

"I"

ICONOCLAST N., ICONOCLASTIC Adj.

a person opposing conventional beliefs, dissident, agitator

- ☑ **Syn.** misfit, maverick, nonconformist
- ★ **Ant.** conservative, traditional, orthodox
- ✗ Human civilisation largely owes its evolution to its iconoclastic members.
- ✗ It must have been an iconoclast who conjured up the audacious dream of space travel.

IDEALISM

pursuit of noble goals

- ☑ **Syn.** philosophy, principle
- ★ **Ant.** materialism, cynicism
- ✗ His idealism is admirable, but it will not be easy to support ten orphans.

IDEE FIXE N.

a fixed idea or belief, obsession

- ✗ In these troubled times characterised by rapid changes, managers should try and rid themselves of every possible idee fixe.

IDIOSYNCRASY N.

peculiarity of temperament or mental constitution, eccentricity, oddity

- ☑ **Syn.** abnormality, quirk
- ✗ My grandfather had many lovable idiosyncrasies, one being his insistence that dessert be eaten after every meal, even after breakfast.

IDYLLIC Adj.

simple, innocent, charming

- ☑ **Syn.** peaceful, calm, tranquil, restful
- ✗ Idyllic scenery of Manali allures thousands every year.

IGNOBLE Adj.

of low birth or common origin, plebeian

- ☑ **Syn.** lowborn base
- ★ **Ant.** noble, dignified, highborn
- ✗ Ignoble means to achieve success are despicable.

IGNOMINY N., IGNOMINIOUS Adj.

public or profound disgrace, insult

- ☑ **Syn.** humiliation, shame
- ★ **Ant.** honour, respect, admiration
- ✗ Not even the fear of ignominy dampens the spirit of the crooked.
- ✗ The ignominious mayor fled from the town, leaving behind a tangled financial mess.

ILLEGIBLE Adj.

not readable, indistinct, indecipherable

- ☑ **Syn.** scrawled, scribbled
- ★ **Ant.** readable, comprehensible
- ✗ I am afraid illegible handwriting is not the only qualification required to become a doctor.

ILLICIT Adj.

unlawful, unauthorised, forbidden, (esp. of substances) illegal or disapproved of

- ☑ **Syn.** felonious, wrongful
- ★ **Ant.** legal, lawful
- ✗ Illicit liquor is the creation of prohibition.

ILLUSORY

unreal, deceptive

- ☑ **Syn.** delusory, notional
- ★ **Ant.** genuine, real
- ✗ The lost traveller was devastated to discover that the lake he had seen was illusory, just a mirage.

ILLUSTRIOUS

famous, renowned

- ☑ **Syn.** eminent, acclaimed
- ★ **Ant.** obscure, unknown
- ✗ The illustrious music composer produced one hit after another, much to the delight of his fans.

IMBECILE N.

a foolish, unwise, stupid person, a person who behaves in a stupid way

- ★ **Ant.** brilliant
- ✗ Things have become so bad that only an imbecile can expect a politician to put country before self.

IMBIBE V.

to absorb, receive in the mind

- ☑ **Syn.** drink, down, swallow
- ✗ Imbibing the ideals of the great men will be worth the effort.

IMBROGLIO N.

confusion, chaos, embroilment, full of trouble and problems

- ☑ **Syn.** entanglement, embarrassment
- ✗ The Soviet Union became anxious to withdraw its soldiers from the Afghan imbroglio.

IMBUE

to infuse, dye, wet, moisten

- ☑ **Syn.** permeate, fill
- ★ **Ant.** starve, block
- ✗ Maithili struggled to imbue her children with decent values, a difficult task in this day and age.

IMMACULATE Adj.

clean, spotless, pure, exquisite, unsullied

- ☑ **Syn.** clean and tidy, perfect, spick
- ★ **Ant.** messy, untidy, muddled, chaotic
- ✗ Dressed in an immaculate white chiffon Simi Grewal looked angelic.

IMMATERIAL

inconsequential, not consisting of matter

- ☑ **Syn.** extraneous, nonessential
- ★ **Ant.** important, tangible
- ⌘ For some people, the means are immaterial; results are all that matters.

IMMENSE

enormous, huge

- ☑ **Syn.** massive, gigantic
- ★ **Ant.** minute, tiny
- ⌘ In the main hall of the museum, an immense dinosaur skeleton towered over the children.

IMMERSE

to bathe, dip, to engross, preoccupy

- ☑ **Syn.** submerge, absorb
- ★ **Ant.** dehydrate, distract
- ⌘ As the heat became unbearable, the tiger immersed itself in the zoo pool and stayed there till evening.

IMMINENT Adj.

overhanging, impending, threatening, (esp. of something unpleasant) likely to happen very soon

- ☑ **Syn.** looming, depending, on the agenda
- ★ **Ant.** distant, remote, outlying, far
- ⌘ The Prime Minister has strenuously denied reports that a general election was imminent.

IMMOBILE

not moveable, still

- ☑ **Syn.** motionless, stationary
- ★ **Ant.** mobile, moving
- ⌘ Although Ghanshyam's legs have been immobile since the accident, he gets around on his wheelchair.

IMMOLATE V., **IMMOLATION** N.

to offer in sacrifice, to kill (esp. yourself) or to destroy (something), usually by burning, esp. as an expression of anger

- ⌘ Students' self-immolation over the Mandal issue was tragic.

