

"E"

EARNEST Adj., N.

sincere, serious; a serious and intent mental state

- ☑ **Syn.** solemn, grave, sober
- ★ **Ant.** frivolous, playful, perky
- ☒ Earnest efforts to reform Indian elections have turned the election commission into a powerful entity.
- ☒ Now we can relax in earnest.

EBB

to fade away, recede

- ☑ **Syn.** retreat, wane
- ★ **Ant.** increase, intensify
- ☒ Madhu enjoyed watching the ebb and flow of the tide from her beachside balcony.

EBULLIENT Adj., **EBULLIENCE** N.

enthusiastic, excessively excited, exuberant

- ☑ **Syn.** cheerful, happy, jovial, bright
- ★ **Ant.** depressing, gloomy, miserable
- ☒ Our ebullient host couldn't stop laughing and talking.
- ☒ Meg Ryan's bubbling ebullience is simply infectious.

ECHELON N.

a group of individuals at a particular level in an organisation, hierarchy

- ☑ **Syn.** level, stratum, rank, height
- ☒ Reaching the highest echelons of international politics is a dream for many.

ECLECTIC Adj.

made up of elements borrowed from different sources, carefully selected, chosen from the best or various sources

- ☑ **Syn.** assorted, free, miscellaneous
- ☒ Maria reads an eclectic array of books and can always suggest a good title.

ECSTASY N., **ECSTATIC** Adj.

a feeling of great happiness, exultation, intense delight

- ☑ **Syn.** joy, rapture, delight
- ★ **Ant.** deject, gloom, agony
- ☒ The agony and ecstasy of motherhood can be only felt by those who go through it.

EDDY

air or wind current

- ☑ **Syn.** whirlpool, vortex
- ☒ When water gets pulled down a drain, it forms a small eddy.

EDICT

law, command, official public order

- ☑ **Syn.** diktat, proclamation
- ☒ People were angered by the new edict of the dictator that restricted free movement.

EDIFICE N.

a large and impressive building or structure,

- ☑ **Syn.** construction, house, shop
- ☒ The crumbling edifice of law and order in India can be attributed to our politicians.
- ☒ A white marble edifice called the *Taj* attracts millions to India every year.

EDIFY

to instruct morally and spiritually

- ☑ **Syn.** enlighten, educate
- ★ **Ant.** to keep in the dark, conceal
- ☒ The guru was paid to edify the actress in the ways of Buddhism.

EDITORIALISE

to express an opinion on an issue

- ☒ The old journalist criticised the modern tendency to editorialise even regular news items.

EFFACE V., **EFFACEABLE** Adj.,

EFFACEMENT N.

to destroy the surface of, to obliterate, to erase

- ☑ **Syn.** wipe out, eradicate
- ★ **Ant.** engrave, etch, carve
- ☒ Hitler's attempts at effacement of the Jews finally proved futile.
- ☒ The police had a difficult task as the culprits had effaced all evidence from the scene of burglary.

EFFERVESCENT

bubbly, lively

- ☑ **Syn.** vivacious, jaunty
- ★ **Ant.** depressed, flat
- ☒ Tina's effervescent personality made her the perfect game show host.

EFFEMINATE Adj., N.

feminine, womanly, unmanly

- ☒ He's got a very effeminate gait.

EFFETE Adj.

worn out, exhausted, no longer useful, outmoded, nonproductive

- ☒ With nothing to do all day except amuse themselves, the rich kids had grown effete and lazy.

EFFICACY N., **EFFICACIOUS** Adj.

power to produce the desired effect

- ☑ **Syn.** effectiveness, usefulness, worth
- ★ **Ant.** incompetence, inadequacy
- ☒ The efficacy of the medicine can be ascertained only after its prolonged use.
- ☒ For years, people hoped that someone would discover an efficacious treatment for polio.

EFFIGY

stuffed doll, likeness of a person

☑ **Syn.** dummy, statue

✗ The anti-American militants burned Uncle Sam's effigy during their demonstration.

EFFRONTERY

impudent boldness, audacity

☑ **Syn.** impertinence, brazenness

★ **Ant.** politeness, timidity

✗ The receptionist had the effrontery to laugh out loud when the visitor tripped and fell.

EFFUSIVE Adj., **EFFUSION** N.

pouring out, gushing out

✗ His manner of receiving people may be effusive but is not necessarily spontaneous and sincere.

✗ The crowd was quite effusive in its expression of anger against the candidate.

EFFULGENCE N., **EFFULGENT** Adj.

radiant splendour, brilliance

✗ The effulgence of diamonds seems to have cast a spell on women around the world.

EGALITARIANISM N., **EGALITARIAN** Adj.

a belief in human equality

☑ **Syn.** democratic, free, classless, equal

★ **Ant.** repressive, exploitive, brutal

✗ Communism aims at an egalitarian society.

