

## Chapter

# 1

## Paronyms and Homonyms

Confusion is often caused in understanding the meanings of certain words because they are either similar in meaning and form or similar in their sound of pronunciation. The words which are different in meaning or use but are similar in form or derivations are called **Paronyms**. On the other hand **Homonyms** are similar in their sound or pronunciation but different in meaning. They are also called **Homophones** (different in spelling and meaning but pronounced alike). In Modern English Paronyms and Homonyms (Homophones) are not much distinguished.

1. **Access** (approach)—It is very difficult to have an *access* to the Prime Minister.  
**Accession** (coming to throne)—The *accession* of the prince to the throne was welcomed by the people.  
**Excess** (more than desired)—*Excess* of everything is bad.
2. **Accept** (to take)—The teachers *accepted* the invitation of the students on the Teacher's Day.  
**Except** (leaving out)—Everybody *except* Rahul was invited to the party.  
**Expect** (hope)—I never *expected* that my friends would desert me in the lurch.
3. **Alter** (change)—Mohan is so obstinate that no one can *alter* his views.  
**Altar** (place of worship)—When I visited temple, I saw him kneeling at the *altar*.
4. **Assent** (agree)—I got *assent* of my father to study in a boarding school.  
**Ascent** (climbing up)—The *ascent* to Kargil hills is very arduous.
5. **Adopt** (take up)—One should not *adopt* the bad habits of others.  
**Adapt** (adjust)—One must learn to *adapt* oneself to the circumstances of life.  
**Adept** (expert)—Shruti is *adept* in the art of dancing.
6. **Amicable** (friendly)—Finally the two brothers came to an *amicable* settlement.  
**Amiable** (lovable, obliging)—Being an *amiable* house wife she is liked by her kith and kin.
7. **Accede** (accept)—The director was kind enough to *accede* to the request of the labourers.  
**Exceed** (surpass)—Your essay should not *exceed* three hundred words.  
**Concede** (agree)—The prisoner did not *concede* to the argument of the jailor.
8. **Alteration** (change)—There is no *alteration* in the programme yet.  
**Altercation** (wordy quarrel)—There was *altercation* between the shop keeper and my brother.

9. **Apposite**  
*Opposite*  
 (suitable)—Her remarks about the character of her friends are quite *apposite*.  
 (contrary)—Sita's behaviour is *opposite* to that of her brother.
10. **Affect (verb)**  
*Effect (noun)*  
 (to influence, to pretend)—Continuous attack of asthma has *affected* his health.  
 (influence)—Excessive hard work in life had adverse *effect* on her health.
11. **Allusion**  
*Illusion*  
 (reference)—The poem is explained properly by the help of many *allusions*.  
 (unreal)—According to the Vedantists life is an *illusion*.
12. **Ail**  
*Ale*  
 (suffer)—Rohit is getting weaker day by day, we don't know what *ails* him.  
 (intoxicating drink)—He visits *ale* house daily even against the advice of doctors.
13. **Apprehend**  
*Comprehend*  
 (fear, perceive, arrest)—The soothsayer *apprehended* the day of Rohit's death.  
 (understand)—She could not *comprehend* the meaning of the passage.
14. **Admission**  
*Admittance*  
 (to get admitted, acceptance)—These days in order to get *admission* to convent schools you must give a lot of money.  
 (entry)—No *admittance* without permission.
15. **Antique**  
*Antic*  
 (of ancient times)—There are many *antique* pieces in the museum.  
 (odd, tricks)—*Antics* of the juggler regaled the children.
16. **Alternate**  
*Alternative*  
 (by turns)—We have a moral science class on every *alternate* day.  
 (one of the two choices)—There is no *alternative* to honesty in dealing with the people.
17. **Artful**  
*Artistic*  
 (clever)—She was able to change the behaviour of her in laws towards her by *artful* means.  
 (pertaining to art)—Everybody admires her for *artistic* temperament.
18. **Artist**  
*Artiste*  
*Artisan*  
 (one who practises fine art)—He is a frivolous *artist*.  
 (performing)—There was no security for the *artiste*, who had come to perform for the charity show.  
 (one who does handicraft)—The *artisans* of Moradabad are very skilful.
19. **Affection**  
*Affectation*  
 (love, kindly feeling)—My mother is held in high *affection* and respect by all the members of the family.  
 (unnatural behaviour, pretence)—I always feel vexed at her *affectation*.
20. **Abstain**  
*Refrain*  
 [keep from things (eating, drinking, voting)] We should *abstain* from drinking.  
 (keep from bad habits)—You should *refrain* from telling a lie.

