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LABYRINTH N., **LABYRINTHINE** Adj.

maze, perplexity, a very confusing and intricate problem

- ☑ **Syn.** warren, jumble, muddle
- ✗ Being a novice at international politics, he found it very difficult to navigate through the labyrinth.
- ✗ The doctors found it difficult to remove the labyrinthine growths surrounding his lungs.

LACERATE V., **LACERATION** N.

wound, to rip, rend or tear in a harsh way, to distress emotionally

- ☑ **Syn.** mangle, tear, afflict
- ★ **Ant.** heal, soothe, cure
- ✗ The surgeon lacerated the infected tissue with a scalpel.
- ✗ He reserved his most lacerating criticism for the English, whom he detested.

LACHRYMOSE Adj.

producing tears

- ✗ He is better known for his lachrymose ballads than hard rock numbers.

LACKADAISICAL Adj.

half-hearted, enervated, sluggish, languid

- ☑ **Syn.** dilatory, limp, lethargic
- ★ **Ant.** energetic, lively, active, vigorous
- ✗ The food was nice enough but the service was rather lackadaisical.

LACONIC – using very few words

- ☑ **Syn.** taciturn, brief
- ★ **Ant.** loquacious, talkative
- ✗ She was a laconic poet who built her reputation on using very few words, very effectively.

LAGOON N.

a small lake or pond near a sea

- ☑ **Syn.** mere, tarn
- ✗ Lake Chilka is a fresh-water lagoon.

LAMBAST V.

to thrash, to reprimand severely, rebuke

- ✗ China was lambasted by several western nations for its aggression in Tibet.

LAMENT(v) – to deplore, grieve

(n) – burial hymn, moaning

- ☑ **Syn.** bemoan, bewail
- ★ **Ant.** celebrate, rejoice
- ✗ The children continued to lament the death of the goldfish weeks after its demise.

LAMPOON N., V.

a personal satire, caricature, satire aimed at a person or persons; to ridicule

- ☑ **Syn.** satirise, parody
- ✗ The cartoonist makes lampooning an art.
- ✗ The magazine is famous for its merciless political lampoons.

LANGUOR N. **LANGUID** Adj., **LANGUISH** V.

lassitude, tiredness or weakness of body or mind

- ☑ **Syn.** laziness, torpor, lethargy
- ★ **Ant.** vigour, energy, dynamism, drive
- ✗ He has recovered from chronic malaria but suffers from languor.

LANK Adj.

slender, thin

- ☑ **Syn.** scrawny, skinny
- ★ **Ant.** burly, chubby
- ✗ The lank Indian cattle give an idea of their malnutrition.

LAP(v) – to drink using the tongue, to wash against

(n) – circuit, stretch

- ☑ **Syn.** splash, lick up
- ✗ The thirsty dog eagerly lapped up all the water in the bowl.

LARCENY – theft of property

- ☑ **Syn.** pilfering, thievery
- ✗ Stealing a wallet can be categorised as a petty larceny.

LARGESSE/LARGESS N.

generosity, liberal donation, bounty, reward

- ☑ **Syn.** charity, money
- ★ **Ant.** meanness, nastiness, malice
- ✗ The mysterious beneficiary of the largesse is likely to arouse suspicions.

LARYNX – organ containing vocal cords

- ☞ The opera singer's larynx was damaged in the accident, spelling doom for her career.

LASCIVIOUS Adj.

wanton, lustful, lewd, lecherous

- ☞ She was about to obey him and move closer to him when his lascivious leer made her change her mind.

LASSITUDE N.

weakness, acedia, listlessness

- ☑ **Syn.** weariness, lethargy, stupor
★ **Ant.** energy, vitality, verve, life, drive
☞ The lassitude of law-implementing authorities has led to anarchy in the state.

LATENT – present but hidden, potential

- ☑ **Syn.** dormant, untapped
★ **Ant.** obvious, manifest
☞ Job rotation can help bring out the latent talent of the employees.

LAUD V., **LAUDABLE** Adj.,

LAUDATORY Adj.

to praise

- ☑ **Syn.** praise, acclaim, extol, mention
★ **Ant.** denigrate, disparage, degrade
☞ The minister lauded the official's actions.
☞ The committee's efforts to raise money for social programmes were laudable.
☞ She was the subject of many laudatory articles in the national dailies.

