

Chapter 2

Synonyms and Antonyms

This is the other very important area of the vocabulary section. This section tests widely and exhaustively one's knowledge of the language and word power, but goes beyond that to test your ability to remember words with similar meanings or opposite meanings. Or, alternately, to discover the similarity or proximity between the meaning of the given word with one of those in the options.

These exercises can get confusing sometimes because more than one option may appear as the right answer or none of them may look like the right answer. For such questions a student may consider the following strategies.

STRATEGY 1

If you do not know the meaning of the given word, think of a context in which you might have used it, that may help you to figure out the meaning, for example, in the question find the word nearest in meaning to

MAGNIFY

(1) Forgive (2) diminish (3) swell (4) extract

Now if you do not know what magnify means think of a magnifying glass and what it does. It expands or makes a thing look bigger. So the right answer will be (3).

STRATEGY 2

If you cannot find a correct antonym in the given option think of the antonyms you know of and subsequently check if there is any word in the given options which is synonymous to the antonyms in your mind. For example

INDUSTRIOUS

(1) stupid (2) harsh (3) indolent (4) complex

If you don't know any of the words given as options think of antonyms you could think of, like lazy, idle. Now think of synonyms of lazy and you will know indolent is a synonym of lazy. So it will be the antonym to industrious. Formula → SYNONYM of ANTONYM is another ANTONYM.

STRATEGY 3

Look at the part of speech of the given verb. A word may exist in various parts of speech. For example precipitate exists as a verb which means send rapidly into a certain state and also as a noun, precipitate, which means a substance deposited from a solution.

POLISH

(1) ruthlessness (2) honesty (3) indolence (4) gaucheness

Now is this the verb polish or noun polish. Since all options are nouns, this cannot be the verb polish related to shoes but noun polish which means culture and sophistication and the antonym to this would be gaucheness.

Exercise

1

DIRECTIONS: Pick out the nearest correct meaning or synonym of the words given below:

1. ADVICE
(1) council (2) counsel
(3) practice (4) proposal
2. MISERABLE
(1) object (2) obstruct
(3) abject (4) abstract
3. QUOTE
(1) sight (2) sigh
(3) sue (4) cite
4. HARMONY
(1) cemetery (2) ceremony
(3) symmetry (4) hierarchy
5. UNLAWFUL
(1) elicit (2) draw
(3) illegitimate (4) illicit
6. HAUGHTY
(1) imperial (2) imperious
(3) adamant (4) empire

7. WISE
(1) momentous (2) pragmatic
(3) judicious (4) delay
8. LOQUACIOUS
(1) Victorian (2) bombastic
(3) verbose (4) ambiguous
9. COURAGEOUS
(1) fickle (2) insipid
(3) timorous (4) fearless
10. WATCHFULNESS
(1) Supervision (2) Custody
(3) Superintendence (4) Vigil
11. ATTACHMENT
(1) Affinity (2) Influence
(3) Causation (4) Appendage
12. WEARY
(1) Tired (2) Fatigued
(3) Sentimental (4) Emotional
13. BEQUEST
(1) Parsimony (2) matrimony
(3) heritage (4) patrimony

14. GULLIBLE	(1) credible	(2) believable	33. REDEEM	(1) extend	(2) fulfil
	(3) credulous	(4) fallible		(3) reconsider	(4) recover
15. BRAVERY	(1) onslaught	(2) arrogant	34. BLAND	(1) unpleasant	(2) irritating
	(3) fortitude	(4) nepotism		(3) affable	(4) tasteless
16. JEALOUS	(1) obvious	(2) atrocious	35. VISIONARY	(1) dreaming	(2) savant
	(3) envious	(4) ferocious		(3) philosopher	(4) saint
17. PATRONAGE	(1) donation	(2) support	36. REVOKE	(1) repudiate	(2) repeal
	(3) espionage	(4) beneficiary		(3) impute	(4) force
18. TRAVERSE	(1) mingle	(2) frustrate	37. REPRISAL	(1) denial	(2) reluctance
	(3) take	(4) cross		(3) unequivocal	(4) retaliation
19. FOUND	(1) see	(2) establish	38. FASTIDIOUS	(1) faint	(2) dainty
	(3) realize	(4) search		(3) delicious	(4) dormant
20. RECUPERATE	(1) recapture	(2) reclaim	39. ATTRIBUTE	(1) Infer	(2) impute
	(3) recover	(4) regain		(3) inhere	(4) inundate
21. ALMS	(1) blessings	(2) charity	40. DIALECTIC	(1) argumentative	(2) instructive
	(3) prayers	(4) worship		(3) constructive	(4) destructive
22. ATTENUATE	(1) repent	(2) make thin	41. GERMINATE	(1) decay	(2) breed
	(3) force	(4) divide		(3) produce	(4) sprout
23. VINDICTIVE	(1) revengeful	(2) triumphant	42. EFFICACY	(1) delicacy	(2) ruthlessness
	(3) strategic	(4) demonstrative		(3) efficiency	(4) solemnity
24. DISCOMFIT	(1) litigate	(2) ease	43. MAGNATE	1) tycoon	(2) senior executive
	(3) conflict	(4) frustrate		(3) non-magnetic	(4) symbolic
25. WRATH	(1) violence	(2) anger	44. FACET	(1) sweet	(2) tap
	(3) hatred	(4) displeasing		(3) deceit	(4) aspect
26. ABSTINENCE	(1) synchronic	(2) torrential	45. PERNICIOUS	(1) deadly	(2) curious
	(3) restraint	(4) gluttony		(3) gorgeous	(4) expensive
27. ERUDITE	(1) execute	(2) expanse	46. PERSUADE	(1) assure	(2) opinionated
	(3) academic	(4) settle		(3) convince	(4) cheat
28. TACITURNITY	(1) dumbness	(2) changeableness	47. FORTIFY	(1) topple	(2) destroy
	(3) hesitation	(4) reserve		(3) reproduce	(4) strengthen
29. ANIMATE	(1) kill	(2) dead	48. PHENOMENAL	(1) incidental	(2) eventful
	(3) energise	(4) calm		(3) natural	(4) extraordinary
30. NIGGARDLY	(1) penurious	(2) generous	49. PARADIGM	(1) solution	(2) model
	(3) liberal	(4) nimbus		(3) discovery	(4) invention
31. BLITHE	(1) joyless	(2) grudging	50. HONORARY	(1) honest	(2) dignified
	(3) somnolent	(4) cheerful		(3) unpaid	(4) praiseworthy
32. CAPTIVATE	(1) repel	(2) subjugate	51. FACULTY	(1) privilege	(2) desire
	(3) dangerous	(4) fascinate		(3) branch	(4) ability