21. **Avenge** (just punishment)—Hamlet delayed *avenging* the murder of his father.  
**Revenge** (to punish out of personal grudge)—He *revenged* himself on his enemy by abducting his minor child.
22. **Adulteration** (making impure)—The owners of the milk dairy were charged with *adulteration* of milk.  
**Adultery** (having extra marital relations)—Her husband accused her of *adultery* and deserted her.
23. **Aspersions** (slander)—We should not cast *aspersions* on our friends.  
**Aspiration** (ambition, desire)—You can attain your *aspiration* only by hard work.
24. **Avert** (to check)—A little common sense *averted* a major mishap.  
**Advert** (refer to)—He *adverted* to the problem of Indian security in his speech.
25. **Birth** (to be born)—The exact date of the *birth* of a person is known from his birth certificate.  
**Berth** (a seat in a train)—I have got two *berths* booked in the Rajdhani Express.
26. **Bridle** (reins)—It is very difficult to control a horse without a *bridle*.  
**Bridal** (of bride)—The *bridal* dress must have cost a lot.
27. **Barbaric** (savage, simple)—She was selected to play the part of a village damsel because of her *barbaric* beauty.  
**Barbarous** (inhuman)—The muslim invaders were *barbarous* in their wars.
28. **Barbarity** (cruelty)—Hitler's *barbarity* is too terrible to be related.  
**Barbarism** (uncivilised conditions)—*Barbarism* still prevails in most of the tribal regions of the world.
29. **Beneficial** (useful)—Nutritious food is *beneficial* for health.  
**Beneficent** (kind)—Everybody paid rich tribute to the king as he was *beneficent* to all and sundry.
30. **Beside** (by the side of)—He sat *beside* her father.  
**Besides** (in addition to)—*Besides* English she is also learning French.
31. **Bear** (tolerate, carry, give birth)—Mohan cannot *bear* being insulted by his boss.  
**Bare** (naked)—He was bitten by a snake as he was *bare* foot.
32. **Borne** (carried)—The dead body was *borne* by his friends.  
**Born** (take birth)—Pearl was *born* in Ashwini Hospital at Mumbai.
33. **Bail** (security)—His application for release on *bail* was rejected.  
**Bale** (bundle of cloth)—He was carrying a *bale* of cotton on his head.
34. **Beatific** (feeling joy & peace)—The saints are always in a *beatific* state of mind.  
**Beatitude** (state of bliss, blessedness)—He experienced *beatitude* before he died.

35. Caste  
Cast  
Cost  
36. Childlike  
Childish  
37. Canvass  
Canvas  
38. Cite  
Site  
Sight  
39. Continuous  
Continual  
40. Cemetery  
Symmetry  
41. Career  
Carrier  
42. Confident  
Confidant  
43. Compliment  
Complement  
44. Cannon  
Canon  
45. Creditable  
Credible  
Credulous  
46. Coma  
Comma  
47. Corporal  
Corporeal
- (class of society)—In ancient times people were divided into different *castes* according to the work they did.  
(throw)—We *cast* away old clothes and buy new ones.  
(price)—The *cost* of living has risen a lot.  
(simple, innocent as a child)—Her *childlike* face has won over many hearts.  
(silly)—No body likes him for his *childish* habits.  
(propagate)—Because of approaching elections people are *canvassing* for their candidates.  
(rough cloth)—While jogging he always wears *canvas* shoes.  
(to quote)—The advocate *cited* many examples to prove his case.  
(place)—It is a very spacious *site* for constructing a nursing home.  
(scenery, vision)—The mutilated body of a child was a ghastly *sight*.  
(without break)—He has been sleeping for an hour *continuously*.  
(continuity with break)—It has been drizzling *continually* since last night.  
(burial place)—The dead body was taken to the *cemetery* for burial.  
(quality of harmony or balance in size and design)—The building looks exquisite only because of its remarkable *symmetry*.  
(vocation, profession)—If we want to make a good *career* we must work.  
(that one carries)—The goods were taken to the destination on public *carrier*.  
(certain, sure)—I am very *confident* of my friend's success in the interview.  
(one who shares a secret)—Once his *confidant*, now Dinesh is the arch enemy of his mentor.  
(regards)—I *complimented* my friend on her success.  
(that completes)—Both husband and wife are *complement* to each other.  
(big gun)—Hundreds of *cannons* were shot in the battlefield.  
(principle, a law)—*Canons* of any religion are not easy to follow.  
(praiseworthy)—It is really *creditable* for a village boy to have topped the university.  
(believable)—Your excuse is not *credible*.  
(simple, artless)—Children are *credulous* by nature.  
(state of unconsciousness)—After the accident my friend had been in state of *coma* for several hours.  
(a mark of punctuation)—*Comma* is a very important part of learning punctuation.  
(physical)—In our school the children are not given *corporal* punishment.  
(having body, material)—Ghosts are not *corporeal* beings.

48. **Comprehensive**  
**Comprehensible**  
 (exhaustive, extensive)—*Comprehensive* steps have been taken to meet with unforeseen emergency.  
 (understandable)—The talk of the new student in our class was not *comprehensible* to us at all.
49. **Contagious**  
**Contiguous**  
 (that spreads by contact)—Small pox is a *contagious* disease.  
 (adjacent)—New Delhi and Noida are *contiguous*.
50. **Censure**  
**Censor**  
 (blame, criticize)—*Censure* motion tabled by the opposition fell through.  
 (examination of films and plays)—The film 'The Bandit Queen' has not been approved of by the *censor* board.
51. **Collision**  
**Collusion**  
 [striking against (face to face)] Due to heavy fog the car met with a *collision*.  
 (nexus)—There was a *collusion* between the smugglers and the political leaders.
52. **Contemptible**  
**Contemptuous**  
 (deserving contempt)—The conduct of the taxi driver was highly mean and *contemptible*.  
 (expressing contempt)—She dismissed the servant with *contemptuous* gesture.
53. **Considerable**  
**Considerate**  
 (large, to great extent)—The industrialist spent *considerable* amount of money to uplift the living conditions of his workers.  
 (thoughtful of others)—He is beneficent and *considerate* to his subordinates.
54. **Ceremonious**  
**Ceremonial**  
 (formal)—One should not be very *ceremonious* in the marriage of daughters.  
 (of ceremony)—I could not attend the *ceremonial* function of his marriage.
55. **Complaisant**  
**Complacent**  
 (pleasing, obliging)—He is popular with his friends on account of his *complaisant* nature.  
 (self satisfied)—Most of the students of my class are *complacent* in their outlook and will not revolt against the principal.
56. **Conscious**  
**Conscience**  
**Consensus**  
**Conscientious**  
 (aware)—We should always be *conscious* of what is going on around the world.  
 (inner voice)—I always act according to my *conscience*.  
 (general agreement)—Government should be run by *consensus*.  
 (honest, scrupulous)—Being a *conscientious* worker he never shirks work.
57. **Coherent**  
**Inherent**  
 (intelligible)—She was so nervous that her words were not *coherent*.  
 (inborn quality)—Sincerity is *inherent* in her character.
58. **Collaborate**  
**Corroborate**  
 (work together)—Indian industries are compelled to *collaborate* with multinational companies for survival.  
 (confirm)—The principal *corroborated* the teacher's statement made to the police.



