

SYNONYMS

- Synonyms are words that are similar, or have a related meaning, to another word.

A synonym is a word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another word or phrase in the same language. For example, the words begin, start, commence, and initiate are all synonyms of one another; they are synonymous.

Some common synonyms are:

Smart – Clever, Important – Essential, Good – Excellent, Stupid – Dumb, Irrelevant – Useless, Complete – Perfect, Bad – Inferior, Interesting – Fascinating, Exact – Specific, Awful – Horrible, Commonplace – Boring, Suitable – Uniform

List of Synonyms

- **Anger** – enrage, infuriate, annoy, exasperate, madden
- **Angry** – enraged, wrathful, indignant, exasperated, aroused
- **Amazing** – incredible, improbable, fabulous, astonishing, astounding, extraordinary
- **Ask** – seek information from, put a question to, demand, request, expect, interrogate
- **Begin** – launch, initiate, commence, inaugurate, originate
- **Big** – enormous, immense, gigantic, colossal, ample
- **Bossy** – controlling, tyrannical, domineering, autocratic, high-handed
- **Brave** – dauntless, intrepid, plucky, doughty, mettlesome
- **Break** – fracture, rupture, shatter, smash, wreck, crash, demolish, atomise
- **Calm** – tranquil, mild, level-headed, unexcited, aloof
- **Come** – approach, advance, near, arrive, reach
- **Cool** – chilly, frosty, wintry, icy, frigid
- **Definite** – certain, sure, positive, determined, obvious
- **Delicious** – luscious, scrumptious, palatable, toothsome, exquisite
- **Describe** – portray, narrate, relate, represent, record
- **End** – terminate, conclude, halt, cessation, discontinuance
- **Enjoy** – delight in, be pleased, indulge in, luxuriate in, bask in, relish
- **Explain** – elaborate, clarify, interpret, justify, account for
- **Fall** – drop, descend, plunge, topple, tumble
- **False** – fraudulent, spurious, unfounded, deceptive, groundless
- **Fair** – just, objective, impartial, unbiased, open minded
- **Famous** – renowned, celebrated, eminent, illustrious, notorious
- **Good** – marvellous, pleasant, reliable, genuine, beneficial
- **Great** – noteworthy, worthy, distinguished, remarkable, mighty
- **Happy** – contented, delighted, gratified, blissful, overjoyed
- **Hardworking** – diligent, determined, industrious, enterprising, persevering
- **Hate** – despise, loathe, detest, abhor, abominate
- **Hurry** – run, speed, race, hasten, urge, accelerate, bustle
- **Interesting** – intriguing, provocative, titillating, tantalizing, absorbing
- **Introverted** – shy, bashful, quiet, withdrawn, introspective
- **Keep** – retain, withhold, preserve, sustain, sustainance
- **Kill** – slay, assassinate, murder, destroy, abolish
- **Kind** – thoughtful, considerate, amiable, gracious, tender
- **Lucky** – auspicious, fortunate, privileged, blessed, charmed
- **Make** – originate, invent, manufacture, develop, execute
- **Mark** – label, tag, trace, imprint, stamp
- **Mean** – unfriendly, unpleasant, badtempered, difficult,
- **Mischievous** – prankish, playful, naughty, roguish, impish, sportive
- **Outgoing** – friendly, sociable, warm, extrovert
- **Pacify** – appease, placate, compose, abate, mitigate
- **Plan** – plot, design, device, contrivance, blueprint
- **Popular** – well-liked, approved, favourite, celebrated, current
- **Positive** – optimistic, cheerful, staryeyed, sanguine, admiring
- **Right** – accurate, factual, lawful, proper, suitable
- **Run** – race, sprint, escape, elope, flee
- **Sad** – wretched, depressed, dejected, gloomy, dismal
- **Slow** – unhurried, leisurely, late, tedious, slack
- **Stop** – cease, pause, discontinue, conclude, end
- **Strange** – odd, peculiar, unfamiliar, queer, irregular
- **Strong** – stable, secure, solid, tough, brawny
- **Take** – capture, acquire, select, prefer, occupy, consume
- **Tell** – expose, uncover, narrate, explain, declare
- **Turbulent** – disordered, violent, unstable, unsettled, stormy
- **Think** – judge, deem, assume, contemplate, mediate
- **Use** – utilise, exhaust, spend, consume, exercise
- **Valid** – authorised, legitimate, reasonable, logical, justifiable
- **Weak** – frail, infirm, puny, fragile, ailing
- **Wrong** – incorrect, inaccurate, mistaken, erroneous, improper

EXERCISE

Directions: In this section, you find a number of sentences, parts of which are underlined. For each underlined part, four words are listed below. Choose the word **nearest** in meaning to the underlined part and indicate your response in the Answer Sheet.

