

UNIT-II

Q.1) What is Reading Comprehension? How to solve a reading comprehension passage? Write five steps to improve reading comprehension.

ANS- Reading comprehension is the ability to comprehend or understand, what you are reading. This is an intentional and active part of reading and takes place before, during and after you read something. By being able to comprehend what you are reading, you can extract meaning from the text and better realize what the author is trying to convey.

How to answer comprehension questions – Step-by-step

1. Step 1: Read the questions.
2. Step 2: Unpack the questions.
3. Step 3: Read the text.
4. Step 4: Read for relevant information and techniques.
5. Step 5: Answer the questions – Multiple choice, or.
6. Step 5: Answer the questions – written responses.

The following are seven simple strategies you can use to work on your comprehension skills:

1. Improve your vocabulary.
2. Come up with questions about the text you are reading.
3. Use context clues.
4. Look for the main idea.
5. Write a summary of what you read.
6. Break up the reading into smaller sections.
7. Pace yourself.

Q.2) What are Suffixes and Prefixes? Give two examples of Suffixes and Prefixes

ANS- Prefix: An affix that is added before word Roots

Suffix: An affix that is added at the end of the word

Example of Suffixes-

-ation- (A noun suffix)

Education, Purification, Inflation, Declaration, Sensation, Indication, Differentiation, Vibration, Integration, Agitation, Nationalization.

Examples of Prefixes-

Un- (A negative prefix)

Unpleasant, unhealthy, Uncomfortable, uneasy, Unemployed, unless, Unadvisable, unknown, Unable, unseen.

Q.3) Give one word for the following statements.

a) One who is liked by people - **Popular.**

b) One who knows everything - **omniscient.**

c) One who looks at the brighter side - Optimist.

d) One who looks at the darker side - Pessimist.

e) One who does not believe in God - Atheist.

Q.4 Write at least two synonyms of the following words.

ANS - a) Capsize- Invert, Roll, Turn Over, Upset, keel over.

b) Captivate - Lure, Win, Dazzle, Entrance, Attract.

c) Commiserate - Ache, Candole, Console, Pity, Compassionate.

d) Concomitant - Linked, Related, Connected, Resultant, Associated.

e) Culminate - Crown, End, Top off, Wind up, Terminate.

Q.5) Explain Dictionary and Thesaurus. How is thesaurus different from a dictionary?

ANS - Dictionary - a book or electronic resource that lists the words of a language (typically in alphabetical order) and gives their meaning, or gives the equivalent words in a different language, often also providing information about pronunciation, origin, and usage.

Thesaurus - A thesaurus (plural thesauri or thesauruses) or synonym dictionary is a reference work for finding synonyms and sometimes antonyms of words. They are Thesaurus often used by writers to help find the best word to express an idea: ...to find the word, or words, by which [an] idea may be most fitly and aptly expressed.

A dictionary gives thorough details on the meaning, definition, usage and etymology of a word. A thesaurus usually does not contain all the words of the language. It provides several similar alternative words (synonyms), as well as contrasting words (antonyms). A thesaurus is also a useful resource when you know the meaning of the word but not the word itself.

DICTIONARY VERSUS THESAURUS

| | |
|---|---|
| Dictionary contains meaning, definition, pronunciation, orthography, and etymology of a word. | Thesaurus contains synonyms and antonyms of words. |
| Dictionary follows an alphabetical order. | Thesaurus follows an alphabetical or conceptual order. |
| The aim of a dictionary is to provide orthography, pronunciation and signification of words in a particular language. | The aim of a thesaurus is to help the writer to find more suitable words and avoid the repetition of terms. |

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Q.6) Explain these with examples:-

- (i) Synonyms
- (ii) Antonyms
- (iii) Prefix

(iv) Suffix

(v) Homophones

ANS- (i) A **synonym** is a word that has the same meaning as another word. Synonyms can be two or more words, or even complete expressions, in the same language. While they may have other meanings, at least two of their meanings are similar or identical.

Examples-

| Word | Synonyms |
|-------|--|
| Man | male, guy, gentleman, fellow, dude, brother, father, son |
| Woman | female, gal, lady, mother, sister, daughter, girl |
| Child | baby, infant, juvenile, kid, minor, toddler, teen, preteen, youth, youngster |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Prob lem | complication, dilemma, dispute, obstacle, trouble, issue |
| Num ber | figure, sum, statistic |
| Loo k | consider, glance, notice, peer, read, see, stare |
| Mak e | cause, compose, form, shape, generate, prepare, manufacture, produce |
| Kno w | appreciate, learn, have, notice, perceive, see, recognize, realize |

(ii)- An antonym is a type of word that has a separate word that means the direct opposite of its meaning. For example, an antonym for 'good' is 'bad.' Common antonym examples include happy and sad, cold and hot, and dark and light.