59. Casual  
Causal  
(occasional)—He is on *casual* leave today.  
(relating to cause)—There is definite *causal* relationship between population and poverty.
60. Council  
Counsel  
(an assembly)—The legislative *council* has passed the Bill.  
(advice)—His *counsel* proved very beneficial in the end.
61. Councillor  
Counsellor  
(member of council)—He is a *councillor* of the Legislative Council.  
(adviser)—I have engaged a noted *counsellor* to defend my case.
62. Corpse  
Corps  
Carcass  
(dead body)—A mutilated *corpse* was found in a locked house.  
(body of troops)—He is serving in Army Ordnance *Corps*.  
(dead body of animal)—A *Carcass* of a dog was lying in the road.
63. Coarse  
Course  
(rough)—Though he is quite rich, he wears *coarse* clothes.  
(line of action)—He has given up immoral *course* of life.
64. Century  
Centenary  
(one hundred)—Twentieth *century* will be known as the age of science.  
(100th anniversary)—*Centenary* of Indian National Movement was celebrated in 1985 A.D.
65. Conservation  
Conservatism  
(preservation)—*Conservation* of forests is very important for our survival.  
(orthodox ideas)—I am quite liberal and do not believe in *conservatism*.
66. Conform  
Confirm  
(adhere to)—You must *conform* to the rules laid down by your company.  
(ratify)—I shall *confirm* my programme tomorrow.
67. Capacity  
Capability  
(ability to contain)—The hall has a seating *capacity* for five hundred students.  
(power of doing things)—My friend has *capability* to do any difficult task.
68. Commonplace  
Common place  
(ordinary, usual)—We are fed up with the *commonplace* speeches of our leaders.  
(place for all)—The street is a *common place* for everyone.
69. Commandeer  
Commander  
(seize for military purpose)—When martial law was imposed in Pakistan huge area of vacant land was *commandeered* for building air strip.  
(one who commands)—The *commander* of the army ordered the soldiers to capture the fort.
70. Disease  
Decease  
(illness)—My friend is suffering from an incurable *disease*.  
(death)—On account of the *decease* of his father, the burden of the family fell on his shoulders.
71. Deny  
Refuse  
[refers to past (action, knowledge)] She *denied* that she had gone to the movie last night.  
[refers to future (request, order)] Meeta *refused* that she would not return the money.

- 72. Duel** (fight between two persons)—In ancient times many *duels* were fought in order to settle disputes.  
**Dual** (double)—She follows *dual* policy and misguides her husband.
- 73. Deference** (regards)—All children should have *deference* for their elders.  
**Difference** (distinction)—There is no *difference* among the basic concepts of all the religions.  
**Deferment** (postponement)—His application for *deferment* of hearing was turned down.
- 74. Decent** (right and suitable)—She always wears *decent* clothes.  
**Descent** (coming down)—The *descent* of the hill is very dangerous.  
**Dissent** (disagreement)—Only a few members expressed *dissent* to my suggestion.
- 75. Desert (noun)** (sandy land)—The government has greatly solved the problem of pure drinking water in the *desert*.  
**Desert (verb)** (leave)—She was *deserted* by her husband.  
**Dessert** (sweet dish)—*Dessert* was served after dinner.
- 76. Dominant** (dominating)—Sohan is very *dominant* in our class.  
**Domineer** (to dominate)—Mothers in law try to *domineer* over their daughters in law.
- 77. Drought** (lack of rain)—Last year most of the areas of Uttar Pradesh suffered from a severe *drought*.  
**Draught** (current of wind, quantity of liquid)—A *draught* of cool wind was very refreshing.
- 78. Defective** (having defect)—As he met with a severe accident last year, one of his legs is *defective*.  
**Deficient** (lacking)—Though young he is *deficient* in common sense.
- 79. Diverse** (different)—The two children of one family may have *diverse* temperaments.  
**Divers** (several)—(i)—He has consulted *divers* doctors about his disease.  
(ii)—Those, who *dive* into river/sea, are divers.
- 80. Deduce** (infer)—It is difficult to *deduce* any conclusion from your ambiguous remarks.  
**Deduct** (subtract)—Two days' wages will be *deducted* from your monthly salary.
- 81. Deliverance** (freedom, emancipation)—Lord Buddha preached eight fold path to attain *deliverance* from sorrows of life.  
**Delivery** (giving letters etc.)—The *delivery* of the letter was just in time.
- 82. Decry** (criticize)—The foreign policy of the Congress party has always been *decried*.  
**Descry** (dimly seen)—We could *descry* only a traveller in the bleak evening.
- 83. Defy** (violate)—How dare you *defy* my orders?  
**Deify** (to worship)—Swami Vivekananda is *deified* by every Indian.