EGOCENTRIC

concerned only about one's own interests

☑ **Syn.** narcissistic, self-centred

★ **Ant.** altruistic, magnanimous

✗ Chitranjan was too egocentric to notice the effect of his comments on his colleagues.

EGREGIOUS Adj.

outrageously bad, flagrant, profoundly noticeable in a negative way

✗ The egregious bowling by the Sri Lankans during the tournament earned them a lot of infamy.

EGRESS N., V.

exit, issue, emergence, outbreak

☑ **Syn.** way out, door, outlet

★ **Ant.** entry, access, way in, arrival

✗ They egressed from the cinema hall zapped by Shah Rukh's performance.

ELATION

exhilaration, joy

☑ **Syn.** delight, glee

★ **Ant.** misery, suffering

✗ The actress was filled with elation when she heard that she had been awarded the Oscar.

ELEGY

mournful poem, usually about the dead

☑ **Syn.** requiem, plaint

✗ I wrote an elegy for my father.

ELICIT

to draw out, obtain

☑ **Syn.** extract, educe

★ **Ant.** suppress, insert

✗ The tough policeman was not able to elicit a confession from the suspect.

ELIXIR N.

cure-all, something invigorating

✗ The so-called magical elixir turned out to be nothing but a cheap alcoholic drink.

ELOQUENT Adj., **ELOQUENCE** N.

strongly expressive, articulate, memorable because of verbal skills, moving and forcefully phrased

☑ **Syn.** fluent, articulate, powerful

✗ Adolf Hitler's eloquence on Aryan supremacy made millions of Germans walk behind him to conquer Europe.

✗ Martin Luther King's 'I Have a Dream' is widely considered to be one of the most eloquent and effective speeches in American history.

ELUCIDATE

to explain, clarify

☑ **Syn.** expound, delineate

★ **Ant.** confuse, obfuscate

✗ The teacher elucidated the reasons why she had failed the student, to his parents.

Architecture

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

AISLE	:	a passage between rows of seats in a building such as Church or Theatre, an aircraft or train.
BOULEVARD	:	a wide street in a town or city typically one lined with trees
CONCOURSE	:	an open space where several paths meet
EDIFICE	:	a monument
HOVEL	:	a shed or poorly constructed or ill-kept house
MEZZANINE	:	a low balcony above the ground floor of a building
OBELISK	:	a tapering (narrowing) column that forming pyramid at the top
PERISTYLE	:	a colonnade or row of piers surrounding a building or courtyard
ROCOCO	:	ornate; highly decorative
VOUSSOIR	:	a wedge-shaped stone used in making an arch or vault

ELUDE V., ELUSIVE Adj.

to escape by trickery

- ☑ **Syn.** evade, dodge, hedge, avoid
- ★ **Ant.** confront, capture, face
- ⌘ They had minor breakthroughs but real success eluded them.
- ⌘ The elusive sandalwood smuggler Veerappan was eventually killed in a police encounter.

EMACIATED

skinny, gaunt, especially from hunger

- ☑ **Syn.** scrawny, undernourished
- ★ **Ant.** healthy, well-fed
- ⌘ The emaciated mendicant begged for scraps from the picnickers.

EMANCIPATE

to set free, liberate

- ☑ **Syn.** unbridle, unyoke
- ★ **Ant.** imprison, restrain
- ⌘ After the slaves were emancipated, many of them moved to big cities in search of opportunities.

EMANATE V.

to come out from a source

- ☑ **Syn.** originate, spring
- ⌘ Odour emanating from the rotten fruits lying around is making walking in that alley impossible.

EMBARGO N.

a prohibition, a ban on trade

- ☑ **Syn.** restriction, stoppage
- ⌘ The UN embargo on Iraq failed to break Saddam.

EMBELLISH V., EMBELLISHMENT N.

to decorate with ornaments, adorn, garnish

- ☑ **Syn.** embroider, beautify, make fancy
- ⌘ The *Maharaja* suite is embellished with many Bonsai plants.
- ⌘ The intricate embellishments in Hindu temples awe many foreign tourists.

EMBEZZLE V., EMBEZZLEMENT N.

to steal, to fraudulently take as one's own

- ☑ **Syn.** misappropriate, misuse, cheat
- ⌘ When the chief trustee was charged with embezzlement, everyone was shocked.

EMBROIL

to involve in, cause to fall into disorder

- ☑ **Syn.** entangle, enmesh
- ★ **Ant.** disentangle, extricate
- ⌘ Lawyers became embroiled in the dispute when a compromise appeared difficult without their help.

EMBRACE V., N.

to clasp in the arms; to take up especially readily or gladly

- ☑ **Syn.** hug, cuddle, cling
- ⌘ They embraced and kissed before departing.
- ⌘ Mata Amritanandmayi Devi is well known for her disease-curing embraces.

