

Antonyms/ Synonyms

The following is a list of common words along with their synonyms (words with more or less similar meanings) and antonyms (words with more or less opposite meanings) to help you tackle the vocabulary section of Synonyms and Antonyms in your examination:

Word	Synonyms (similar meaning)	Antonyms (opposite meaning)
abhor	dislike, detest, hate	approve, like
acute	sharp, penetrating	dull, blunt
avocation	recreation, employment of leisure	vocation, business
bleak	cold, cheerless, grim	warm, friendly, bright
bloom	freshness, floret	decay, withered state
brandish	Flourish, swing, wield	arrest, hang, suspend
cease	leave off, stop, desist	begin, continue
clamour	outcry, uproar	silence, peace
crafty	cunning, artful	ingenuous, honest
daunt	dismay, terrify, scare	encourage, cheer
depose	dethrone, degrade	enthroned, exalt
desist	leave off, stop	continue, go on
exalt	lift up, raise, elevate	cast down, lower
exclaim	call out, vociferate	be silent, quiet
extinguish	quench, annihilate	light, kindle
fallacy	deception, illusion	truth, real
frown	grimace, pout, scowl	smile
furtive	stealthy, secret, sly sneaky, surreptitious	open, above board, overt
ghastly	spectral, pallid, horrible	corporeal, alive
glutinous	sticky, viscous	liquid, smooth
grudge	envy, jealousy	goodwill, love
hapless	unfortunate, unlucky	lucky, fortunate
humane	gentle, kind	cruel, ungentle
immerse	dip, plunge	draw out
impel	drive, motivate	inhibit, prevent
jumble	conglomeration	clear, order
jurisdiction	authority, dominion	forbidding
knotty	hard, intricate	smooth, easy
kindle	fire, ignite	darken, extinguish
lack	absence, dearth	abundance
lofty	high, tall, elevated	low, depressed
manifest	exhibit, show	conceal, suppress
minge	mix, blend	dissolve, disentangle
notorious	well known, renowned	unknown
numb	anaesthetized	lively, active
obscene	filthy, invitation	pure, clean
overture	offer, invitation	withdrawal, finale
paramount	supreme, important	subordinate, inferior
propel	press, push	discourage, pull
quash	annul, cancel	ratify, confirm
quench	extinguish, put out	light, ignite
raid	foray, incursion	depress, descend
rectify	repair, renew	destroy, corrupt
sad	dejected, depressed	joyous, blithe
sophistry	fallacy, ambiguity	certainty

terrestrial	earthy, worldly	heavenly, celestial
tyrant	despot, autocrat	constitutional
urbane	cultivated	uncouth
utopian	ideal	practical
valiant	brave	cowardly
venerable	reverend	trifling
wariness	caution	incaution
wistful	pensive	cheerful
zest	brio, dash	dullness, blandness

Idioms and Phrases

An **idiom** is an expression, a word, or a phrase. The meaning of an idiom is completely different from the literal meaning of its individual elements. Idioms do not mean the same as what the words say but have a hidden meaning.

A **phrase** has two or more words which are related to each other. A phrase does not contain a verb and a subject.

Below are mentioned some idioms and phrases to develop your understanding.

1. At my finger's end- Know it thoroughly
2. To all intents and purposes- Practically, virtually
3. With a high hand- Oppressively
4. Bibs fair- Seems likely
5. Turned a deaf ear- Disregarded

Homonyms

Homonyms are two or more words having same pronunciation or spelling but different meanings.

Look at the following examples.

1. Air- The invisible gaseous substance which surrounds the earth
Heir- A person lawfully entitled to the property or rank of another on that person's death
2. Beach- A sandy shore especially by the sea
Beech- A large tree with smooth grey bark and glossy leaves
3. Patience- The capacity to accept or tolerate problems
Patient- A person who receives medical treatment