

# GENERAL ENGLISH

## WORDS OFTEN CONFUSED

There are several words that may be confusing because they are similar in meaning or pronunciation but have different meanings. This is another important section on which questions will be asked in different formats. The candidates should be very careful in answering this section. Knowledge of the meaning of both the words is essential. For this a list of some words that are often confused is given below. Read them carefully and practice.

1. Accept	- agree	Except	- to exclude
2. Accede	- agree	Exceed	- surpass
3. Adapt	- adjust	Adopt	- take an idea
4. Advice	- opinion	Advise	- to counsel
5. Affect	- change	Effect	- result
6. Allude	- to suggest indirectly		
Elude	- to dodge or escape		
7. Allusion	- reference		
Illusion	- false belief		
8. Alter	- change		
Altar	- a raised platform		
9. Ascent	- the act of climbing up		
Assent	- consent		
10. Atone	- to make amends		
Attain	- to reach or achieve		
11. Avert	- to anticipate and ward off		
Overt	- not concealed		
12. Bare	- plain		
Bear	- endure		
13. Beside	- next to		
Besides	- also, additionally		
14. Birth	- the process of being born		

Berth	- a bed on a train
15. Brake	- device to lock the wheels
Break	- smash
16. By law	- according to law
Bylaw	- rules adopted by an organization
17. Cannon	- very large gun
Canon	- an ecclesiastical code of laws
18. Canvas	- cloth used for painting
Canvass	- solicit votes
19. Caret	- a proof-reader's symbol
Carat	- a unit of measure of the purity of gold
Carrot	- an orange root vegetable
20. Carpus	- wrist
Corpus	- body
21. Cell	- small room
Sell	- exchange for money
22. Censor	- to prohibit free expression
Sensor	- something that interprets stimulation
Censure	- rebuke, harsh criticism
23. Chord	- a group of notes sounded together
Cord	- a string
24. Cite	- to quote or mention
Site	- a place
Sight	- view
25. Coarse	- rough
Course	- a series of lectures on one subject
26. Complement	- to supplement or make complete
Compliment	- to praise or congratulate
27. Corps	- an organization of people dedicated to a single goal
Corpse	- a dead body
28. Decedent	- deceased person
Dissident	- one who disagrees

29. Depository	- one who receives a deposit
Depository	- place where something is deposited
30. Desert	- dry area of land covered with sand
Dessert	- the last part of a meal
31. Engross	- to absorb full attention
In gross	- existing independently, in a large quantity or sum
32. Forego	- to precede
Forgo	- to give up
33. Formerly	- previously
Formally	- officially
34. In jure	- according to law
Injure	- to harm
35. Lesson	- a piece of instruction
Lessen	- to reduce
36. Lose	- misplace
Loose	- not fastened
37. Lumbar	- relating to vertebrae
Lumber	- timber ready for use
38. Misogamy	- hatred of marriage
Misogyny	- hatred of women
39. Opposite	- contrary
Apposite	- appropriate; relevant
40. Overseas	- beyond or across the sea
Oversees	- surveys; supervises
41. Pause	- a temporary stop
Paws	- feet of animals
42. Peace	- freedom from war
Piece	- a part of a whole
43. Peak	- summit; highest level
Peek	- a brief look
44. Pendant	- something suspended as an ornament
Pendent	- supported from above

45.Pole	- a rod	Poll	- casting of votes
46.Principal	- main	Principle	- law
47.Procede	- to surpass in rank	Proceed	- to continue
48.Quite	- wholly	Quiet	- calm
49.Rein	- to check or stop		
Rain	- to pour down		
Reign	- to rule		
50.Stair	- a flight of steps		
Stare	- look fixedly		
51.Saver	- one who saves		
Savour	- the taste or smell of something		
52.Sever	- to separate, detach		
Severe	- grim, stern		
53.Side	- lateral		
Sighed	- uttered a sigh		
54.Summary	- quickly executed		
Summery	- fit for summer		
55.Team	- to yoke		
Teem	- to abound		
56.Troop	- a group of soldiers		
Troupe	- a group of theatrical performers		
57.Vain	- worthless		
Vein	- blood vessel		
58.Vice	- a moral fault		
Vise	- a tool with tight-holding jaws		
59.Waist	- part of the body		
Waste	- rejected material		
60.Waive	- to strike off		
Wave	- to motion with hand		

## PRACTICE TEST

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of teachers in the college will reduce the student-teacher ratio.