IMMUNE Adj., **IMMUNITY** N.

exempt, free from danger or obligation, protected against a disease by substances in the blood

- ☑ **Syn.** resistant, protected, impervious
- ★ **Ant.** susceptible, vulnerable, prone
- ⌘ Politicians are immune to public criticism.
- ⌘ Journalists, he insisted, must not have immunity from prosecution.

IMMURE V.

to imprison, confine

- ⌘ Amit used to immure himself in his study-room for a fortnight before the exams.

IMMUTABLE

unchangeable, invariable

- ☑ **Syn.** perpetual, unshakeable
- ★ **Ant.** transient, variable
- ⌘ Poverty was an immutable fact of life for the unfortunate Arora family; every source of income had run dry.

IMPAIR

to damage, injure

- ☑ **Syn.** disable, cripple
- ★ **Ant.** enhance, improve
- ⌘ Years of knitting in poor light had impaired Dora's vision.

IMPASSE

blocked path, dilemma with no solution

- ☑ **Syn.** deadlock, stalemate
- ★ **Ant.** breakthrough, resolution
- ⌘ With both leaders failing to budge, the peace process had reached an impasse and the mediator had to act fast.

IMPASSIONED

with passion

- ☑ **Syn.** sincere, fervent
- ★ **Ant.** half-hearted, dispassionate
- ⌘ The protesters made an impassioned plea for the life of the condemned man.

IMPASSIVE

showing no emotion

- ☑ **Syn.** apathetic, indifferent
- ★ **Ant.** excitable, expressive
- ⌘ The king looked on impassively as the traitor desperately pleaded for his life.

IMPEACH

to charge with misdeeds in public office, accuse

- ☑ **Syn.** arraign, indict
- ★ **Ant.** discharge, acquit
- ⌘ The senators debated whether or not the president should be impeached for his felony.

Mini Revision Test

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

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. iconoclast | a. illegal |
| 2. illicit | b. flawless |
| 3. impeccable | c. powerless |
| 4. impotent | d. attacker of popular beliefs |
| 5. inaugurate | e. begin officially |

Answer Key - Mini Revision Test

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

IMPECCABLE

flawless, without fault

- ☑ **Syn.** unblemished, blameless
- ★ **Ant.** imperfect, faulty
- ✍ The dress rehearsal was impeccable; everything was ready for the actual performance.

IMPENETRABLE Adj.

not able to be pierced or entered, beyond understanding, impossible to enter or go through

- ☑ **Syn.** impassable, opaque, enigmatic
- ✍ Ocean's mysteries are impenetrable.

IMPENITENT Adj.

not repentant, not sorry or ashamed about something bad you have done, not penitent

- ☑ **Syn.** not sorry, shameless
- ★ **Ant.** remorseful, regretful, sorry
- ✍ To this day she remains impenitent about her criminal past.

IMPERATIVE

essential, mandatory

- ☑ **Syn.** indispensable, obligatory
- ★ **Ant.** unimportant, optional
- ✍ It's imperative that you follow the instructions of the crew in the event of a crash.

IMPERIAL Adj.

royal, noble, aristocratic, grand, of an empire or the person who rules it

- ☑ **Syn.** regal, imposing, majestic
- ✍ All imperial palaces of Europe are tourist attractions.

IMPERIOUS Adj.

domineering, tyrannical, authoritative, dictatorial, haughty; intensely compelling

- ☑ **Syn.** arrogant, superior
- ★ **Ant.** submissive, obedient, compliant
- ✍ Imperious government officials close their eyes to the plight of the public.
- ✍ We need to find a solution to the imperious problems of new age gizmos like cellphone cameras.

IMPETURABLE Adj.

calm, quiet, which cannot be perturbed or disturbed, being unusually calm and serene,

- ☑ **Syn.** tranquil, serene, placid
- ★ **Ant.** excited, frenzied, turbulent
- ✍ She was calmly competent and imperturbable in a crisis, just the ideal nurse.

IMPIOUS

not devout in religion

- ☑ **Syn.** unholy, irreligious
- ★ **Ant.** holy, pious
- ✍ The nun cut herself off from her impious family after she entered the convent.

IMPLACABLE

inflexible, incapable of being pleased

- ☑ **Syn.** unapacifiable, unyielding
- ★ **Ant.** mollifiable, forgiving
- ✍ His rage at the betrayal was so great that he remained implacable for weeks.

IMPLANT(v)

to set securely or deeply, to instill

- (n) – transplant, graft
- ☑ **Syn.** embed, lodge
- ★ **Ant.** extract, draw out
- ✍ The teacher tried to implant good virtues in his students.

IMPLICATE V., **IMPLICATION** N.

to involve, to entangle or connect; a possible significance

- ☑ **Syn.** associate, involve, connect, link
- ★ **Ant.** clear, obvious, apparent, patent
- ✍ The top brass of Global Trust Bank is implicated in the scam.
- ✍ The book has political implications.

IMPLICIT

implied, not directly expressed

- ☑ **Syn.** understood, deducible
- ★ **Ant.** explicit, direct
- ✍ He never said so but it was implicit in Ravi's behaviour that he wanted to terminate his relationship with Sapna.

IMPORTUNE V.

to urge with troublesome persistence

- ☑ **Syn.** appeal, beg, plead
- ✍ The contesting candidates importuned me for votes right through the campaigning period.

