order to conserve energy.

Related Words:

QUIESCENCE: state of rest or inactivity

Words with similar meanings:

LATENT                      DORMANT

**RAREFY:** to make thinner or sparser

Since the atmosphere RAREFIES as altitudes increase, the air at the top of very tall mountains is too thin to breathe.

Related Words:

RAREFACTION: the process of making something less dense

Words with similar meanings:

ATTENUATE                  THIN

**REPUDIATE:** to reject the validity of

The old woman's claim that she was Russian royalty was REPUDIATED when DNA tests showed she was of no relation to them.

Words with similar meanings:

DENY                          DISAVOW  
DISCLAIM                  DISOWN  
RENOUNCE

**RETICENT:** silent, reserved

Physically small and RETICENT in her speech, Joan Didion often went unnoticed by those upon whom she was reporting.

Words with similar meanings:

COOL                          INTROVERTED  
LACONIC                      STANDOFFISH  
TACITURN                      UNDEMONSTRATIVE

**RHETORIC:** effective writing or speaking

Lincoln's talent for RHETORIC was evident in his beautifully expressed Gettysburg Address.

Words with similar meanings:

ELOQUENCE                  ORATORY

**SATIATE:** to satisfy fully or overindulge

His desire for power was so great that nothing less than complete control of the country could SATIATE it.

Related Words:

SATE: to fully satisfy or overindulge  
INSATIABLE: incapable of being satisfied

Words with similar meanings:

CLOY                          GLUT  
GORGE                          SURFEIT

**SOPORIFIC:** causing sleep or lethargy

The movie proved to be so SOPORIFIC that soon loud snores were heard throughout the theater.

Related Words:

SOPOR: deep sleep

Words with similar meanings:

HYPNOTIC                      NARCOTIC  
SLUMBEROUS                  SOMNOLENT

**SPECIOUS:** deceptively attractive; seemingly plausible but fallacious

The student's SPECIOUS excuse for being late sounded legitimate, but was proved otherwise when his teacher called his home.

Words with similar meanings:

ILLUSORY                      OSTENSIBLE  
PLAUSIBLE                      SPURIOUS  
SOPHISTICAL



**STIGMA:** a mark of shame or discredit

In *The Scarlet Letter*, Hester Prynne was required to wear the letter “A” on her clothes as a public STIGMA for her adultery.

Related Words:

STIGMATIZE: to disgrace; to label with negative terms or reputation

Words with similar meanings:

BLEMISH	BLOT
OPPROBRIUM	STAIN
TAINT	

**STOLID:** unemotional; lacking sensitivity

The prisoner appeared STOLID and unaffected by the judge’s harsh sentence.

Words with similar meanings:

APATHETIC	IMPASSIVE
INDIFFERENT	PHLEGMATIC
STOICAL	UNCONCERNED

**SUBLIME:** lofty or grand

The music was so SUBLIME that it transformed the rude surroundings into a special place.

Related Words:

SUBLIMATE: to elevate or convert into something of higher worth

SUBLIMINAL: existing outside conscious awareness

Words with similar meanings:

AUGUST	EXALTED
GLORIOUS	GRAND
MAGNIFICENT	MAJESTIC
NOBLE	REGAL
RESPLENDENT	SUPERB

**TACIT:** done without using words

Although not a word had been said, everyone in the room knew that a TACIT agreement had been made about which course of action to take.

Related Words:

TACITURN: silent, not talkative

Words with similar meanings:

IMPLICIT	IMPLIED
UNDECLARED	UNSAID
UNUTTERED	

**TACITURN:** silent, not talkative

The clerk’s TACITURN nature earned him the nickname “Silent Bob.”

Related Words:

TACIT: done without using words

Words with similar meanings:

LACONIC	RETICENT
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**TIRADE:** long, harsh speech or verbal attack

Observers were shocked at the manager’s TIRADE over such a minor mistake.

Words with similar meanings:

DIATRIBE	FULMINATION
HARANGUE	OBLOQUY
REVILEMENT	VILIFICATION

**TORPOR:** extreme mental and sluggishness

After surgery, the patient experienced TORPOR until the anesthesia wore off.

Related Words:

TORPID: sluggish, lacking movement

Words with similar meanings:

APATHY	LANGUOR
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**TRANSITORY:** temporary, lasting a brief time

The reporter lived a TRANSITORY life, staying in one place only long enough to cover the current story.

Related Words:

TRANSIT: to pass through; to change or make a transition

TRANSIENT: passing quickly in and out of existence; one who stays a short time





Words with similar meanings:

EPHEMERAL                      EVANESCENT  
 FLEETING                        IMPERMANENT  
 MOMENTARY

**VACILLATE:** to sway physically; to be indecisive

The customer held up the line as he  
 VACILLATED between ordering chocolate  
 chip or rocky road ice cream.

Words with similar meanings:

DITHER                          FALTER  
 FLUCTUATE                      OSCILLATE  
 WAVER

**VENERATE:** to respect deeply

In a traditional Confucian society, the  
 young VENERATE their elders, deferring to  
 the elders' wisdom and experience.

Related Words:

VENERABLE: old, worthy of respect

Words with similar meanings:

ADORE                          HONOR  
 IDOLIZE                        REVERE

**VERACITY:** conformity to truth, accuracy

She had a reputation for VERACITY, so  
 everyone trusted her description of events.

Related Words:

VERITY: truth

VERACIOUS: truthful, accurate

Words with similar meanings:

CANDOR                        EXACTITUDE  
 FIDELITY                        PROBITY

**VERBOSE:** wordy

The professor's answer was so VERBOSE  
 that his student forgot what the original  
 question had been.

Related Words:

VERBALIZE: to put into words

VERBATIM: to quote using the exact words,  
 word for word

VERBIAGE: lots of words that are usually  
 superfluous

Words with similar meanings:

LONG-WINDED                      LOQUACIOUS  
 PROLIX                              SUPERFLUOUS

**VEX:** to annoy

The old man who loved his peace and quiet  
 was VEXED by his neighbor's loud music.

Related Words:

VEXATION: a feeling of irritation

Words with similar meanings:

ANNOY                          BOTHER  
 CHAFE                            EXASPERATE  
 IRK                                NETTLE  
 PEEVE                            PROVOKE

**VOLATILE:** easily aroused or changeable; lively  
 or explosive

His VOLATILE personality made it difficult  
 to predict his reaction to anything.

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS                      ERRATIC  
 FICKLE                            INCONSISTENT  
 INCONSTANT                      MERCURIAL  
 TEMPERAMENTAL

**WAVER:** to fluctuate between choices

If you WAVER too long before making a  
 decision about which testing site to register  
 for, you may not get your first choice.

Words with similar meanings:

DITHER                          FALTER  
 FLUCTUATE                      OSCILLATE  
 VACILLATE

**WHIMSICAL:** acting in a fanciful or capricious manner; unpredictable

The ballet was WHIMSICAL, delighting the children with its imaginative characters and unpredictable sets.

Related Words:

WHIM: a fancy or sudden notion

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS	ERRATIC
FRIVOLOUS	FLIPPANT

**ZEAL:** passion, excitement

She brought her typical ZEAL to the project, sparking enthusiasm in the other team members.

Related Words:

ZEALOT: a fanatic

Words with similar meanings:

ARDENCY	FERVOR
FIRE	PASSION



# Phobias

A phobia is an excessive fear of something. There are numerous 'phobias' and the following is a list of the most common phobias that appear in entrance exams.

Ablutophobia	Fear of bathing, washing, or cleaning.	Megalophobia	Fear of large things.
Acrophobia	Fear of heights.	Melanophobia	Fear of the color black.
Agoraphobia	Fear of open spaces or crowds.	Microphobia	Fear of small things.
Androphobia	Fear of men.	Necrophobia	Fear of death or dead things.
Anthrophobia	Fear of flowers.	Octophobia	Fear of the figure 8.
Anthropophobia	Fear of people or society.	Ornithophobia	Fear of birds.
Arachnophobia	Fear of spiders.	Osmophobia/ Olfactophobia	Fear of smells
Ataxophobia	Fear of disorder or untidiness.	Pedophobia	Fear of children.
Bibliophobia	Fear of books.	Philophobia	Fear of love.
Cacophobia	Fear of ugliness.	Phobophobia	Fear of phobias.
Chromophobia	Fear of colors.	Podophobia	Fear of feet.
Chronomentrophobia	Fear of clocks.	Pteridophobia	Fear of ferns.
Claustrophobia	Fear of confined spaces.	Pyrophobia	Fear of fire.
Entomophobia	Fear of insects.	Somniphobia	Fear of sleep.
Equinophobia	Fear of horses.	Tachophobia	Fear of speed.
Heliophobia	Fear of the sun.	Technophobia	Fear of technology.
Hemophobia	Fear of blood.	Triskaidekaphobia	Fear of the number 13
Herpetophobia	Fear of reptiles.	Verminophobia	Fear of germs.
Hydrophobia	Fear of water.	Xenophobia	Fear of strangers or foreigners.
Leukophobia	Fear of the color white.	Zoophobia	Fear of animals.

Also refer to [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_phobias](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_phobias) for an enhanced listing.

## -ologies & -ographies

**-ology**, a suffix derived from the Greek *logos*, means the ‘study of’, ‘specialty in’ or ‘art of’ a given scientific or medical field.

**-ography**, a English suffix meaning either “writing” or a “field of study”, and is an anglicization of the French *-graphie* inherited from the Latin *-graphia*

The following table lists a few words related to study of a specific field.

anthropology	Natural history of man	ergonomics	Relationship between worker and environment
apiology	Bees	eschatology	Death and the after-life
archaeology	Material remains of the past	ethnology	Origins and characteristics of individual races and peoples
astrology	Prediction through celestial observation	etiology	Causes of disease
astronomy	Celestial bodies excluding the Earth	etymology	Source and development of words
bacteriology	Bacteria	genealogy	Evolution and descent of a species or family
cartography	Maps and Mapmaking	geochronology	Relationship of time to Earth’s history
cetology	Whales	geology	Structure of the earth
climatology	The climate	graphology	Handwriting
conchology	Sea shells	gynaecology	Diseases of the female reproductive system
cosmology	Origin and nature of the universe	haematology	Blood and its diseases
criminology	Crimes	herpetology	Reptiles
cryogenics	Very low temperatures	hippology	Horses
cryptography	Codes and ciphers	histology	Human tissues
cytogenetics	Heredity and variation in cells	hydrography	Surveying and mapping of the rivers and seas
cytology	Plant and animal cells	hydrology	Distribution and use of the earth’s water
dendrology	Trees	ichthyology	Fishes
demography	Size and distribution of human populations	ideology	Ideas and concepts
ecology	Relationships between life and its natural habitats	lithology	Physical characteristics of rocks
embryology	Changes in plants and animals as embryos	mammology	Mammals
entomology	Insects		

metallurgy	Structure of metals and alloys	pharmacology	Drugs and their effect on the body
meteorology	The atmosphere, especially the weather	philology	History of language
metrology	Measurement	phonetics	Vocal sounds
mineralogy	Composition and characteristics of minerals	phonology	Sounds within a language
morphology	Form and structure	philosophy	Explanation of nature and science by rational argument
mycology	Fungi	physiology	Functions of organisms and their parts
myrmecology	Ants	phylogeny	Origins of plants
mythology	Interpretation of stories and myths	psychology	Human and animal behaviour
nephology	Clouds	seismology	Earthquakes
neurology	Nerves and the nervous system	semantics	Meaning of language
oceanography	Oceans and seas	semiology	Symptoms of disease
odontology	Teeth	sociology	Society
ophthalmology	Eyes	speleology	Caves
ornithology	Birds	statics	Forces in equilibrium
orography	Mountains	statistics	Collection and interpretation of quantitative data
osteology	Bones	taxonomy	Classification of animals and plants
otology	Ears	thanatology	Death
palaeography	Ancient writings	theology	Religion and the nature of divinity
palaeontology	Determination of the past from fossils	topography	Surface features of a region
pathology	Causes and results of disease	toxicology	Poisons
pedology	Soil	uranography	Mapping the stars and galaxies
petrography	Description and classification of rocks	virology	Viral diseases
petrology	Composition, origin and formation of rocks	vucanology	Volcanos
		zoology	Animals



