

### **FABRICATE**

to devise, construct

- ☑ Syn. make, create
- \* Ant. destroy, dismantle
- Rohit fabricates wonderful stories in self-defence, whenever he is caught doing something wrong.

# FACADE (FASAAD) N.

the exterior face of a building, appearance, face, the face you show to the world  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right)$ 

- ☑ Syn. frontage, portico, fascia, front
- The peaceful situation is a mere facade; there is a volcano simmering within.
- The DTF shopping mall in Gurgaon has a complete glass and steel facade.

# **FACILE**

very easy

- ☑ Syn. simplistic, schematic
- \* Ant. profound, thorough
- She was alarmingly facile when it came to telling lies; they seemed to roll off her tongue.

# **FACILITATE**

to aid, assist

- ☑ Syn. enable, expedite
- \* Ant. impede, obstruct
- The organisers tried to facilitate social interaction among the delegates by arranging informal games.

# FACTIOUS Adj., FACTION N.

turbulent, given to faction, seditious

- ☑ Syn. defiant, rebellious, insubordinate
- \* Ant. obedient, compliant, amenable
- The factious teens can go to extremes if their wishes are not fulfilled.
- There have been hundreds of factions in Congress party.

# FAD N.

a transient hobby or craze, an unimportant belief

- oxdots Syn. fashion, trend, vogue, whim, cult
- A palm-top is the latest fad among young executives.

# FAIT ACCOMPLI N.

an accomplished fact, a thing already done and cannot be changed

> The widening cyberspace is a fait accompli now.

## **FALLACIOUS**

wrong, unsound, illogical

- ☑ Syn. inaccurate, misguided
- \* Ant. true, correct
- "The Earth is flat" is a fallacious statement.

### FALLOW Adj.

left unsown after tilling

- ☑ Syn. uncultivated, unsown, crop-free
- \* Ant. refined, cultured, educated
- Farmers have been told they cannot be eligible for government support unless they leave a certain amount of land fallow.

### FAMISH V., FAMISHED Adj.

to feel very hungry

- > To a famished palate no food is insipid.
- They were tired and famished after long trek across the desert.

# FANATIC Adj., N., FANATICISM N.

extravagantly or unreasonably zealous, excessively enthusiastic

- ☑ Syn. extremist, uncompromising
- Religious fanaticism leads to bigotry.
- The fanatic youth in Pakistan burnt effigies of Musharraf for his support to Bush administration.

#### FANCIFUL Adj.

whimsical, visionary

- ☑ Syn. imaginary, fantastic, unlikely
- > He ideas may sound fanciful but he is a true visionary.

# FARCE N., FARCICAL Adj.

broad comedy, mockery

- ☑ Syn. shambles, travesty, circus, sham
- > The whole show turned out to be a farce.
- > You have put me into a farcical situation.

# **FASCISM**

an extremely authoritarian form of a government

- ☑ Syn. despotism, dictatorship, tyranny
- Mussolini played a key role in the rise of fascism in Italy in the 1920s.

### **FASTIDIOUS**

careful with details, finicky

- ☑ Syn. meticulous, painstaking
- \* Ant. careless, sloppy
- Ajay was normally so fastidious that Leena was astonished to find his desk cluttered.

# FATUOUS Adj.

silly, imbecilic, foolish, idiotic

- ☑ Syn. stupid, childish, inane, absurd
- \* Ant. sensible, rational, reasonable
- He made some sort of fatuous suggestion about standing on a chair to do the job.

# FAUNA N.

the animals living in a region or in a particular period

She took part in an expedition to explore and describe the flora and fauna of the Amazon basin.

### FAUX PAS (FO PA)

- a disastrous blunder, a very big mistake
- He committed a faux pas by walking in front of the dignitary instead of staying two steps behind.

# FAWN V., N., FAWNING Adj.

- a young deer; to flatter in a servile way; courting favour by cringing and flattering
- ☑ **Syn.** yellowish-brown, beige, mushroom, buff
- The fawning hangers-on of a filmstar lead a parasite-like life.
- The journalists fawned over her like she was some sort of a queen.

#### FAZE V.

to disturb the composure of, disconcert

- ☑ Syn. discomfit, rattle
- \* Ant. relax, relieve
- After suffering the trauma of being a prisoner of war for five years, nothing fazed him anymore.

