

2.6. SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS

SYNONYMS.

Synonym is defined as a word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another word or phrase in the same language. For example shut is a synonym of close.

Synonym Examples

- Afraid, scared, frightened.
- Automobile, car, vehicle
- Big, large, huge
- Blank, empty, hollow
- Bunny, rabbit, hare
- Cap, hat
- Center, middle, inside
- Couch, sofa, divan

1. Abandon – discard
2. Dare – challenge
3. Eager – keen
4. Gloomy – dim
5. Omit – remove

Exercises:

1. This is a very **exacting** job.

- a. Specific b. Complicated c. Exhausting d. Demanding_ e. Precise
2. He was **worn out** at the end of the day.
- a. Successful b. Exhausted c. Dehydrated d. totally lost e. Worried
3. There have been instances of highway robbery in this area, **of late**
- a. Recently b. Always c. Occasionally d. Ultimately e. Readily
4. **Finally** my firm decided to drop the charges against me.
- a. Eventually b. casually c. dangerously d. Un intentionally e.
Knowingly
5. I **accidentally** gave him the wrong change.
- a. Eventually b. casually c. dangerously d. Un intentionally e.
Knowingly
6. This building has been well **maintained**.
- a. Improved b. Repaired c. Looked after d. Constructed e. Developed
7. I maintained my cool in spite of his **provocative** behaviour.
- a. Tempting b. Inducing c. Insulting d. Respectful e. Interesting
8. You can't use the government is **bias** in this matter.
- a. Reliability b. Hostility c. Dishonesty d. Favour e. Prejudice
9. He is utterly **destitute**.
- a. Without_a penny b. Without morals d. Un scrupulous e. Friendly
10. His composition was a **concise** history of the school.

- a. Succinct b. Comprehensive c. Interesting d. Emotional e. Vague

EXERCISE

Choose from the expression labelled a, b, c, d, e the ones that are nearest in meaning (synonyms) to the expression that are in bold in the sentence below:

1. He was **stridently** proclaiming again and again that he was innocent.
 - a. Seriously b. harshly c. happily d. confidently e. quickly
2. I want to **stress** that I don't need any more assistance.
 - a. Strain b. reiterate c. emphasize d. elaborate e. maintain
3. The new textile **factory** employs 400 men.
 - a. Warehouse b. mill c. company e. construction
4. Let's have the **discussion** this evening, shall we?
 - a. Dispute b. debate c. argument d. talk e. conference
5. This is very **exacting** job
 - a. Specific b. complicated c. exhausting d. demanding e. precise
6. Antiparty activities **improved** my relations with the opposition
 - a. Enlarged b. promoted c. increased d. became friendly e. altered
7. This book **attracted** little attention when it was first published
 - a. Received b. gave c. beautiful d. procured e. acquired

8. The speaker used his experience to **bolster** his philosophy.

- a. Preach b. teach c. encourage d. support e. discourage

9. A decimal currency system **facilitates** business transactions

- a. Hinders b. enables c. simplified d. promotes e. complicated

10. I'm very much a **novice** in the field of politics.

- a. Very experienced player b. very cunning politician c. very shrewd politician d. totally ignorant person e. new entrant

Match the words in column A with their meanings in column B:

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 1. Dynamism | - v) strength |
| 2. Enhance | -iii) heighten |
| 3. Breeder | - i) producer |
| 4. Empathy | - ii) sympathy |
| | iv) getting rid of |

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Stray | - i) group |
| 2. Enforce | -ii) endure |
| 3. Convoy | -iii) wandering |
| 4. Serendipity | -iv) insist on |
| | -v) make pleasant discoveries |

- | | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| 1. Paucity | -i) wild imagination |
| 2. Jeopardy | -ii) attempt |
| 3. Fantasy | -iii) scarcity |
| 4. Endeavor | -iv) enormity |
| | -v) danger |

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. Consolidate | - i) able to continue over a period of time |
| 2. Diagnostic | - ii) crisis |
| 3. Revolutionary | - iii) deciding from symptoms |
| 4. Sustainable | - iv) make whole |
| | -v) entirely new |

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|---------------|--|
| 1. Staple | - i) a reciprocal action or effect |
| 2. Confluence | - ii) large or important part of something |

3. Repercussion - iii) to increase rapidly in number or amount
4. proliferate - iv) the fact of two or more things becoming

1. coagulum - i) hindrance
2. impediment - ii) continue to have
3. Augment - iii) thick, sticky solid mass
4. Retain - iv) long lasting
5. durable - v) to increase

