

**MARUTHI SCHOOL OF BANKING (MSB)**  
**GENERAL ENGLISH (Vocabulary - I)**

1. **Flinch** – make a quick, nervous movement of the face or body as an instinctive reaction to fear or pain.
  - **Synonyms:** cringe, squirm, quiver
  - **Antonyms:** stand firm
  - **Usage:** How is it that she didn't flinch when they were weeping, literally at her feet in the court?"
2. **Dote** – extremely and uncritically fond of someone.
  - **Synonyms:** idolize, treasure, cherish, adoring
  - **Antonyms:** hate, neglect, stony
  - **Usage:** How can a girl with doting parents, and who used to sit in temple and sing kirtan to Sai Baba daily with her father, do that?
3. **Admonish** – reprimand firmly.
  - **Synonyms:** rebuke, scold, reprove, criticise
  - **Antonyms:** praise
  - **Usage:** Jinnah admonished his daughter after her marriage to Parsi businessman.
4. **Precipitous** – dangerously high or steep.
  - **Synonyms:** abrupt, sharp, sudden
  - **Antonyms:** coarse, circumspect, smooth, cautious
  - **Usage:** The data needs to be parsed to see if the precipitous fall this year is a result of the larger crisis in agriculture or the blow to women's finances from demonetisation.
5. **Immaculate** – perfectly clean, neat, or tidy.
  - **Synonyms:** clean, spotless, pristine, unsoiled, unstained, unsullied
  - **Antonyms:** dirty, grubby, bad, damaged
  - **Usage:** His planning of the murderous assault on Pallavi inside her own flat in pursuit of lust was so immaculate that it convinced the sessions judge into awarding him life imprisonment.
6. **Connivance** – willingness to allow or be secretly involved in an immoral or illegal act.
  - **Synonyms:** collusion, complicity, collaboration, involvement, assistance, abetting
  - **Antonyms:** collusion, conspiracy, scheme, complicity
  - **Usage:** When such dreaded criminals escape, with the connivance of the very officials tasked to guard them, the trust and the faith of society in the government machinery collapses.
7. **Sterling** – excellent or valuable.
  - **Synonyms:** exceptional, outstanding, splendid
  - **Antonyms:** poor, unexceptional
  - **Usage:** These are the sterling qualities of which heroes are made of.
8. **Cognisance** – knowledge or awareness; the action of taking judicial notice.
  - **Synonyms:** consciousness, apprehension, perception, realisation, recognition
  - **Antonyms:** faint, insentience, unconsciousness
  - **Usage:** I hope this factor gets due cognisance during the hearing of the appeal petition for death penalty.
9. **Wobbly** – tending to move unsteadily from side to side.
  - **Synonyms:** unsteady, unstable, shaky
  - **Antonyms:** stable, steady
  - **Usage:** "A wobbly presidency"

10. **Acquiesce** – accept something reluctantly but without protest.
- **Synonyms:** accede, comply, concur
  - **Antonyms:** dissent, resist, differ, conflict, dispute
  - **Usage:** Sara acquiesced in his decision.
11. **Doyen** – the most respected or prominent person in a particular field.
- **Synonyms:** dean, elder, senior, expert, leader
  - **Antonyms:** disorganized person
  - **Usage:** He became the doyen of British physicists.
12. **Hobble** – walk in an awkward way, typically because of pain from an injury.
- **Synonyms:** shuffle, shamble, falter
  - **Antonyms:** stride
  - **Usage:** He was hobbling around on crutches.
13. **Obdurate** – stubbornly refusing to change one’s opinion or course of action.
- **Synonyms:** hardened, impertinent, unrepentant, unyielding, recalcitrant
  - **Antonyms:** amenable, submissive, warmhearted, yielding, compliant
  - **Usage:** I argued this point with him, but he was obdurate
14. **Spree** – a spell or sustained period of unrestrained activity of a particular kind.
