

LINKING UP THE WORDS (VOCAB)

'F'

FACET (n)

- Cue :** **F A C E T** → **face** – 'aspect'
Mean : surface or anatomy of an object or various aspects
Ex : (i) His multi faceted personality has put everyone in doubt.
(ii) The facet of a diamond establishes its value in the market.
Syn : Appearance; Demeanor; Form; Perspective
Ant : Core; Interior

FACILE (adj)

- Cue :** Latin **facilis** – 'easy to do'
Mean : done or achieved with little effort or difficulty, resourceful or expressing yourself readily
Ex : (i) The crisis had put everyone in trouble, when the manager came up with a facile solution for a complex problem.
(ii) The politician dazzled everyone with his facile tongue.
Syn : Accomplished; Adept; Articulate; Easy; Effortless; Eloquent; Fluent; Silver-tongued
Smooth-Spoken
Ant : Arduous; Complicated; Inarticulate; Laborious; Taciturn

FACETIOUS (adj)

- Cue :** from **facétie** – *jest*
Mean : playful or humorous esp. at an inappropriate time
Ex : Though everyone loved his sense of humor, it was not appreciated when he interrupted the serious discussions with his facetious remarks.
Syn : flippant; frivolous; ludicrous; merry; punning; ridiculous
Ant : Formal; Grave; Lugubrious; Serious; Sober; Sombre

FACTIOUS (adj)

- Cue :** Relate it with **faction**
Mean : arrived at without due care or effort, causing dissension; quarrelsome
Ex : His factious comments at the press conference worsened the situation.
Syn : Contentious; Divisive
Ant : Cooperative; Harmonious; Obedient; Tractable

FACTOTUM (n)

- Cue :** Latin **facere** to do
Mean : an employee or assistant who serves in a wide range of capacities
Ex : Every new employee is treated as a general factotum, running messages, transferring files etc. So that he knows the general layout of the office thoroughly.
Syn : Laborer; Maid; Menial; Scullion; Servant; Toiler

FALLACY (n)

- Cue :** from Latin **falsicia** – *deceit*
Mean : a false notion, a statement or an argument based on a false or invalid inference
Ex : (i) It is a fallacy to say that women are dependent on men.
(ii) To say that wealth is everything in life is fallacious.
Syn : Aberration; Ambiguity; Artifice Chicanery; Deception; Deceptiveness; Delusion; Falsehood
Ant : Accuracy

FALLIBLE (adj)

- Cue :** Latin *fallere* - to deceive, (**fall** + **able**)
- Mean :** capable of making an error
- Ex :** (i) Every human is fallible.
(ii) Human fallibility has caused many disasters.
- Syn :** Errant; Erring; Faulty; Fallacious
- Ant :** Correct; Inerrant; Infallible; Perfect; Reliable; Unerring

FALLOW (n)

- Mean :** cultivated land that is not seeded for one or more growing seasons
- Ex :** Leaving the agricultural land fallow for a season restores its fertility and replenishes the lost nutrients.
- Syn :** Hibernating; Inactive; Inert; Unexploited; Unploughed; Unplowed
- Ant :** Active; Fertile; Planted; Productive; Prolific

FASCISM (n)

- Mean :** a political theory advocating an authoritarian hierarchical government (as opposed to democracy or liberalism)
- Ex :** Fascism originated in Italy around 1922, under the rule of Benito Mussolini.
- Syn :** Absolutism; Autocracy; Demagoguery; Despotism; Totalitarianism; Tyranny
- Ant :** Anarchy; Democracy; Republic

FASTIDIOUS (adj)

- Cue :** **F A S T I D I O U S** → *fastus* – ‘disdain’ + *tedious* – ‘tiresome’
- Mean :** possessing or displaying careful, meticulous attention to detail, difficult to please
- Ex :** He writes extremely esoteric music, of which the sound is fastidiously calculated and yet agreeably spontaneous and imaginative.
- Syn :** Choosy; Critical; Finical; Finicky; Fussbudgety; Meticulous
- Ant :** Indifferent; Sloppy; Uncouth; Uncritical; Undemanding

FECUND (adj)

- Mean :** capable of producing offspring or vegetation, fruitful or marked by intellectual productivity
- Ex :** (i) The breeder was very pleased with fecundity of the new she-horse he had bought.
(ii) Children have a fecund imagination which needs proper guidance and direction.
- Syn :** Breeding; Fertile; Fructiferous; Fruitful; Generating; Proliferant; Prolific; Propagating; Reproducing; Rich; Spawning; Teeming
- Ant :** Barren; Fruitless; Impotent; Infertile; Sterile; Unproductive
- RW :** **Fetus**

FERVENT (adj)

- Cue :** **FERVENT** → *ferv* – ‘to boil’
- Mean :** having or showing great emotion or zeal or extremely hot, glowing
- Ex :** Raja Ram Mohan Roy had a fervent desire to change the outlook of society
- Syn :** Animated; Ardent; Blazing; Burning; Vivacious.
- Ant :** Apathetic; Cool; Dispassionate; Dispirited; Indifferent; Unenthusiastic; Unexcited
- RW :** **Fervency; Fervid; Fervor**

FIDELITY (n)

Cue : from Latin **fidēlis**, faithful

Mean : (1) faithfulness to obligations, duties, or observances
(2) exact correspondence with a given quality, condition, or event
(3) the degree to which an electronic system accurately reproduces the sound or image of its input signal

Ex : (i) The fidelity to one's spouse is a priori in successful matrimony.
(ii) Each company aims at satisfying its consumers with the fidelity of its products.
(iii) The high fidelity sound produced by the DJ put everyone in a dancing mood.

Syn : Allegiance; Fealty; Loyalty

Ant : Infidelity; Treachery; Treason; Unfaithfulness

FILIAL (adj)

Cue : from L. **filus** "son," **filia** "daughter"

Mean : of or befitting a son or daughter

Ex : The young boy showered filial love and attention on the old woman who had no child.

RW : **Filicide** (the act of killing one's son or daughter)

FILIBUSTER (n)

Cue : **Filigrana, filum/fila** "thread" – stretching like a thread

Mean : (1) delay or prevent legislation or decision by making a long speech
(2) an adventurer who engages in a private military action in a foreign country

Ex : The opposition indulged in filibuster tactics to obstruct the passage of the bill.

Syn : Adjournment; Delay; Hindrance

Ant : Expedite; Hasten; Hurry; Rush; Speed

FILIGREE (n)

Cue : **Filigrana, filum/fila** "thread" + **granum** "grain"

Mean : delicate and intricate ornamental work made from gold, silver, or other fine twisted wire

Ex : The filigree brooch she was wearing attracted a lot of attention in the party.

Syn : Crochet; Edging; Netting; Tatting; Threadwork

FLABBERGASTED (v)

Cue : **FLABBERGASTED** → **flabby** – 'not firm' + **aghast**

Mean : to cause to be overcome with astonishment, astound

Ex : The world was flabbergasted at the September eleventh attack on WTC.

Syn : Addled; Aghast; Astonished; Astounded; Awed; Awe-struck; Baffled

Ant : Clear; Oriented

FLAGELLATE (vt)

Cue : from **flagellum** "whip"

Mean : (1) to punish or impel as if by whipping
(2) *biology*: resembling or having the form of a flagellum, whip-like

Ex : (i) Flagellation was widely used for penance by religious masses in India.
(ii) Flagellate microbes were the earliest formed living organisms.

Syn : Horsewhip; Spank; Strike; Swat; Thrash; Thrash

RW : **Flay**

FLAGRANT (adj)

- Cue :** **flagare** (to burn)
Mean : conspicuously bad, offensive, or reprehensible; or flaming, blazing
Ex : A flagrant violation of the suspect's civil rights helped him to gain the jury's sympathy.
RW : Conflagration (**con** intense + **flagare**, to burn)

FLAIL (n)

- Cue :** from **flagellum** = whip
Mean : (1) a manual threshing device with a free-swinging stick
 (2) to beat or strike with or as if with a flail
 (3) to wave or swing vigorously
Ex : (i) The trader flailed his horses with the reins.
 (ii) The boxers were flailing at each other in the ring.
Syn : Batter; Beat; Blow; Jolt; Knock; Pound; Pummel; Strike; Swat; Thrash

FLAK (n)

- Cue :** German, from **fl**(ieger)**a**(bwehr)**k**(anone) - aircraft-defense gun
Mean : (1) antiaircraft artillery
 (2) excessive or abusive criticism or dissension
Ex : (i) As the bomber neared the target, it had to face heavy flak.
 (ii) She came in for some heavy flak from her parents for not doing well in her exams.
Syn : Complaint; Condemnation; Disapprobation; Disapproval; Disparagement; Grievance

FLEDGLING (n)

- Mean :** a young bird that has recently acquired its flight feathers or a young or inexperienced person
Ex : (i) The fledgling chic was tethering on the end of the branch.
 (ii) A fledgling business, like a fledgling plant, needs utmost care.
Syn : Callow; Abecedarian; Amateur; Apprentice; Apprentice
Ant : Expert; Master; Veteran

FLOTILLA

- Cue :** from **float** and **fleet**
Mean : a fleet of small craft (or) a group of vehicles owned or operated as a unit
Ex : The flotilla of fishing boats looked very dramatic against the setting sun.
Syn : Navy; Squadron; Armada

FLOTSAM

- Cue :** from **float**
Mean : (1) Wreckage or cargo that remains afloat after a ship has sunk
 (2) Discarded odds and ends (or) vagrant, usually destitute people
Ex : (i) We wandered along the shore, stepping over the flotsam that had washed up during the night.
 (ii) The homeless sleep in doorways and stations like so much human flotsam.
RW : **Jetsam** (Goods thrown to save a ship from sinking)

FLUX

- Cue :** from **flu** (flow)
Mean : (1) Continuous change
 (2) A discharge of large quantities of fluid

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| <i>Ex</i> | : | (i) Our plans are in a state of flux right now. (ii) The flux from oceanic oil carriers has endangered many species. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | Oozing; Outflow; Outpouring; Liquefy |
| <i>Ant</i> | : | Coagulate; Congeal; Harden; Solidify; Thicken |
| <i>RW</i> | : | <i>Influx; Reflux; Fluxion; Fluxional or Fluxionary</i> |

FOIL

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|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | from Latin folium – "leaf", folia – "leaves" |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | (1) To prevent from being successful; thwart (2) A thin, flexible leaf or sheet of metal (3) The reflective metal coating on the back of a glass mirror |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | (i) The prisoner's attempt to escape was foiled when police received a tip off. (ii) Silver foil on a looking glass enhances the quality. |
| <i>RW</i> | : | <i>Foliage</i> (cluster of leaves); <i>Hydrofoil</i> |

FOMENT

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|-------------|---|--|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | from L. fomentum "warm application, poultice" |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | (1) To promote the growth of; incite. (2) to treat with moist heat (as for easing pain) |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | (i) Politicians often foment trouble for their own vested interests. (ii) We use hot and cold fomentation to relieve pains. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | Agitate; Arouse; Inflame; Instigate; Kindle |
| <i>Ant</i> | : | Quell; Repress; Suppress; Calm; Lull; Pacify; Quiet |