## Adjectives based on animal family

<b>Animal</b>	<b>Adjective</b>	<b>Animal</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
Ape	simian	Ass/Donkey	asinine
Bear	ursine	Bee	apian, apiarian
Cat	feline	Cattle	bovine, vaccine (female), taurine (male)
Dog	canine	Eagle	aquiline
Elephant	elephantine	Fox	vulpine
Goat	caprine, hircine	Horse	equine
Lion	leonine	Monkey	simian
Mouse	murine	Ox	bovine
Pig	porcine, suilline	Rat	murine
Wolf	lupine		



# Foreign Words

## French

au pair	a young foreigner who does domestic chores in exchange for room and board.
bête noire	someone or something which is particularly disliked or avoided
coup de grace	A final blow or shot given to kill a wounded person or animal
coup d'état	The sudden overthrow of a government, differing from a revolution by being carried out by a small group of people who replace only the leading figures
coup de force	a sudden violent action
coup de maître	stroke of the master, master stroke
déjà vu	an impression or illusion of having seen or experienced something before
enfant terrible	a disruptively unconventional person
gaucherie	A lack of tact, awkwardness
idée fixe	fixed idea
joie de vivre	“joy of life/living”
laissez faire	leaving alone, or non-interference
Neé	maiden or family name of a married woman
noblesse oblige	those granted a higher station in life have a duty to extend (possibly token) favours/courtesies to those in lower stations
pot pourri	A jar or packet of flower leaves, perfumes, and spices, used to scent a room
savoir faire	to respond appropriately to any situation
tête-à-tête	private conversation between two people
vis-à-vis	in comparison with or in relation to

## Latin

ad hoc	Generally means “for this”, in the sense of improvised on the spot or designed for only a specific, immediate purpose
ad infinitum	Going on forever
ad nauseam	to the point of nausea, “sick of it”
advocatus diabolic	“devil’s advocate,” making an argument for something you don’t necessarily believe in.

bona fide	in good faith, genuinely or sincerely
carpe diem	seize the pleasures of the moment without concern for the future
Caveat	Beware or warning
ceteris paribus	Idiomatically translated as “all other things being equal” - that is, disregarding or eliminating the possibility of other factors in a situation
deus ex machine	a god from a machine, A contrived or artificial solution, usually to a literary plot
et cetera	used to mean ‘and so on’ or ‘and more’
in absentia	in the absence
in medias res	into the middle of things
in situ	In the original place, appropriate position, or natural arrangement
in flagrante delicto	“caught red-handed” caught in the act of committing a crime
inter alia	among other things
ipso facto	by that very fact
Lacuna	An empty space or a gap
lingua franca	A medium of communication between peoples of different languages
magnum opus	great work, masterpiece
mea culpa	my fault
Modulo	except for
modus Vivendi	method of living
non sequitur`	a comment which is absurd due to not making sense in its context (rather than due to being inherently nonsensical or internally inconsistent), often used in humor
nota bene	please note or note it well
per se	“by itself” or “in itself”. Without referring to anything else, intrinsically, taken without qualifications.
persona non grata	An unwelcome, unwanted or undesirable person.
Placebo	a pill having no effect whatsoever except psychologically
prima facie	at dawn, at first view.
pro forma	Prescribing a set form or procedure, or performed in a set manner
quid pro quo	“this for that” or “a thing for a thing”. Signifies a favor exchanged for a favor.



recto/verso	right-hand, left-hand page
reductio ad absurdum	“leading back to the absurd” a tactic in which the logic of an argument is challenged by reducing the concept to its most absurd extreme
sine qua non	Used to denote something that is an essential part of the whole
status quo	The current condition or situation
sub rosa	“In secret”, “privately”, “confidentially” or “covertly”
sui generis	In a class of its own
Verbatim	Refers to perfect transcription or quotation

## Greek

Eureka	an exclamation used as an interjection to celebrate a discovery
Heuristic	an adjective for experience-based techniques that help in problem solving, learning and discovery. A heuristic method is used to rapidly come to a solution that is hoped to be close to the best possible answer, or ‘optimal solution
hoi polloi	an expression meaning “the many”, or in the strictest sense, “the majority” in Greek, is used in English to denote “the masses” or “the people”, usually in a derogatory sense
Hubris	means extreme haughtiness or arrogance. Hubris often indicates a loss of touch with reality and overestimating one’s own competence or capabilities, especially for people in positions of power
kudos	“fame” and “renown” resulting from an act or achievement

## German

Angst	fear or anxiety
blitzkrieg	“lightning war” .a coordinated military effort by tanks, mobilized infantry, artillery and aircraft, to create an overwhelming local superiority in combat power, to overwhelm an enemy and break through its lines
doppelganger	any double or look-alike of a person
Ersatz	substitute or replacement.
führer	‘leader’ or ‘guide’ used figuratively for anyone who demands and asserts unrestrained authority and power the way the fascist leaders did
gestalt	form or shape
Kaput	“destroyed” or “broken”

kitsch	Art or decoration exemplifying taste both pretentious and bad. More broadly, anything that appeals to a popular, vulgar sensibility.
leitmotiv	“leading motif”, a recurring musical theme, associated with a particular person, place, or idea
putsch	A sudden attempt by a group to overthrow a government
realpolitik	real “realistic”, “practical” or “actual”; and Politik “politics”) refers to politics or diplomacy based primarily on practical considerations, rather than ideological notions or moralistic premises
schadenfreude	pleasure derived from the misfortunes of others
wanderlust	strong desire for or impulse to wander, travel, explore the world
yodel	form of singing that involves singing an extended note which rapidly and repeatedly changes in pitch from the vocal, making a high-low-high-low sound
chutzpah	to describe someone who has over-stepped the boundaries of accepted behavior with no shame
Kosher	“right, fit”; allowed to be eaten according to the dietary or ceremonial laws of Judaism, extended to anything that is proper, legitimate, acceptable
ombudsman	a person who acts as a trusted intermediary between an organization and some internal or external constituency while representing the broad scope of constituent interests
<b>Italian</b>	
cognoscente	Someone possessing superior or specialized knowledge in a particular field
diva	a woman of outstanding talent in the world of opera, and by extension in theatre, cinema and popular music
dolce vita	The good life, full of pleasure and indulgence
numero uno	One that is first in rank, order, or importance
paparazzo	a freelance photographer who specializes in candid camera shots of famous people and often invades their privacy to obtain such photographs
prima donna	“first lady”. The term was used to designate the leading female singer in the opera company, the person to whom the prime roles would be given
sotto voce	intentionally lowering one’s voice for emphasis
viva voce	“by word of mouth.”

## Spanish

hombre	an informal term for a youth or man
incomunicado	a situation or a behaviour due to which communication with outsiders is not possible, for either voluntary or involuntary reasons, especially due to confinement or reclusiveness
parador	kind of luxury hotel, usually located in an historic building such as a monastery or castle
pronto	Without delay; quickly

## Russian

glasnost	the policy of maximal publicity, openness, and transparency in the activities of all government institutions in the Soviet Union, together with freedom of information
perestroika	“restructuring”, referring to the political and economic reforms.
politburo	executive committee for a number of communist political parties
troika	three of a kind, a collection of three

## Japanese

bonsai	the art of growing trees, or woody plants shaped as trees, in containers
hara-kiri	Suicide, by slashing the abdomen, formerly practiced in Japan, and commanded by the government in the cases of disgraced officials; disembowelment
Ikebana	Japanese art of flower arrangement
kimono	Japanese traditional garment worn by women, men and children
kamikaze	suicide attacks by military aviators from the Empire of Japan against Allied naval vessels in the closing stages of World War II, designed to destroy as many warships as possible.
ninja	covert agent
origami	Japanese folk art of paper folding
Sayonara	“goodbye”
tsunami	a series of water waves caused by the displacement of a large volume of a body of water, such as an ocean



# Word Clusters

Learning words in groups is an efficient way of increasing your vocabulary, since you are often tested on a general sense of what a word means.

What is meant by a general sense? Consider the following list of words:

criticize, aspersion, belittle, berate, calumny, castigate, decry, defamation, denounce, deride, derisive, diatribe, rebuke

These words would definitely have a distinct shades of meaning, but then the entire group of words also have something common – they all are in a sense negative about others. Having as simple a understanding as above (words connote a negativity towards others), is enough to answer questions in the exam.

E.g. : What among the following would be closest to the opposite of DENOUNCE:

a) blaspheme   b) acclaim   c) permit   d) gather   e) assist

And the answer to the above question? Well, that would be drawn from the list of words that connote positivity towards others.

Again without knowing the exact meaning of each specific word and just having the notion that all the following words is about positives of others is enough to answer the question:

praise, acclaim, accolade, aggrandize, encomium, eulogize, extol, fawn, laud/laudatory, venerate/ veneration

This is why learning words in groups is a better general strategy for beefing up your vocabulary.

**IMPORTANT: Remember, the categories in which following words are listed are GENERAL and not to be taken for the exact definitions of the words.**

## **BOLD**

audacious   courageous   dauntless

## **CHANGING QUICKLY**

capricious   mercurial   volatile

## **HESITATE**

dither   oscillate   teeter  
vacillate   waver

## **ACT QUICKLY**

apace   abrupt   headlong  
impetuous   precipitate

## **INNOCENT/INEXPERIENCED**

credulous   gullible   naive  
ingenuous   novice   tyro

## **DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND**

abstruse   ambiguous   arcane  
bemusing   cryptic   enigmatic  
esoteric   inscrutable   obscure  
opaque   paradoxical   perplexing  
recondite   turbid

**EASY TO UNDERSTAND**

articulate      cogent      eloquent  
evident      limpid      lucid  
pellucid

**SMART/LEARNED**

astute      canny      erudite  
perspicacious

**CRITICIZE/CRITICISM**

aspersion      calumny      defamation  
diatribe      gainsay      inveigh  
objurgate      remonstrate      reprove  
vituperate      belittle      castigate  
denounce      disparage      harangue  
lambaste      opprobrium      rebuke  
revile      berate      decry  
deride/derisive      excoriate      impugn  
obloquy      pillory      reprehend  
tirade

**CAROUSAL**

bacchanalian      iniquity      licentious  
salacious      depraved      libertine  
reprobate      sordid      dissipated  
libidinous      ribald      turpitude

**TRUTH**

Candour /candid      indisputable  
probity      verity      fealty  
indubitable      sincere      frankness  
legitimate      veracious

**FALSEHOOD**

apocryphal      dissemble      canard  
duplicity      chicanery      equivocate  
erroneous      feigned      mendacity  
specious      ersatz      guile  
perfidy      spurious      fallacious  
mendacious      prevaricate

**BITING** (as in wit or temperament)

acerbic      asperity      mordacious  
acidulous      caustic      trenchant  
acrimonious      mordant

**PRAISE**

acclaim      encomium      fawn  
accolade      eulogize      laud/laudatory  
aggrandize      extol      venerate

**HARMFUL**

baleful      inimical      minatory  
baneful      injurious      perfidious  
deleterious      insidious      pernicious

**TIMID/TIMIDITY**

craven      recreant      diffident  
timorous      pusillanimous      trepidation

**BORING**

banal      insipid      platitude  
trite      fatuous      mundane  
prosaic      hackneyed      pedestrian  
quotidian

**WEAKEN**

adulterate      enervate      exacerbate  
inhibit      undermine      obviate  
vitate      stultify

