22

Paronyms

- 1. Alternate—(being or coming by turns)
 - I go to the hospital every alternate day.

Alternative—(one of the two courses or things between which there is a choice)

- There is alternative choice between Hindi and English in the course.
- **2. Acceptance**—(the act of accepting a thing)
 - I have already given my acceptance of the terms.

Acceptation—(the interpretation put on something)

- This is the correct acceptation of the term 'Renaissance'.
- **3. Accession**—(means actual coming to; so accession to the throne *i.e.*, becoming sovereign)
 - Richard II's accession to the throne was splendidly celebrated.

Access—(means the possibility of coming to)

- I have no access to the President.
- **4. Admission**—(being admitted)
 - All admissions are closed.

Admittance—(letting in)

- Admittance is restricted here.
- **5. Artist**—(one who deals with a fine art)
 - She is a great artist.

Artiste—(a performer in singing, dancing, etc.)

• She is a stage artiste.

Artisan—(one who practises some handicraft)

- This is a locality of artisans.
- **6. Artistic**—(beautiful or having aesthetic appeal)
 - He has built a very artistic house.

Artful—(cunning, clever)

He is too artful to be trusted.

Artificial—(is opposed to natural)

- Her behaviour is very artificial.
- **7. Appropriateness**—(suitability)
 - The appropriateness of this building for school purposes is excellent.

Appropriation—(making one's own)

- His appropriation of this building is illegal.
- **8. Affecting**—(moving, touching, pathetic)
 - The scene of departure of the bride was very affecting.

Affectation—(false display, forced imitation)

- Her affectation of the Western culture was so ridiculous.
- **9. Beside**—(by the side of, close to)
 - My house is beside the church.

Besides—(moreover, in addition to)

- He has much cash besides gold.
- **10.** Barbarian—(of the primitives)
 - This ritual is barbarian.

Barbaric—(is used in a favourable sense and means simple or rough)

Akbar's court had barbaric splendour.

Barbarous—(is used in an unfavourable sense and means cruel, inhuman)

- Tamburlaine was a barbarous conqueror.
- **11. Barbarism**—(rude or uncivilized condition)
 - There was barbarism in most countries upto the 10th century.

Barbarity—(cruelty)

This kind of murder is an act of pure barbarity.

- **12. Beneficial**—(useful, advantageous)
 - Regular exercise is beneficial to health.

Beneficent—(kind, generous)

- The owner of our factory is very beneficent.
- **13.** Confident—(to be sure, certain)
 - I am confident of my success.

Confidant—(one who is entrusted with a secret)

- My confidant will never betray me.
- **14.** Completeness—(perfection)
 - No completeness is possible in a work of art.

Completion—(ending)

- My educational career is coming to a completion.
- **15. Ceremonious**—(particular in observing forms; implies formalities over-done)
 - He was more ceremonious than sincere.

Ceremonial—(relating to ceremony and rites)

- A ceremonial parade was held in his honour.
- **16.** Contemptible—(deserving contempt)
 - His habits are contemptible.

Contemptuous—(hateful, disdainful, expressing contempt)

- He is contemptuous of the poor.
- **17.** Comprehensive—(extensive, including all the aspects)
 - He has given a very comprehensive account of the case.

Comprehensible—(capable of being understood)

- His poetry is not comprehensible to the common reader.
- **18.** Considerable—(much, moderately large)
 - He has given you considerable help.

Considerate—(thoughtful, regardful of others' interests)

- Our employer is very considerate to the needs of all workers.
- **19. Continuous**—(implies that continuity is absolute and uninterrupted)
 - There has been continuous rain since the morning.

Continual—(implies that there are occasional breaks in continuity)

- There is continual rain through July and August every year.
- **20. Continuance**—(duration, or time of remaining in action)
 - I shall complete all formalities during the continuance of my service.

Continuation—(prolongation or resumption)

- I am writing this in continuation of my former report.
- **21.** Corporal—(of human body, physical)
 - Corporal punishment should not be given to young children.

Corporeal—(of the nature of body, material)

- Saints do not seek any corporeal pleasures.
- **22.** Childish—(used in a bad sense and means silly, trifling)
 - His actions were childish.