The new \_\_\_\_\_ of this book is now available in the market. (addition/ edition)

2. The company was \_\_\_\_\_ by the government to bring the new product to the market.  
Please speak \_\_\_\_\_ so that everyone can listen to your talk. (aloud/ allowed)
3. Christians use an \_\_\_\_\_ in worship.  
I want to \_\_\_\_\_ the entire plan in order to complete it. (alter/ altar)
4. The Sahara is the biggest \_\_\_\_\_ in Asia.  
The best part of the dinner was the special \_\_\_\_\_. (desert/ dessert)
5. He can easily play that \_\_\_\_\_.  
The dog is tied to the pole with a \_\_\_\_\_. (cord/ chord)
6. The painter has brought the \_\_\_\_\_ to life.  
All the candidates do not \_\_\_\_\_ successfully. (canvass/ canvas)
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the car is not working.  
Be careful otherwise the glass will \_\_\_\_\_. (break/ brake)
8. What I am presenting is nothing but \_\_\_\_\_ truth.  
He cannot \_\_\_\_\_ this pain. (bare/ bear)
9. It is good to use \_\_\_\_\_.  
You should not \_\_\_\_\_ at strangers. (stare/ stairs)
10. Every \_\_\_\_\_ of science is based on objective, observation and analysis.  
He is the \_\_\_\_\_ actor of this drama. (principle/ principal)
11. The first \_\_\_\_\_ of this course begins with a diagnostic test.  
This medicine may \_\_\_\_\_ your blood pressure. (lessen/ lesson)
12. The devastating tsunami has \_\_\_\_\_ the lives of thousands of people.  
The \_\_\_\_\_ of tsunami can be seen in several countries of the world. (effect/ affect)
13. If you want to join in this organization \_\_\_\_\_, you need the recommendation of an existing member.  
I am pleased to introduce Mr. Dhawan who was \_\_\_\_\_ a member of this society. (formerly/ formally)
14. You have put on \_\_\_\_\_.  
I cannot \_\_\_\_\_ for the bus now. (wait/ weight)
15. I have \_\_\_\_\_ the peon to the post office.  
I have not used \_\_\_\_\_. (scent/ sent)
16. This is an appropriate \_\_\_\_\_ for the factory.  
You may \_\_\_\_\_ statements from the report to prove your point. (cite/ site)

17. I have not \_\_\_\_\_ him for many days.

This is a memorable \_\_\_\_\_. (seen/ scene)

18. The doctor will \_\_\_\_\_ you in this matter.

He is ready to offer his \_\_\_\_\_ to them. (advice/ advise)

19. You can save your conveyance allowance if you do not \_\_\_\_\_ the speed of 80-90 km per hour.

Sujatha will \_\_\_\_\_ to the wishes of her parents. (accede/ exceed)

20. Please don't \_\_\_\_\_ me when I'm reading.

The loud colour will \_\_\_\_\_ from the beauty of the house. (detract / distract)

21. This is the \_\_\_\_\_ room where we eat every meal.

The sound of the dog barking was \_\_\_\_\_ in my ears. (Dining / dinning)

22. Gagan is an \_\_\_\_\_ photographer.

The storm is \_\_\_\_\_. Please get to safety. (eminent / imminent)

23. I must run this \_\_\_\_\_ before I made dinner.

Please correct your \_\_\_\_\_ behaviour. (errand / errant)

24. He is quite \_\_\_\_\_.

We will have to put a \_\_\_\_\_ on the property. (lean / lien)

25. He wanted to try \_\_\_\_\_ my workload.

Did you see the streak of \_\_\_\_\_? (Lightning/ lightening)

26. He had a \_\_\_\_\_ of dust in his eye.

The castle is surrounded by a deep \_\_\_\_\_.

(mote / moat)

27. His \_\_\_\_\_ code is very high.

\_\_\_\_\_ is quite high among the workers. (Moral/ Morale)

28. He is a \_\_\_\_\_ for gold.

She will be a \_\_\_\_\_ until she turns twenty-one. (Miner/ minor)

29. I get up early every \_\_\_\_\_.

She is in \_\_\_\_\_ because her great aunt died. (Morning/ mourning)

30. Cook \_\_\_\_\_ until it is no longer pink.

Can you \_\_\_\_\_ me after work? (Meat/ meet)