

**English Language for Competitive Exams**  
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**Week - 06**  
**Lecture – 30**  
**Text Completion Part 4**

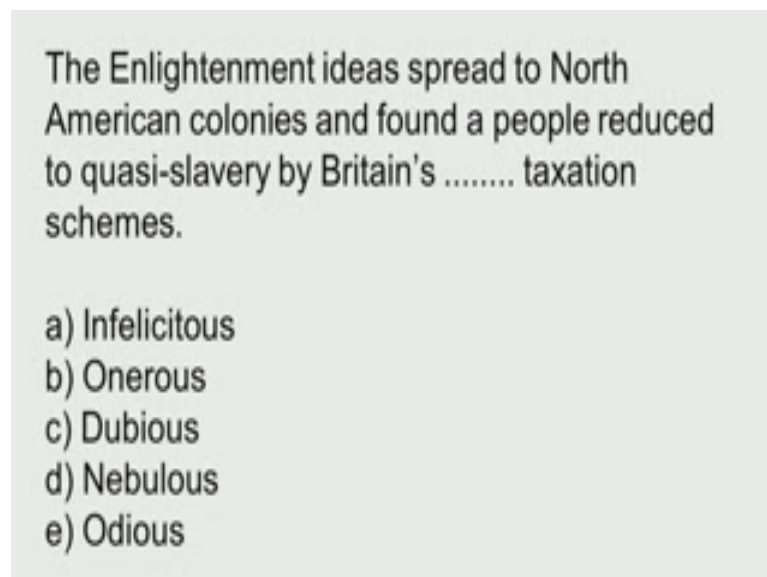
Good morning friends. We have been doing text completion exercises and building vocabulary. So, we have seen several exercises and items based on that. You know that vocabulary is one of the quint essential parts of, while preparing for competition exams or competitive exams rather. You should also know that whether it is a listening or speaking, or even writing, you need good vocabulary, without vocabulary you just will not be able to give voice to your ideas.

Vocabulary in it is all formats, in it is all aspects should be paid lot of attention to. Soon I will be doing suffixes, prefixes, and prefix suffix. So, those are called affixes also with you. So, prefixes are those words, bits that are attached in front of a root word, suffixes after that. They also add a lot of meaning to the words. So, we will be doing that also, a couple of exercises based on affixes also. And soon I will be taking you to Greek words, not exactly Greek words but words that are derived from Greek mythology, and they have come to become a part of our every day lexicon. So, that is extremely important for all of us to know specially those who are advance learners and who want to appear for various competitive exams.

Coming back to our text completion exercises, you should know that such questions require the leaders to identify the most appropriate words, that fits the blank. I cannot stress enough on this. For this we must be familiar with the words that are presented to us, as the options to eliminate other choices, need to be very clear about. So, use all the help that you can, you can get to build your vocabulary. This lecture, this course in from NPTEL IIT, is only a supplementary assistance to what you should be doing yourself. You should read books; there are websites and mobile applications also nowadays. So, you make the most of technology in a good way.

Remember to some degree, most options make sense when we try to fit into the sentence. This does not mean that any of them will do. The most appropriate word or phrase to fill the blank, will help the sentence make sense, but without adding value to it, text completion questions not only measure the readers vocabulary, but also their reading ability remember that. So, while trying to fit the word, that you think if the answer, make sure that you read the complete sentence again, and always verify your answers, particularly true about those kinds of sentence where you have set of two blanks, as in this one, as in the sentences that we are going to do soon.

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The Enlightenment ideas spread to North American colonies and found a people reduced to quasi-slavery by Britain's ..... taxation schemes.

- a) Infelicitous
- b) Onerous
- c) Dubious
- d) Nebulous
- e) Odious

So, now I am going to show you just a slide which has only one blank. Please take a look at this. This is our first exercise of the day. Take a look at the slide. The enlightenment ideas spread to, Enlightenment is please note it is in capital E, it is a movement, it is a kind of philosophy. So, we are talking about if the European ideal of enlightenment, that just that is just a back ground. the enlightenment ideas spread to North American colonies and found a people reduced to quasi slavery by Britain's; infelicitous, onerous, dubious, nebulous, odious, taxation schemes, which could be the best answer.

You should know what are these options and what do they mean. The best answer here is onerous. Remember infelicitous mean marked by a producing unhappiness, it can also

mean not appropriate in application or defective. Something is onerous, if it cannot be easily lifted a borne, borne as in. please look at the, it is not born, but borne, to bear something, and this is the past of this a borne.