**ASSIST**

abet      bolster      espouse  
proponent      advocate      corroborate  
mainstay      stalwart      ancillary  
countenance      munificent      sustenance

**HOSTILE**

antithetic      irascible      truculent  
churlish      malevolent      vindictive  
curmudgeon      misanthropic



**STUBBORN**

implacable	intransigent	recalcitrant
untoward	inexorable	obdurate
refractory	vexing	intractable
obstinate	renitent	

**BEGINNING/YOUNG**

burgeoning	inchoate	callow
incipient	engender	nascent

**GENEROUS/KIND**

altruistic	largess	philanthropic
beneficent	magnanimous	unstinting
clement	munificent	

**GREEDY**

avaricious	miserly	rapacious
covetous	penurious	mercenary
venal		

**TERSE**

compendious	pithy	curt
succinct	laconic	taciturn

**OVERBLOWN/WORDY**

bombastic	circumlocution	garrulous
grandiloquent	loquacious	periphrastic
prolix	rhetoric	turgid
verbose		

**DICTATORIAL**

dogmatic	hegemonic	peremptory
authoritarian	despotic	hegemony
imperious	tyrannical	

**HATRED**

abhorrence	antipathy	loathing
rancor	antagonism	anathema
detestation	enmity	malice
odium		

**BEGINNER/AMATEUR**

dilettante	novitiate	fledgling
proselyte	neophyte	tyro

**LAZY/SLUGGISH**

indolent	languid	phlegmatic
torpid	inert	lassitude
quiescent	lackadaisical	lethargic
slothful		

**PACIFY**

ameliorate	defer	placate
slake	appease	mitigate
propitiate	assuage	mollify

**FORGIVE**

absolve	exonerate	redress
acquit	expiate	vindicate
exculpate	palliate	

**POOR**

destitute	impecunious	esurient
indigent		

**FAVOURING/NOT IMPARTIAL**

ardour/ardent	partisan	doctrinaire
tendentious	fervid	zealot

**DENYING OF SELF**

abnegate	Spartan	abstain
stoic	ascetic	temperate

**WALKING ABOUT**

ambulatory	itinerant	peripatetic
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**INSINCERE**

disingenuous	ostensible	dissemble
unctuous	fulsome	



**PREVENT/ OBSTRUCT**

discomfit	fetter	forfend
inhibit	encumber	hinder
occlude	impede	

**ECCENTRIC/DISSIMILAR**

anomalous	esoteric	anachronism
discrete	aberrant	eclectic
iconoclast		

**FUNNY**

facetious	jocular	raillery
chortle	flippant	levity
riposte	droll	gibe
ludicrous	simper	

**SORROW**

disconsolate	doleful	elegiac
forlorn	lugubrious	melancholy
plaintive	threnody	dolor
lament	morose	

**DISGUSTING/OFFENSIVE**

defile	noisome	rebarbative
fetid	odious	invidious
putrid		

**WITHDRAWAL/RETREAT**

abeyance	abjure	abnegation
abortive	abrogate	decamp
demur	recant	recidivism
remission	rescind	renege
retrograde		

**DEATH/MOURNING**

bereave	cadaver	defunct
demise	dolorous	elegy
knell	lament	macabre
moribund	obsequies	sepulchral
wraith		

**COPY**

counterpart	emulate	facsimile
factitious	paradigm	precursor
quintessence	simulated	vicarious

**EQUAL**

equitable	equity	tantamount
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**UNUSUAL**

aberration	anomaly	idiosyncrasy
iconoclast		

**WANDERING**

discursive	expatiate	forage
itinerant	peregrination	peripatetic
sojourn		

**GAPS/OPENINGS**

abatement	aperture	fissure
hiatus	interstice	interregnum
lull	orifice	respite
rent	rift	

**HEALTHY**

beneficial	salubrious	salutary
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**ABBREVIATED COMMUNICATION**

abridge	compendium	cursor
curtail	syllabus	synopsis
terse		

**WISDOM**

adage	axiom	epigram
truism	aphorism	bromide
platitude	apothegm	dictum
sententious		

**FAMILY**

conjugal	consanguine	endogamous
filial	progenitor	scion
distaff	fratricide	





**NOT A STRAIGHT LINE**

askance	carom	gyrate
oblique	sinuous	awry
circuitous	labyrinth	serrated
undulating	careen	circumvent
meander	sidle	vortex

**INVESTIGATE**

appraise	descry	ascertain
peruse	assay	

**TIME/ORDER/DURATION**

anachronism	anterior	eon
fortnight	synchronous	antecede
archaic	ephemeral	millennium
temporal	antedate	diurnal
epoch	penultimate	

**BAD MOOD**

bilious	petulant	querulous
dudgeon	pettish	umbrage
irascible	pique	waspish

**EMBARRASS**

abash	chagrin	contrition
diffidence	foible	gaucherie
compunction	expiate	rue

**HARDHEARTED**

asperity	fell	sardonic
vitriolic	baleful	malevolent
scathing	vituperation	dour
mordant	truculent	

**NAG**

admonish	enjoin	hector
reproof	cavil	exhort
martinet	belabor	harangue
remonstrate		

**PREDICT**

augur	harbinger	prescient
auspice	portentous	prognosticate
presage		fey

**LUCK**

adventitious	amulet	auspicious
fortuitous	kismet	nemesis
optimum	propitious	portentous
propitiate	providential	talisman

**NASTY**

fetid	noisome	noxious
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**HARSH-SOUNDING**

assonance	cacophony	din
dissonant	raucous	strident

**PLEASANT-SOUNDING**

euphonious	harmonious	melodious
sonorous		





## Exercise

---

### Synonyms

Choose the option that is closest in meaning to the given word

- |                |               |             |                 |               |                |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. detest      | a. argue      | b. hate     | 11. wary        | a. calm       | b. curved      |
|                | c. discover   | d. reveal   |                 | c. confused   | d. cautious    |
| 2. kin         | a. exult      | b. twist    | 12. sumptuous   | a. delirious  | b. gorgeous    |
|                | c. friend     | d. relative |                 | c. perilous   | d. luxurious   |
| 3. pensive     | a. oppressed  | b. caged    | 13. reel        | a. whirl      | b. fish        |
|                | c. thoughtful | d. happy    |                 | c. hit        | d. mistake     |
| 4. banish      | a. exile      | b. hate     | 14. inscrutable | a. difficult  | b. mysterious  |
|                | c. fade       | d. clean    |                 | c. inflexible | d. wary        |
| 5. saccharine  | a. leave      | b. sweet    | 15. appall      | a. delirious  | b. covered     |
|                | c. arid       | d. quit     |                 | c. dismay     | d. confuse     |
| 6. drag        | a. sleepy     | b. crush    | 16. upright     | a. honorable  | b. horizontal  |
|                | c. proud      | d. pull     |                 | c. humble     | d. supine      |
| 7. indifferent | a. neutral    | b. unkind   | 17. reverie     | a. palimpsest | b. phantom     |
|                | c. precious   | d. mean     |                 | c. daydream   | d. curio       |
| 8. charisma    | a. ghost      | b. force    | 18. loquacious  | a. talkative  | b. thirsty     |
|                | c. charm      | d. courage  |                 | c. beautiful  | d. complicated |
| 9. apportion   | a. divide     | b. decide   | 19. chimera     | a. chimney    | b. protest     |
|                | c. cut        | d. squabble |                 | c. illusion   | d. panache     |
| 10. qualm      | a. distress   | b. impunity | 20. temerity    | a. audacity   | b. fearfulness |
|                | c. persevere  | d. scruple  |                 | c. shyness    | d. stupidity   |

21. educe  
a. demand  
c. ideal
22. pall  
a. light  
c. carry
23. sacrosanct  
a. prayer  
c. pious
24. stentorian  
a. violent  
c. loud
25. hustle  
a. dance  
c. busy
26. solemn  
a. amusing  
c. speech
27. ramble  
a. knot  
c. wander
28. flare  
a. judicial  
c. style
29. congregate  
a. worship  
c. disturb
30. placid  
a. calm  
c. solemn
31. rake  
a. thin  
c. gentleman
32. covetous  
a. quiet  
c. lurking
33. abide  
a. endure  
c. attendance
34. fetter  
a. rancid  
c. hamper
35. flagrant  
a. vibrant  
c. vicious
36. mitigate  
a. relieve  
c. defend
37. rail  
a. scold  
c. try
38. abject  
a. indigent  
c. despondent
39. bespoke  
a. gentle  
c. tailored
40. diffident  
a. apathetic  
c. arrogant
41. proffer  
a. mendicant  
c. predict
42. mordant  
a. dead  
c. fetid
43. churlish  
a. childish  
c. tempestuous
44. antediluvian  
a. antiquated  
c. nonsectarian
- b. elicit  
d. unlawful
- b. hate  
d. live
- b. satiate  
d. horror
- b. sanctuary  
d. sacred
- b. misbegotten  
d. stealthy
- b. hurry  
d. clean
- b. harmful  
d. serious
- b. confuse  
d. wonder
- b. temper  
d. blaze
- b. gather  
d. hurry
- b. lazy  
d. devious
- b. scoundrel  
d. shovel
- b. sneaky  
d. greedy
- b. praise  
d. persist
- b. glaring  
d. pleasant
- b. blend  
d. confuse
- b. push  
d. punish
- b. desire  
d. extreme
- b. quiet  
d. handsome
- b. shy  
d. quarrelsome
- b. wastrel  
d. tender
- b. gruesome  
d. caustic
- b. boorish  
d. disorderly
- b. parched  
d. nonsensical



45. picayune  
 a. petty  
 c. paltry  
 b. spicy  
 d. southern
46. smite  
 a. flee  
 c. dirt  
 b. speck  
 d. strike
47. winnow  
 a. carve  
 c. weed  
 b. wind  
 d. carry
48. refute  
 a. garbage  
 c. offer  
 b. deny  
 d. difficult
49. vintage  
 a. classic  
 c. disease  
 b. alcoholic  
 d. spoiled
50. tart  
 a. law  
 c. angry  
 b. acid  
 d. desirable
51. zest  
 a. gusto  
 c. worry  
 b. cram  
 d. trial
52. haggle  
 a. tired  
 c. decrease  
 b. climb  
 d. bargain
53. impel  
 a. force  
 c. hinder  
 b. block  
 d. discredit
54. throng  
 a. garment  
 c. mass  
 b. bell  
 d. weight
55. diffuse  
 a. difficult  
 c. incomprehensible  
 b. scatter  
 d. unplug
56. latent  
 a. dormant  
 c. effeminate  
 b. recent  
 d. desirable
57. irksome  
 a. outrageous  
 c. impoverished  
 b. fearsome  
 d. annoying
58. warrant  
 a. justify  
 c. hide  
 b. burrow  
 d. integrity
59. protract  
 a. hire  
 c. delay  
 b. fold  
 d. corner
60. lax  
 a. ensure  
 c. servant  
 b. slack  
 d. strive
61. rigor  
 a. austerity  
 c. fix  
 b. rope  
 d. excess
62. discrete  
 a. leave  
 c. squander  
 b. diminish  
 d. distinct
63. lissome  
 a. slow  
 c. supple  
 b. honest  
 d. dull
64. impugn  
 a. imply  
 c. assail  
 b. fret  
 d. recalcitrant
65. exigent  
 a. urgent  
 c. miser  
 b. treatise  
 d. expedient
66. fervid  
 a. delightful  
 c. obstinate  
 b. difficult  
 d. ardent
67. ersatz  
 a. chaotic  
 c. impromptu  
 b. artificial  
 d. vague
68. redolent  
 a. ubiquitous  
 c. shy  
 b. odorous  
 d. bellicose



