

Rainbow of hope: On Tamil Nadu's glossary of terms to address LGBTQIA+ community

A glossary is **in place**, but LGBTQIA+ community need more than words to live with **dignity**

Struggling with gender identity, and fighting against **stigma**, **prejudice** and discrimination, the LGBTQIA+ **community**, in Tamil Nadu at least, **will** not be **derided** by **slurs** or **mocking** half-names anymore. **The T.N. government**, on the orders of the Madras High Court, **has** come out with a glossary of terms to address people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, **queer**, intersex, asexual or of any other **orientation**. The Department of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment notified the terms — paal pudhumaiyar for queer; maruviya paalinam for a transgender; idaippaal for intersex; paalina adaiyaalungaludan oththupogaathavar for a **gender non-conforming** person and **so forth**. Not everyone is happy; some groups feel **the word** for transgender **should** be the one in use, thirunar; others hope the **nomenclature will** not **rid** those who fall outside the **generalisation** of the benefits. For this **diverse** community, the **road** from **isolation** to **belonging** **has** been **fraught** with **bias** and violence, it was a wrong **Justice N. Anand Venkatesh** of the Madras High Court **sought** to **amend** in his June 7, 2021 **verdict**. While **hearing**, in April, the **ordeal** of a same-sex couple who sought police protection from **combative** parents, Justice Venkatesh **admitted** that he had to **shed** his own misconceptions before **ruling** on the case. The High Court came out with a **slew** of guidelines for the police, and social welfare ministries, both State and Centre, to **ensure** the safety of the community.

In February, the High Court **pulled up** the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for **dragging its feet on** listing names of NGOs working for the community. In a June 2021 order, the High Court had **acknowledged** that **social sanction** is of **paramount** importance to lead a life of choice. In 2018, a Bench of the Supreme Court had **overturned** a 2013 ruling and **decriminalised** homosexuality. But the **landmark** judgment was only a first step. An **individual** wanting to live with dignity, no matter how she wants to be identified, still **has** many **mountains to climb** before enjoying **liberty**, **autonomy** and privacy guaranteed by Article 21. The state and society **often mobilise** traditional values to **combat** all sorts of **phobias**, and **the movement** for equal rights in T.N. **should** ensure **children are** not forced to go in for conversion therapy or thrown out of their homes for being different. Rights **activists** hope the glossary is **fluid** because the **conversation** around gender and sexuality **is evolving**. By creating **inclusiveness** in language for a **marginalised** community, the State has worked on the principle of suyamariyadhai or self-respect, the **cornerstone** of the Dravidian movement. Tamil Nadu has shown the way, but there is **a long way to go** before **people** forced to be in the **shadows** **see** a **rainbow** of hope in all **spheres** of life. [Practice Exercise]

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'

Vocabulary

1. **Glossary** (noun) – an alphabetical list, with meanings, of the words or phrases in a text that are difficult to understand शब्दकोष
2. **Address** (verb) – talk to, give a talk to, give an address to, speak to संबोधित करना
3. **In place** (phrase) – working or ready to work; established. स्थापित
4. **Dignity** (noun) – self-esteem, self-worth, self-respect, pride, morale गरिमा, गौरव
5. **Stigma** (noun) – shame, disgrace, dishonour कलंक, लांछन
6. **Prejudice** (noun) – preconceived idea, preconception; bigotry, bias, partisanship पक्षपात; पूर्वधारणा
7. **Deride** (verb) – ridicule, mock, jeer at, scoff at, jibe at, make fun of, मज़ाक उड़ाना
8. **Slur** (noun) – A derogatory or insulting term applied to particular group of people. अपमानजनक शब्द
9. **Mocking** (adjective) – making fun of someone or something in a cruel way; derisive. मजाकिया
10. **Queer** (noun) – (of a person) homosexual.
11. **Orientation** (noun) – the fact of being heterosexual, homosexual, etc.
12. **Gender non-conforming** (adjective) – behavior or gender expression by an individual that does not match masculine or feminine gender norms.
13. **So forth** (phrase) – and so on इत्यादि
14. **Nomenclature** (noun) – The term or terms applied to someone or something; terms, expressions, words शब्दावली
15. **Rid** (verb) – Make someone or something free of (an unwanted person or thing) छुटकारा पाना, मुक्त करना
16. **Generalisation** (noun) – A general statement or concept obtained by inference from specific cases. सामान्यीकरण
17. **Diverse** (adjective) – various, varied, varying, miscellaneous विविध
18. **Isolation** (noun) – separation, segregation, setting apart, keeping apart अलगाव
19. **Belonging** (noun) – affiliation, acceptance, association, attachment, connection संबंधन
20. **Fraught** (with) (adjective) – full of, filled with, swarming with, rife with भरा हुआ
21. **Bias** (noun) – prejudice, partiality, partisanship, favouritism, unfairness पक्षपात