52. FORESEE
 (1) contemplate (2) visualise
 (3) assume (4) hypothesis
53. ANNEX
 (1) add (2) low
 (3) copy (4) initial
54. MENAGE
 (1) suffocation (2) system
 (3) law (4) household
55. DILEMMA
 (1) darkness (2) freedom
 (3) trap (4) confusion
56. RIGMAROLE
 (1) short-cut (2) lengthy procedure
 (3) unnecessary burden (4) happy responsibility
57. TRANSCEND
 (1) lower (2) climb
 (3) energise (4) cross
58. IMPERATIVE
 (1) order (2) command
 (3) suggestion (4) necessity
59. EXEMPT
 (1) duty (2) provide
 (3) relieve (4) forgive
60. INFIRMITY
 (1) disease (2) malady
 (3) weakness (4) slimness
61. IMMINENT
 (1) eminent (2) immediate
 (3) future (4) impending
62. CHASTE
 (1) Filthy (2) Lewd
 (3) Immoral (4) Noble
63. FEMINITY
 (1) Cowardice (2) Manly
 (3) Angelic (4) Inherent
64. CURVATURE
 (1) Angularity (2) Straightness
 (3) Short-cut (4) Streamline
65. SUMMIT
 (1) Base (2) Slope
 (3) Declivity (4) Peak
66. WEAN
 (1) Introduce (2) Withdraw
 (3) Detach (4) Alienate
67. MENDACIOUS
 (1) false (2) misleading
 (3) provocative (4) truthful
68. OSTRACISED
 (1) hated
 (2) shut out from the society
 (3) criticized
 (4) applauded by the majority
69. SPURIOUS
 (1) false (2) harmful
 (3) poisonous (4) foreign
70. OBNOXIOUS
 (1) clever (2) shrewd
 (3) disagreeable (4) outdated
71. PERNICIOUS
 (1) radical (2) baneful
 (3) scientific (4) negative
72. RECTIFY
 (1) to command (2) to correct
 (3) to destroy (4) to build
73. CORDON
 (1) pile of logs (2) heavy cloak
 (3) line of people placed as guard
 (4) none of these
74. CONCERT
 (1) beauty (2) power
 (3) agreement (d) none of these
75. MITIGATE
 (1) to heal (2) soothen
 (3) to pardon (4) to send on a mission
76. DEVOID
 (1) evasive (2) hopeless
 (3) lacking (4) stupid
77. RESOLVED
 (1) summarized (2) dispelled
 (3) determined (4) hanged
78. APPOSITE
 (1) appropriate (2) foolish
 (3) painful (4) none of these
79. BUOYANT
 (1) childlike (2) sturdy
 (3) brisk (4) light-hearted
80. INFIRM
 (1) Sturdy (2) Anxious
 (3) Patient (4) feeble
81. INTELLECT
 (1) Rationality (2) imbecility
 (3) Insanity (4) Reverie
82. MANIAC
 (1) Lunatic (2) Deft
 (3) Sober (4) Dunce
83. OMEN
 (1) Augury (2) Superstition
 (3) Imagery (4) Imagination
84. SPECTACLE
 (1) Pageant (2) show
 (3) Mystification (4) Panorama
85. One of the following words very nearly replaces advice
 (1) council (2) counsel
 (3) practice (4) proposal.
86. Which of the following words very nearly means 'rough'.
 (1) coarse (2) refine
 (3) rude (4) crude
87. Which of the following words means miserable
 (1) object (2) obstruct
 (3) abject (4) abstract
88. Quote is what one of the following words means;
 (1) sight (2) sigh
 (3) sue (4) cite

89. Harmony is the nearest equivalent of which of the following words
 (1) cemetery (2) ceremony
 (3) symmetry (4) hierarchy
90. Which of the following words means mishap
 (1) incident (2) ceremony
 (3) advent (4) affectation
91. Which of the following words means unlawful
 (1) elicit (2) draw
 (3) illegitimate (4) illicit
92. One of the following words means haughty
 (1) imperial (2) imperious
 (3) adamant (4) empire
93. One of the following words means wise
 (1) momentous (2) pragmatic
 (3) judicious (4) delay
94. Find out the word meaning "Attachment":
 (1) Affinity (2) Influence
 (3) Causation (4) Appendage
95. Which one of the following words means "weary"?
 (1) Tired (2) Fatigued
 (3) Sentimental (4) Emotional

Exercise

2

DIRECTIONS: Pick out the **antonym** of the words given below:

1. IMPLICATE
 (1) appease (2) exonerate
 (3) adore (4) advocate
2. VACILLATING
 (1) fascinating (2) fanaticism
 (3) indolence (4) resolute
3. RECKLESS
 (1) modest (2) awkward
 (3) celebrated (4) cautious
4. INSULT
 (1) Humiliation (2) Credulity
 (3) Degradation (4) Honour
5. ABANDON
 (1) Roost (2) Forfeit
 (3) quit (4) Forsake
6. OFFEND
 (1) angry (2) hate
 (3) force (4) respect
7. INDICT
 (1) condemn (2) reprimand
 (3) acquit (4) allege
8. OBSCENE
 (1) decent (2) objectionable
 (3) condemnable (4) jealousy
9. LIBERATE
 (1) imprison (2) enclose
 (3) liberal (4) conceal
10. MELANCHOLY
 (1) depressed (2) prejudiced
 (3) reckless (4) cheerful
11. LEGITIMATE
 (1) valid (2) extend
 (3) unlawful (4) distinguished
12. VACILLATE
 (1) amplify (2) stimulate
 (3) consistent (4) eradicate
13. HINDER
 (1) expedite (2) protect
 (3) devote (4) create
14. TERSE
 (1) lengthy (2) scarce
 (3) diffuse (4) headless
15. MULTIPLICITY
 (1) finite (2) uniformity
 (3) magnitude (4) infinite
16. NAIVE
 (1) subtle (2) energise
 (3) spotless (4) clever
17. ANACHRONISTIC
 (1) formerly (2) present
 (3) futuristic (4) non-existing
18. TRAIT
 (1) symbol (2) uncharacteristic
 (3) habit (4) identity
19. GARISH
 (1) tasteful (2) green
 (3) scenic (4) contrasting
20. GEOLOGICAL
 (1) astral (2) solar
 (3) galactic (4) heavenly
21. REJUVENATION
 (1) sexual (2) perfect
 (3) killing (4) magical
22. ORIGIN
 (1) ointment (2) detergent
 (3) remnant (4) comfort
23. APATHETIC
 (1) agitated (2) happy
 (3) concerned (4) surprised