FORE

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|-------------|---|--|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | <i>before</i> |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | Located at or toward the front; (or) earlier in order of occurrence; former (or) a prefix |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | Various ecological issues have come to the fore since the discovery of hole in the ozone layer. |
| <i>RW</i> | : | <i>Forecast; Forecastle; Forefront; Foreground; Foreman; Foremost; Forerunner; Foresee; Forestall; Afore; Before; Forbear; Forelegs</i> |

FORSAKE

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|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | <i>for + sake</i> (purpose) |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | (1) To leave someone especially when he needs you (2) To leave altogether; abandon |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | (i) People who pretend to be your friend forsake you as soon you face troubles in your life. (ii) Gautam Budh decided to forsake his kingdom for the search of truth and wisdom. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | abdicate; renounce; abjure; desert; deviate |
| <i>Ant</i> | : | adopt; cherish; claim; continue; defend; keep; maintain; possess; pursue; retain |
| <i>RW</i> | : | <i>Forswear</i> (To swear falsely; commit perjury) |

FORTE

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|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | <i>fortis</i> , sturdy, strong - The strong part of a sword blade, between the middle and the hilt |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | Something in which a person excels |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | I think cooking is not my forte. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | aptitude; adroitness |
| <i>Ant</i> | : | Fatal Flaw; Weak Point; Weakness Incapability; Incompetence |

FORTITUDE

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|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | from fortis – "strong, brave" |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | strength of mind that allows one to endure pain or adversity with courage |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | He showed remarkable fortitude even in the face of severe adversity. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | Endurance; Perseverance; Grit; Guts; Stamina |
| <i>Ant</i> | : | Cowardice; Powerlessness; Spinelessness; Timidity; Weakness |

FORTUITOUS

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|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | "by chance" |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | Happening by accident or chance |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | The collapse of its rivals brought fortuitous gains to the company. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | impromptu; improvised; impulsive; incidental |
| <i>Ant</i> | : | Determined; Directed; Focused; Goal-Oriented; Guided; Motivated; Planned; Pointed; Purposeful; Resolute |

FRACAS

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|-------------|---|---|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | from fracassare , to make uproar |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | A noisy, disorderly fight or quarrel; a brawl |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | He was badly injured in Saturday night fracas outside a disco. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | Altercation; Bickering; Brawl; Squabbling; Tangle; Trouble; Tumult; Turmoil |

FRUGAL

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|-------------|---|--|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | related to fruit , sense evolved as "profitable" to "economical" |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | Costing little; inexpensive (or) avoiding waste |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | A frugal meal of soup and bread was all he could afford. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | Conserving; Discreet; Meager; Moderating; Restraining; Calculating; Cautious |
| <i>Ant</i> | : | Extravagant; Spendthrift; Wasteful |

FUGACIOUS

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|-------------|---|--|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | from stem of fugere – "run away, flee" |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | passing away quickly; evanescent (or) withering or dropping off early, as in flowers |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | The rose is fugacious; it does not even bloom for a week. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | Fleeting; Brief; Evanescent; Fleeting; Flitting |
| <i>Ant</i> | : | Tangible; Enduring; Eternal; Everlasting; Lasting |
| <i>RW</i> | : | Fugitive |

FULSOME

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|-------------|---|--|
| <i>Cue</i> | : | full + some |
| <i>Mean</i> | : | Originally offensively flattering or insincere – now also abundant |
| <i>Ex</i> | : | The guests were in fulsome praise about the food at the Hotel. |
| <i>Syn</i> | : | (in the sense of insincere) Buttery; Oily; Oleaginous; Smarmy; Unctuous; Fawning; Flattering; Glib |

'G'

GADFLY (n)

- Cue :** **GADFLY** → **gad** – 'restless' + **fly** – 'as in flies'
- Mean :** (1) persistent irritating critic; a nuisance
- Ex :** The child was a gadfly who couldn't be satisfied with anything he was given.
- Mean :** (2) one that acts as a provocative stimulus; a goad
- Ex :** Her taunting nature aptly explains her nickname - "gadfly"
- Mean :** (3) any of various flies that bite or annoy livestock and other animals
- Ex :** Gadflies are a source of trouble for cattle during summers.
- RW :** **Gadabout** (a person who moves aimlessly or restlessly)

GAFF (n)

- Cue :** old French gaffe "boat hook"
- Mean :** (1) an iron hook with a handle; used for landing large fish
- Ex :** He used a gaff to fish in the stream.
- Mean :** (2) a blatant mistake or misjudgment
- (3) a clumsy social error
- Ex :** His tactless remark in front of the mourning family was a real gaff.
- RW :** **Gaffe** (a blunder or a mistake)

GAINSAY (v)

- Mean :** (1) to oppose, especially by contradiction
- (2) to declare false, deny
- Ex :** Parents often need to gainsay the desires of teenagers so as to inculcate responsible behavior in them.
- Syn :** Confute; Contradict; Contravene; Deny; Negate; Oppose; Repudiate
- Ant :** Affirm; Attest; Prove

GALUMPH (v)

- Cue :** Perhaps blend of **gallop**, and **triumph**
- Mean :** to move or run clumsily or heavily
- EX :** The giant turtles galumphed around in their pen
- Syn :** Plod; Stump

GALVANIZE (v)

- Cue :** **French galvaniser, after Luigi Galvani** (he was the first to discover that nerve cell and muscle produce electricity)
- Mean :** (1) to stimulate to action
- Ex :** Western charities were galvanized into action by TV pictures of earthquake-hit regions.
- Mean :** (2) to cover with zinc
- (3) to stimulate (muscles) by administering a shock
- Ex :** After being hit by the whip, the horse galvanized to a gallop.
- Syn :** Animate; Arouse; Jazz up; Jolt; Motivate; Pep up; Perk up; Pique
- Ant :** Dampen; Deflate; Depress; Discourage; Dishearten; Dispirit

GAMBOL (n)

- Cue :** **from gambate** – 'to leap around'
- Mean :** to leap about playfully; frolic
- Ex :** Lambs were gamboling about in the spring sunshine.
- Syn :** Cavort; Disport; Frisk; Frolic; Lark; Rollick; Romp; Skylark

GARGANTUAN (adj)

- Cue :** After the amiable giant king in a 16th century satirical novel Gargantua
Mean : of immense size, volume, or capacity, gigantic
Ex : An elephant has a gargantuan appetite.
Syn : Elephantine; Giant; Jumbo; Leviathan; Mammoth; Massive; Monstrous
Ant : Insignificant; Lilliputian; Microscopic; Minute; Pocket-sized; Small; Tiny

GARGOYLE (n)

- Cue :** **G A R G O Y L E** → Somewhat related to **gargle + yle**
Mean : (1) a grotesque ornamental figure or projection with a long neck / spout for throwing rainwater clear of a building
 (2) a person of bizarre or grotesque appearance
Ex : Gargoyles can be often found on the rooftops of old church buildings.

GARNER (n)

- Cue :** variant of **granary**
Mean : (1) to gather and store in or as if in a granary
Ex : Squirrels garner nuts and various tit bits for winters.
 (2) to amass, acquire
Ex : NASA garnered sufficient information about 'planet' Sedna or VB12.
Syn : Accumulate; Amass; Gather; Heap; Hoard; Stash; Stow
Ant : Disburse; Disperse; Dissipate; Divide; Scatter; Spend

GARNISH (n)

- Cue :** **G A R N I S H** → **garnir** – 'to provide/protect'
Mean : to provide with something ornamental (or) to bring garnishment proceedings
Ex : Garnish the dish with condiments.
RW : **Garnishee** (a third party who has been notified that money or property in his or her hands but belonging to a defendant has been attached by legal writ); **Garniture** (adornment)

GARRULOUS (adj)

- Cue :** From **garrire** – 'to chatter'
Mean : (1) full of trivial conversation (2) Wordy and rambling
Ex : Garrulous children often attract attention and win over hearts easily.
Syn : Babbling; Chatty; Effusive; Flap jaw; Gabby; Loquacious
Ant : Inhibited; Laconic; Quiet; Reserved; Restrained; Silent; Withdrawn

GASCON (adj)

- Mean :** (1) Native of Gascony, a region in France inhabitants of which were known for their boastfulness
 (2) A boastful person; a braggart
Ex : Whenever he won we were exposed to his gasconade.
Syn : Boaster; Brag; Braggadocio; Egotist
RW : **Gasconade** (boastful talk, show off)

GASTRONOME (n)

- Cue :** **G A S T R O N O M E** → **Gastro** – 'stomach'
Mean : a person devoted to refined sensuous enjoyment (especially good food and drink)
Ex : (i) Being a gastronome he insisted on a five course meal daily.
 (ii) The dish was a gastronomic delight.
Syn : Bon vivant; Epicure; Epicurean; Gourmet
RW : **Gastritis; Gastroenteritis; Gastroenterology; Gastrology; Gastronomist** (n); **Gastronomy** (the science of good eating, or a particular style of cooking); **Gastroscopy; Gastrotomy**

GAUCHE (adj)

- Cue :** from Fr. Gauche = "awkward, tactless"
- Mean :** Lacking social polish; tactless
- Ex :** "The excellent manners followed by the rich always make me feel gauche"
- Syn :** Gawky; Graceless; Uncouth; Uncultivated; Uncultured
- Ant :** Adroit; Agile; Coordinated; Dexterous; Graceful; Sophisticated
- RW :** **Gaucherie**

GENE (n)

- Cue :** from Greek *genos* "birth, race"
- Mean :** (1) a segment of DNA that is involved in producing a polypeptide chain; it is considered a unit of heredity
(2) also a suffix, variant of '-gen, -genous, -geny, -gony: bearing, producing, giving birth, producer
- Ex :** Mental retardation is believed to be caused by a defective gene.
- RW :** **Genealogy** (study of complete family ancestry); **Genera** (pl of genus); **Generic**; **genre** (belonging to a class (or) a genus); **Genetics** (study of heredity); **Genocide** (mass killing of a particular kind); **Genome** (full DNA set of a human); **Genotype** (group of organisms sharing a specific genetic constitution); **Genus** (species)

GENESIS (n)

- Cue :** Related to **genos** – 'race, birth, descent'
- Mean :** (1) the coming into being of something; the origin
(2) even used as a suffix which means 'origin; production'
- Ex :** Research on genesis of cancer has raised more questions than answers.
- Syn :** Alpha; Birth; Commencement; Creation
- Ant :** Conclusion; End; Ending; Expiration; Finish; Termination
- RW :** **Biogenesis** (the production of living organisms from other living organisms); **Parthogenesis** [*partho* (virgin) + genesis; birth without fertilization]; **Pathogenesis** (the origination and development of a disease); **Teratogenesis** [the development of defects in an embryo]; **Xenogenesis** [the alternation of two or more different forms in the life cycle of a plant or animal]

GENIAL (adj)

- Cue :** Greek **geneion** – 'chin'
- Mean :** (1) of or relating to the chin or median part of the lower jaw
- Ex :** In the accident he suffered a fracture in the genial region.
- Mean :** (2) having a pleasant or friendly disposition or manner
- Ex :** His genial and pleasant manner made him popular among his employees.
- Mean :** (3) conducive to life, growth, or comfort
- Ex :** The genial climate of Shimla worked wonders with his health.
- Syn :** Affable; Agreeable; Amiable
- Ant :** Cold; Disdainful; Grumbling; Grouchy; Impolite; Miserable; Unfriendly
- RW :** **Congenial** (suitable to your needs)