Examples-

achieve - fail

giant - dwarf

random - specific

afraid - confident

gloomy - cheerful

rigid - flexible

ancient - modern

individual - group

shame - honor

arrive - depart

innocent - guilty

simple - complicated

arrogant - humble

knowledge - ignorance

single - married

attack - defend

liquid - solid

sunny - cloudy

blunt - sharp

marvelous - terrible

timid - bold

brave - cowardly

noisy - quiet

toward - away

cautious - careless

partial - complete

tragic - comic

complex - simple

passive - active

transparent - opaque

crazy - sane

permanent - unstable

triumph - defeat

crooked - straight

plentiful - sparse

union - separation

demand - supply

positive - negative

unique - common

destroy - create

powerful - weak

upset - relaxed

divide - unite

praise - criticism

urge - deter

drunk - sober

private - public

vacant - occupied

expand - contract

problem - solution

vague - definite

freeze - boil

professional - amateur

villain - hero

full - empty

profit - loss

wax - wane

generous - stingy

quality - inferiority

wealth - poverty

All are the examples of antonyms....(above)

(iv)- Refer answer(2)

(v) - Refer answer(2)

Q.7) What do you understand by Vocabulary? How to improve Vocabulary?

ANS- **The noun *vocabulary* (or *vocab* for short) refers to the words used in a language.**

- The word *vocabulary* can have at least three different meanings:

1. all of the words in a language

- New words are constantly being added to the *vocabulary of English*.

2. the words used in a particular context

- If you want to do an MBA you need to improve your *business vocabulary*.
- My neighbour is a doctor so he has an extensive *medical vocabulary*.
- I've just bought a book on the *vocabulary of slang*.

3. the words an individual person knows

- The teacher says that *my vocabulary* is good.

Steps to Improve -

- **Develop a reading habit.**

Vocabulary building is easiest when you encounter words in context. Seeing words appear in a novel or a newspaper article can be far more helpful than seeing them appear on vocabulary lists. Not only do you gain exposure to unfamiliar words; you also see how they're used.

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- **Use the dictionary and thesaurus.**

Online dictionaries and thesauruses are helpful resources if used properly. They can jog your memory about synonyms that would actually be better words in the context of what you're writing. A full dictionary definition can also educate you about antonyms, root words, and related words, which is another way to learn vocabulary. [Merriam Webster]

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– **Play word games.**

Classic games like Scrabble and Boggle can function as a fun way to expand your English vocabulary. Crossword puzzles can as well. If you really want to be efficient, follow up rounds of these word games with a little note-taking. Keep a list of the different words you learned while playing the game, and then study that list from time to time.

– **Use flashcards.**

A quick way to build a large vocabulary is to study a number of words via flashcards. In today's digital age, a wide array of smartphone apps make flashcards convenient and easy to organize. Aiming for one new word a day is reasonable. You can always go for more, but it may not be reasonable to assimilate dozens of English words every single day.

– **Subscribe to “word of the day” feeds.**

Some web platforms will provide you with a word a day—either on a website, an app, or via email—to help you expand your vocabulary. You can add these words to running word lists.

– **Use mnemonics.**

A mnemonic device is a form of word association that helps you remember words' definitions and proper uses. For instance think of the word *obsequious* which means “attempting to win favor

from influential people by flattery.” Break down that word into components: “obse” is the beginning of “obsessed,” “qui” sounds like the French word for “yes” (oui), and “us” is like the word “us.” So you can think of that big word *obsequious* as “obsessed with saying yes to us”—which is kind of what it means!

– **Practice using new words in conversation.**

It’s possible to amass a huge vocabulary without actually knowing how to use words. This means you have to take it upon yourself to put your personal dictionary into use. If you come across an interesting word in your reading, make a point of using it in conversation. By experimenting in low-stakes situations, you can practice the art of word choice and, with a little bit of trial and error, hone in on the right word for a particular context.

Q.10 Differentiate between Synonyms and Antonyms.

ANS-

SYNONYMS VERSUS ANTONYMS

SYNONYMS

Synonyms are words with similar meanings

Examples: begin - start,
new – novel, help – assist,
silent – quiet, and
slim – thin

Not usually formed by
adding prefixes

ANTONYMS

Antonyms are words with
opposite meanings

Examples: honest -
dishonest, begin -finish,
new- old, quiet-loud,
and thin -fat

Some antonyms are formed
by adding a prefix

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