IMPOSE

to inflict, force upon

- ☑ **Syn.** press, compel
- ★ **Ant.** bully, refuse
- ✍ Her father refused her request and imposed his will on her against her wishes.

IMPOSING

dignified, grand

- ☑ **Syn.** striking, magnificent
- ★ **Ant.** unimpressive, mediocre
- ✍ The imposing facade of the mansion intimidated the governess who had come to work there.

IMPOTENT

powerless, lacking virility

- ☑ **Syn.** helpless, ineffectual
- ★ **Ant.** powerful, effective
- ✍ Himself an alcoholic, Chaudhury was impotent to prevent his daughter's plunge into drug abuse.

IMPRECATE V., IMPRECATION N.

to utter curses

- ⌘ The girl imprecated the street boys for harassing her.

IMPREGNABLE Adj.

invulnerable, so strong and well-made that it cannot be broken into or taken by force

- ☑ **Syn.** unassailable, invincible, secure
- ★ **Ant.** vulnerable, susceptible, open to
- ⌘ You can fit your house with burglar alarms and double locks but your home will never be impregnable against determined thieves.

IMPRESSIONABLE

easily influenced or affected

- ☑ **Syn.** persuadable, susceptible
- ★ **Ant.** insusceptible, unimpressible
- ⌘ After attending the Spice Girls concert, the impressionable girl began to dress like Posh Spice every day.

IMPROMPTU

spontaneous, without rehearsal

- ☑ **Syn.** extempore, unrehearsed
- ★ **Ant.** premeditated, planned
- ⌘ During the interview, the Beatles suddenly decided to give an impromptu performance of "Love Me Do."

IMPROVISE V.

to compose, recite, perform without preparation, better, advance

- ☑ **Syn.** manage, get by, get along, cope
- ⌘ I hadn't prepared a speech so I suddenly had to improvise.

IMPUDENT Adj.

shamelessly bold, brazen-faced, insolent, rude and not respectful

- ☑ **Syn.** cheeky, impertinent, insolent
- ★ **Ant.** respectful, reverential, reverent
- ⌘ Impudent behaviour of the neo-rich often lands them in trouble.

IMPUGN

to call into question, attack verbally

- ☑ **Syn.** challenge, assail
- ★ **Ant.** support, praise
- ⌘ "How dare you impugn my honourable motives?" protested the lawyer on being accused of spying.

IMPULSE

sudden tendency, inclination

- ☑ **Syn.** urge, whim
- ★ **Ant.** premeditated, with forethought
- ⌘ On impulse, Sarah bought a leather jacket for her boyfriend, although she couldn't really afford it.

IMPULSIVE

spontaneous, unpredictable

- ☑ **Syn.** reckless, impromptu
- ★ **Ant.** cautious, premeditated
- ⌘ Last Christmas, she impulsively cancelled the trip to London and went to Hawaii instead.

IMPUNITY N.

safety from punishment, immunity, licence, freedom from punishment

- ⌘ Indians flout traffic rules with impunity.

IMPUTE V.

to ascribe, charge, attribute (often unfairly)

- ☑ **Syn.** refer, assign
- ⌘ Each political candidate imputes his opponent of corruption.

INADVERTENT Adj.

unintentional, thoughtless

- ☑ **Syn.** unintended, chance, involuntary
- ★ **Ant.** deliberate, planned, calculated
- ⌘ The heavy fog caused an inadvertent delay of the flight.

INADVERTENTLY

unintentionally

- ☑ **Syn.** accidentally, unwittingly
- ★ **Ant.** deliberately, intentionally
- ⌘ As he was backing out of the driveway, the driver inadvertently ran over a rose bush.

INALIENABLE Adj.

not capable of being removed, undeniable, irrevocable

- ☑ **Syn.** absolute, immutable, undeniable
- ⌘ The inalienable influence of the British rule on the way of life and thinking of Indians was radical as well as harmful.

INANE Adj.

empty, void, insubstantial

- ☑ **Syn.** absurd, idiotic, childish
- ★ **Ant.** sensible, sane, reasonable
- ⌘ There are too many inane quiz shows and imported detective series on television these days.

INAUGURATE

to begin or start officially, to induct into office

- ☑ **Syn.** institute, establish
- ★ **Ant.** end, wind up
- ⌘ The new headquarters of the company was inaugurated in a lavish ceremony attended by thousands.

INCARCERATE V.

to imprison, confine, detain, to lock up or confine against a person's will

- ☑ **Syn.** jail, intern
- ⌘ The judge determined that the young offender should do community service rather than be incarcerated.

INCARNATE

having bodily form

- ☑ **Syn.** embodied in the flesh, in human form
- ⌘ The serial killer was so sadistic that the media described him as the devil incarnate.

INCENDIARY N.

a person who deliberately sets fire, arsonist

- ⌘ The identical pattern of fires in the city confirm the hand of an incendiary.

INCENSE(v)

to infuriate, enrage

(n) – perfume, fragrance, smell

☑ **Syn.** outrage, antagonise

★ **Ant.** placate, please

✗ The general became thoroughly incensed when his subordinates failed to follow his orders.

INCEPTION N.

beginning, origin, birth, debut

☑ **Syn.** setting up, start, initiation

★ **Ant.** culmination, conclusion, finale

✗ Since its inception in 1968, the company has been at the forefront of computer peripherals development.

