Antonyms

Antonym

Opposites are, interestingly, simultaneously different and similar in meaning. Typically, they differ in only one dimension of meaning, but are similar in most other respects, including similarity in grammar and positions of semantic abnormality. Additionally, not all words have an opposite. Some words are non-opposable. For example, animal or plant species have no binary opposites; the wordplatypus therefore has no word that stands in opposition to it. Other words are opposable but have an accidental gap in a given language's L exicon. For example, the word devout lacks a lexical opposite, but it is fairly easy to conceptualize a parameter of devoutness where devout lies at the positive pole with a missing member at the negative pole. Opposites of such words can nevertheless sometimes be formed with the prefixes un- or non-, with varying degrees of naturalness. For example, the word undevout appears in Webster's dictionary of 1828, while the pattern of non-person could conceivably be extended to non-platypus. This is a test in which your ability to understand the meanings of words and to distinguish between the fine shades of meaning. While testing your ability on questions pertaining to Antonyms, the first thing to be observed is your ability to grasp the meaning of the words given. Unless you know the meaning of the words given, on will not be able to find out or choose the exact antonyms from the options given. Mostly antonyms appear in the form of nouns, verbs and Adjectives.

Strategies To Solve Questions Based On Antonyms

Your approach to solve the questions based on antonyms require some strategies.

Check whether the question word and the opposite of the words and the opposite of the words given under the options are in the same parts of speech i.e noun, verb to verb etc.

You should have an idea of the roots of the words and know their meanings. For example, in the words benefactor, if you know the meaning of bene you will be able to guess the meanings of the words, and opt for the best antonyms.

You should also have the knowledge of prefixes and suffixes this will help you to find out the suitable antonyms. For example the prefix "un"in"im"dis" etc give a negative meanings.

Look at these examples given below:

Antonyms are words with opposite or nearly opposite meanings. For example:

short and tall dead and alive

increase and decrease add and subtract

Example : Fortunate X Unfortunate
Satisfied X Dissatisfied
Complete X Incomplete
Polite X Impolite

Negative Prefixes.

Similarly, the suffixes can also give opposite meanings. For examples Less is a suffix which gives an opposite meanings.

Example: Hope X Hopeless
Meaning X Meaningless

Some words may not have a precise antonym. In such cases, you can look for a word or a phase which is nearly the opposites.

Sometimes, note than one word in the options given word. So, one has to make the choice judiciously. In this case, choose the word which gives great detail in the meaning.

Looking for the best answer and not for the ideas answer. Eliminate two or three of the options if they are no where related to given word.

Do not go for an antonym which is too limited or too broad to be an opposite.

when you get confused about the antonym to be chosen, try to think of how you have heard the word used before. You may discover a suitable context to guess the exact antonym.

Exercise Questions

Directions: Each of the questions consists of a word followed by five words or phrase as choices. Choose the word or phrase which is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capitals and shade the alphabets marked in the grid on your answer sheet.

1. ABOMINATE:

- a. loathe
- b. despise
- c. adore
- d. abhor
- e. attach

2. OBSEQUIOUS:

- a. servile
- b. first
- c. fawning
- d. supercilious
- e. improper

3. **OROTUND:**

- a. not resonant
- b. not reddish
- c. not eager
- d. pompous
- e. loud

4. **RECANT:**

- a. entangle
- b. rescue
- c. fail
- d. assert
- e. predict

5. **UPBRAID**:

- a. defer
- b. vacillate
- c. sever
- d. conjoin
- e. laud

6. **PLENITUDE:**

- a. luxury
- b. magnificence
- c. richness
- d. contentment
- e. scarcity

7. **SCURRILOUS**:

- a. decent
- b. savage
- c. major
- d. volatile
- e. scabby

8. **FULMINATION:**

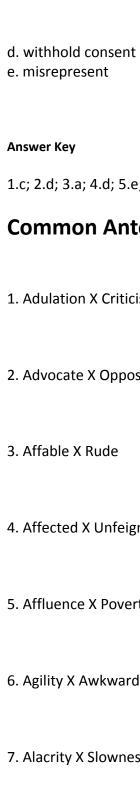
- a. praise
- b. repetition
- c. escape
- d. ratification
- e. addition

9. **DISTEND**

- a. deteriorate
- b. weaken
- c. constrict
- d. concentrate
- e. fold

10. **TOUT**

- a. cast aspersions on
- b. deny the relevance of
- c. placate



e. misrepresent

1.c; 2.d; 3.a; 4.d; 5.e; 6.e; 7.a; 8.a; 9.c; 10.e

Common Antonyms

- 1. Adulation X Criticism
- 2. Advocate X Oppose
- 3. Affable X Rude
- 4. Affected X Unfeigned
- 5. Affluence X Poverty
- 6. Agility X Awkwardness
- 7. Alacrity X Slowness
- 8. Alleviate X Worsen

9. Allure X Repel
10. Aloof X Gregarious
11. Amalgamate X Separate
12. Ambiguous X Clear
13. Amble X Hasten.
14. Ambulatory X Bedridden
15. Ameliorate X Make Worse
16. Analogous X Not Comparable
17. Anathematize X Bless
18. Anomaly X Regularity
19. Antipathy X Fondness
20. Antithesis X Similarity

21. Baroque X Simple
22. Beatific X Dreadful
23. Belittle X Extol
24. Bellicose X Peaceful
25. Benign X Malignant
26. Benison X Curse
27. Berate X Praise
28. Bestial X Noble
29. Bigotry X Tolerance
30. Bizarre X Normal
31. Blanch X Darken