EMERITUS Adj.

officially retired but functioning in a honorary capacity, honourably discharged from public duty

- ⌘ Dr. Singh has been appointed professor emeritus at Delhi School of Economics.

EMIGRATE V., EMIGRATION N.

to move from one country to another

- ☑ **Syn.** move abroad, go into exile
- ⌘ Millions of Tibetans emigrated from Tibet to India before the Indo-China war.

EMINENT Adj., EMINENCE N.

conspicuous, projecting; importance or prominence

- ☑ **Syn.** distinction, reputation, fame
- ⌘ Having achieved eminence as an actress she now intends to perform a comparable feat in politics.
- ⌘ The eminent painter had his own idiosyncracies.

EMOLLIENT

having soothing qualities, especially for skin

- ☑ **Syn.** softening, palliative
- ★ **Ant.** irritant, aggravating
- ⌘ After a couple of weeks, the emollient lotion changed Divya's skin from scaly to smooth.

EMOLUMENT N.

salary or fees for a job, remuneration, pay or compensation for work

- ☑ **Syn.** wage, pay cheque
- ⌘ The lure of fancy emoluments beckons students to the IIMs.

EMOTIVE

appealing to or expressing emotion

- ☑ **Syn.** sensitive, touchy
- ★ **Ant.** cold, indifferent
- ⌘ The film had a strong emotive appeal, reducing the audience to tears.

EMPATHY

identification with another's feelings

- ☑ **Syn.** sympathy, compassion
- ★ **Ant.** antipathy, cold-heartedness
- ⌘ Having been a teacher herself, Jennifer had great empathy for the troubled teacher in the film.

EMULATE V.

to strive to equal or excel, to imitate

- ☑ **Syn.** follow, simulate, copy, imitate
- ⌘ Adolescents often try to emulate their favourite pop singers or movie stars.

ENCORE

additional performance, often demanded by audience

- ☑ **Syn.** replay, repetition
- ⌘ Soon as the danseuse finished her performance, the audience enthusiastically demanded an encore.

ENCHANT V., ENCHANTING Adj.

to bewitch, delight, beguile, charm

- ☑ **Syn.** captivate, fascinate, enthrall
- ✗ The enchanting music of A.R. Rehman is the only saving grace of the movie.
- ✗ The guests were enchanted by the actor's presence at the wedding.

ENCEPHALOGRAM N.

An X-ray picture of the brain

- ✗ The encephalogram clearly shows a tumour on the left side.

ENCOMIUM N., ENCOMIASTIC Adj.

a eulogy, high commendation or praise

- ✗ The encomium "Indira is India" was too far-fetched.

ENCUMBER V.

to weigh down, burden

- ✗ His life has always been encumbered with responsibilities.

ENDEMIC

belonging to a particular area, widespread

- ☑ **Syn.** indigenous, infectious
- ★ **Ant.** foreign, confined
- ✗ As the outbreak was endemic to the small village, the health department quarantined the inhabitants.

ENDORSE V.

to give one's sanction to something; to approve openly

- ☑ **Syn.** support, sanction, back
- ★ **Ant.** oppose, protest
- ✗ The communist leader, of late, has been endorsing economic reforms.

ENDURANCE

ability to withstand hardships

- ☑ **Syn.** forbearance, stamina
- ★ **Ant.** impatience, weakness
- ✗ Boris built up her endurance by running ten miles every day, as she prepared for the marathon.

ENERVATE V., ENERVATED Adj.**ENERVATION N.**

to deprive of nerve, strength or vitality, to rob of energy, to diminish the strength of mind or body

- ☑ **Syn.** weaken, sap your strength
- ★ **Ant.** energise, boost
- ✗ It is normal to feel enervated after a good workout in the gymnasium.
- ✗ The enervated look on your face tells me that you haven't eaten for some days.

ENGENDER

to produce, cause, bring about

- ☑ **Syn.** trigger, instigate
- ★ **Ant.** thwart, extinguish
- ✗ The death of a friend by snakebite engendered the fear of snakes in him.

ENGROSS V.

to absorb, captivate, charm

- ☑ **Syn.** occupy, involve, hold
- ★ **Ant.** repulse
- ✗ He was engrossed in the movie.
The politician was so engrossed in self-aggrandization that he was blind to the misery around him.

ENGULF V.

to swallow up completely

- ☑ **Syn.** overwhelm, overcome
- ✗ The blue whale can engulf a whole school of fish at a time.

ENIGMA N., ENIGMATIC Adj.

a confusing statement, mysterious situation or person, riddle, a thing hard to understand or fathom, conundrum

- ☑ **Syn.** mystery, riddle, puzzle
- ✗ His high energy levels at the ripe age of 80 is an enigma to all the family members.
- ✗ Ruchi is an enigmatic girl; at times she acts so mature and at times like a kid.

ENJOIN

command, forbid or prohibit, as by judicial order

- ☑ **Syn.** to urge, order
- ★ **Ant.** request
- ✗ The judge enjoined the stalker from being present within 100 yards of the complainant.

