

**WORD OF THE WEEK**  
**(28<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017 to 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2017)**

**Std. V**

**Modest** (Adjective)

**Meaning:**

1. not boasting about oneself or one's achievement.
2. small, moderate in size

**Origin:** From Latin word 'modestus'

**Synonyms:** humble; unpretentious

**Antonyms:** boastful; conceited.

**Sentence:**

1. She is very modest about her achievements.
2. Her latest novel was a modest success.
3. We expect to make a modest profit in about a year.
4. Don't be so modest. Your performance was wonderful!
5. They own a modest house near the beach.

**Std. VI**

**Pilfer** (Verb)

**Meaning-** steal things of little value

**Origin-** from Old French 'pelfrer' which means to pillage

**Synonyms-** steal , take, plunder, lift, swipe, keep, purloin

**Antonyms-** bequeath, bestow, give, return, receive, compensate, pay, reimburse,

**Sentences-**

1. The maid hoped she could pilfer her employer's jewellery bit by bit.
2. As I read the novel, I realized the author's story was simply a mesh of plots he had chosen to pilfer from other writers.
3. On the crowded road, it was easy for the pickpocket to pilfer the tourists' wallets.

**Std. VII**

**Messiah** – Noun

**Origin** - Late Latin (Vulgate) Messias < Greek Messias < Hebrew Mashiah Literally anointed .

**Related forms :** Adjective – Messianic

Adverb – Messianically

**Meaning :-**

1. The promised deliverer of the Jewish Nation prophesied in the Hebrew Bible.
2. A leader regarded as the savior of a particular country, group, or cause.

**Synonyms :-** God, Christ, Jesus, rescuer, born leader, conductor .

**Antonyms :-** Satan , Hitler

**Sentences :-**

1. They thought the new Principal was the Messiah the school had been hoping for.
2. They will greet him as the next incarnation of the Messiah.
3. He's the Messiah and everyone else is a disciple.
4. Many of the Frankists saw Napoleon Bonaparte as a potential Messiah.

**Std. VIII**

**Chauvinism:** [shoh-vuh-niz-uhm] Noun.

**Meaning:**

1. Excessive patriotism, eagerness for national superiority
2. Favoritism or devotion to one's particular group.

**Origin:** 1865 -70; French chauvinism, equivalent to Chauvin jingo.

**Related form:** noun: Chauvinist; adverb: Chauvinistically; adjective; Chauvinistic

**Synonyms:** fanatical patriotism, narrowness, jingoism, zealotry.

**Antonyms:** unbiased, fair, broad- minded, unprejudiced.

**Sentences:**

1. Despite the chauvinism of the male racers, Danica went on to become a successful race car driver.
2. In the religious sect, chauvinism is one of the factors that prevent women from pursuing college degree.
3. Even today, women continue to experience chauvinism when they pursue careers that were once dominated by men.

## Std. IX

### Clairvoyance (Noun)

**Meaning-** an ability to communicate with dead people, to predict future events or to know about things that you did not actually see happen or hear about

**First use:** 1838;

**Origin:** French equivalent to clairvoy (ant)

**Synonyms-** extrasensory perception, sixth sense, wizard

**Antonyms-** unprophetic, sensorial,

**Sentences: -**

1. I don't believe in clairvoyance, but I can't explain how he knew those things about my grandmother.
2. The psychic's clairvoyant abilities allowed her to see into the future.
3. If I was clairvoyant, I could win the lottery very easily.
4. One does not need to be clairvoyant to realize my school's basketball team is going to win the state championship.
5. The clairvoyant woman looked at the cards and saw her own death.

## Std. X

### Tenacious (Adjective)

**Meaning:** tending to keep a firm hold of something; clinging or adhering closely

**Origin:** early 17th cent.: from Latin tenax, tenac- (from tenere 'to hold') + -ious.

**Synonyms:** firm, tight, fast, clinging, strong, forceful, powerful, immovable

**Antonyms:** loose, weak

**Sentences:**

1. The company has a tenacious hold on the market.
2. Sometimes being tenacious and sheer force of will is all that is required.
3. If you are more tenacious than Sam Altman, then you should use your tenacity to tenaciously find a cofounder.

## Std. XI

### De rigueur (Adjective)

**Meaning-** required by etiquette or current fashion

**Origin-** Mid 19<sup>th</sup> century French, literally 'in strictness'

**Synonyms-** necessary, right, required, fitting

**Antonyms (near)-**intolerable, informal, shabby, prohibited

**Sentences-**

1. Dark sun glasses are de rigueur these days.
2. It was particularly visible in the 1980s when big showy gems were in de rigueur.

**Std. XII**

**Anathema:** Noun (anath-e-ma)

**First use:** 1526

**Meaning:** someone or something that is very strongly disliked

**Origin:** Late Latin anathemat-, anathema, from Greek, thing devoted to evil, curse, from anatithenai to set up, dedicated, from ana-+ tithenai to place, set – more at do.

**Synonyms:** curse, ban, execration, imprecation, malediction, malison

**Antonyms:** benediction, benison, blessing.

**Sentences:**

1. A politician who is anathema to conservatives.
2. Ideas that are an anathema to me