



Vocabulary building – Synonyms

SYNONYMS

What are Synonyms?

Words with nearly the same meaning but used differently are called synonyms.

Example: Abstain and Refrain are two words that seem very nearly the same. But, we abstain from a thing and refrain from a habit or an action. The following sentences make it clear:

1. We should abstain from wine. 2. We should refrain from drinking.

Type: 1 choosing the correct synonym of the given word.

In this type of questions, generally a word is given, followed by four or five alternatives. The candidate is required to choose the word which is nearest in meaning to the given word.

Example: 1 Choose the correct synonym of the given word:

IMPLICATE: (a) Include (b) Entreat (C) Suggest (d) Imply

Solution: The word 'Implicate' may be used in a sentence as:

The man implicated him falsely in the case.

Clearly, the word means 'involve' or 'include'. Hence the answer is (a)

Example: 2 Choose the word which best expresses the meaning of the given word.

DILIGENT: (a) Intelligent (b) Difficult (c) Laborious (d) Quick

Solution: 'Diligent' means 'hard-working' So, another word for it could be 'Laborious' Hence, the answer is (c).

Practice Exercise:

In each of the following questions, out of the given alternatives, choose the one which best expresses the meaning of the given word.

1. EAGER:
(a) Clever (b) Enthusiastic (c) Curious (d) Devoted
2. PLACID:
(a) Clear (b) Calm (c) Enjoyable (d) Dull
3. COMMEMORATE:
(a) Boast (b) Remember (c) Manipulate (d) Harmonise
4. DEIFY :
(a) Face (b) Worship (c) Flatter (d) Challenge
5. AMENITIES:
(a) Pageantries (b) Privileges (c) Facilities (d) Courtesies
6. DISPARITY:
(a) Injustice (b) Unlikeness (c) Partiality (d) Distortion
7. BARBARIAN:
(a) Arrogant (b) Impolite (c) Uncivilized (d) unkind
8. LETHAL:
(a) Unlawful (b) Deadly (c) Sluggish (d) Smooth
9. SERENE:
(a) Solemn (b) Meak (c) Delicate (d) Calm

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10. GRUESOME:

(a) Hateful (b) Painful (c) Tragic (d) Frightful

11. SECURE:

(a) Secret (b) Comfortable (c) Safe (d) Independent

12. TYRANNY:

(a) Misrule (b) Power (c) Madness (d) Cruelty

13. OBLIGATORY:

(a) Useful (b) Required (c) Stubborn (d) Agreeable

14. CONNOISSEUR:

(a) Ignorant (b) Interpreter (c) Delinquent (d) Lover of art

15. IMPETUOUS:

(a) violent (b) Resourceful (c) Pleasing (d) Rash

16. NEBULOUS:

(a) Tiny (b) Vague (c) Insignificant (d) Inadequate

17. WRATH:

(a) Jealously (b) Hatred (c) Anger (d) Violence

18. ABANDON:

(a) Abscond (b) Discontinue (c) Neglect (d) Condense

19. BASHFUL:

(a) Vigilant (b) Confident (c) Shy (d) Hopeful

20. GARNER:

(a) Distribute (b) Decorate (c) Preserve (d) Collect

21. LETHARGY:

(a) Laxity (b) Impassivity (c) Serenity (d) Listlessness

22. VERATE:

(a) Scold (b) Judge (c) Downgrade (d) Deny

23. MORIBUND:

(a) Stagnant (b) Gloomy (c) Dying (d) Superfluous

24. REBATE:

(a) Loss (b) Refund (c) Compensation (d) Discount

25. BEMOAN:

(a) Lament (b) Soothe (c) Denounce (d) Loathe

26. SPITE:

(a) Concern (b) Admiration (c) Malice (d) Indifference

27. PROLIFIC:

(a) Plenty (b) Competent (c) Fertile (d) Predominant

28. DEBILITATE:

(a) Weaken (b) Attack (c) Surmount (d) Destroy

29. OSTENTATIOUS:

(a) Pretty (b) Modest (c) Showy (d) Flagrant

30. AFFABLE:

(a) Friendly (b) Cheerful (c) Helpful (d) Neutral

31. DEFLECT:

(a) Frustrate (b) Cheat (c) Pervert (d) Depress

32. DAWDLE:

(a) Assess (b) Evaluate (c) Fickle (d) Loiter

33. EXORBITANT:

(a) Odd (b) Ridiculous (c) Excessive (d) Threatening

34. PIVOTAL:

(a) Movable (b) Crucial (c) Internal (d) Mechanical

35. VULGAR:

(a) Thoughtless (b) Unkind (c) Coarse (d) Illiterate

36. OBVERSE:

(a) Bitter (b) Reverse (c) Opposite (d) Adverse

37. MIRTH:

(a) Sorrow (b) Enthusiasm (c) Adventure (d) Merriment

38. TERRIFIC:

(a) Big (b) Excellent (c) Tragic (d) Terrible

39. DILIGENT:

(a) Intelligent (b) Energetic (c) Modest (c) Industrious

40. ABRIDGE:

(a) Abort (b) Span (c) Shorten (d) Cross

41. WHIM:

(a) Fancy (b) Clumsy (c) Desire (d) Strange behavior

42. DISSOLUTE:

(a) Distant (b) Repulsive (c) Honest (d) Immoral

43. FALSE:

(a) Defective (b) Untrue (c) Incorrect (d) Inaccurate

44. ANATHEMA:

(a) Religious chant (b) Pun (c) Musical subject (d) Curse

45. NIGGARD:

(a) Miser (b) Loyal (c) Divine (d) Shrewd

46. PLACATE:

(a) Pity (b) Embroid (c) Appease (d) Amuse

47. ABNEGATION:

(a) Self-denial (b) Self-sacrifice (c) Self-praise (d) Self-criticism

48. SUPERVENE:

(a) Ensnare (b) Interfere (c) Displace (d) Precede

49. ABRADE:

(a) Scold (b) Attach (c) Wear off (d) Twist

50. SANGUINE:

(a) Clever (b) Proud (c) Hopeful (d) Modest

Answers:

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (b) 4. (b) 5. (b) 6. (b) 7. (c) 8. (b) 9. (d) 10. (d) 11. (c) 12. (d)
13. (b) 14. (b) 15. (d) 16. (b) 17. (c) 18. (b) 19. (c) 20. (d) 21. (a) 22. (a)
23. (c) 24. (d) 25. (a) 26. (c) 27. (c) 28. (a) 29. (c) 30. (a) 31. (c) 32. (d) 33.
(c) 34. (b) 35. (c) 36. (c) 37. (d) 38. (d) 39. (d) 40. (c) 41. (a) 42. (d) 43. (b)
44. (c) 45. (a) 46. (c) 47. (a) 48. (b) 49. (c) 50. (c)



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