- **Synonyms:** unrestrained bout, orgy
  - **Antonyms:** thriftiness, care
  - **Usage:** He went on a six-month crime spree.
15. **Trope** – a figurative or metaphorical use of a word or expression.
- **Synonyms:** personification, irony, simile, metaphor
  - **Usage:** Both clothes and illness became tropes for new attitudes toward the self.
16. **Imbroglia** – an extremely confused, complicated, or embarrassing situation.
- **Synonyms:** complexity, problem, difficulty, predicament, plight, trouble, entanglement, confusion
  - **Antonyms:** agreement, clarification, disentangle, structure
  - **Usage:** The abdication imbroglia of 1936.
17. **Dubious** – hesitating or doubting.
- **Synonyms:** uncertain, unsure, undecided, unsettled
  - **Antonyms:** certain, definite, trustworthy, decisive, clear
  - **Usage:** I was rather dubious about the whole idea.
18. **Spook** – frighten; unnerve.
- **Synonyms:** alarm, apparition, wraith, spirit, phantom
  - **Antonyms:** comfort, calm, delight
  - **Usage:** They spooked a couple of grizzly bears.
19. **Myriad** – a countless or extremely great number of people or things.
- **Synonyms:** multitude, mass, crowd, throng, host
  - **Antonyms:** calculable, sole, finite, countable, numerable
  - **Usage:** Myriads of insects danced around the light above my head..
20. **Erudite** – having or showing great knowledge or learning.
- **Synonyms:** learned, scholarly, knowledgeable, cultured
  - **Antonyms:** ignorant, ill-educated
  - **Usage:** He could turn any conversation into an erudite discussion.
21. **Expunge** – obliterate or remove completely.
- **Synonyms:** erase, efface, annul, destroy
  - **Antonyms:** create, construct, make, fabricate

- **Usage:** It is created in order to expunge fake elements that promote murder and terrorism.
22. **Augur** – portend a good or bad outcome.
- **Synonyms:** foretell, predict, bode
  - **Antonyms:** contraindicate, fair
  - **Usage:** These developments augur well for West Asia.
23. **Eschew** – avoid
- **Synonyms:** Abstain, shun, relinquish, reject
  - **Antonyms:** embrace, intervene, confront, adopt
  - **Usage:** It does not appear to acknowledge the historical ties that eschews diversity and differences.
24. **Felicitate** – honour
- **Synonyms:** compliment, praise, laud, congratulate
  - **Antonyms:** condemn, censure, criticize, disapprove
  - **Usage:** It remains to be seen if the Saudi regime will continue to fund and support its version of immoderate Islam by felicitating figures like Zakir Naik.
25. **Evangelism** – zealous advocacy or support of a particular cause.
- **Synonyms:** Propaganda, teaching, preaching, crusade
  - **Usage:** It cannot lay the blame for its own evangelism and conservatism at Iran’s door.
26. **Quip** – a witty remark.
- **Synonyms:** Repartee, jest, pun, sally
  - **Antonyms:** misunderstanding, misinterpretation
  - **Usage:** Peter ate heartily with a quip about being a condemned man.
27. **Detonate** – explode or cause to explode.
- **Synonyms:** Shatter, erupt, ignite
  - **Antonyms:** dismantle, deactivate, compress, remove, counteract
  - **Usage:** A car bomb was detonated at a mosque in Kabul.
28. **Fret** – be constantly or visibly anxious.
- **Synonyms:** worry, anxious, distressed
  - **Antonyms:** comfort
  - **Usage:** She fretted about the cost of groceries.
29. **Galvanise** – shock or excite (someone) into taking action.
- **Synonyms:** Jolt, shock, startle, impel, stir
  - **Antonyms:** demotivate
  - **Usage:** The urgency of his voice galvanized them into action.
30. **Rapturous** – characterized by, feeling, or expressing great pleasure or enthusiasm.
