

# GENERAL ENGLISH

## WORDS OFTEN CONFUSED

*Homonyms* also include *Homophones* and *Homographs*.

The words that have the same pronunciation but different meanings, origins, or spelling are called *Homophones*.

**e.g.:** dear and deer

The words which are spelled the same (but not necessarily pronounced the same) and have different meanings and origins are called *Homographs*.

**e.g.:** bow (బో) and bow (బవ్)

Pronunciation లేదా spelling విషయంలో ఒకేలా అనిపించినప్పటికీ అర్థంలో చాలా తేడా ఉంటుంది. కాబట్టి వీటిని సరైన విధానంలో ఉపయోగించకపోతే ఏం చెప్పాలనుకుంటున్నామో ఎదుటివారికి అర్థంకాక తికమక పడే ప్రమాదం ఉంది.

ఉదాహరణకు- 'The old man has lost his sight' అంటే ఆ ముసలాయన కంటిచూపు కోల్పోయాడని అర్థం. ఒకవేళ sight కు బదులు site అని రాస్తే ఆ ముసలాయన తన స్థలాన్ని పోగొట్టుకున్నాడు అని మొత్తం అర్థమే మారిపోతుంది.

### ఇంగ్లీష్ లో తికమకపెట్టే కొన్ని పదాలు

1. **Accede** = To take office, Agree

**e.g.:** ★ Queen Victoria *acceded* to the throne in 1837.

★ She did not *accede* to my request.

**Exceed** = Surpass (go beyond)

**e.g.:** The price will not *exceed* hundred rupees.

2. **Accept** = To take

**e.g.:** ★ She decided to *accept* the job offer.

**Except** = Leaving out

**e.g.:** ★ The museum is open daily *except* Mondays.

3. **Access** = Approach, right of entry

**e.g.:** ★ The only *access* to the village is by boat.

**Excess** = Surplus, more than required

**e.g.:** ★ *Excess* of anything is bad required.

4. **Adapt** = Adjust

**e.g.:** ★ The novel has been *adapted* for TV serial.

**Adopt** = Take up

**e.g.:** ★ They want to *adopt* a baby girl.

5. **Affect** = To influence

**e.g.:** ★ The changing climate may *affect* your health.

**Effect** = Result

e.g.: ★ The radiation leak has had a disastrous *effect* upon the environment.

6. **Heir** = Successor

e.g.: ★ He is the sole *heir* to the whole property.

**Hair** = Locks

e.g.: ★ I like your *hair* style.

**Hare** = Rabbit like animal

e.g.: ★ A *hare* is a rabbit like animal.

7. **Already** = By now

e.g.: ★ I have *already* seen the movie.

**All ready** = Completely prepared

e.g.: ★ Are you *all ready* to participate in the quiz?

8. **All together** = In a group

e.g.: ★ The childhood friends were gathered *all together* in the park.

**Altogether** = Entirely

e.g.: ★ The government ought to abolish the tax *altogether*.

9. **Bear (V)** = Tolerate

e.g.: ★ I cannot *bear* this tooth pain.

**Bear (N)** = An animal

e.g.: ★ The polar *bear* is usually found in the Arctic.

**Bare (Adj.)** = Uncovered

e.g.: ★ She beat the flames out with her *bare* hands.

10. **Bow (N)** = A weapon

e.g.: ★ They practiced to shoot *bows* and arrows.

**Bow (V)** = To bend the head or body as a sign of respect

e.g.: ★ We *bow* as a sign of respect to our teachers.

11. **Break** = Smash (v), Interruption (N)

e.g.: ★ 'Bahubali-The Conclusion' managed to *break* many records.

★ Let's have a short *break*.

**Brake** = A device for slowing or stopping a moving vehicle

e.g.: ★ The driver suddenly put on his *brakes*.

12. **Canvas** = A kind of rough cloth

e.g.: ★ *Canvas* shoes are comfortable for jogging.

**Canvass** = Campaign

e.g.: ★ Which party are you *canvassing* for?

13. **Cast** = To vote

e.g.: ★ Ninety percent of the votes have been *cast*.

**Caste** = A class of society

e.g.: ★ The *caste* system is the most fundamental feature of the Hindu society.

**Cost** = Price

e.g.: ★ What is the *cost* of your mobile?

14. **Ceiling** = Roof, upper limit

e.g.: ★ The false *ceiling* helps in reducing heat during summers.

★ The government should impose a *ceiling* on rising prices.

**Sealing** = Fasten or close securely

e.g.: ★ The cracks were covered with a *sealing* tape.

15. **Cell** = A small room in which a prisoner is kept

e.g.: ★ The criminal has escaped from the *cell*.

**Sell** = Give something in exchange for money.

e.g.: ★ They *sell* fruits.

16. **Cease** = Stop, finish

e.g.: ★ The protests will *cease* soon.

**Seize** = Grab, take hold of

e.g.: ★ Political instability helps the army to *seize* power in some countries.

17. **Council** = A body of people elected to manage the affairs of something.

e.g.: ★ The city *council* must be responsible for keeping the streets clean.