69. turpitude  
a. lethargy                      b. honor  
c. belligerence                d. depravity
70. propinquity  
a. habit                            b. nearness  
c. capacity                        d. tendency
71. vociferous  
a. numerous                      b. bountiful  
c. strident                        d. garrulous
72. wrath  
a. knot                             b. anger  
c. crime                            d. smoke
73. plethora  
a. trouble                         b. foolish  
c. wealth                         d. love
74. calamity  
a. potion                         b. silence  
c. shellfish                       d. disaster
75. pompous  
a. arrogant                       b. supportive  
c. busy                            d. gaudy
76. wince  
a. flinch                          b. cheer  
c. crush                            d. solitary
77. tangle  
a. snarl                            b. growl  
c. dance                          d. shiver
78. spite  
a. joy                               b. beverage  
c. wonder                        d. malice
79. smudge  
a. gloat                            b. residue  
c. blur                             d. celebrate
80. mundane  
a. dirty                             b. commonplace  
c. confused                       d. extraordinary
81. herald  
a. insignia                        b. postpone  
c. hail                              d. regal
82. mirth  
a. anger                            b. glee  
c. sarcasm                        d. mistrust
83. drudgery  
a. silliness                        b. labor  
c. evil                              d. investigation
84. dire  
a. questionable                b. forthright  
c. traitor                         d. urgent
85. grapple  
a. struggle                        b. trap  
c. laugh                          d. intend
86. sundry  
a. aged                            b. supply  
c. various                        d. tremendous
87. supplant  
a. grow                            b. replace  
c. undo                            d. question
88. venerate  
a. ordain                         b. breathe  
c. polish                         d. revere
89. conciliate  
a. appease                        b. disagree  
c. revive                         d. separate
90. exultant  
a. afraid                          b. jubilant  
c. expectant                      d. demanding
91. surreptitious  
a. overbearing                 b. clandestine  
c. indirect                        d. impious
92. recalcitrant  
a. hesitant                        b. subdued  
c. unruly                         d. subtract



93. coterie  
 a. various                      b. flirtation  
 c. club                            d. socialize
94. nefarious  
 a. infamous                      b. macabre  
 c. evil                              d. distinguished
95. pernicious  
 a. noxious                        b. illicit  
 c. open                            d. undecided
96. reprisal  
 a. accusation                    b. loathe  
 c. retaliation                    d. insinuation
97. manifold  
 a. evident                        b. contemporary  
 c. diverse                         d. willing
98. factious  
 a. sham                            b. unreliable  
 c. seditious                       d. argumentative
99. gambit is most similar to  
 a. frolic                            b. ploy  
 c. testimony                       d. sentence
100. feign is most similar to  
 a. jab                                b. swoon  
 c. pretend                         d. dread

## Antonyms

Choose the option that is most nearly the opposite of the given word

1. awe  
 a. borrow                            b. shallow  
 c. low                                d. contempt
2. brazen  
 a. bashful                            b. boisterous  
 c. noisy                              d. heated
3. malodorous  
 a. acrid                                b. pungent  
 c. fragrant                            d. delicious
4. expound  
 a. besmirch                            b. confuse  
 c. confine                              d. condemn
5. pique  
 a. value                                b. gully  
 c. smooth                              d. soothe
6. abate  
 a. free                                 b. augment  
 c. provoke                            d. wane
7. dearth  
 a. lack                                 b. poverty  
 c. abundance                         d. foreign
8. abridge  
 a. shorten                            b. extend  
 c. stress                                d. easy
9. kindle  
 a. smother                            b. detest  
 c. enemy                                d. discourage
10. meager  
 a. kind                                 b. generous  
 c. thoughtful                         d. copious



11. philistine  
a. novice                      b. intellectual  
c. pious                        d. debutante
12. zenith  
a. worst                        b. apex  
c. nadir                        d. past
13. germane  
a. irrelevant                 b. indifferent  
c. impartial                 d. improvident
14. irascible  
a. determined              b. placid  
c. reasonable                d. pliant
15. approbate  
a. ingratitude                b. condemn  
c. dissatisfaction            d. master
16. supercilious  
a. unimportant              b. relevant  
c. serious                     d. meek
17. improvident  
a. cautious                    b. fortunate  
c. proven                     d. intelligent
18. demur  
a. embrace                    b. crude  
c. boisterous                d. falter
19. fatuous  
a. crafty                      b. frugal  
c. sensible                    d. inane
20. quiescent  
a. lackadaisical             b. active  
c. dull                         d. prescient
21. sartorial  
a. cheerful                    b. sincere  
c. inelegant                 d. homespun
22. sapient  
a. hunched                    b. strong  
c. simple                      d. simian
23. impecunious  
a. wealthy                    b. cautious  
c. hungry                     d. tardy
24. colossal  
a. easy                         b. tiny  
c. graceful                    d. roof
25. brawny  
a. swift                        b. weak  
c. strong                     d. pale
26. fickle  
a. steady                      b. kind  
c. please                     d. finagle
27. inept  
a. clumsy                     b. infer  
c. competent                 d. foolish
28. pivotal  
a. turning                    b. wavy  
c. unimportant              d. clear
29. candid  
a. unkind                     b. blunt  
c. valid                        d. dishonest
30. flaunt  
a. regard                     b. sink  
c. hide                        d. propose
31. pacify  
a. excite                      b. land  
c. coddle                     d. unhand
32. sullen  
a. dirty                        b. cheerful  
c. clean                        d. risen
33. fallacious  
a. perfect                     b. truthful  
c. accidental                d. disarming
34. gumption  
a. seriousness              b. apathy  
c. levity                      d. despair





35. ecstasy  
 a. hate  
 c. languor  
 b. agony  
 d. fatigue
36. astute  
 a. distraught  
 c. generous  
 b. careful  
 d. gullible
37. winsome  
 a. dour  
 c. mysterious  
 b. attractive  
 d. clever
38. droll  
 a. forget  
 c. sedate  
 b. charm  
 d. absurd
39. enigmatic  
 a. healthy  
 c. disastrous  
 b. watchful  
 d. obvious
40. obtuse  
 a. slim  
 c. opaque  
 b. acute  
 d. thick
41. obsequious  
 a. clear  
 c. domineering  
 b. clever  
 d. dandified
42. doleful  
 a. empty  
 c. witty  
 b. rich  
 d. vivacious
43. wanton  
 a. merciful  
 c. brilliant  
 b. repast  
 d. vicious
44. banal  
 a. sincere  
 c. extraordinary  
 b. wealthy  
 d. trustworthy
45. lugubrious  
 a. quick  
 c. salubrious  
 b. cheerful  
 d. dry
46. perspicacious  
 a. calm  
 c. dull  
 b. easy  
 d. winsome
47. elan  
 a. inelegance  
 c. obscure  
 b. stupidity  
 d. despair
48. recondite  
 a. manifest  
 c. provident  
 b. flexible  
 d. sociable
49. gainsay  
 a. regret  
 c. prudent  
 b. own  
 d. prude
50. effluvium  
 a. land  
 c. fragrance  
 b. essential  
 d. solid
51. parsimony  
 a. generosity  
 c. verbosity  
 b. sinfulness  
 d. tenderness
52. truculent  
 a. faltering  
 c. facile  
 b. gentle  
 d. submissive
53. spurious  
 a. disingenuous  
 c. placid  
 b. thoughtless  
 d. genuine
54. welter  
 a. order  
 c. patron  
 b. freeze  
 d. sustain
55. eclat  
 a. apathy  
 c. silence  
 b. dullness  
 d. disinterest
56. valor  
 a. cowardice  
 c. drop  
 b. false  
 d. heavy
57. animosity  
 a. love  
 c. barren  
 b. plantlike  
 d. tiny
58. extravagant  
 a. unknown  
 c. punctual  
 b. homebody  
 d. moderate



59. garner  
a. unravel                      b. mar  
c. squander                    d. tarnish
60. prodigal  
a. thrifty                        b. secondary  
c. distant                       d. squalid
61. tacit  
a. grand                         b. dictated  
c. illicit                        d. messy
62. repudiate  
a. argue                         b. soften  
c. slander                       d. admit
63. pristine  
a. free                            b. sullied  
c. wide                            d. thorough
64. placate  
a. appease                      b. strip  
c. tremendous                d. enrage
65. felicitous  
a. morbid                        b. boorish  
c. inopportune                d. delightful
66. austere  
a. lavish                         b. unfavorable  
c. light                          d. devout
67. insipid  
a. cold                          b. brave  
c. exciting                      d. bashful
68. wastrel  
a. sober                         b. spendthrift  
c. mute                          d. miser
69. temperate  
a. Celsius                       b. inordinate  
c. lukewarm                    d. safely
70. nebulous  
a. cloudy                        b. dim  
c. distinct                       d. desirable
71. adroit  
a. clumsy                        b. left  
c. diplomatic                    d. unpersuasive
72. mite  
a. weakness                    b. tend  
c. bulk                            d. drive
73. reprobate  
a. sage                          b. elevated  
c. possess                       d. dismiss
74. specious  
a. genuine                       b. logical  
c. common                      d. deliberate
75. effete  
a. conquer                      b. proper  
c. prosperous                   d. civilized
76. protean  
a. unformed                    b. unchanging  
c. elaborate                    d. selective
77. wean  
a. flourish                       b. flush  
c. strengthen                   d. addict
78. malice  
a. goodwill                      b. bitterness  
c. coddle                        d. distress
79. taint  
a. cheer                         b. worry  
c. clear                          d. purify
80. belittle  
a. plain                         b. detract  
c. magnify                      d. torment
81. tedious  
a. unwavering                   b. frightening  
c. horrible                       d. pleasurable
82. frivolous  
a. pious                         b. inexpensive  
c. serious                       d. contemptuous



- |                |                                |                                  |                   |                              |                                |
|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 83. denounce   | a. covet<br>c. blame           | b. condemn<br>d. deplore         | 95. lassitude     | a. release<br>c. fatigue     | b. demure<br>d. vigor          |
| 84. glower     | a. prairie<br>c. raise         | b. smile<br>d. throw             | 96. verdant       | a. dishonest<br>c. moldy     | b. suspicious<br>d. arid       |
| 85. exacting   | a. upright<br>c. sober         | b. lenient<br>d. general         | 97. asperity      | a. moistness<br>c. sour      | b. amenity<br>d. generosity    |
| 86. curtail    | a. remain<br>c. placate        | b. detain<br>d. prolong          | 98. epicurean     | a. ascetic<br>c. imprecision | b. slovenly<br>d. providential |
| 87. eminent    | a. imminent<br>c. retire       | b. obscure<br>d. unsure          | 99. proclivity    | a. calm<br>c. desire         | b. antipathy<br>d. dearth      |
| 88. abdicate   | a. deny<br>c. blame            | b. usurp<br>d. renounce          | 100. vituperation | a. alacrity<br>c. reparation | b. alertness<br>d. acclaim     |
| 89. indolent   | a. industrious<br>c. native    | b. complimentary<br>d. smooth    |                   |                              |                                |
| 90. fortuitous | a. undefended<br>c. deliberate | b. gratuitous<br>d. impoverished |                   |                              |                                |
| 91. disparage  | a. hesitate<br>c. trouble      | b. settle<br>d. applaud          |                   |                              |                                |
| 92. dubious    | a. reliable<br>c. rhythmic     | b. pleasing<br>d. careful        |                   |                              |                                |
| 93. interdict  | a. continue<br>c. wallow       | b. abstain<br>d. sanction        |                   |                              |                                |
| 94. mendacious | a. bashful<br>c. veracious     | b. capacious<br>d. quiet         |                   |                              |                                |



## Analogies

Choose the best option that should replace the blank such that there is an analogous relation between the first pair of words and that between the second pair of words.

