

**SPOKEN ENGLISH**  
ఆంగ్లభాషణ 875

- Bunganna Arakatla, Kurnool

**Q:** Sir, I request you to let me know the meanings of the words below.

- 1) Honing            2) Crepuscular
- 3) Upends           4) Skewed
- 5) Up the Anti      6) Pogrom
- 7) Coach Potato    8) Perestroika
- 9) Glasnost        10) Regimen

**A:** 1) i) Sharpening - making a knife or any other weapon sharp/ refine or improve someone's skills.

ii) A whetstone used to make knives and razors sharp.

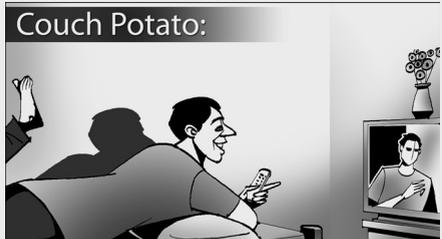
2) Connected with twilight (సంధ్య వెలుగుకి సంబంధించిన).

3) Turn something upside down (తిరగదిప్పటం) / to win (అనుకోకుండా గెలవడం).

4) Place or keep something at an angle (వాలుగా ఉంచడం)/ make something appear wrong (కావాలని దేన్నైనా పక్కంగా చూపడం).

5) Up the ante (not anti) = increase your demands or risks (మన డిమాండ్లు, ప్రమాదాలు పెంచుకోవడం, ముఖ్యంగా లావాదేవీల్లో/ వ్యాపారాల్లో అధిక లాభం పొందేందుకు).

6) Harm/ kill a large group of people because of their race or political beliefs. (మునుముడిగా డిగా ప్రజలను చంపడం, వారి రాజకీయ భావాల వల్ల).



7) Couch potato (not coach) = a person spending all the time lying on a sofa and watching the TV. (ఎప్పుడూ, సోమరిగా పడు కుని, టీవీ చూస్తుండేవాళ్ళు).  
Couch = small bed

8) Political, social and economical changes in the Soviet Union late 1980s (1980 లలో సోవియట్ యూనియన్‌లో వచ్చిన రాజకీయ, సాంఘిక, ఆర్థిక మార్పులు).

9) Transparency in the Soviet Union during Gorbachev's time. (గోర్బచెవ్ కాలంలో USSR లో వచ్చిన పాలనా పారదర్శకత).

10) Rules of food and exercise for improvement of health. (ఆరోగ్యం మెరుగ్గా ఉండేందుకు, ఆహార, వ్యాయామ నియమాలు).

- Pillutla Swathi

**Q:** Sir, can you please explain what is Adverbs of manner in detail?

**A:** An adverb increases the meaning of the verb. An adverb of manner tells us how somebody does an action.

**Eg:** Their teacher teaches well. Put the question 'how' to the verb - how does the teacher teach? You get the answer, he teaches 'well'. So 'well' is an adverb of manner. If a phrase (a group of words without a verb) / clause (a group of words with a verb) tells us how somebody does an action, it becomes an adverb phrase / adverb clause of manner.

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ఈనాడు కార్యాలయం, రామోజీ ఫిల్మ్ సిటీ,  
హయత్ నగర్ (మండలం), రంగారెడ్డి జిల్లా.

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**'Couch potato' ఎవరు..?**

- V. Rajkumar, Hyderabad

**Q:** What are the differences among...

- i) Large, Huge, Big, Tall, Long, Heavy
- ii) Filter water, Distilled water, Mineral Water, Purified water.

**A:** i) Big and large both refer to things more than the usual size, extent, amount and capacity (a large building, a large area, a large amount, a large hall, etc.)

However, while large refers to measurement or size, big refers to more than usual weight.

★ **Big:** a big man (size), a big baby (size), big plan, etc.

★ **Huge** = something unusually big usually in size - a huge building = unusually large building.

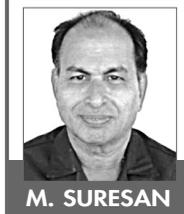
★ **Tall** = of good height, refers to humans, animals, buildings, and mountain peaks.

★ **'Long'** refers to objects and duration (time) - a long river, long road, the long tail of the monkey, the long neck of the giraffe, long story, long distance, etc.

★ **Heavy** - refers to things with a lot of weight - Heavy metal, heavy stone, etc. Also, heavy work, heavy rain, etc.

ii) **Filter water** = water filtered to make it free from solid impurities.

★ **Distilled water** = water unmixed with any



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other substance, solid, liquid, or gas.

★ **Mineral water** = Natural water with some salts dissolved in it, sold as drinking water.

However in India, mineral water sold in bottles is purified water to which certain salts and mineral are added.

★ **Purified water** = water free from impurities.

- Ravi Kumar Ch.

**Q:** Sir, can you please clarify me the following doubts:

1) 2 / 3rd of the book is easy to read. But 3 parts of the lesson are yet to be completed. Why?