- **Synonyms:** ecstatic, joyful, joyous, elated, euphoric
  - **Antonyms:** bored, indifferent
  - **Usage:** He was greeted with rapturous applause.
31. **Profuse** – to a great degree; in large amounts.
- **Synonyms:** copious, prolific, abundant, ample, extravagant, lavish
  - **Antonyms:** scarce, frugal, meager, inadequate
  - **Usage:** My palms are sweating profusely.
32. **Searing** – extremely hot or intense; severely critical.
- **Synonyms:** scorching, blistering, fierce, savage
  - **Antonyms:** chilly, cool, frigid, snappy
  - **Usage:** In the US, political satire on traditional TV offers a searing commentary on President Donald Trump and his regime.

33. **Renegé** – go back on a promise, undertaking, or contract.
- **Synonyms:** repudiate, retract
  - **Antonyms:** keep, honour
  - **Usage:** The government has reneged on its election promises.
34. **Proclivity** – an inclination or predisposition towards a particular thing.
- **Synonyms:** liking, propensity, bias, penchant
  - **Antonyms:** disinclination, repulsion, aversion, dislike
  - **Usage:** The proclivity of TV channels to practise self-censorship points towards a deeper malaise in the broadcast industry.
35. **Deferential** – showing deference; respectful.
- **Synonyms:** obsequious, humble, considerate, courteous, polite
  - **Antonyms:** arrogant, impolite
  - **Usage:** Much of television news has become increasingly deferential to authority.
36. **Insatiable** – impossible to satisfy.
- **Synonyms:** unquenchable, unappeasable, uncontrollable, voracious
  - **Antonyms:** appeasable, extinguishable, satiable, satisfiable
  - **Usage:** These days social media, web portals, Hotstar, Netflix etc are meeting the insatiable demand for more engaging information and entertainment.
37. **Adroit** – clever or skilful.
- **Synonyms:** Adept, able, expert
  - **Antonyms:** clumsy, incompetent
  - **Usage:** He minted millions by adroitly exploiting the nexus of corrupt politicians.
38. **Disparage** – regard or represent as being of little worth.
- **Synonyms:** belittle, denigrate, deprecate
  - **Antonyms:** praise, overrate, complimentary
  - **Usage:** They propose that any speech that is disparaging, offensive, indecent, abusive, hate, gravely threatening — and so interpreted — be criminalised.
39. **Pernicious** – having a harmful effect, especially in a gradual or subtle way.
- **Synonyms:** harmful, damaging, destructive, injurious, hurtful
  - **Antonyms:** beneficial, benign, favourable
  - **Usage:** Who can save Europe from this fatal fragmentation, this pernicious, creeping dissolution of its ideological, democratic and territorial unity?
40. **Astute** – having or showing an ability to accurately assess situations or people.
- **Synonyms:** shrewd, sharp, sharp-witted, brilliant, smart, canny
  - **Antonyms:** stupid
  - **Usage:** Section 66A of the IT Act may have been struck down in the Shreya case but this is its new, more astute avatar with a better operating legal-ware.
41. **Clamour** – a loud and confused noise.
- **Synonyms:** din, racket, loud, noise, uproar, tumult
  - **Antonyms:** silence
  - **Usage:** The apex court order seemed to become part of a rising clamour that sought to label citizens as “nationalist” or “anti-national”.
42. **Rendition** – a performance or interpretation, especially of a dramatic role or piece of music.
- **Synonyms:** portrayal, representation, execution, presentation
  - **Antonyms:** counter, resist, obscurity
  - **Usage:** She took this rare ability to strike the chord of human experience in her renditions of devotional music.

43. **Infamy** – the state of being well known for some bad quality or deed.
- **Synonyms:** notoriety, disrepute, disgrace, dishonour, ignominy, censure, disapprobation, contempt
  - **Antonyms:** honour, anonymity, virtue
  - **Usage:** It gained infamy, though unfairly.
44. **Slumber** – sleep.
