**1.2 SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS**

**Introduction to the Topic**

The topic Synonyms and Antonyms is included in CAT curriculum to let students to appreciate the shades of difference that exist among English words having the same or opposite meaning and be able to choose precisely suitable word for a particular purpose.

**Synonym** is a word that means exactly or nearly the same as another word or phrase in the same language.

e.g. Shut is a synonym of close.

**Antonym** is a word opposite in meaning to another.

e.g. Bad and good.

**Relevance in CAT**

Synonyms and Antonyms is the common topic very oftenly asked in CAT exam.

It appears in CAT exam in the following ways:

1. In the questions of Reading Comprehension.

2. In the form where for every word a sentence is given and you have to find out the option which represent the similar meaning to the given word.

3. In the form of analogies.

**SYNONYMS**

**Practice Exercise – Easy**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1 – 25):** *In the following sentences, a word or phrase is written in bold letters. For each bold part, four words/phrases are listed below. Choose the word nearest in meaning to bold part.*

1. One has to **encounter** many hardships in life.

a. solve b. face

c. bear d. overcome

2. Few members have been spared the problem of an **obstreperous** guard in the society.

a. awkward b. lazy

c. unruly d. lousy

3. Her views are not in **consonance** with her mother's.

a. in disagreement b. in confusion

c. in agreement d. contradictory

4. The foreigners offered us an excellent **repast**.

a. as good meal b. pass time

c. experience d. entertainment

5. She soon got frustrated with her **sedentary** work in the office.

a. rotating b. involving sitting

c. drab d. routine

6. In **exasperation** she shouted at her daughter.

a. irritation b. pain

c. astonishment d. disappointment

7. **Furtive** glances were exchanged between the couples at the feast.

a. unknown b. secret

c. suspicious d. open

8. The news channels are **clamourings** against the injustice to the farmers.

a. demonstrating b. complaining

c. noising d. protesting

9. The five day week in Corporate Offices is bound to benefit the **jaded** office goers.

a. refreshed b. routined c. fatigued d. energetic

10. Indian cricketers were **brimming** over with confidence after their Australian tour.

a. overflow b. blow over

c. flow over d. overburdened

11. There was no **ostensible** reason for her being angry at her husband's remarks.

a. hidden b. covert c. obvious d. secret

12. She **upbraided** the little girl who got frightened.

a. scolded b. make up

c. make tails d. slapped

13. She is not seen even smiling these days; she is rather **pensive**.

a. annoyed b. thoughtful

c. sad d. gloomy

14. There is a **tacit** agreement between the super powers not to engage themselves in terrorist activities.

a. extrovert b. unspoken

c. introvert d. speechless

15. On account of the **paucity** of the funds trip got cancelled.

a. pause b. scarcity

c. abundance d. excess

16. The principal delivered an **impromptu** speech to the students.

a. honest b. impressive

c. inspiring d. off hand

17. Such conduct deserves **reprimand**.

a. applaud b. praise

c. reward d. punishment

18. He is a good looking but **insipid** young boy.

a. arrogant b. unscrupulous

c. notorious d. lacking in spirit

19. The **inexorable** demands of the workers brought the company to a closure.

a. extraordinary b. unreasonable

c. monetary d. violent

20. It was an **astute** move to sell the house at that stage.

a. shrewd b. remarkable

c. dishonest d. inexplicable

21. The officer gave a **lucid** explanation of the department's course of action.

a. vague b. unconvincing

c. precise d. clear

22. Our fates seemed **intertwined**.

a. complex b. destined c. unlucky d. linked

23. We are happy that the two friends are trying to find an **amicable** solution to their disputes.

a. a just b. an appropriate

c. non durable d. a friendly

24. He is so **garrulous** that all sober persons avoid her company.

a. quarrelsome b. talkative

c. dominating d. dumb

25. He is known to be a **prolific** writer.

a. famous b. productive

c. great d. powerful

**Practice Exercise – Medium**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1 − 25):** *Each of the following questions containing main word in Capital letters followed by four words. Select the word that is* ***most similar in meaning*** *to the main word in capital letters.*