- particular : fussy :: \_\_\_\_\_ : subservient
  - mEEK
  - above
  - cranky
  - uptight
- \_\_\_\_\_ : zenith :: fear : composure
  - apex
  - heaven
  - heights
  - nadir
- pilfer : steal :: \_\_\_\_\_ : equip
  - return
  - damage
  - exercise
  - furnish
- native : aboriginal :: naïve : \_\_\_\_\_
  - learned
  - arid
  - unsophisticated
  - tribe
- junket : \_\_\_\_\_ :: junk : trash
  - trounce
  - trip
  - refuse
  - trinket
- holster : pistol :: \_\_\_\_\_ : knife
  - weapon
  - rifle
  - sheath
  - club
- fetish : fixation :: slight : \_\_\_\_\_
  - flirt
  - sloth
  - insult
  - confuse
- wheat : chaff :: quality : \_\_\_\_\_
  - thresh
  - whole
  - inadequacy
  - worth
- bog : \_\_\_\_\_ :: slumber : sleep
  - dream
  - foray
  - marsh
  - night
- thrifty : \_\_\_\_\_ :: hungry : gluttonous
  - virtue
  - vice
  - avarice
  - self-control
- gerrymander : divide :: filibuster : \_\_\_\_\_
  - bend
  - punish
  - delay
  - rush
- vapid : \_\_\_\_\_ :: rapid : swift
  - inspired
  - turgid
  - wet
  - insipid
- denim : cotton :: \_\_\_\_\_ : flax
  - sheep
  - uniform
  - sweater
  - linen
- obscene : coarse :: obtuse : \_\_\_\_\_
  - subject
  - obstinate
  - obscure
  - stupid
- quixotic : pragmatic :: murky : \_\_\_\_\_
  - rapid
  - cloudy
  - clear
  - friendly
- smear : libel :: heed : \_\_\_\_\_
  - represent
  - doubt
  - consider
  - need
- poetry : rhyme :: philosophy : \_\_\_\_\_
  - imagery
  - music
  - bi-law
  - theory
- jibe : praise :: \_\_\_\_\_ : enlighten
  - jib
  - delude
  - worship
  - wed
- marshal : prisoner :: principal : \_\_\_\_\_
  - teacher
  - president
  - doctrine
  - student
- fecund : infertile :: \_\_\_\_\_ : fleet
  - rapid
  - slow
  - fertilizer
  - damp
- mend : sewing :: edit : \_\_\_\_\_
  - darn
  - repair
  - manuscript
  - makeshift
- abet : \_\_\_\_\_ :: alone :: lone
  - bet
  - loan
  - wager
  - single



23. piercing : \_\_\_\_\_ :: hushed : whisper  
 a. diamond                      b. watch  
 c. siren                          d. ears
24. segregate : unify :: repair : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. approach                      b. push  
 c. damage                        d. outwit
25. congeal : solidify :: \_\_\_\_\_ : char  
 a. conceal                        b. singe  
 c. evaporate                      d. charge
26. pallid : color :: tactless : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. hue                              b. tasteless  
 c. verve                          d. diplomatic
27. principle : doctrine :: living : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. will                              b. dead  
 c. likelihood                      d. livelihood
28. \_\_\_\_\_ : climb :: recession : withdrawal  
 a. ascent                          b. absence  
 c. dollar                          d. absorption
29. myopic : farsighted :: \_\_\_\_\_ : obscure  
 a. benevolent                      b. famous  
 c. turgid                          d. wasted
30. \_\_\_\_\_ : excerpt :: exercise : manoeuvre  
 a. exception                      b. passage  
 c. routine                         d. cause
31. alphabetical : \_\_\_\_\_ :: sequential : files  
 a. sort                              b. part  
 c. list                               d. order
32. tacit : implied :: \_\_\_\_\_ : inferior  
 a. shoddy                          b. taciturn  
 c. forthright                      d. superior
33. implement : rule :: \_\_\_\_\_ : verdict  
 a. propose                         b. render  
 c. divide                          d. teach
34. rotation : earth :: \_\_\_\_\_ : top  
 a. planet                          b. spinning  
 c. sun                               d. expanding
35. monarch : \_\_\_\_\_ :: king : cobra  
 a. queen                          b. butterfly  
 c. royal                            d. venom
36. iota : jot :: \_\_\_\_\_ : type  
 a. one                              b. ilk  
 c. tab                               d. jet
37. \_\_\_\_\_ : subject :: veer : path  
 a. object                          b. prove  
 c. math                            d. digress
38. \_\_\_\_\_ : incising :: spatula : lifting  
 a. pancake                        b. bullhorn  
 c. scalpel                         d. truck
39. economy : parsimony :: \_\_\_\_\_ : rift  
 a. disagreement                      b. fissure  
 c. bounty                         d. river
40. dolorous : \_\_\_\_\_ :: sonorous : loud  
 a. woozy                          b. weepy  
 c. dull                              d. sleepy
41. penurious : \_\_\_\_\_ :: deep : significant  
 a. generous                        b. stingy  
 c. decrepit                         d. cavernous
42. somnolent : nap :: truculent : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. sleepwalker                      b. journey  
 c. war                              d. mood
43. cytology : \_\_\_\_\_ :: geology : rocks  
 a. cyclones                        b. psychology  
 c. pharmacology                      d. cells
44. proboscis : \_\_\_\_\_ :: abdomen : gut  
 a. prognosis                        b. nose  
 c. ear                               d. nausea
45. rein : horse :: control panel : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. pilot                              b. bit  
 c. plane                            d. rider
46. \_\_\_\_\_ : play :: sing : anthem  
 a. act                                b. scene  
 c. theater                          d. field



47. mouse : \_\_\_\_\_ :: flash : camera  
 a. rat                                      b. computer  
 c. cord                                      d. dessert
48. cushion : sofa :: shelf : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. ledge                                      b. bookcase  
 c. storage                                    d. frame
49. scrub : wash :: sob : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. cry                                        b. water  
 c. sad                                        d. tease
50. moisten : \_\_\_\_\_ :: cool : freeze  
 a. water                                      b. soak  
 c. oven                                       d. grow
51. stars : astronomy :: \_\_\_\_\_ : history  
 a. battles                                    b. eclipse  
 c. horse                                      d. autumn
52. \_\_\_\_\_ : unity :: dearth : scarcity  
 a. belief                                      b. death  
 c. cohesion                                   d. fear
53. Aesop : fable :: Homer : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. temple                                    b. donkey  
 c. epic                                        d. Greece
54. mercenary : wages :: dilettante : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. enjoyment                                b. rifle  
 c. strife                                      d. market
55. hanker : \_\_\_\_\_ :: ponder : think  
 a. junk                                        b. fool  
 c. yearn                                      d. bunker
56. rook : chess :: \_\_\_\_\_ : badminton  
 a. grass                                       b. tennis  
 c. shuttlecock                                d. swing
57. bowler : \_\_\_\_\_ :: satchel : bag  
 a. hat                                        b. lane  
 c. trophy                                      d. ottoman
58. \_\_\_\_\_ : king :: bench : judge  
 a. throne                                      b. queen  
 c. court                                        d. knight
59. volume : \_\_\_\_\_ :: stanza : poem  
 a. measure                                    b. pint  
 c. encyclopedia                              d. kitchen
60. pharaoh : dynasty :: \_\_\_\_\_ : democracy  
 a. government                                b. election  
 c. president                                 d. Canada
61. deplete : decrease :: \_\_\_\_\_ : avoid  
 a. danger                                    b. dislike  
 c. miss                                        d. shun
62. chatter : talk :: flutter : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. dance                                      b. wobble  
 c. sing                                        d. flap
63. plead : \_\_\_\_\_ :: submerge : dip  
 a. avoid                                      b. dismiss  
 c. ask                                         d. covet
64. doze : sleep :: tiptoe : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. walk                                        b. flat  
 c. shelf                                        d. swim
65. ledger : accounts :: \_\_\_\_\_ : observations  
 a. pundit                                      b. weather  
 c. astrology                                 d. diary
66. \_\_\_\_\_ : money :: urn : ashes  
 a. cash                                        b. wealth  
 c. purse                                        d. inheritance
67. egregious : bad :: \_\_\_\_\_ : small  
 a. minuscule                                b. tall  
 c. wicked                                      d. cheap
68. approach : \_\_\_\_\_ :: leave : bolt  
 a. pounce                                    b. arrive  
 c. demand                                    d. airport
69. lawless : order :: captive : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. trouble                                    b. punishment  
 c. jail                                         d. freedom
70. quarry : marble :: \_\_\_\_\_ : honey  
 a. hive                                        b. bee  
 c. spread                                      d. reservoir



71. ribbon : \_\_\_\_\_ :: icing : cake  
 a. present                      b. cut  
 c. bow                              d. typewriter
72. search : \_\_\_\_\_ :: defeat : vanquish  
 a. peer                              b. ransack  
 c. destroy                          d. find
73. hangar : airplane :: garage : \_\_\_\_\_  
 a. steak                              b. runway  
 c. oil                                  d. automobile
74. ramp : highway :: \_\_\_\_\_ : house  
 a. traffic                              b. head  
 c. door                                  d. speed
75. hint : \_\_\_\_\_ :: whisper : shout  
 a. demand                          b. point  
 c. surprise                          d. secret
76. \_\_\_\_\_ : codes :: ornithology : birds  
 a. cartography                      b. husbandry  
 c. species                              d. cryptography
77. nourish : \_\_\_\_\_ :: coddle : comfort  
 a. feed                                  b. sleep  
 c. growth                              d. wheat
78. \_\_\_\_\_ : game :: plagiarize : words  
 a. crossword                          b. poach  
 c. sports                                  d. willing
79. spoke : \_\_\_\_\_ :: word : sentence  
 a. speaker                              b. paragraph  
 c. comma                              d. wheel
80. ransom : captive :: \_\_\_\_\_ : service  
 a. prisoner                              b. gratuity  
 c. military                              d. restaurant
81. \_\_\_\_\_ : assistant :: administrator : teacher  
 a. office                                  b. school  
 c. executive                          d. campus
82. pride : \_\_\_\_\_ :: calm : storm  
 a. proud                                  b. forecast  
 c. sunny                                  d. fall
83. scientist : experiment :: \_\_\_\_\_ : play  
 a. beaker                              b. rehearsal  
 c. actor                                  d. lab
84. sloth : action :: \_\_\_\_\_ : principles  
 a. unscrupulousness              b. teachers  
 c. hero                                  d. conscientious
85. \_\_\_\_\_ : speak :: roam : walk  
 a. path                                  b. silent  
 c. write                                  d. babble
86. epilogue : novel :: \_\_\_\_\_ : meal  
 a. dessert                              b. repast  
 c. lunch                                  d. appetizer
87. \_\_\_\_\_ : tennis :: drive : golf  
 a. net                                      b. score  
 c. racket                                  d. serve
88. \_\_\_\_\_ : court case :: abstract : research paper  
 a. brief                                  b. judge  
 c. hypothesis                          d. lawyer
89. \_\_\_\_\_ : peace :: lion : courage  
 a. war                                      b. brave  
 c. dove                                  d. cub
90. grove : forest :: \_\_\_\_\_ : lake  
 a. pond                                  b. ocean  
 c. tree                                      d. boat
91. trot : \_\_\_\_\_ :: jog : sprint  
 a. drive                                  b. canter  
 c. horse                                  d. speed
92. shower : deluge :: \_\_\_\_\_ : stare  
 a. wet                                      b. window  
 c. ignore                                  d. glance
93. pummel : hit :: \_\_\_\_\_ : recite  
 a. disbelief                              b. poem  
 c. chant                                  d. question
94. gobble : eat :: \_\_\_\_\_ : accept  
 a. deny                                      b. embrace  
 c. acquiesce                          d. infer



95. \_\_\_\_\_ : silo :: art : museum

- a. field
- b. fodder
- c. farm
- d. windmill

96. \_\_\_\_\_ : highway :: net : court

- a. road
- b. radar
- c. ticket
- d. median

97. \_\_\_\_\_ : launch :: breakfast : lunch

- a. sandwich
- b. dinner
- c. eggs
- d. countdown

98. churn : \_\_\_\_\_ :: press : wine

- a. paddle
- b. cream
- c. butter
- d. stomach

99. laconic : words :: parched : \_\_\_\_\_

- a. heat
- b. moisture
- c. desert
- d. vapid

100. dough : bread :: \_\_\_\_\_ : pancake

- a. griddle
- b. cake
- c. batter
- d. oven





# Idioms

An **idiom** is a phrase where the words considered together have a meaning that is different from the dictionary definitions of the individual words. It can have a literal meaning in one situation and a different idiomatic meaning in another situation.