84. Doze  
Dose  
(sleep)—The teacher caught him *dozing* in the class.  
(of medicine)—You should not take heavy *dose* of medicine.
85. Dam  
Damn  
(barrier built to reserve water)—A *dam* has been built on the river.  
(condemn)—The book was *damned* by the critics.
86. Diversion  
Diversity  
(change in direction)—There is a *diversion* on the road ahead.  
(variety)—*Diversity* is the chief feature of our civilisation.
87. Envable  
Envious  
(causing envy)—All the people are jealous because of his *enviable* position in the society.  
(feeling of envy)—Her friends were *envious* of her success in the medical entrance examination.
88. Exception  
Exceptional  
Exceptionable  
(objection)—There are always *exceptions* to rules in every language.  
(rare, to a large extent)—In his own class Rohit is a boy of *exceptional* abilities.  
(objectionable)—I objected to her *exceptionable* remarks against my parents.
89. Eminent  
Imminent  
Immanent  
(famous)—Shakespeare was an *eminent* playwright.  
(impending)—Third world war is *imminent*.  
(present everywhere)—Divine force is *immanent* in universe.
90. Eligible  
Illegible  
(fit to be chosen)—Untrustworthy people are not *eligible* for responsible posts.  
(that cannot be read)—I can't read this letter as her handwriting is *illegible*.
91. Exceedingly  
Excessively  
[to a great extent (good sense)] One of my cousins is an *exceedingly* rich person.  
[to a great extent (bad sense)] They spent money on the feast lavishly and *excessively*.
92. Exhausting  
Exhaustive  
Exhausted  
(tiring)—Teaching nursery classes is a very *exhausting* job.  
(detailed, comprehensive)—The teacher gave to the students *exhaustive* notes on English Grammar.  
(tired)—He was *exhausted* and went to bed immediately.
93. Economical  
Economic  
Economics  
(frugal)—A housewife should always be *economical* if she wants to run her house smoothly.  
(pertaining to economy)—India is yet to cross many hurdles to overcome *economic* crisis.  
(a subject)—*Economics* is an interesting subject.
94. Elude  
Allude  
(escape)—Sohan was so clever that he *eluded* the police and escaped from the prison.  
(refer, cite)—The speaker *alluded* to many examples from the Gita.
95. Excite  
Incite  
Insight  
(stir up feelings)—The people got very *excited* when the police refused to take any action against the culprits.  
(rousing to action)—The communal speech of the leader *incited* the mob to violence.  
(ability to see the truth)—India needs leaders of great *insight*.



96. **Envelop** (cover, wrap)—As the dark clouds covered the sky, the whole town was *enveloped* in darkness.  
**Envelope** (a letter cover)—Please put the letter in the *envelope*.
97. **Expeditious** (quick, prompt)—Dattu is very *expeditious* in answering letters.  
**Expedient** (practical, contrary to principles)—Selfish persons are always *expedient* in their approach to life.  
**Expedition** (a journey to unknown place)—They will go on an *expedition* to Everest.
98. **Esteem** (respect)—As Mahesh is very sociable, he is held in high *esteem* by his friends.  
**Estimate** (calculate)—Can you give me the *estimate* of the cost of the house?  
**Estimation** (opinion, judgement)—In my *estimation* he is the fool of the first water.
99. **Exposure** (reveal, exposed to heat or cold)—She will not attend office today as she is suffering from *exposure*.  
**Exposition** (explanation)—Tilak's *exposition* of the Gita is remarkable.
100. **Egotist** (one who talks a lot of oneself)—It is difficult to stand the company of an *egotist*.  
**Egoist** (one who believes in self interest, proud)—An *egoist* is moved only by self-interest while helping others.
101. **Emerge** (come out)—It is hoped that he will *emerge* successful out of these trying conditions.  
**Immerse** (plunge into, absorb in)—Being a man of contemplative nature, he is always *immersed* in pensive mood.
102. **Eruption** (bursting)—The *eruption* of volcano caused heavy destruction on the island.  
**Irruption** (attack)—The *irruption* of Pakistan Army was successfully repulsed.
103. **Elemental** (of nature, elements)—In spite of *elemental* hardships Columbus discovered America.  
**Elementary** (beginning, introductory)—You must have *elementary* knowledge of science.
104. **Excursion** (picnic)—The students will go on *excursion* tomorrow.  
**Incursion** (sudden attack)—*Incursions* by Pakistan and China into our borders speak of our weakness.
105. **Entrance** (opening, gate)—The *entrance* to the fair by this route has been blocked up.  
**Entry** (coming into)—The *entry* of student leaders into college premises is banned.
106. **Expensive** (costing much money)—She bought a less *expensive* dress.  
**Valuable** (useful)—The book provides *valuable* data for further study.
107. **Fatal** (causing death)—On his way to school, he met with an accident and received a *fatal* wound in the leg.  
**Fateful** (very significant)—The formation of I.N.A. was a *fateful* event.  
**Fatalist** (believer in fate)—Indians are *fatalists* by nature.