33. Blesse X Ardent
34. Blithe X Cheerless
35. Bleak X Cheerful
36. Capacious X Not Spacious
37. Capricious X Steadfast
38. Captious X Tolerant
39. Carnal X Spiritual
40. Carnivorous X Herbivorous
41. Carping X Uncritical
42. Castigation X Commendation
43. Categorical X Qualified

32. Blend X Soft

44. Catholic X Narrow
45. Celerity X Delay
46. Celibate X Married
47. Censure X Praise
48. Centrifugal X Centripetal
49. Cessation X Gravity
50. Chaffing X Capitalistic
51. Dank X Dry
52. Dapper X Untidy
53. Dauntless X Cowardly
54. Dearth X Bundance

56. Debilitate X Strengthen
57. Debonair X Awkward
58. Derogatory X Praising
59. Desecrate X Consecrate
50. Destitute X Affluent
51. Devoid X Full Of
52. Devout X Impious
53. Diabolical X Seraphic
64. Diatribe X Eulogy
55. Diffidence X Boldness
56. Dilate X Contrast

55. Debacle X Progress

68. Diminution X Appreciation
69. Din X Silence
70. Disabuse X Deceive
71. Disconsolate X Joyous
72. Enervate X Strengthen
73. Enhance X Degrade
74. Ennui X Excitement.
75. Enunciate X Mumble
76. Ephemeral X Eternal
77 Equable V Stormy

67. Dilatory X Prompt

78. Equanimity X Agitation	
79. Equilibrium X Imbalance	į
80. Equitable X Unfair	
81. Equivocal X Clear	
82. Erratic X Steady	
83. Erroneous X Accurate	
84. Erudite X Ignorant	
85. Ethereal X Earthy	
86. Eulogistic X Critical	
87. Grandiose X Simple	
88. Gratuitous X Warranted	
89. Gregarious X Antisocial	

90. Grisly X Antisocial
91. Gullible X Incredulous
92. Gusto X Distaste
93. Gusty X Calm
94. Hackneyed X Original
95. Haggard X Plump
96. Halcyon X Martial
97. Haphazard X Deliberate
98. Ignoble X Worthy
99. Illusive X Not Deceptive
100. Irksome X Interesting

102. Irreparable X Correctable
103. Irreverent X Pious
104. Jaded X Stimulated
105. Jaundiced X Unbiased
106. Jaunty X Sedate
107. Jeopardy X Safety
108. Jettison X Salvage
109. Jocular X Serious
110. Judicious Unwise
111. Kindle X Extinguish
112 Keen X Dull

101. Irrelevant X Pertinent

113. Knowledge X Ignorance
114. Kill X Animate
115. Lachrymose X Cheering
116. Lackadaisical X Ambitious
117. Laconic X Verbose
118. Lampoon X Praise
119. Languor X Vitality
120. Latent X Obvious
121. Lavish X Frugal
122. Laudatory X Defamatory
123. Lax X Strict

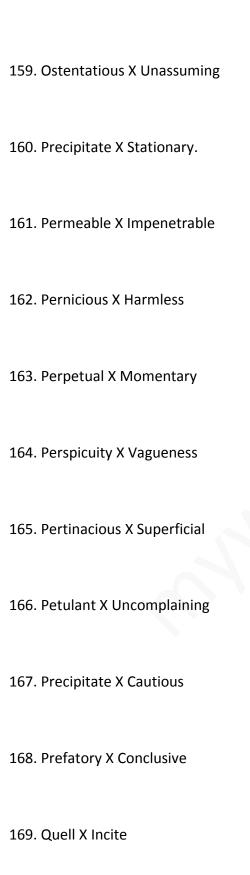
124. Lechery X Purity
125. Lethargic X Invigorating
126. Limpid X Turbid
127. Lithe X Stiff
128. Loath X Eager
129. Loquacious X Taciturn
130. Lugubrious X Cheerful
131. Lurid X Dull
132. Malign x Eulogize
133. Malleable X Brittle
134. Manacle X Sane

135. Manifest X Obscure

136. Manumit X Enslave	
137. Martial X Bellicose	
138. Nebulous X Clear	
139. Nefarious X Bergin	
140. Negation X Affirmation	
141. Neophyte X Veteran	
142. Niggardly X Prodigal	
143. Nocturnal X Daily	
144. Obdurate X Fleeting	
145. Obese X Cadaverous	
146. Objective X Emotionally Involved	

147. Obligatory X Optional
148. Obloquy X Praise
149. Obsequious X Supercilious
150. Odium X Liking
151. Omnipotent X Weak
152. Omniscient X Ignorant
153. Opiate X Stimulant
154. Opportune X Awkward
155. Opportunist X Man of Principle
156. Opprobrium X Praise
157. Optimum X Worst

158. Opulence X Poverty



170. Quintessence X impure
171. queue X Curve, Zigzag
172. Ratify X Denounce
173. Resilient X Unyielding
174. Restive X Placid
175. Retentive X Forgetful
176. Reticence X Loquaciousness
177. Retrograde X Progressing
178. Reverie X Dishonor
179. Rife X Scant
180. Robust X Weak
181. Rotundity X slimness

182. Rubble X Unbroken stone
183. Ruddy X War
184. Rudimentary X Developed
185. Rueful X Content
186. Rustic X Urban
187. Ruthless X Merciful
188. Seldom x Frequently
189. Wreck X Restore
190. Wonder X Expectations
191. Wane X Prosper
192. Weary x Energetic

193. Well-round x Scattered
194. Wrath X Delight
195. Within X Beyond
196. Worried x Cheerful
197. Watch x Neglect
198. Zany X Sane

199. Zeal X Apathy

200. Zaftig x Petite