2) It was / were the students who wanted the teacher to declare holiday.

**A:** Two-third of the book - wrong. The correct expression is two-thirds of the book, as 'thirds' is plural, it should be, Two-thirds of the book are easy to read, because, two-thirds = two parts out of three. Two parts is plural, so we should say, two-thirds of the book are easy to read.

2) It was the students who wanted the teacher to declare holiday - 'was' is correct in such sentences. We say, 'It is the ministers who are responsible for it', and not, 'It are the ministers who are responsible for it' (Note, 'it' is singular.)

**Two-thirds of the book are..**

- Ravinder, Kakinada

**Q:** Sir, 'Answers are seem to be got - మీకు ఆన్సర్స్ వచ్చినట్లే ఉన్నాయి - Is this right?

**A:** i) Answers are seem to be got - Wrong. Answers seem to have been got - Right, but this is rather awkward. We don't usually say so. You seem to have got the answers - much better than, 'Answers seem to have been got'.



**Q:** ఆయన tie/ shoes వేసుకుని రాలేదు - Please say in English.

**A:** He hasn't come in tie and shoes.

**Q:** Uniform defaults go outside - (Here the students don't wear tie & shoes) - Please say is the above correct or not.

**A:** Correct.

**Q:** మీరు పది ఆన్సర్స్ చదవండి వాటి నుంచి రెండు ఆన్సర్స్ అడుగుతాను. మీరు నాకు చెప్పాలి లేదా

చూడకుండా రాయాలి - How can this be said in English?

**A:** You learn the answers to ten questions. I will ask you to answer three questions. You should write them without copying it from the book.

**Q:** He is a teacher /Teacher - ఏది కరెక్ట్?

**A:** He is a teacher - Correct.

**Q:** I have to credit this amount in/ to my account - Which is correct?

**A:** I have to credit this amount into my account - Correct.

- Shravan Goud

**Q:** She denied to have seen him yesterday. In this sentence, could you please explain the importance of the word 'yesterday'?. We do not use 'yesterday' for present perfect.

**A:** 1) The correct sentence is: She denied having seen him. In this sentence, the only verb is, denied. 'Having seen' is not a verb. Even in your sentence, 'She denied to have seen him yesterday', which, of course is incorrect, there is only one verb, denied. 'To have seen him' is not a verb, but the perfect infinitive. The verb 'denied' is past simple and the use of 'yesterday' is correct.

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- Vijaychandar, Gandhampally

**Q:** Sir, please clarify the following doubts.

It was a great fun - if we want to change the above sentence then can we write in the following manner?

What a great fun it was!

**A:** You can. It is right.

**Q:** He himself copied/ He copied himself - Please say the difference between the two sentences.

**A:** He himself copied - in this sentence the object is missing. He himself copied what? Suppose the sentence 'He himself copied it.' Then it is the same as 'He copied it himself'.

**Q:** You are not supposed to copy in the exam/ You should not copy in the exam - Which one has force?

**A:** Both have the same force. However, in India, 'You should not copy in the exam', is more easily understood than 'You are not supposed to copy in the exam'. So it is better to say, 'You should not copy in the exams'.

**Q:** They are withdrawn from others - Means what?

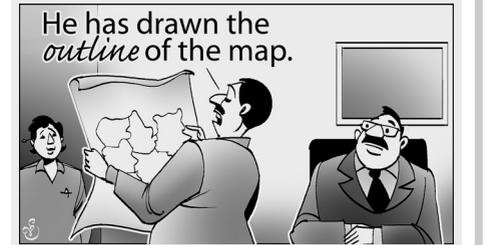
**A:** They don't mix with others - they do not develop closeness with others.

**Q:** He and I are present/ He and I am present - Which one is correct?

**A:** He and I are present - correct. When two subjects are joined by 'and' the verb is mostly plural.

**Q:** "A hard task master but a good pay master" - Please translate into Telugu.

**A:** పని విషయంలో చాలా కచ్చితంగా ఉంటాడు గానీ డబ్బు బాగా చెల్లిస్తాడు.



**Q:** Outline - Please explain.

**A:** **Outline** = 1) sketch of a person / object  
**Eg:** He has drawn the outline of the map = (map రేఖాచిత్రాన్ని గీశాడతను - వివరాలేం లేకుండా).

2) Summary (సారాంశం)

3) A general description of a plan (ప్రణాళిక స్థూల స్వరూపం - వివరంగా కాకుండా).

- SK. Siraj, Nellore

**Q:** Dear sir, I am working as an English teacher in High School. How to develop spelling skills in VI to X class students?