INCIPIENT

beginning to exist or appear; at an initial stage

☑ **Syn.** embryonic, nascent

★ **Ant.** full-blown, fully developed

✗ The symptoms were yet to become evident but the incipient illness was already affecting her sleep.

INCISIVE

perceptive, penetrating

☑ **Syn.** sharp, astute

★ **Ant.** rambling, vague

✗ The psychologist's incisive analysis of her patient's childhood helped him to understand his own behaviour.

INCITE V., INCITATION N.

to move to action, to instigate, to encourage (someone) to do or feel

☑ **Syn.** provoke, inflame, rouse, goad

★ **Ant.** inhibit, hold back, restrain, stall

✗ Ghulam Mir was kept in solitary confinement because it was feared he might incite another riot.

INCLEMENT Adj.

severe, harsh, rigorous (of weather)

☑ **Syn.** stormy, rainy, windy, foul

★ **Ant.** pleasant, enjoyable, agreeable

✗ The inclement life amidst Himalayan snows demands tenacity.

INCOGNITO Adj.

unknown, under an assumed name, with a hidden identity

☑ **Syn.** in disguise, undercover

★ **Ant.** openly, explicitly, frankly

✗ The prince often travels abroad incognito.

INCOMMUNICADO Adj.

in solitary confinement, not communicating with anyone else because you do not want to or you are not allowed to

✗ He was held incommunicado for 48 hours after he was arrested.

INCONGRUOUS Adj.

inconsistent, unsuitable, incompatible, seeming out of place or unsuited

☑ **Syn.** incompatible, inappropriate

★ **Ant.** consistent, steady, constant

✗ Do you think it incongruous that a woman should be the editor of a men's magazine?

INCONTINENT Adj.

lacking self-restraint, not having voluntary control over excretion of urine and faeces

✗ He thought he was incontinent because he was old but was pleasantly surprised when the treatment made a major difference and restored his confidence.

INCREDIBLE Adj.

beyond belief, unbelievable, amazing, unimaginable, impossible to believe

☑ **Syn.** disembodied, ghostly, spiritual

★ **Ant.** tangible, touchable, physical

✗ The news that he scored 100 percentile in CAT seems incredible but it is true.

INCREDULITY N., INCREDULOUS Adj.

a tendency to disbelief

☑ **Syn.** amazement, astonishment, doubt

★ **Ant.** belief, faith, trust, conviction

✗ He cast an incredulous glance at the well-dressed gentleman who turned out to be a thief.

✗ He felt a sense of incredulity, anger and pain at the accusation made against him.

INCRIMINATE V., INCRIMINATION N.

to charge with a crime, to accuse of blame or implicate as blameworthy

☑ **Syn.** accuse, indict, inculpate

★ **Ant.** acquit, extenuate, absolve

✗ The incriminating evidence against the Congressmen is an eye opener.

Mini Revision Test

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

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. inept | a. clumsy |
| 2. inert | b. inactive |
| 3. infatuated | c. conclude |
| 4. infer | d. foolish |
| 5. ingenuous | e. artless |

Answer Key - Mini Revision Test

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

INCLINATION

tendency towards

- ☑ **Syn.** proclivity, propensity
- ★ **Ant.** aversion, disinclination
- ⌘ Her natural inclination was to refuse Madhur's invitation to dinner, but since he was her boss she could not refuse.

INCLUSIVE

comprehensive

- ☑ **Syn.** with everything included, all-encompassing
- ★ **Ant.** exclusive, excepting
- ⌘ It took 30 years, but the publisher managed to produce the most inclusive encyclopedia on the market.

INCONCEIVABLE

impossible, unthinkable

- ☑ **Syn.** implausible, absurd
- ★ **Ant.** likely, believable
- ⌘ It was inconceivable to the dictator that his subjects could hate him, although they obviously did.

INCONSEQUENTIAL

unimportant, trivial

- ☑ **Syn.** insignificant, trifling
- ★ **Ant.** significant, important
- ⌘ The director dismissed the report as inconsequential and ordered a fresh round of research.

INCORRIGIBLE

incapable of being corrected

- ☑ **Syn.** incurable, inveterate
- ★ **Ant.** occasional, repentant
- ⌘ Shabana is an incorrigible flirt.

INCREDULOUS

sceptical, doubtful

- ☑ **Syn.** disbelieving, distrustful
- ★ **Ant.** credulous, gullible
- ⌘ Apparently my friend missed the incredulous look on my face because he went on to tell another tall story.

INCULCATE V.

to instill by repetition, to fix (ideas, beliefs, facts etc.) in someone's mind esp. by repeating them often

- ☑ **Syn.** beat, hammer, pound, repeat
- ⌘ Right values have to be inculcated right from infancy.

INCUMBENT Adj., N., INCUMBENCY N.

lying, resting, officially having the named position

- ☑ **Syn.** current, in office, present, now
- ★ **Ant.** past, history, precedent, beyond
- ⌘ The present incumbent is due to retire next month.
- ⌘ The anti-incumbency wave removed NDA from power.

INDEFATIGABLE

never tired

- ☑ **Syn.** untiring, tenacious
- ★ **Ant.** idle, feeble
- ⌘ Vasanti seemed indefatigable, ready for a few laps in the pool after a 10-kilometre run.