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So, we are not talking about born and borne which cannot be carried. Dubious of course, is fraught with suspicion, uncertainty, doubt. Nebulous means unclear, cloudy like in definite form, and something it is odious, it is very evil. So, remember in this particular sentence onerous is the best choice. Choices may appear as if anything can be or any word can be the best fit, it is not.

Remember adjective is about taxation. So, what kind of taxation, evil taxation, you can use the word, evil taxation, odious taxation, but onerous is the best one, because it cannot be carried, it cannot be borne. So, onerous is the best one, you cannot bear this kind of taxation. It can be I agree dubious or nebulous odious infelicitous, but people are reduce to quasi slavery. So, therefore, they get vary, in onerous means vary.

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She said that she had problems with her professor's  
..... that political and economic liberalism can coexist  
comfortably within the territorial boundaries of the  
sovereign state.

- a) Malapropism
- b) Presumption
- c) Anathema
- d) Filibuster
- e) Anachronism

Let us look at the second exercise of the day. She said that she had problems with her professors, that political and economic liberalism can coexist comfortably within the territorial boundaries of the sovereign state; malapropism, presumption, anathema, filibuster, anachronism. Now all these are quite literally kinds of words. Some of them are especially malapropism, but do they, professors what, best answer is presumption. See these are all fancy, high sounding words. Malapropism means unintentional misuse of a word by confusion, with something that sounds similar. Presumption is an assumption, presume. There is a book called, novel called presumed innocent by Scott Turow.

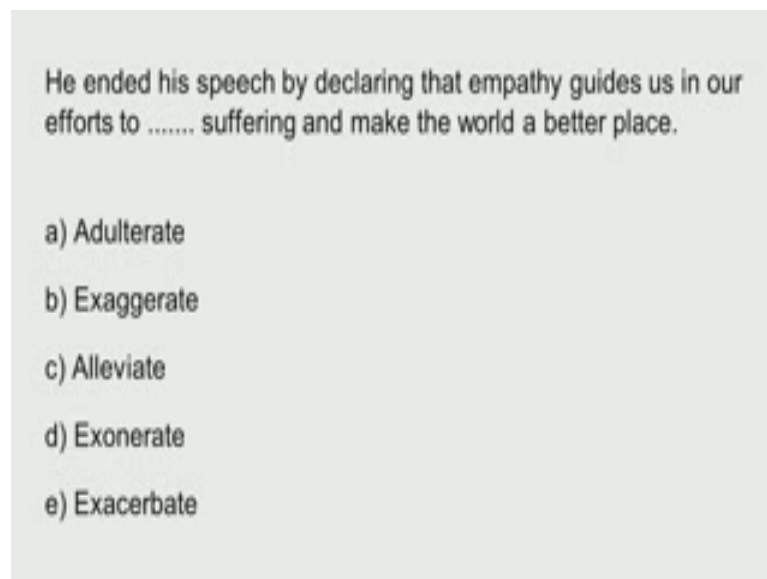
So, it is assume, someone is assumed or believe to. So, it is sort of stands for believes. Anathema is a detested person, this is anathema to me such kinds of ideas are anathema to me. Filibuster is either at tactic for delaying or obstructing legislation by making long speeches, a person who does it. So, that is filibuster tactic for delaying or obstructing legislation by making longest speeches or the person who does it that is a filibuster.

Anachronism, I think we have done it in one of our earlier classes, it is something located at a time, and it could not have existed or occurred. For example, a Shakespeare in character wearing a watch, a wrist watches. Sometimes film makers do that; said a

story in contemporary times. So, they take this story back to those times, still Shakespeare in times, but add something new to it, you know something anachronistic, just to break the forth wall in one of the films based on Shakespeare in place, I think it was mid someone's nights dream, a nineties movie where the characters where shown riding a bicycle, and all, I think we all know that that in Shakespeare's times, we did not have the invention of the bicycle. So, that is anachronism, but it adds pleasure to, you know the way we watch movies.

Now, remember in this sentence filibuster, and anathemas are out of the question, but let us choices of a professor making a malapropism. So, political and economic liberalism has higher chances of existing us presumption than an anachronism. So, that is the answer presumption.

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He ended his speech by declaring that empathy guides us in our efforts to ..... suffering and make the world a better place.

