

ANTONYMS

Contents

9. English Vocabulary

9.1 Antonyms

In antonym type question, a word in capitalized letter is mentioned, from among the choice, you have to choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the capitalized lettered word. The capitalized lettered word and the choices will be from the same part of the speech.

Example:

The antonym of **SUPPRESS** is

- a. broadcast
- b. ejaculate
- c. express
- d. extract
- e. invent

Ans: **(c)**.

Explanation: One meaning of 'suppress' is to prevent one's feelings ideas from being expressed. Another meaning of 'suppress' is to put an end to something by force. Your answer should, therefore be a word meaning 'to express one's feeling and ideas'. The correct answer is (c) express, to show or make a feeling or opinion.

Example:

The antonym of **UPSURGE** is

- a. backwardness
- b. decrease
- c. excursion
- d. sympathy
- e. fluency

Ans: **(b)**

Explanation: 'Upsurge' can be broken into prefix-up and root word surge. Meaning of prefix-up is 'to a higher place, position, condition, degree etc'. Meaning of surge is 'a forward movement'. Prefix-up and surge combine to convey a meaning, a sudden great increase. Thus answer choice (b) 'decrease' is correct.

9.1.1 Strategies for Antonyms:

1. The best way to answer antonym questions is to recall the antonyms of the capitalized word. Then go through the options to see whether you have selected the right answer.

2. It is not always possible to recall exact meaning of the capitalized word and hence its antonyms. You should try to recall the context in which you had read the given word.

3. If you can't get the meaning of capitalized word. Try to break it or look for the prefixes-word part that is added to the beginning of the word and to the roots.

4. The answer can be reached by the way of selection. In process of selection the right choice is selected by gathering information about the capitalized word.

5. Other way to tackle such objective question is to apply method of elimination to the answer choices. In this method, go through the answer choice and find why it could be the answer. This will minimise your chance to commit errors.

6. Always go through all the answer choices. Find reasons for why a certain answer choice is correct and also reason for why the other answer choices are not correct.

Exercise for practice

Choose the appropriate synonym for the bolder part of the sentence from the options given below

1. Find the antonym of **PERTINACIOUS**.
(a) Absent (b) Super filial
(c) deceptive (d) outdated
 2. Find the antonym of **IMAGINATIVE**.
(a) notable (b) prosaic
(c) hollow (d) passive
 3. Find the antonym of **NOCTURNAL**.
(a) laudable (b) terminal
(c) Speck led (d) daily
 4. Find the antonym of **ANTIPATHY**.
(a) index (b) fondness
(c) neotype (d) abandon
 5. Find the antonym of **CYNICAL**.
(a) Famous (b) trusting
(c) Valuable (d) express
 6. Find the antonym of **CARTE BLANCHE**
(a) restriction (b) prevention
(c) unspiritual (d) accomplice
 7. Find the antonym of **EXCORIATE**
(a) afflict (b) convent
(c) stimulate (d) praise.
 8. Find the antonym of **LACHRYMOSE**.
(a) imperfect (b) impulsive
(c) cheerful (d) troubled
 9. Find the antonym of **OPULENCE**.
(a) depression (b) poverty
(c) fortune (d) luxury
 10. Find the antonym **HAPHAZARD**.
(a) above board (b) moderate
(c) momentous (d) deliberate
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ANSWERS: -

1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (d) 4. (b) 5. (b) 6.(a) 7. (d) 8. (c) 9.
(b) 10. (d)
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