- **Synonyms:** sleep, nap, doze, rest, siesta, drowse
  - **Antonyms:** wake, act, action, arouse
  - **Usage:** This was a time when Kerala woke up from the idealist slumber of the previous two decades to a crisis ridden economy.
45. **Rumble** – utter in a deep, resonant voice.
- **Synonyms:** boom, thunder, roll, roar, resound, echo, grumble
  - **Usage:** His films had a politics that revealed the rumble in the underbelly of Kerala society and its suppressed violence.
46. **Conjecture** – an opinion or conclusion formed on the basis of incomplete information.
- **Synonyms:** guess, speculation, surmise, suspicion, presumption, assumption, theory, hypothesis
  - **Antonyms:** fact, interpret, reality, certainty, calculate
  - **Usage:** Conjectural of sorts, he would flash a gun in one hand and sword in the other.
47. **Bridle** – the headgear used to control a horse.
- **Synonyms:** curb, restrain, leash, repress
  - **Antonyms:** release, incite, liberate
  - **Usage:** When both hands are armed, what body part held the bridle?
48. **Shroud** – a thing that envelops or obscures something.
- **Synonyms:** Cover, mask, veil, layer, envelope
  - **Antonyms:** expose, uncloak, divulge, unveil, bare, declare
  - **Usage:** Black dust shrouds state.
49. **Euphemism** – a mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing.
- **Synonyms:** Substitute, understatement
  - **Antonyms:** dysphemism
  - **Usage:** We should not be looking for more land to create a new landfill which in India is a euphemism for a dumping site.
50. **Diligent** – having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties.
- **Synonyms:** industrious, hard-working, assiduous
  - **Antonyms:** lazy, casual
  - **Usage:** We only need a diligent search for least cost technical solutions.
51. **Rhetoric** – the art of effective or persuasive speaking or writing.
- **Synonyms:** oratory, eloquence, delivery, diction, magniloquence, bragging
  - **Antonyms:** Shy, quiet, conciseness
  - **Usage:** It is possible that the PM's speech in Vadodara is only campaign rhetoric in a poll bound state.
52. **Zap** – destroy or obliterate
- **Synonyms:** Kill, dispatch, erase
  - **Antonyms:** Fill, begin, create, initiate
  - **Usage:** Many people are zapped by the controversy whipped up by the BJP's Tamil Nadu leaders.



53. **Paradigm** – a typical example or pattern of something; a pattern or model.
- **Synonyms:** Model, pattern, example
  - **Antonyms:** Atypical, antithesis, flashback
  - **Usage:** Policy makers have to become a conversation between the state and the citizen for such a paradigm to work.
54. **Deride** – express contempt for.
- **Synonyms:** ridicule, mock, pillory
  - **Antonyms:** respect, praise
  - **Usage:** In the past, many BJP politicians have derided the Mughals as ‘foreign invaders’ and promised to change Indian history.
55. **Blot** – damage the good character or reputation of.
- **Synonyms:** tarnish, taint, stain, blacken, sully, smear, mar, dishonour
  - **Antonyms:** Dignity, beautify, grace, honour
  - **Usage:** Rajasthan has been blotting it’s copybook quite literally.
56. **Vandalism** – action involving deliberate destruction of or damage to public or private property.
- **Synonyms:** Destruction, barbarism, sabotage
  - **Antonyms:** Safeguarding, support, constructiveness
  - **Usage:** Vandalism at the Jaipur art summit left an exhibitor injured.
57. **Opprobrium** – Harsh criticism or censure.
- **Synonyms:** vilification, abuse, vituperation, condemnation, criticism, censure, castigation
  - **Antonyms:** Pride, dignity, honour, fame
  - **Usage:** A state which has gained notoriety for failing to respond to serious social and political problems may not desire the opprobrium which must follow.
58. **Behove** – It is a duty or responsibility for someone to do something.