Child-like—(used in a good sense and means as simple and innocent as a child)

- I love him for his child-like innocence.
- 23. Complacent—(pleased; well-satisfied)
 - The poor workers are generally complacent by nature.

Complaisant—(polite; obliging)

- She is a complaisant lady.
- **24. Dependent**—(is an adjective meaning relying on)
 - I am still dependent upon my father.

Dependant—(is a noun meaning one who depends on others)

- My servant is my dependant.
- **25. Dependence**—(reliance; living at another's
 - Your dependence on your father at this age is not good.

Dependency—(subject country)

- India was once a dependency of Britain.
- **26. Disinterested**—(unselfish; free from prejudice and personal motive)
 - I have assessed this case in a most disinterested way.

Uninterested—(indifferent; lacking in interest)

• I am absolutely uninterested in his affairs.

27. Distinctness—(clearness)

• There is remarkable distinctness in his arguments.

Distinction—(honour)

 He has completed his tenure of service with distinction.

28. Divers—(several or sundry)

Divers suggestions were given by different speakers.

Diverse—(markedly different or unlike)

• The views of the opposition parties were markedly diverse from our views.

29. Deliverance—(rescue, freedom)

 Religion leads to man's deliverance from the bondage of sin.

Delivery—(style of speech, handing over of letters or goods)

The delivery of his speech was remarkable.

30. Device—(noun, a plan)

• The latest device has been used in the manufacture of this machine.

Devise—(verb, to plan)

 Let us devise some other way to get out of this muddle.

31. Decided—(definite)

This is my decided answer to you.

Decisive—(that which ends a discussion or controversy)

 We have now taken a decisive step to solve this problem.

32. Enviable—(means arousing envy)

• His achievement is really enviable.

Envious—(means feeling envy)

Don't be envious of the progress of others

33. Effective—(means having a high degree of 'effect')

• The medicine was very effective.

Effectual—(applies to action, and means not falling short of the desired effect)

The step taken by him proved quite effectual.

Efficacious—(means sure to have the desired effect)

This medicine is quite efficacious in this disease.)

34. Envelope—(a noun meaning a letter-cover)

• Put the letter in the envelope.

Envelop—(a verb meaning to cover. surround or warp)

• The hills were enveloped in a thick veil of mist.

35. Egotist—(one who has the habit of talking a lot about oneself, selfconceited)

An egotist is always a conceited fellow.

Egoist—(one who believes that self-interest is the foundation of morality, who believes in systematic selfishness)

 I shall have no dealings with an egoist like him.

36. Especial—(means to an exceptional degree)

 Mahatma Gandhi had an especial sense of honesty and integrity.

Special—(means for one purpose and no other)

 He is coming for this special purpose only.

37. Elemental—(pertaining to the elements)

• One cannot fight with elemental forces.

Elementary—(rudimentary; introductory)

His knowledge of Physics is still elementary.

38. Estimate—(approximate valuation of a thing)

 Let us first make an estimate of investment.

Estimation—(opinion; judgment)

I hold him in high estimation.

39. Exposure—(being exposed to air, cold, etc.)

 He has developed cold and fever on account of exposure.

Exposition—(explanation)

• Give a full exposition of the problem.

40. Economic—(associated with economy)

 This is our Government's Economic Policy.

Economical—(careful in expenditure)

He is very economical in his habits.

- **41. Funeral**—(a burial procession or ceremony)
 - His funeral was held at Shanti Ghat.

Funereal—(solemn or sad, dismal, gloomy)

- Why do you keep a funereal face ?
- **42.** Fatal—(deadly)
 - Cancer is a fatal disease.

Fatalist—(one who believes in fate)

• A fatalist depends upon God's will.

Fateful—(important; producing important results)

- It was the most fateful day of my life.
- **43.** Fastal—(pertaining to a feast or a holiday)
 - Let us enjoy in fastal mood today.

Festive—(joyous, gay, mirthful)

- He is festive by nature.
- **44.** Forceful—(possessing force)
 - This was his most forceful argument.

