

Word of the Week

8th -14th February,2021

Class V

A Cut Above

Meaning : better than other people or things

Origin: the term was used to show just a notion of superiority with the lack of any actual brilliance and was referred for people only at the start. This has changed though with regular usage. It is now used for a belief of brilliance as well as it actually being better in reality.

Synonyms: admirable, exceptional

Antonyms: ordinary, unremarkable

Usage in sentence :

1. All of his books are good, but this one is **a cut above**.
2. She is **a cut above** the other competitors and will win easily.

Class VI

Phrase- Bull in a china shop

Meaning- extremely awkward, clumsy person, to handle a delicate situation badly

Origin- The phrase comes from literally imagining a bull in a shop that sells crockery, also known as china from its close association with the Chinese markets. It is speculated to have originated in the 1800's in America in Frederick Marryat's novel called "Jacob Faithful" published in the year 1834.

Synonyms- careless, casual, complacency, complacent, perfunctory

Antonyms- champion, acrobat, adept, adjudicator, adviser, advisor

Sentences-

1. The president has been attacking foreign ministers and even the people in his own party like a **bull in a china shop**. This has not only led to a lot of criticism but people have started alienating from him.
2. I behaved like a **bull in a china shop** last night. I'm so sorry.
3. You are like a **bull in a china shop**, a complete misfit in a museum.
4. You need not act like a **bull in a china shop**. There are better ways to resolve this.
5. Do you really have to behave like a **bull in a china shop** while I speak with my clients?

Class VII

Phrase: Watershed moment

Parts of speech: Noun

Origin: The word was originally a geographical term describing the area from which water sources drain into a single river or a ridge, like that formed by a chain of mountains, which sends water to two different rivers on either side. From that, watershed came to mean a turning point or dividing line in life.

Meaning: An event marking a unique or important historical change of course or one on which important developments depend.

Synonyms: turning point, defining moment, pivotal moment, tipping point

Antonyms: inconsequential, indecisive, insignificant, noncritical, trivial, unimportant

Usage in Sentences:

1. The 1984, 'Summer Olympics' became a **watershed moment** in Olympic history.
2. It was a **watershed moment** in the province's political history.
3. Millions of Spanish women abandoned their workplaces and homes and took to the streets for an unprecedented strike. It was a **watershed moment** for social progress.

Class VIII

WORD: Grapevine(noun)

Origin: The term originated in the USA

Meaning: 1. A vine native to both Eurasia and North America, especially one bearing grapes used for eating or winemaking

2. used to refer to the circulation of rumours and unofficial informations

Synonyms: climber, pipeline, gossip

Antonyms: truth

Usage in sentences:

1. I'd heard on the **grapevine** that the business was nearly settled.
2. I heard about his resignation on the **grapevine**.
3. We keep hearing it on the **grapevine** that two co-stars of the movie are getting married, but they are not saying anything about it.
4. He said that he loved **grapevines**. (sentence based on meaning one)

Class IX

Phrase: Olive Branch

MEANING: an offer of reconciliation

ORIGIN: A symbol of peace and victory derived from the customs of ancient Greece.

SYNONYMS: friendliness, peace offer, dove of peace

ANTONYMS: deal breaker, stumbling rock, abhorrence

SENTENCE USAGE:

1. I throw that suggestion as an olive branch.
2. He said that it is still not too late for an olive branch to be offered.

Class XI

Pyrrhic victory(noun)

Meaning:

A victory that is not worth winning because the winner has lost so much in winning it

Origin: The word comes from the name of Pyrrhus , a long ago king of Epirus, who suffered heavy losses in defeating the Romans at Asculum in Apulia in 279 B.C.E.

Synonym: narrow victory, offset victory

Usage in Sentences:

1. She won the court case, but it was a **pyrrhic victory** because she had to pay so much in legal fees.
2. Our winning of the opening game was a **pyrrhic victory**, as our leading scorer was seriously injured.