1. SOLITUDE

a. musical composition b. aloneness

c. greedy d. single mindedness

2. RAVAGE

a. destroy b. dispute c. disrupt d. distract

3. NOMADIC

a. exploring b. rare

c. stranger d. wandering

4. BECKONED

a. accused b. backstab c. called d. obsessed

5. AUDACITY

a. strength b. boldness

c. aura d. auspicious

6. VICARIOUS

a. ambitious

b. not experienced personally

c. vicious

d. vindictive

7. MENIAL

a. unskilled b. short c. affluent d. menance

8. REPRISAL

a. appraisal b. retaliation

c. remuneration d. diligence

9. PECUNIARY

a. pertaining to money b. pertaining to politics

c. pertaining to history d. pertaining to honorary

10. CONGREGATION

a. argument b. meeting

c. judgement d. conversation

11. GRANDIOSE

a. pompous b. unpretentious

c. inculcating d. intuitive

12. DISPARAGE

a. separate b. refuse

c. dishonor d. disappointment

13. BREVITY

a. coward b. brave c. valour d. shortness

14. FETID

a. comical b. regular

c. stinking d. outrageous

15. LOAFER

a. vagrant b. idle c. banter d. longer

16. CLAMOROUS

a. glamour b. blushing c. loud d. dissonant

17. TAWDRY

a. gaudy b. coward c. sound d. untidy

18. MOROSE

a. kiddish b. sorrow c. gloomy d. taciturn

19. ASYLUM

a. shelter b. refuge c. hut d. presage

20. MANOEUVRE

a. mansion b. meeting c. scheme d. protocol

21. SAGACIOUS

a. appealing b. placid c. wise d. innocent

22. ELOQUENT

a. rhetoric b. legal c. fluent d. feeble

23. PENCHANT

a. liking b. talkative

c. good d. melodious

24. ABSOLVE

a. accuse b. innocent c. colour d. vulgar

25. REPEAL

a. reassurance b. attract

c. acceptance d. abrogation

**Practice Exercise – Difficult**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1 − 20):** *Each of the following questions containing main word in Capital letters followed by four words. Select the word that is* ***most similar in meaning*** *to the main word in capital letters.*

1. COMMISERATION

a. commission b. apathy

c. sorrow d. dilation

2. PREPOSTEROUS

a. geniune b. casual c. absurd d. deterrent

3. OSTENTATIOUS

a. pomp b. pretence

c. prop d. abundance

4. DECREPITUDE

a. disease b. coolness c. crowd d. weakness

5. AVARICE

a. hatred b. greed

c. jovial d. generosity

6. EXTOL

a. worth b. praise c. exterior d. excess

7. KNAVE

a. emperor b. king

c. soldier d. scoundrel

8. LUDICROUS

a. courageous b. excessive

c. lucid d. ridiculous

9. MUTINOUS

a. unruly b. loyal

c. submissive d. compliant

10. SCUTTLE

a. saga b. priority

c. slow d. run hurriedly

11. REVELRY

a. naive b. slough

c. jovial d. conviviality

12. NIGGARDLY

a. excessive b. stingy

c. profuse d. redundant

13. GALLANT

a. prudent b. award

c. honorable d. extravagant

14. LETHAL

a. lousy b. deadly

c. averse d. conventional

15. ADMONISH

a. give b. warn c. admit d. accustom

16. CREDENCE

a. crowdy b. belief

c. incredible d. credentials

17. BEDRAGGLE

a. reduce b. soiled

c. bedridden d. lithargic

18. TAINT

a. corrupt b. faint c. innocent d. publish

19. COALESCE

a. coalition b. fuel

c. relate d. amalgamate

20. PASSE'

a. posh b. old - fashioned

c. modern d. past

**ANTONYMS**

**Practice Exercise – Easy**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1** − **30):** *The following sentences consist of a word or a phrase which is written in bold letters. Each of them is followed by four words or phrases. Select the word or the phrase which is closest to the opposite in meaning of the bold word or phrase.*

1. How dare you **desecrate** an idol of this temple.

a. defile b. pollute c. exalt d. impious

2. **Formidable** obstacles have to be overcome before suc- cess is achieved.

