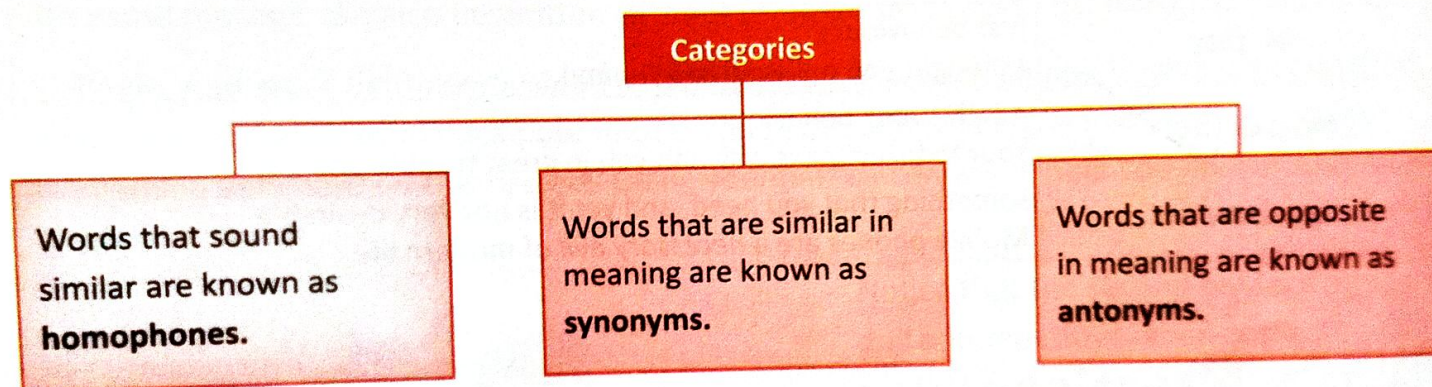




Vocabulary

Let's Learn

A good vocabulary helps us to use the language with greater effect. A sizable stock of words that constitutes a good vocabulary enables us to use the language efficiently. There are various types of words in English. We classify the vocabulary of a language under different categories, in terms of either their meaning or their appearance.



Homophones

Homophones are different words that are pronounced in a similar way.

homophones	meaning	homophones	meaning
ail (V) ale (N)	be ill/physical suffering a drink	been (V) bean (N)	past participle of the verb <i>be</i> a kind of edible seed
bell (N) belle (N)	a musical instrument girl/aristocratic woman	canvas (N) canvass (V)	surface for painting campaign
daze (V) days (N)	surprise plural of <i>day</i>	eight (N) ate (V)	number past form of <i>eat</i>
faint (V) feint (N)	become unconscious trick	fair (Adj) fare (N)	reasonable/pale price

homophones	meaning	homophones	meaning
gait (N)	step/pace	heard (V)	past form of hear
gate (N)	entrance	herd (N)	flock
loan (N)	what is lent	main (Adj)	primary
lone (Adj)	alone	mane (N)	hair
pole (N)	an erect post	seen (V)	past participle of see
poll (N)	a vote	scene (N)	an event or a situation that you see
vale (N)	valley	warn (V)	threaten
veil (N)	a cover	worn (V)	past participle of wear

Let's Practise

Tick the right alternative given within the brackets to make meaningful sentences.

1. Speaking (allowed/aloud) is not (allowed/aloud) (hear/here).
2. I request (ewe/you) to kindly (wave/waive) my tuition fees.
3. Time and (tide/tied) wait for (nun/none).
4. He (through/threw) the (ball/ bawl) (through/ threw) the window.
5. You have a (right/rite) to (write/wright) to the (principle/principal) about your objection.
6. Can I have a (pare/pair) of (pears/pares)?
7. To make the salty crackers, first (need/knead) the dough for five minutes.
8. Don't (meddle/medal) with electrical gadgets.
9. Raju's bicycle toppled because he failed to apply the (break/brake) on time.
10. One must constantly try to (caste/cast) away one's prejudices and superstitions.
11. I can tell you a (tail/tale) of a brilliant warrior.
12. I can't ask others to vacate a seat for me. They (two/too) are studying at the library.
13. Mimi's dog (passed/past) away last night.
14. What kind of a metal is (led/lead)?
15. Mrs Dhar's (son/sun) goes to my school.