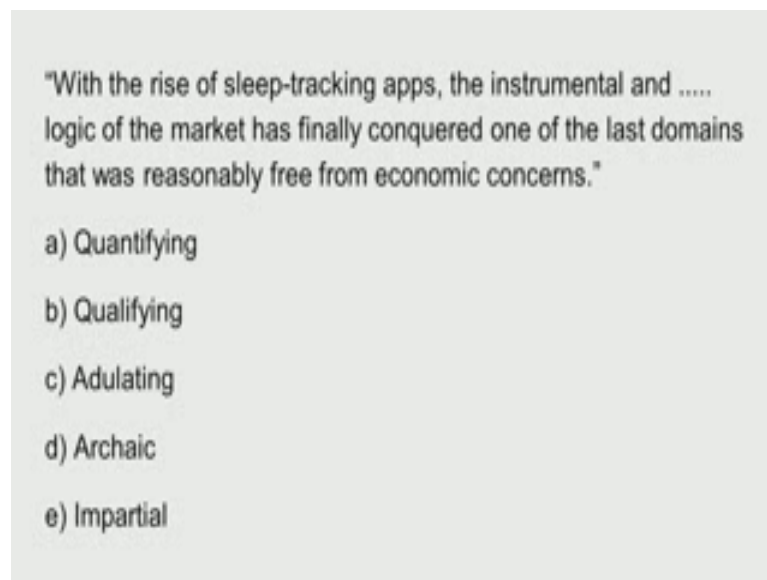
- a) Adulterate
- b) Exaggerate
- c) Alleviate
- d) Exonerate
- e) Exacerbate

Let us move on to the next exercise look at it. He ended his speech by declaring that empathy guides us in our efforts to adulterate, exaggerate, alleviate, exonerate, exacerbate, suffering and make the world a better place. Now see empathy and suffering and it should remove suffering, empathy should. So, look at the choices here. Adulterate exaggerate, alleviate, exonerate, exacerbate, and the best answer is of course, alleviate. Adulterate means corrupt or make impure by adding foreign substances, to exaggerate

means to enlarge something beyond bounds of the truth, exaggerate lies, exaggerated truths exaggerated ideas.

Alleviation or alleviated can be defined as provide physical relief or just make easier, alleviate, to exonerate somebody is to pronounce a not guilty of criminal charges into exacerbate, is to make worse this speaker is talking about making the world a better place by doing something about suffering. We cannot choose adulterate, exaggerate, exonerate, exacerbate etcetera, alleviate is the only option that fits.

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"With the rise of sleep-tracking apps, the instrumental and ..... logic of the market has finally conquered one of the last domains that was reasonably free from economic concerns."

- a) Quantifying
- b) Qualifying
- c) Adulating
- d) Archaic
- e) Impartial

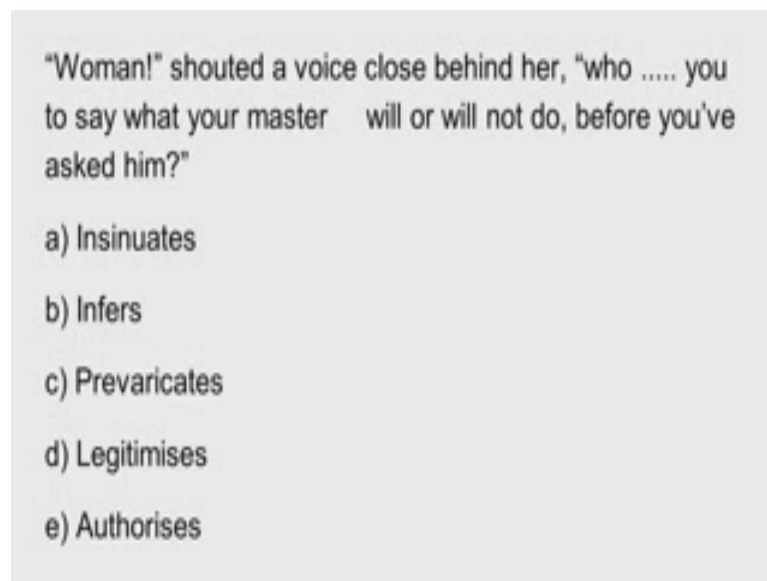
Let us move on to the next exercise, with the rise of sleep tracking apps, the instrumental and dash logic of the market has finally, conquered one of the last domains that was reasonably free, from economic concerns. Quantifying, qualifying, adulating, archaic, impartial. Look at the tone of the sentence, sleep tracking apps, the instrumental and what kind of logic of the market. The best answer is, quantifying, here quantifying sleep by inventing apps about tracking your sleeps. So, quantifying means express as a number or measure or quantity, and qualifying means meets requirement or prove capable.