a. indomitable b. amiable

c. dangerous d. invincible

3. Mr. Anand made **fervent** appeal to the members of the club to maintain unity.

a. active b. emotional

c. impassive d. passionate

4. His failure in this venture may be attributed to his **lackadaisical** approach.

a. enthusiastic b. vulnerable

c. indifferent d. ruthless

5. Please give me a **laconic** explanation of what happened.

a. brief b. lingering

c. terse d. lengthy

6. A character without a **blemish** is a virtue of a leader.

a. charm b. blot

c. strength d. adornment

7. She felt **elated** after meeting her sister after a long time.

a. exultant b. happy c. excited d. dejected

8. The minister was accused of indulging in **nepotism**.

a. impartiality b. hatred

c. racial discrimination d. indifference

9. The facts of the case were **obscured** by the speech of the defence counsel.

a. reflected b. clarified

c. confused d. illustrated

10. He has always been **fastidious** while examining answer scripts.

a. careless b. feeble

c. perplexed d. discriminating

11. The professor had to share a hotel room with a **garrulous** tax collector.

a. dumb b. loquacious

c. ebullient d. tongue - tied

12. He glanced through the letter **perfunctorily**.

a. nicely b. precisely

c. carefully d. particularly

13. It is not difficult to take note of the doctor's **immaculate** style of writing.

a. marvellous b. uneven

c. amazing d. flawed

14. He is very **prudent** about his choice of food.

a. careful b. careless

c. thoughtless d. indiscreet

15. The research showed that the drug has **pernicious** effect on the health of patients.

a. miraculous b. advantageous

c. beneficial d. neutral

16. I am in a rather **precarious** position in my place of work.

a. comfortable b. senior

c. deadly d. secure

17. He produced **cogent** reasons for the change of policy.

a. clumsy b. limited

c. coherent d. unconvincing

18. The young business executive was very **perspicacious**.

a. trustworthy b. clever

c. intelligent d. inattentive

19. There are many anecdotes about his sister who is an **imperious** personality.

a. characterless b. rude

c. arrogant d. obedient

20. Though aware of his crimes, he remained **impenitent** throughout.

a. repentant b. frightened

c. pertinent d. delightful

21. While facing that situation, he turned out to be **dauntless**.

a. tactful b. stoical

c. cowardly d. courageous

22. The politician was **flummoxed** by the questions put to him.

a. certainity b. perplexed

c. excited d. disconcerted

23. Throughout the evening, Rahul looked very **doleful**.

a. aggressive b. cheerful

c. lethargic d. delightful

24. He is showing signs of **senility**.

a. childhood b. atrocity

c. maturity d. exhaustion

25. The forwards of their hockey team made **sporadic** raids into the opponent's territory.

a. rapid b. sharp

c. frequent d. random

26. The booking - clerk looked very **grumpy**.

a. tired b. pleasant c. lousy d. honest

27. She paid special attention to those women who had **succumbed** to adversity.

a. surrendered b. given up

c. overcome d. overburdened

28. He is very **callous** to the suffering of others.

a. neutral b. sensitive

c. liberal d. possessive

29. He has translated the play into French with **fidelity**.

a. difficulty b. inaccuracy

c. insincerity d. atrocity

30. The task assigned to him was **arduous**.

a. plain b. lengthy

c. easy d. interesting

**Practice Exercise – Medium**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1** − **30):** *Each of the following main words in capital letters are followed by four words. Select the word that is* ***farthest*** *(opposite) in meaning to the main word.*

