

English Language for Competitive Exams
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Week- 07
Lecture - 35
Vocabulary-Practice Test

Good morning. So, we will continue with our tradition of practicing vocabulary as we have been doing so far. I will give you a list and the best possible and the choices, some possible choices and you have to select the best possible choice. So, after that I will discuss the answers with you, the correct or exact answer. Exact, by exact I mean as we know for competitive exams the best possible among the choices. So, exact may not be the most accurate word here, the best possible choice; the answer that comes closest in meaning, in context to the given word.

(Refer Slide Time: 01:05)

1. Bemused

- (a) Entertained (b) Deceived
(c) Befuddled (d) Derange

2. Contentious

- (a) Capacious (b) Argumentative
(c) Pleasantly happy (d) Diligent

Now, let us look at the slide here. This is your practice and choice item one, bemused. Choices are entertained, deceived, befuddled, derange; open your dictionaries if possible and start looking up each and every word. If you know the exact word or get the accurate word then is well in good; however, you should know the meanings of other words as well. Second; contentious: a capacious, b argumentative, c pleasantly happy, d diligent.

(Refer Slide Time: 01:44)

3. Demiurge

- (a) A Subordinate god (b) Frustrated Desire
- (c) Half-hearted effort (d) Shadowy World

4. Descant

- (a) Pour out (b) Tip
- (c) Make allowances for (d) Expatiate on

Next slide, please take a look. Demiurge: a a subordinate god, b frustrated desire, c half hearted effort, d shadowy world. Four, Descant; pour out, tip, make allowances for, expatiate on.

(Refer Slide Time: 02:05)

5. Effete

- (a) Festive (b) Effeminate
- (c) Worn-out (d) Relaxed

6. Friable

- (a) Pan-broiled (b) Tender
- (c) Simmered (d) Easily crumbled

Next Effete: a festive, b effeminate, c worn out, d relaxed. Sixth, Friable: pan-broiled, tender, simmered, easily crumbled able to be.

(Refer Slide Time: 02:25)

7. Enervated

- (a) Over stimulated (b) Unnerved
- (c) Weakened (d) Aroused

8. Enjoin

- (a) Restrain (b) Associate with
- (c) Delight in (d) Salvage

Enervated, number seven; over stimulated, unnerved, weakened, aroused. Eight, enjoin: restrain, associate with, delight in, salvage.

(Refer Slide Time: 02:42)

10. Inchoate

- (a) Completely disorganized (b) Well-arranged
- (c) Not crowded (d) Just begun

11. Indict

- (a) Formally accuse (b) Tentatively condemn
- (c) Write-down

Next, number 10, inchoate possibility answers; in completely disorganized, well arranged, not crowded, just begun. Eleven, indict; formally accuse, tentatively condemn, write down. There is a word missing there, but do not worry about that.

(Refer Slide Time: 03:05)

12. Interdict

- (a) Meddle in (b) Underrate
(c) Settle officially (d) Forbid

13. Macaronic

- (a) Referring to (b) Wheat Paste product
(c) Mixture of Languages (d) Almond

Interdict number 12; meddle in, underrate, settle officially, forbid. Macaronic; referring to, wheat paste product, mixture of languages, almond.

(Refer Slide Time: 03:20)

14. Meretricious

- (a) Praiseworthy (b) Artificial
(c) Costly (d) Trashy

15. Momentous

- (a) Temporary (b) Secondary
(c) Very important (d) Memorable

Next, number 14, meretricious: a praiseworthy, b artificial, c costly, d trashy. 15 momentous: a temporary, b secondary, c very important, d memorable.

(Refer Slide Time: 03:37)

16. Noisome

- (a) Unusually loud (b) Cacophonous
(c) Sensitively irritable (d) Malodorous

17. Officious

- (a) Bureaucratic (b) Meddlesome
(c) Domineering (d) Fault-finding

Sixteen, noisome: a unusually loud, b cacophonous, c sensitively irritable, d malodorous.
Seventeen, officious: a bureaucratic, b meddlesome, c domineering, d fault finding.