ENMITY

hostility, ill-will

- ☑ **Syn.** antagonism, animosity
- ★ **Ant.** goodwill, friendship
- ✗ We hope that cricket will help to cool down the simmering enmity between the two countries.

ENNUI N.

a feeling of weariness and dissatisfaction

- ✗ A feeling of ennui sets in if I have to sit at home without work.

ENORMITY

state of being gigantic or terrible

- ☑ **Syn.** vastness, massiveness
- ★ **Ant.** triviality, smallness
- ✗ The manager underestimated the enormity of the problem and his delay resulted in disaster.

ENRAGE V.

to make angry, bother, irritate, aggravate

- ☑ **Syn.** infuriate, madden
- ✗ He was so enraged at the article about him that he sued the newspaper.

ENRAPTURE V.

to fill with delight, please intensely

- ☑ **Syn.** captivate, enchant, beguile
- ✗ The live pop concert enraptured the audience.

ENSCONCE V.

to settle, establish

- ⌘ The dog jumped up and ensconced itself comfortably in the sofa.

ENSEMBLE N.

all parts of a thing taken together, a complete costume of complementary clothing

- ☑ **Syn.** company, group, en masse
- ⌘ She bought a dress and matching hat, gloves and shoes – in fact the whole ensemble.

ENSHROUD

to cover, hide

- ⌘ The hill was enshrouded by clouds and we failed to spot the goats.

ENTAIL

to involve as a necessary result, necessitate

- ☑ **Syn.** assume, warrant
- ⌘ The reforms you suggest would entail great expense.

ENTHRALL

to captivate, enchant, enslave

- ☑ **Syn.** beguile, fascinate
- ★ **Ant.** bore, disillusion
- ⌘ The children were enthralled by the stunts of the trapeze artists.

ENTITY

something with its own existence or form

- ☑ **Syn.** individual, existence
- ★ **Ant.** non-entity, nonexistence
- ⌘ Attempts have been made to preserve Hong Kong as a territorial entity, separate from China.

ENTOURAGE N.

surroundings, followers, attendants, retinue

- ☑ **Syn.** associates, backup, support
- ⌘ The rock star arrived in London with her usual entourage of dancers and backstage singers.

ENTREAT

to plead, beg

- ☑ **Syn.** implore, beseech
- ★ **Ant.** command, demand
- ⌘ I entreated him to just tell me what the problem was, but he refused.

ENTRENCHMENT N., ENTRENCH V.

a fortification, a defence, a protection

- ⌘ The legal entrenchment of apartheid has been lifted.
- ⌘ By next year, I will have my followers firmly entrenched in Bihar politics.

ENUMERATE

to count, list

- ☑ **Syn.** itemise, cite
- ★ **Ant.** be vague
- ⌘ The policeman patiently enumerated the offences while the motorist tried to plead ignorance of the local rules.

ENUNCIATE V.

verbalise, vocalise, articulate

- ☑ **Syn.** assert, affirm, proclaim
- ★ **Ant.** deny, contradict, dis-claim
- ⌘ The manifesto failed to enunciate the party's stand on relations with the USA.

ENVOY N.

a messenger (especially one sent to transact business with a foreign government)

- ☑ **Syn.** representative, emissary, herald
- ⌘ The Indian envoy to Pakistan has never been in a more comfortable position than now.

EPHEMERAL

momentary, transient, fleeting

- ☑ **Syn.** transitory, evanescent
- ★ **Ant.** permanent, enduring
- ⌘ The life of a butterfly is but ephemeral, lasting just a day or two.

EPICURE

person with refined taste in food and wine

- ☑ **Syn.** gourmet, gourmand
- ⌘ He was popular as an epicure and his columns helped people decide where to eat.

EPIGRAM N.

witty thought or saying, usually short

- ☑ **Syn.** axiom, quip, ditty, rhyme
- ⌘ Epigrams of Churchill and Bernard Shaw are famous.

Mini Revision Test

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

- | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| 1. elicit | a. bring out |
| 2. eminent | b. strive to equal |
| 3. emulate | c. well known |
| 4. endemic | d. reduce the strength of |
| 5. enervate | e. native |

Answer Key - Mini Revision Test

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

EPILOGUE

concluding section of a literary work

- ☑ **Syn.** afterword, postscript
- ★ **Ant.** prologue, prelude
- ✍ In the epilogue of the novel, the author revealed the ultimate fate of the main characters.

EPITAPH N.

inscription in memory of a dead person,

writing on a tomb or at the gravesite

- ✍ I do not know what my epitaph would read but I never did invite infamy.

EPITOME

representing the highest feature, summary

- ☑ **Syn.** embodiment, conspectus
- ★ **Ant.** complete version, worst
- ✍ The host was the epitome of graciousness, making all the guests feel perfectly comfortable.