#### **FFASTBLE**

possible, capable of being done

- ☑ Syn. viable, practicable
- \* Ant. impossible, non-viable
- As it was not feasible to distribute free CDs, the music store decided to consider a different method of promotion.

#### **FECKLESS**

ineffective, careless

- ☑ Syn. irresponsible, incompetent
- \* Ant. worthy, competent
- Anju took on the responsibility of caring for her aged mother, realising that her feckless brother was not up to the task.

# **FECUND**

fertile, fruitful

- ☑ Syn. productive, generative
- \* Ant. barren, degenerative
- > The outsourcing idea appeared useless in the beginning but turned out to be very fecund for the organisation.

#### FEIGN N., FEIGNED Adj.

to pretend, disquise

- ☑ Syn. put on, simulate, act as if, invent
- Foxes often feign death to catch an easy prey.
- The servant feigned ignorance during police interrogation, casting a shadow on his possible involvement in the crime.

#### **FEISTY**

excitable, easily drawn into quarrels

- ☑ Syn. snappish, irritable
- \* Ant. cool-tempered, unirritable
- The feisty old lady alienated her neighbours with her habit of picking up fights with anyone who crossed her.

#### FELICITOUS Adj., FELICITATION N.

very appropriate, pertinent, well chosen, fortunate, fit, suitable, pleasant

- ☑ Syn. lucky, blessed, fortuitous
- \* Ant. out of luck, hapless, unfortunate
- He thanked the retiring director for his contribution, summing up his achievements in a few felicitous phrases.

### FELINE Adj.

like a cat

- ☑ Syn. catlike, slinky, subtle, graceful
- The feline grace of Madhu Sapre on the ramps made her a super model.

### FELON N., FELONY N.

a person who has committed a serious crime

- ☑ Syn. criminal, murderer, thief
- The weak laws embolden felony.

# FEROCIOUS Adj., FEROCITY N.

savage, fierce, cruel

- ☑ Syn. vicious, violent, brutal, very bad
- \* Ant. calm, kind, tender, moderate
- She fought the robbers with the ferocity of a lioness.
- The prime minister came in for some ferocious criticism from the opposition.

# $\textbf{FERRET} \ \lor.$

to investigate carefully and reveal

- ☑ Syn. hunt, rummage, furrow, flush
- $\searrow$  I know his name but I haven't yet managed to ferret out his address.

# FERVENT Adj., FERVOUR N.

hot, ardent, zealous, passionate, fervid, full of strong and sincere emotions, impassioned

- ☑ Syn. keen, avid, eager, burning
- \* Ant. unresponsive, apathetic
- 🗷 It was a debate which aroused fervent ethical arguments.
- > There was no holding back the crowd's fervour when Ronaldo arrived on the field.

### **FERVID**

passionate, intense, zealous

- ☑ Syn. whole-hearted, heartfelt
- \* Ant. half-hearted, dispassionate
- His fans were particularly fervid, doing anything to catch a glimpse of the great singer.

#### FESTER V.

to cause increasing irritation, to exist in a state of progressive deterioration, rankle

The municipal corporation allowed slums to fester and today they have become a nuisance for the authorities.

#### FETE N.

a festival, a holiday

- ☑ Syn. bazaar, fair, gala, party
- They're holding the college fete on the greens adjacent to the auditorium.

# FETID Adj.

stinking, having a foul odour, malodorous

- ☑ Syn. rotten, putrid
- \* Ant. fresh, fragrant
- The fetid air of the prison cell made her vomit.

### FETISH N.

anything which a person irrationally reveres or worships, charm, obsession, talisman, amulet

- ☑ Syn. thing, fixation, mania, inclination
- > That old, chewed-up square of blanket is of our dog's fetish.
- > He has a fetish for cleanliness.

#### FETTER V., N.

to restrain from motion; a chain or shackle on the feet

- ☑ Syn. tie, bind, chain, confine
- You cannot be unconventional when you are fettered by traditions.
- He broke the fetters loose and escaped from a high security prison.

# FEUDAL Adj.

pertaining to feuds of fiefs, belonging to feudalism

For years the feudal system followed in India was responsible for the misery of poor farmers.