(Refer Slide Time: 03:57)

18. Opprobrium

- (a) Disgrace (b) Praise
(c) Investigation (d) Agreement

19. Queasy

- (a) Narrow (b) Curious
(c) Slimy (d) Nauseated

Eighteenth, opprobrium meanings disgrace, b praise, c investigation, d agreement.
Nineteenth, queasy: a narrow, b curious, c slimy, d nauseated.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:19)

20. Testy

- (a) Irritable (b) Suspicious
(c) Nervous (d) Critical

Twenty, testy: a irritable, b suspicious, c nervous, d critical.

Take some time look and try to solve these exercises. We will discuss the answers in a moment alright. So, for the first one, bemused. Now bemuse can mean anything, it could be befuddled to hypnotized form days to preoccupied. So, it is not entertained, remember do not confuse bemused with amused. Bemuse means befuddled, dazed; it is therefore, seen around a great deal most of the time in the sense of befuddled or be welded. It is a very common word. It can mean anything therefore, you use find it a great deal here and there. Much to my, I was bemused to know; that means, I was not amused, this is not entertainment. It may sound so much alike. Much to my bemusement or my I was absolutely bemused to know. This is I was confused, I was befuddled, I was bewildered, I was not sure how to respond to it. Bemusedly is the adverb here, certain is the antonym for that.

Next word was contentious. Now remember you have a word like contend that is to struggle to fight again. Therefore, contentious means full of a struggle, full of fight pugnacious, argumentative. So, your answer should be pugnacious or argumentative, you are given this choice. So, argumentative, contentious; antonym would be peaceful, pacifist. Next word was demiurge, now we often you we have just finished doing a Greek names, Greek mythology, Greek gods and we often come across the word demigods; that means, a minor or half god. So, it has got nothing with to do with demy

or half or even with urge. Dem; d e m is demiurge is from the word, the Greek word demos, that is people.

So, democracy, demography,, demigod all these are related to people. People related word demos and demotic is popular, democratic choice is the popular choice. So, the last element in demiurge is related to the Greek word, argon that is as in erg a unit of work, in energy, synergy. So, demiurge means working together set up word. You have to know dem, not demy dem and ah are joint here is not demiurge, but it is demiurges and it is energies, synergy working together of people. Demiurge therefore, literally means a worker for the people, it actually means a secondary d e t, a blind force that created the world. So, it has something for the welfare for the people. Next word is descant, it is applied to a counter melody sung about the solo song. In its more general use, it is used to mean a subject at length or delight upon, expatiate upon.

Now, descant is not to be confused to decant. Decant is to tip of vessel so that the liquid can pour out. So, descant here is expatiate upon. Next word was effete; it comes from Latin e as in the letter e plus fetus which means no longer able to bear young. That is almost exhausted, worn out, spent, enervated, so that is effete. Effete means an person whose energy is spent out. Next word was friable, it comes from the Latin word fricare, f r i c a r e. It means to rub, to crumble something that can be easily crumbled. It is related to word friction to rub or clean something with, so to rub. Next word was enervated again weakening nervous energy debilitated and fabled. So, out of absolutely out of, remember we are talking about the Greek, the Latin word e and it means the meaning is, it stands for out of; so out of energy, enervated out of nerves, out of energy.

(Refer Slide Time: 10:02)



Now, enjoin is a restraining order. Enjoin means to restrain, to forbid. Enervative, remember it is weakened in a sentence form you can say, the opposition has enervated the chief minister and his pledges to carry out the plan. So, enervated you know literally we can enfeeble not physically necessarily, but you have taken all most all the energy out of that person. Enjoin is the restraining order. We received an enjoin, enjoinder restrained, order of restrain, a forbiddance.

Next word is inchoate. So, c h o a t e, it comes from a Latin verb meaning to begin and hence means incomplete, incipient, imperfect, amorphous. It means disordered only in the sense of not being in order. So, it is incomplete, incipient, imperfect, amorphous. Indict means only to bring formal charges. It does not really mean formal, condemnation, or conviction; it to bring out formal charges against someone that is one of your choices. So that is the answer to interdict, indict and interdict; interdict means prohibit, forbid interdiction. The French word of forbidden is Antherdy. Look at this word without a c. So, French is without a c, the German word verboten is quite similar to forbidden.