108. Forceful  
Forcible (strong and powerful)—Netaji had a *forceful* personality.  
(by force, compulsion)—He was evicted from the house *forcibly*.
109. Feign (pretend)—In order to save himself the accused *feigned* madness in the court.  
Fain (gladly)—She would *fain* do anything for her friends.
110. Forgo (give up)—Parents *forgo* their own comforts for the sake of their children.  
Forego (go before)—This point has been dealt with in detail in the *foregoing* passage.
111. Facility (convenience, dexterity)—The hotel provides all kinds of *facilities* to its customers.  
Felicity (apt expression, joy)—May God bless you with *felicity* !
112. Facilitate (make easy)—The new agreement will *facilitate* the development of the trade.  
Felicitate (to congratulate)—I *felicited* him on his success.
113. Fair (a show, just, colour)—Let us go to Nauchandi *fair*.  
Fare (passage money, meal)—There is a steep rise in railway *fare*.
114. Formality (show ceremony)—True friends never observe *formality* with each other.  
Formalism (observance of rites)—Swami Dayanand taught the Hindus to shun *formalism* in religion.
115. Fiscal (of public revenue)—Government is trying to bring down the *fiscal* deficit in the next budget.  
Financial (monetary)—He suffered huge *financial* loss in the business.
116. Gentle (not harsh)—We should be *gentle* and polite to our elders.  
Genteel (well mannered, of the upper class)—People belonging to middle class try to maintain the style of *genteel* class of society.
117. Gamble (to play for stake)—On the occasion of Diwali people *gamble* and are ruined.  
Gambol (to frisk)—It is a beautiful sight to see a deer *gamboling* in a forest.
118. Graceful (beautiful)—She has a *graceful* gait.  
Gracious (kind, merciful)—God is *gracious*.
119. Gate (door)—The dacoits entered the house through the main *gate*.  
Gait (manner of walking)—Her *gait* is graceful.
120. Gravitation (pulling towards, attracting)—Theory of *gravitation* was invented by Newton.  
Gravity (quality of being serious)—One must observe *gravity* on solemn occasions.
121. Hoard (amass, to store)—As he is a smuggler, he has a *hoard* of gold and silver in his house.  
Horde (a gang)—A *horde* of militants intruded into Indian territory.

122. **Historic** (likely to be famous in history)—Kapil Dev scored *historic* victory by winning the World Cup in 1983.
- Histrionic** (art of acting)—Rekha is known for her *histrionic* talents.
- Historical** (of history)—I visited many *historical* buildings in Delhi while I was in school.
123. **Humility** (politeness)—*Humility* in victory is a rare virtue.
- Humiliation** (insult, disgrace)—All respectable persons prefer death to *humiliation*.
124. **Honorary** (unpaid)—My sister taught in a college as an *honorary* tutor.
- Honourable** (deserving honour)—He is regarded *honourable* member of the club.
125. **Human** (race of man)—On account of ecological disturbances, the existence of *human* beings is endangered.
- Humane** (kind)—Doctors are supposed to be considerate and *humane*.
126. **Hail** (belong to, welcome, frozen rain)—Those *hailing* from Bangladesh are living illegally in this country.
- Hale** (healthy)—He is *hale* and hearty and enjoys life to his fill.
127. **Healthy** (having health)—In spite of his old age he is quite *healthy*.
- Healthful** (promoting health)—The climate of hill stations is *healthful*.
128. **Hypocritical** (guilty of hypocrisy)—I do not like his *hypocritical* attitude towards his friends.
- Hypercritical** (too critical)—It does not pay in life to be *hypercritical* of trivial matters.
129. **Humanity** (mankind, quality of being kind)—One must act in the larger interest of *humanity*.
- Humanism** (devotion to human interest)—Act of *humanism* is always appreciated.
130. **Hollow** (not solid, with a hole, false)—The stick is *hollow*; nothing is inside it.
- Hallow (ed)** (sacred)—The *hallowed* shrine is visited by the devotees throughout the year.
- Halo** (circle of light around the head)—Holy men are painted with *halo* around their heads.
131. **Industrial** (pertaining to industry)—*Industrial* progress in India has not been rapid.
- Industrious** (hard working)—My friend is an *industrious* man and he achieved success in life.
132. **Impossible** (that is not possible)—If we make up our mind and work hard nothing is *impossible* in this world.
- Impassable** (that cannot be passed through)—Many passes in the Himalayas are *impassable* during winter.



133. Ingenious

(skilful, clever)—She devised an *ingenious* scheme to hoodwink the police.

Ingenuous

(frank, innocent)—Children are liked for their *ingenuous* nature.134. Imaginary  
Imaginative(fanciful, unreal)—Don't be daunted by *imaginary* troubles.(contemplative)—poets and artists are *imaginative* by temperament.135. Intelligible  
Intelligent(understandable)—Your remarks are not *intelligible* to me.(wise and sensible)—Only *intelligent* students are found to succeed in this world of stiff competition.

136. Immoral

(not according to morality)—An *immoral* person suffers in the long run.

Unmoral

(non-moral, amoral)—*Unmoral* persons are not concerned with morality or the immorality of an action.137. Incomparable  
Uncomparable(without equal)—She was a damsel of *incomparable* beauty.(having no similarity)—The security problems of India and Pakistan are *uncomparable*.138. Invert  
Inert(to put upside down)—Put this statement in *inverted* commas.(passive)—*Inert* gases are without active chemical properties.139. Inept  
Inapt(incompetent)—*Inept* handling of situation resulted in riots.(unsuitable)—The title of the story is *inapt*.

140. Incidental

(happening as natural or a part of)—The risk of loss is always *incidental* to any business.