# **FIASCO**

disaster, utter failure

- ☑ Syn. debacle, wreck
- \* Ant. success, triumph
- After the lead guitarist turned up drunk, it was hardly surprising that the concert ended up being an utter fiasco.

# FICTITIOUS Adj., FICTION N.

imaginary, invented, made-up, unreal

- ☑ Syn. untrue, fabricated, invented
- \* Ant. factual, truthful, realistic, honest
- The actor has dismissed the recent rumours about his private life as fictitious and malicious.

### **FIDELITY**

loyalty, constancy

- ☑ Syn. devotedness, faithfulness
- \* Ant. disloyalty, infidelity
- A traitor is someone whose fidelity is questionable.

#### FIGMENT N.

- a fabrication or invention, fiction
- ☑ Syn. creation, illusion, fantasy
- Ghosts are just figments of one's imagination.

#### FILCH V.

to steal, burglarise, appropriate, to steal in a sneaky way (usually something of minor value)

- ☑ Syn. steal, pinch, rob, thieve, snatch
- Don't filch any of those cookies before they've had time to cool.

### FILIGREE N.

delicate, lacelike metalwork

> The sunlight shining through the branches made a filigree pattern on the tiles.

#### FILLIP V.

to stimulate, incite

- ☑ Syn. boost, tonic, spur, impetus, zest
- > The government intends to provide a fillip to infrastructure development in India.

#### FILTH N.

obscenity, foul matter

- ☑ Syn. dirt, grime, refuse, debris
- People complained in the press about the filth on the roads .

#### FINESSE N.

highly artful, skilled, superb technique, adroitness

- ☑ Syn. skill, flair, grace, elegance, poise
- \* Ant. clumsiness, awkwardness
- She has handled these difficult negotiations with tremendous finesse.

#### **FINICKY**

fussy, difficult to please

- ☑ Syn. exacting, over-critical
- \* Ant. encouraging, undemanding
- The finicky child rejected every dish on the menu much to the exasperation of his parents.

# FISSION - process of splitting into two parts

- ☑ Syn. separation, disjuncture
- \* Ant. fusion, combination
- The discovery of the process of nuclear fission enabled scientists to construct the atom bomb.

# FITFUL Adj.

spasmodic, intermittent

- ☑ Syn. disturbed, restless, sporadic
- \* Ant. unbroken, constant, steady
- I had a fitful sleep last night.

# FLABBERGASTED Adj., FLABBERGAST V.

stunned, confounded, confused

- ☑ Syn. shocked, staggered, amazed
- The successive exposure of scams flabbergasted the Indian populace.
- The flabbergasted photographer couldn't react when Britney Spears spat on him.

# FLACCID Adj.

flabby, loose, not firm, drooping, not competent

- ☑ Syn. sagging, lifeless
- \* Ant. firm, solid, hard, rigid, secure
- The flaccid leadership at the company was responsible for its fall.

### **FLAGRANT**

outrageous, shameless

- ☑ Syn. blatant, brazen
- \* Ant. unobtrusive, slight
- His flagrant disregard for the rules resulted in his dismissal from the job.

# FLAIR N.

a natural aptitude for some art, game or trait

- ☑ Syn. style, finesse, flamboyance
- The head of the department has a great flair for public speaking.

#### **FLAMBOYANT**

flashy, garish, exciting, dazzling

- ☑ Syn. showy, ostentatious
- \* Ant. modest, restrained
- The actor's flamboyant clothing made him stick out among the crowd.

## FLAUNT V.

to display in an impudent, brazen, ostentatious or gaudy manner, to show off

- ☑ Syn. exhibit, display, parade
- Guys love flaunting their bikes and girls their mobiles.

#### FLAY V.

to remove the skin from, to subject to severe criticism

- ☑ Syn. whip, lash, thrash, criticise
- In Pakistan, liars and robbers are flayed.
- In prehistoric times, people used flint to flay the animals they killed.

# FLEDGLING N.

novice, unexperienced, tyro

- ☑ Syn. baby bird, baby chicken
- The current economic climate is particularly difficult for fledgling businesses.