22. **Seek** (verb) – try, attempt, endeavour; ask for, request, solicit, call on प्रयास करना; मांगना
23. **Amend** (verb) – revise, alter, change, modify, qualify संशोधन करना
24. **Verdict** (noun) – judgement, adjudication, adjudgement, decision निर्णय
25. **Hearing** (noun) – trial, court case, inquiry, legal proceedings सुनवाई
26. **Ordeal** (noun) – painful experience, unpleasant experience, trial, tribulation दर्दनाक अनुभव
27. **Combative** (adjective) – pugnacious, aggressive, antagonistic, quarrelsome, झगड़ालू
28. **Admit** (verb) – concede, accept, accede, grant, agree स्वीकार करना
29. **Shed** (verb) – discard, get rid of, dispose of, do away with, drop, abandon अलग करना
30. **Ruling** (noun) – decision, pronouncement, resolution, decree, determination निर्णय
31. **Slew** (noun) – large number, lot, बहुत,
32. **Ensure** (verb) – make sure, make certain, see to it सुनिश्चित करना
33. **Pull up** (phrasal verb) – reprimand, rebuke, scold, chide, chastise, upbraid, डांटना, फटकारना
34. **Drag one's feet on** (phrase) – to act with deliberate slowness जानबूझकर धीमी गति से कार्य करना
35. **Acknowledge** (verb) – admit, accept, grant, allow, concede, confess स्वीकार करना
36. **Social sanction** (noun) – a social reaction of approval or disapproval in response to someone's actions
37. **Paramount** (adjective) – most important, of greatest importance, of prime importance सर्वोच्च
38. **Overturn** (verb) – cancel, reverse, rescind, repeal, revoke, retract, उलटना
39. **Decriminalise** (verb) – make legal, decriminalize, legitimize अपराध की श्रेणी से बाहर करना
40. **Landmark** (adjective) – historic, milestone, momentous, breakthrough, significant ऐतिहासिक
41. **Mountain to climb** (phrase) – A very difficult task or challenge मुश्किल कार्य
42. **Liberty** (noun) – freedom, independence, free rein, freeness स्वतंत्रता
43. **Autonomy** (noun) – sovereignty, self-determination, freedom स्वायत्तता
44. **Often** (adverb) – frequently, many times अक्सर

45. **Mobilise** (verb) – arouse, generate, induce, cause, resort to जुटाना
46. **Combat** (verb) – fight, battle against, do battle with, wage war against, लड़ना
47. **Phobia** (noun) – abnormal fear, irrational fear, obsessive fear, fear भय, डर
48. **Activist** (noun) – campaigner, reformer, demonstrator कार्यकर्ता
49. **Fluid** (adjective) – Not settled or stable; likely or able to change.
50. **Evolve** (verb) – develop, progress, make progress, advance विकसित होना
51. **Inclusiveness** (noun) – The quality of covering or dealing with a range of subjects or areas. समग्रता
52. **Marginalised** (adjective) – (of a person, group, or concept) treated as insignificant or peripheral.
53. **Cornerstone** (noun) – foundation, basis, keystone, mainspring, mainstay आधारशिला
54. **A long way to go** (phrase) – much more to do
55. **Shadow** (noun) – threat, gloom, gloominess, blight
56. **Rainbow** (noun) – a wide range of something
57. **Sphere** (noun) – domain, realm, province, field, area of interest क्षेत्र

Practice Exercise

Direction (Q1 – Q3): Select the best express synonym of the given words [Editorial page]