So, interdiction, interdict, interdit and this means the same thing to prohibit, to forbid. Macaronic refers to words or pros on which a mixture of languages is used for humorous effect. It has got nothing to do with Italian dish, macaroni or American dish. Wherever you find macaroni, but it is not that is not a paste. It is a mix of languages; it is a kind of words or pros in which a mixture of languages is uses for numerous effect. So, it is a

literary term, meretricious now it comes from the roots are in a Latin word for a women of easy character, a women who earns. So, it literally means tottery, fleshy, (Refer Time: 123:24) cheap. A women who earns in the sense the way a harlot would earn. So, this is the meaning here. It is not just any working women.

Next is momentous. So, you get the meaning meretricious is body, tottery, cheap is momentous does come from the word moment, but it is meaning is more close to wait or importance as in the phrase of great moment; so momentous event in Indian history independence, partition, assassination of Gandhi, launching of several missiles and rockets; yes. So, these are the momentous events. Events of great importance; the world wars events of great importance not necessary negative or positive, but we are talking about importance, please remember that.

Next word is noisome, it has got nothing to with noise please remember, that it is not noisy. The word is made up of a short and form of annoy and the suffix is some s o m e. It has the quality of annoying something. It is sometimes used to mean harmful or disagreeable, but most frequently it is used to describe an offensive order. Annoying to the point of being nauseating, so noisome, annoying. Officious is sometimes treated with bossy, but its specific meaning is meddling, intrusive, voluntary one services when they are neither asked or nor needed. So, officious.

It is not exactly bossy, but meddle some inclusive. You will often find officious workers in your office, in your cabin. They keep offering voluntary services, very officious of officious is not to be confused with solicitous. Solicitous is offering your services and concerned. Officious is you are not even wanted there, but are showing your volunteering your services opprobrium (Refer Time: 16:03) is a Latin word meaning disgrace, infamy reproach. It is in famous despicable and scurrilous. We are talking about opprobrium, look at a synonym disgrace, infamy, reproach, scurrilous, despicable; these are the adjectives.

Quasi is a feeling of nauseated it uneasy, a quasi feeling, a disgusting feeling, an uneasy feeling. So, I had an, I had a quasi feeling about the entire incident perhaps something bad will come of it; quasi. Testy comes from a Latin word Testa which earthenware jug. Therefore, it is as slang for skull or head. Testy means headstrong, irritable, quick tempered. Another word could be waspish, irritable, wasp you know a bee like sting. So,

we do not say beeish, we say waspish, wasps sting and leave a mark or irritation on us. That is waspish temperament.

(Refer Slide Time: 17:48)

1. Abash

- (a) Obliterate (b) Send away
- (c) Embarrass (d) Condemn

2. Abnegation

- (a) Indignation (b) Renunciation
- (c) Affirmation (d) Abstention

So, we will move on to the next set of practice test. Please look at the slide here. First word, abash or choices are obliterate, send away, embarrass, condemn. Look at the spelling of embarrass, it has two r s and double s. Abnegation; indignation, renunciation, affirmation, abstention.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:08)

3. Abrade

- (a) Rub off (b) Attach
- (c) Scold (d) Twist

4. Abstruse

- (a) Stupid (b) Diffuse
- (c) Obscure (d) Missing

Next word Abrade; rub off, attach, scold, twist. Next word, abstruse; a, stupid b, diffuse
c, obscure d, missing.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:25)

5. Actuarial

- (a) Realistic (b) Normal
- (c) By virtue of (d) Relating to statistical calculations

6. Adjunct

- (a) Solemn oath (b) Addition
- (c) Adaptation (d) Decree

Next word, Actuarial: realistic, normal, by virtue of, relating to statistical calculations.
Sixth, adjunct: solemn, oath, addition, adaptation, decree.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:38)

7. Agglomeration

- (a) Enumeration (b) Vagueness
- (c) Resplendence (d) Confused mass

8. Ancillary

- (a) Obvious (b) Auxiliary
- (c) Pertaining to the ankle (d) Feeble

Next word, Agglomeration: enumeration, vagueness, resplendence, confused mass. Next
word, ancillary: obvious, auxiliary, pertaining to the ankle and feeble.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:59)

9. Anthropomorphic

- (a) Geological (b) Changeable
- (c) Primitive (d) Having human form

10. Aphasia

- (a) Loss of sight (b) Shapelessness
- (c) Loss of memory (d) Loss of speech

Ninth word, Anthropomorphic; it is geological, changeable, primitive, having human form. Next word aphasia: loss of sight, shapelessness, loss of memory, loss of speech.