GENITOR (n)

- Cue :** From generator
- Mean :** (1) a natural father or mother
(2) one who produces or creates
- EX :** Genitors take care of their progeny till they are grown up enough to sustain themselves.
- RW :** **Primogenitor** (the earliest ancestor); **Progenitor** (an ancestor in the direct line); **Progeny**

GENUFLECT (v)

- Cue :** **GENUFLECT** → **Genu** – 'knee' + **Flectere** – 'bend'
Mean : to bend the knee or touch one knee to the floor or ground, as in worship
Ex : People often genuflect in front of an altar while praying in a church.
Syn : Bow; Buckle; Camber; Careen; Court; Crouch; Grovel (prostrate)
Ant : Align; Square; Straighten

GEOLOGY (n)

- Cue :** **GEOLOGY** → **Geo** – 'earth' + **logy** – 'speech/study'
Mean : the science dealing with the physical nature and history of the earth
Ex : The science of Geology has taken rapid strides over the past few decades.
RW : **Geode** (a hollow rock or nodule with the cavity usually lined with crystals); **Geodesic** / **Geodesy** (the branch of geology that studies the shape of the earth); Geophagy (eating earth or clay or chalk); **Geography**; **Geocentric**; **Geopolitical**

GERMANE (adj)

- Cue :** Of the same seed or embryo, of the same blood
Mean : having close kinship and appropriateness
Ex : "The manager asked questions that were germane and central to the labor problem issue"
Syn : Applicable; Apt; Material; Proper; Related; Relevant
Ant : Impertinent; Inapplicable; Irrelevant; Unsuitable
RW : **Germicide** (an agent that destroys microorganisms that might carry disease); **Germinal** (containing seeds of later development); **Germinate** (cause to grow or sprout)

GERONTOCRACY (n)

- Cue :** **GERONTOCRACY** → **Geronto** – 'old' + **cracy** – 'rule'
Mean : government based on rule by elders
Ex : Gerotocracy is now present only in households where joint families stay.
RW : **Gerontology** (science dealing with aging)

GERRYMANDER (v)

- Cue :** Early 19th century. Blend of Elbridge **Gerry** + Salamander, from the shape of an electoral district he created to favor his own party
Mean : to divide (a geographic area) into voting districts so as to give unfair advantage to one party in elections
Ex : The boundary changes were denounced as blatant gerrymandering by the opposition party.

GESTATE (v)

- Cue :** from Latin **gestare** – 'to carry in womb'
Mean : (1) to carry within the uterus from conception to delivery
 (2) to conceive and develop in the mind as in plans and thoughts
Ex : (1) The Asiatic Elephant has the longest gestation period of 608 days.
 (2) Disaster Management, as a plan had a gestation period of almost 10 years in India.
Syn : Anticipating; Expectant; Fecund; Fertile; Hopeful; Pregnant

GILD (v)

- Cue :** From old English **gylden** – 'gold' – covered with gold
Mean : (1) decorate with, or as if with, gold leaf or liquid gold
 (2) a formal association of people with similar interests (also guild)
Ex : The famous gilded temple of Amritsar attracts a huge number of tourists each day.
Mean : (3) to give an often deceptively attractive or improved appearance to
Syn : Adorn; Aureate; Aurify; Beautify; Garnish; Glamorize
Ant : Disfigure; Mar; Spoil; Whitten
RW : **Gilt-edged** (of the highest quality or value as if gold-edged)

GIRTH (n)

- Cue :** Variant of *girdle* = belt on the horse
- Mean :** (1) the distance around something; the circumference
- Ex :** The tree's girth is more than a meter.
- Mean :** (2) strap encircling an animal's body in order to secure a load or saddle on its back, a cinch
(3) the distance around a person's body
- EX :** If the girth is not secured properly, the rider is in the risk of slipping while riding the horse.
- Syn :** Amplitude; Area; Breadth; Broadness; Diameter; Expanse; Span
- Ant :** Inside; Interior; Leanness; Loosen; Middle; Unfasten

GLEAN (v)

- Cue :** From L.L. **glennare** – 'make a collection'
- Mean :** (1) to gather grain left behind by reapers
- Ex :** The gleaners provide an enriched fodder for the cattle.
- Mean :** (2) to collect bit by bit
- Ex :** The project reports have been prepared on hard core facts gleaned from various anonymous sources.
- Syn :** Accumulate; Amass; Garner; Gather; Reap
- Ant :** Disperse; Dissemble; Forgo; Scatter; Separate
- RW :** **Gleaner** (the person who gleans)

GLIB (adj)

- Cue :** Short form from old German, **gliberrig** – 'slippery'
- Mean :** (1) performed with a natural, offhand ease
(2) showing little thought, preparation, or concern
- Ex :** The politician's glib answers on latest scandals could not convince his party members.
- Syn :** Adept; Adroit; Articulate; Easy; Eloquent

GLUT (v)

- Cue :** From O.Fr. **gloter** – 'to swallow, gulp down'
- Mean :** (1) to eat or indulge in something excessively
- Ex :** The vultures glutted themselves when the predator had its fill on the prey.
- Mean :** (2) an oversupply
- Ex :** Today brand names for various household utilities are in a glut in the market.
- Syn :** Excess; Nimiety; Oversupply; Plenitude; Superabundance; Surplus
- Ant :** Dearth; Deficiency; Insufficiency; Lack; Shortage
- RW :** **Glutton** (one who eats a lot); **Gluttony** (habit of overeating)

GNOME (n)

- Cue :** From L. **gnomus**
- Mean :** (1) legendary creature resembling a tiny old man, lives in the depths of the earth and guards buried treasure
(2) a short pithy saying expressing a general truth
- Ex :** Gnomes are often known to all of us but we do little to follow them.
- Syn :** Adage; Aphorism; Axiom; Catchphrase; Dictum; Dwarf ling; Dwarf; Elf; Epithet; Gnostic saying; Lilliputian; Midget; Proverb
- Ant :** Giant
- RW :** **Gnomist** (a writer of aphorisms); **Gnomology** (a collection of anthology or aphorisms)

GORGE (n)

- Cue :** **gorges** – 'gullet, throat, jaws'
- Mean :** (1) a deep narrow passage with steep rocky sides, a ravine
 (2) a narrow entrance into the outwork of a fortification
 (3) the throat, the gullet
 (4) instance of gluttonous eating
 (5) the contents of the stomach; something swallowed
 (6) a mass obstructing a narrow passage
- Ex :** (i) The gory sight made my gorge rise.
 (ii) A shipping lane got blocked by an ice gorge.
 (iii) The children who came to the party gorged themselves with candy.
- Syn :** Esophagus; Gullet
- RW :** **Gurgle; Ingurgitate**

GORY (adj)

- Cue :** From **gore** – 'blood'
- Mean :** (1) covered or stained with gore; bloody
 (2) full of or characterized by bloodshed and violence
- Ex :** The gory details of the operation left the listeners weak at their knees.
- Syn :** Blood-soaked; Blood-spattered; Bloodstained; Ensanguined; Hematic

GOSSAMER (n)

- Mean :** (1) characterized by unusual lightness and delicacy
 (2) so thin as to transmit light
- Ex :** The dew drops have outlined the fine gossamer of the spider's web.
- Mean :** (3) a gauze fabric with an extremely fine texture
 (4) filaments from a cobweb
- Ex :** The bride wore a veil of fine gossamer.
- Syn :** Delicate; Diaphanous; Fibrous; Fine; Flimsy; Light; Silky
- Ant :** Earthly; Heavy; Indelicate; Opaque; Substantial; Thick

GOURMET (n)

- Cue :** Originally a variant of glutton, later taken to mean a person of refined tastes
- Mean :** (1) a person devoted to refined sensuous enjoyment (especially good food and drink)
- Ex :** He is a gourmet when it comes to wine.
- Mean:** (2) a connoisseur of fine food and drink
- Ex :** The restaurant is known for its gourmet food.
- Syn :** Bon vivant; Epicure; Epicurean; Foodie; Gastronome

GRANDILOQUENT (adj)

- Cue :** **GRANDILOQUENT** → **grandis** – 'great' + **loqu** – 'to speak'
- Mean :** pompous or bombastic speech or expression
- Ex :** Though her speech was full of grandiloquent language yet it contained no new ideas to impress the board members.
- Syn :** Aureate; Big-talking; Bombastic; Declamatory; Overblown; Pompous
- Ant :** Humble; Quiet; Reserved; Restrained; Subtle; Understated

GRATIS (adj)

- Cue** : Contraction of **gratiis** – ‘for thanks’
Mean : without charge
Ex : Disabled children were taken to the amusement park ex gratis.
Syn : Complimentary; Freebie; Gratuitous; Unpaid
Ant : Expensive; Fee; For a; Paid; Solicited
RW : **Grateful; Gratification; Gratitude; Gratuity**

GREGARIOUS (adj)

- Cue** : From L. **gregare** – ‘herd’
Mean : (1) Seeking and enjoying the company of others, sociable
 (2) tending to form a group with others of the same kind
Ex : Man is a gregarious animal.
Syn : Affable; Amicable; Neighborly; Outgoing
Ant : Inhibited; Nongregarious; Quiet; Reserved; Restrained; Silent; Withdrawn

GRIT (n)

- Cue** : From **greot** – ‘sand, dust, earth, gravel’
Mean : (1) minute rough granules, as of sand or stone
 (2) a coarse hard sandstone used for making grindstones and millstones
 (3) indomitable spirit, pluck
 (4) to clamp (the teeth) together
 (5) to make a grinding noise
 (6) to cover with grit
Ex : (i) Roads covered with snowfall and sludge need to be covered with grit to avoid slipping of tyres.
 (ii) It requires real grit to admit wrongdoing in public.
 (iii) He gritted his teeth in silent fury.
Syn : Courage; Determination; Firmness; Fortitude; Gravel; Guts; Lumps; Pebbles
Ant : Chicken heartedness; Cowardice; Faintheartedness; Wimpiness
RW : **Grits** (a coarsely ground corn dish); **Gritty** (grainy, coarse); **Integrity** (complete totality); **Nitty-gritty** (crux of a matter)

GROTESQUE (adj)

- Cue** : from “Grotto”, caves
Mean : (1) characterized by ludicrous or incongruous distortion, as of appearance or manner
 (2) outlandish or bizarre, as in character or appearance
 (3) a work of art executed in this style
Ex : The hall of mirrors showed a grotesque reflection in each mirror.
Syn : Bizarre; Deformed; Distorted; Freakish; Incongruous; Queer; Ridiculous; Surrealistic; Weird
Ant : Commonplace; Familiar; Normal; Ordinary; Plain; Prosaic

GROTTO (n)

- Mean** : (1) a small cave or cavern
 (2) an artificial structure or excavation made to resemble a cave or cavern
Ex : The grotto in Italy is a lovely place to visit.
Syn : Catacomb; Cave; Cavern; Cell; Chamber; Compartment; Sepulcher; Tomb; Undercroft; Vault
RW : **Grot** (a small cave)

GRUEL (n)

- Cue :** From old French, grute = coarse meal, malt
Mean : (1) a thin watery porridge
 (2) severe punishment
Ex : (i) Gruel was not enough to sustain them through the severe winter this year.
 (ii) Gruel has been banned in army training programmes.
RW : **Grueling** (tiring or punishing hard work); **Gruesome** (horribly repugnant)

GUBERNATORIAL (adj)

- Cue :** **GUBERNATORIAL** → **gubernor** – ‘governor’ + **ial**
Mean : of or relating to a governor
Ex : The gubernatorial elections are proposed to be held next month this year.