Forcible—(done by force or compulsion)

- Good work cannot be done under forcible circumstances.
- 45. Godly—(pious)
 - My grandmother is a very godly lady.

God-like—(resembling God)

- Many sages have God-like lustre in their eyes.
- **46.** Graceful—(handsome, refined)
 - Her manners are very graceful.

Gracious—(merciful)

- He is a very gracious old gentleman.
- **47. Human**—(belonging to mankind)
 - It is only a human weakness.

Humane - (kind; merciful)

- He is always humane in his dealings with his workers.
- **48. Healthy**—(means enjoying good health)
 - He is quite healthy at this age.

Healthful—(means preserving or promoting health)

- Regularity is a very healthful habit.
- **49. Honorary**—(holding office without any remuneration or pay)
 - He is working in an honorary capacity.

Honourable—(worthy of honour)

Many saints are really honourable persons.

- **50. Historic**—(Famous or likely to become famous in history)
 - January 26 is a historic day.

Historical—(pertaining to history)

- Red Fort is a historical building.
- **51. Imaginary**—(fancied, unreal)
 - He lives in an imaginary world.

Imaginative—(given to imagining, contemplative)

- A poet is an imaginative person.
- **52. Industrious**—(diligent, laborious)
 - An industrious person must get success.

Industrial—(relating to industry or commerce)

- Kanpur is an industrial city.
- **53. Intelligent**—(wise, sensible)
 - She is quite intelligent.

Intelligible—(clear and understandable)

- His lecture was not intelligible to an average student.
- **54. Judicial**—(pertaining to legal justice, or to a judge)
 - We should not interfere with judicial proceedings.

Judicious—(prudent; wise)

- His advice is very judicious.
- **55.** Luxuriant—(used to express richness in growth)
 - She has a luxuriant growth of hair.

Luxurious—(implies luxury or fashion)

- He lives in a very luxurious way.
- **56. Lovable**—(worthy of love)
 - All her habits and manners are lovable.

Lovely—(exciting love, charming)

- She is a lovely girl.
- **57.** Limit—(boundary, last degree)
 - On't try me to the limit of my patience.

Limitation—(restriction or inability)

- I have my own limitations.
- **58.** Momentous—(very important)
 - I have taken a momentous decision.

Momentary—(lasting only for a moment, short-lived)

His anger is only momentary.

- **59. Memorable**—(worth remembering)
 - This is a memorable quotation.

Memorial—(statue, festival, etc. serving to commemorate)

- A memorial statue has been installed in his honour.
- **60. Negligent**—(one who is careless in particular things)
 - Don't be negligent about your dress.

Neglectful—(one who is careless in general)

• You should not be so neglectful.

Negligible—(something so small or unimportant that it may be disregarded)

- His income is still so negligible.
- **61. Observance**—(strict and attentive performance)
 - I am very particular in the observance of my regular habits.

Observation—(notice; remark)

- His observation was neither just nor balanced.
- **62. Official**—(as a noun means an officer, as an adjective means pertaining to an office)
 - He has come on official duty.

Officious—(too forward in offering unwanted service)

- He was very officious to me.
- **63. Prudent**—(wise, intelligent)
 - He is a very prudent person.

Prudential—(those ideas or motives which lead a man to prudent action)

- All his actions are prudential.
- **64. Provident**—(thrifty; showing foresight)
 - One should be provident in both thought and action.

Providential—(divine, strikingly opportune)

- He had a providential escape.
- **65. Practical**—(opposed to theoretical)
 - He was put to practical test.

Practicable—(capable of being performed)

- This is not a practicable solution.
- **66. Pitiable**—(arousing pity)
 - Her condition is pitiable.

Pitiful—(feeling pity)

My grandfather is very pitiful.

Piteous—(means either exciting pity or showing it)

• Her cries were piteous.

- **67. Politic**—(wise, prudent, sagacious)
 - The measures taken by our Prime Minister are really politic.

Political—(pertaining to politics)

- It is a serious political problem.
- **68. Proportional**—(in due proportion)
 - Let us come to a proportional distribution of the property.

