

# UNIT 4:

# Vocabulary

## Word Formation

The English language is known for its wonderful quality of the way in which words and sentences are formed and used. Formation of new words from an existing root word by adding a syllable or another word is the general process; however, there are multiple ways in which it can be done.

### Types of Word Formation with Examples

The formation of words is classified into four types based on how the process of formation is carried out. They are:

- By adding prefixes
- By adding suffixes
- Converting from one word class to another
- Forming compound words

For more details click on this link- <https://byjus.com/english/word-formation/>

## Synonyms

A *synonym* is a word that means the same thing as another word. If you replace a word in a sentence with its synonym, the meaning of the sentence won't really change that much.

There are, of course, shades of meaning, and not every synonym is an exact substitute, but sometimes we just need a different word for a change.

## Antonyms

A word that has the exact opposite meaning of another word is its *antonym*. Life is full of *antonyms*, from the "stop" and "go" of a traffic signal to side-by-side restroom doors labeled "men" and "women."

Most antonyms are pretty obvious, like "good" and "bad," or "black" and "white." Some words can be transformed into their *antonyms* simply by adding the prefixes "un," "in," or "non," as when "likable" is changed into its antonym, "unlikable." The word *antonym* itself takes the Greek word *anti*, meaning "opposite," and adds it to *-onym*, which comes from the Greek *onoma*, or "name." So *antonym* literally means "opposite-name."

## Homophones

A *homophone* is a word that sounds the same as another word but has a different meaning and/or spelling. "Flower" and "flour" are *homophones* because they are pronounced the same but you certainly can't bake a cake using daffodils.

Other common *homophones* are *write* and *right*, *meet* and *meat*, *peace* and *piece*. You have to listen to the context to know which word someone means if they're spoken aloud. If they say they like your jeans (genes?), they're probably talking about your pants and not your height and eye color — but you'd have to figure it out from the situation!

## One Word Substitution

One word substitution is the use of one word in place of a wordy phrase in order to make the sentence structure clearer. The meaning, with the replacement of the phrase remains identical while the sentence becomes shorter.

**One Word Substitution Example:**

My friend drives me in a car around town. Using one-word substitution in this sentence would give something like this – My friend chauffeurs me around town.

To avoid confusion, we have categorized the list of one-word substitution into 8 categories:

#### Categories of one-word substitutions

1. [Generic Terms](#)
2. [Government/Systems](#)
3. [Venue/Spots](#)
4. [Group/Collection](#)
5. [People/Person](#)
6. [Murder/Death](#)
7. [Profession/Research](#)
8. [Sound](#)

For more details click on this link- <https://byjus.com/govt-exams/list-one-word-substitution-pdf/#:~:text=One%20word%20substitution%20is%20the,in%20a%20car%20around%20town.>

## Idioms and Phrases

English is a fascinating language. It is colourful and full of [expression](#), and well-written prose can [transport](#) you to another world. One such tool that authors usually employ to make their words memorable are [idioms](#) and [phrases](#). It is important for us to understand the concept and the correct usage of idiom and phrases.

### Idioms

Idioms are a collection of words or phrases which have a figurative meaning that is generally well established and known. So these [words](#) can't be taken at their literal meanings since they would sound farcical. [Idioms](#), at times, seem grammatically unusual as well.

Idioms are a useful tool in linguistics. They add life and colour to the prose. It allows the authors to play with words and make it an interesting read, rather than straightforward boring [paragraphs](#). Idioms are often used in [stories](#), poems and

even in the spoken words. The origins of are not always known, but they said to originate from stories and creative writing, and are modified over time.

Let us take a look at some really creative examples of idioms and their subsequent meanings.

**Idiom****Meaning**

Penny for your thoughts

Asking someone what is on their minds

Beat around the bush

Trying to avoid a subject/person/[situation](#)

Burn the midnight oil

Work or labour late into the night

Judge a book by its cover

Rely on outward appearances

Takes two to tango

Most deeds/actions/misdeeds require participation from two people

Kill two birds with one stone

Accomplish two things with the same effort

A piece of cake

An easy task/job

Whole nine yards

The entire thing, all of something

A dime a dozen

Very common/commonplace

Bite off more than you can chew

Try to take on a task too big for oneself

Cry over spilled milk

Regret/complain about something that cannot be rectified

Hit the road

Begin one's journey

Once in a blue moon

Once in a while, infrequently

Have a blast

To enjoy oneself, have a good time

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## Phrases

A phrase is a small group of words that are like a unit. These units are a part of a bigger [sentence](#) or a clause. Phrases are unlike idioms, they are actually direct and to the point. They do not figurative meanings, the expression means what the words indicate.

A phrase, unlike a complete sentence, does not have a subject and a verb. So it does not express a complete sentence, they are a unit of a complete sentence. There are broadly eight types of phrases

– noun, verb, infinitive, gerund, appositive, participial, prepositional and absolute phrases.

Some examples of phrases are

- The phone *was on the table*
- The children were *giggling and laughing* when the teacher left the room
- The *nice neighbour* offered him a glass of water.

## Expansion of Ideas

Expansion of ideas means expanding on the original language or thought when we describe anything.

Expansion of ideas is the method by which you go into further depth of your ideas. You must first understand the meaning and then try to restate the given phrase or statement. The best technique to expand a sentence or a proverb is to write synonyms for the original keywords and then expand it using those synonyms. To further expand your topic, you should end your essay with either a moral or a conclusion. Below are some examples of how notions can be enlarged.

For more details click on this link- <https://unacademy.com/content/cbse-class-12/study-material/english/expansion-of-ideas/>