GUILLOTINE (n)

- Cue :** On the name of its inventor J Guillotine
Mean : (1) a device, invented in France, consisting of a sharp blade in a tall frame which was used in the past for killing criminals by cutting off their heads
 (2) a limit on the amount of discussion allowed about a particular law in Parliament
Ex : (i) King Louis XVI was executed with a guillotine during the French revolution.
 (ii) The bill was finally discussed under guillotine due to its controversial nature.
Syn : Assassinate; Behead; Execute; Slaughter

GUNG-HO (adj)

- Cue :** **gng** – ‘work’ + **he** – ‘together’
Mean : extremely enthusiastic and dedicated
Ex : Mrs. Parsons had organized the village fête with her customary gung-ho zeal.
Syn : Enthusiastic; Self possessed; Sure; Zeal

GUST (n)

- Cue :** Probably originally in Eng. as a nautical term
Mean : (1) a sudden strong wind
 (2) used figuratively for something happening suddenly
Ex : A sudden gust of wind blew my umbrella inside out.
RW : **Gustatory**; **Gusto** (vigorous and enthusiastic enjoyment); **Gusty**

GUTTURAL (adj)

- Cue :** from Latin *guttur*, throat
Mean : (1) of or relating to the throat
 (2) having a harsh grating quality, as certain sounds produced in the back of the mouth
Ex : The two friends were arguing in loud and guttural voices.
Syn : Glottal; Grating; Gruff; Harsh; Hoarse; Husky; Rasping; Thick; Throaty
Ant : Mellow; Mild; Pleasant; Soft; Soothing

GYROSCOPE (n)

- Cue :** **GYROSCOPE** → **gyro** – ‘a spinning device’ + **scope**
Mean : a device containing a wheel which spins freely within a frame, used on aircraft and ships to help keep them horizontal
Ex : Gyroscope exerts very little force on its surface ensuring very little friction.
RW : **Gyration** (spiral motion); **Gyrocompass** (navigational instrument); **Gyrus** (convulsion of the brain)

'H'

HABEAS CORPUS (n)

- Cue :** **HABEAS CORPUS** → *habeas* – 'to have, to hold' + *corpus* – 'person' → 'body'
Mean : to present in person (in a court of law)
Ex : Not finding a clue to the whereabouts of his son, who had earlier been taken away by the police, the father filed a habeas corpus petition.

HABILIMENT (n)

- Cue :** **HABILIMENT** → *habile* – 'to make suitable'
Mean : attire, dress, apparel
Ex : A nun's habiliment is typical.
RW : **Habilitate; Habit; Habitant; Habitat** (dwelling place); **Habitation; Habituate; Rehabilitation**

HACKNEYED (adj)

- Mean :** worn out by overuse
Ex : The film flopped as its plot was hackneyed.
Syn : Commonplace; Time worn; Trite
Ant : Fresh; Original
RW : **Hack** (cut); **Hacker** (one who gains unauthorized access to compute records); **Hacksaw**

HAEMATOLOGY (n)

- Cue :** **HAEMATOLOGY** → *haema* – 'blood' + *logy* – 'study'
Mean : study of blood
Ex : Haematology has come to the centre stage due to the spread of AIDS.
RW : **Anaemia; Haemoglobin; Haemophilia** (tendency to profuse/prolonged bleeding); **Haemorrhage** (discharge from blood vessels)

HALCYON (adj)

- Cue :** **HALCYON** → *hal* – 'sea' + *alkyon* – 'kingfisher' → A legendary bird, identified with the kingfisher, supposed to have a peaceful, calming influence on the sea.
Mean : usually used in the phrase **halcyon days** → a period in the past which was completely happy and free of trouble
Ex : I remember my school life as those wonderful halcyon days when there were hardly any worries in my life.
Syn : Calm; Restful; Serene; Tranquil
Ant : Agitated; Flustered; Miserable; Restive; Turbulent

HALITOSIS (n)

- Cue :** **HALITOSIS** → *halitus* – 'breath' + *osis* – 'suffix forming nouns' – state, condition, action
Mean : having bad breath
Ex : You have to keep your distance while talking to him as he suffers from halitosis.

HALLOW (v)

- Cue :** **HALLOW** → *halli* – 'holy'
Mean : to make holy or sacred
Ex : The hallowed appearance of the saint among them rejuvenated the gathering.
Syn : Beatify; Consecrate; Sanctify
Ant : Defile; Desecrate; Profane
RW : **Halo** (a circle of light surrounding a shining body; an aura of glory around an idealized being)

HALLUCINATION (n)

- Mean* : an illusive perception of seeing or hearing things, indicating disorder of the nervous system
Ex : Drugs generate hallucinations.
Syn : Apparition; Delirium; Delusion; Illusion; Phantasm
RW : **Hallucinogenic** (drugs that induce hallucinations)

HAMADRYAD (n)

- Cue* : **H A M A D R Y A D** → **hama** – ‘together with’ + **dryad** – ‘tree’
Mean : a classical myth about a nymph who inhabits a tree and dies with it
Ex : My grandma used to tell weird stories like fairies and hamadryads.
RW : **Hamlet** (a cluster of houses esp. in country); **Hammy** (slang - tending to overact); **Druidism** (worship of trees)

HAPLESS (adj)

- Cue* : **H A P L E S S** → **hap** – ‘suitable/luck’ + **less**
Mean : luckless, unfortunate
Ex : The car ran over the hapless beggar lying beside the road.
Ant : Fortunate; Lucky

HARANGUE (v)

- Cue* : **H A R A N G U E** → related to ‘**harass**’ → a scolding speech that would harass you
Mean : a long, blustering, noisy or scolding speech; tirade
Ex : The father harangued the teenager for being late at night.
RW : **Harrow** (a spiked farm instrument used to pulverize and level earth); **Harrowing** (tormenting, nerve-racking); **Harry** (to torment or worry; harass)

HARBINGER (n)

- Cue* : **H A R B I N G E R** → **heri** – ‘army’ + **berga** – ‘shelter’
 {Originally a person sent ahead (of a fighting force) to arrange for lodgings}
Mean : a sign of something to come, heralding the events to come
Ex : Newton is widely perceived to be the harbinger of modern science.
Syn : Forerunner; Herald; Portent; Precursor
Ant : Follower
RW : **Harbor** (shelter)

HAUGHTY (adj)

- Cue* : **H A U G H T Y** → **haute** – ‘high in one’s own estimation’
Mean : proud, arrogant
Ex : A haughty attitude creates enemies.
Syn : Contemptuous; Disdainful; Imperious; Pompous; Snobbish; Supercilious
Ant : Servile
RW : **Hauteur** (haughty manner, arrogance)

HAUNT (n/v)

- Cue* : **H A U N T** → ‘habitat’; your favourite hang out, where you visit frequently
Mean : to frequent, to recur, to linger in the mind, to be visited by ghosts
Ex : (i) This restaurant is my favourite haunt.
 (ii) Memories of the hospital haunt me.
 (iii) This house is haunted.

HAVEN (n)

- Cue :** **H A V E N** → related to 'have' – a place of safety
Mean : (1) a port; harbor
 (2) any sheltered, safe place; refuge
Ex : (i) Mauritius is a tax haven; Goa is a tourist haven.
 (ii) The Don's house provided a safe haven to the fugitive.
Syn : Anchorage; Asylum; Retreat
RW : **Haversack** (a bag slung on one's shoulder); **Havoc** (great devastation/carnage)

HEADSTRONG (adj)

- Mean :** stubborn, self-willed, unyielding
Ex : The headstrong girl who was in love, refused to marry the man of her parent's choice.
Ant : Capitulative; Relenting; Succumbing
RW : **Heading; Headlines; Headlong** (hasty/rash – involving yourself headlong in the affairs of others); **Headway** (progress); **Heady** (intoxicating)

HEDONISM (v)

- Cue :** **H E D O N I S M** → **hedon** – 'pleasure'
Mean : the belief that pleasure is the most important thing in life; a lifestyle devoted to enjoyment
Ex : Our politicians believe more in hedonism than in public good.

HEGEMONY (n)

- Cue :** **H E G E M O N Y** → **hegemon** – 'leader'
Mean : leadership or dominance, esp. that of one state or nation over others
Ex : American hegemony has resulted into a unipolar world.
Syn : Authority; Imperialism; Sway

HELIOS (n)

- Cue :** **H E L I O S** → **heli** – 'sun/spiral'
Mean : (Greek) mythical sun-god who drove his chariot daily across the sky
Ex : Do the Greeks still worship Helios?
RW : **Heliocentric** (having the sun at the centre); **Heliotrope** (flower that faces the sun); **Helm** (steering wheel); **Helmsman** (the person at the helm; one who steers a ship or boat)

HERESY (n)

- Cue :** (Greek) **heiresis** – 'opinion'
Mean : an opinion contrary to accepted beliefs, non-conforming
Ex : Joan of Arc was burnt at the stake for heresy.
Syn : Apostasy; Dissent; Schism
RW : **Heresiarch** (the founder or head of a heresy or heretical sect); **Heretic** (opposed to established opinion)

HETERODOX (adj)

- Cue :** **H E T E R O D O X** → **hetero** – 'different' + **dox** – 'belief'
Mean : departing from or opposed to the usual beliefs or established doctrines, esp. in religion; inclining toward heresy; unorthodox
Ex : A myth-breaking opinion has always been considered heterodox.
Syn : Deviant; Eccentric; Idiosyncratic; Maverick; Unconventional
Ant : Analogous; Cognate; Generic
RW : **Heterogeneous; Heteronym** (one or more words with identical spellings but different meaning); **Orthodox; Paradox**

HIBERNATION (n)

- Cue :** **H I B E R N A T I O N** → **hibernal** – ‘of or pertaining to winter; wintry’
Mean : to pass the winter in a state of sleep/torpid state
Ex : Lizards go into hibernation in winter.
Ant : Aestivation (also, estivation)
 (i) a dormant period of escape from heat and drought
 (ii) arrangement of petals in a flower bud before it opens

HIDEBOUND (adj)

- Cue :** **H I D E B O U N D** → **hide** – ‘skin’ + **bound** – tight
Mean : having fixed ideas; narrow minded
Ex : A hidebound attitude in life does not pay; one must change according to the times.
Syn : Conservative; Obstinate; Stubborn; Unchangeable
Ant : Open-minded
RW : **Hideous** (offensive/ugly)

HIEROCRACY (n)

- Cue :** **H I E R O C R A C Y** → **hier** – ‘sacred’ + **cracy** – ‘governance’
Mean : government by priests
Ex : Vatican is a hierocracy.
RW : **Hieroglyphic** (a symbol or character representing the word)

HILARIOUS (adj)

- Cue :** **H I L A R I O U S** → **hilaris** – ‘cheerful’
Mean : very funny, jolly, mirthful
Ex : The film is a hilarious comedy.
Ant : Glum; Morose; Sullen
RW : **Exhilarated; Hilarity**