Now if you are being flattered in an obsequious manner, you are being adulated, adulation. Many people have lot of adulation for the great actors, where cricket stars

sports stars politicians. So, they are adulated, worshipped; that is not what it means here. We are adulating any app or any sleep, we are measuring it a quantifying, and something is archaic when it is absolute, old out dated. Remember that we have done all these; to be impartial is to show lack of favoritism unbiased, unprejudiced. We will also do synonyms very soon. So, keep adding all these words to your mental repetuva.

We can easily remove adulate here. now passage has a lot of clues in it; one is the fact that it is talking about apps for tracking sleep, the apps quantifies rather than qualify sleep, it may be that the markets logic is neither archaic nor impartial, but because the passage has already indicated; that it is talking about quantifies something, and already use the word instrumental in the process, quantifying fits better than any other option provided.

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"Woman!" shouted a voice close behind her, "who ..... you to say what your master will or will not do, before you've asked him?"

- a) Insinuates
- b) Infers
- c) Prevaricates
- d) Legitimises
- e) Authorises

Let us move on to the next exercise please, woman shouted a voice close behind her who dash to you to say, what your master will or will not do before you have asked him. Insinuates, infers, prevaricates, legitimizes, authorizes.

Look at the way sentence is. So, who dashed you to say, who insinuates you to say? What is insinuation? It is like a suggested, but in a rather devilish way, you insinuate you

do not suggest insinuate somewhere, we are saying something in a, let us say in a in a demeaning way. Inferred, who infers you to say, infer is like conclusion prevaricates, legitimizes you to say, authorizes you to say. So, the best answer is authorizes you to say. Insinuates we have already seen, is insert in a settle manner, suggest in a manner, infer is by conclusion by reduction, you are prevaricating, if you are trying to be ambiguous, deliberately ambiguous or unclear in order to mislead.

So, you prevaricate if it is legitimizes it is may legal, and to authorize means to give power or authority to. So, accept legitimize and authorize no other word fits in the sentence, look at the passages. So, when you look at the exercise again, you will have to choose between legitimizes and authorizes. Now it is not legality of it, it is who gave you the authority to say authority is, or who authorizes you to make such kinds of judgments, about your master; that is the best response, confusion should be between legitimizes and authorizes, and I repeat legitimizes has a more legal term to tone to it. So, please strict to authorizes, who gave you the permission; that is the answer.

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If she had only lived, I could have been angry and cruel towards her with some justification; but to be ..... towards a poor dead woman recoils upon myself.

- a) Veracious
- b) Venal
- c) Vicarious
- d) Vindictive
- e) Venial

Next please look at the slide. if she had only lived I could have been angry and cruel towards her with some justification, but to be dash towards a poor dead woman recoils upon myself veracious, venal, vicarious, vindictive, venial. We have done all these



words. So, right, she is dead and to be, he cannot be. So, it has to be a negative word, but gives you the clue. Best is vindictive, all the options provided are adjectives remember. Now we have to understand the, because all are adjectives any one can fit.

So, look at the meanings of all these. What is vindictive, someone who avenges himself, a veracious person is someone like. Veracious comes from the word veracity; that is truth veracity of it, we often say no, check the veracity of it, truth of it, authenticity of it, genuineness of it. Somebody is venal when they are capable or being corrupted, these are the words we have done easily confusable words, if you may recall your earlier classes or sessions for this course; venal and venial. Venial is easily excused of a given, it cannot fit here.

Vicarious means experiencing something for the, at second hand, you know you leave a celebrities life vicariously, by watching them on television in reality shows, their interviews, or reading about them, and we leave their lives vicariously, if only I could be like this. So, we are so much interest in; therefore, there is a huge market for programs and materials based on celebrities all kinds of celebrities they could be a pop icon they could be a sport star or even a business man.

So, we like them, we want to be like them. So, we want to read or know more about that, we leave vicariously by reading about them, by watching them on in any form. Vindictive is malouse, ill will, desired to hurt, motivate to motivate by spite and reassignment. It can also mean dispose to seek revenge so vindictive. So, you should know that could have in the first part of the sentence and, but that comes later, suggest that the word that we are looking for should encompass anger and cruelty with some justification, only vindictive fits the bit.