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|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 24. HOMOGENISED | (1) set type | (2) multi-coloured | 42. LACKADAISICAL | (1) abundant | (2) energetic |
| | (3) different | (4) rejected | | (3) theatrical | (4) actual |
| 25. PROVE | (1) vapid | (2) assume | 43. CAPRICIOUS | (1) thoughtful | (2) specious |
| | (3) disincline | (4) atone | | (3) carcinogenic | (4) capacious |
| 26. ACCOLADE | (1) balcony | (2) outer garment | 44. PERFIDIOUS | (1) loyal | (2) treacherous |
| | (3) drink | (4) criticism | | (3) religious | (4) humane |
| 27. INSTANTLY | (1) repeatedly | (2) lately | 45. ENNUI | (1) sticky | (2) activity |
| | (3) gradually | (4) awkwardly | | (3) start | (4) yearly |
| 28. FRAIL | (1) worried | (2) strong | 46. LASCIVIOUS | (1) devout | (2) fluid |
| | (3) nervous | (4) wily | | (3) chaste | (4) stable |
| 29. CRUDE | (1) classical | (2) graceful | 47. CONSCIENTIOUS | (1) cruel | (2) licentious |
| | (3) natural | (4) polished | | (3) careless | (4) whip |
| 30. RETRIBUTION | (1) compensation | (2) forgiveness | 48. PERIGEE | (1) apogee | (2) hybrid |
| | (3) contempt | (4) grudge | | (3) descent | (4) night |
| 31. PROCLAIM | (1) denounce | (2) pretend | 49. FLUCTUATE | (1) conceive | (2) stabilise |
| | (3) attend | (4) distend | | (3) energise | (4) emancipate |
| 32. SUMPTUOUS | (1) irritable | (2) meagre | 50. RADICAL | (1) superficial | (2) slow |
| | (3) fancy | (4) sad | | (3) narrow | (4) simple |
| 33. FEIGN | (1) condone | (2) attend | 51. ACCORD | (1) concord | (2) policy |
| | (3) willing | (4) original | | (3) dissent | (4) act |
| 34. INSIPID | (1) witty | (2) meagre | 52. HAPLESS | (1) lucky | (2) kind |
| | (3) wily | (4) lucid | | (3) helpful | (4) futile |
| 35. SALUBRIOUS | (1) sticky | (2) soft | 53. FRIVOLOUS | (1) trivial | (2) significant |
| | (3) famous | (4) malaise | | (3) fearless | (4) permissive |
| 36. REFULGENT | (1) angry | (2) dull | 54. INTEGRAL | (1) minor | (2) major |
| | (3) sad | (4) lament | | (3) essential | (4) independent |
| 37. INNOCUOUS | (1) offensive | (2) harmless | 55. HOLISTIC | (1) negative | (2) piecemeal |
| | (3) organic | (4) anger | | (3) impure | (4) inadequate |
| 38. AFFECTATION | (1) sincerity | (2) humility | 56. EXTENSION | (1) diminution | (2) condensation |
| | (3) stirring | (4) affluent | | (3) deletion | (4) subtraction |
| 39. LUMINOUS | (1) dark | (2) ludicrous | 57. INDIGENTLY | (1) richly | (2) awfully |
| | (3) unsteady | (4) provoking | | (3) completely | (4) diligency |
| 40. INTRICACY | (1) ornate | (2) simplicity | 58. AUDACITY | (1) quivering | (2) patricide |
| | (3) distance | (4) cordiality | | (3) bravado | (4) cowardice |
| 41. AMELIORATE | (1) amend | (2) gyrate | 59. WORTHY | (1) unimportant | (2) valuable |
| | (3) sweeten | (4) worsen | | (3) undeserving | (4) ugly |
| | | | 60. ELEVATION | (1) depression | (2) deflation |
| | | | | (3) depreciation | (4) recession |