**A:** First of all tell them the sound which a letter stands for. Here the vowels are more important than the consonants. Let them first of all know, what sounds the letters, a, e, i, o and u usually stand for. **Eg:** 'a' as in cat, bat, rat, etc. 'e' as in bet, get, net, etc. and so on with the other vowel letters. Then let them know the sounds the consonant letters represent. **Eg:** b, d, f, g, (both the sounds గ, జ) etc. Teach them the combination of sounds like, ch, sh, both the values of th (థ, డ), etc. This is how you can teach them spelling skills easily.

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- Murthy N V K

**Q:** Sir, it was explained in the last lesson that "will have" is the verb of the following sentence.

"They will have to assure purchase of certain items". But, it seems that "will have" doesn't come under any of the six verb forms i.e.,

1. be forms
2. be form + ing
3. be form + PP ( passive voice)
4. doing words
5. have, has, had, will have/ shall have ..etc. + V3
6. shall/ should/ will/ would ... etc + 1 RDW.

Moreover, both will and have are helping verbs and helping verb comes before main verb. This may please be explained in detail.

**A:** In the sentence, "They will have to purchase of ...." the verb is, will have. 'To purchase' is an infinitive and is not a verb. You can easily see that will have is in the form of, will + I DW - that is, the last class verbs. Here, 'have' is not a helping verb but a main verb. Perhaps you know that 'have' is both a main verb with the meanings of possessing / owning, and eating / drinking something.

- Ravuru Narasaiah, Puducherry

**Q:** Sir, please let me know the use of the following one in Telugu.

- 'worth + verb - ing'
- It is worth watching
- It is worth noting
- It is worth mentioning
- It is worth listening

What is the meaning of the above?

**A:** Worth = valuable / useful / fit . It is worth = it is valuable / useful / fit. It is worth watching = it is useful to watch / fit to watch (చూడదగిన).

★ Worth noting = Useful to note (గుర్తుంచుకోదగిన). Worth mentioning = useful to mention (= say)= (చెప్పాల్సిన/ తగిన విషయం). It is worth listening = వినదగిన విషయం.



- Prasanna Kumar P.

**Q:** Dear sir, please clarify the following:

The word generally used in banking when one borrower is having an account with the bank / branch is "The conduct of the account is satisfactory." When a borrower is having more than one account they use "The conduct of the accounts is/ are satisfactory". In the above sentence which is correct? Is / are?

**A:** In both the sentences, 'The conduct of the account...' and 'The conduct of the accounts...' the subject is, 'conduct' and 'conduct' is singular, so 'The conduct of the account/ the conduct of the accounts.. is satisfactory' is correct. Note that 'account/ accounts' is not the subject of the sentence.

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# The openers love...

- Shivanarayana. D

**Q:** Sir, please explain the meanings for the following Idioms with Examples:

- 1) To tread upon eggs
- 2) To wash one's dirty linen in public
- 3) Black and Blue
- 4) To give loose rein to

**A:** 1) To walk very cautiously/ carefully/ to deal with a situation very carefully. (చాలా జాగ్రత్తగా నడవడం/ చాలా జాగ్రత్త పడాల్సిన విషయం).

2) To discuss ones's problem in public. (అందరి ముందు మన అనాహుదకరమైన సొంత విషయాలు చర్చించుకోవడం).

**Eg:** If a wife and husband complain about each other in public, they wash dirty linen in public.



3) We don't have the expression 'black and blue'. The correct expression is to beat somebody black and blue = to beat someone severely. (బాగా కొట్టడం)

4) The correct expression is, to give rein to / to give loose rein to. 'To give rein to' = to give



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control to / to give power to. To give loose rein to = To give rein to = అధికారం ఇవ్వడం. To give only partial control = కొంత అధికారాన్ని మాత్రం ఇవ్వడం.

- Ravula Santhosh Kumar

**Q:** Sir, yesterday, I was reading live commentary of cricket match between Australia and India. I saw the sentence mentioned below.

"The openers are loving the pace on the delivery".

Sir, you taught me in the earlier lessons that be form + v + ing does not exist - Was the sentence I read wrong? or was that a case of exception? -Please clarify my doubt sir. Thank you.

**A:** You are right. 'Love' is not used in the continuous tense, that is, it is wrong to use 'love' in the am/ is/ are loving form. The correct sentence is, 'The openers love the pace of the delivery'.

- Murali Krishna

**Q:** Sir, please clarify the following doubts.

1) Difference between 'advice' and 'advise' with clear examples.

**A:** 'Advice' is noun (సలహా). You give advice to somebody, take advice from somebody. Your advice is valuable. (సలహా ఇవ్వడం/ తీసుకోవడం).

★ 'Advise' is verb. You advise somebody. (ఇది verb. సలహా ఇవ్వడం).

# Resume ఎలా రాయాలంటే..?

- Uppara Harish

**Q:** Sir, I am pursuing diploma in Electrical and Electronics Engineering in Govt. Polytechnic college. I need to prepare a resume for Campus interview. So, could you please tell me "How to prepare resume for an interview for Diploma pursuing students".