LAUREATE N.

the recipient of honour for achievement in art or science

- ☞ Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore's poems are best enjoyed in Bengali.

LAUREL N.

a prize, honour, distinction

- ☞ Behind every laurel lies a lot of sweat and grime.

LAXITY – carelessness

- ☑ **Syn.** laxness, remissness
★ **Ant.** vigilance, caution
☞ Our newspaper always reaches late because of the delivery boy's laxity.

LECTERN N.

a reading desk on the stage

- ☞ We prepared a glass lectern for the guest of honour to deliver the lecture.

LEERY Adj.

suspicious, cautious

- ☑ **Syn.** distrustful, apprehensive, wary
★ **Ant.** trusting, credulous, innocent
☞ He is leery about everything he eats out of his home.

LEGIBLE – readable

- ☑ **Syn.** legible, decipherable
★ **Ant.** illegible, unreadable
☞ Gracy's chickenscratch handwriting was barely legible.

LEGISLATE – to decree, mandate, make laws

- ☑ **Syn.** constitutionalise, ordain
☞ Some congressmen make every effort to legislate in favour of powerful business houses.

LENIENT – easygoing, permissive

- ☑ **Syn.** liberal, sparing
★ **Ant.** strict, severe
☞ When the bowler was only fined a small amount for tampering with the ball, there was an uproar of protest from cricket lovers.

LESION N.

a harmful change in an organ

- ☑ **Syn.** sore, laceration
☞ Brain lesions can be caused by bacterial infections.

Mini Revision Test

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

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. irrevocable | a. planned trip route |
| 2. itinerary | b. place side by side |
| 3. judicious | c. exercising sound judgement |
| 4. juxtapose | d. irreversible |
| 5. kinetic | e. active |

Answer Key - Mini Revision Test

- 1.(d) 2.(a) 3.(c) 4.(b) 5.(e)

LETHARGIC Adj., **LETHARGY** N.

torpid, sleepy, weary

☑ **Syn.** sluggish, tired, weary, lacklustre

★ **Ant.** energetic, lively, vigorous

✗ The lethargic government machinery is a drain on our economy.

LEVERAGE N., V.

advantage gained for any purpose

☑ **Syn.** influence, power, force, pull

✗ In life, you ought to leverage your core strengths.

LEVIATHAN N.

anything huge, gigantic, colossal

☑ **Syn.** mammoth, overwhelming, titanic

★ **Ant.** tiny, dwarfish, lilliputian

✗ The leviathan statue at Shravan Belagola is world famous.

LEVITATE – to rise in the air or cause to rise

☑ **Syn.** escalate, climb

★ **Ant.** plunge, plummet

✗ The magician caused his assistant to levitate in the air, and the audience broke into thunderous applause.

LEVITY N.

lack of seriousness or steadiness, frivolity, lightness of approach or treatment, humour

☑ **Syn.** cheerfulness, humour, jokiness

★ **Ant.** gravity, seriousness, importance

✗ Academicians recognise that a little levity in the classroom helps rather than hinders learning.

LEVY V., N.

impose a fine, collect a payment, to take or require by legal means

☑ **Syn.** tax, charge, rates, toll, duty

✗ The municipality will have to levy new taxes to cover up its deficit.

LEXICON – dictionary, list of words

☑ **Syn.** thesaurus, encyclopedia

✗ It is said that the word impossible does not exist in that brave warrior's lexicon.

LIBEL N., **LIBELOUS** Adj.

a written accusation, a malicious defamatory publication, smear

☑ **Syn.** defamation, vilification, slander

★ **Ant.** praise, admire, commend, extol

✗ Indian politicians seldom sue for libel.

✗ The leader was offended by a libelous article about his party in the newspaper today.

LIBERTARIAN – one who believes in unrestricted freedom

☑ **Syn.** permissiveness, liberal

★ **Ant.** oppressive, domineering

✗ The libertarian refused to pay taxes to the government, as he didn't recognise its jurisdiction over him.