61. PROFANE	(1) pious	(2) kitten	(1) irreligious	(2) unethical
	(3) energy	(4) wild	(3) irreverent	(4) open
62. DOMINATE	(1) defeat	(2) succumb	81. CELIBATE	(2) prodigal
	(3) threaten	(4) sheepish	(1) reprobate	(4) married
63. UNFATHOMABLE	(1) comprehensible	(2) sinkable	82. OBSOLETE	(2) useless
	(3) uncomfortable	(4) infallible	(1) rare	(4) conducive
64. TERMINATION	(1) endeavouring	(2) beginning	83. MAGNANIMOUS	(2) generous
	(3) amendment	(4) phasing	(1) small	(4) selfish
65. INSPIRED	(1) discouraged	(2) extracted	84. EVACUATE	(2) emerge
	(3) negated	(4) admired	(1) admit	(4) invade
66. PARTICIPATE	(1) precipitate	(2) change	85. SANGUINE	(2) thin
	(3) disengage	(4) boycott	(1) bloody	(4) gloomy
67. EGALITARIAN	(1) unequal	(2) socialist	86. CORPULENT	(2) co-operative
	(3) capitalist	(4) liberal	(1) sallow	(4) emaciated
68. DEFICIENCY	(1) abundance	(2) deficit	87. OCCIDENTAL	(2) accidental
	(3) ill	(4) profit	(1) oriental	(4) confidential
69. FLOURISH	(1) improve	(2) retard	88. FLACCID	(2) taut
	(3) hamper	(4) stop	(1) upright	(4) even
70. VENEER	(1) exterior	(2) interior	89. NEPOTISM	(2) partiality
	(3) impression	(4) armour	(1) midnight	(4) chauvinism
71. DICTATORSHIP	(1) democracy	(2) tyranny	90. ABSTEMIOUS	(2) punctilious
	(3) aristocracy	(4) self-rule	(1) fastidious	(4) prodigal
72. EVENTUALLY	(1) primarily	(2) resultantly	91. CHUIERICAL	(2) real
	(3) initially	(4) objectively	(1) numerical	(4) heavenly
73. PHENOMENAL	(1) ordinary	(2) experiential	92. VERBOSE	(2) talkative
	(3) natural	(4) spiritual	(1) laconic	(4) suspense
74. NONCHALANT	(1) fearful	(2) cowardly	93. DIMINUTIVE	(2) bright
	(3) patriotic	(4) excited	(1) enlarged	(4) admonitory
75. ABOMINATE	(1) love	(2) loathe	94. IMMUNITY	(2) impassive
	(3) abhor	(4) despise	(1) obligatory	(4) susceptibility
76. INGENUOUS	(1) cunning	(2) stupid	95. AMALGAMATE	(2) bubble
	(3) naive	(4) young	(1) synthesise	(4) moderate
77. EGREGIOUS	(1) notorious	(2) splendid	96. CAPTIOUS	(2) detailed
	(3) abortive	(4) maturity	(1) capable	(4) classical
78. DISSIPATE	(1) waste	(2) conserve	97. MANIFOLD	(2) enrolled
	(3) organise	(4) unite	(1) hidden	(4) exact
79. STURDY	(1) important	(2) rich	98. WARP	(2) web
	(3) weak	(4) vigorous	(1) plush	(4) straighten
80. SACROSANCT			99. JOCOSE	(2) humorous
			(1) dull	

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|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | (3) regulated | (4) brief | | 105. HASTILY | |
| 100. PAMPER | (1) neglect | (2) scold | | (1) deliberately | (2) desperately |
| | (3) scorn | (4) discourage | | (3) leisurely | (4) quickly |
| 101. NEGLIGENCE | | | 106. SPREAD | | |
| (1) diligence | (2) punctuality | | (1) express | (2) prohibit | |
| (3) integrity | (4) meticulousness | | (3) contain | (4) contradict | |
| 102. INSTANTLY | | | 107. OPPORTUNITY | | |
| (1) repeatedly | (2) lately | | (1) proper time | (2) high time | |
| (3) immediately | (4) slowly | | (3) improper time | (4) unfortunate | |
| 103. OBVIOUSLY | | | 108. HOLLOW | | |
| (1) obscurely | (2) surely | | (1) filled | (2) solid | |
| (3) indefinitely | (4) certainly | | (3) strong | (4) substantial | |
| 104. EXTRAORDINARY | | | 109. PROHIBIT | | |
| (1) exceptional | (2) unusual | | (1) grant | (2) agree | |
| (3) dull | (4) plain | | (3) permit | (4) accept | |
| | | | 110. RUTHLESS | | |
| | | | (1) gracious | (2) compassionate | |
| | | | (3) generous | (4) malicious | |

Hints & SOLUTIONS

EXERCISE 1

- (2) counsel also means 'legal adviser'.
- (3) abject means helpless, miserable, despicable situation, obstruct means to hinder, abstract is the literal opposite of concrete, real.
- (4) sight means scene, sue means to file a Suit.
- (3) cemetery means graveyards, hierarchy means a system of society in which people are graded into different classes according to certain norms, harmony is when many things work together in the same mode.
- (4) illicit means not sanctioned by law, elicit means to draw a response with difficulty, illegitimate means illegal/unlawful
- (2) imperial means of an empire or its rulers, adamant means firmly or stubbornly, determinedly.
- (3) judicious means having good sense, momentous means most important, pragmatic means practical, treating in a sensible and realistic way.
- (3) Verbose means using or containing more words than are needed, ambiguous means having more than one meaning.
- (3) fickle means unstable, often changing, not constant, not faithful, Insipid means tasteless
- (4) Vigil
- (1) Affinity
- (2) Fatigued
- (3) heritage
- (3) credulous
- (3) Onslaught means 'attack'; arrogant means 'full of pride'
- (3) Obvious means 'clear', 'atrocious' means 'cruel', ferocious means full of anger.
- (2) Classical music today is in need of patronage. Earlier, its patrons were the maharajas. Classical musicians were honoured in the royal courts. They were given all the support necessary to let their art flourish.
- (4) How did you traverse the river? That is, how did you go from one side of it to the other? In other words, how did you cross it? If you traverse an area of land or water, you go across it. Traverse is a literary word.
- (2) Raja Ram Mohan Roy was the founder of Brahmo Samaj. In other words, he established it.
- (3) Once I fall ill, it takes me long to recuperate. That is, I take a long time to recover my health or strength after I have been ill. Convalesce is another synonym of recuperate. Convalescence is the period or process of becoming healthy and well again after an illness or operation.
- (2) When a cyclone affects an area, the people are deprived of their belongings. You then give them money, clothes, food etc. Such gifts to the poor and needy are called alms. Since they are given out of charity (kindness and tolerance), these gifts are also known as charity.
- (2) You are familiar with the word tenuous. Attenuate also comes from the same Latin root tenuis (= thin). If you attenuate something, you make it slender or thin; you reduce it in force or value.
- (1) Mohan and Yadu were friends. One day, however, Mohan went to a cricket match alone. There was only one ticket available and he did not want to miss the match for the sake of his friend. When Yadu came to know of this, he felt aggrieved. Out of vindictiveness, Yadu bought only one ticket for the next match and left Mohan alone. In other words, Yadu took a revenge on Mohan.
- (4) If you are discomfited by something, it causes you to feel slightly embarrassed or confused. In other words, it, frustrates you.