(Refer Slide Time: 19:16)

11. Arraign

- (a) Serve on jury (b) Put in order
- (c) Bring before a court (d) Convict

12. Astringent

- (a) Attenuated (b) Flexible
- (c) Styptic (d) Poignant

Next word Arraign; serve on jury, put in order, bring before a court, convict. Next word astringent: attenuated, flexible, styptic, poignant. Please keep looking the meanings of each and every word. Now let us discuss the answers. Abash is embarrass or shame and when we say unabashedly, that is this antonym which means shamelessly. So, she announced herself or she publicized her work, unabashedly, shamelessly. Abashious,

feeling of abash feeling of shame. Abnegation is the act of renouncing, abnegated power, abnegated position, act of renouncing.

Abrade, it means you want to scour or clean something very badly, remove dirt, grime surface of the thing, you abrade it. So, remember abrasion is a noun here, abrade is a verb. You want to abrade your finger nails or your furniture or there is lot of inner layer of oil on your cooking stove, abrade it. So, you have been you want to it clean it thoroughly, almost like abrasively. Remember abrade is related to abrasion, a scrape on the skin. The word comes from abraider that is the Latin root, which means to scrape off. So, abrade is to scrape off.

Next word that I gave you was abstruse, now the Latin roots of the abstruse are about concealing or hiding something which is a good way to remember the word. Abstruse, confusing; someone is deliberately making a situation complicated more complicated than necessary, concealing. It may sound like obtuse, but abstruse is almost its opposite. Obtuse is dull or lacking a sharpness of intellect; o b t u s e. So, abstruse, cunning, hiding and obtuse; abstruse is like a someone who is very sharp obtuse that, remember that. Abstruse conceals and hides for his own or her own purposes. Next word was actuarial, now actuarial science includes a statistics, probability, math's, economics all you know empirically data related domains. So, actuarial it means how something can be quantified or measured; so actuarial data that is the meaning of actuarial.

Next word was adjunct. Adjunct means to add on. For example, you have adjunct professors in universities. This person is not on a regular faculty not a full time member of the faculty, but is hired by a university or college to teach to help, to support, but not on a full time basis. Next word is agglomeration is a bunch of a stuff that is glommed on to each other, stuck to each other. So, agglomeration; next word is ancillary. Ancillary is to describe your position as a subordinate or supporting something or someone else. The adjective ancillary originalment relating to servants; so maid servants, but now we no longer use it in that way. It is subordinate or supporting something or someone or helpful.

Next word was anthropomorphic. Now you know the word anthropology the study of human beings. So, anthropomorphic is derived from the Greek word Anthropocene which means human being. Now one thing humans do, is anthropomorphize animal and

inanimate objects. So, it is like putting human like attributes on inanimate objects or even on animals. So, those kinds of attributing those feeling so animating inanimate objects and putting human like feelings in animate objects or even an animals. That is the meaning, making human like.

Next word was aphasia. Aphasia is a medical condition caused by serious brain damage and you lose your speech, loss of speech not as in mute, but what happens is that you lose your power, you forget your language; aphasia. Arraign; arraign comes from the French word (Refer Time: 25:39) which means to address or the speak reasonably. Now it is used in legal sense or pleading or guilty or non guilty, the verb arraign means to call someone before the court to answer an accusation. It is like an indictment, to answer an indictment; so to address.

And the word astringent, now remember astringents are acid based. These are liquids, astringent personality is corrosive personality. If someone is cynical or sarcastic then, he has an astringing view of the world. So, please look at please understand the meanings of the word that we have been doing today and apply it to the choices given. Look up your dictionary and see how well they fit. We will continue with a more exercise and vocabulary related exercises in our subsequent classes.

Thank you very much.