**A:** Preparing a resume:

- ★ Leave enough margin on the left of the paper.
- ★ Write 'Resume' at the center at the top of the page.
- ★ Starting from the left margin, write your name and address very clearly. Under the last line of your address, write your phone number and email id. Then draw a line across the page.
- ★ The next point is the statement of your objective, briefly explaining, why you like the job and why you want to do it.
- ★ Then write the heading, My experience, if you are doing a job, and state in which company and in what position in that company you are working. If you are applying for a job for the first time, then state your educational qualifications, starting from your highest qualification and going down to

your tenth class marks. You write all this clearly in a tabular form under the columns, Educational Qualifications, years of study, year of passing, class/grade/rank and the percentage of marks, and the awards you have got.

★ Next mention your extra-curricular activities, the games you are good at, the games you played for your institution, your hobbies. Include only the games you have played and the competitions you have participated in.

★ Then submit that if you are selected for the job, you will discharge your duties to the best of your ability. Sign the letter yours faithfully.

*This is how you prepare your resume.*

- Kantipudi Kameswara Rao,  
West Godavari

**Q:** Sir, please clarify whether we can say 'It is sufficient enough'

**A:** Sufficient = enough. As they have the same meaning, we use either enough or sufficient, but not both of them together.

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- SK. Yusuf Ahmed, Nellore

**Q:** Sir, in High School level while teaching prose lessons, which aspects we should follow?

**A: Teaching of prose lessons:** First of all give the students the meanings of what you think are difficult words for them. Then read out the sentences slowly. If the sentence is short, you can ask the students themselves to give the meaning of it. If, on the other hand, the sentence is long, break into different meaningful parts, explain the meaning of each part, and then go on to the whole sentence. Also keep asking them contextual questions. This will keep their attention on the lesson. This is how you can make prose lesson less difficult for them.

- Vishal Singhal, Nellore

**Q:** In Wren & Martin the following sentence is given:

Eg: I met a little cottage girl - It is said that the above underlined word is adjective, then what the word 'little' - Isn't this one called adjective? - Please clarify.

**A:** I met a little cottage girl - 'little' here is also an adjective too.

**Q:** They have been working here in the past/ for the past three years - Please say the difference.

**A:** They have been working here for the past three years - This alone is correct. 'In the past three years' - Wrong.

**Q:** They have been working here during three years - Please say in Telugu.

**A:** The sentence is wrong. When you use have / has been + ing, during cannot be used.

**Q:** Please let me know about 'Link verbs'. Don't ask me to refer to earlier lessons.

**A:** I have to ask you to refer to the past lessons, because they have been explained more than three or four times so far.

- Sireesha M.

**Q:** Namaste sir. Could you please explain the meanings of the following words?

- i) Relish, cherish
- ii) Urge

**A: i) Relish** = enjoy something (something we eat / drink) very greatly.



**Eg:** You relish a dinner you have eaten, or an occasion on which you felt happy.

**Cherish** = hold something very dear / keep in one's mind.

**Eg:** You cherish your childhood memories (You enjoy remembering them)

**ii) Urge** = 1) A strong and uncontrollable desire or wish.

**Eg:** He had the urge of becoming a software engineer.

2) Strongly advise somebody to do something.

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- K. Venkat, West Godavari

**Q:** Sir please let me know the kinds of verbs/ Types of verbs.

**A:** There are mainly two types of verbs - 1) Transitive verbs and 2) Intransitive verbs.

Transitive verbs have objects. That is, if you put the question 'What/ 'Whom', you get an answer.

**Eg:** a) He is eating a mango - The verb in the sentence is 'is eating'. Put the question 'What' to the verb.

★ He is eating what? - You get the answer 'a mango'. So it is a transitive verb.

b) She wrote a letter - The verb here is wrote. Put the question: She wrote what? You get the answer, a letter. So wrote (and so write) is a transitive verb.

c) Krishna helped Rama. The verb here is, 'helped'. Put the question, Krishna helped whom? You get the answer 'Rama'. So helped (and so help) is a transitive verb.

**2) Intransitive Verbs:** Intransitive verbs do not answer to the question, whom/ what

★ He goes there everyday. The verb here is, goes (that is, go). Put the question, go what (దేన్ని వెళ్ళడం)/ go whom (ఎవరిని వెళ్ళడం) - No answer. So 'go' is an intransitive verb.

★ A good number of verbs have more than one meaning. Such verbs may be transitive with one meaning, and intransitive with another meaning.

**Eg:** The verb, run. Run has more than one meaning - the first one, of course, is move very fast (పరుగెత్తడం).

★ He runs very fast. The verb is runs - Put the question, runs what (దేన్ని పరుగెత్తుతాడు)/ whom (ఎవరిని పరుగెత్తుతాడు?) - No answer. So with the meaning పరుగెత్తడం, 'run' is **intransitive**.