Venial; obviously, will not; that is forgiveness, being habitually truthful towards a dead man, a dead women does not make a lot of sense. So, we can strike off, veracious we can strike out venal to, but vicarious being, vicarious towards a dead person does not make sense at all, best answer vindictive, because anger, cruel, berth all those kinds give you the all, those words give you the clue.

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The .....fanaticism inspired by an art or a science was evident in this man; it betrayed itself in the strange, persistent abstraction of his mind expressed by his dress and bearing, which were in keeping with the .....peculiarities of his person.

i) a) Volatile    b) Overweening c) Zealous

ii) a) Anomalous b) Preposterous c) Prodigal

Let us look at the next slide, the dash fanaticism inspired by an art or a science was evident in this man; it betrayed itself in the strange persistent abstraction of his mind expressed by his dress and bearing, which were in keeping with the peculiarities of this person; volatile, overweening, or zealous. Now the best choice here is zealous, answer is c. It betrayed itself in the strange persistent abstraction of his mind, expressed by his dress and bearing, which were in keeping with the anomalous, preposterous and prodigal. Now we have already seen that the best choice for the first section is zealous.

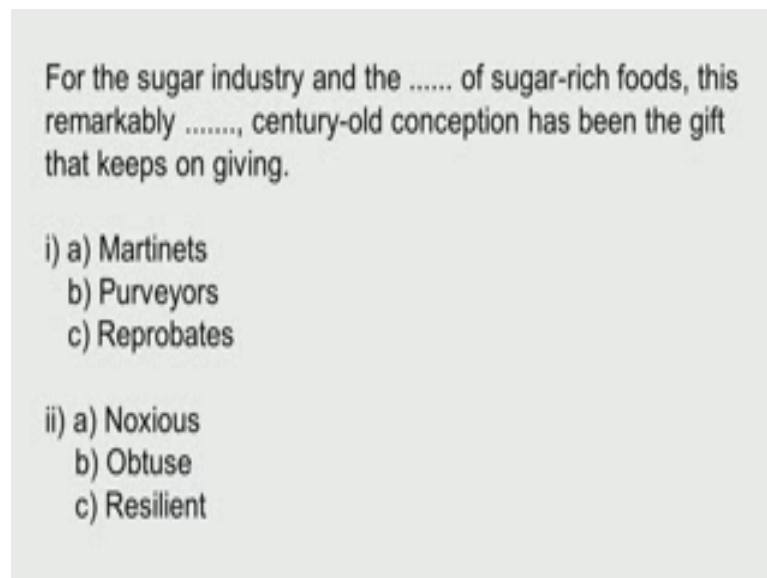
Overweening means either unrestrained, especially with regards your feelings or presumptuously arrogant. Zealous means marked by an active interest and enthusiasm. So, fanaticism is the only word that fits. It causes persistent abstraction, the choice cannot be volatile active, it is cannot be volatile. Active interest source fanaticism as adjective better than unrestrained or arrogant. Volatile is something that is exclusive. Here zealous fanaticism is the best answer, and the set two best choice is anomalous.

Anomalous means deviating from the general or common order or type. Something is preposterous if it is incongruous, or if it invites ridicule. Prodigal means recklessly wasteful, of peculiarity has higher chances of being described as preposterous or anomalous than being recklessly wasteful. So, prodigal son, I have already told you it is

a biblical story, a son who use to waste a lot of money he was driven out, and he comes back, or once he leaves his fathers, rich fathers house, and then he waste away his quaintness away all his legacy, he whatever money he had on him, and then he returns without any money. So, return of the prodigal, someone who has used to wasteful expenditure that does not fit here at all.

The passage says that the dress and bearing of the person where in keeping with the peculiarities of the person. So, it is not in incongruous, incongruous means something which does not match, and nowhere in the passage it indicates that he was subject to any ridicule. So, these points may anomalous a better choice then preposterous.

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Let us move on to the next slide, for the sugar industry and the martinets purveyors reprobates of sugar rich foods this remarkably noxious obtuse resilient century old conception has been the gift that keeps on giving. The best choice for section or for the first blank is purveyors. None of the options given sounds like strange people, perhaps we should take a closer look at the different uses of these words, a martinets is a disciplinarian, you should know these words disciplinarian, someone who demands exist conformity to rules and forms. A purveyor is someone who supplies provisions

especially food, a reprobates is, you know he is a person without moral scruples, and we are talking about sugar industry and sugar rich food.