HINDSIGHT (n)

- Cue :** **H I N D S I G H T** → **hind** – ‘back’ + **sight**
Mean : ability to see, after the event, what should have been done
Ex : With hindsight, we see the mistakes we have made.
Ant : Anticipation; Foresight; Premonition
RW : **Hindmost; Hindrance; Hinterland** (wilderness, back-country)

HIRCINE (adj)

- Cue :** **H I R C I N E** → **hircus** – ‘goat’ + **ine** – ‘like’
Mean : of or like a goat; esp., smelling like a goat
Ex : Why do you all accept everything passively like a hircine flock?
RW : **Bovine** (of an ox or cow); **Canine** (of or like a dog); **Feline** (of a cat or the cat family); **Feminine**; **Hirsute** (rough with hair or bristles, hairy)

HISTRIONIC (adj/n)

- Cue :** **H I S T R I O N I C** → **histrion** – ‘actor’ i.e. pertaining to an actor
Mean : (1) to do with acting or the theatre
Ex : The histrionic talents of this schoolboy have surpassed those of a professional actor.
Mean : (2) behaving or done in a too theatrical way, esp. in showing feelings that are insincere or pretended i.e. exaggerated emotional displays, indulged in purely for effect
Ex : In a display of histrionics, she sobbed at her ex – husband’s funeral.
Syn : Melodramatic; Thespian
Ant : Unaffected

RW : It is different from ***hysterical*** (emotionally uncontrolled and wild). Take care not to debase *hysterical* by using it simply as a synonym for 'overexcited'

HOARY (adj)

Mean : (1) very old and familiar and therefore, not interesting or amusing
(2) (of a person) very old and white or grey-haired
Ex : Nobody laughed at his hoary old jokes.
Syn : Antique; Decrepit; Doddering; Grizzled
Ant : Callow; Fledgling; Juvenile; Nubile

HOLISTIC (adj)

Cue : **H O L I S T I C** → Relate with 'hol/whole'
Mean : considering things as a whole/in totality
Ex : Treatment of diseases like cancer needs holistic approach.
RW : ***Holocaust*** (hol + caust → a thorough destruction; manslaughter); ***Holster*** (pistol case, usually of leather and attached to a belt, saddle or shoulder strap)

HOMEOSTATIS (n)

Cue : **H O M E O S T A T I S** → ***Homos*** – 'same' + ***statis*** – 'state'
Mean : tendency of a system to maintain relative stability
Ex : There is a close relationship between the body's immune system and homeostasis.
RW : ***Homonym*** (words identical in pronunciation, but different in meaning); ***Homespun*** (home made); ***Homestead*** (home and adjoining land)

HOMILY (n)

Cue : **H O M I L Y** → ***homilia*** – 'sermon'
Mean : a tedious moralizing lecture or discourse, usu. on how one should behave
Ex : The principal's constant homilies about the need to maintain discipline in the school did not have any effect on the group.
Syn : Preachment; Sermon
RW : ***Homiletics***

HONE (v)

Cue : **H O N E** → ***hon*** – 'stone'
Mean : sharpen, as on a stone; make something suitable for its purpose
Ex : Talent has to be honed with diligence and hard work to achieve success.
Ant : Blunt

HOODLUM (n)

Cue : **H O O D L U M** → relate with ***lumpen*** – 'contemptible rowdy'
Mean : a rowdy, street bully, petty criminal; thug or gangster
Ex : The police rounded up the hoodlums.
Syn : Brawler; Hooligan; Ruffian
RW : ***Hoodoo*** (voodoo – bad omen); ***Hoodwink*** (deceive); ***Hooey*** (nonsense)

HOOPLA (n)

Cue : **H O O P L A** → ***hoop*** – 'a circular band, ring or arch'
Mean : (1) referring to funfair game in which rings are thrown over prizes
(2) showy publicity, great excitement designed to bewilder
Ex : The film-maker created a lot of hoopla; but the movie flopped at the box-office.
Syn : Ballyhoo

HORS D'OEUVRE (ôr' dürv')

Mean : From French, food served as an appetizer at the start of a meal

Ex : I was so stuffed with the hors d'oeuvres served at the party that I had to skip the main course.

HORLOGE (n)

Cue : **H O R L O G E** → *horo* – 'time/hour' + *loge* – 'logic'

Mean : a time-piece, clock

RW : **Horology** (science of measuring time); **Horoscope** (relative position of zodiac signs at a particular time)

HORRENDOUS (adj)

Cue : **H O R R E N D O U S** → relate with 'horror'

Mean : horrible, dreadful, frightening

Ex : The horrendous triple murder shocked everybody.

Syn : Atrocious; Heinous; Outrageous

RW : **Horrible; Horrid** (hideous/repulsive)

HORTATORY (adj)

Cue : **H O R T A T O R Y** → *hortare* – 'cheer/energy'

Mean : serving to encourage or urge to good deeds; exhorting, giving advice

Ex : The speeches of mass leaders are invariably hortatory.

HOSPICE (n)

Cue : Related to 'hospitality'

Mean : lodging for travelers, spec. a nursing home for the terminally ill

Ex : Too ill to stay at home, the AIDS patient spent his last days at the hospice.

RW : **Hospitable; Hospital; Host; Hostage; Hostel; Hostile**

HUE (n)

Cue : **H U E** → *hue* – 'form, appearance'

Mean : (1) orig., general appearance; aspect
(2) variety of colour

Ex : (i) He is a man of somber hue.

(ii) The diamond in her ring reflected all the hues of the rainbow.

RW : **Hue and cry** (loud cry of disapproval → *Ex.* they raised a hue and cry when they discovered the thief in their home); **Hueless**

HUMBUG (n)

Cue : **H U M B U G** → *humus* – 'earth/soil' + *bug*, which implies nonsense

Mean : (1) talk or behaviour intended to deceive, nonsense

(2) a person who is not what he claims to be; impostor

Ex : Don't believe his stories; they are all humbug.

RW : **Humdinger** (an excellent or exceptional person or thing); **Humdrum** (dull, monotonous);

Hummock (a small hill or hump; a ridge of ice in an ice field); **Humiliate**

HUNCH (n)

Cue : **H U N C H** → Relate *hun* with 'hint'

Mean : (1) a strong intuitive feeling

(2) a bent or crooked posture

Ex : (i) I have a hunch that we shall win the match.

(ii) The old age has caused a hunch in his posture.

RW : **Hump; Hunch-back**

HUSBANDRY (n)

- Mean* : (1) to manage or use thriftily in order to save your resources
(2) farming
- Ex* : (i) He saved a lot for his old age by way of husbandry.
(ii) Animal husbandry is a side-business for farmers.
- RW* : **Husband** (v – conserve/save)

HYBRID (n)

- Cue* : **HYBRID** → relate with 'breed'
- Mean* : a mixture of two different things, usu. of a better quality than the individual things
- Ex* : The hybrid variety of wheat heralded the Green Revolution.
- Ant* : Pure-bred

HYPERVENTILATE (v)

- Cue* : **HYPERVENTILATE** → **hyper** – 'excessive' + **vent** – 'to move'
- Mean* : to breathe abnormally fast
- Ex* : Asthma often causes hyperventilation in patients.
- RW* : **Hyperacidity**, **Hyperbole** {(short – *hype*) exaggeration for effect and not meant to be taken literally → *Ex.* He's as strong as an ox}; **Hyperglycemia** (high concentration of sugar in blood); **Hyperopic** (far-sighted); **Hyperplasia** (excessive talking)

HYPOCHONDRIA

- Cue* : **HYPOCHONDRIA** → **hypo** – 'beneath/less than' + **chondros** – 'cartilage' i.e. illness without a specific cause
- Mean* : an unreasonable anxiety about health; imaginary illnesses
- Ex* : She suffers from hypochondria and thinks that each sneeze is the onset of a fatal disease.
- Syn* : Despondency; Depression; Melancholia
- RW* : **Hypocorism** (a pet name); **Hypocrisy** (projecting a false image); **Hypothetical** (based on assumption); **Hypomania** (a mild form of mania); **Hypothermia** (abnormally low body temperature)

HYPHENATED WORDS

1. **HARUM – SCARUM** → reckless / irresponsible
2. **HELTER – SKELTER** → confused
3. **HOB – NOB** → to associate familiarity
4. **HOCUS – POCUS** → a magician's trick or trickery
5. **HODGE – PODGE** → heterogeneous mixture
6. **HOI – POLLOI** → the masses
7. **HOO–DOO** → something that brings bad luck
8. **HULLA – BULLA** → a confused noise
9. **HUNKY – DORY** → quite satisfactory
10. **HURLY – BURLY** → uproar / tumult
11. **HUBBLE – BUBBLE** → confusion
12. **HURRY – SCURRY** → confusion and bustle
13. **HUSTLE – BUSTLE** → energetic activity / jostling and shoving

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ICONOCLAST (n)

- Cue :** **ICONOCLAST** → **icon** – 'image'
Mean : a person opposing conventional beliefs
Ex : Human civilization owes a lot to iconoclasts and original thinkers.
Syn : Maverick; Nonconformist
Ant : Conservative; Orthodox; Traditional

IDIOSYNCRASY (n)

- Cue :** **IDIOSYNCRASY** → **idio** – 'one's own, peculiar' + **syn** – 'together' + **crasy** – 'eccentricity' i.e. temperament, mixture of personal characteristics
Mean : peculiarity of temperament or mental constitution, oddity
Ex : The idiosyncrasies of the aged are very difficult to put up with.
Syn : Abnormality; Eccentricity; Quirk
Ant : Generality; Normality; Reasonability
RW : **Idiocy** (extreme mental deficiency); **Idiom** (a style of speaking); **Idiot**

IDYLLIC (adj)

- Cue :** Relate **idyllic** to 'ideal environment'
Mean : relating to a pleasant (almost ideal) phase of one's life, usu. in a peaceful, non-urban environment
Ex : The hill station will be an idyllic setting for me, providing a big relief from the stressful environment I am working in.
RW : **Idyll** (a short poem or prose work describing a simple, peaceful scene of rural or pastoral life)

IGNEOUS (n)

- Cue :** **IGNEOUS** → **ignis** – 'agni' (fire) + **ous** – 'having property of'
Mean : produced by fire, volcano
Ex : Igneous rocks have been made out of volcanic lava.
RW : **Ignite; Ignition**

IGNOMINIOUS (n)

- Cue :** **IGNOMINIOUS** → **ig** – 'not' + **nom** – 'name' i.e. loss of a (good) name
Mean : shameful, dishonorable, disgraceful
Ex : Indian Cricket team suffered an ignominious defeat at the hands of cricketer minnows, Bangladesh.
Syn : Base; Contemptible; Degrading; Despicable; Humiliating; Vile
Ant : Distinguished; Honorable; Reputable
RW : **Ignoble** (dishonorable, something to be ashamed of); **Ignominy** (a state of shame or dishonor; also, an act of shameful behavior); **Ignoramus** (ignorant person)

ILLICIT (adj)

- Cue :** **ILLICIT** → **il** – 'prefix in' (not) before **L** + **licit** – 'law'
Mean : unlawful, unauthorized, forbidden
Ex : Illicit liquor is the creation of prohibition.
Syn : Felonious; Illegal; Prohibited
Ant : Lawful; Legal