- **Synonyms:** be incumbent on, be obligatory for, be required of, be appropriate for, be expected of
  - **Usage:** Nothing less will behove a government ostensibly keen on bringing down the edifice of corruption.
59. **Ostensibly** – As appears or is stated to be true, though not necessarily so; apparently.
- **Synonyms:** outwardly, superficially, allegedly, professedly, supposedly, purportedly
  - **Antonyms:** genuinely, really, truly
  - **Usage:** Nothing less will behove a government ostensibly keen on bringing down the edifice of corruption.
60. **Edifice** – A complex system of beliefs.
- **Synonyms:** building, structure, construction, erection, pile, complex, assembly
  - **Antonyms:** Erosion, demolition, eject, destructive
  - **Usage:** Nothing less will behove a government ostensibly keen on bringing down the edifice of corruption.
61. **Staid** – Serious, organized and professional.
- **Synonyms:** sedate, composed, solemn, steady, calm
  - **Antonyms:** frivolous, funny, capricious, foolish
  - **Usage:** For usually staid Japan, the last few weeks have been politically rambunctious. been
62. **Rambunctious** – Energetic, noisy, boisterous and difficult to control.
- **Synonyms:** unruly, wild, rough
  - **Antonyms:** calm, introverted, shy, orderly, quiet
  - **Usage:** For usually staid Japan, the last few weeks have been politically rambunctious.

63. **Gauntlet** – To challenge someone
- **Synonyms:** armour, dare, mitten
  - **Antonyms:** negotiation
  - **Usage:** But what explains Mr. Abe’s choice of timing in throwing down the electoral gauntlet so early in the parliament’s term?
64. **Cobble** – Roughly assemble or produce something from available parts.
- **Synonyms:** patch, mend, repair
  - **Antonyms:** dislodge, blighted
  - **Usage:** Her party of Hope has only been able to cobble together candidates to contest 235 seats.
65. **Cannibalise** – To make use of
- **Synonyms:** consume, employ, use, utilise
  - **Usage:** She essentially cannibalises from a shared ideological space with another party.
66. **Rudderless** – Without guidance.
- **Synonyms:** afloat, aimless, directionless
  - **Antonyms:** purposeful, aground, guided
  - **Usage:** This has left the new party rudderless.
67. **Straddle** – Extend across or to be situated on both sides of.
- **Synonyms:** bestride, span, range, mount
  - **Antonyms:** side, border, rim, incline, verge
  - **Usage:** Turkey straddles Asia and Europe.
68. **Orgy** – Excessive indulgence in a specified activity.
- **Synonyms:** spree, debauch, rampage, excess
  - **Antonyms:** abstinence, celibacy, diet, purge
  - **Usage:** She has an orgy of buying exotic things.
69. **Limbo** – State or condition of neglect or oblivion which results in an unresolved status or delay.
- **Synonyms:** oblivion, abyss, inferno, nullity, obscurity
  - **Antonyms:** surety, security, resurrection, fact, assurance
  - **Usage:** The legal battle could leave the club in limbo until next year.
70. **Suffrage** – The right or chance to vote.
- **Synonyms:** vote, ballot, franchise, election, poll
  - **Antonyms:** tyranny, censorship, abstain, devoice
  - **Usage:** when you cast your vote, you exercise your privilege of suffrage.
71. **Heckle** – To question harshly.
- **Synonyms:** Harass, bother, torment, annoy
  - **Antonyms:** Support, encourage, promote, applaud
  - **Usage:** She was forced to leave the village after being heckled by some locals.
72. **Disdain** – A feeling of contempt or scorn.
- **Synonyms:** Despise, sneer, neglect, disparage
  - **Antonyms:** Respect, sympathy, esteem, regard
  - **Usage:** The scheme’s worst flaw is it’s disdain for hungry children.
73. **Convolutd** – Complex, intricate or complicated.
- **Synonyms:** confused, bewildering, baffling, puzzling, perplexing
  - **Antonyms:** simple, straightforward
  - **Usage:** Indian bureaucrats love programmes of this kind because they are centralised, convoluted and leaky.
