

# WORD OF THE WEEK

(31<sup>st</sup> July 2017 to 5<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017)

Std. V

**Pompous** (Adjective)

**Meaning:** affectedly grand, or self-important, puffed up with vanity

**Origin:** from old French “pompeux” which meant stately (Late 14<sup>th</sup> century)

**Synonyms:** pretentious, arrogant, conceited, prideful

**Antonyms:** modest, humble, self-effacing, unpretentious

**Sentences:**

1. He strode around pompously, telling everyone what to do.
2. The millionaire was a pompous man who believed he should never wait in line for anything.
3. Even though Harry was a member of the royal family, he was not pompous.
4. The pompous wrestler gave himself the title of “King of the ring”.
5. On the airplane, all of the pompous people usually sit in the first class cabin.

Std. VI

**Fortitude** (Noun)

**Origin-** 1350-1400; Middle English < Latin fortitude, strength, firmness, courage, equivalent to forti(s) strong + -tudo-tude

**Meaning-** mental and emotional strength in facing difficulty, adversity, danger or temptation courageously

**Synonyms-** boldness, bravery, fearlessness, courage

**Antonyms-** cowardice, helplessness, weakness

**Sentences-**

- 1) Even though the soldiers knew the odds were not in their favor, they had the fortitude to continue fighting.
- 2) The cowardly lion had no fortitude and hid behind the young girl.
- 3) The small boy's fortitude allowed him to stand up to the school bully.
- 4) It will require a great deal of fortitude to become a doctor.
- 5) My aunt Jane will need all the fortitude she possesses to deal with her newborn quadruplets.

## Std. VII

### **Bastion : Noun**

**Origin :** 1500-1600;<Middle French <Italian Bastione, equivalent to upper Italian Bastire “to build”.

**Related forms:** Adjective- bastionary, bastioned

**Meaning:** 1. A fortified place.

2. Anything seen as preserving, protecting some quality, condition etc.

3. Support

**Synonyms:** Fortification, parapet, protection, stronghold.

**Antonyms:** Weak spot, weakness.

### **Sentences:**

1. British public schools are regarded as one of the last bastions of upper-class privilege.
2. The old forts and bastions of the city have been demolished.
3. The new walls were given a circular shape with eleven bastions and three gates.
4. More than 1000 people have been killed in nearly two months of fighting in Marawi a bastion of Islamic faith in the south.
5. The region is a bastion of right wing Republicanism.

## Std. VIII

### **Jingoism**

**Origin** – Coined as a political label by British radical George Holyoake in daily

News on 13<sup>th</sup> march 1878

**Part of speech** – Noun

**Meaning** – extreme patriotism in the form of aggressive or warlike policy

**Synonyms** – chauvinism, nationalism, xenophobia, patriotism, belligerence

**Antonyms** – betrayal, disloyalty, rebellion, treachery, treason

### **Sentences** –

- 1) When the war began many people were caught up in a wave of jingoism.
- 2) His loud mouthed jingoism will not win us any foreign allies.
- 3) The man’s jingoism led him to destroy a federal building to show his loyalty.

## Std. IX

**Aspersions** (Noun): meaning- verbal exhibition of bad temper

**Origin:** mid 15<sup>th</sup> century from Latin aspersionem (nom. Aspersio). From pp. stem of aspergere “to sprinkle on,” from ad- “to” + spargere “sprinkle strew” (see sparse). In theology, the shedding of Christ’s blood. Modern sense of “bespattering with slander” first attested 1590s. To cast aspersions was in fielding (1749).

**Synonym** – abuse, calumny, defamation, detraction, hit, invective, knock, libel, obloquy, put-down, rap, slam, slander, smear, backbiting, backhanded compliment, black eye, dirty dig etc.

**Antonyms-** adulation, approval, commendation, compliment, flattery, praise, calmness, happiness, kindness, mildness etc.

**Usage:**

1. The fight between the two strangers started with an aspersion.
2. One should refrain from using aspersion.
3. Aspersions, whether casual or serious, leads to a feud.
4. Now-a-days, aspersion has become a way of behavior even with small children.

## Std. X

**Mitigate** (Verb)

**Meaning:** make (something bad) less severe, serious or painful

**Origin:** Late Middle English from Latin- mitigal-‘softened’, from the verb mitigare.

**Synonyms:** diminish, lessen, weaken, mollify, soften, relieve

**Antonyms:** aggravate, increase, intensify

**Sentences:**

1. The doctor gave me an injection to mitigate the pain.
2. The United Nations will try and mitigate the crisis between the two countries.
3. As the police force has done very little to mitigate crime in our area, it is not safe to go out after dark.

## Std. XI

**Travail** (Noun)

**Meaning:** painful or laborious effort (Verb)

**Meaning:** Engage in painful or laborious effort

**Origin:** from Old French trepalium, travail (suffering, torment)

**Synonyms:** toil, fatigue, drudgery

**Antonyms** (near): comfort, alleviation, ease, relief

**Sentences:**

- 1) They finally succeeded after many months of travail.
- 2) There is no greater travail than that of parents who have suffered the death of a child.

## Std. XII

**Intransigence** (in – tran – si- gence) **Noun**

**First use:** 1882

**origin:** intransigent Late 19<sup>th</sup> century from fr.

**Definition:** the quality or state of being intransigent (completely unwilling to change), refusal to change one's views or to agree about something

**Synonyms:** self will, stubbornness, willfulness, adamancy

**Antonyms:** broad minded, reasonability, acceptance, flexibility.

**Examples:**

1. Her intransigence on the issue was simply frustrating.
2. People have a hard time getting along with Ben because he is such an intransigent leader.
3. When it comes to the safety of my children, I must always take an intransigent position to protect them.