★ 'Run' also means, managing (నడపడం/ నిర్వహించడం).

**Eg:** He runs a school. Put the question 'What?' (దేన్ని) He runs what? - Answer: a school, so runs, here is a transitive verb.

Only transitive verbs have passive voice. Intransitive verbs do not have passive voice, **except in imperative** sentences (commands, requests, etc).

These are the two important kinds of verbs. There are other kinds too, but to be able to write and speak good English, we need not know them.

**Q:** దయచేసి నాకు అడ్డంగా నిల్చావా? ఎందుకంటే మా నాన్న వస్తున్నాడు. ఆయన నన్ను చూడకుండా ఉండేందుకు. Please translate this into English.

**A:** Please stand in front of me to hide me from my dad.

- Srinivas, Nellore

**Q:** The thief is said to have been caught. Is this correct sentence? Can you explain this?

**A:** The thief is said to have been caught = people say / somebody says that the thief has been caught.

మీ ప్రశ్నలు పంపాల్సిన చిరునామా...

స్కికెన్ ఇంగ్లీష్, ప్రతిభ విభాగం,  
ఈనాడు కార్యాలయం, రామోజీ ఫిల్మ్ సిటీ,  
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**Even if the PM recommends..**

- M. Ganesh

**Q:** Hello sir, I have been confused by the use of articles. Can you please explain where to use a, an, the?

**A:** A/ an and the are called articles. 'A/ an' must be used before countable singulars in English. Things we count like, one, two, three, etc. are countables.

**Eg:** book, man, town, river, etc.

Things we don't count but weigh or measure like oil, sugar, milk, etc., are uncountables. No 'a/ an' before uncountables.

★ A = an. However, before countable singulars beginning with vowel sounds that is, English words beginning with the Telugu sounds, అ, ఆ, ఇ, ఈ, ఊ, ఎ, ఏ, ఐ, ఒ, ఓ, ఔ, 'an' is used, and before words beginning with consonant sounds, that is, sounds other than 'a' to 'ఔ', 'a' is used.

**Eg:** a bell, a cat, etc. an umbrella, an idea, an owl etc.

★ 'A/ an' is used with the meanings of one, someone, certain.



M. SURESAN

'The' we use, when we talk of something we have already referred to.

**Eg:** a) I bought a book yesterday. The book is very interesting.

In the second sentence we talk about the book we have already mentioned in the first sentence.

b) He met a man and the man told him that he was from England.

There are other uses of 'the'. Any good grammar book will give you the uses of 'the'. Please refer to them.

- Ashok, Hyderabad

**Q:** Sir, how to use the word "Rather than". Also please explain how to use the word "As such". Please explain the difference between "left for" and "have been to" and when to use these words with examples.

**A:** 1) When we compare two things of different kinds, we use rather than in the comparative degree.

**Eg:** a) I would rather walk than go by bus. b) He is rather industrious than intelligent.

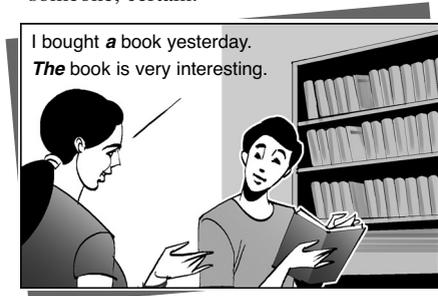
2) **As such** = as things are

3) **Left for** - The past tense of leave for = to start for a place. / to go to a place.

★ He left for Delhi yesterday = He started for Delhi and is perhaps there now.

4) **Have been to** = visit / go to a place and stay there for some time.

★ I have been to Delhi a number of times.



**ముఖ్యాంశాలతో... Summary!**

- TVS Prakash Rao

**Q:** Dear sir, thank you very much for helping everyone of us to learn English. Kindly clarify the following:

Difference between the words and their usages:

1. Gist / Summary
2. Illustration / Example
3. Rein / Reign
4. Bill / Invoice

**A:** 1) Gist = The central idea of a passage; Summary = a brief statement of the main points of a piece of writing. A gist gives central idea of a passage and is therefore very brief. On the other hand a summary contains all the main points in the passage.

2) Illustration = example. An illustration however has other meanings too.

3) Rein = The leather straps by which you control a horse. Reign = Rule by a king.

4) A **bill** shows the amount you pay for something you have bought.

An **invoice** shows the amount you have to pay for things already delivered to you. (మీకు పంపించిన/ ముందే కొన్న వస్తువులకు చెల్లించాల్సిన డబ్బును తెలిపే పత్రం).

- Poojitha, Vijayawada

**Q:** Sir, please tell me about the usage of for with instances.

**A:** 'For' has different meanings.

- 1) Purpose (ఉద్దేశం) = I walk for exercise. (వ్యాయామ ఉద్దేశంతో)
- 2) Intended (ఉద్దేశించిన/ ఉద్దేశించబడిన/ కోసం) = This shirt is for Ramesh. (రమేష్ కోసం).
- 3) Suitable for (సరిపోయే) = This medicine is for just born children. (ఈ మందు ఇప్పుడే పుట్టిన పిల్లలకు సరిపోయేది)



4) Having the desire of (కోరిక ఉండటం) = I am working for a good salary.