EPOCH N., EPOCHAL Adj.

a point of time made remarkable by some great event

- ☑ **Syn.** era, period, time, age, eon
- ✍ The president said that the country was moving into a new epoch of lasting peace with the old rival in the neighbourhood.
- ✍ During his epochal term as the prime-minister, Rajiv Gandhi changed the face of modern India.

EQUABLE Adj.

tranquil, steady, uniform

- ☑ **Syn.** composed, calm, levelheaded
- ★ **Ant.** nervous, anxious, worried
- ✍ Compared to the extreme climate of Africa and the West, India enjoys an equable climate.

EQUANIMITY N.

evenness of mind and temper under stress, calmness

- ☑ **Syn.** composure, calmness, equability
- ✍ The finance minister's equanimity in the face of the opposition's accusations is creditable.

EQUESTRIAN Adj., N.

related to horse riding; a horse-rider

- ✍ They erected an equestrian statue of the prince.

EQUITABLE Adj.

fair, impartial, aboveboard, uncoloured

- ☑ **Syn.** evenhanded, reasonable, just
- ★ **Ant.** unfair, unjust, inequitable, undue
- ✍ There's a great need for a more equitable tax system.

EQUIVOCAL

ambiguous, open to more than one interpretation

- ☑ **Syn.** indeterminate, ambiguous
- ★ **Ant.** explicit, specific
- ✍ Poems are inherently equivocal, and different readers may interpret them differently.

EQUIVOCATE

to use vague or ambiguous language intentionally

- ☑ **Syn.** prevaricate, hedge
- ★ **Ant.** confront, face
- ✍ The smaller parties could not afford to equivocate any longer as the coalition government had to be in place within a week.

ERADICATE

to erase or wipe out

- ☑ **Syn.** exterminate, obliterate
- ★ **Ant.** generate, propagate
- ✍ Politicians promise to eradicate poverty and then renew the vow before the next election.

EROTIC Adj.

tending to arouse sexual love or desire

- ✍ The erotic art depicted in the Khajuraho temple makes it world famous.

ERRANT

straying, mistaken

- ☑ **Syn.** mischievous, roving
- ★ **Ant.** straightforward, aboveboard
- ✍ The errant disciple realised his mistake and returned to the guru after several weeks of hardship.

ERRAND N.

a mission, a purpose, a short journey either to deliver or collect something

- ☑ **Syn.** task duty, chore, job
- ✍ I am in Singapore running an errand for my father.

ERUDITE Adj.

scholarly, learned, well-cultured, educated, possessing great knowledge

- ☑ **Syn.** cultured, intellectual
- ✍ The erudite scholar knew a great deal about ancient history but very little about current events.

ESCAPADE N.

a usually adventurous action that runs contrary to convention

- ✍ The escapade in the Amazon jungles was expected to free the minds of the senior executives of the software giant.

ESCHEW

to abstain from, avoid

- ☑ **Syn.** shun, renounce
- ★ **Ant.** indulge in, take liberty of
- ✍ Models generally eschew rich desserts that can be fattening.

ESOTERIC

understood by only a learned few

- ☑ **Syn.** recondite, arcane
- ★ **Ant.** simple, familiar
- ✍ Only a handful of experts are knowledgeable about the esoteric world of particle physics.

ESPIONAGE N.

the practice of spying to obtain information about the activities of a foreign country or a rival company

- ☑ **Syn.** spying, intelligence
- ✍ IB and RAW are the counter espionage agencies in India.

ESPOUSE V., ESPOUSAL N.

to take up and support as a cause; to marry

- ✎ Irene espoused the cause of educating street children.

ESPRIT DE CORPS

a deep loyalty of members towards the group

- ✎ His leadership kept the team's esprit de corps intact during difficult periods.

EUGENICS N.

the science of race improvement by proper gene selection etc.

- ✎ Eugenics was the central and most controversial part of his social philosophy.

ESTRANGE

to alienate, keep at a distance

- ☑ **Syn.** separate, divorce
- ★ **Ant.** unite, connect
- ✎ Abhishek was not aware of the death of his parents, because he was estranged from his family for many years.

ETHEREAL

not earthly, spiritual, delicate

- ☑ **Syn.** celestial, dainty
- ★ **Ant.** earthly, indelicate
- ✎ Her delicate, ethereal beauty made her a popular model for pre-impressionist artists.

ETHOS

beliefs or character of a group

- ☑ **Syn.** ethics, essence
- ✎ The wise king was determined to safeguard the ethos of the people of the country he had just conquered.

EULOGY N., EULOGISE V.

EULOGISTIC Adj.

a speech of praise, written praise, laudation, acclaim, encomium

- ☑ **Syn.** tribute, acclamation
- ★ **Ant.** criticism
- ✎ Today, everyone sings eulogies of Sonia's leadership skills.