Accidental

(by chance)—It was just an *accidental* meeting between the two school mates.141. Jealous  
Zealous(full of jealousy)—All his friends are *jealous* of him.(enthusiastic)—My brother is very *zealous* about his new appointment.142. Judicious  
Judicial(wise, thoughtful)—We must be *judicious* in the choice of our career.(pertaining to judiciary)—He was sent to *judicial* lock up by the Magistrate.143. Kindly  
Kind(acts, feelings)—I shall never forget your *kindly* act.(tender, pitiful)—He is a *kind* man who helps every body.

144. Lightning

(flash of light)—*Lightning* struck his house and set the whole house on fire.

Lightening

(make light)—He is always interested in *lightening* the financial burden of his father.

145. Luxurious

(pertaining to luxury)—As she is the daughter of a rich industrialist, she lives a very *luxurious* life.

Luxuriant

(rich in growth)—The hills of Uttarakhand are teeming with *luxuriant* forests.146. Loathe  
Loth (loath)(detest)—The rich should not *loathe* the poor.(unwilling)—She was *loth* to go with him alone.

- 147. Limit**  
**Limitation**  
(extent)—You must spend within your *limits*.  
(shortcomings)—There are many *limitations* in Parliamentary form of government in backward countries.
- 148. Loud**  
(loud sound)—Everyone was alarmed when there was a *loud* blast in the locality.  
**Loudly**  
(in a loud manner)—The teacher forbade them to speak *loudly*.  
**Aloud**  
(audible)—The students requested the teacher to speak *aloud*.
- 149. Learned**  
(erudite, educated)—He is not only rich but also *learned* and wise.  
**Learnt**  
(past of learn)—He *learnt* his lesson very well.
- 150. Literal**  
(expressed in words)—Most of the words are used in *literal* and figurative sense.  
**Literary**  
(of literature)—He is a *literary* man and reads a lot of books.
- 151. Maze**  
(winding paths)—The walled city is full of *mazes*.  
**Maize**  
(a kind of corn)—*Maize* grows in abundance in Africa.
- 152. Memorable**  
(worthy of remembering)—In the plays of Shakespeare we find a lot of *memorable* quotations.  
**Memorial**  
(statue or anything in the memory of)—We collected money to erect *memorial* in the memory of war heroes.  
**Immemorial**  
(longer than people can remember)—The religious rites of the Hindus are *immemorial* tradition.
- 153. Momentary**  
(short lived)—One should not run after the wordly pleasures as they are *momentary*.  
**Momentous**  
(very important)—Operation 'Shakti' at Pokhran was the *momentous* event in the history of independent India.
- 154. Morale**  
(the state of spirit, confidence)—The *morale* of the army should always be high.  
**Moral**  
(sense of right and wrong, lesson)—We are advised to pursue a *moral* course of life.
- 155. Maritime**  
(relating to sea, or ships)—Once Britain was a great *maritime* power.  
**Marine**  
(found in the sea/trade by sea)—India should develop *marine* trade to earn foreign exchange.
- 156. Manifest**  
(obvious, evident)—It should be *manifest* to all by now that China and Pakistan are inciting trouble on our borders.  
**Manifestation**  
(act or desire that makes obvious)—Indiscipline among the youth is just a *manifestation* of serious national evil.
- 157. Negligible**  
(unimportant)—The dacoits attacked his house yesterday night but his loss is *negligible*.  
**Negligent**  
(careless in duty)—We should not be *negligent* in our duty.  
**Neglectful**  
(careless)—He is so *neglectful* that he doesn't care for his family's interest.



158. Notable  
 Noticeable  
 Notorious  
 Noted  
 159. Observance  
 Observation  
 160. Ordinance  
 Ordinance  
 161. Official  
 Officious  
 162. Organisation  
 Organism  
 Organic  
 163. Petrol  
 Patrol  
 164. Providential  
 Provident  
 Providence  
 165. Practical  
 Practicable  
 166. Proscribe  
 Prescribe  
 167. Popular  
 Populous  
 168. Pale  
 Pail  
 169. Pair  
 Pare
- (creditable)—India has made a *notable* progress in the field of agriculture.  
 (easy to notice)—There is *noticeable* improvement in the patient.  
 [famous (unfavourable)] Our political leaders are *notorious* for their apathy to public interest.  
 (famous)—The leader is *noted* for his honesty.  
 (compliance)—In order to remain healthy *observance* of certain simple rules is required.  
 (notice)—Children have very keen *observation* power.  
 (a government order)—The government has issued an *ordinance* against the people who do not pay the taxes on time.  
 (a gun)—There is an *ordnance* factory at Kanpur.  
 (pertaining to office)—You are bound to maintain *official* secrecy.  
 (ready to offer services, flatterer)—Beware of *officious* fellows.  
 (institution)—He is working in a non-government *organisation*.  
 (living beings with parts working together)—Human *organism* is a complex system.  
 (of an organ)—*Organic* diseases destroy the organs.  
 (fuel)—*Petrol* is very costly these days.  
 (go round)—The *patrol* van is regularly moving on the highway day and night for our protection.  
 (divine)—My friend's *providential* escape at the critical moment saved his life.  
 (frugal, thrifty)—She is quite *provident* and economical in household expenses.  
 (divine force)—Trust in *Providence* for good days.  
 (not theoretical)—The scientist gave a *practical* demonstration of his experiment.  
 (capable of being practised)—Only *practicable* schemes are adopted by our Managing Director.  
 (ban, prohibit)—Indecent books are generally *proscribed* by the government.  
 (recommend, advise)—Doctor has *prescribed* a very efficacious medicine for the treatment of the disease.  
 (admirable)—As Mrs. Neena is a very kind teacher, she is very *popular* with her students.  
 (thickly populated)—China is the most *populous* country in the world.  
 (bloodless, yellowish)—Due to his prolonged sickness he looks very *pale* now.  
 (container)—A *pail* full of milk was lying in the kitchen.  
 (double of a thing)—I gave a *pair* of new shoes to my brother on his birthday.  
 (trim)—Please *pare* your finger nails regularly.

