

Word of the week – 18.01.2016 to 24.01.2016

Class- V

EXAGGERATE

Meaning- represent as being larger, better, or worse than it really is.

Origin- 1530's from Latin exaggerates.

Synonym- inflate, intensify, emphasize, overdraw

Antonym- depreciate, minimize, play down, reduce, understate.

Sentence-

1. There is a Hebrew proverb which states that love and hate always exaggerate.
2. It would be a serious exaggeration to say that David's life is in danger, but he certainly is sick.
3. The book exaggerates the difficulties he faced in starting his career.
4. He seems to exaggerate when talking about his achievements.

Class- VI

DISTORTION

MEANING – the action of distorting or the state of being distorted

SYNONYMS - twist, warp, misrepresent, deform, bend, disfigure, misinterpret

ANTONYMS - straight, untwist, beautify, clarify, demonstrate, clear, define

SENTENCES :

1. Our television reception is really bad, so the image is quite distorted.
2. Even in clear skies, however, atmosphere distortion is a challenge.
3. Many managers look at people through the distortion of concave or convex mirrors.
4. I have to study thousands of random bodies, in every stage of distortion and chronic pain.
5. If you want the best possible sound that is free from distortion and interference you'll need to install optical audio cables instead.
6. At its core, al-Qaeda embodies an extremist version or distortion of Islam.

Class- VII

SLAPSTICK

Meaning- 1) Comedy based on deliberately clumsy actions and humorously embarrassing events.
2) A device consisting of two flexible pieces of wood joined together at one end, used by clowns.

Origin - 1896

Synonyms - farce, humour, comedy, fun

Antonyms - unhumorous

Sentence-

1. Each of her weddings is a terrific slapstick turn.
2. Joe's sense of humor was such that the slapstick of the Three Stooges would have him rolling on the floor.
3. TV show Tom and Jerry is a fine example of slapstick.

Class- VIII

INNUENDO:

Meaning- an indirect remark about somebody/ something, usually suggesting something bad or rude.

Synonyms: allusion, aside, hint, insinuation, indication, inference etc.

Antonyms: evidence, proof, reality etc.

Usage:

- a. The song is full of double meaning innuendo.
- b. Please don't bother with the innuendo of her private life.
- c. The innuendo she passes sets completely on herself.
- d. A gentleman never discusses the innuendo of someone's private life.

Class- IX

SATIRE

Meaning: the use of humour, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and criticize people's stupidity or vices, particularly in the context of contemporary politics and other topical issues.

Synonyms: ridicule, banter, burlesque, chaffing, mockery, lampoon, parody

Antonyms: seriousness, sedateness, gravity

Sentences:

- The poem was a brilliant satire on contemporary manners, and enjoyed an extraordinary success.
- A stand up comedian often uses satire on himself during the act.
- Oscar Wilde used a lot of satire in his works.
- The poem he wrote for the context is a humorous satire on inflation.
- The movie is based on satire dealing with religious superstitions.
- The latest biography of the President is a satire designed to mock the readers.

Class- X

BURLESQUE

MEANING:

- i. A literary or dramatic work that makes fun of something, often by means of outlandish exaggeration.
- ii. A play, story or novel, etc., that makes a serious subject seem funny or ridiculous.

Synonyms: Caricature, parody, mimic, mock

Sentences:

- i. She has been working for many years as a burlesque performer.
- ii. The name was probably adopted to burlesque the royalist societies.
- iii. The style of his writing is marked by homely, vigorous expressions, satire and burlesque.
- iv. His genius tended naturally in the direction of burlesque and satire.
- v. A limerick is a kind of burlesque epigram, written in five lines.

Class – XI

MALAPROPISM

Meaning: the mistaken use of a word in place of a similar sounding one, often with an amusing effect.

Synonyms: solecism, error, misuse, misusage, misapplication

Antonyms: correct perfect, accurate, flawless

Sentences:

- In class, everyone laughed at Bill's malapropism when he complained about electrical votes instead of electoral votes.
- Jane was so nervous during the debate that she did not realize she had made a malapropism until her opponent made a joke about her word used.
- As everyone laughed at the funny sentence, the President apologized for the malapropism made by his twisted tongue.
- The comedian's act consists of him using one malapropism after another to make the audience laugh at his word choice.
- The boy's speech impairment sometimes causes him to mix up words like moss and moths in a malapropism.

Class – XII

Word: double entendre

Meaning:

A word or phrase open to two interpretations, one of which is usually risqué or indecent. It is a **figure of speech** or a particular way of wording that is devised to be understood in either of two ways, having a double meaning. Typically one of the meanings is obvious, given the context whereas the other may require more thought.

Etymology:

The expression comes from **French** *double* = "double" and *entendre* = "to hear" (but also "to understand"). However, the English formulation is a corruption of the authentic French expression *à double entente* ("double meaning"). Modern French uses *double sense* instead; the phrase *double entendre* has no real meaning in the modern French language.

Synonyms:

ambiguity, double meaning, suggested meaning, suggestiveness, innuendo, play on words, wordplay, pun, joke

Antonyms:

certainty, clarity, clearness, definiteness, explicitness, lucidity

Sentences:

He was unable to get through two consecutive sentences without a smutty **double entendre**.

OK, that's the last **double entendre**, I promise.

Ten changed the name to Blankety Blanks and watched, along with a massive Australian audience, as the **double entendres** kept flowing.

An extract from the radio show Round The Horne, was full of gleeful **double entendres** and audience laughter.

That would explain the **double entendres** in Reader's Brose And Butter.

Usage of 'double entendres' in different areas :

Lodgings to Let, an 1814 engraving featuring a double entendre.

He: "My sweet honey, I hope you are to be **let** with the Lodgins!"

She: "No, sir, I am to be let alone".

The title of **Damon Knight's** story *To Serve Man* is a double entendre, which can mean "to perform a service to humanity" or "to serve a human as food".

An alien **cookbook** with the title *To Serve Man* is featured in the story, implying that the aliens eat humans.

Shakespeare frequently used double entendres in his plays. **Sir Toby Belch** in *Twelfth Night* says of **Sir Andrew's** hair, that "it hangs like **flax** on a **distaff**;

The title of Shakespeare's play '*Much Ado About Nothing*', is a pun on the Elizabethan use of "no-thing" as slang

The **Finbarr Saunders** strip in the British comic *Viz* is built around double entendres.

Double entendres can arise in the replies to inquiries

There are many examples of double-entendre found in literature and in life. In fact, even William Shakespeare and Chaucer used double-entendres in their write ups.