E.g. : 'I sat on the fence and watched the game' can be easily understood from the literal meaning of the sentence. However in the sentence 'the diplomat *sat on the fence* and did not voice out his opinion', the phrase 'sat on the fence' does not imply the literal meaning. The phrase here is used in the idiomatic sense and means 'not making a clear choice'.

In other words, idioms have meanings that can't be figured out by looking up the individual words in the dictionary. They have meanings that are understood by people who speak that language, but are very hard to understand for people who don't speak that language.

Idioms can often be very difficult to understand. You *may* be able to guess the meaning from context but if not, it is not easy to know the meaning. Further, most idioms are unique and fixed in their grammatical structure. The expression *to sit on the fence* cannot become *to sit on a fence* or *to sit on the fences*. It is best to learn idioms as you do vocabulary. In other words, select and actively learn idioms which will be useful to you. Write the idiom in a relevant and practical sentence so that you will be able to remember its meaning easily.

sooner or later	eventually, after a period of time	to make a difference (to someone)	to be of importance (to), to affect
all along	all the time, from the beginning (without change)	at all/ in the least	to any degree
little by little/ step by step	gradually, slowly	to look up	to locate information in a directory, dictionary, book, etc.
to tire out/ to wear out	to make very weary due to difficult conditions or hard effort	to wait on someone	to serve in a store or restaurant
to call on	to ask for a response from; to visit	so far	until now, until the present time
never mind	don't be concerned about it; ignore what was just said	to try on	to wear clothes to check the style or fit before buying
to pick out	to choose, to select	to think over	to consider carefully before deciding
to take one's (my, his, your, etc.) time	to do without rush, not to hurry	to put away	to remove from sight, to put in the proper place
to get along with someone (something)	to associate or work well with; to succeed or manage in doing	to look out/ to watch out	to be careful or cautious

to get over	to recover from an illness; to accept a loss or sorrow
to make up one's (my, his, your, etc.) mind	to reach a decision, to decide finally
to change one's (my, his, your, etc.) mind	to alter one's decision or opinion
for good	permanently, forever
to call off	to cancel
to put off	to postpone
under the weather	not feeling well, sick
to count on	to trust someone in time of need
to get to	to be able to do something special; to arrive at a place, such as home, work, etc.
few and far between	not frequent, unusual, rare
to look over/ to go over	to examine, to inspect closely
to have (time) off	to have free time, not to have to work
to go on	to happen; to resume, to continue
to put out	to extinguish, to cause to stop functioning
to be up	to expire, to be finished
to be over/ to be through	to be finished, to end
in time to (do something)	before the time necessary to do something
had better (do something)	should, ought to, be advisable to
would rather (do something)	prefer to
to call it a day/ night	to stop working for the rest of the day/ night
to figure out	to solve, to find a solution; to understand

to take turns (doing something)	to alternate, to change people while doing something
to brush up on something	to review something in order to refresh one's memory
to wear out	to use something until it has no value or worth anymore, to make useless through wear
out of the question	impossible, not feasible
to have to do with	to have some connection with or relationship to
to be in charge (of something)	to manage, to have responsibility for
to get in touch with	to communicate with, to contact
to have a good time	to enjoy oneself
in no time	very quickly, rapidly
to cut down on/ to cut back on	to reduce, to lessen
quite a few	many
to get used (to something)	to become used to, to become adjusted to
back and forth	in a backward and forward motion
now and then	occasionally, sometimes
every other (one)	every second (one), alternate (ones)
to go with	to match, to compare well in color or design; to date, to accompany
first-rate	excellent, superb
to make good time	to travel a sufficient distance at a reasonable speed
to see about	to give attention or time to
by heart	by memorizing
to keep out	not to enter, not allow to enter
to keep away (from)/stay away from	to stay at a distance (from); to avoid use of



to be up to	to be responsible for deciding; to be doing as a regular activity
ill at ease	uncomfortable or worried in a situation
to do over	to revise, to do again
to look into	to investigate, to examine carefully
to take hold of	to grasp, to grip with the hands
to get through doing something, to get through with something	to finish, to complete
to keep track of	to keep or maintain a record of; to remember the location of
to be carried away (by, with)	to be greatly affected by a strong feeling
up to date	modern, current, timely
out of date	not modern, not current, not timely; no longer available in published form
to blow up	to inflate, to fill with air; to explode, to destroy (or be destroyed) by explosion
to burn down	to burn slowly, but completely (usually said of candles); to destroy completely by fire
to burn up	to destroy completely by fire; to make angry or very annoyed
to burn out	to stop functioning because of overuse; to make tired from too much work
to make good	to succeed
stands to reason	to be clear and logical
to break out	to become widespread suddenly
to feel sorry for	to pity, to feel compassion for

to break down	to stop functioning
to turn out	to become or result; to appear, to attend
once in a blue moon	rarely, infrequently
to give up	to stop trying; to stop a bad habit; to surrender
to cross out	to cancel by marking with a horizontal line
to take for granted	not to appreciate fully; to assume to be true without giving much thought
to take something into account	to consider a fact while evaluating a situation
to make clear	to clarify, to explain
clear-cut	clearly stated, definite, apparent
to come to	to regain consciousness; to equal, to amount to
to call for	to require; to request, to urge
to eat in/to eat out	to eat at home/to eat in a restaurant
cut and dried	predictable, known beforehand; boring
to look after/ to keep an eye on	to watch, to supervise, to protect
to feel like	to have the desire to, to want to consider
once and for all	finally, absolutely
to hear of	to know about, to be familiar with
to make fun of	to laugh at, to joke about
to come true	to become reality, to prove to be correct
as a matter of fact	really, actually
to have one's way	to arrange matters the way one wants (especially when someone else doesn't want the same way)



to look forward to	to expect or anticipate with pleasure
inside out	with the inside facing the outside
upside down	with the upper side turned toward the lower side
to fill in	to write answers in; to inform, to tell
to fill out	to complete a form
to take advantage of	to use well, to profit from; to use another person's weaknesses to gain what one wants
no matter	regardless of
to take up	to begin to do or study, to undertake; to occupy space, time, or energy
to take up with	to consult someone about an important matter
to take after	to resemble a parent or close relative (for physical appearance only)
in the long run	eventually, after a long period of time
be in touch (with)	having contact
out of touch with	not having contact; not having knowledge of
on one's toes	alert, cautious
to get along	to make progress; to manage to live in a certain state of health
hard of hearing	partially deaf, not able to hear well
to see eye to eye; on something with somebody	to agree, to concur
to have in mind	to be considering, to be thinking
to keep in mind	to remember, not to forget

for once	this one time, for only one time
to go off	to explode, to sound as an alarm; to leave suddenly without explanation
to grow out of	to outgrow, to become too old for, to be a result of
to make the best of	to do the best that one can in a poor situation
to cut off	to shorten by cutting the ends; to disconnect or stop suddenly
to cut out	to remove by cutting; to stop doing something
to blow out	to explode, to go flat (for tires); to extinguish by blowing
to become of	to happen to (a missing object or person)
have got to	must
to keep up with	to maintain the same speed or rate as
on the other hand	however, in contrast
to turn down	to reduce in brightness or volume; to reject, to refuse
fifty-fifty	divided into two equal parts
to break in/ to cut in	to interrupt
a lost cause	a hopeless case, a person or situation having no hope of positive change
above all	mainly, especially
to do without/ to go without	survive or exist without something
to be bound to do something	to be certain to do something, to be sure to do something
for sure/ for certain	without doubt
to take for	to perceive or understand as
to try out	to test, to use during a trial period



to tear down	to destroy by making flat, to demolish
to tear up	to rip into small pieces
go over	to be appreciated or accepted
to run out of	to exhaust the supply of, not to have more of
at heart	basically, fundamentally
to bite off	to accept as a responsibility or task
to tell apart	to distinguish between
all in all	considering everything
to pass out	to distribute; to lose consciousness
to go around	to be sufficient or adequate for everyone present, to circulate, to move from place to place
to be in (the/ one's) way	to block or obstruct; not to be helpful, to cause inconvenience
to put on	to gain (pounds or weight); to present, to perform
to put up	to construct, to erect; to lift, to raise upwards
to put up with	to tolerate to accept unwillingly
in vain	useless, without the desired result
day in and day out	continuously, constantly
to catch up with	to work with the purpose of fulfilling a requirement or being equal to others
to hold still	not to move
to know by sight	to recognize
to be the matter	to be unsatisfactory, to be improper, to be wrong

to bring up	to rear, to raise from childhood; to mention, to raise an issue, to introduce a topic
to get lost	to become lost; to go away in order not to bother
to hold up	to delay, to make late; to remain high in quality
to run away	to leave without permission; to escape
to rule out	to refuse to consider, to prohibit
by far	by a great margin, clearly
to see off	to say good-bye upon departure by train, airplane, bus, etc.
to see out	to accompany a person out of a house, building, etc.
no wonder	it's no surprise that, not surprisingly
to go up	to increase; to be constructed, to be erected
to go up to	to approach
to hand in	to submit or deliver something that is due
in case	in order to be prepared if
to take apart	to disassemble, to separate the parts of something
to put together	to assemble
to be better off	to be in a more favorable condition or situation
to be well-off	to have enough money to enjoy a comfortable life, to be rich
to take by surprise	to surprise, to amaze, to astonish
to keep in touch with/ to stay in touch with	to maintain contact with
to name after	to give the same name as another



to hold on	to grasp tightly or firmly; to wait, to be patient
to stop by	to visit or stop somewhere briefly in order to do something
to drop (someone) a line	to write a note to someone
to come across	to meet or find unexpectedly
to stand for	to represent, to signify; to tolerate
to stand a chance	to have the possibility of accomplishing something
to take pains	to work carefully and conscientiously
to look on	to watch as a spectator, to observe
to look up to	to admire, to respect greatly
to look down on	to feel superior to, to think of someone as less important
to take off	to leave the ground (for airplanes); to leave, often in a hurry
to pull off	to succeed in doing something difficult; to exit to the side of a highway
to keep time	to operate accurately (for watches and clocks)
to make do with	to manage, to cope
to give birth to	to bear a human being or animal
close call	a situation involving a narrow escape from danger
to get on one's nerves/ to bug	to annoy or disturb
to put down	to suppress, to quell; to criticize unfairly
to go for	to be sold at a certain price; to seek or strive for
to go in for	to have as an interest, such as a sport or hobby
to stay up	to remain awake, not to go to bed

to stay in	to remain at home, not to go out
to take over	to assume control or responsibility for; to do or perform again
to show up	to appear, to arrive; to be found or located
to clean out	to empty, to tidy by removing; to steal, to rob; to buy or purchase all of something
to knock out	to make unconscious; to impress or attract greatly
to knock oneself out	to work very hard (sometimes too hard) to do something
to carry out/ to go through with	to accomplish, to execute
to run into/ to bump into	to meet someone unexpectedly; to crash or collide into
to set out/ to set off/ to head out	to start traveling toward a place
to set out to do something	to intend to, to act purposefully to
to draw up	to create by drawing, such as a map; to prepare documents or legal papers
give and take	compromise, cooperation between people
to drop out of	to stop attending; to withdraw from
to believe in	to accept as true, have faith in
to cheer up	to make happier, to feel less sad
to make sense	to be sensible or reasonable
to burst out/ to storm out	to depart quickly
to get away	to get free, to escape
to get away with	to avoid punishment for
to serve (someone) right	to receive one's just punishment