74. **Sneer** – To utter with a grimace or contemptuous expression.

- **Synonyms:** smirk, snicker, snigger, disdain, jibe, taunt, insult
  - **Antonyms:** Praise, compliment, respect
  - **Usage:** Modi openly expressed his contempt for MGNREGA but then proceeded to increase it's budget while congress leaders sneered from the sidelines.
75. **Exalt** – To hold in high esteem.
- **Synonyms:** glorify, extol, praise, acclaim, elevate, promote, raise
  - **Antonyms:** Decry, condemn, degrade, criticise, denounce, castigate
  - **Usage:** In the exalted realms we inhabit, we like to ponder over bigger issues of politics and governance.
76. **Subvert** – To overthrow or to ruin utterly.
- **Synonyms:** destabilize, unsettle, overthrow, overturn
  - **Antonyms:** Uphold, bolster, enhance, ameliorate, comply, obey
  - **Usage:** The Trump administration is determined to subvert it as part of its war on women's reproductive rights.
77. **Brazen** – Shamelessly shocking and offensive.
- **Synonyms:** impudent, barefaced, immodest, unblushing, bold
  - **Antonyms:** Shy, timid, gentle, meek
  - **Usage:** This argument is as weak as it is ideologically brazen.
78. **Precinct** – An enclosed space having defined limits, normally marked by walls.
- **Synonyms:** Boundary, limits, enclosure, close
  - **Antonyms:** Environment, rural, varnish, wilderness, verge
  - **Usage:** The crime is on rise in the north of city because there are no police to protect the precinct.
79. **Lurid** – Presented in vividly shocking or sensational terms.
- **Synonyms:** melodramatic, exaggerated, overdramatized, extravagant
  - **Antonyms:** Humble, modest, dull, clean, mild, sanguine
  - **Usage:** The more lurid details of the massacre were too frightening for the children.
80. **Acidulous** – slightly sour
- **Synonyms:** Acidic, sharp, sarcastic, acrimonious
  - **Antonyms:** Sweet, kind, nice, gentle, luscious, affable
  - **Usage:** Because the salesclerk spoke to me in an acidulous tone, I chose to take my business elsewhere.
81. **Audacious** – Showing willingness to take bold risks.
- **Synonyms:** bold, daring, temeritous, temerarious
  - **Antonyms:** shy, cautious, prudent
  - **Usage:** The murders were barbaric, audacious and riveting.
82. **Riveting** – Commanding the attention of spectators.
- **Synonyms:** fascinating, interesting, captivating, enthralling, intriguing
  - **Antonyms:** boring, tedious, annoying, deadening, irksome, arid, dull
  - **Usage:** The murders were barbaric, audacious and riveting.
83. **Cassandra** – A person who makes dire predictions.
- **Synonyms:** doomsayer, pessimist, cynic, alarmist, malcontent
  - **Usage:** Ignore the Cassandras.
84. **Blip** – A brief and usually minor aberration or deviation from what is expected or normal.
- **Synonyms:** glitch, spot, expurgate, censor
  - **Antonyms:** unfeeling, bathe, examine, perform
  - **Usage:** The dip in India's economic growth is a tempo blip.



85. **Eschew** – To avoid
- **Synonyms:** avoid, shun, evade, elude, abstain, renounce, refrain, sacrifice, deny
  - **Antonyms:** embrace, pursue, intervene, confront, adopt, accept, deliver, admit
  - **Usage:** Eschewing such a debate would be harmful in long run.
86. **Mayhem** – A state or situation of great confusion
- **Synonyms:** havoc, chaos, disorder, confusion, violence, rumpus, maim, disruption, damage, unrest
  - **Antonyms:** hierarchy, calm, harmony, peace, accordance, integrity, cure, civilisation
  - **Usage:** It led to the partition of the Subcontinent amidst murders and mayhem.