170. **Pane** (window glass)—Our window *pane* was broken by the children who were playing Cricket outside our house.
- Pain** (suffering of mind or body)—She was feeling *pain* in her neck.
171. **Peel** (to remove the skin)—Please wash the mangoes before you *peel* them.
- Peal** (a loud sound)—On hearing his jokes all of us went into a *peal* of laughter.
172. **Personal** (private)—We were asked to express our *personal* views on this subject in the debate.
- Personnel** (persons employed)—The *personnel* department has issued termination notice to Sachin.
173. **Punctual** (at fixed time)—*Punctual* students alone deserve a splendid success.
- Punctilious** (very careful in duty)—We are taught to be very *punctilious* in our work in the school.
174. **Prudent** (wise, careful, foresight)—It is *prudent* on her part to break with selfish friends.
- Prudential** (of prudent actions, policy)—The *prudential* actions of my father saved the family from financial crisis.
175. **Precedent** (previous examples)—The lawyer cited many *precedents* in support of his case.
- President** (Head of Institution)—Indian *President* is only de jure head of the government.
176. **Physique** (physical health)—He is a smart youngman with a good *physique*.
- Physic** (medicine)—No *physic* has yet been discovered to cure cancer.
- Physics** (a subject)—*Physics* is my favourite subject.
177. **Prey** (hunt and kill)—As a national bird the Peacock is not a bird of *prey*.
- Pray** (offer prayer)—He *prays* to God daily.
178. **Proceed** (to move forward)—In spite of difficulties he *proceeded* with his enterprise.
- Precede** (to go before)—I have mentioned every detail in the *preceding* passage.
179. **Politic** (prudent, wise)—It is not *politic* to flog the dead horse.
- Political** (of politics)—The *political* parties in India have no concern for the poor.
180. **Prosecute** (file a suit in the court)—You are likely to be *prosecuted* in the court for violation of rules.
- Persecute** (oppress)—She was mercilessly *persecuted* for not bringing a car in dowry.
181. **Pitiable** (deserving pity)—The condition of the family is *pitiable* on account of poverty.
- Pitiful** (making one feel pity)—It was a *pitiful* sight to see a beggar woman suffering from cancer.

## 182. Polity

Policy

(form of government)—Indian *polity* is not in a healthy state these days.

## 183. Proscription

Prescription

(plan of action)—Honesty is the best *policy*.

(prohibition)—The *proscription* of the newspaper was resented by the people.

(recommendation)—The *prescription* of medicine by the doctor proved very useful.

184. Putrefy  
Petrify

(to rot)—Many unclaimed dead bodies lay *putrefying* in the field.

(turn into stone, stun)—We were *petrified* with terror to see the ghastly sight of the carnage.

## 185. Righteous

Rightful

(just, truthful)—The Principal's anger was *righteous* for he could not tolerate the indiscipline in the college.

(having right)—He is the *rightful* owner of the property.

## 186. Raise

Raze

(increase)—The traders have *raised* the prices of food grains.

(wipe out)—All the huts of the poor were *razed* to the ground as they needed land to build a five star hotel.

## 187. Reign

Rein

(rule)—The *reign* of Gupta dynasty, is known as golden period in the history of India.

(bridle of horse)—He *reined* the horse and escaped a fall.

## 188. Rite

Wright

Write

(ceremony)—The marriage was performed according to Hindu *rites*.

(give a shape)—He is a great *playwright*.

(compose)—Please *write* in the note-book.

## 189. Rout

Route

(put to defeat)—The enemy was *routed* by Indian forces.

(path)—You should not go by long *route*.

## 190. Respective

Respectable

Respectful

(belonging to each)—After the match we left for our *respective* homes.

(enjoying respect)—His father is a *respectable* man of the city.

(showing respect)—You must be *respectful* to your elders.

## 191. Rapt

Wrapt

(fully attentive)—They listened to the speech of the Prime Minister with *rapt* attention.

(lost in, absorbed)—She did not notice my arrival as she was *wrapt* in her thoughts.

## 192. Recourse

Resource

(means of action)—I do not advise you to have *recourse* to legal action in this matter.

(means, raw material)—India is a land teeming with natural *resources*.

## 193. Symbol

Cymbal

(sign, to represent something)—Vinoba Bhave was a *symbol* of simplicity and honesty.

(a musical instrument)—The melodious sound of the *cymbals* impressed every body.

194. Stationery  
Stationary

(writing material)—His father deals in office *stationery*.

(static, fixed)—The Sun is *stationary*.