1. the LGBTQIA+ community will not be derided by slurs or mocking half-names anymore
 - A. Chicanery
 - B. Ridicule
 - C. Amiable
 - D. Infamous
2. Justice Venkatesh admitted that he had to shed his own misconceptions before ruling on the case
 - A. Discard
 - B. Anachronism
 - C. Proponent
 - D. Benefactor
3. there is a long way to go before people forced to be in the shadows see a rainbow of hope in all spheres of life
 - A. Decimate
 - B. Contentious
 - C. Distinguish
 - D. Domain

4. Idioms & Phrase

The fact that other currencies too have appreciably lost value against the dollar can only offer cold comfort to India's real economy

- A. Very cold environment
 - B. Ignored or neglected
 - C. Quite limited sympathy, consolation, or encouragement
 - D. When one has had time to consider a situation objectively.
5. Direction: Six statements are given below, which are jumbled in any random order. These statements will form a coherent and meaningful paragraph, when arranged in the correct sequence. Arrange the sentences in the right order and answer the questions that follow.
- The National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) manages to create a buzz in the media; and the ranks of some of these higher education institutions often spring a surprise.**
- P. Of an institute's response to the NIRF's questionnaire.
 - Q. For some, the rankings are at best indicative
 - R. It is a matter of concern that this does not serve the purpose of improving the standards of learning.
 - S. The zeal to tick the right boxes can give results that do not conform to the ground reality,
 - T. While it is laudable that the government is promoting a benchmark mostly based on objective indicators,
 - U. Raising questions about the fairness and reliability of the assessment parameters.
- Which among the following will be the **Fourth** sentence of the paragraph after the rearrangement?

A. T B. U C. S D. R E. P

Direction (Q6 – Q9): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them

6. A. When I went there, Harry was playing a game of chess.
B. He loved her despite himself.
C. You will come to my sister's wedding tomorrow, won't you?
D. Pacific Ocean is the deepest ocean in the world.
E. All are correct
7. A. I am your affectionate son.
B. There is so many filths all around the place.
C. Besides Hindi she knew Bengali well.
D. He walks as if the earth belonged to him.
E. All are correct
8. Children enjoy listening to (A)/ghosts stories (B)/especially on Halloween. (C)/No Error (D)
9. I (A)/ have (B)/ many works to do. (C)/ No Error(D)

10. Find out the misspelt word

- A. Assassinate
- B. Entranced
- C. Mesmarize
- D. Enthralled

Direction: Read the passage given below and answer the following questions.

(The Hindu Editorial: This one for farmers – July 19, 2022)

The numbers are clearly stacked in favour of Jagdeep Dhankhar, the National Democratic Alliance candidate for the office of the Vice-President. The Opposition — 17 parties attended a joint meeting on Sunday — has announced Congress leader Margaret Alva as its candidate.

Mr. Dhankhar, who joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) **(A)** in 2003 after initial stints in the Janata Dal and Congress, have **(B)** remained a loyal soldier of **(C)** the party and its current leadership. **(D)**

Even the office that he currently holds, the Governor of West Bengal, has not come in the way of his party loyalty. He has had continuous public confrontations with the elected government led by the Trinamool Congress's Mamata Banerjee. On many occasions, it appeared that Mr. Dhankhar was playing a _____ **11** _____ role in State politics, in tandem with the BJP. While announcing his candidacy, the BJP has described him as the son of a farmer — a much _____ **12** _____, still potentially labelling that politicians claim. The claim has specific meaning in this context, as Mr. Dhankhar _____ **13** _____ from the Jat community, a landowning dominant caste in parts of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan. **For the Opposition, elections to the posts of President and Vice-President would have been an opportunity to advance its politics. (1)/ On that count, it seemed to have done a poor job. (2)/ A considerable segment of Jats had stayed with the BJP in this year's Assembly election in U.P., and Mr. Dhankhar's elevation will strengthen the BJP's hold over the community,**

particularly in his home State of Rajasthan that goes to polls in 2023. (3)/ The community's stiffresistance was among the reasons that forced the Centre to withdraw the three farm laws in 2021. (4)/ Ms. Alva's entry onto the scene is _____14_____ to move the needle for Opposition politics in any impactful manner. She, like the Opposition candidate for President, Yashwant Sinha, is a forceful speaker but does not mobilise any political constituency. She comes from Karnataka, a State that goes to the polls next year, but there is little that her candidacy will contribute to the Congress in the State or Opposition politics in general at a national level. As it stands, Mr. Dhankhar is all set to become the Vice-President of the country who is also the Chairperson of the RajyaSabha — two offices that require occupants to be unfailinglynon-partisan. They are expected to **innovate (A)** to rules and the **Constitution (B)** on the one hand, and on the other, **adhere (C)** to ensure smooth relations between the **government (D)** and the Opposition. Mr. Dhankhar should strive to build better relations between the Government and the Opposition, and to uphold the honour of the Upper House. There is a transition that he might struggle to an ,given the temperament he has displayed so far , as he steps into a new national role

Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word given in the option (From Q11 – Q14)

11. On many occasions, it appeared that Mr. Dhankhar was playing a _____11_____ role in State politics, in tandem with the BJP.
 - A. Rebuke
 - B. Partisan
 - C. Connoisseur
 - D. Illicit
12. While announcing his candidacy, the BJP has described him as the son of a farmer — a much _____12_____, still potent labelling that politicians claim.
 - A. Edifying
 - B. Aptitude
 - C. Cliched
 - D. Gesticulating
13. The claim has specific meaning in this context, as Mr. Dhankhar _____13_____ from the Jat community, a landowning dominant caste in parts of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan.
 - A. Fastidious
 - B. Hails
 - C. Cacophony
 - D. Disparages
14. Ms. Alva's entry onto the scene is _____14_____ to move the needle for Opposition politics in any impactful manner.
 - A. To be expected
 - B. Apt
 - C. Prone
 - D. Unlikely

15. The following sentence may or may not contain an error in one of its parts. Identify the part containing the error. If the sentence is correct, select 'No error' as your answers.

Mr. Dhankhar, who joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) **(A)**/ in 2003 after initial stints in the Janata Dal and Congress, have **(B)**/ remained a loyal soldier of **(C)**/ the party and its current leadership.**(D)**

- A. (A)
- B. (B)
- C. (C)
- D. (D)
- E. No Error

16. Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.

For the Opposition, elections to the posts of President and Vice-President would have been an opportunity to advance its politics. **(1)**/ On that count, it seemed to have done a poor job. **(2)**/ A considerable segment of Jats had stayed with the BJP in this year's Assembly election in U.P., and Mr. Dhankhar's elevation will strengthen the BJP's hold over the community, particularly in his home State of Rajasthan that goes to polls in 2023. **(3)**/ The community's stiffresistance was among the reasons that forced the Centre to withdraw the three farm laws in 2021. **(4)**/

- A. 1234
- B. 4321
- C. 4312
- D. 3421
- E. 1243

17. Given below is a word, followed by three sentence that consist of that word. Identify the sentence (S) that best express (es) the meaning of the word. Choose option 5 'None of the above' if the word is not suitable in any of the sentence

ELEVATION

- (i) However, it is still unknown if the fly infests mangoes grown at such **elevations**.
 - (ii) He says that no matter how tough these guys appear there often comes a time when they lose **elevation** of their emotions.
 - (iii) His **elevation** to the presidency of the new republic was generally popular.
- A. (i), (ii)
 - B. (ii), (iii)
 - C. (i), (iii)
 - D. Only (i)
 - E. None of the above

18. In the following question, a sentence is given with four words marked as (A), (B), (C), and (D). These words may or may not be placed in the correct order. Four options with different arrangements of these have been provided. Mark the option with the correct arrangement as the answer. If no rearrangement is required, mark option (5) as your answer.

They are expected to **innovate (A)** to rules and the **Constitution (B)** on the one hand, and on the other, **adhere (C)** to ensure smooth relations between the **government (D)** and the Opposition.

- A. D – A
- B. A – C
- C. B – A
- D. D – C
- E. No arrangement

19. Select the connector from the given options which can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences given below, implying the same as expressed in the statement sentence.

- (i) Note that this phenomenon has a purely inertial character; viscous forces cannot prevent it
- (ii) These forces guarantee the space regularity of the solution.
 - A. Whereas
 - B. Although
 - C. Due to
 - D. Unless
 - E. As opposed to

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

Rosalind was enamoured _____ Orlando at first sight.