LIBERTINE – one without moral restraint

☑ **Syn.** womaniser, philanderer

★ **Ant.** puritan, ascetic

✗ The libertine took pleasure in gambling and seducing innocent youths.

LICENTIOUS – immoral, unrestrained by society

☑ **Syn.** debauched, wanton

★ **Ant.** moral, virtuous

✗ Religious citizens were outraged by the licentious exploits of the community of artists living in the town.

LIMPID – clear, transparent

☑ **Syn.** lucid, crystalline

★ **Ant.** murky, inexplicit

✗ Nidhi could see all the way to the bottom through the pond's limpid water.

LINEAGE – ancestry

☑ **Syn.** descent, genealogy

✗ Shruti could trace her lineage back through many generations.

LINGERIE N.

women's underclothing

✗ There is a huge business in designer lingerie worldwide.

LINGUISTIC Adj., **LINGUIST** N.

pertaining to language, study of speech, philology

✗ The study of linguistics reveals how many English words are borrowed from other languages.

Mini Revision Test

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

1. labyrinth
2. laconic
3. lament
4. lampoon
5. latent

- a. mourn
- b. using few words
- c. maze
- d. present but not visible
- e. satirize

Answer Key - Mini Revision Test

- 1.(c) 2.(b) 3.(a) 4.(e) 5.(d)

LIONISE V.

treat as a celebrity

- ☑ **Syn.** glorify, idolise, praise, fete
- ⌘ She likes to be lionised but at the same time is afraid of the media.

LIQUIDATE V.

to dispose of, to wind up, to do away with

- ☑ **Syn.** pay a debt, shut down
- ⌘ The company will have to be liquidated if it fails to secure new loans by the end of the month.

LISSOME Adj.

nimble, flexible, supple, agile

- ⌘ The lissome dancers in the ballet enthralled the audience.

LISTLESS – lacking energy and enthusiasm

- ☑ **Syn.** enervated, spiritless
- ★ **Ant.** energetic, lively
- ⌘ Listless and depressed after breaking up with his girlfriend, Neeraj spent his days moping on the couch.

LITANY N.

a prayer, chant, either musical or repetitive, a prayer of entreaty with responses

- ⌘ Pooja's litany of complaints seems to have no end.
- ⌘ There is a litany of medical problems facing the prison population.

LITERATI N.

intelligentsia, scholarly people

- ⌘ Her novels are popular with the university literati but they have failed to attract a wider audience.

LITHE N.

supple, limber, agile, flexible and graceful

- ☑ **Syn.** flexible, lissome, agile, nimble
- ⌘ We watched the lithe, beautiful motions of the dancers and were impressed with their physical condition and grace.

LITIGATE V., LITIGATION N.

to dispute by a legal suit

- ☑ **Syn.** go to court, sue, proceedings
- ⌘ The village-folks litigate over trivia.
- ⌘ Public interest litigations in the SC have exposed many problems to public gaze and attention.

LITTER N., V.

any scattered collection of objects

- ☑ **Syn.** waste, trash, garbage, disorder
- ⌘ The littered streets of our colony is an eyesore.
- ⌘ We sell most of our straw to the local stables who use it as litter for their horses.

LIVID Adj.

anaemic, ashen, extremely angry, enraged

- ☑ **Syn.** bruised, furious
- ⌘ My father was livid at my brother's disobedience.
- ⌘ He had a long livid scar across his cheek.

LOATHE V.

to dislike intensely

- ☑ **Syn.** hate, dislike, detest, despise
- ★ **Ant.** adore, love, worship, esteem
- ⌘ If the fruits of liberalisation do not trickle down to the masses, they may loathe the process itself.

LOCOMOTION – movement from place to place

- ☑ **Syn.** mobility, transit
- ⌘ Some believe that the advent of rapid methods of locomotion speeded up the spread of civilisation.

LOGISTICS N.

the art of movement and supply of army troops; the handling of the details of an operation

- ⌘ Without streamlined logistics, army troops can never manoeuvre properly.
- ⌘ The resulting improvements in airline operating logistics might even bring airfares down.

LOGO – corporate symbol

- ☑ **Syn.** monogram, trademark
- ⌘ Bajaj's logo can be found on all its products.