195. **Soar** (rise, fly)—Birds are *soaring* in the sky.  
**Sore** (wound, painful)—People are *sore* because the prices are soaring.  
**Sour** (bitter)—The grapes are *sour*.
196. **Suspect** (to think to be true)—The whole class *suspects* Rohan to have stolen Rita's money.  
**Doubt** (to think to be untrue)—I *doubt* if she will get through the examination.
197. **Sociable** (fond of mixing with people)—Because of her *sociable* behaviour she is liked by all the members of her family.  
**Social** (pertaining to society)—Man is a *social* animal.
198. **Sensual** (voluptuous, exciting senses)—We should not indulge in *sensual* pleasures or we will repent later on.  
**Sensuous** (that affects the senses)—John Keats' poetry is *sensuous*.
199. **Spacious** (having large space)—My house contains many *spacious* rooms.  
**Specious** (outwardly attractive)—No body was impressed with his *specious* arguments.
200. **Spiritual** (opposed to material, of spirit)—Indians should not give up their *spiritual* heritage.  
**Spirituos** (containing intoxicating drink)—Excessive consumption of *spirituous* drinks is injurious to health.
201. **Stimulant** (that which stimulates)—Tea is a *stimulant* for a worker after a day's hard work.  
**Stimulus** (incentive)—Man hardly acts if there is no *stimulus* before him.
202. **Special** (specific)—He came here on a *special* mission to bring about reconciliation between the two parties.  
**Especial** (to a great degree)—It is *especially* hot these days.
203. **Storey** (upper part of a building)—He lives in the second *storey* of the house.  
**Story** (tale)—It is a very interesting *story*.
204. **Suit** (a set of clothes, a lawsuit)—He presented me with a woollen *suit*.  
**Suite** (a set of rooms)—He has booked a *suite* in the hotel.
205. **Sham** (pretend to be, pretence)—What he says is all *sham*.  
**Shame** (feeling of humiliation)—He felt *shame* at having told a lie.
206. **Severe** (violent, rigorous)—She is suffering from *severe* headache.  
**Sever** (separate)—You can never *sever* relations with your family.
207. **Statue** (figure of animal/man in stone or wood)—The *statue* of Dr. Ambedkar was unveiled by the President.  
**Statute** (law passed by law making bodies)—The *statute* was passed by the Parliament unanimously.
208. **Temperance** (moderation in habits)—We should observe *temperance* in eating and drinking habits because it leads to healthy way of life.  
**Temperament** (disposition, nature)—Always keep from persons of *choleric temperament*.

209. **Tolerable**  
**Tolerant**  
 (bearable)—The food that was served in his daughter's marriage was *tolerable*.  
 (liberal in ideas)—Every religion teaches us to be *tolerant* of the religious views held by others.
210. **Temporal**  
**Temporary**  
 (worldly, physical)—We should not hanker after *temporal* glory.  
 (lasting for short time)—He was given the job on the *temporary* basis only.
211. **Tamper**  
**Temper**  
 (meddle with)—Please do not *tamper* with my papers.  
 (emotional state of mind, soften)—One must not lose one's *temper*.
212. **Teem**  
**Team**  
 (full of)—India is a country *teeming* with natural resources.  
 (group of players)—His name has not been included in the college cricket *team*.
213. **Uninterested**  
**Disinterested**  
 (having no interest)—Gaurav is *uninterested* in the study of science.  
 (free from personal motive)—A *disinterested* leader of the party always commands respect from his followers.
214. **Variation**  
**Variance**  
 (change)—*Variation* in his blood pressure worried the doctors.  
 (opposite)—My views are always at *variance* with my father's.
215. **Vocation**  
**Avocation**  
 (profession)—Singing is both his *vocation* and avocation.  
 (hobby)—Gardening is a very favourite *avocation* of my father.
216. **Virtuous**  
**Virtual**  
 (having virtues)—She is a *virtuous* and devoted house wife.  
 (real)—Her mother is the *virtual* head of the family.
217. **Voracity**  
**Veracity**  
 (greed)—He is detested on account of his *voracity* for wealth.  
 (truthfulness)—It is very difficult to verify the *veracity* of her statement since she is very clever.
218. **Vane**  
**Vain**  
**Wane**  
**Vein**  
 (weather cock)—The wind *vane* points to the direction of the wind.  
 (proud, useless)—She is *vain* of her wealth.  
 (decline)—His popularity as a political leader is on the *wane*.  
 (a blood vein)—All the *veins* carry blood to heart.
219. **Vassal**  
**Vessel**  
 (a slave)—In ancient times prisoners of war were made *vassals*.  
 (a small ship, utensil)—Empty *vessels* make much noise.
220. **Venal**  
**Venial**  
 (corruptible)—The *venal* leaders are bane of Indian polity.  
 (to be forgiven)—The fault is so slight that it is thought to be *venial*.
221. **Wreak**  
**Wreck**  
 (take revenge)—At last he *wreaked* vengeance by killing his enemy.  
 (destroy)—The fury of the storm *wrecked* many houses.
222. **Wither**  
**Whither**  
 (fade)—The plants kept in the shade will *wither* for want of Sun and light.  
 (where)—Modern man is so much confused that he does not know *whither* he is heading for.
223. **Willing**  
**Wilful**  
 (ready)—We should always be *willing* to help the needy.  
 (deliberate)—His marriage was a total failure on account of his *wilful* nature.



224. Wave (sea or river wave)—The *waves* rose sky high when the storm blew up.  
Waive (remove, forgo)—Government has at last agreed to *waive* excise duty on cloth.
225. Wrest (snatch by force)—The enemy *wrested* his gun and killed him.  
Rest (peace)—Please go and take *rest* now.
226. Womanly [of woman (good sense)] My mother has *womanly* virtues.  
Womanish [of woman (bad sense)] His voice is *womanish* as it is quite shrill.
227. Whet (increase interest)—Lemon will *whet* your appetite for more food.  
Vet (screening)—The candidates were *vett*ed for security reasons.  
Wet (covered with water/liquid)—He got *wet* in the rain and is not well.