# FLEECE N., V.

wool coat of a sheep; to strip of money or property by fraud or extortion

- ☑ Syn. swindle, con, rip off, cheat
- The bureaucrats fleeced him but did not manage a licence for him.

## FLICK N., V.

a quick, light blow or stroke; the slight sound; a movie

- ☑ Syn. brush, tap, flip
- Cows flick their tails to brush away flies annoying them.
- Are you coming to watch the latest Bond flick this Saturday at the multiplex?

# FLIMSY Adj.

weak, thin, without strength

- ☑ Syn. fragile, delicate, insubstantial
- \* Ant. strong, powerful, muscular
- She looked sensuous and seductive in a flimsy night gown.
- > The storm flattened the flimsy wooden huts that the villagers lived in.

### Mini Revision Test

Match each word in the first column with its meaning in the second column.

- 1. fastidious
- fecund
- 3. fidelity
- 4. flagrant
- 5. flout

- a. meticulous
- b. glaringly bad
- c. fertile
- d. loyalty
- e. to disregard contemptuously

Answer Key - Mini Revision Test

#### FLINCH V.

to shrink back due to pain, fear etc.

- ☑ Syn. recoil, strong, shy away, balk
- In spite of the anaesthetic, the patient flinched as the doctor dug his scalpel into her leg.

# FLIPPANT Adj., FLIPPANCY N.

talkative, frivolous, impertinent, airy

- ☑ Syn. offhand, glib, dismissive
- \* Ant. serious, grave, solemn, somber
- > His flippancy at busy hours of work is despised by all.
- This article has been written in a very flippant style.

#### FLIT V.

to pass quickly from one place or condition to another

Ramola flits from one boyfriend to another.

#### **FLORID**

gaudy, extremely ornate, ruddy, flushed

- ☑ Syn. flamboyant, over-elaborate
- \* Ant. pale, plain
- The palace had been decorated in a florid style; every surface had been carved and gilded.

#### **FLOUNDER**

to falter, waver

- ☑ Syn. to muddle, struggle
- \* Ant. prosper, make good progress
- The previously glib defendant began to flounder when the prosecutor found a hole in his story.

### **FLOUT**

to treat contemptuously, scorn

- ☑ Syn. defy, disdain
- \* Ant. obey rules
- The motorist flouted traffic rules and rashly cut across several lanes.

# **FLUCTUATE**

to alternate, waver

- ☑ Syn. vacillate, oscillate
- \* Ant. be steady, unequivocal
- Prices of certain stocks fluctuate so much that it is risky to invest in them.

# FLUKE N.

an accidental success

- ☑ Syn. accident, stroke of luck
- > Taiwan's success in computer hardware is not a fluke.

### FLUSTER V.

confuse, a nervous state

- ☑ Syn. bother, agitate, upset, muddle
- \* Ant. soothe, calm, pacify, appease
- $\,\,\,\,\,\,\,\,$  During the enquiry he continuously flustered the cops.

# FOIBLE N.

a minor weakness, short coming, defect or imperfection

- ☑ Syn. quirk, bad habit, eccentricity
- Great leaders have their own foibles that sometimes cost the nations greatly.

#### FOIL V.

defeat, frustrate

☑ Syn. thwart, outwit

An attempted coup against the country's military ruler was foiled yesterday.

#### **FOLIATE**

to grow, sprout leaves

The plant looked dead, so Vicky was astonished when it began to foliate.

# **FOMENT**

to arouse or incite

☑ Syn. instigate, provoke

- \* Ant. discourage, extinguish
- The protesters tried to foment public opinion against the war through their speeches and demonstrations.

#### FOOLHARDY Adj., FOOLHARDINESS N.

foolishly adventurous and bold; rash

- ☑ Syn. reckless, risky, imprudent
- \* Ant. sensible, sane, rational, shrewd
- He made a foolhardy attempt to climb the tree in order to rescue the kitten.
- It would be foolhardiness on her part to risk all her savings on this crazy scheme.

#### FORAY N., V.

an attempt, a venture or expedition

- ☑ Syn. raid, venture, sortie, assault
- Reliance's foray into biomedical research will also be successful.
- She forayed into acting before starting a career as a model.