LOITER V.

amble, dawdle, idle, loaf

- ☑ **Syn.** wait, hang around, linger, dally
- ⌘ He loitered on the shore, reluctant to leave.

LONGEVITY N.

great length of life

- ☑ **Syn.** long life, permanence, durability
- ⌘ In any business proposition, it is the longevity of the deal that brings in true prosperity.

LOQUACIOUS Adj., LOQUACITY N.

talkative, glib, garrulous, gabby

- ☑ **Syn.** effusive, rambling
- ★ **Ant.** taciturn, silent, reserved, aloof
- ⌘ Her loquacity has landed her in trouble.
- ⌘ She was very loquacious about her experiences.

LUCID Adj., LUCIDITY N.

transparent, easily understood, clear and distinct, intelligible

- ☑ **Syn.** logical, coherent, cogent, plain
- ★ **Ant.** confused, puzzled, baffled
- ⌘ A journalist's prose should have lucidity but a literary style is not necessary.
- ⌘ The drugs she's taking make her drowsy and confused but there are times when she is quite lucid.

LUCRE N. LUCRATIVE Adj.

sordid gain, riches, money, capital

- ⌘ The greed for lucre got him involved with criminals.

LUDICROUS Adj.

ridiculous, absurd, comical, laughable, absurd

☑ **Syn.** foolish

* **Ant.** sensible, sane, reasonable

☒ He knew he looked ludicrous in the costume but he was bent upon wearing it for the duration of the party.

LUGUBRIOUS Adj.

mournful, sad, dismal, looking or sounding profoundly sad

☑ **Syn.** gloomy, doleful, cheerless

* **Ant.** cheerful, happy, smiling, joyful

☒ The lugubrious atmosphere of the morgue made him queasy.

LUMINARY – bright object, celebrity, source of inspiration

☑ **Syn.** dignitary, megastar

* **Ant.** nobody, pleb

☒ The luminaries of Bollywood gathered for a charitable cricket match in Mumbai.

LUMINOUS – bright, brilliant, glowing

☑ **Syn.** shining, incandescent

* **Ant.** dark, dull

☒ The luminous moon shone right through the curtains into the bedroom.

LUNATIC Adj., **LUNACY** N.

a madman, maniac

☑ **Syn.** outrageous, crazy, foolish

* **Ant.** sensible, rational, reasonable

☒ It seems that his love for the woman has turned him into a lunatic.

LUNAR – relating to the moon

☒ The scientists analysed the lunar rocks for traces of water.

LURID Adj.

melodramatically sensational, shocking, ugly, violent, excessively pale looking, provoking horror, gruesome

☑ **Syn.** loud, bright, garish

☒ She told me all the lurid details of her affair.

LUSCIOUS Adj.

delightful, fulsome, sweet

☑ **Syn.** juicy, succulent, fresh

* **Ant.** bland, withered, dry, shrivelled

☒ Fondness for luscious sweets are sometimes worse than addiction to wine.

LUSH Adj.

rich and juicy, luxuriant

☑ **Syn.** verdant, abundant, green

* **Ant.** arid, dry, baked, barren

☒ Kerala is one of the most lush green states.

☒ The old *gurukuls* used to be set amidst lush green surroundings.

LUXURIANCE – elegance, lavishness

☑ **Syn.** splendour, magnificence

* **Ant.** austerity, poverty

☒ The luxuriance of the couches made them an obvious choice for the palace sitting room.

LYRICAL – suitable for poetry and song, songlike

☑ **Syn.** melodic, subjective

* **Ant.** harsh, objective

☒ Ambar's lyrical talents made him a gifted poet and songwriter.

LYNCH V.

to judge and put to death without the usual form of law

☑ **Syn.** string up, hang, assassinate, kill

☒ The errant truck driver was lynched by the mob.

Mini Revision Test

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

1. lethargy
2. levity
3. loquacious
4. lucid
5. lugubrious

- a. lightness
- b. taking a lot
- c. sluggishness
- d. exaggeratedly mournful
- e. easy to understand

Answer Key - Mini Revision Test

1.(c) 2.(a) 3.(b) 4.(e) 5.(d)