

Word of the week 14th August – 20th August 2023

Std-V

Babble (noun)

Meaning- the sound of many voices talking at the same time

Origin- Middle English: from Middle Low German *babbelen*, or an independent English formation, as a frequentative based on the repeated syllable *ba*, typical of a child's early speech.

Synonyms- gibberish, muttering

Antonyms- quiet, sense

Usage in sentences: -

The **babble** of voices in the next compartment annoyed all of us.

A spontaneous cheer went round the ship, followed by a **babble** of talk as everyone relaxed.

Std VI

PROMPT (adjective)

Meaning- immediate; done without delay

Origin- first known use in 1784 Middle English, from Latin *promptus* ready, prompt, from past participle of *promere* to bring forth, from *pro-* forth + *emere* to take — more at REDEEM.

Synonyms- speedy, timely, apt

Antonyms- slow, late, unwilling

Usage in Sentences-

1. Curiosity **prompted** her to ask a few questions.

2. We need a **prompt** decision on this matter.

Std-VII

Lackadaisical

Meaning- not showing any interest, care or enthusiasm

Origin- The word Lackadaisical is an adjective which came about in the eighteenth century from the interjection lackaday, which was an old fashioned way of saying “oh man!” or “unfortunately.”

Synonyms- careless, lazy, half- hearted

Antonyms- enthusiastic, excited

Usage in sentences:-

He picked up a deck of cards and **lackadaisically** counted them.

He played **lackadaisically** for England in last year's World Cup.

Std- VIII

Holier-than-thou (Adj)

Meaning- showing that you think you are morally better than other people

Origin - The phrase originates from Isaiah 65:5 in the King James Bible, which says (spelling modernized): “Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou”

Synonyms- judgemental, artificial, boastful

Antonyms- diffident, timid, meek

Usage in Sentences:

I can't stand his **holier-than-thou** attitude.

He has always sounded **holier-than-thou**.

Std IX

Ineffable

Meaning – incapable of being expressed or described in words

Origin –First recorded in 1400–50; late Middle English word from Latin word ineffabilis.

Synonyms – indescribable, incredible, indefinable

Antonyms – definable, describable, utterable

Usage in sentences:

1. The beauty of a **sunset** is ineffable.

2. The movie’s shocking ending left us all in an **ineffable** daze.

Std X

WORD: Laconic (Adjective)

MEANING: using only a few words to say something

ORIGIN: mid 16th century (in the sense ‘Laconian’): via Latin from Greek Lakōnikos, from Lakōn ‘Laconia, Sparta’, the Spartans being known for their terse speech.

SYNONYMS: brief, short, concise, terse

ANTONYMS: prolix, unfold, verbose, long-winded

USAGE IN SENTENCES:

1. The popular image of him as a **laconic**, amiable figure is not entirely accurate.

2. He sent me a **laconic** private message.

Std XI

Megalomania

(noun)

Meaning- the delusional belief that one is important, powerful, or famous, as a form or symptom of mental disorder

Origin- It comes from the Greek *megas* ("great") and *mania* ("madness"). It is a madness of greatness.

Synonyms- pompous, self-absorbed, self-centred

Antonyms- humility, modesty

Usage in sentence:-

1. The dictator was suffering from **megalomania**.
2. Early success may lead to **megalomania**.

Std XII

Std XII

DILETTANTE

Meaning- a person having a superficial interest in an art or a branch of knowledge

Origin- mid 18th century: from Italian, 'person loving the arts', from *dilettare* 'to delight', from Latin *delectare* .

Synonyms- amateur, inexperienced, unskilled

Antonyms- adept, expert, skilled

Usage in sentence –

1. This disc reveals a fine composer, not a **dilettante** hiding behind an unusual tuning.
2. He pursued 'a **dilettante** interest' in the matter for some time but a definite opportunity arose in 1896.