

# WORD OF THE WEEK

(7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016)

## Std. V

### SIEGE

**Meaning:** military operation in which enemy forces surround a town or building, cutting off essential supplies, with the aim of compelling those inside to surrender.

**Origin:** Early 13<sup>th</sup> century from:

Old French      Old French      Middle English  
asegier-----→ sege-----→ siege

**Synonyms:** blockade, beleaguerment, encirclement

**Antonyms:** relief, defend

### Sentences:

1. The castle was prepared to withstand a siege.
2. Soldiers killed hundreds of people while the town was under siege.
3. Because my parents knew their city would soon be under siege by militants, they fled to the safety of the mountains.
4. She will be killed in the siege!.
5. On Black Friday, it looked as though the department store was under siege by eager customers.

## Std. VI

### INFILTRATION

**meaning:** incursion; aggression

**Synonyms:** aggression, attack, foray, intrusion, penetration, raid, irruption etc.

**Antonyms:** retreat, withdraw, come back etc.

### Sentences:

1. The infiltration in the western border areas has created disturbance.
2. What is the govt. doing to stop infiltration?
3. We should do something to stop infiltration.
4. Should a victim country also opt for infiltration?

## Std. VII

### GUERRILLA TACTICS

**Meaning-** The main strategy and tactics of guerrilla warfare tends to involve the use of a small attacking, mobile force against a large, unwieldy one.

**Origin** – Guerrilla tactics can be viewed as a natural continuation of prehistoric warfare, the Chinese general and strategist Sun Tzu in his *The Art of War* (6<sup>th</sup> Century BCE), was the earliest to propose the use of guerrilla warfare.

**Synonyms-** Guerrilla warfare, trench war, bad attack, crook.

**Antonyms-** law, police

#### Sentences-

1. People had called this kind of war "guerrilla tactics" and assumed that by calling it so they had explained its meaning.
2. Government sources report that the guerrilla tactics have been driven into the hills.
3. Guerrilla tactics generally involve flexible attack operations and various terrorist methods.
4. Over 800 people have been killed by the guerrilla tactics this year.

## Std. VIII

### AMBUSH (v)

**Meaning-** making a surprise attack on someone from a concealed position

**Synonym-** ambushade, assail, assault, entrap, hem, trap, lurk

**Antonym-** defend, counteract, guard, shield, fend, screen

#### Sentences:

- A suicide bomber waited in ambush for the right opportunity to detonate his bomb, but was tackled before he had the opportunity.
- I called the police because I was sure that a man was lying in ambush behind my car.
- The police waited in ambush for the kidnapper to leave his house, whereupon they shot him in the leg.
- As a politician, Phil hates when reporters wait in ambush for an opportunity to pounce on him with their questions.
- The sniper set an ambush where he knew the enemy would pass, and began to pick them off one by one.

## Std. IX

### NO MAN'S LAND

#### Meaning

- disputed ground between the front lines or trenches of two opposing armies.
- a piece of unowned land or wasteland.

**Origin** - Middle English : originally the name of a plot of ground lying outside the north wall of the city of London, the site of a place of execution.

**Synonyms** - no-fly zone, forbidden ground, barren, battlefield, border, cockpit, farce

#### Sentence:

1. There was a no man's land between Riverside Drive and Central Park West, a zone of welfare tenements.
2. The no man's land between the two parties is where presidential contests are won and lost.
3. Her head was now above the wall again, peering down into the graveyard of no-man's-land.
4. He shivers now in this strange no-man's-land , this stopping-off place between lives.
5. What was I doing driving into the no-man's-land of a civil war?

## Std. X

### SKIRMISH

**Meaning:** To engage in a minor battle or dispute, a brief battle between small groups.

**Origin :** Germanic origin, first use – 14<sup>th</sup> Century.

**Synonyms:** brush, hassle, run-in, scrape, encounter, argument.

**Antonyms:** truce

#### Sentences:

1. The two brothers had a skirmish over the disputed land.
2. They skirmished over the property.
3. I always suspected there was a skirmish of cavalry before the main battle of the Harlaw.
4. They did so and perceived that there was a skirmish between a party of Cavaliers and some of the Parliamentary cavalry.
5. They were not usually absent when there was a skirmish with the heathen; but, till this moment, they had been seen only in twos or threes about the Serapeum.

## Std. XI

### PARTHIAN SHOT

**Meaning :** i. a sharp, telling remark, act, gesture, etc., made in departing.  
ii. a final remark, usually cutting or derogatory, made just before departing.

**Origin:** alluding to the custom of Parthian archers who shot their arrows backwards while retreating.

**Synonyms:** Last word, parting shot , stratagem, final word, answer

#### Sentences:

1. A thrill of victory ran through her veins as she noted the effect of her Parthian shot.
2. The throb in my finger returned for a Parthian shot and I remembered that I was a real patient!
3. With that Parthian shot I ordered my cocher, who was furtively grinning by this time, to drive on as quickly as possible.
4. That Parthian shot of his, that in the end the Government would have to use his methods, is going home.

## Std. XII

### RECONNAISSANCE

**Meaning** - a survey or observation to gain information

**Origin** - early 19th century: from French, from *reconnaître* 'recognize'

**Synonyms** - observation, inspection, examination, probe, survey, review, scan, inquiry, recon

**Antonyms** - easy, straightforward, protest, unchallenging

#### Sentence:

1. The football coach sent his assistant to his rival's field to perform reconnaissance on the other team's strategy.
2. With assistance from the aerial team, the police on the ground will conduct reconnaissance on the suspect.
3. Our government often sends reconnaissance drones into other countries to assess possible threats.
4. As part of a reconnaissance mission to collect information on the suspect, the police will send an undercover detective inside of the bar.
5. The scouts will travel ahead as a reconnaissance team in order to escape out the territory.