# **FOREBODE** V., **FOREBODING** N.

to prognosticate, to have a premonition of evil

- ☑ Syn. foretell, portend, prophesy
- Forebodings about the end of the world by the year 2000 were ridiculous.

# FORENSIC Adj.

relating to the application of scientific knowledge to legal problems

> Forensic examination revealed a large quantity of poison in the dead man's stomach.

# FORESHADOW V.

give an indication beforehand, portend, prefigure

The recent outbreak of violence was foreshadowed by isolated incidents in the city earlier this year.

# **FORESTALL**

to prevent, delay, anticipate

- ☑ Syn. apprehend, hamper
- \* Ant. encourage, facilitate
- The landlord waited outside the door to forestall the tenant's attempt to slip away.

### **FORETHOUGHT**

anticipation, foresight

- ☑ Syn. insight, prudence
- \* Ant. hindsight, negligence
- With a little forethought you could have made your presentation a lot more effective.

### FORLORN Adj.

neglected, wretched, quite lost, forsaken

> The forlorn victims of Bhopal gas tragedy died slow deaths.

### FORMIDABLE Adj.

causing fear, inspiring awe fostering respect or awe, arousing fear or worry

- ☑ Syn. alarming, dreadful, terrifying
- A formidable opposition is what every ruling alliance dreads.

#### **FORMULATE**

to conceive, devise, express, state

- ☑ Syn. to draft, plan
- The marketers formulated a new advertising strategy to launch the product in the market.

# **FORSAKE**

to abandon, withdraw from

- ☑ Syn. renounce, disown
- \* Ant. keep, return to
- Criminals on death penalty tend to feel that everyone has forsaken them.

#### FORSWEAR V.

renounce, abandon

- ☑ Syn. disavow, reject, disown, abjure
- > He was courageous enough to forswear his religion by birth.

#### FORTE N.

something in which one excels, special strength or skill, what you're known for  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left$ 

- ☑ Syn. strong point, speciality, gift
- \* Ant. failing, deteriorating
- Laila's forte was bellydancing but she was also an excellent hallerina.

# **FORTIFY V., FORTIFICATION N.**

to strengthen, invigorate, confirm, enrich

- oxdots Syn. make stronger, reinforce, brace
- \* Ant. weaken, damage, fail, wane, fade
- The Great Wall of China was made to protect Chinese territory from Mongol attacks.

# FORTITUDE N.

courage in endurance, persistence, vigour

- ☑ Syn. courage, resilience, guts, grit
- The fortitude of Tilak was inspiring.

## **FORTUITOUS**

happening by luck, fortunate

- ☑ Syn. inadvertent, accidental
- \* Ant. predictable, foreseen
- Rukmini got her start in the music industry when she fortuitously met a talent scout during a show.

### **FOSTER**

to nourish, cultivate, promote

- ☑ Syn. encourage, espouse
- \* Ant. neglect, suppress
- The record agent fostered the development of his clients by sending them to singing lessons.

#### **FRACAS**

noisy dispute

- ☑ Syn. commotion, scuffle
- \* Ant. concord, harmony
- When the bandits discovered that the gambler was cheating them at cards, violent fracas ensued.

#### **FRACTIOUS**

unruly, rebellious

- ☑ Syn. disobedient, uncontrollable
- \* Ant. dutiful, contented
- The general had a hard time maintaining discipline among his fractious troops.

#### FRANTIC Adj.

marked by fast and nervous or anxiety driven activity

- ☑ Syn. anxious, frenzied, frenetic
- \* Ant. tranquil, peaceful, calm, still
- A frantic search is on for the assassin.

#### **FRAUDULENT**

deceitful, dishonest, unethical

- ☑ Syn. duplicitous, unscrupulous
- \* Ant. honest, above board
- The factory engaged in fraudulent practices, producing radios with spurious components.

# FRAUGHT Adj.

filled with, laden, accompanied by

- ☑ Syn. burdened, full, filled
- \* Ant. lacking, absent, missing
- ∠ Life is fraught with opportunities if you can see them.

# FRENZY N., FRENZIED Adj.

violent excitement

- ☑ Syn. fury, anger, rage, passion
- \* Ant. calmness, serenity, peace
- > The frenzy of a mob on the rampage is difficult to control.
- The frenzied crowd was restless as soon as their favourite hero alighted from the plane.