INDEFENSIBLE

inexcusable, unforgivable

- ☑ **Syn.** unpardonable, refutable
- ★ **Ant.** justifiable, tenable
- ⌘ I was aghast at the indefensible cruelty of the ruling sect.

INDELIBLE Adj.

that cannot be removed, washed away or erased

- ⌘ The whole election turned out to be a farce when the so-called indelible ink smeared on voters' fingers turned out to be easily washable.

INDEMNIFY V., INDEMNITY N.

to secure against or compensate loss

- ⌘ The state provided indemnity for the steel plant project in Orissa.

INDICATIVE

showing or pointing out

- ☑ **Syn.** suggestive of, symptomatic
- ⌘ The looting of the shop was indicative of the general lawlessness that prevailed in the city.

INDICT V., INDICTMENT N.

to charge with a crime formally, accuse

- ☑ **Syn.** impeach, summons
- ⌘ The High Court indicted the seer for murder.

INDIGENOUS

native, occurring naturally in an area

- ☑ **Syn.** original, initial
- ★ **Ant.** expatriate, migrant
- ⌘ Palm trees are indigenous to Florida, unlike penguins.

INDIGENT Adj., INDIGENCE N.

poor, destitute, in need of money

- ☑ **Syn.** poor, needy, impecunious
- ★ **Ant.** wealthy, rich, prosperous, flush
- ⌘ The indigent Chakma refugees live in a pitiable condition.
- ⌘ Economists or politicians could not find a way to eliminate or even reduce inequalities of wealth and eliminate indigence.

INDISCRIMINATE Adj.

choosing at random, confused, promiscuous

- ☑ **Syn.** haphazard, random, arbitrary
- ⌘ The indiscriminate use of fertilisers has caused long-term problems in the area.

INDOLENT Adj., INDOLENCE N.

lazy, sluggish

- ☑ **Syn.** lethargic, slothful, idle
- ★ **Ant.** industrious, busy, productive
- ⌘ People living in warm climates tend to be indolent.
- ⌘ If you want to make progress you have to shed your indolence first.

INDOMITABLE Adj.

invincible, unconquerable, dauntless

☑ **Syn.** strong, resolute, tough

★ **Ant.** feeble, weak, frail, delicate

✎ Meenu proved indomitable and she did not let even the fall affect her preparation for her *arangetram*.

INDUCE

to persuade, bring about

☑ **Syn.** prompt, instigate

★ **Ant.** dissuade, prevent

✎ Tom thought the prospect of a walk in the hills would induce his girlfriend to go skydiving with him, but she refused.

INDUCT

to place ceremoniously in office

☑ **Syn.** install in, instate in

★ **Ant.** bar from, dismiss

✎ The wicketkeeper was proud to be inducted into cricket's Hall of Fame.

INDULGE

to give in to a craving or desire

☑ **Syn.** splurge, luxuriate in

★ **Ant.** deny oneself of, stifle

✎ Jenny indulged herself with a weekend at a luxurious spa.

INEBRIATE V., **INEBRIATED** Adj.**INEBRIETY** N.

to intoxicate

✎ Deepak was caught in an inebriated condition while on duty and was promptly dismissed.

INEFFABLE Adj.

causing too much emotion (esp. pleasure) to express in words

☑ **Syn.** indescribable, unspeakable

✎ There is ineffable joy in seeing one's baby start to walk for the first time.

INEPT

clumsy, awkward

☑ **Syn.** unskilful, incompetent

★ **Ant.** competent, expert

✎ He was so inept in the garden that he dug up roses and fertilised weeds.

INERT

unable to move, inactive

☑ **Syn.** immobile, motionless

★ **Ant.** moving, animated

✎ In the heat of the desert afternoon, lizards lie inert.

INEVITABLE

certain, unavoidable

☑ **Syn.** inescapable, inexorable

★ **Ant.** avoidable, uncertain

✎ With all the obstacles in their path, the end of their relationship was, perhaps, inevitable.

INEXORABLE Adj.

unrelenting, stubborn, obstinate, not movable by any means

☑ **Syn.** unalterable, unchangeable

✎ The storm's path was inexorable and the best we could do was prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

INEXPLICABLE Adj.

incapable of being explained

☑ **Syn.** mysterious, unfathomable

★ **Ant.** understandable, reasonable

✎ The sudden change in her mood was inexplicable.

INFAMY

reputation for bad deeds

☑ **Syn.** notoriety, disrepute

★ **Ant.** honour, anonymity

✎ His infamy threatened to degrade the high position he now occupied.

INFANTILE

childish, immature

☑ **Syn.** juvenile, adolescent

★ **Ant.** mature, level-headed

✎ The young man's infantile behaviour in the presence of his mother annoyed his fiancée.

INFATUATED

strongly or foolishly attached to, inspired with foolish passion, overly in love

☑ **Syn.** besotted, smitten

✎ After seeing her picture in a fashion magazine, Lalit became completely infatuated with the beautiful model.

INFER

to conclude, deduce

☑ **Syn.** surmise, imply

✎ I think we can infer from this study that the quality of old-age homes needs to be improved.

INFINITESIMAL Adj.

insignificant, small

☑ **Syn.** minute, minuscule, tiny

★ **Ant.** immeasurable, endless, infinite

✎ No lapse ought to be treated as infinitesimal.