5) Because (ఆ కారణంగా) = He was not selected for he is short. (అతడు పొట్టిగా ఉండటం వల్ల ఎంపికవ్వలేదు).

- Manasa, Vijayawada

**Q:** Sir, please explain the following conjunctions with Telugu meaning and how to use them. 1) though 2) yet 3) although 4) even 5) even if 6) even though

**A:** 1) **Though** = 3) although = 6) even though = అయినప్పటికీ.

**Eg:** Though/ although/ even though he is rich, he does not help others - అతను ధనమైనప్పటికీ ఇతరులకు సాయం చేయడు.

2) **Yet** = But = కానీ. He is rich, but/ yet he does not help others = అతను ధనవంతుడే కానీ ఇతరులకు సాయం చేయడు.

4) **Even** = కూడా. Even in America there are poor people. (అమెరికాలో కూడా బీదవాళ్లున్నారు).

★ **Even Dharmaraja lied** = ధర్మరాజు అంతవాడు కూడా అబద్ధం చెప్పాడు.

5) **Even if** = అది జరిగినప్పటికీ (ఇది ఊహాత్మకం - మామూలుగా జరగదు, జరగడం అంటూ ఉంటే).

**Eg:** Even if the PM recommends (very little chance of their recommending) I will not give you the job. (ప్రధానమంత్రి అంతటి వాళ్లు సిఫారసు చేసినా, - వారు చేయడం జరగకపోవచ్చు - నేను నీకు ఉద్యోగం ఇవ్వను.)

Know the difference between even if, on the one hand, and though/ although/ even though on the other. All of them have the meaning: అయినప్పటికీ. But 'even if' talks of an unreal (అవాస్తవ)/ imaginary (ఊహించుకునే) situation (పరిస్థితి), whereas 'though/ although/ even though' refers to a situation that has taken place/ takes place/ will take place. ఈ మూడూ జరిగిన/ జరిగే/ జరగబోయే పరిస్థితి గురించి చెబుతాయి.

- Veena, Khammam

**Q:** Sir, కింది ప్రశ్నలకు తెలుగులో అర్థాలు వివరించగలరు. అలాగే ఈ వాక్యాల్లో past tense ఎందుకు వాడారో తెలుపగలరు.

1. I was just thinking what a long way it is.
2. Why do you want to know? No particular reason. I was just wondering.
3. I wanted to know when it starts.

**A:** This refers to the past. It means, 'till a few minutes ago, I was thinking that it was a very long way off'. (కొద్దిసేపటి కిందటి వరకూ నేనుకుంటున్నాను, అది చాలా దూరమని.)

2) I was just wondering = I was only trying to know definitely. (అసలేంటి విషయం తెలుసుకోవాలనుకున్నాను).

3) I wanted to know when it starts - not correct. The correct sentence is, I wanted to know when it would start (గతంలో తెలుసుకోవాలనుకున్నా ఎప్పుడది మొదలవుతుందని) / I want to know when it starts / it will start (అది ఎప్పుడు మొదలవుతుందో తెలుసుకోవాలనుకుంటున్నా - ఇప్పుడు). I wanted to know - I had the wish to know (in the past - గతంలో తెలుసుకోవాలనుకున్నా). But sometimes it can refer to the present too (ఒక్కోసారి వర్తమానానికి కూడా దీన్ని వాడతాం).

**Q:** We feel difficulty/ difficult whenever/ when we are asked to explain **punctuation marks**, how can it be overcome? Moreover is it necessary to learn punctuation marks and simple, complex & compound sentences to speak English fluently?

**A:** If it is only to **speak** English, you need not know punctuation marks and simple, complex and compound sentences. However knowing simple, complex and compound sentences can help you to have variety in your speech.

**SPOKEN ENGLISH**  
ఆంగ్లభాషణ 878

- N.Srinivasulu, Adoni

**Q:** Sir, when and how to use the following words/ expressions?

1. Compared to - Compared with
2. Attended - Attended to

**A: 1) Compared to =** There is complete similarity.

**Eg:** He is compared to Bhima in strength = He and Bhima are similar. He is like Bhima in strength. (There is no difference between the two).

**Compared with =** see how far two things are similar.

**Eg:** There is no use comparing India with Japan (If you compare the two countries, you find a lot of difference).

**2) Attend =** be present at a place.

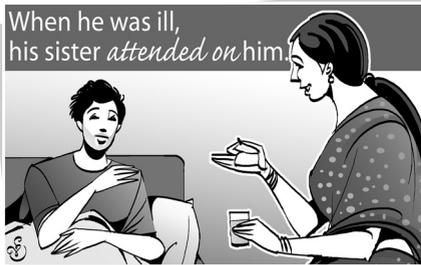
**Eg:** We attend classes / office / a marriage, etc. (హాజరపడం).