EUNUCH N.

one who lacks virility and power, a castrated man

- ✎ Eunuchs begging in local trains in Mumbai hurl obscenities to scare passengers into shelling out money.

EUPHEMISM

use of an inoffensive word or phrase in place of a more distasteful one

- ✎ The funeral director preferred to use the euphemism "passed away" instead of the word "dead."

EUPHONY N., EUPHONIOUS Adj.

an agreeable sound, sweet sound, pleasing or agreeable sound

- ★ **Ant.** cacophony
- ✎ The euphony of temple bells in the morning is so soothing to the soul.

EUPHORIA N., EUPHORIC Adj.

an exaggerated feeling of happiness or well-being

- ☑ **Syn.** ecstasy, joy, rapture, excitement
- ★ **Ant.** despair, misery, anguish, gloom
- ✎ The euphoria of Princess Diana's happy life with Al Fayed finally turned out to be ephemeral.
- ✎ You are euphoric when you see your name in the final admission list of IIM A.

EUTHANASIA

mercy killing; intentional, easy, and painless death

- ✎ The woman argued that giving her terminally-ill husband an overdose of morphine was euthanasia, not murder.

EVADE V., EVASIVE Adj., EVASION N.

to escape or avoid artfully

- ☑ **Syn.** avoid, dodge, escape, shirk, skirt
- ✎ During the enquiry his answers were evasive.
- ✎ An Olympic gold medal is the only thing that has evaded her in her remarkable career.
- ✎ Tax evasion has been a major problem in our country.

EVANESCENT Adj., EVANESCENCE N.

fleeting, vanishing, ephemeral, temporary

- ☑ **Syn.** passing, brief, momentary
- ★ **Ant.** permanent, enduring, eternal
- ✎ The evanescent post-war economic boom was quickly followed by a deep recession.

EVANGELIST N.

missionary, crusader, proselytiser

- ✎ Christian evangelists are rendering yeoman service to the tribals in several part of India, though some accuse them of being aggressive in religious conversion.

EVICT

to put out or force out

- ☑ **Syn.** oust, eject
- ★ **Ant.** admit, maintain
- ✎ The tenant was evicted from the apartment when she failed to pay rent for three months in a row.

EVINCE

to show clearly, display, signify

- ☑ **Syn.** indicate, exhibit
- ★ **Ant.** conceal, obscure
- ✎ The new secretary evinced impressive typing and filing skills.

EVOCATIVE Adj., EVOCATION N.

EVOKE V.

tending to call up or remind

- ✎ Driving through the bylanes of Mumbai evoked sweet memories of my childhood.
- ✎ My evocative journey to my hometown brought tears to my eyes.

EXACERBATE

to aggravate, intensify the bad qualities of

- ☑ **Syn.** worsen, compound
- ★ **Ant.** improve, reduce
- ✗ It is unwise to take aspirin to relieve heartburn; the drug will only exacerbate the problem.

EXAGGERATE V., EXAGGERATION N.

to magnify unduly, to represent too strongly

- ☑ **Syn.** overstate, overstress, embroider
- ★ **Ant.** understate, devalue, minimise
- ✗ The threat of a Pakistani attack along the Line of Control has been greatly exaggerated.
- ✗ A little exaggeration about her disease got her a fortnight's extension of leave.

EXALT V., EXALTATION N.

laud, glorify, honour

- ☑ **Syn.** extol, praise, acclaim
- ★ **Ant.** criticise, censure, reprove
- ✗ Exalting the dead and criticising the living seems to be our national pastime.

EXASPERATE V., EXASPERATION N.

to irritate, to make very angry, infuriate

- ☑ **Syn.** madden, frustrate, annoy
- ✗ The exasperated parents of the aberrant youth feel helpless at times.
- ✗ After he lost the match, Andre Agassi broke his racquet in exasperation.

EXCERPT N., V.

an extract from a source (book, speech etc.), citation, clipping

- ☑ **Syn.** passage, quote, selection, piece
- ✗ The excerpts contain the essential points of the report.
- ✗ He has beautifully excerpted The Bhagwad Gita in 10 pages.

EXCHEQUER N.

government department in charge of the revenues

- ✗ The poll gimmick of a kilo of rice at two ruples will bankrupt the exchequer.

EXCORIATE V., EXCORIATION N.

to wear off the skin of, abrade

- ☑ **Syn.** criticise, attack, upbraid, rebuke
- ★ **Ant.** commend, praise, acclaim, laud
- ✗ His latest novel received excoriating reviews.

EXCRUCIATE V., EXCRUCIATING Adj.

to torture, to inflict severe pain

- ✗ The excruciating tooth extraction made my eyes wet.
- ✗ The President excoriated the Western press for their biased views.

EXCULPATE

to clear of blame or fault, vindicate

- ☑ **Syn.** absolve, acquit
- ★ **Ant.** condemn, indict
- ✗ The new legal system is intended to convict those who are guilty and to exculpate those who are innocent.