INFRINGE V., **INFRINGEMENT** N.

to violate, trespass, defy

☑ **Syn.** break, encroach

★ **Ant.** obey, mind, follow, observe

✎ The prisoners claimed that the new regulation was an infringement of their right to live with dignity.

INFURIATE V.

to madden, to enrage

☑ **Syn.** enrage, madden, incense, annoy

✎ The inefficiency of the administration infuriated the public.

INGENIOUS

original, clever, inventive

- ☑ **Syn.** creative, sharp-witted
- ★ **Ant.** unimaginative, stupid
- 🔗 Ajay found an ingenious way to solve the complex math problem.

INGENUOUS

straightforward, open, naive and unsophisticated

- ☑ **Syn.** candid, forthright
- ★ **Ant.** cunning, artful
- 🔗 She was so ingenuous that her friends feared she would be exploited in the big city.

INGRATE

ungrateful person

- ☑ **Syn.** thankless, unappreciative
- ★ **Ant.** thankful, grateful
- 🔗 When nobody thanked her for the fruit cakes she had sent, Neena condemned them all as ingrates.

INGRATiate V.

to commend to someone's grace or favour, to work your way into someone's good graces

- ☑ **Syn.** curry flavour, toady, grovel to
- 🔗 For once the bureaucrat's ingratiating manner failed to work and the no-nonsense minister ordered him to produce results.

INHIBIT

to hold back, prevent

- ☑ **Syn.** restrict, restrain
- ★ **Ant.** allow, encourage
- 🔗 Ruchi was too inhibited to tell Amar that she resented his failure to repay the money he kept borrowing from her.

INIMICAL

hostile, unfriendly

- ☑ **Syn.** antagonistic, antipathetic
- ★ **Ant.** warm, friendly
- 🔗 Even though the ceasefire was holding, the two sides remained inimical and the tension did not ease.

INIQUITY

sin, injustice, wickedness

- ☑ **Syn.** villainy, immorality
- ★ **Ant.** virtue, goodness
- 🔗 The iniquity of his act was apparent to all and it was an easy decision to bar him from entering the church.

INITIATE

to begin, introduce, to enlist, induct

- ☑ **Syn.** commence, install
- ★ **Ant.** complete, expel
- 🔗 He thought the first experimental sip at the bar would initiate him into manhood.

INJECT

to force into, to introduce into conversation

- ☑ **Syn.** instil, infuse
- 🔗 Her loud remark injected an element of uneasiness into the conversations at the party.

INNATE

natural, inborn

- ☑ **Syn.** inbred, congenital
- ★ **Ant.** acquired, extraneous
- 🔗 Her innate level-headedness will help her to withstand the enormous pressure of the job.

INNOCUOUS

harmless, inoffensive

- ☑ **Syn.** peaceful, insipid
- ★ **Ant.** harmful, obnoxious
- 🔗 Some snakes are poisonous, but most are innocuous and pose no danger to humans.

INNOVATE

to invent, modernise, revolutionise

- ☑ **Syn.** institute, pioneer
- 🔗 Coco Chanel innovated a new suit design, transforming the fashion industry.

INNUENDO N.

an indirect derogatory comment, insinuation

- ☑ **Syn.** aspersion, barb, implication
- 🔗 The many innuendoes about his private life eventually made him resign.

INNUMERABLE

too many to be counted

- ☑ **Syn.** numerous, countless
- ★ **Ant.** few, calculable
- 🔗 There are innumerable stars in the sky.

Mini Revision Test

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

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. incense | a. beginning |
| 2. incipient | b. make very angry |
| 3. incisive | c. cutting right to the heart |
| 4. incorrigible | d. incapable of being reformed |
| 5. indigenous | e. native |

Answer Key - Mini Revision Test

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

INOCULATE V., INOCULATION N.

to insert as a bud or a graft, to vaccinate

- ☑ **Syn.** immunise, vaccinate
- ⚡ It is important to inoculate every infant at the earliest.

INOOPPORTUNE Adj.

unseasonable in time

- ☑ **Syn.** ill-timed, unfortunate
- ★ **Ant.** opportune, fitting, apt, right
- ⚡ Without thinking, I made an inopportune remark that hurt my friend.

INORDINATE Adj.

excessive, unrestrained, beyond normal limits,

- ☑ **Syn.** immoderate, undue, unwarranted
- ⚡ Thanks to the inordinate delay in the commissioning of the power project there is no way to bridge the huge gap between demand and supply.

INSATIABLE

never satisfied

- ☑ **Syn.** unquenchable, unappeasable
- ★ **Ant.** easily satisfied, content
- ⚡ Meera's insatiable appetite made it difficult for her to lose weight.

INSCRUTABLE Adj.

that which cannot be understood, mysterious, difficult to interpret

- ☑ **Syn.** enigmatic, deadpan
- ⚡ The inspector's inscrutable smile gave nothing away as the accused rambled on.

INSIDIOUS Adj.

deceptive, treacherous, wily, alluring but dangerous, deceitfully damaging

- ☑ **Syn.** sinister, menacing
- ⚡ Insidious mortal pleasures make one run after money.

INSINUATE V., INSINUATION N.

to suggest indirectly, imply

- ☑ **Syn.** make out, intimate
- ⚡ He was insinuating that the starlet had succumbed to the casting couch to bag the role.