25. (2) Wrath is extreme anger.
26. (3) If you abstain from something, you deliberately do not do it. Abstinence, however, is a particular kind of abstaining—that from alcoholic drink, sex etc, often for health or religious reasons. If you abstain from drinking, you do not get drunk. Abstinence does not refer to “drink” only,
27. (3) An erudite person is scholarly. He or she is full of learning. Now, where does a learned person get his or her learning from? From the world of education or books. In other words, the person has an academic orientation.
28. (4) A taciturn person is not dumb. A dumb person can’t speak. A taciturn person can speak but does not want to. In other words, he maintains a reserve.
29. (3) As an adjective, animate simply means “having life”. For example: Plants and animals are animate objects. (5) is thus rejected because boisterous means “lively, cheerful”. Now, as a verb: If you animate something, you make it lively or more cheerful. Thus you put energy into it. In other words, you energise it. Note: Boisterous is a synonym of the adjective animated.
30. (1) If someone is niggardly, he shows lack of generosity. Thus generous (2) would be its antonym. But we are looking for a synonym. None of the words is a fit synonym. In such cases we go for the word closest in meaning. Both penurious (very poor) and niggardly imply a lack of money, though in different senses.
31. (4) One who is blithe is carefree and cheerful.
32. (4) You are captivated by something attractive; It fascinates you.
33. (4) I have lost my reputation and nothing can redeem it. That is, much though I may try, no good action on my part can bring my lost reputation back. In other words, I cannot recover my reputation.
34. (4) That which is bland is rather dull and unexciting. Doordarshan is infamous for its bland presentations of sports events. Similarly, food can be bland. That is, it has very little flavour. In other words, it is tasteless.
35. (1) A visionary is one who has vision for the future. He comes up with strong, original ideas. He can foresee the changes to come and shapes the future, bringing about an improvement. All visionary ideas are dreams at one stage. But all dreams do not mature. Most of them remain pipedreams. Only those few that are backed up by the necessary, practical considerations turn into visionary ideas.
36. (2) When a law is revoked, it stands cancelled. We can also say that the law has been repealed.
37. (4) When an army operation was launched to bomb the terrorists, they took the army chief hostage in reprisal. That is, they mounted pressure on the army because the army mounted pressure on them. In other words, they retaliated.
38. (2) If you are fastidious, you pay great attention to details. You like everything to be very neat, accurate, and orderly. A dainty object is small, delicate and pretty. The nearness of meaning lies in that fastidious persons like things to be dainty.
39. (2) If A is the cause of B, you attribute B to A. usually; if B is something bad (blame, charge etc.), we use impute instead of attribute. Sample the following : When Sri Lanka beat Pakistan, the Sri Lankans attributed their success to their batsmen. The Pakistanis imputed the blame of their defeat to their sloppy fielding.
40. (1) In philosophy, dialectics is a method of reasoning and reaching conclusions by considering theories and ideas together with ones that contradict them. Such contradictions lead to argumentation and often degenerate into arguments.
41. (4) When a seed germinates, it puts forth shoots. In other words, it sprouts.
42. (3) Efficacy is effectiveness Efficiency is the ability to do a thing successfully. Your efficacy is judged by how efficient you are.
43. (1) John D Rockefeller was an oil magnate. Onassis was a shipping tycoon. Both Rockefeller and Onassis were big businessmen, their spheres being oil (petroleum) and shipping respectively. Both magnate and tycoon refer to businessmen who have made it big, their success making them rich and powerful.
44. (4) A facet of something is a single part or aspect of it.
45. (1) Violence in films has a pernicious influence on our children. That is, the influence is harmful. Similarly, a deadly situation has harmful consequences. Is heinous a synonym of pernicious? No. Heinous crimes are extremely evil and horrible. When one calls a crime heinous, one is rather disgusted with its horror than concerned about its harmfulness.
46. (3) If you persuade me to do something, you try to convince me that it should be done.
47. (4) When you fortify a place, you make it as if it were a fort. A fort has a wall or ditch round it and is not easy to attack. Thus, if you fortify something, you strengthen it.
48. (4) There has been a phenomenal increase in the number of dish antennas in recent years. That is, the rise in number is much, much more than ordinarily expected. The increase is thus extraordinary — “more than ordinary”.
49. (2) A paradigm is a model for something which explains it or shows how it can be produced.
50. (3) Government servants are not allowed to receive money from any other job. Suppose an income-tax officer desired to edit this book. He would then have to be the honorary editor of this book. That is, he cannot receive any payment as wages for editing the book. An honorary job is thus unpaid for.
51. (4) Your faculties are your physical and mental abilities. We have all been endowed with the faculty of imagination. Most of us, however, kill it through an exercise of constant neglect.
52. (2) If you visualise something, you imagine what it is like by forming a mental picture of it. You may visualise future events as well, your wedding for example. You thus foresee your wedding.
53. (1) From Akbar to Aurangzeb, every Mughal emperor went on annexing one kingdom or another to what they inherited. In other words, each of them added to his father’s empire.

54. (4) A menage is a group of people living together in one house. In other words, a household.
55. (4) If you are in a dilemma, you do not know what to do. In other words, you are in confusion.
56. (2) A rigmarole is a lengthy and complicated procedure which you do not like.
57. (4) If you ascend, you go up. If you descend, you go down. If you transcend, you go across. In other words, you cross.
58. (4) An imperative is something that is extremely important and must be done. In other words, it is a necessity. Revision of obsolete laws has become an imperative for the 50-year-old country.
59. (2) Certain categories of companies have been exempted from paying tax. That is, they do not have to shoulder the burden of tax-paying. In other words, their burden has been relieved.
60. (3) If something is firm, it is strong enough to maintain its balance. Infirmary therefore suggests weakness.
61. (4)
62. (4) Filth means dirt, Lewd means characterless. A chaste person does not have sex with anyone or has it only with his or her spouse.
63. (1) Inheritant means qualities taken from forefathers.
64. (1) Angularity
65. (4) Peak. Summit is the highest point.
66. (4) Alienate means to withdraw.
67. (1) Mendacious is something untruthful
68. (2) Ostracised is shutout from the society.
69. (1) Spurious is False
70. (3) disagreeable, unpleasant, nasty, offensive
71. (2) Pernicious is ruinous, injurious, hurtful. Baneful is destructive.
72. (2) Rectify is to correct.
73. (4) Cordon means a line of policemen or soldiers which guards or prevents people entering or leaving an area As it is not covered any of the options, answer should be 'none of these'.
74. (3) Concert means together.
75. (1) Mitigate means to heal, to reduce, to release someone of his sufferings.
76. (3) evasive means careless, stupid means foolish.
77. (3) Resolved is determined.
78. (1) Apposite is suitable, pertinent, relevant.
79. (4) Sturdy means strong, brisk means energetic. Buoyant is cheerful; not easily depressed.
80. (4) Infirm is feeble or weak in body or health.
81. (1) Imbecility means mental weakness, Insanity means madness, Reverie means day -dreaming, Vacuity means emptiness.
82. (1) Lunatic means mad. Deft means skilful, Dunce means highly ignorant.
83. (1) Augury is an omen, token, or indication.
84. (1) Mystification means 'deliberately making mysterious, difficult to understand, Tableau means dramatic scene.
85. (2) counsel also means 'legal adviser.
86. (4) crude
87. (3) abject means helpless, miserable, despicable situation, obstruct means to hinder, abstract is the literal opposite of