EXECRABLE

utterly detestable, abhorrent

- ☑ **Syn.** abominable, despicable
- ★ **Ant.** good, admirable
- ✗ Everyone at the party was appalled by her execrable behaviour.

EXECRATE V.

to detest utterly

- ✗ Taruna execrates the bitter memories of her days as a hostage.

EXEMPLARY Adj.

serving as a model; outstanding

- ☑ **Syn.** excellent, consummate, ideal
- ✗ Joan of Arc's exemplary courage was appreciated by all.

EX GRATIA Adj.

as an act of grace, as a favour and not an obligation

- ✗ Although the suppliers were shown not to have been negligent, they made ex gratia payments to all those affected by the spillage.

EXHILARATE V., EXHILARATION N.,**EXHILARATING Adj.**

to make cheerful, enliven, excite

- ☑ **Syn.** commove, spirit up
- ★ **Ant.** dishearten, deject
- ✗ The exhilaration of driving a Porsche at 200 mph is simply unparalleled.
- ✗ The crowd went mad at Shanghai Grand Prix as Michael Schumacher put in yet another exhilarating performance.

Mini Revision Test

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

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| 1. engender | a. intentionally confusing |
| 2. enormity | b. lasting a very short time |
| 3. ephemeral | c. cause to exit |
| 4. epitome | d. brief summary |
| 5. equivocal | e. extreme evil |

Answer Key - Mini Revision Test

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

EXHORT V., EXHORTATION N.

to urge strongly, goad, incite, egg, encourage

- ☑ **Syn.** press, push, insist, pressure
- ⌘ His stooges exhorted the voters to re-elect the inefficient leader.
- ⌘ The jailer's exhortation to maintain peace fell on deaf ears and there was a lot of bloodshed.

EXHUME

to remove from a grave, uncover a secret

- ☑ **Syn.** unearth, disclose
- ★ **Ant.** bury, entomb
- ⌘ The body was exhumed, but as it failed to provide any new evidence, it was buried again the next day.

EXIGENCY N., EXIGENT Adj.

urgent situation, an urgently demanding time or state of affairs

- ☑ **Syn.** need, emergency, pressure
- ⌘ It is due to an administrative exigency that he has been posted on the front line.
- ⌘ An exigent situation cropped up and the General had to rush to the spot.

EXIGUOUS Adj.

small, minute, scanty

- ⌘ The judge said that the evidence was exiguous and gave the defendant two more weeks for finding more.

EXODUS N.

a moving out of many people from a place or country to another

- ☑ **Syn.** mass departure, evacuation
- ⌘ There is always an exodus to the coast at holiday times.

EX OFFICIO Adj.

by virtue of the office; automatically a member because of the post already held

- ⌘ The President is the ex-officio supreme commander of the armed forces.

EXONERATE V.

exculpate, to free from blame, to acquit, vindicate, to free from guilt, absolve

- ☑ **Syn.** absolve, acquit, forgive, pardon
- ★ **Ant.** convict, blame, charge
- ⌘ After being exonerated from the charges, the minister looked very happy.

EXORBITANT Adj.

going beyond normal limits, excessive

- ☑ **Syn.** very high, inflated, steep
- ★ **Ant.** reasonable, sensible, rational
- ⌘ The food was palatable but the bill for the dinner was exorbitant.

EXORCISE V., EXORCIST N.

to free a person from an evil spirit, to get rid of something terrible by formal prayer

- ☑ **Syn.** get rid of, escape, jettison
- ⌘ We must exorcise ourselves of the ghost of partition.
- ⌘ The exorcist stripped the girl and beat her with a broom to get rid of the spirit that had possessed her.

EXOTIC Adj.

alien, foreign by nature, strange

- ☑ **Syn.** foreign, from abroad
- ★ **Ant.** familiar, recognisable, common
- ⌘ My idea of a vacation is a trip to the exotic locales of Malibu.

EXPANSIVE

sweeping, comprehensive, tending to expand

- ☑ **Syn.** spacious, all-embracing
- ★ **Ant.** taciturn, restricted
- ⌘ Some chapters in the book were expansive in their historical coverage.

EXPATRIATE

one who lives outside one's native land

- ☑ **Syn.** refugee, migrant
- ★ **Ant.** native, national
- ⌘ He spent much of his adult life as an expatriate and returned to his own country after retirement.

EXPEDIENT

convenient, efficient, practical

- ☑ **Syn.** beneficial, pragmatic
- ★ **Ant.** ill-advised, unprofitable
- ⌘ It was considered more expedient to send the fruit directly to the retailer instead of involving a middleman.

EXPEDITE V., EXPEDITIOUS Adj.

to hasten, to speed up, facilitate

- ☑ **Syn.** accelerate, hurry up, advance
- ★ **Ant.** impede, obstruct, hamper, delay
- ⌘ The government must expedite the construction and commissioning of the new power project.