**Attend to =** discharge a duty.

**Eg:** He is attending to the arrangements for the meeting. (విధి నిర్వహించడం).

**Attend on =** take care of (జాగ్రత్తగా చూసుకోవడం)

**Eg:** When he was ill, his sister attended on him. (రోగిని జాగ్రత్తగా చూసుకోవడం/ సవర్యలు చేయడం).



When he was ill, his sister attended on him.

మీ ప్రశ్నలు పంపాల్సిన చిరునామా...

స్క్వికెన్ ఇంగ్లీష్, ప్రతిభ విభాగం,  
ఈనాడు కార్యాలయం, రామోజీ ఫిల్మ్ సిటీ,  
హయత్ నగర్ (మండలం), రంగారెడ్డి జిల్లా.

Email your questions to: pratibhadesk@eenadu.net



**Pass the buck అంటే..?**

- Jahnvi, Nandigama

**Q:** Sir, once I used preposition double (side by side) in one sentence. My principal observed and told me, it is wrong and need not use side by side. Is it apply for the articles, helping verbs and conjunctions? Where as, where we need not use words side by side. Please explain with example sentences.



M. SURESAN

**A:** The use of double prepositions, that is, using two prepositions one after another, is not wrong.

**Eg:** He is a person from outside India.

This sentence is by no means wrong. Without using from and outside - both are prepositions - how can we tell someone, that he does not come from India? I cannot put up with the heat of this place - here again, put and with are prepositions, used side by side.

This does not apply to articles (a/ an, and the) or to helping verbs. You use one of the three - a / an / the. 'a' and 'an' are the same but the words before which they are used differ. We know the uses of 'the'. Sometimes we use expressions like, I did do it, she has had a problem, he had had a bike before he bought this car - but in all these sentences, the first verb, did in did do, has in has had, had in had had, etc., are helping verbs. Nor are conjunctions used side by side. Whereas is a single word, and not two words. Re. conjunctions,

sometimes we use, 'and so', 'and therefore' etc., but we don't use 'and and'. However, 'and so' is wrong. 'So,' after a comma is OK.

He is tall so he can play well - Correct. He is tall and so he can play well - not proper English, and the better expression is, 'He is tall so he can play well. 'And therefore' is OK. 'He had wasted a lot of money and therefore became poor' - OK.

**Q:** Could you explain me where we have to use punctuation mark ',' comma in sentences with examples?

**A:** The comma is used 1) to separate more than two things on a list, except the last word, before which we use 'and'.

**Eg:** Vijayawada, Vizag, Rajahmundry and Nellore. (However, the Oxford Dictionary says, there should be a comma even before 'and'. So either is correct).

2) Before a person's name, followed by his designation, position or office. Mr Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India.

3) To separate a subordinate from a main clause: While he was singing, she was dancing.

4) After a person's name, when we add his degrees to it. Dr Surendra, M.A., Ph.D.

Always remember, a comma is used to make the meaning of a sentence clear. For the other uses of comma refer to a good grammar book.

-S.Nazim, Vizag

**Q:** Sir, please state the meanings of the following words and how to use them.

1. Lackadaisical
2. Inter alia
3. Carved a niche
4. Passed a buck on me
5. Field day
6. Messed up
7. Bonhomie
8. Lynched

**A: 1) Lackadaisical =** Lacking enthusiasm and determination, careless and lazy (నిరుత్సాహంతో, సోమరిగా, అజాగ్రత్తగా ఉండటం.)

**Eg:** The officer is lackadaisical about the distribution of rations for the flood-affected.

**2) Inter alia =** among other things.

**Eg:** The syllabus includes inter alia (among other things = మిగతావాటితోపాటు) computer skills and electronics. (పాఠ్యాంశాల్లో మిగతావాటితోపాటు, కంప్యూటర్ నైపుణ్యం, ఎలక్ట్రానిక్స్ ఉంటాయి.)

**3) Carve a niche =** Assure a place for oneself as a famous person. (ఎవరైనా తమకంటూ ఒక ప్రత్యేక స్థానాన్ని సంపాదించుకోవడం, తమ ప్రతిభతో).

**Eg:** Swamy Vivekananda carved a niche for himself by spreading the message of Hinduism across continents.

**4) Pass the buck =** blame somebody else or hold somebody else for a problem you should deal with (మన తప్పిదానికి బాధ్యతను ఇతరుల మీదికి తోసివేసే ప్రయత్నం.)

**Eg:** Everyone in the company is trying to pass the buck for the losses of the company.

**5) Field day =** be free from usual work and have an enjoyable time. (బాధ్యతలను పక్కన పెట్టి, స్వేచ్ఛగా ఉండటం).



The boss being on leave, the members of the staff had a field day.