ILLUSTRIOUS (adj)

Cue : **ILLUSTRIOUS** → *lustr* → 'luster' (to light up, bright)
Mean : distinguished, renowned, eminent
Ex : An illustrious personality like Gandhiji is a beacon of light for generations to come.
RW : ***Illuminate; Illustrate; Lackluster; Luminary***

IMBUE (v)

Mean : (1) to fill with color; dye; tinge
 (2) to permeate or inspire (*with* principles, ideas, emotions, etc.) i.e. you imbue something or someone with a quality
Ex : The experience imbued him with a confidence that was invaluable.
Syn : Indoctrinate; Infuse; Ingrain
RW : ***Imbrue*** (stain, soak, saturate esp. with blood)

IMMACULATE (adj)

Cue : **IMMACULATE** → *im* – 'not' + *maculate* – 'spot'
Mean : spotless, free from error, pure, clean
Ex : He is always immaculately dressed.
Syn : Exquisite; Flawless; Stainless; Undeiled; Unsullied; Untainted
Ant : Sloppy; Sullied; Unkempt; Untidy

IMMURE (v)

Cue : **IMMURE** → *im* – 'in' + *muris* – 'wall' i.e. to enclose within four walls
Mean : to imprison, confine within four walls
Ex : Great thinkers immure themselves to gain privacy and concentration.
Syn : Incarcerate
Ant : Liberate
RW : ***Mural*** (*n* - a picture, esp. a large one, painted directly on a wall or ceiling)

IMMUTABLE (adj)

Cue : **IMMUTABLE** → *im* – 'not' + *mut* – 'change'
Mean : unchangeable, determinate, constant
Ex : Nothing is immutable in life.
Ant : Capricious; Changeable; Mutable; Protean
RW : ***Commute*** (interchange); ***Mutation; Permutation***

IMPALE (v)

Cue : **IMPALE** → *im* – 'in' + *pale* – 'pole' i.e. to pierce or fix with a pointed object
Mean : to torture or kill by fixing on a sharp stake (pole), pierce
Ex : He was impaled by the spear hurled at him.
RW : ***Palisade*** (a pointed fence, barricade, stockade)

IMPALPABLE (adj)

Cue : **IMPALPABLE** → *im* – 'not' + *palp* – 'touch / feel'
Mean : which cannot be felt, touched or understood
Ex : The dust particles in the air are almost invisible and impalpable.
Ant : Manifest; Tactile; Tangible
RW : ***Palpable; Palpitation***

IMPECUNIOUS (adj)

Cue : **IMPECUNIOUS** → *im* – ‘not’ + *pecunia* – ‘money, property’ → without money
Mean : having little or no money, poor
Ex : The rich can afford to be charitable as they are not impecunious.
Syn : Broke; Impoverished; Indigent; Insolvent; Penniless
Ant : Affluent; Flushed; Opulent; Prosperous
RW : **Pecuniary** (of or involving money; involving a money penalty or fine); **Peculate** {to steal or misuse money or property entrusted to one’s care, esp. public funds}

IMPEL (v)

Cue : **IMPEL** → *im* – ‘into’ + *pel* – ‘to push into motion’
Mean : urge or drive by force
Ex : He was impelled by events to take a stand.
Syn : Actuate; Coerce; Force; Goad; Induce; Instigate
Ant : Dissuade; Repress; Suppress
RW : **Compel; Impeller; Propel**

IMPERIOUS (adj)

Cue : **IMPERIOUS** → relate *imper* with ‘imperial’ but in a negative tone
Mean : arrogant or overbearing; domineering or dictatorial
Ex : Imperious government officials close their eyes to the plight of the public.
Syn : Commanding; Haughty
Ant : Obsequious
RW : **Imperial; Imperative**

IMPERTINENT (adj)

Cue : **IMPERTINENT** → *im* – ‘not’ + *pertinent* – ‘pertain’ i.e. unconnected, unrelated
Mean : (1) not pertinent; having no connection with a given matter; irrelevant
 (2) not showing proper respect or manners; not respectful
Ex : The pupil was punished for his impertinent questions to the teacher.
Syn : Impudent; Insolent; Saucy
Ant : Polite; Refined; Respectful

IMPERVIOUS (adj)

Cue : **IMPERVIOUS** → *im* – ‘not’ + *pervious* – ‘letting things through’ → incapable of passing through
Mean : (1) incapable of being penetrated e.g. by moisture
 (2) not affected by: with *to*
Ex : His addictions have made him impervious to sound advice.
Syn : Impenetrable; Impermeable; Resistant
Ant : Penetrable; Permeable; Porous

IMPETUOUS (adj)

Cue : **IMPETUOUS** → *im* – ‘in’ + *pet* – ‘to seek, to rush at, fall’
Mean : marked with impulsive vehemence; quick to act without thinking
Ex : A share broker can’t afford to be impetuous.
Syn : Hasty; Heedless; Headlong; Impulsive; Precipitate; Rash; Vehement
Ant : Calm; Cautious; Circumspect; Considered; Reflective; Thoughtful; Wise
RW : **Centripetal** (moving or tending to move toward a center); **Compete; Impetus** (a moving force or motivation); **Petition; Petulant** (unreasonably irritable or ill-tempered; peevish)

IMPLACABLE (adj)

Cue : **IMPLACABLE** → *im* – ‘not’ + *plac* – ‘please’ i.e. hard to please
Mean : not able to be appeased, reconciled or changed
Ex : He is implacable; you just can’t do anything to gratify him.
Syn : Intransigent; Stubborn
RW : **Complacent, Complaisant** (inclined to please); **Placate**

IMPLICATE (v)

Cue : **IMPLICATE** → *im* – ‘in’ + *plic* – ‘involve, entangle’
Mean : to show to be involved, usu. in an unlawful act
Ex : The top brass of the bank have been implicated in the scam.
Syn : Embrangle; Embroil; Incriminate; Inculcate
Ant : Defend; Pardon; Support
RW : **Duplicity; Explicate** (to make clear or explicit - something obscure or implied); **Explicit; Implication; Implicit; Replica**

IMPLORE (v)

Cue : **IMPLORE** → *im* – ‘upon’ + *plore* – ‘to cry out / weep’ i.e. invoke with weeping
Mean : to seek earnestly, appeal, beg
Ex : The accused implored the judge to have mercy.
Syn : Beseech; Entreat; Supplicate
Ant : Answer
RW : **Deplore; Explore**

IMPORTUNE (v)

Cue : **IMPORTUNE** → *im* – ‘not’ + *port* – ‘harbour’ i.e. having no harbour
Mean : to make repeated and forceful requests for something, usu. in an annoying and inconvenient way
Ex : The moment you step into the market, you are importuned for money by beggars.
Syn : Badger; Beleaguer; Implore; Pester; Plead
RW : **Deport; Export; Import** {Im (into) + port (carry) i.e. bring in goods from abroad}; **Importance** (the sense of – *be significant in* – is on the same lines as of *import*); **Purport; Report** (to profess or claim as its meaning); **Opportune** (right for the purpose)

IMPOTENT (adj)

Cue : **IMPOTENT** → *im* – ‘not’ + *potent* – ‘power’ i.e. having no power to accomplish anything
Mean : weak, powerless, lacking physical strength
Ex : He found himself impotent to resist the urge for drugs.
Syn : Ineffective; Impuissant; Infirm
Ant : Powerful; Virile
RW : **Omnipotent; Potent; Potential**

IMPROMPTU (adj)

Cue : **IMPROMPTU** → *im* – ‘in’ + *prompt* – ‘readiness’ i.e. in readiness
Mean : not planned ahead of time; offhand; on the spur of the moment
Ex : He had to put up an impromptu show when his name was suddenly announced.
Syn : Extempore; Spontaneous; Unrehearsed
Ant : Planned; Rehearsed
RW : **Improvise** (to invent, compose or recite without any preparation)

IMPUDENT (adj)

- Cue :** **IMPUDENT** → *im* – ‘not’ + *pudence* – ‘modesty / shame’
Mean : shamelessly brazen, arrogant, rude
Ex : The impudent ways of the neo-rich often bring them into disrepute.
Syn : Impertinent; Insolent
Ant : Civil; Respectful
RW : **‘Imprudent’** (lacking caution, thoughtless)

IMPUGN (im-pewn) (v)

- Cue :** **IMPUGN** → *im* – ‘upon’ + *pugn* – ‘to fight’ i.e. to assault, to attack
Mean : to attack by argument or criticism; oppose or challenge as false or questionable
Ex : The defense lawyer impugned the witness’s testimony, which set back the prosecution’s case.
Syn : Challenge; Contradict; Dispute; Gainsay; Inveigh
Ant : Endorse; Praise; Support
RW : **Pugnacious** (quarrelsome); **Repugnant** (offering resistance, opposed)

IMPUNITY (n)

- Cue :** **IMPUNITY** → *im* – ‘not’ + *pun* – ‘punishment’ i.e. unpunished
Mean : freedom from punishment; freedom from danger and regret
Ex : We flout the traffic rules with impunity.
Syn : Dispensation; Exemption
Ant : Incarceration; Imprisonment; Liability
RW : **Punishment; Punitive**

INANIMATE (adj)

- Cue :** **INANIMATE** → *in* – ‘not’ + *anim* – ‘life / mind / spirit’
Mean : lifeless, spiritless, dead matter
Ex : The inanimate objects too have an aura of their own.
Syn : Dormant; Inactive; Still
Ant : Active; Lively; Vigorous
RW : **Animal; Animated; Animosity; Magnanimous; Unanimous**

INCARNATION (n)

- Cue :** **INCARNATION** → *in* + *carn* – ‘flesh’ i.e. physical form: appearance in human form
Ex : Hinduism and Buddhism believe in reincarnation and rebirth.
Syn : Embodiment; Personification
RW : **Carnage; Carnal; Carnivorous**

INCENDIARY (n)

- Cue :** **INCENDIARY** → *in* + *cead/cin* – ‘fire’
Mean : capable of causing fire; hence, tending to cause trouble or rouse passions
Ex : The communal strife appears to be the handiwork of an incendiary.
Syn : Agitator; Arsonist; Ignitable; Incense; Inflammatory; Provocative; Seditious
Ant : Benevolent
RW : **Incinerate** (burn to ashes); **Incense** (something that burns to give off scent)

INCESSANT (adj)

- Cue :** **I N C E S S A N T** → *in* – ‘not’ + *cess* – ‘to stop’
Mean : never ceasing, continual
Ex : There has been an incessant demand by some politicians for a uniform civil code.
Syn : Perpetual; Repeated; Unceasing; Uninterrupted
Ant : Interrupted; Irregular; Occasional; Sporadic
RW : ***Ceaseless; Cessation; Predecessor***

INCIPIENT (adj)

- Cue :** **I N C I P I E N T** → *cip/cept* – ‘begin, to take’
Mean : just beginning to appear; in an initial stage
Ex : The incipient democracy in Pakistan was soon overwhelmed by an overbearing military junta.
Syn : Budding; Embryonic; Inchoate; Nascent
Ant : Concluding; Eventual; Ultimate
RW : ***Inception; Perception; Susceptible***

INCISIVE (adj)