INSIPID

lacking flavour, without excitement

- ☑ **Syn.** bland, unpalatable
- ★ **Ant.** tasty, interesting
- ⚡ The critic claimed that the soup was insipid, without any spice.

INSOLENT

impudent, cheeky

- ☑ **Syn.** uncivil, impolite
- ★ **Ant.** polite, courteous
- ⚡ Despite several warnings, the student continued to be insolent and was asked to leave the class.

INSOLUBLE

that cannot be solved or dissolved

- ☑ **Syn.** insolvable, inexplicable
- ★ **Ant.** resolvable, interpretable
- ⚡ When the mathematician found the solution to the problem others had declared insoluble, he was hailed as a genius.

INSOLVENT

bankrupt, unable to pay one's debts

- ☑ **Syn.** penniless, ruined
- ★ **Ant.** solvent, creditworthy
- ⚡ The company became insolvent after overinvesting in many overambitious projects and had to go out of business.

INSOUCIANT Adj.

indifferent, without concern or care

- ⚡ Perhaps his youth makes him insouciant but he ought to be conscious of his official responsibility.

INSTIGATE

to incite, urge, agitate

- ☑ **Syn.** goad, encourage
- ★ **Ant.** dissuade, discourage
- ⚡ The man who had instigated the rebellion escaped, although all his followers were arrested.

INSULAR

isolated, detached

- ☑ **Syn.** segregated, separate
- ★ **Ant.** tolerant, accessible
- ⚡ Her insular attitude made it very difficult for her to adjust to the new workplace though others were willing to accommodate her.

INSURGENT Adj., N., INSURGENCY N.

rebellious

- ☑ **Syn.** rebel, rising
- ★ **Ant.** content, happy, substance
- ⚡ The coup was masterminded by the insurgent troops.
- ⚡ The army carried out counter-insurgency operations in Kashmir valley last fortnight.

INSURRECTION N.

a rising or revolt, mutiny

- ☑ **Syn.** rebellion, revolution, mutiny
- ⚡ This insurrection against orthodoxy is necessary for radical change.

INTEGRAL

central, indispensable

- ☑ **Syn.** essential, fundamental
- ★ **Ant.** incidental, peripheral
- ⚡ Paper is an integral part of a book.

INTEGRITY

decency, honesty; wholeness

- ☑ **Syn.** uprightness, morality
- ★ **Ant.** dishonesty, insincerity
- ⚡ The candidate's integrity made him a refreshing contrast to his sleazy political opponents.

INTERMINABLE

endless

- ☑ **Syn.** incessant, ceaseless
- ★ **Ant.** restricted, limited
- ☒ By the time the interminable play ended, the last train home had already left.

INTERMITTENT

starting and stopping

- ☑ **Syn.** sporadic, fitful
- ★ **Ant.** steady, continuous
- ☒ The flow of traffic was intermittent on the highway.

INTERPOLATE

to insert, change by adding new words or material

- ☑ **Syn.** append, interject
- ★ **Ant.** remove, delete
- ☒ The editor interpolated a few sentences, and the new edition was ready to print.

INTERROGATE

to question formally

- ☑ **Syn.** grill, cross-examine
- ★ **Ant.** respond, reply
- ☒ The secret police interrogated the suspected rebel for days, demanding to know the names of his co-conspirators.

INTERSPERSE

to distribute among, mix with

- ☑ **Syn.** intermingle, disperse
- ★ **Ant.** assemble, congregate
- ☒ The gardener interspersed shrubs with flowering plants giving the garden a fresh and colourful look.

INTERVENE V., INTERVENTION N.

come between

- ☑ **Syn.** arbitrate, mediate, occur
- ☒ I had to intervene when the heated conversation threatened to get physical.

INTIMATION

announcement, suggestion

- ☑ **Syn.** notification, indication
- ☒ As he was away from work without leave, he stood to lose his wages for the entire month.

INTIMIDATE V., INTIMIDATION N.

browbeat, bully, cow, lean on

- ☑ **Syn.** threaten, frighten, scare, bully
- ☒ Managements now realise that intimidation does not contribute to efficiency.
- ☒ The don's intimidating presence in the nightclub was disturbing the other patrons.

INTRACTABLE

not easily managed

- ☑ **Syn.** uncontrollable, unmanageable
- ★ **Ant.** compliant, obedient
- ☒ The hardened criminals were intractable and the reformer's task was not likely to be easy.

INTRANSIGENT

uncompromising, refusing to be reconciled

- ☑ **Syn.** inflexible, unbending
- ★ **Ant.** flexible, compliant
- ☒ The professor was intransigent and refused to extend the deadline for submission of the assignment.

INTREPID

fearless, dauntless

- ☑ **Syn.** undaunted, unafraid
- ★ **Ant.** fearful, cowardly
- ☒ The intrepid hiker completed his ascent to the peak, despite the bleeding wound and the freezing winds.

INTRIGUE (INTREEG) N., V.

conspiracy, machination, secret affair

- ☑ **Syn.** plot, deception, scheme
- ☒ The silence of the minister is very intriguing as his ministry is in the thick of the scam.

INTRINSIC

inherent, internal

- ☑ **Syn.** inherent, integral
- ★ **Ant.** acquired, extrinsic
- ☒ The intrinsic value of this diamond is already considerable; the elegant setting makes it truly priceless.