# FRESCO N.

a mode of painting upon walls covered with damp plaster

- ☑ Syn. wall painting, mural, frieze
- The frescoes of Ajanta caves were discovered by a British citizen.

## FRIGID Adj., FRIGIDITY N.

intensely cold

- ☑ Syn. cold, frosty, chilly, icy, glacial
- \* Ant. torrid, hot, stifling, scorching
- Many parts of Russia are in the frigid zone.
- > Her frigidity kept people off her.

# FRITTER V.

to waste away little by little, squander, dissipate

- ☑ Syn. dribble away
- \* Ant. conserve, save, preserve, keep

# FRIVOLOUS Adj., FRIVOLITY N.

silly, trifling

- ☑ Syn. playful, frolicsome, flippant
- \* Ant. serious, important, acute, severe
- My friends enjoyed my frivolity in their leisure but they never took me seriously otherwise.
- He is generally a good student but he is inclined to be frivolous in group discussions.

# FROLIC N., V., FROLICSOME Adj.

gaiety, prank

- ☑ Syn. play, skip, leap, cavort, gambol
- > The kids were frolicking at the party.
- The two teams were so unevenly matched that the game was little more than a frolic for the winning side.

# FRUGAL Adj., FRUGALITY N.

economical, sparing, thrifty, sparing, careful about how money or goods are used

- ☑ Syn. thrifty, prudent, sparing
- \* Ant. spendthrift, wastrel, squanderer
- Chetna says she has enough money to last through the month but only if she is frugal in her spending.
- Judging by their frugality, you would never guess they were rich

# FUGITIVE Adj., N.

fleeing, evanescent, wandering

- ☑ Syn. escapee, deserter, renegade
- > Fugitive families who fled the fighting in the cities are now trying to survive in the mountains.

# FULSOME Adj.

disgustingly insincere, immoderate; overabundant, overdone, obsequious or servile

- ☑ Syn. flattering, excessive, immoderate
- > He earned the fulsome praise of the chief minister.
- The fulsome chrome glitter of escalator dominated the central hall.

#### **FUNEREAL**

mournful, appropriate to a funeral

- ☑ Syn. solemn, gloomy
- \* Ant. cheerful, lively
- Depressed by the party's funereal atmosphere, Suzanne decided to leave early.

# FURORE N.

an angry or maniacal fit, frenzy; an outburst of public excitement

A furore erupted over the court's verdict on legalising homosexual marriages.

#### **FURTIVE**

secret, stealthy

- ☑ Syn. surreptitious, sly
- \* Ant. open, above board
- Glenn furtively peered out of the corner of his eye at the stunningly beautiful model.

#### FUSILLADE N.

simultaneous discharge of firearms, barrage, burst

Twenty-eight demonstrators were shot dead and 188 wounded in a five-minute fusillade of automatic fire.

FUSION - process of merging things into one

- ☑ Syn. amalgamation, coalescence
- \* **Ant.** fragmentation, separation
- Cement is formed by the fusion of shale and limestone.

### FUSSY Adj.

choosy, discriminating, particular, picky

- ☑ Syn. finicky, selective
- \* Ant. cool, relaxed, tranquil
- The old man is fussy.
- The children are so fussy about the food that I don't know what to cook.

### FUZZY Adj.

blurred, not clear

- ☑ Syn. hairy, downy, blurry, unclear
- \* Ant. clear, transparent, lucid
- You can pick up a lot of stations on the car radio but the sound is usually quite fuzzy.

# **Biochemistry**

The following are 10 words that are related to the topic mentioned above.

BILIOUS : affected by or associated with nausea or vomiting

**CARCINOGEN**: any cancer-causing substance

**CYTOLOGY**: the study of cells

**DETRITUS**: decaying organic matter lying just below the surface

**ENZYME** : protein which acts as a biological catalyst

**IMMISCIBLE** : not capable of being mixed

LIPID : a fatlike substance that cannot be dissolved in water
OSMOSIS : diffusion of substance in a liquid solution across a

membrane

SUBSTRATE : any substance which is acted on or altered by an

enzyme

**VISCERAL** : relating to deep inward feelings rather than to intellect