1. RELENTLESS

a. merciless b. yielding c. ruthless d. decisive

2. RECTITUDE

a. self reliance b. deceitfulness

c. appraisal d. punctuality

3. PROLIFIC

a. prominent b. barren

c. rubbish d. unfocussed

4. AFFLUENCE

a. indigence b. influx

c. stagnation d. helpless

5. CURTAIL

a. outrage b. enlarge

c. expiate d. exaggerate

6. LUCID

a. lacking interest b. lacking beauty

c. lacking clarity d. lacking comfort

7. COMPLY

a. disobey b. complain c. agreeable d. complete

8. DESPONDENT

a. being b. satisfied c. infuriated d. delighted

9. APPEASABLE

a. antecedent b. incident

c. unrelenting d. hatred

10. AWRY

a. austere b. plain c. asthenia d. straight

11. AUDACIOUS

a. courageous b. polite

c. innocent d. avarice

12. BEFOUL

a. flounder b. cleanse c. buoyant d. clear

13. CANDOUR

a. frankness b. cunning c. candid d. sincere

14. CAPRICIOUS

a. lozenge b. energetic c. erratic d. steady

15. OBLIVION

a. memory b. agreeable c. comfrey d. trinket

16. FLACCID

a. exotic b. erect c. flabby d. floppy

17. CONDEMN

a. convict b. innocent c. guilty d. enervate

18. EXPEDITE

a. extract b. disowned c. delay d. punctual

19. TREMULOUS

a. coward b. intrepid

c. supplant d. whimsical

20. NAIVE

a. sanctimonious b. ingenuous

c. vague d. affable

21. IMPETUOUS

a. lame b. dubious c. cautious d. flighty

22. ADMONISH

a. praise b. censor c. approve d. abolish

23. TRANQUILIZE

a. monotonous b. energise

c. lethargic d. amused

24. PERNICIOUS

a. aggressive b. travesty c. benign d. malign

25. RAMPANT

a. raging b. wanton

c. tranquil d. apocryphal

26. INDENTURE

a. manumit b. beslave c. affix d. pungent

27. REMNANT

a. residue b. continue c. part d. relief

28. EXODUS

a. rebuild b. return

c. revive d. home coming

29. MODICUM

a. surfeit b. decent

c. standard d. modernity

30. ALLY

a. aide b. opponent c. amour d. rival

**Practice Exercise – Difficult**

**Directions (Q. Nos. 1** − **20):** *Each of the following main words in capital letters are followed by four words. Select the word that is* ***farthest*** *(opposite) in meaning to the main word.*

1. ENCOMIUM

a. meagre b. applauded

c. unethical d. hypercriticism

2. TIMOROUS

a. trembling b. cowardly c. timid d. dauntless

3. PHILISTINE

a. cultured b. unethical c. sober d. sociable

4. BLASPHEMOUS

a. irreligious b. complex c. reverent d. blarney

5. ABHORRENT

a. odious b. attractive

c. unpleasant d. offensive

6. PROLETARIAT

a. rationalist b. evangelist c. capitalist d. marxist

7. BRAGGART

a. modest b. harangue

c. calm d. competent

8. CALUMNIATE

a. eulogise b. callous

c. gruesome d. temperate

9. IMMANENT

a. impatient b. indwelling

c. transcendent d. intrinsic

10. CLEAVE

a. rebuke b. separate c. adjunct d. revoke

11. PREVARICATE

a. truth b. nullity c. humble d. tactful

12. PRECLUDE

a. obviate b. prevent

c. pretend d. precaution

13. ENNOBLE

a. manageable b. dishonour

c. feeble d. morbid

14. EPHEMERAL

a. eternal b. sempiternal

c. inanimate d. mortal

15. SANGUINE

a. pessimistic b. mitigate

c. pretensions d. modest

16. SERVILE

a. accommodating b. impregnable

c. demoralized d. hail

17. SARDONIC

a. frustrated b. pleasing c. impetuous d. ironic

18. EVANESCENT

a. perpetual b. fleeting

c. translucent d. convoluted

19. JADED

a. excited b. deployed

c. employed d. managed

20. AMELIORATE

a. mar b. amiable c. classify d. fade

**SYNONYMS**

**Solutiuons - Easy**

1. (b)

Encounter means to meet with or contend against (difficulties, opposition) etc.

2. (c)

Obstreperous means resisting control or restraint in a difficult manner ; unruly.

3. (c)

Consonance litreral meaning is accord or agreement.

4. (a)

Repast means a quantity of food taken or provided for one occasion of eating.

5. (b)

Sedentary means characterizing or requiring a sitting posture.

6. (a)

Exasperation is an act of frustration, irritation.

7. (b)

Furtive means exhibiting evasive secrecy.

8. (d)

Clamouring means a continued public expression, often of dissatisfaction or discontent.

9. (c)

Jaded means exhausted or lacking enthusiasm.

10. (a)

Brimming means to be full or overflowing.

11. (c)

Ostensible means meant for open display, apparent.

12. (a)

Upbraided means to criticize severely.

13. (b)

Pensive means looking thougthful, especially from sadness.

14. (b)

Tacit means something done or made in silence ; implied but not expressed.

15. (b)

Paucity means fewness in number.

16. (d)

Impromptu means something done without prior preparation.

17. (d)

Reprimand means a severe, formal or official reproof ; rebuke, private or public.