Proportionate—(equal, corresponding in degree or amount)

- Your wages are proportionate to your labour.
- **69. Prophecy**—(noun, a forecast or prediction)
 - His prophecy came out true.

Prophesy—(verb, to foretell)

- I cannot prophesy what may happen.
- **70. Reverend**—(means deserving reverence and is applied to persons only)
 - The Archbishop is a reverend scholar.

Reverent—(means showing reverence and is applied to both persons and things)

We should be reverent to every religion.

- **71. Respectable**—(deserving respect)
 - He is a respectable teacher.

Respectful—(showing respect)

One should be respectful to one's teachers.

Respective—(relating to particular persons or things)

- They did their respective duties faithfully.
- **72. Righteous**—(just)
 - A judge ought to be a righteous person.

Rightful—(having a just and legal claim)

- This is my rightful property.
- **73. Regretful**—(full of regret or sorrow)
 - He is regretful for his hasty action.

Regrettable—(causing regret)

- He acted in a regrettable way.
- **74. Servitude**—(state of slavery)
 - One cannot act freely in servitude.

Servility—(means spirit of servitude)

- His attitude is one of servility.
- **75.** Social—(relating to society)
 - This is a social obligation.

Sociable—(fond of mixing in society)

• He is a sociable person.

- **76. Sensible**—(having sense or consistent with reason)
 - He is a sensible person.

Sensitive—(one who is easily affected, touchy)

One should not be too sensitive.

Sensual—(used in a bad sense and means voluptuous, carnal)

 A sensual person is a person of weak character.

Sensuous—(used in a good sense for one who has a keen appreciation of the beautiful relating to all senses)

- Keats was a sensuous poet.
- **77. Speciality**—(the state or quality of being special)
 - What is the speciality in your machine?

Specialty—(special pursuit or skill)

- His specialty is landscape painting.
- **78. Signification**—(meaning)
 - What is the signification of the term 'Renaissance'?

Significance—(importance, value)

- This is not a matter of any significance to me.
- **79. Spiritual**—(pertaining to soul or spirit)
 - I believe in high spiritual values.

Spirituous—(alcoholic)

- One should avoid spirituous drinks.
- **80.** Tolerable—(applied to things and conditions that are bearable)
 - His behaviour is not tolerable.

Tolerant—(usually applied to a person who is liberal and who will tolerate any opinion different from his own)

- My father is very tolerant.
- **81. Temperance**—(moderation, sobriety)
 - One should exercise temperance in everything.

Temperament—(disposition, mental character of an individual)

- She is a lady of sweet temperament.
- **82. Temporary**—(lasting for a short time)
 - This is a temporary post.

Temporal—(as opposed to spiritual)

- One should value spiritual gains more than temporal gains.
- **83.** Transient—(of short duration)
 - Man's life is transient.

Transitory—(speedily vanishing)

- Material possessions are transitory.
- **84.** Unmoral—(applied to a person who is non-moral; one who has no idea of morals)
 - A child is an unmoral being.

Immoral—(applied to a person or thing which is depraved and evil.)

- Don't do anything immora.
- **85.** Union—(act of uniting, an organization)
 - He is a member of the Indian Trade Union.

Unison—(agreement of sounds)

• The hymns were sung by all in unison.

Unity—(oneness)

- There is strength in unity.
- **86.** Vocation—(chief occupation or calling)
 - Tailoring is his vocation.

Avocation—(diversion from usual occupation, hobby)

- Painting is my avocation.
- **87.** Virtual—(real; in effect, though not in form)
 - He is in a state of virtual madness.

Virtuous—(blameless, possessing moral goodness)

- My mother is a very virtuous lady.
- **88.** Willing—(ready, having no reluctance)
 - I am willing to go.

Wilful—(deliberate, conscious)

- His negligence is wilful.
- **89.** Wait—(often intransitive in use)
 - I shall wait for you.

Await—(always transitive in use)

- He was eagerly awaited.
- **90.** Womanly—(used in a good sense and means affectionate and modest)
 - She has womanly gentleness.

Womanish—(used in a bad sense and means weak and cowardly)

He is womanish in his behaviour.