- We should always try to maintain and promote communal amity.
(a) bondage (b) contention
(c) friendship (d) understanding
- True religion does not require one to proselytise through guile or force.
(a) translate (b) hypnotise
(c) attack (d) convert
- That the plan is both inhuman and preposterous needs no further proof.
(a) heartless (b) impractical
(c) absurd (d) abnormal
- The attitude of the Western countries towards the third-world countries is rather callous to say the least.
(a) passive (b) unkind
(c) cursed (d) unfeeling
- Whatever the verdict of history may be, Chaplin will occupy a unique place in its pages.
(a) judgement (b) voice
(c) outcome (d) prediction
- He corroborated the statement of his brother.
(a) confirmed (b) disproved
(c) condemned (d) seconded
- Whatever opinion he gives is sane.
(a) rational (b) obscure
(c) wild (d) arrogant
- The story is too fantastic to be credible.
(a) believable (b) false
(c) readable (d) praiseworthy
- Catching snakes can be hazardous for people untrained in the art.
(a) tricky (b) harmful
(c) difficult (d) dangerous
- When the new teacher entered the classroom, he found the pupils restive.
(a) at rest (b) idle
(c) quiet (d) impatient
- There is no dearth of talent in this country.
(a) scarcity (b) availability
(c) plenty (d) absence
- The servants retired to their quarters.
(a) entered (b) went away
(c) ran away (d) mobilised
- The navy gave tactical support to the marines.
(a) sensitiv (b) strategic
(c) immediate (d) expert
- A genius tends to deviate from the routine way of thinking.
(a) dispute (b) disagree
(c) distinguish (d) differ
- He was greatly debilitated by an attack of influenza.
(a) depressed (b) weakened
(c) worried (d) defeated
- His efforts at helping the poor are laudable.
(a) welcome (b) sincere
(c) good (d) praiseworthy
- His conduct brought him reproach from all quarters.
(a) rebuke (b) sympathy
(c) indifference (d) remorse
- Hospitality is a virtue for which the natives of the East in general are highly admired.
(a) Duty of a doctor
(b) Generosity shown to guests
(c) Cleanliness in hospitals
(d) Kindness
- House rent in cities like Mumbai or Delhi has risen to astronomical figures beyond the reach of even high-salaried people.
(a) exorbitant (b) commercial
(c) planetary (d) illogical
- Appropriate technology holds the key to a nation's development.
(a) Modern (b) Suitable
(c) Effective (d) Growing
- He was enamoured of his own golden voice.
(a) very fond of (b) concerned with
(c) obsessed with (d) imbued with
- Some journalists are guilty of indulging in yellow journalism.
(a) misrepresentation (b) vulgarization
(c) sensational reporting (d) loud gestures
- His truancy is detrimental.
(a) loyalty (b) integrity
(c) honesty (d) absenteeism
- He is a maleficent person.
(a) generous (b) cunning
(c) criminal (d) friendly
- His aversion is known to all.
(a) Hospitality (b) hostility
(c) humility (d) humbleness

Answer Key

1. (c)	2. (d)	3. (c)	4. (d)	5. (a)	6. (a)	7. (a)	8. (a)	9. (d)	10. (d)
11. (a)	12. (b)	13. (b)	14. (d)	15. (b)	16. (d)	17. (a)	18. (b)	19. (a)	20. (b)
21. (a)	22. (c)	23. (d)	24. (c)	25. (b)					