- Cue :** **I N C I S I V E** → *in* + *cis* – ‘to cut’
Mean : cutting into; going directly to the main point of the matter; clear, penetrating
Ex : An incisive analysis of performance needs feedback also.
Syn : Acute; Trenchant
Ant : Sauve
RW : ***Concise; Exorcise*** {to expel (an evil spirit) by or as if by incantation, command, or prayer); ***Incision; Incisor*** (a sharp-edged cutting tooth at the front of the mouth); ***Scissors; Precise***

INCITE (v)

- Cue :** **I N C I T E** → *in* + *cite* – ‘arouse / urge’
Mean : to urge to action, stir up, egg on
Ex : Slick ads incite materialism.
Syn : Exhort; Foment; Goad; Impel; Instigate; Prod; Provoke
Ant : Check; Dampen; Daunt; Deter; Discourage; Dissuade; Restrain
RW : ***Citation; Excite; Recite***

INCLEMENT (adj)

- Cue :** **I N C L E M E N T** → *in* – ‘not’ + *clement* – ‘mild, placid’
Mean : (1) (of weather or climate) physically severe, not favorable
 (2) used of persons or behavior; showing no clemency or mercy
Ex : The inclement weather put paid to all his plans.
Syn : Harsh; Rigorous; Ruthless
Ant : Clear; Clement; Mild; Sunny
RW : ***Clemency*** (leniency or mercy, as toward an offender or enemy; mildness, as of weather)

INCOGNITO (adj)

- Cue :** **I N C O G N I T O** → *in* – ‘not’ + *gno/cogn* – ‘to know’
Mean : true identity unrevealed or disguised
Ex : The minister took a round of the office premises incognito.
Syn : Anonymous; Camouflaged; Disguised; Pseudonym
RW : ***Agnostic; Diagnosis; Incognizable; Ignoramus*** (uninformed/unknowledgeable person); ***Ignore; Prognosis*** (a forecast); ***Recognize***

INCOMMUNICADO (adj/adv)

- Cue :** **INCOMMUNICADO** → *in* – ‘not’ + *comm/commun* – ‘together’
Mean : in solitary confinement, cut-off from communication
Ex : The prisoners were held incommunicado in solitary confinement.
Syn : Isolate; Sequestered
RW : **Accommodate; Communicate; Community; Incommodious** (not spacious)

INCONDITE (adj)

- Cue :** **INCONDITE** → *in* – ‘not’ + *con* – ‘with, together’
Mean : not well put together
Ex : His presentation was incondite.
Syn : Crude; Inharmonious; Unrefined
RW : **Incongruous; Recondite** (beyond the grasp of the ordinary mind or understanding)

INCONTROVERTIBLE (adj)

- Cue :** **INCONTROVERTIBLE** → *in* – ‘not’ + *contro* – ‘against’ + *vert* – ‘turn’ → which cannot be turned against
Mean : indisputable, unquestionable, undeniable
Ex : The incontrovertible evidence nailed his guilt.
Ant : Debatable; Questionable
RW : **Controversial**

INCORPOREAL (adj)

- Cue :** **INCORPOREAL** → *in* – ‘not’ + *corp* – ‘body’
Mean : having no material body or form
Ex : The sages of ancient India are said to have had incorporeal powers.
Syn : Angelic; Celestial; Deistic; Ethereal; Intangible; Spiritual
RW : **Corporation; Corpse; Incorporated**

INCUBATE (v)

- Cue :** **INCUBATE** → *in* – ‘on’ + *cub/cumb* – *cubare* – ‘to lie down’
Mean : (1) keep eggs warm till they are hatched (2) plan an idea over a period of time
Ex : The plans for opening an old age home has been incubating in his mind for several months but now he has finally decided to go ahead.
RW : **Cubicle; Incubator; Incubus** (lie as burden, nightmare; oppressive burden)

INCULPATE (v)

- Cue :** **INCULPATE** → *in* + *culp* – ‘blame’
Mean : put to blame
Ex : The witness was inculpated for perjury.
Syn : Implicate; Incriminate; Indict
Ant : Acquit; Discharge; Emancipate
RW : **Culpable; Culprit; Exculpate** (to free from blame; declare or prove guiltless)

INCUMBENT (adj/n)

- Cue :** **INCUMBENT** → *in* – ‘on’ + *cumb* – ‘to lie down / recline’
Mean : (1) lying, resting or pressing with its weight on something else
 (2) currently in office
Ex : The onus lies on the incumbent to disprove the charge.
Syn : Binding; Obligatory; Occupant
RW : **Cumbersome** (burdensome); **Recumbent** (reclining); **Succumb**

INCUR (v)

- Cue :** **IN C U R** → *in* – ‘into/upon’ + *cur* – ‘to run’ i.e. run into or against
Mean : to suffer or become liable for; to bring upon yourself
Ex : The drunkard had to incur the wrath of his wife.
RW : **Current; Cursive; Cursory; Excursion; Incursion** (a raid / hostile invasion); **Recur**

INDENTURE (n)

- Cue :** **IN D E N T U R E** → *in* + *dent* – ‘tooth’
Mean : a binding contract, a deed under seal, esp. of an apprentice or a servant
Ex : The new recruit had to sign an indenture to serve his employers for at least two years after completion of his apprenticeship.
RW : **Denture** (set of false teeth); **Indentation** (deep recess)

INDICT (v)

- Cue :** **IN D I C T** → *in* – ‘in’ + *dict/dit* – ‘to say’
Mean : to accuse of, or to charge with, a crime
Ex : The minister was indicted by the Supreme Court for severe dereliction of duty.
Syn : Arraign; Incriminate; Inculpate
Ant : Acquit; Discharge
RW : **Contradict; Dictate; Dictionary; Interdict** (for bid); **Predict; Verdict**

INDIGNATION (n)

- Cue :** **IN D I G N A T I O N** → *in* – ‘not’ + *dign* – ‘worth’ i.e. regard as unworthy, be angry or displeased at
Mean : anger at something considered to be unjust or wrong
Ex : Fear the indignation of the righteous.
Syn : Irateness; Pique; Resentment
RW : **Dignified; Dignitaries; Dignity; Indignant**

INDITE (v)

- Cue :** **IN D I T E** → *in* – ‘in’ + *dit/dict* – ‘to say’
Mean : to put into words, compose, set down in writing – say a speech or a poem
Ex : He indited many letters to her in order to revive the relationship.
Syn : Compose; Pen; Write
Ant : Blot out; Efface; Erase; Obliterate
RW : **Dictate; Erudite**

INDOLENT (adj)

- Cue :** **IN D O L E N T** → *in* – ‘not’ + *dol* – ‘grieving, suffer pain’ → freedom from pain, insensibility
Mean : habitually lazy, disinclination to exert
Ex : In summers, we tend to become indolent.
Syn : Lethargic; Otiose; Slothful; Sluggish
Ant : Active. Indefatigable
RW : **Condolence; Doldrums** (low spirits; sluggishness); **Dolorous** (full of sorrow, grief)

INDUBITABLE (adj)

- Cue :** **IN D U B I T A B L E** → *in* – ‘not’ + *dub* – ‘doubt’
Mean : certain; doubtless; unquestionable
Ex : The limitations of allopathic medication are indubitable.
Syn : Incontrovertible; Indisputable; Irrefutable
RW : **Dubiety; Dubious**

INDUCTIVE (adj)

- Cue :** **INDUCTIVE** → **duct** – ‘to lead’ → leading from specific to general
Mean : pertaining to induction i.e. proceeding from specific to general; also introductory
Ex : The inductive reasoning has led to many inventions.
RW : **Abduct** (kidnap); **Conduct**; **Deduce**; **Deduction** (the act or process of deducing i.e. reasoning from the general to the specific); **Induce**; **Induction**; **Induct** (install / place in office); **Reduction**

INEFFABLE (adj)

- Cue :** **INEFFABLE** → **in** – ‘not’ + **fab** – ‘effabilis’ → (to speak) → not utterable
Mean : too overwhelming to be expressed in words
Ex : The ineffable grief of the victim’s parents was heart-rending.
Syn : Taboo; Unspeakable
RW : **Fable**; **Fabulous**

INEPT (adj)

- Cue :** **INEPT** → **in** – ‘not’ + **ept** – **apt** – ‘fit, suitable’
Mean : clumsy, incompetent, lacking skill
Ex : The inept handling of the case led to failure of the project.
Syn : Awkward; Gauche; Maladroit
Ant : Adept; Adroit; Deft; Dexterous
RW : **It differs from inapt** (inappropriate, unsuitable), **though derived from the same root**

INEXORABLE (adj)

- Cue :** **INEXORABLE** → **in** – ‘not’ + **exor** – ‘to move by entreaty’
Mean : that cannot be moved or influenced by persuasion or entreaty; unrelenting; stubborn
Ex : The inexorable suffering toughened him up.
Syn : Adamantine; Implacable; Obstinate; Relentless
Ant : Flexible; Lenient; Merciful; Remorseful; Yielding

INFERNAL (adj)

- Cue :** **INFERNAL** → **inferior** → ‘of the lower regions’
Mean : (1) like, or related to, hell; devilish
 (2) extremely unpleasant, terrible
Ex : The child labour is often made to work in infernal conditions.
Syn : Diabolical; Fiendish; Hadean; Nether
Ant : Divine; Ethereal; Supernal
RW : **Furnace**; **Inferno** (a place or situation like hell, especially a terrible fire)

INFIDEL (n)

- Cue :** **INFIDEL** → **in** – ‘not’ + **fid** – ‘faith’
Mean : a non-believer
Ex : Certain groups recommend strong action against infidels.
Syn : Atheist; Heathen
RW : **Affidavit**; **Confide**; **Fidelity**; **Fiduciary** (of a trust)

INFINITESIMAL (adj)

- Cue :** **INFINITESIMAL** → **in** – ‘not’ + **fin** – ‘end’ + **simal** – ‘small’
Mean : infinitely small
Ex : The number of people offering to donate their organs after death is infinitesimal.