to keep up	to prevent from sleeping; to continue maintaining (speed, level of work, condition, etc.)
to keep up with	to have current knowledge of; to understand as an explanation
to stand out/ to stick out	to be easily visible or noticeable
to let on	to reveal or tell what you know, to hint
to go wrong	to fail, to result badly
to meet (someone) halfway	to compromise with someone
to check up on	to examine with the purpose of determining condition
to stick up	to point or place upwards; to rob
to come about	to happen
to bring about	to cause to happen
to build up	to increase slowly, to make stronger gradually
to die down	to decrease, to lessen in strength
to fade away	to diminish gradually in time or distance
to die out	not to exist anymore; to be in the process of disappearing
to make out	to read or see clearly; to prepare a legal document, such as a will, a check, etc.
to live up to	to fulfill (a standard or promise)
to stick to	to adhere to (a promise), to follow or obey (a set of rules, procedures, etc.)
to stick it to somebody	to cheat, to take unfair advantage of
to stand up for	to insist on, to demand; to defend, to support
to cut corners	to economize, to save money

to take on	to employ, to hire, to accept responsibility for, to undertake
to take down	to remove from an elevated place, to write what is said, to note
to fall through	to fail to materialize, not to succeed
to fall behind	to lag, to fail to keep up
to give in	to surrender, to stop resisting
to give off	to release, to produce, to release
to give out	to distribute, to become exhausted or depleted
to have it in for/ to hold a grudge against	to want revenge on, to feel hostile towards
to have it out with	to quarrel with, to confront
to hold off	to delay, or to be delayed, in occurring
to hold out	to endure to be sufficient, to survive by resisting, to persist in one's efforts
to hold over	to extend to keep for a longer time
to let up/ to take it easy	to slacken, to lessen in intensity; to relax or ease one's effort
to lay off	to abstain from, stop using as a habit; to release or discharge from a job
to bring out	to show or introduce (to the public); to make available
to bring back/ to take back	to return a bought or borrowed item
to wait up for	to wait until late at night without going to bed



to leave (someone or something) alone/ to let alone	not to disturb, to stay away from
let alone/ to say nothing of	and certainly not
to break off	to terminate, to discontinue
to wear off	to disappear gradually
to wear down	to become worn gradually through use
on the whole/ by and large	in general, in most ways
touch and go	risky, uncertain until the end
to work out	to exercise; to develop, to devise (a plan)
to back up	to drive or go backwards, to defend, to support; to return to a previous thought
to back out	to drive a vehicle out of a parking space; to withdraw support, to fail to fulfill a promise or obligation
to have one's heart set on	to desire greatly, to be determined to
to buy up	to buy the complete stock of
to buy out	to purchase a business or company; to purchase all of a person's shares or stock
to sell out	to sell all items; to arrange for the sale of a company or business
to catch on	to become popular or widespread; to understand, to appreciate a joke
to be cut out for	to have the necessary skills or talent for
to throw out	to discard; to remove by force; to refuse to consider, to reject
to throw up	to erect or construct quickly; to vomit

to clear up/ to straighten out	to make understandable
to slow down/ to slow up	to go, or cause to go, more slowly
to dry up	to lose, or cause to lose, all moisture; to be depleted
to dry out	to lose, or cause to lose, moisture gradually; to stop drinking alcohol in excess
to be up to (something)	to be doing something; to be planning or plotting something, scheming
to beat around the bush	to avoid discussing directly, to evade the issue
to come to an end	to end, to stop
to put an end to/ to do away with	to cause to end, to terminate in a definite manner
to get even with	to seek revenge, to retaliate
to fool around	to waste time; to joke, not to be serious
to look out on	to face, to overlook
to stir up	to cause anger; to create (trouble or difficulty)
to take in	to visit in order to enjoy; to decrease the size of clothes; to deceive, to fool
to go through	to undergo, to experience; to consume, to use
to go without saying	to be known without the need to mention
to put (someone) on	to mislead by joking or tricking
to keep one's head	to remain calm during an emergency
to lose one's head	not to think clearly, to lose one's self-control
narrow-minded	not willing to accept the ideas of others (the opposite of narrow minded is broad-minded)



to stand up	to withstand use or wear; to fail to appear for a date or social engagement
to get the better of	to win or defeat by gaining an advantage over someone
to break loose	to become free or loose, to escape
on edge	nervous, anxious; upset, irritable
to waste one's breath	not be able to convince someone
to cut short	to make shorter, to interrupt
to step in	to become involved or concerned with something; to enter a place for a brief time
to step down	to retire or leave a top position, to resign
to step on	to treat severely, to discipline; to go faster, to work more quickly
a steal	very inexpensive, a bargain
to play up to	to behave so as to gain favor with someone
more or less	approximately, almost; somewhat, to a certain degree
to goof up/ to mess up/to slip up	to perform badly, to make a mistake
to go off the deep end	to get very angry and do something hastily
to lose one's touch	to fail at what one used to do well
in hand	under firm control, well managed
on hand	available, nearby
to kick (something) around/ to toss around	to discuss informally (over a period of time)
be on the ball	be attentive, competent, alert

to make up	to meet or fulfill a missed obligation at a later time; to create, to invent (an idea), to apply cosmetics to, to comprise, to be composed of
to make up with	to resolve differences with
to pull together	to gather, to collect (information); to gain control of one's emotions
to be looking up	to appear promising or optimistic, to be improving
to kick the habit	to stop a bad habit
to cover up	to conceal, to hide
to drop off	to fall asleep; to take to a certain location; to decrease
to turn over	to place upside down; to flip, to turn upside down; to pass or give control to someone
to go through channels	to send a request through the normal way
the last straw	the final event in a series of unacceptable actions
to get cold feet	to become unable or afraid to do something
to trade in	to receive credit for the value of an old item towards the purchase of a new item
face-to-face	direct, personal; directly, personally (written without hyphens)
to be with (someone)/ to go along with	to support, to back; to understand or follow what someone is saying
to be with it	to be able to focus or concentrate on
to fall for	to fall in love quickly; to be fooled or tricked by
it figures	it seems likely, reasonable, or typical
to fill (someone) in	to inform, to give background information to



to make (someone) tick	to motivate to behave or act in a certain way
to cover for	to take someone's place temporarily, to substitute for; to protect someone by lying or deceiving
to give (someone) a break	to provide a person with another opportunity or chance; not to expect too much work from; not to expect someone to believe
to bow out	to stop doing as a regular activity, to remove oneself from a situation
to pin on	to find guilty of a crime or offense
to get a rise out of	to provoke a response from
to stick around	to stay or remain where one is, to wait
to pick up the tab	to pay the cost or bill
by the way	incidentally
to go to town	to do something with enthusiasm and thoroughness
to let slide	to neglect a duty; to ignore a situation
search me/ beats me	I don't know
to get off ones chest	to express ones true feelings
to live it up	to spend money freely, to live luxuriously
to liven up/ to pick up	to energize, to make more active
to have a voice in	to share involvement in
to check in	to register at a hotel or motel; to leave or deposit for transporting or safekeeping

to check out	to pay the bill at a hotel or motel and then leave; to investigate, to examine
to take somebody at one's word	to accept what one says as true, to believe
to serve (the/ one's) purpose	to be useful, to suit one's needs or requirements
to cop out	to avoid one's responsibility, to quit
to line up	to form a line; to arrange to have, to manage to obtain
to lose one's cool	to get excited, angry, or flustered
to leave open	to delay making a decision on
to turn on	to interest greatly, to excite
to miss the boat	to lose an opportunity, to fail in some undertaking
to think up/ to dream up	to invent, to create
to throw (someone) a curve	to introduce an unexpected topic, causing embarrassment
to make waves	to create a disturbance, usually by complaining
to carry on	to continue as before; to conduct, to engage in
not on your life/ no way	absolutely not
to cover ground	to be extensive, to discuss much material
to mind the store	to be responsible for an office while others are gone
to throw the book at	to punish with full penalty, to be harsh on
to put one's foot in mouth	to say or do the wrong thing
to be up for grabs	to become available to others

to show off	to display one's ability in order to attract attention, to let others see, to expose to public view
to learn the ropes	to become familiar with routine procedures at work or school
to keep one's fingers crossed	to hope to have good results, to hope that nothing bad will happen
to land on one's feet	to recover safely from an unpleasant or dangerous situation
to dish out	to distribute in large quantity, to speak of others in a critical manner
to get through to/ to break through to	to communicate with, to make someone understand
to keep one's word	to fulfill a promise, to be responsible
to be over one's head/ to be up to one's ears	to be very busy, to have too much to do
to ask for/ to bring upon	to deserve, to receive a just punishment
to be a far cry from	to be very different from
by all means	certainly, definitely, naturally using any possible way or method
to get out from under	to restore one's financial security, to resolve a difficult financial obligation
to take the bull by the horns	to handle a difficult situation with determination

to give (someone) a hand/ to lend (someone) a hand	to assist, to aid, to help
to give (someone) a big hand	to clap one's hands in applause, to applaud
to goof off	to waste time, to be idle
to talk back to	to answer in a rude manner, to speak disrespectfully
to be in	to be popular or fashionable, to be available at one's work or home
to be out	to be unpopular or no longer in fashion; to be away from one's work or home
to draw the line at	to determine to be unacceptable, to refuse to consider
to get out of line/ to step out of line	to disobey or ignore normal procedures or rules
dry run	rehearsal, practice session
to play by ear	to play music that one has heard but never read; to proceed without plan, to do spontaneously
to be in (someone's) shoes	to be in another person's position, to face the same situation as another person
to keep after	to remind constantly, to nag
to fix up	to repair or put back in good condition; to arrange a date or an engagement for another person
to be had	to be victimized or cheated





13. As a newspaper reporter she always wanted to get information *at first hand*.  
 a. quickly                      b. slowly                      c. easily                      d. directly
14. I think we can safely say now that we have got our money back, we are *home and dry*.  
 a. have not got wet                                      b. have got no water  
 c. have been successful                                      d. have got home dry
15. He is the man who owns all the land and is *the big fish* around here.  
 a. the fat man                      b. the huge man                      c. the important man                      d. the enormous man
16. She never stops talking about herself and is *full of herself*.  
 a. is very fat                      b. is too fat                      c. is very full                      d. is very conceited
17. You will not slip over because the floor is *as dry as a bone*.  
 a. completely hard                      b. extremely flat                      c. totally dry                      d. completely cracked
18. He kept saying he didn't do it but *in the end* he said he had done it.  
 a. at the end                      b. finally                      c. at last                      d. by the end
19. I know you are very sorry that you broke the pot but *accidents will happen*.  
 a. things will take place                                      b. things do occur  
 c. things take place often                                      d. things often go wrong

Directions for 20 to 26: Match the idioms given in the right column to their appropriate usage in the sentences given the left column. The idioms have to be placed in the blank underlined space in each sentence.

20. Johnny, before you can go outside to play, you have _____ all the toys and clothes on the floor of your room.	a. to put on
21. There's too much noise in here for me to study. I can't _____ it any longer.	b. to put away
22. It's quite cold tonight. I think we should _____ some warmer clothing before we go outside.	c. to put off
23. Please _____ your cigarette in the ashtray immediately. No smoking is allowed in here.	d. to put out
24. I can't _____ doing that important assignment any longer. It's due in just three days.	e. to put down
25. The military troops used force _____ the mass demonstration against the corrupt government.	f. to put up with
26. Shari's father helped _____ her new bicycle, which came in pieces in a box.	g. to put together

Directions for 27 to 38: Match the idiom in the left column with the definition in the right column.