88. (3) sight means scene, sue means to file a Suit.
89. (3) cemetery means graveyards, hierarchy means a system of society in which people are graded into different classes according to certain norms.
90. (3) affectation means to pretend
91. (4) illicit means not sanctioned by law, elicit means to draw a response with difficulty, illegitimate means illegal/un lawful
92. (2) imperial means of an empire or its rulers, adamant means firmly or stubbornly, determinedly.
93. (3) judicious means having good sense, momentous means most important, pragmatic means practical, treating in a sensible and realistic way.
94. (1) Affinity
95. (4) Fatigued

EXERCISE 2

1. (2) Exonerate means declared free from blame, to implicate means to show that someone is involved in something especially a crime, to appease means to pacify, to adore means to love deeply and respect highly.
2. (4) Fascinating means charming, fanaticism means madness, especially in religious or political matters, indolence means laziness.
3. (4) Modest means humble, awkward means clumsy, celebrated means distinguished.
4. (2) Credulity
5. (1) Roost
6. (4) **offend** means not to show proper respect or make someone angry, so the opposite will be **respect**.
7. (3) **Indict** means to charge someone with a crime or something wrong. **Accuse** also means the same, **acquit** means to free of charge.
8. (1) **Obscene** means indecent, **objectionable** and **condemnable** mean similar to obscene.
9. (1) **Liberate** is to make someone free and **imprison** is to put in prison, conceal is to hide and **vacillation** is to move from one place or idea to another.
10. (4) **Melancholy** means depressed and is therefore opposite to **cheerful**.
11. (3) **Legitimate** means legal or lawful, **distinguished** means eminent, and **courteous** means polite.
12. (4) **Vacillate** means to move from one place to another and **consistent** means to stay the same, eradicate means to remove
13. (1) Hinder means to prevent the growth or progress of something while expedite is to make fast the process or facilitate. Vindicate means to justify.
14. (1) Terse means brief. Diffuse means spread widely or thinly.
15. (2) Multiplicity is presence of multiple or many identities, while uniformity means same everywhere, infinite means endless.
16. (4) Naive means inexperienced, someone who will not be very sharp or clever owing to lack of experience.
17. (3) Anachronistic is something that belongs to a time gone by, while futuristic is something that belongs to the future or suggests how the future would be.
18. (2) Trait means characteristic.
19. (1) Garish means gaudy or in bad taste.

20. (4) Geological means belonging to or related to the earth, while galactic is that which belongs to the galaxy. Heavenly is belonging to heaven so opposite to earthly. Heavenly is also called unearthly.
21. (3) Rejuvenation means rebirth and regeneration or to live again.
22. (3) Origin means the starting point and remnant is what is left after finishing or distribution.
23. (3) Apathetic is one who does not care or is indifferent.
24. (3) Homogenised means when every part of the group, mixture or collection has been made similar or same, variety means the opposite, i.e. difference.
25. (2) **Prove** means to state that a statement or theory is correct after giving valid and logical reasons while **assumption** is something which is believed without any proofs or evidence.
26. (4) **Accolade** is a token of respect and admiration or kind of reward given to appreciate, **criticism** is to find faults.
27. (3) **Instantly** means something that happens in an instant or very quickly, **gradually** means to happen step by step. **slowly** has not been considered as the apt choice because instantly suggests in one step and gradually means in several steps so it is a more appropriate antonym.
28. (2) **Frail** means something or someone very weak, usually due to illness.
29. (4) **Crude** means raw, undeveloped or unsophisticated, **graceful** can also be an antonym to crude but **polished** is more exactly opposite to crude.
30. (2) **Retribution** is punishment, **contempt** is feeling of disgust and **grudge** is an ill-feeling.
31. (1) **Proclaim** is to announce usually in favour of, **denounce** means to speak against.
32. (2) Sumptuous means sufficient or more in quantity, **meagre** means very little.
33. (4) Feign means to pretend, that is show what is not real or original, **condone** is to forgive and **condemn** is to express disapproval of something.
34. (1) **Insipid** means unintelligent, plain or flat, **witty** means clever intelligent.
35. (4) **Salubrious** means health giving, **malaise** is something that causes discomfort or pain, like a disease.
36. (3) **Refulgent** means bright, **lament** is to repent.
37. (2) Innocuous is harmless or inoffensive.
38. (2) **Affectation** means haughtiness or pride while **humility** means humble, polite behaviour.
39. (3) **Luminous** means bright or giving out a lot of light.
40. (2) The carpets are priced so high due to the intricacy of patterns. An intricate pattern is made up of many small details. It is complicated, not simple. The noun from simple is simplicity.
41. (4) If you ameliorate a situation, you make it better or easier in some way. The opposite of better is worse. If you make a situation worse, you worsen.
42. (2) The fielding of the Indian cricket team is lackadaisical. That is, the fielders do not show much interest or enthusiasm; they are rather lazy. Jadeja, however, is an exception. He is Energetic.
43. (1) He was fed up with the capricious behaviour of his wife. It began to prove difficult for him to fulfil her caprices. A caprice is an unexpected action or decision; It has no strong reason or purpose. In fact, the husband could not tolerate her. He was a thoughtful man; his actions were based on reason.
44. (1) One who is perfidious is treacherous or untrustworthy. He may be with you today and against you tomorrow. On the other hand, a loyal person remains firm in his or her friendship or support.
45. (2) Ennui is a feeling of tiredness, boredom and dissatisfaction caused by lack of interest and having nothing to do. Only activity (something to do) can be its antidote. [An antidote is a substance that prevents the bad effects of a disease.]
46. (3) One who is lascivious shows an unnaturally strong interest in sex. On the other hand, a chaste person does not have sex with anyone, or has it only with his or her spouse.
47. (3) Rachna is very conscientious about her actions. That is, she is very careful to do her work properly. Now, the opposite of careful is careless.
48. (1) The perigee is the point where the path of an object through space is closest to the Earth. The apogee is the point where the path is farthest from the Earth.
49. (2) How do you rectify voltage fluctuations? With the help of a voltage stabiliser. If something fluctuates, it changes a lot in an irregular way. If you stop this, it becomes stable.
50. (1) Radical comes from Latin radix (= root). If you make a radical change in something, the change goes to its very roots, thus affecting the entire thing. On the other hand, there are changes which do not disturb the entire thing; the changes take place only on the surface. In other words, they are superficial changes.
51. (3) Four of the judges were in accord with one another while one dissented. That is, four of them were in agreement with one another on the judgement. There was no conflict between their opinions. One judge, however, did not share the majority opinions. He was of a different opinion. In other words, he dissented.
52. (1) All reservations have been abolished from this year! Hari Paswan, a scheduled caste candidate, has fallen a hapless victim to the new law. That is, he was unlucky not to have taken the exam last year. His elder brother, Barkhu, was lucky enough to have made it last year.
53. (2) Farming on such a barren land! It is a frivolous project. That is, it would only entail a wastage of time and money. It is not useful. It would make no significant (important) contribution to ameliorating the plight of the poor.
54. (4) Kashmir is an integral part of India. That is, it is an essential part of India without which the country cannot be complete. It cannot be separated from the country. That is what most of the people believe. However, a handful of people believe it should be independent - that it has no connection whatsoever with the rest of India.
55. (2) Holistic medicine treats the whole person, not just the diseased part. That which is holistic is based on the principles of holism. Holism is the belief that everything in nature is connected in some way. A piecemeal approach, on the other hand, deals with only one part at a time.