18. (d)

Insipid means flat ; lacking character or definition.

19. (b)

Inexorable means unable to be persuaded, relentless.

20. (a)

Astute means crafty, shrewd.

21. (d)

Lucid means something which is very clear or easily understood.

22. (d)

Intertwined means to link something together.

23. (d)

Amicable means showing friendliness or goodwill.

24. (b)

Garrulous means excessively or tiresomely talkative.

25. (b)

Prolific means producing results or works in abundance.

**Solutiuons - Medium**

1. (b)

Solitude means state of being alone, by oneself.

2. (a)

Ravage means to devastate or destroy.

3. (d)

Nomadic means leading a wandering life with no fixed abode.

4. (c)

Beckoned means to wave or to nod to sombody with the intention to make the person come closer.

5. (b)

Audacity means insolent boldness, fearlessness.

6. (b)

Vicarious means done on behalf of others; experienced in the imagination.

7. (a)

Menial means of or relating to unskilled work.

8. (b)

Reprisal means an act of retaliation.

9. (a)

Pecuniary means of or relating to money.

10. (b)

Congregation means any large gathering of people.

11. (a)

Grandiose means pretentious or pompous.

12. (c)

Disparage means to match unequally, to degrade or dishonor.

13. (d)

Brevity means the quality of being brief in duration.

14. (c)

Fetid means foul smelling, stinking.

15. (b)

Loafer means an idle person.

16. (c)

Clamorous means noisy, loud.

17. (a)

Tawdry means cheap and gaudy ; showy.

18. (c)

Morose means sullen, gloomy, showing a brooding ill humour.

19. (a)

Asylum means a place of safety.

20. (c)

Manoeuvre means to intrigue, plot, scheme.

21. (c)

Sagacious means having or showing been discernment, sound judgement.

22. (c)

Eloquent means fluently persuasive and articulate.

23. (a)

Penchant means taste, liking or inclination.

24. (b)

Absolve means to pronounce not guilty, innocent.

25. (d)

Repeal means to cancel, invalidate, annul.

**Solutiuons - Difficult**

1. (c)

Commiseration means sorrow for the misfortune, distress of others; comparison.

2. (c)

Preposterous means absurd or contrary to common sense.

3. (a)

Ostentatious means tawdry display.

4. (d)

Decrepitude means weakened or worn out from age or wear.

5. (b)

Avarice means excessive or inordinate desire of gain ; greediness after wealth.

6. (b)

Extol means to praise ; to encourage.

7. (d)

Knave means a tricky, deceitful fellow, a dishonest person.

8. (d)

Ludicrous means an idiotic or unthinkable person.

9. (a)

Mutinous means rebellious.

10. (d)

Scuttle means a quick pace ; a short run.

11. (c)

Revelry means joyful, merry-making.

12. (b)

Niggardly means withholding for the sake of meanness ; stingy, miserly.

13. (c)

Gallant means honorable, brave, chivalrous.

14. (b)

Lethal means mortal, deadly.

15. (b)

Admonish means to warn or notify.

16. (b)

Credence means acceptance of a belief as true.

17. (b)

Bedraggle means to make something wet, limp and dirty.

18. (a)

Taint means infection, corruption, deprivation.

19. (d)

Coalesce means to join into single mass or whole.

20. (b)

Passe' means out of style, dated, old fashioned.

**ANTONYMS**

**Solutiuons - Easy**

1. (c)

Desecrate mean to profane or violate the sacredness or sanctity of something.

2. (b)

Formidable means causing fear, dread, awe or admiration.

3. (c)

Fervent means having or showing emotional warmth, fervor.

4. (a)

Lackadaisical means showing no interest or enthusiasm.

5. (d)

Laconic means using as few words as possible, pithy and concise.

6. (a)

Blemish means a moral defect ; a character flaw.

7. (d)

Elated means delighted, pleased.

8. (a)

Nepotism means the favouring of relatives or personal friends because of their relationship rather than because of their abilities.

9. (b)

Obscured means difficult to understand.

10. (a)

Fastidious means difficult to please ; quick to find fault; fussy.

11. (d)

Garrulous means excessively or tiresomely talkative.

12. (c)

Perfunctorily means without interest or done to merely discharge duty.