INTRINSICALLY Adv., INTRINSIC Adj.

essentially innate, inherently

- ☑ **Syn.** basically, fundamentally
- ☒ We all like to be judged for our intrinsic worth and not for extrinsic things like money or position.

INTROSPECTIVE Adj., INTROSPECTION N.

looking within oneself

- ☑ **Syn.** thoughtful, meditative, pensive
- ☒ Everyone should keep aside some time for introspection.
- ☒ On introspection, I realised my follies and set forth to correct them.

INTUITIVE

instinctive, untaught

- ☑ **Syn.** inborn, inherent
- ★ **Ant.** cerebral, cultivated
- ☒ Riya's talent with numbers was completely intuitive; she had not received any formal training.

INUNDATE

to cover with water, overwhelm

- ☑ **Syn.** submerge, besiege
- ★ **Ant.** afloat, leave unaffected
- ☒ The tidal wave inundated the island, which simply vanished from the face of the earth.

INVECTIVE N.

censure, sarcasm, satire, verbal abuse or insult, vituperation

- ☑ **Syn.** diatribe, criticism, tirade
- ★ **Ant.** praise, admire, commend, extol
- ☒ Their conversations are always laced with invectives.

INVEIGH (*INVAY*) V.

to make a bitter verbal attack, to object with bitterness, to complain forcefully, to rail

- ☑ **Syn.** disparage, censure
- ☒ The lawyer inveighed against the unnecessarily strict sentence given to his client.

INVEIGLE V.

to entice, to coax by flattery, to convince or persuade by cleverness or flattery

- ☑ **Syn.** cajole, wheedle, trick, deceive, con
- ☒ Many young Nepali girls are inveigled into the flesh trade in Mumbai.

INVETERATE Adj.

deep rooted, stubborn, habitual

- ☑ **Syn.** chronic, confirmed, hardened
- * **Ant.** mild, gentle, kind, soft, calm
- ☒ An inveterate liar, she seemed to know of no difference between truth and fiction.

INVIGORATE V.

to strengthen

- ☑ **Syn.** refresh, revitalise, stimulate
- * **Ant.** exhaust, tire, drain, fatigue
- ☒ The invigorating climate of the hill-station restored my mood.

INVINCIBLE Adj.

insuperable, unyielding

- ☑ **Syn.** unbeatable, unshakable
- * **Ant.** yielding, submissive, weak
- ☒ India's spin attack humbled the seemingly invincible Australians.

INVIOABLE

safe from violation or assault

- ☑ **Syn.** untouchable, sacrosanct
- * **Ant.** vulnerable, unprotected
- ☒ The refugees felt inviolable in the camp under the protection of the U.N. troops.

INVOKE

to call upon, request help

- ☑ **Syn.** conjure, evoke
- * **Ant.** respond, reply
- ☒ Varun invoked the assistance of all his relatives when his business ran into serious trouble.

IOTA

very tiny amount

- ☑ **Syn.** shred, ounce
- ☒ Duryodhan told Krishna that he would not even give an iota of land to the Pandavas.

IRASCIBLE

easily-angered

- ☑ **Syn.** irritable, tetchy
- * **Ant.** sweet-natured, cool-tempered
- ☒ The dacoit's irascible and violent nature made all who dealt with him fear for their lives.

IRATE Adj.

angry

- ☑ **Syn.** furious, mad, irritated
- * **Ant.** calm, tranquil, peaceful, quiet
- ☒ The irate crowd burnt several buses and cars.

IRIDESCENT

showing many colours

- ☑ **Syn.** kaleidoscopic, multicoloured
- * **Ant.** monochromatic, colourless
- ☒ The tourists sighed at the beautiful sight of the iridescent tropical butterfly fluttering among the orchids.

IRKSOME Adj.

annoying, tedious

- ☑ **Syn.** infuriating, irritating, tiresome
- * **Ant.** pleasant, enjoyable, lovely
- ☒ A pedant that he was, I found his queries irksome.

IRONY N., **IRONICAL** Adj.

a condition where one seems to be mocked by fate, the unexpected, when it is the opposite of what you expected

- ☑ **Syn.** satire, sarcasm, mockery
- ☒ It is an irony of life that good times seem so near, yet so far.
- ☒ Ironically, wealth came to him in his old age after he had spent all his youth hankering after it.

IRREPROACHABLE Adj.

innocent, guiltless, blameless, impeccable

- ☑ **Syn.** virtuous, exemplary
- ☒ The irreproachable JRD Tata will always remain a legend.

IRRESOLVABLE

unable to be resolved, not analysable

- ☑ **Syn.** baffling, inexplicable
- ☒ The conflict between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland seemed irresolvable until last year.

IRREVERENT Adj.

impious, irreligious, sacrilegious, cheeky, rude

- ☑ **Syn.** cheeky, mocking, impertinent
- * **Ant.** respectful, deferential, reverent
- ☒ Among today's youth it is a trend to be irreverent.

IRREVOCABLE Adj.

incapable of being revoked, recalled, repealed, brought back

- ☑ **Syn.** binding, final, irreversible
- * **Ant.** flexible, supple, lithe, elastic
- ☒ The words that leave your tongue is irrevocable.

ITINERARY N.

a plan for the journey, record of journey, travel route, guidebook

- ☑ **Syn.** schedule, plan, trip
- ☒ Our itinerary takes us through the four southern states.