So, purveyor, is someone who supplies provisions especially food. So, that is the sugar industry, and therefore, it fits. Second choice, a second answer is resilient. Something is noxious that is your one first choice, if it is injuries to physical or mental health. Somebody is obtuse if he or she is lacking in insight or discernment. Resilient means tough, elastic someone who can rebound easily. A gift that keeps on giving can be nothing, but resilient. It cannot be noxious or obtuse, because it is a gift.

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"We'd come upon a cat that was squatting on the sea wall to eat from a parcel someone had discarded there. The thin, grey animal hunkered down and scowled, growling and whining at the same time, but it allowed Karla to stroke its back as it lowered its head to the food once more. It was a wizened and .....specimen with one ear chewed to the shape of a rosebud, and bare patches on its sides and back where unhealed sores were exposed. I found it amazing that such a feral,.....creature should permit itself to be petted by a stranger and that Karla would want to do such a thing. Even more....., it seemed to me then, was that the cat had such a keen appetite for vegetables and rice."

i) a) Onerous    b) Scabrous    c) Fatuous

ii) a) Emaciated    b) Emancipated    c) Emanated

iii) a) Astounding    b) Placating    c) Tormenting

Next set, we had come upon a cat that was squatting on the sea wall to eat from a parcel someone had discarded there. The thin, grey animal hunkered down and scowled growling and whining at the same time, but it allowed Karla to stroke its back as it lowered its head to the food once more. It was a wizened and onerous, scabrous, fatuous specimen with one ear chewed to the shape of a rosebud, and bare patches on its sides and back where unhealed sores were exposed. I found it amazing that such a feral emaciated, emancipated, emanated creature should permit itself to be petted by a stranger and that Karla would want to do such a thing.

Even more astounding, placating, tormenting it seemed to me, then was that the cat had such a keen appetite for vegetables and rice. Please give yourself a moment, go through it very carefully. The best answer for, first fill in the blank is scabrous. Onerous means burdensome we have already seen it while ago. Scabrous means rough to the touch, covered with scales or scurf. Fatuous means devoid of intelligence, now cat cannot be fatuous, and the rest of the sentence describes its physical features at the linking word and comes before the blank. So, it is safe to assume that the best choice, is a word that would describe some physical aspect of the cat; hence scabrous is the best choice.

Scabrous means rough to the touch, covered with scales or scurf s c u r f, and then physical form of the cat, it is emaciated, and the answer is choice two emaciated. The cat is emaciated, because it is hungry, it has not been given food if it is very thin from disease, hunger, cold elements. It is emancipated if it is free from social restraints, but that does not, the cat cannot be emancipated. To emanate means to give out something a breath or order. You know nothing about social restraints of the cat was. So, let us strike off emancipated.

The best answer is emaciated, which is already hinted in the previous sentence, in the previous section, and it was a astounding that is the third choice, number three astounding means surprisingly impressive as to stun over well, taken a back., astonishing. Placating means to specify someone, by exceeding to the demands or granting concessions, or tormenting means treating cruelly, even more is a clue here, because in the previous sentence the word amazing is used. The superlative is the word here. So, astounding, placating and tormenting fits the category. No, they do not. So, it has to be astounding. So, amazing, astounding, they are the words superlative kind of words. So, it has to be an adjective of that nature.

(Refer Slide Time: 27:41)

With the rise of Hitler, the ..... of medical science shifted from Germany and Austria to US and the lingua franca of medical science shifted from German to English.

- a) Viscid
- b) Nexus
- c) Tiff
- d) Prolixity
- e) Gestalt

Next look at this one now, with the rise of Hitler the dash of medical science shifted from Germany and Austria to US, and the lingua franca of medical science, shifted from German to English. Viscid nexus tiff prolixity gestalt. The best answer is nexus. We are looking for a noun here; someone is viscid if they have sticky property. Nexus means connection between things, a tiff is a quarrel, prolixity is tendency to be verbose. Gestalt is a configuration of elements, and it cannot be. So, nexus of medical sciences, remember that. The second part of the passage is hold, it holds a clue, it tells us that medical science used to be connected to Germany; somehow like the language German used to be. So, Germany and German where the center with the rise of Hitler everything shifted the nexus, the group, the connection shifted; that is why the best choice is nexus.

Thank you very much, and we will continue in our next class.