**Counsel** = Advise

e.g.: ★ The teachers should *counsel* their students in a proper way.

18. **Course** = A plan of study on a particular subject

e.g.: ★ Arunima did a three-year *course* in linguistics.

**Coarse** = Rough

e.g.: ★ The cloth seemed to be very *coarse*.

19. **Cite** = To quote

e.g.: ★ Can you *cite* one reason why you quit the job?

**Site** = Place

e.g.: ★ The company hasn't yet chosen the *site* for the new hospital.

**Sight** = Scenery, vision

e.g.: ★ The flowers at the show were a beautiful *sight*.

★ If your *sight* is poor, you should consult an oculist.

20. **Compliment** = Expression of praise

e.g.: ★ Khyati likes to hear *compliments* on her appearance.

**Complement** = Something that makes another thing complete

e.g.: ★ Rice makes an excellent *complement* to a curry dish.

21. **Dear** = Beloved, Expensive

e.g.: ★ He is a very *dear* friend.

★ The food was good but very *dear*.

**Deer** = An animal

e.g.: ★ The *deer* runs very fast.

22. **Dessert** = The sweet food eaten at the end of a meal

e.g.: ★ Would you like rasgulla for *dessert*?

**Desert** = Area with little water sources

e.g.: ★ The Sahara is the largest *desert* in the world.

23. **Decease** = Death

e.g.: ★ The untimely *decease* of the leader is a big blow to the party.

**Disease** = Illness

e.g.: ★ Swine flu is a respiratory *disease*.

24. **Diary** = A daily record of events

e.g.: ★ Don't forget to enter the date of the meeting in your *diary*.

**Dairy** = Made from milk

e.g.: ★ My daughter is fond of *dairy* products.

25. **Dual** = Double

e.g.: ★ This room has a *dual* purpose, serving as both a study and a dining room.

**Duel** = Fight

e.g.: ★ The two men had a *duel* over a petty issue.

26. **Eminent** = Well-known, renowned

e.g.: ★ Romila Thapar is an *eminent* historian.

**Imminent** = About to happen

e.g.: ★ A revolt against the management is *imminent*.

27. **Fair** = Just, reasonable

e.g.: ★ It's not *fair* to blame me for everything.

**Fare** = Price

e.g.: ★ Train *fares* are going up again.

28. **Floor** = Ground, bottom

e.g.: ★ The children sat playing on the *floor*.

**Flour** = A powder obtained by grinding grain

e.g.: ★ Thicken the sauce with a little *flour*.

29. **Feat** = Achievement

e.g.: ★ The Eiffel Tower is a remarkable *feat* of engineering.

**Feet** = Plural of foot

e.g.: ★ She wants to stand on her own *feet*.

30. **Hole** = A hollow place in a solid body or surface

e.g.: ★ We dug a *hole* and planted the tree.

**Whole** = Complete

e.g.: ★ They spent the *whole* day playing cricket.

31. **Lose** = Be unable to find

e.g.: ★ Don't *lose* your confidence at any stage.

**Loose** = Not tight

e.g.: ★ My trousers are *loose*.

32. **Meat** = The flesh of an animal

e.g.: ★ I don't eat *meat*.

**Meet** = Get together

e.g.: ★ They *meet* at the club everyday.

33. **Plain** = With nothing added

e.g.: ★ She wore a *plain* green saree.

**Plane** = Aeroplane

e.g.: ★ He hates travelling by *plane*.

34. **Personal** = Private

e.g.: ★ It is my *personal* opinion.

**Personnel** = Employees

e.g.: ★ This is a restricted area, open to authorized *personnel* only.

35. **Piece** = Part

e.g.: ★ He cut the cake into four *pieces*.

**Peace** = Harmony

e.g.: ★ Let there be *peace* between our nations.

## PRACTICE TEST

Choose the most appropriate alternative.

1. He prefers ..... food, nothing spicy.  
1) plan                                      2) plane                                      3) plain                                      4) None
2. I wasn't sure .....you would like it.  
1) weather                                      2) whether                                      3) whither                                      4) None of these
3. Did the medicine have any .....?  
1) affect                                      2) infect                                      3) effect                                      4) None of these
4. We should .... ourselves to the new location  
1) adapt                                      2) adopt                                      3) adept                                      4) None
5. Only 2% of the electorate .... their votes in Srinagar by poll.  
1) caste                                      2) cost                                      3) cast                                      4) None of these
6. Tell me now! I can't .... the suspense!  
1) bare                                      2) beer                                      3) bore                                      4) bear
7. One likes to receive ..... on one's appearance  
1) complements                                      2) complaints                                      3) compliments                                      4) None of these
8. Do not ..... your temper  
1) loose                                      2) loss                                      3) lose                                      4) None of these
9. I have a .... throat today. I can't swallow food.  
1) sour                                      2) soar                                      3) sure                                      4) sore
10. The ..... is very spacious  
1) suit                                      2) sweet                                      3) suite                                      4) None of these

### ANSWERS

1-3; 2-2; 3-3; 4-1; 5-3; 6-4; 7-3; 8-3; 9-4; 10-3.

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