56. (4) There has been an extension of STD facility to 2000 more villages. In other words, there has been an addition to the number of villages under STD coverage. Now, the opposite of addition is subtraction.
57. (1) One who is indigent is very poor. The opposite of poor is rich.
58. (4) Audacity is audacious behaviour. If you are audacious, you take risks in order to achieve something. So it is a kind of bravery. Now, the opposite of bravery is cowardice.
59. (3) Biased teachers are not worthy of respect. Teachers are expected to be impartial. If not so, they do not deserve respect. In other words, they are undeserving of respect.
60. (1) An elevation is a 'piece of ground that is higher (elevated) than the area around it. A depression in a surface is an area which is lower (depressed) than the parts surrounding it.
61. (1) Cows are sacred to the Hindus. Killing of cows is a profane act for them. That is, they consider the act to be a disrespect for the religion, and therefore sinful. Pious (very religious and moral) Hindus would plug their ears even if they heard of it.
62. (2) Having piled a huge total, the Sri Lankan cricket team was in a dominating position. That is, the Sri Lankans were in control of the match (the Independence Cup final). The Pakistani succumbed to the pressure. That is, they were affected by the Sri Lankan domination.
63. (1) The Vedas are unfathomable; that is, one cannot fully understand the depth of their meaning. The commentaries, however, are simplified versions easy to understand. In other words, they are comprehensible'.
64. (2) The controversy led to a termination of the contract. That is, the contract came to an end. The opposite of End is beginning.
65. (1) My success is due to my elder brother, who has inspired me at every point. That is, he encouraged me to go ahead with my work. The opposite of encouraged is discouraged.
66. (4) Only 76 countries participated in the meet. The rest boycotted it. That is, they refused to participate (take part) in it because they disapproved of it.
67. (1) Some people believe that reservations are against the idea of an egalitarian society. An egalitarian society supports or follows the idea that all people are equal; they should have the same right and opportunities. So why give special rights to some? Others, however, feel that the society, as it stands today, is unequal. Only reservations can bring an equilibrium and make the society egalitarian.
68. (1) A deficiency of iodine leads to goitre. In other words, iodine is not present in enough quantity. On the other hand, if it be present in large quantities, that is more than enough (usually), we say it is in abundance.
69. (2) The economy flourishes when there are lesser restrictions. That is, it grows quickly and strongly. Imposing of restrictions makes the growth of the economy retard. That is, it gets slower, as if under brakes.
70. (2) The veneer of something is the coating from outside. It is the exterior which often gives a false impression of the reality inside. The inside of something is its interior.
71. (1) What happens in a dictatorship? All the decisions are made by the dictator — a ruler who has complete power in a country. In effect, it becomes a one-man rule. Countries like India, however, believe in a rule "by the people". In other words, we believe in democracy. In a democracy, power is not centred in one person. The ruler is merely the representative or 'the people.
72. (3) Eventually means "at the end"; initially means "in the beginning".
73. (1) Dhirubhai Ambani has had a phenomenal (unusually big) success. Such a success is not usually had by ordinary persons.
74. (4) A nonchalant person seems not to worry or care about things. He or she seems very calm. Not at all excited.
75. (1) If you abominate something, you hate it very much. The opposite of hate is love.
76. (1) An ingenuous person is innocent, trusting, and incapable of deceiving anyone. He or she lays bare their tricks. Will a cunning person ever do that?
77. (2) That which is egregious is shocking, extremely bad. If something is extremely good, you call it splendid.
78. (2) Arjuna Ranatunga does not dissipate his energy by running fast every time he takes a run. That is, he does not waste it in a foolish way. When he sees that the ball is distant enough for him to easily reach the crease for a single, and that no matter how fast he runs he cannot take more than a single, he simply ambles across the pitch. He thus conserves (saves) energy and utilises it when there is need for a quick run.
79. (3) Let him play with this table; it is sturdy enough to bear his kicks. That which is sturdy looks strong; it is unlikely to be easily injured or damaged. The antonym of strong is weak.
80. (4) You think you will persuade him to live a comfortable life? Impossible! A Spartan way of life is sacrosanct for him. If something is sacrosanct, it is too holy or important to be allowed any harm. The opposite of holy is unholy.
81. (4) One who is celibate does not marry or have sex, because of one's religious beliefs. (1), (3) and (4) are close choices. But we reject (1) and (3) because they have other meanings too. Profligate and reprobate give a general sense of wastefulness. Such persons may be given to vices, sex being one of them. Thus (1) and (3) can be focussed as an antonym only in absence of (4). A married man, on the other hand, is categorically not celibate.
82. (3) Recent advances in technology have rendered older equipment's obsolete (no longer in need).
83. (4) A magnanimous person has a "big heart". Well, not literally. What I mean is that he or she is filled with love for everyone. The pressures of modern life have made magnanimous persons an endangered species. It is getting more and more difficult to think beyond one's self in other words, people are getting selfish.
84. (1) The residents of Katynyan House have been evacuated. If you evacuate people, you send them to a place of safety, away from a dangerous building, town, or area. They will be admitted to the House again when it gets repaired.