EXPIATE V., EXPIATION N., EXPIABLE Adj.

to make amends for, atone for, to make up for, in the sense of atoning

- ☑ **Syn.** make up, redress, apologise
- ⌘ He bought her a bunch of flowers to expiate for forgetting her birthday.

EXPIRE

to come to an end, die, breathe out

- ☑ **Syn.** lapse, become obsolete
- ★ **Ant.** inhale, inspire
- ⌘ Since her driver's licence was about to expire, she had to go and exchange it for a new one.

EXPLETIVE Adj., N.

an obscene exclamation

- ☑ **Syn.** curse, oath, exclamation
- ★ **Ant.** blessing, benediction
- ⌘ He let out a string of expletives at being pushed so roughly.

EXPLICIT

clearly defined, forthright in expression

- ☑ **Syn.** specific, precise
- ★ **Ant.** vague, general
- ⌘ The owner gave several explicit instructions to the tenants about the proper maintenance of the house.

EXPONENT

one who champions or advocates

- ☑ **Syn.** crusader, upholder
- ★ **Ant.** critic, opponent
- ✎ The vice president was an enthusiastic exponent of computer technology.

EXPOSTULATION N., EXPOSTULATE V.

protest, remonstrance

- ✎ Despite the IT department's appeals, expostulations and threats, not much of black money comes out in amnesty schemes.

EXPOUND

to elaborate, to expand or increase

- ☑ **Syn.** delineate, elucidate
- ★ **Ant.** complicate, obfuscate
- ✎ The teacher expounded on the theory of relativity for hours, but failed to impress the students.

EXPUNGE V.

to erase, delete, wipe off, to efface, terminate,

- ☑ **Syn.** obliterate, erase, delete, edit out
- ✎ The obscene words exchanged by the two generals were expunged from official records.

EXPURGATE

to remove all bad parts, censor

- ☑ **Syn.** make palatable, purify
- ★ **Ant.** endorse, permit
- ✎ Government propagandists expurgated all negative references to the dictator from the film.

EXQUISITE Adj.

delicious, of consummate excellence, impeccable

- ☑ **Syn.** beautiful, fine, superb, lovely
- ★ **Ant.** unattractive, hideous, unsightly
- ✎ I have just bought an exquisite piece of crystal.

EXTEMPORANEOUS – unrehearsed, at the spur of the moment

- ☑ **Syn.** unprepared, impromptu
- ★ **Ant.** premeditated, planned
- ✎ Jyoti gave an extemporaneous performance of a skit at her surprise birthday party.

EXTENUATING Adj., EXTENUATE V.,**EXTENUATION N.**

palliating, reducing the guilt in a crime

- ☑ **Syn.** mitigating, justifying
- ★ **Ant.** implicating, corroborating
- ✎ The extenuating circumstances of the crime helped him secure bail.

EXTINCTION

end of a living thing or species

- ☑ **Syn.** eradication, elimination
- ★ **Ant.** survival, activation
- ✎ The dodo was hunted to extinction by man many years ago.

EXTIRPATE V., EXTIRPATION N.

to root out, wipe out

- ✎ The military rulers have tried to extirpate all opposition.

EXTOL

to praise

- ☑ **Syn.** panegyriser, laud
- ★ **Ant.** criticise, demean
- ✎ The salesman extolled the virtues of the used car but failed to convince the customer.

EXTREMITY

outermost or farthest point

- ☑ **Syn.** fringe, margin
- ★ **Ant.** inside, middle
- ✎ The extremities of the body, such as toes, are vulnerable to frostbite in extreme cold weather.

EXTRICATE

to free from, disentangle

- ☑ **Syn.** liberate, loosen
- ★ **Ant.** entangle, involve
- ✎ The fly was unable to extricate itself from the spider's web.

EXTRINSIC

not inherent or essential, coming from outside

- ☑ **Syn.** adventitious, extraneous
- ★ **Ant.** intrinsic, internal
- ✎ The animal population in the jungle is affected by extrinsic factors like encroachment and poaching.

EXUBERANT Adj., EXUBERANCE N.

lively, effusive, enthusiastic

- ☑ **Syn.** excited, lively, energetic
- ★ **Ant.** lethargic, tired, weary, languid
- ✎ He is a classical dancer with an exuberant, flamboyant style.

EXUDE

to give off, ooze

- ☑ **Syn.** emanate, send out
- ★ **Ant.** absorb, take up
- ✎ The candidate exuded an aura of self-confidence, impressing the interviewers.

EXULT V., EXULTANT Adj., EXULTATION N.

to rejoice exceedingly, to triumph

- ☑ **Syn.** revel, take pride, gloat, glory
- ✎ An exultant Steffi Graff cheered the crowd at *Roland Garros* after winning the French Open.
- ✎ In their exultation, the crowd threatened to strom the ground and mob their team after the match.