- 27. once and for all                    a) in order to be prepared if
- 28. lost cause                            b) especially, mainly
- 29. all in all                              c) hopeless situation
- 30. by far                                 d) eventually
- 31. give and take                        e) clearly, by a great margin
- 32. in touch                                f) for only one time
- 33. above all                              g) compromise, cooperation
- 34. in the long run                      h) basically, fundamentally
- 35. close call                             i) finally, absolutely
- 36. in case                                j) narrow escape from danger
- 37. for once                                k) considering everything
- 38. at heart                                l) having contact

Directions for 39 to 47: Match the idioms given in the right column to their appropriate usage in the sentences given the left column. The idioms have to be placed in the blank underlined space in each sentence.

39. Mrs. Johnson was very surprised when she _____ twin boys.	a. give and take
40. Because it was the first time that I had fooled around in class I asked the teacher _____.	b. to give up
41. A successful marriage is mostly a matter of _____ between husband and wife.	c. to give in
42. This box is too heavy for me to lift alone. Could you _____.	d. to give off
43. The lecturer was so interesting that the audience _____ at the end of the talk.	e. to give out
44. The man stood on the street corner and _____ advertising flyers to the people passing by.	f. to give one a break
45. Could you please take this garbage outside? It _____ a very bad smell.	g. to give birth to
46. The army forces _____ when they discovered that they were surrounded by the enemy.	h. to give one a hand
47. I usually don't _____ so easily, but this work is too hard for me to do.	i. to give one a big hand



Directions for 58 to 66: Match the idioms given in the right column to their appropriate usage in the sentences given the left column. The idioms have to be placed in the blank underlined space in each sentence.

58. In the emergency situation, Alex was able _____ and save the child from drowning in the ocean.	a. to keep one's head
59. At the racetrack, none of the horses were able _____ the horse that was expected to win the race.	b. to keep up with
60. When we visited Disneyland, we had to be careful _____ our children in the large crowds of people.	c. to keep in touch with
61. You have _____ Tanya to return the typewriter or she will forget time and again.	d. to keep one's word
62. You should _____ about doing that important task and not neglect to attend to it any longer.	e. to keep after
63. Even though you're moving to another city, we should _____ each other as much as possible.	f. to keep in mind
64. While I was cooking with hot grease on the stove, I warned others _____ in order not to get burned.	g. to keep track of
65. When teaching beginning-level English students, it is important _____ that their range of vocabulary is quite limited.	h. to keep away
66. The weather forecast is calling for cloudy skies tomorrow. We should _____ that it doesn't rain during the picnic.	i. to keep one's fingers crossed

Directions for 67 to 78: Match the idiom in the left column with the definition in the right column.

- |                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 67. let alone    | a) I don't know                |
| 68. on the ball  | b) certainly, definitely       |
| 69. search me    | c) nervous, irritable          |
| 70. by the way   | d) rehearsal, practice session |
| 71. on hand      | e) and certainly not           |
| 72. by all means | f) incidentally                |
| 73. more or less | g) available, nearby           |
| 74. a steal      | h) in general                  |
| 75. dry run      | i) attentive, alert            |
| 76. on the whole | j) directly, personally        |
| 77. on edge      | k) approximately, almost       |
| 78. face-to-face | l) very inexpensive            |







# Answer Key:

## Diagnostic Test:

1. c      2. a      3. b      4. d      5. b  
 6. a      7. a      8. a      9. a      10. c  
 11. a      12. c      13. a      14. d      15. b  
 16. c      17. a      18. b      19. c      20. d  
 21. b      22. b      23. c      24. b      25. d
26. journey  
 27. state strongly; opposed to war; prohibit  
 28. request strongly; shut off to the world; restrain  
 29. diplomat; friendly; firm  
 30. including members from 2 parties; agreement; not go as far as; careful discussion & consideration.  
 31. vigorous, thorough; criticize; not specific  
 32. talk about battle/charging/attack; fluent  
 33. not friendly, characteristic of enemy  
 34. meeting; dangerous; chasm, deep fissure; faced with; usual habit  
 35. stepped-up, increased.

## Root Trees and Family

Antibiotic, antibody, anticipate, antidote, antigen, antimony, antipathy, antipode, antique, antique, antiquity, anti-Semitic, antiseptic, antisocial, antithesis, antitoxin, antitrust, anticlockwise, anti-Christ.

Match the following - I

1 - D    2 - E    3 - A    4 - B    5 - C    6 - G    7 - F

Match the following - II

1 - e    2 - d    3 - f    4 - b    5 - c    6 - a

Root: Vert/Vers

avert, divert, invert, introvert, convertible, reverse, controversy, versatile

Root: Spec/t

specimen, specific, spectator, spectacle, aspect, speculate, inspect, respect, prospect, retrospective, introspective, expect, conspicuous

Root: Tin/ten/tain

tenacious, tenant, tenure, untenable, detention, retentive, content, pertinent, continent, obstinate, contain, abstain, pertain, detain

## Prefixes

Postmeridian	dissent	diverge
sufficient	inflate	demote
constructive	inject	prologue
emigration	exclude	extrovert
suffix	post-natal	absence
opponent	expect	degenerate
objective	antonym	Decelerate
malevolent	diffident	desecrate
dissonance	eupeptic	discourage
Cacophony	Inhibit	Implicit
heterogeneous	exculpate	Egress
Extramural	Microcosm	Benefactor
Disuade	Misanthropist	Regression

## Number Game

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| a. Decade: 10    | b. octopus: 8    |
| c. Duplicity: 2  | c. Pentathlon: 5 |
| d. Hebdomadad: 7 | d. quadrille: 4  |
| e. monolithic: 1 | f. Semester: 2   |
| g. novena: 9     | h. trident: 3    |

Bireme, 2	Centime, 100
Cinquefoil, 5	Duodenal, 12
Farthing, 4	Fortnight, 14
Kilowatt, 1000	Myriad, 10,000 or very large
Nonce, 1	Noon, 12
Octachord, 8	Quarantine, 40
Samite, 6	Septentrional, 7
Tierce, 3	Tithe, 10

**Exercise on Synonyms:**

- |       |       |       |       |        |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1. b  | 2. d  | 3. c  | 4. a  | 5. b   |
| 6. d  | 7. a  | 8. c  | 9. a  | 10. d  |
| 11. d | 12. d | 13. a | 14. b | 15. c  |
| 16. a | 17. c | 18. a | 19. c | 20. a  |
| 21. b | 22. b | 23. d | 24. c | 25. b  |
| 26. d | 27. c | 28. d | 29. b | 30. a  |
| 31. b | 32. d | 33. a | 34. c | 35. b  |
| 36. a | 37. a | 38. c | 39. c | 40. b  |
| 41. d | 42. d | 43. b | 44. a | 45. c  |
| 46. d | 47. c | 48. b | 49. a | 50. b  |
| 51. a | 52. d | 53. a | 54. c | 55. b  |
| 56. a | 57. d | 58. a | 59. c | 60. b  |
| 61. a | 62. d | 63. c | 64. c | 65. a  |
| 66. d | 67. b | 68. b | 69. d | 70. b  |
| 71. c | 72. b | 73. c | 74. d | 75. a  |
| 76. a | 77. a | 78. d | 79. c | 80. b  |
| 81. c | 82. b | 83. b | 84. d | 85. a  |
| 86. c | 87. b | 88. d | 89. a | 90. b  |
| 91. b | 92. c | 93. c | 94. c | 95. a  |
| 96. c | 97. c | 98. c | 99. b | 100. c |

**Exercise on Analogies**

- |       |       |       |       |        |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1. a  | 2. d  | 3. d  | 4. c  | 5. b   |
| 6. c  | 7. c  | 8. c  | 9. c  | 10. c  |
| 11. c | 12. d | 13. d | 14. d | 15. c  |
| 16. c | 17. d | 18. b | 19. d | 20. b  |
| 21. c | 22. a | 23. c | 24. c | 25. b  |
| 26. d | 27. d | 28. a | 29. b | 30. b  |
| 31. c | 32. a | 33. b | 34. b | 35. b  |
| 36. b | 37. d | 38. c | 39. b | 40. b  |
| 41. b | 42. c | 43. d | 44. b | 45. c  |
| 46. a | 47. b | 48. b | 49. a | 50. b  |
| 51. a | 52. c | 53. c | 54. a | 55. c  |
| 56. c | 57. a | 58. a | 59. c | 60. c  |
| 61. d | 62. d | 63. c | 64. a | 65. d  |
| 66. c | 67. a | 68. a | 69. d | 70. a  |
| 71. a | 72. b | 73. d | 74. c | 75. a  |
| 76. d | 77. c | 78. b | 79. d | 80. b  |
| 81. c | 82. d | 83. c | 84. a | 85. d  |
| 86. a | 87. d | 88. a | 89. c | 90. a  |
| 91. b | 92. d | 93. c | 94. b | 95. b  |
| 96. d | 97. d | 98. c | 99. b | 100. c |

**Exercise on Antonyms**

- |       |       |       |       |        |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1. d  | 2. a  | 3. c  | 4. b  | 5. d   |
| 6. b  | 7. c  | 8. b  | 9. a  | 10. d  |
| 11. b | 12. c | 13. a | 14. b | 15. b  |
| 16. d | 17. a | 18. a | 19. c | 20. b  |
| 21. d | 22. c | 23. a | 24. b | 25. b  |
| 26. a | 27. c | 28. c | 29. d | 30. c  |
| 31. a | 32. b | 33. b | 34. b | 35. b  |
| 36. d | 37. a | 38. d | 39. d | 40. b  |
| 41. c | 42. d | 43. a | 44. c | 45. b  |
| 46. c | 47. d | 48. a | 49. b | 50. c  |
| 51. a | 52. b | 53. d | 54. a | 55. b  |
| 56. a | 57. a | 58. d | 59. c | 60. a  |
| 61. b | 62. d | 63. b | 64. d | 65. c  |
| 66. a | 67. c | 68. d | 69. b | 70. c  |
| 71. a | 72. c | 73. b | 74. a | 75. b  |
| 76. b | 77. d | 78. a | 79. d | 80. c  |
| 81. d | 82. c | 83. a | 84. b | 85. b  |
| 86. d | 87. b | 88. b | 89. a | 90. c  |
| 91. d | 92. a | 93. d | 94. c | 95. d  |
| 96. d | 97. b | 98. a | 99. b | 100. d |

**Exercise on Idioms**

- |       |       |       |       |        |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1. g  | 2. b  | 3. f  | 4. d  | 5. c   |
| 6. h  | 7. e  | 8. i  | 9. a  | 10. c  |
| 11. d | 12. b | 13. d | 14. c | 15. c  |
| 16. d | 17. c | 18. b | 19. b | 20. b  |
| 21. f | 22. a | 23. d | 24. c | 25. e  |
| 26. g | 27. i | 28. c | 29. k | 30. e  |
| 31. g | 32. l | 33. b | 34. d | 35. j  |
| 36. a | 37. f | 38. h | 39. g | 40. f  |
| 41. a | 42. h | 43. i | 44. e | 45. d  |
| 46. c | 47. b | 48. a | 49. b | 50. a  |
| 51. b | 52. d | 53. a | 54. c | 55. d  |
| 56. a | 57. c | 58. a | 59. b | 60. g  |
| 61. e | 62. d | 63. c | 64. h | 65. f  |
| 66. i | 67. e | 68. i | 69. a | 70. f  |
| 71. g | 72. b | 73. k | 74. l | 75. d  |
| 76. h | 77. c | 78. j | 79. h | 80. a  |
| 81. d | 82. f | 83. b | 84. g | 85. e  |
| 86. c | 87. i | 88. c | 89. d | 90. b  |
| 91. c | 92. a | 93. d | 94. c | 95. a  |
| 96. b | 97. c | 98. b | 99. a | 100. a |