87. **Fraught** – Marked by or causing distress
- **Synonyms:** anxious, tense, loaded, creepy, diligent, upsetting, stressful, traumatic
  - **Antonyms:** devoid, destitute, calm, tranquil, comfortable
  - **Usage:** The politicians refuse to recognise that the willful rewriting of history to further sectarian interests is political fraught.
88. **Lumber** – To move clumsily.
- **Synonyms:** plod, shamle, stump, flounder
  - **Antonyms:** stream, glide, relieve, sustain, absolve
  - **Usage:** A man was found lumbering into a tattoo studio.
89. **Quail** – To lose heart or courage
- **Synonyms:** shrink, flinch, tremble, shy, cower, eringe
  - **Antonyms:** calm, steady, face, meet
  - **Usage:** The cowardly lion was afraid that he would quail in the face of danger.
90. **Quandary** – A state of not knowing what to decide
- **Synonyms:** dilemma, perplexity, uncertainty, predicament, difficulty, problem
  - **Antonyms:** solution, certainty, advantage, anticipate, clarification
  - **Usage:** She was in a quandary.
91. **Modicum** – limited quantity
- **Synonyms:** iota, particle, speck, fragment, scrap, crumb, grain
  - **Antonyms:** abundance, surplus, barrel, multitude, cascade
  - **Usage:** Post 2014, the BJP Gujarat state unit regained a modicum of autonomy.
92. **Interminable** – Existing or occurring without interruption or end.
- **Synonyms:** endless, never-ending, unending, everlasting, ceaseless, unceasing, incessant, constant
  - **Antonyms:** finite, brief, short, concise, bounded, intermittent, circumscribe
  - **Usage:** This case absorbed the nation quite interminably.
93. **Splinter** – A group formed by splitting off from a larger membership; a faction.
- **Synonyms:** fragment, shatter, fracture, break, smash, split, disintegrate
  - **Antonyms:** mend, whole, activate, homogenize, fix
  - **Usage:** A splinter group held power in a minority government supported by Congress.
94. **Dereliction** – willful neglect of one's duty.
- **Synonyms:** failure, negligence, delinquency, omission, abandonment, oversight
  - **Antonyms:** fulfillment, caution, observance, attentiveness
  - **Usage:** The new soldier did not clean his cabin and was scolded for dereliction and disobedience.
95. **Conjecture** – A supposition based upon incomplete evidence; a hypothesis.
- **Synonyms:** guess, speculation, surmise, fancy, notion, belief, suspicion, presumption,
  - **Antonyms:** fact, interpret, certainty, computation, criterion

- **Usage:** Facts went unrecorded and were replaced by conjecture with alarming rapidity.
- 96. **Parable** – A short narrative illustrating a lesson by comparison or analogy.
  - **Synonyms:** fable, allegory, anecdote, narrative, exemplum
  - **Antonyms:** factual
  - **Usage:** The Aarushi murder case became a parable of modern life in India.
- 97. **Palimpsest** – A thing which displays evidence of the alteration it has experienced
  - **Synonyms:** manuscript, environment, circumstance, climate, certificate
  - **Usage:** While the tradition has changed over time, it is still a palimpsest of our family's history.
- 98. **Bungle** – A botched or incompetently handled situation.
  - **Synonyms:** mishandle, mismanage, botch, spoil, mar, ruin
  - **Antonyms:** succeed in, manage successfully
  - **Usage:** The only known perpetrator is a bungled investigation in Aarushi murder case.
- 99. **Shackle** – A restraint on one's action, activity, or progress.
  - **Synonyms:** manacle, fetter, trammel, restrain, confine, restrict
  - **Antonyms:** unloose, cultivate, encourage
  - **Usage:** It is an opportunity to break the shackles of patriarchy.
- 100. **Anchorage** – Something on which one may depend for security; ground of trust.
  - **Usage:** Strong local anchorage, deep ties with local business community have always been the strengths of BJP.

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