Answers with Explanations

1. **Option (c) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Bondage' means a state of being a slave, 'contention' means heated agreement and 'amity' means friendly relations. Thus, 'friendship' is the synonym of 'amity'.
2. **Option (d) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Hypnotise' means to capture the whole attention of someone 'translate' means to express the sense of (words or text) in another language, 'proselytise' means to convert or attempt to convert (someone) from one religion, belief, or opinion to another which is similar to 'convert'.
3. **Option (c) is correct.**
Explanation: Meaning of 'Preposterous' is 'contrary to reason or common sense; utterly absurd or ridiculous' which is similar to 'absurd'. 'Heartless' refers to a person who is emotionless, 'impractical' means not realistic or sensible and 'abnormal' refers to someone who is different from the normal.
4. **Option (d) is correct.**
Explanation: Passive, unkind, and cursed are not synonymous to 'callous'. 'Callous' means 'showing or having an insensitive and cruel disregard for others' which is similar to 'unfeeling'.
5. **Option (a) is correct.**
Explanation: In the context of the sentence, 'voice' and 'outcome' is not fit. 'Prediction' is also misfit in the context of history. 'Verdict' means 'a decision on an issue of fact in a civil or criminal case or an inquest' which is similar to 'judgement'.
6. **Option (a) is correct.**
Explanation: The sentence says, he supported his brother's statement. 'Corroborated' means 'confirm or give support to (a statement, theory, or finding)' which is similar to 'confirmed'.
7. **Option (a) is correct.**
Explanation: Someone's 'opinion' can be logical or illogical. 'Sane' means '(of a person) of sound mind; not mad or mentally ill' and 'rational' means 'based on or in accordance with reason or logic'. Both are similar to each other.
8. **Option (a) is correct.**
Explanation: The word 'too' has negative connotation, so the sentence means the story is not believable. 'Credible' means 'able to be believed; convincing' which is similar to 'believable'.
9. **Option (d) is correct.**
Explanation: If an untrained person catches snake, it may not necessarily be harmful, but for sure will be risky for him. 'Hazardous' means 'risky; dangerous' which is similar to 'dangerous'.
10. **Option (d) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Restive' means unable to remain silent. Options (a), (b) and (c) are the opposites of 'restive' as they all mean to be silent or at rest which leaves option (d) 'impatient' to be the correct answer.
11. **Option (a) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Dearth' means scarcity or shortage of something. 'Availability' or 'plenty' will mean 'to be in large number or quantity'. Also 'absence' is the antonym of present, thus, it is the incorrect word.
12. **Option (b) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Retired' in this sentence means to take rest or to take a break. So 'ran away' or 'mobilised' will not be its synonyms. Also 'entered' does not take the preposition 'to'. So, option (b) will be the correct answer.
13. **Option (b) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Tactical' means carefully planned, So, 'strategic' will be its synonym. 'Sensitive' means easily affected or disturbed. 'Immediate' is something done at once or quickly. Also 'expert' support is not correct usage of the word.
14. **Option (d) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Deviate' means to depart from the normal course. 'Differ' means to be of different opinion. So, option (d), 'differ' is the synonym. 'Dispute' means a fight or a disagreement. And 'distinguish' means to find differences. These words are not the synonyms of 'deviate'.
15. **Option (b) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Debilitated' means to be weak. Option (a) 'depressed' means to be in a sad state of mind. 'Worried' means to be anxious or troubled. And 'defeat' means not to win. So, only option (b) is the suitable answer.
16. **Option (d) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Laudable' means to be appreciated or praise-worthy. So, option (d) is suitable.
17. **Option (a) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Reproach' means to express disapproval, so 'rebuke' will be the synonym. 'Rebuke' also means to express disapproval. 'Sympathy' means to show concern. 'Indifference' means uncerned and 'remorse' means sadness.
18. **Option (b) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Hospitality' means generosity shown to guests i.e. to welcome the guests and serve them wholeheartedly. So, we choose option (b). Whereas, option (a) tells about the duty or responsibility of a doctor. Also option (c) is eliminated as it tells about cleanliness in hospitals meaning the hospitals should be kept neat and tidy. 'Kindness' in option (d) is also eliminated because it means being generous or good-hearted.
19. **Option (a) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Astronomical' figures in this sentence means high price or exorbitant price. 'Commercial' means making profit or engaged in commerce trade. 'Planetary' means related to planets. And 'illogical' means without reasons. Therefore, these words can be eliminated.
20. **Option (b) is correct.**
Explanation: 'Appropriate' means suitable or correct. Option (a) 'modern' means relating to present times or contemporary. Option (c) 'effective' means having the desired result. And option (d) 'growing' means to naturally develop in size as number and changing

physically. So options (a), (c), (d) can be eliminated.

21. Option (a) is correct.

Explanation: 'Enamoured' means very fond of or to like something a lot. So, option (b) 'Concerned with' means to be worried or anxious, which does not fit in the sentence. 'Obsessed with' means to be unable to stop thinking about something, to be too interested or worried about something. Option (d), 'imbued with' means to infuse or permeate with, thus, the third option is also not suitable for the sentence.

22. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: Yellow journalism means the kind of reporting or journalism that is meant to sensationalise matters. So option (c) 'misrepresentation' will mean to show something wrongly. 'Vulgarisation' is something, cheap and indecent. And 'loud gestures' means noisy actions. So, options (a), (b), (d) can be eliminated.

23. Option (d) is correct.

Explanation: 'Truancy' is the habit of staying out of school without permission or shirking duty. This

is a negative word. 'Absenteeism' which refers to the habit of regularly staying away from school or work, is the synonym of 'truancy'. 'Loyalty' refers to a strong feeling of alliance, 'integrity' refers to the quality of being honest and 'honesty' means to be fair and truthful all of these words are the antonyms of 'truancy'.

24. Option (c) is correct.

Explanation: 'Maleficent' means baleful, working or productive of harm or evil. It is a negative word and options (a) and (d) are positive, so, they can be ruled out. 'Cunning' means characterised by wiliness and trickery. 'Criminal' is related to crime. Out of 'cunning' and 'criminal', criminal is closer to the word 'maleficent'.

25. Option (b) is correct.

Explanation: 'Aversion' means extreme dislike or disinclination. 'Hospitality', 'humility' and 'humbleness' are positive words. 'Hostility' which refers to an unfriendly attitude, is the correct answer.

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