**Eg:** The boss being on leave, the members of the staff (సిబ్బంది) had a field day.

**6) Mess up =** spoil something (దేన్నైనా పాడు చేయడం)

**Eg:** I asked him to be in charge of receiving the visitors and he messed up the whole thing. (అతన్ని నేను అతిథులను స్వాగతించే పనికి నియమించాను, అతను దాన్ని మొత్తం పాడు చేశాడు = సవ్యంగా నిర్వహించలేదు = మొత్తం కంపు చేశాడు).

**7) Bonhomie =** friendliness and sociability (స్నేహపూర్వక వాతావరణంలో కలుపుగోలుగా ఉండటం.)

**Eg:** The meeting between Prime Minister Modi and Pak PM Navaz Shariff was marked by bonhomie.

**8) Lynch =** hanging somebody without proper judicial procedure (న్యాయస్థానాలకు, పోలీసులకు అప్పజెప్పకుండా దోషులనుకున్న వాళ్లను బయటి ప్రజలు చంపేయడం.)

**Eg:** The mob lynched the man suspected to be the murderer.

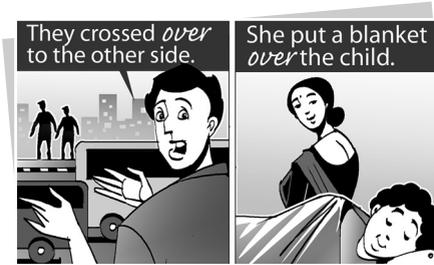
**He came down ...**

- Kaliprasada Rao, Vijayawada

**Q:** Dear sir, I have some doubts as to how we can identify some words which are used as adverbs as well as prepositions? Is there any identical sign to distinguish them? I am giving below some such words for clarification and explanation.

Down, about, before, after, in, off, on, over, since etc - Please explain.

**A:** An adverb adds to the meaning of a verb, that is, it increases the meaning of the verb. If the words above are used to add to the meaning of the verb, they are adverb. If on the other hand, if they are followed by nouns or pronouns they are prepositions.



**Eg:** He fell down. Here, down is an adverb because it is not followed by a noun / pronoun, but adds / increases the meaning of fell. He came down the stairs. In this sentence, down is a preposition because it is followed by the noun, stairs.

You observe from the table that the words like, down, about, etc., are not followed by a noun or pronoun, they are adverbs, and that when they are followed by a noun or a pronoun, they are prepositions.

For example, when you say, 'He came down,' down adds to the meaning of down, so it is an adverb. In the sentence, 'He came down the stairs,' 'down' is followed by the noun stairs, so 'down' here is a preposition.

- Potlapalli Hari Rao, Bobbili

**Q:** Please translate the following sentences into Telugu.

- 1) As mentioned in your orders, Rama was considered negligent, which was beyond his control. But he has not committed any fraud or loss to the institution on his own.
- 2) As mentioned in your orders, Rama may be considered negligent, which was beyond his control. But he has not committed any fraud or loss to the institution on his own.

**A: 1)** మీ ఆజ్ఞల్లో తెలిపిన విధంగా రామ ఉపేక్షించే స్వభావం కలవాడనే అందరూ పరిగణించారు. (పరిగణించబడలేదు - ఇది మీ వాక్యాల్లోని passive form - గతంలో) - దానికతనేం చేయలేదు - కానీ తనంత తాను సంస్థను మోసగించడం కానీ, సంస్థకు నష్టం కలిగించే పనిగానీ చేయలేదు).

**2)** మీ ఆజ్ఞల్లో తెలిపినవిధంగా రామ ఉపేక్షించే స్వభావం కలవాడనే అందరూ పరిగణిస్తున్నారు. (ఇప్పుడు) (పరి గణించబడుతున్నాడు - passive, as given in the passage) - దానికతనేం చేయలేదు - కానీ తనంత తాను సంస్థను మోసగించడం కానీ, సంస్థకు నష్టం కలి గించే పని కానీ చేయలేదు.

Adverbs	Prepositions
He came <u>down</u> .	He came <u>down</u> the stairs.
The children were running <u>about</u> in the school.	I don't know anything <u>about</u> the actor.
He was sure he had met her <u>before</u> .	He reached there <u>before</u> his friend.
I came to know that he had died soon <u>after</u> .	She will be here <u>after</u> the festival.
My mother came <u>in</u> a little late.	The box was found <u>in</u> the room.
As soon as he saw the police he ran <u>off</u> .	The little girl fell <u>off</u> the car.
He ran <u>on</u> and on until he got tired.	He put the book <u>on</u> the table.
They crossed <u>over</u> to the other side.	She put a blanket <u>over</u> the child.
Ever <u>since</u> she has been afraid of him.	The college has been closed <u>since</u> Monday last.