85. (4) We are sanguine about the outcome of this dispute. That is, we are cheerful and confident that things will turn in our favour. Now, the opposite of cheerful is gloomy.
86. (4) If a person is very fat, you euphemistically call him or her corpulent. Emaciated, on the other hand, means extremely thin or weak because of illness or lack of food.
87. (1) Occidental means "of the West". That is, it relates to the countries of Europe and America. The Britishers brought with them Occidental culture, which greatly influenced the Oriental values. Oriental means "of the East", and is associated with eastern Asia, especially China and Japan.
88. (2) If a part of someone's body is flaccid, it is unpleasantly soft, and not hard or firm. On the other hand, if something is taut, it is stretched very tight. A taut body is very lean with firm muscles.
89. (3) If Mr. Mhatre comes to power, his son-in-law will easily get the licence for a petrol pump. This is what is called nepotism. That is, power is used unfairly in order to get jobs or other benefits for your family or friends. In other words, nepotism promotes partiality towards your near and dear ones. The antonym, therefore, is impartiality.
90. (3) If you are abstemious, you avoid doing too much of something enjoyable. For example, you eat or drink in moderation. The antonym therefore will describe a person who goes for physical pleasures in excess. Such a person is dissipated. He or she spends a lot of time drinking alcohol and enjoying other physical pleasures, and is probably unhealthy because of this.
91. (2) A chimera is an imaginary monster. So the opposite of chimerical is real.
92. (1) Verbose comes from Latin verbum (= word). A verbal test is thus associated with words. The non-verbal section does not deal with words; its questions are based on figures. Now, verbose means wordy. So if you are verbose, you use too many words, more than what is necessary. On the other hand, laconic reply uses as few words as possible.
93. (1) Diminutive comes from Latin minuo (= lessen). A minute particle is very small. If something diminishes, it becomes smaller. A diminutive object is thus very small. Obviously, the antonym is enlarged.
94. (4) When one's immunity to a disease is over, one becomes susceptible to it. That is, one is then very likely to be affected by it.
95. (3) Chemistry students should be familiar with amalgam. Amalgam is a mixture of mercury and another metal, usually silver, that is used in dentistry to make fillings. In general, an amalgam is a mixture of two or more things. So when two or more organisations amalgamate they become one large organisation. When their relations deteriorate, they separate.
96. (3) A captious person is too critical, too ready to find fault. He or she cannot tolerate anything that goes even a fraction against them. Such persons are not tolerant at all.
97. (3) The difficulties are manifold. That is, they are of many different kinds. If so, they simply cannot be simple.
98. (4) If something warps, it becomes damaged by bending or curving, often because of the effect of heat or water. In order to bring it back to as it was, you have to make it straight. In other words, you have to straighten it.
99. (1) That which is jocose is meant to cause amusement. If it does not do so, it is dull.
100. (1) If you pamper someone, you pay too much attention to make him comfortable and happy; you treat him too kindly. On the other hand, if you do not pay attention to someone, you neglect him.
101. (4) A good book should not show negligence in editing. No part of it should be neglected. It should be read and re-read, with corrections, till it becomes presentable. A good editor is meticulous about every word that goes into the book. That is, he does things very carefully and with great attention to detail.
102. (4) Instantly means "at once, without any delay". Its antonym therefore will be slowly. If you are tempted to say lately, take care! If you have the meaning "with delay" in mind, note that this meaning is given by the word late. Lately (also of late) means "in the recent past, not long ago".
103. (1) If something is obvious, it is clearly seen. If it is obscure, it is hidden.
104. (4) Some women are extraordinary in their beauty. That is, their beauty surpasses the ordinary level. Not every beautiful woman can attain that degree of beauty. They are just plainly beautiful.
105. (3) What do you do if your mom asks you to have a meal just when you are planning to go out? You hastily finish your meal and run away. That is, you do not devote much time to it. Now, imagine a dinner-table full of guests. You can't hurry. Everyone goes at an easy pace. In other words, you leisurely have the dinner.
106. (3) Computers are now spreading in every part of the world. Doomsayers believe they are a threat to mankind. So they wish to check its spread. If you check something from spreading, you contain it.
107. (3) Favours cannot be asked in public. And he is always surrounded by people. So I can't get the opportunity to ask him for the favour. That is, I can't get the "proper time". That which is "not proper" is improper.
108. (2) (1) is rejected because filled is the antonym of empty. Hollow should not be confused with empty. That which is hollow has a space inside it, as opposed to being solid all the way through. If you fill a hollow cylinder with gas, it still remains hollow, though not empty. It ceases to be hollow only when you convert all the space inside into solid.
109. (3) The 'No Smoking' sign prohibits you from smoking at that place. That is, it does not allow you to smoke. On the other hand, if someone allows you to smoke, he permits you to do so.
110. (2) Human beings often show ruthless behaviour towards animals. Such a behaviour shows a complete lack of pity and sympathy. Organisations such as the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) ask you to be compassionate towards them. That is, they ask you to show pity and sympathy towards them, to show understanding for their suffering.