13. (d)

Immaculate means having no stain ; spotless.

14. (b)

Fastidious means excessively particular, demanding, or fussy about details, especially about tidious and cleanliness.

15. (c)

Pernicious means causing much harm in a subtle way.

16. (d)

Percarious means dangerously insecure.

17. (d)

Congent means reasonable and convincing, based on evidence.

18. (d)

Perspicacious means of acute discernment.

19. (d)

Imperious means arrogant or domineering.

20. (a)

Impenitent means of hard heart, not repenting of sin.

21. (c)

Dauntless means daredevil.

22. (a)

Flummoxed means confused.

23. (b)

Doleful means mournful, bringing feelings of sadness.

24. (a)

Senility means an elderly, senile person.

25. (c)

Sporadic means occurring at irregular intervals and scattered in occurrence.

26. (b)

Grumpy means unhappy, dissatisfied.

27. (c)

Succumbed means to give up, to die.

28. (b)

Callous means emotionally hardened ; unfeeling.

29. (c)

Fidelity means faithfulness to one's duties.

30. (c)

Arduous means needing or using up much energy.

**Solutiuons - Medium**

1. (b)

Relentless means unrelenting or unyielding in severity.

2. (b)

Rectitude means the fact or quality of being right or correct ; correctness of opinion or judgement.

3. (b)

Prolific means fertile.

4. (a)

Affluence means an abundance of wealth.

5. (b)

Curtail means to cut short.

6. (c)

Lucid means clear, easily understood.

7. (a)

Comply means to accord ; agree.

8. (d)

Despondent means in low spirits from loss of hope or courage.

9. (c)

Appeasable means able to be calmed or pacified.

10. (d)

Awary means improperly.

11. (b)

Audacious means not showing due respect ; bold faced.

12. (b)

Befoul means to make foul ; to soil.

13. (b)

Candour means honesty in expression ; state of being sincere and open in speech.

14. (d)

Capricious means impulsive and unpredictable.

15. (a)

Oblivion means the state of forgetfulness or distraction.

16. (b)

Flaccid means soft, floppy ; lacking energy or vigour.

17. (b)

Condemn means to judicially pronounce guilty.

18. (c)

Expedite means to perform fast and efficiently.

19. (b)

Tremulous means trembling, quivering or shaking.

20. (a)

Naive means lacking worldly experience, wisdom or judgement, unsophisticated.

21. (c)

Impetuous means making arbitrary decisions especially in an impulsive and forceful manner.

22. (c)

Admonish means to warn or notify of a fault.

23. (b)

Tranquilize means to calm down.

24. (c)

Pernicious means causing much harm in a subtle way.

25. (c)

Rampant means rife, occuring widely.

26. (a)

Indenture means a contract which binds a person to work for another under specified conditions for a specified time.

27. (b)

Remnant means a small portion remaining of a larger thing or group.

28. (d)

Exodus means sudden departure of a large number of people.

29. (a)

Modicum means a small, modest or trifling amount.

30. (b)

Ally means to unite.

**Solutiuons - Difficult**

1. (d)

Encomium means a warm praise.

2. (d)

Timorous means fearful, afraid, timid.

3. (a)

Philistine means lacking in appreciation for art or culture.

4. (c)

Blasphemous means lacking piety or respect for the sacred.

5. (b)

Abhorrent means having or showing abhorrence, loathing.

6. (c)

Proletariat means the working class or lower class.

7. (a)

Braggart means someone who boasts.

8. (a)

Calumniate means to make hurtful, untrue comment about.

9. (c)

Immanent means naturally part of something, existing throughout and within something.

10. (c)

Cleave means to split or sever something or as if with a sharp instrument.

11. (a)

Prevaricate means to undertake something falsely and deceitfully.

12. (c)

Preclude means remove the possibility of ; rule out ; prevent or exclude.

13. (b)

Ennoble means honour or grace.

14. (a)

Ephemeral means something which lasts for a short period of time.

15. (a)

Sanguine means optimistic, confident, full of hope.

16. (b)

Servile means not belonging to original root.

17. (b)

Sardonic means scornfully mocking or cynical.

18. (a)

Evanescent means vanishing, disappearing.

19. (a)

Jaded means lacking enthusiasm.

20. (a)

Ameliorate means to make better ; to improve ; to heal.