Syn : Microscopic; Miniscule
 Ant : Significant
 RW : **Confine; Definitive; Final; Infinite**

INFLECT (v)

Cue : **INFLECT** → *in + flect* – 'bend'
 Mean : (1) to alter (the voice) in tone or pitch; modulate
 (2) to turn from a course or a specified alignment; bend
 Ex : People inflect their voices according to their audience.
 Syn : Modulate
 RW : **Deflect; Reflect**

INFRACTION (n)

Cue : **INFRACTION** → *fract/fringe* – 'to break'
 Mean : breach, violation of law or custom
 Ex : The infraction of defense treaty between the two countries was a forgone conclusion.
 Syn : Contravention; Infringement; Transgression; Trespass; Violation
 RW : **Fracture; Infrangible** (unbreakable)

INFUSION (n)

Cue : **INFUSION** → *in + fus* – 'to pour'
 Mean : pouring in, stimulation
 Ex : The infusion of criminals in politics is a bad omen indeed.
 Syn : Brew; Immersion; Strain
 RW : **Diffuse; Profuse** (lavish); **Transfusion**

INGENUOUS (adj)

Cue : **INGENUOUS** → *in + genus* – 'creation' i.e. that which is inborn → freeborn, noble
 Mean : straight forward, free from deception, often naïve/unsophisticated, innocent
 Ex : An ingenuous villager will not find life to be easy in a metropolis.
 Syn : Guileless; Gullible; Innocent; Trusting
 Ant : Astute; Smart
 RW : **Ingenuous** (marked by a special aptitude skill); **Ingénue** (an innocent, inexperienced, unworldly young woman)

INGRATE (adj)

Cue : **INGRATE** → *in + grat* – 'to please / favour'
 Mean : ungrateful
 Ex : The ingrate makes us cherish the faithful.
 Ant : Beholden; Obligated
 RW : **Grateful; Gratuity; Ingratiate** (to bring oneself into favour / good grace)

INIQUITOUS (adj)

Cue : **INIQUITOUS** → *in – 'not' + iqui – 'equal / just'*
 Mean : very unjust or wicked, unrighteous; a sin or immoral act
 Ex : The dictator is invariably an iniquitous ruler.
 Syn : Nefarious
 Ant : Equitable; Fair; Impartial
 RW : **Iniquity** (inequality, injustice or unfairness)

INNATE (adj)

Cue : **INNATE** → *in* + *nat* – ‘natural / inborn’
Mean : inborn, natural, inherent
Ex : The strong physique of the Africans is innate.
Syn : Ingrained; Inherent
RW : **Cognate** (blood relation); **Native**

INNOCUOUS (adj)

Cue : **INNOCUOUS** → *in* – ‘without’ + *noc* – ‘harm’
Mean : (1) that does not injure or harm; harmless
 (2) not controversial, offensive or stimulating; dull and uninspiring
Ex : The innocuous looking medicine caused a strong reaction.
Syn : Bland; Inoffensive; Weak
Ant : Malefic; Malignant; Nocuous; Odious; Sinister
RW : **Innocent**; **Nocuous**; **Obnoxious** (very unpleasant, objectionable, offensive)

INQUEST (n)

Cue : **INQUEST** → *que/qui* – ‘to seek’
Mean : an official esp. judicial inquiry, court of legal proceedings
Ex : Criminals have to face court inquest.
RW : **Conquest**; **Inquisitive**; **Query**; **Quest**

INSALUBRIOUS (adj)

Cue : **INSALUBRIOUS** → *in* – ‘not’ + *salus* – ‘health’
Mean : unwholesome, not healthful
Ex : Fast food is often junk food, which is insalubrious.
RW : **Insalubrity**; **Salutary** (promoting or conducive to health; healthful)

INSIDIOUS (adj)

Cue : **INSIDIOUS** → *sid* – ‘to plan / plot / lie in wait’
Mean : deceptive, treacherous, devious; apparently harmless, but deadly
Ex : An insidious trap set up by the enemy caused the explosion.
Syn : Crafty; Deceitful; Ensnares; Sly; Stealthy
RW : **Assiduous** (industrious, persevering); **Dissident** (not agreeing, dissenting)

INSIPID (adj)

Cue : **INSIPID** → *in* – ‘not’ + *sip* – ‘tasty, having a taste’
Mean : dull, tasteless, flat, lacking flavour
Ex : His performance on the stage was insipid and boring.
Syn : Banal; Bland; Dull; Vapid
Ant : Flavorful; Savoury

INSOMNIA (n)

Cue : **INSOMNIA** → *in* – ‘not’ + *somn* – ‘sleep’
Mean : sleeplessness, inability to sleep
Ex : Since he suffers from insomnia he takes sleeping pills.
RW : **Somnambulist** (sleep walker); **Soporific** (that causes sleep); **Somnolent** (drowsy)

INSURGENCE (n)

Cue : **INSURGENCE** → *surge* – ‘rising’ → one who rises in revolt
Mean : a rising in revolt, uprising
Ex : The insurgency in north-east is yet to be tamed completely.
RW : **Insurrection**; **Surging**

INTER (v)

Cue : **INTER** → *in* + *terra* – ‘earth’
Mean : to bury, entomb, inhumate
Ex : The body was interred in the burial ground.
Ant : Exhume; Unearth

INTERCEDE (v)

Cue : **INTERCEDE** → *inter* – ‘between’ + *cede* – ‘to yield/give’
Mean : to act as peacemaker between two parties, to arbitrate
Ex : The U.N. had to intercede in Bosnia.
Syn : Intervene; Mediate
RW : **Recede; Secede**

INTERDICT (v)

Cue : **INTERDICT** → *inter* – ‘between’ + *dict* – ‘to say’ i.e. to speak between
Mean : prohibit, forbid
Ex : Nations must interdict violent and terrorist acts.
Syn : Enjoin; Proscribe
RW : **Diction; Prediction**

INTERLOCUTION (n)

Cue : **INTERLOCUTION** → *inter* – ‘between’ + *locu/loqu* – ‘to speak’
Mean : taking part in a dialogue, conference
Ex : Any talk show involving representatives of rival parties requires an interlocutor who moderates.
RW : **Locution** (a particular style of speech; phraseology); **Loquacious** (excessively talkative); **Interlude; Intermittent**

INTERNECINE (adj)

Cue : **INTERNECINE** → *inter* – ‘mutual’ + *necare* – ‘kill / destroy’
Mean : deadly to both sides, mutually destructive
Ex : The internecine conflicts among various tribes / communities in Afghanistan have hindered the development of the country.

INTERPOLATE (v)

Cue : **INTERPOLATE** → *inter* – ‘between’ + *polate* – ‘polish / alter’
Mean : to insert, interject
Ex : While editing a poetic anthology, interpolation often becomes necessary.
RW : **Extrapolate; Polish**

INTERREGNUM (n)

Cue : **INTERREGNUM** → *inter* – ‘between’ + *regn/rex* – ‘reign, to rule’
Mean : period between two reigns, governments, when the country has no sovereign
Ex : Prolonged interregnum has occasionally been the cause of civil wars in the past.
RW : **Regal** (of a monarch, royal); **Regent** (acting in place of a king or ruler); **Regicide; Interrex**

INTESTATE (adj)

Cue : **INTESTATE** → *test* – ‘witness’. Also relate with *estate* (property)
Mean : dying without making a will
Ex : An intestate death often leads to family feuds.
Ant : Testator
RW : **Attest; Testament; Testify; Testimonials**

INTIMIDATE (v)

Cue : **INTIMIDATE** → **tim** – ‘fear / frighten’
Mean : frighten, inspire with fear
Ex : The US is trying to intimidate the fledgling democracy.
Syn : Bludgeon; Browbeat; Bulldoze; Bully
Ant : Assist; Encourage; Help
RW : **Timid**

INTREPID (adj)

Cue : **INTREPID** → **in** – ‘not’ + **trep/trem** – ‘shake’ → that can’t be shaken
Mean : daring, brave, fearless
Ex : The intrepid Air Force fliers are the backbone of our armed forces.
Syn : Bold; Undaunted
Ant : Cowardly; Craven
RW : **Trepidation** (apprehension)

INTROMIT (v)

Cue : **INTROMIT** → **intro** – ‘on the inside, within’ + **mit/mission** – ‘cause to enter’
Mean : to let in, introduce, send in
Ex : The judge did not permit the defense lawyer to intromit the witness again.
RW : **Admit; Permit; Remit; Submit**

INVEIGH (v)

Cue : **INVEIGH** → **in** + **vehere** – ‘bring in/to carry’
Mean : to make a violent verbal attack; talk or write bitterly (*against*)
Ex : The self-serving politicians often inveigh against corrupting western influences.
Syn : Belabor; Censure; Diatribe; Disparage; Rail; Reproach
Ant : Laud
RW : **Invective** (abusive language, vituperation); **Inveigle** (entice or cajole)

INVESTITURE (n)

Cue : **INVESTITURE** → **in** + **vest** – ‘to dress, clothe’ → to clothe in the official robes of an office
Mean : a formal investing as with an office or authority, often with appropriate symbols or robes
Ex : The investiture ceremony was attended by a number of dignitaries.
Syn : Induction; Ordination
RW : **Investment** (giving one's capital a new form); **Vest;** Vesture (clothing, garments)

INVETERATE (adj)

Cue : **INVETERATE** → **vetus** – ‘old’
Mean : deep-rooted, long standing, habitual, by age or persistence
Ex : He has an inveterate fear of the unknown.
RW : **Veteran**

INVIDIOUS (adj)

Cue : **INVIDIOUS** → **vid** – ‘to see’ or related it with **envious**
Mean : likely to provoke ill-will, envy or hatred
Ex : An invidious approach can put you to peril.
Syn : Odious; Offensive; Repugnant
RW : **Video; Evident**

IPSO FACTO (Latin expression)

- Mean* : by the very fact
Ex : His hurried arrival ipso facto reveals his anxiety.
RW : **Ipso Jure** (by the law itself)

IRASCIBLE (adj)

- Cue* : **IRASCIBLE** → *ira/ire* – ‘anger’
Mean : easily angered, irritable
Ex : The irascible scholar is kind at heart.
Syn : Bilioous; Cantankerous; Chantry; Choleric; Excitable; Irksome; Peevish; Splenetic
Ant : Placid
RW : **Irate** (angry, wrathful); **Ire** (anger, wrath); **Irksome** (annoying, tedious)
‘Irenic’ (promoting peace) and **‘Irenics’** (the doctrine or practice of promoting peace)

IRIDESCENT (adj)

- Cue* : **IRIDESCENT** → *iris* – ‘rainbow’ + *escent* – ‘reflecting light’
Mean : showing colors like those of rainbow, changing color with position
Ex : The iridescent hues of the dancer’s dress were shimmering in the interplay of lights.
RW : **Incandescent** (glowing with intense heat, esp. white-hot); **Iris** (part of eye, rainbow)

IRREVOCABLE (adj)

- Cue* : **IRREVOCABLE** → *voc* – ‘to call’ → that can’t be called back
Mean : that can’t be revoked/recalled/repeated/brought back
Ex : The words that leave your mouth are irrevocable.
Syn : Irretrievable; Irreversible; Unalterable
RW : **Convocation**; **Convoke** (to call together); **Evoke**; **Revoke**; **Vocabulary**

IRRUPT (v)

- Cue* : **IRRUPT** → *rupt* – ‘break’
Mean : to break in, to burst suddenly
Ex : Election time is also the time for the irruption of opposition rallies.
Syn : Disrupt
RW : **Abrupt**; **Corrupt**; **Interrupt**; **Rupture**

ISLET (n)

- Cue* : **ISLET** → *is* – related with ‘isolated’ + *let* – ‘small’
Mean : very small island, isle
Ex : The Indonesian archipelago consists of several islands and islets.
RW : **Piglet** (a little pig, esp. a suckling)

ISOTOPE (n)

- Cue* : **ISOTOPE** → *iso* – ‘uniform / similar’ + *topos* – ‘land/place’
Mean : two or more element atoms similar in properties but different in atomic mass
Ex : Study of isotopes of uranium and plutonium led to the development of the nuclear bomb.
RW : **Isomer** (different chemical compounds having same atomic mass); **Isosceles** (triangle having two equal sides); **Topography**; **Topology**

ITINERANT (adj)

- Cue* : **ITINERANT** → *itin* – ‘travel’
Mean : traveling from place to place, wandering
Ex : A bohemian’s life-style is itinerant.
Syn : Gypsy; Nomadic; Peripatetic; Roving; Vagrant
RW : **Itinerary** (route of a traveler/journey/plan of a trip)