Let's Learn

Synonyms and antonyms

Synonyms are words that share the same meaning.



Example: The words *royal* and *regal* refer to things related to the king/queen or monarchy. Therefore, the two words are synonymous.

Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning.



Example: The words *common* and *rare* convey opposite meanings.

The word *common* refers to something that is ordinary and easily available while the word *rare* denotes something that is scarce. These are antonyms.

The following is a list of some synonyms and antonyms.

words	synonyms	antonyms
abandon	leave	follow
active	energetic/lively	inactive
afraid	scared	courageous/bold
allow	permit	prohibit
attack	hit	defend
ambitious	aspiring	lazy
awkward	uncomfortable	comfortable
back	rear	front
borrow	take	give/lend
cheerful	happy	sad
comfort	ease	discomfort
comic	funny	tragic

words	synonyms	antonyms
commence	start	end
conventional	traditional	unconventional
confirm	assure	deny/repeal
dare	defy	submit
distant	far	near
dull	boring	interesting
eager	keen	disinterested
effective	useful	ineffective
formal	official	informal
functional	operative	non-functional
knowledge	awareness	ignorance
large	big	small
major	most important	minor
neglect	ignore	care for
often	frequently	seldom
original	authentic	fake
please	satisfy	displease
plenty	lots	scarce/few
question	query	answer
quiet	calm	noisy
rest	relax	work
rise	ascend	fall
spontaneous	natural/unbidden	forced
strong	well-built	weak
thoughtful	attentive	negligent
trust	reliance	distrust
under	below	above
vast	enormous	small
wide	broad	narrow

Let's Practise

1. Choose the correct synonyms for the highlighted words in the following sentences from the given alternatives.

- a. Creating a schedule for studies is a **handy** way of going about exam preparations.
 i. convenient ☒ ii. nice ☐ iii. funny ☐
- b. There are several **nomadic** tribes in India
 i. wild ☐ ii. brave ☐ iii. roving ☒
- c. The Independence of India was a **momentous** time in the nation's history.
 i. significant ☒ ii. minor ☐ iii. sudden ☐
- d. I can give you an **exhaustive** list of super-hero films.
 i. complete ☒ ii. useful ☐ iii. tiring ☐
- e. The committee decided to **accept** two more applications.
 i. remove ☐ ii. reserve ☐ iii. take ☒
- f. Everyone should get a **fair** chance.
 i. mean ☐ ii. white ☐ iii. just ☒
- g. I think we had a **tacit** agreement not to let out each other's secrets.
 i. explicit ☐ ii. hostile ☐ iii. implicit ☒
- h. All the contestants of the essay competition have been so **amazing**.
 i. sparkling ☐ ii. brilliant ☒ iii. ordinary ☐

2. Replace the underlined words in each sentence with the correct antonyms given below.

fantastic

quiet

heavy

neatness

wild

judicious

- a. The tiger is a domestic animal.
 b. I can help you carry those light boxes.
 c. There is one mark for untidiness.
 d. This place is very noisy. Let's sit here for some time.
 e. The book I read last night was horrible.
 f. One needs to be careless about one's decisions in life.



Match the words in column B with appropriate synonyms and antonyms given in columns A and C respectively.

A

(Synonyms)

- grand 5
- eager 10
- sure 6
- angry 8
- better 2
- wonderful 4
- steady 3
- ordinary 9
- Intelligent 7
- tight 1
- honest 15
- combine 13
- abundant 16
- disagree 12
- mean 11

B

- firm 1
- improved 2
- stable 3
- fantastic 4
- impressive 5
- certain 6
- clever 7
- annoyed 8
- commonplace 9
- willing 10
- unkind 11
- differ 12
- blend 13
- sufficient 14
- truthful 15

C

(Antonyms)

- happy 8
- unwilling 10
- horrible 4
- unsure 6
- loose 1
- unsteady 3
- foolish 7
- worse 2
- exclusive 9
- simple 5
- separate 13
- nice 11
- agree 12
- scanty 14
- dishonest 15