- A. Of
- B. From
- C. With
- D. To
- E. None of the above

Answers

1. B 2. A 3. D 4. C 5. B 6. D 7. B 8. B 9. C 10. C 11. B 12. C
 13. B 14. D 15. B 16. C 17. C 18. B 19. B 20. C

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

4. **Cold comfort** (phrase) – quite limited sympathy, consolation, or encouragement झूठी तसल्ली
5. **TRSUQP**
 The National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) manages to create a buzz in the media; and the ranks of some of these higher education institutions often spring a surprise. While it is laudable that the government is promoting a benchmark mostly based on objective indicators, it is a matter of concern that this does not serve the purpose of improving the standards of learning. The zeal to tick the right boxes can give results that do not conform to the ground reality, raising questions about the fairness and reliability of the assessment parameters. For some, the rankings are at best indicative of an institute's response to the NIRF's questionnaire.
6. 'Pacific Ocean' के पहले 'The' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि किसी river (नदी), sea (समुद्र), ocean (महासागर) के नाम के पहले ('The' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे-
- The Ganga/The Brahmaputra (नदियों के नाम)
 - The Arabian sea (समुद्र का नाम)
 - The Indian Ocean (महासागर का नाम)
- 'The' will be used before 'Pacific Ocean' because 'The' is used before the name of any river (river), sea (ocean), ocean (ocean); like-
- The Ganga/The Brahmaputra
 - The Arabian sea
 - The Indian Ocean
7. 'many filths' के बदले 'much filth' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'filth' एक Uncountable Noun है, जिसका अर्थ है 'कूड़ा, कचड़ा' और इसकी विशेषता बताने के लिए Numeral Adjective 'many' का नहीं बल्कि Quantitative Adjective 'much' का प्रयोग होगा।
- 'Much filth' will be used instead of 'many filths' because 'filth' is an Uncountable Noun, which means 'garbage, garbage' and to characterize it, not the Numeral Adjective 'many' but the Quantitative Adjective 'much' would be used.
8. 'ghosts stories' के बदले 'ghost stories' का प्रयोग होगा 'ghost story', 'fairy tale', 'love story' Compounds Nouns हैं जिनका Plural इनके root word में बनता है। अर्थात् इनका Plural 'ghost stories', 'fairy tales', 'love stories' होगा।
- 'ghost stories' will be used instead of 'ghost stories', 'ghost story', 'fairy tale', 'love story' are Compounds Nouns whose plural is formed in their root word. That is, their plural will be 'ghost stories', 'fairy tales', 'love stories'.

9. 'many works' के बदले 'much work, a lot of work, lots of work, plenty of work' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'work' का प्रयोग जब 'कार्य' के अर्थ में होता है तो इसे Uncountable Noun माना जाता है। अतः इस अर्थ में न तो इसका Plural बनाया जाता है और न ही इसके पहले 'A/An' का प्रयोग किया जाता है।

- i. I have some work today.
- ii. He has much work today.
- iii. She has a lot of work today.

➤ 'many works' shall be substituted with 'much work, a lot of work, lots of work, plenty of work' because 'work' when used in the sense of 'work' is called Uncountable Noun is believed. Therefore, in this sense neither its plural is made nor 'A/An' is used before it.

- i. I have some work today.
- ii. He has much work today.
- iii. She has a lot of work today.

10. **Mesmerize** (verb) – enchant, bewitch, beguile, enrapture, capture मोहित करना

11. **Partisan** (adjective) – biased, one-sided, prejudiced, partial, unjust, unfair, bigoted पक्षपातपूर्ण

12. **Clichéd** (adjective) – ordinary, humdrum, hackneyed, overworked, stale, stereotypical साधारण

13. **Hail** (verb) – come from, be from, be a native of, live in, originate in से आना

14. **Unlikely** (adjective) – implausible, improbable, dubious, unexpected संभावना नहीं

15. Replace 'have' with 'has' as the subject is singular (i.e. Dhankar)

16. **(C)4312**

A considerable segment of Jats had stayed with the BJP in this year's Assembly election in U.P., and Mr. Dhankhar's elevation will strengthen the BJP's hold over the community, particularly in his home State of Rajasthan that goes to polls in 2023. For the Opposition, elections to the posts of President and Vice-President would have been an opportunity to advance its politics. On that count, it seemed to have done a poor job.

17. **Elevation** (Noun) –

- (1) height above the surface of the earth, or an area that is higher than the surrounding land:
- (2) The action or fact of raising or being raised to a higher or more important level, state, or position.

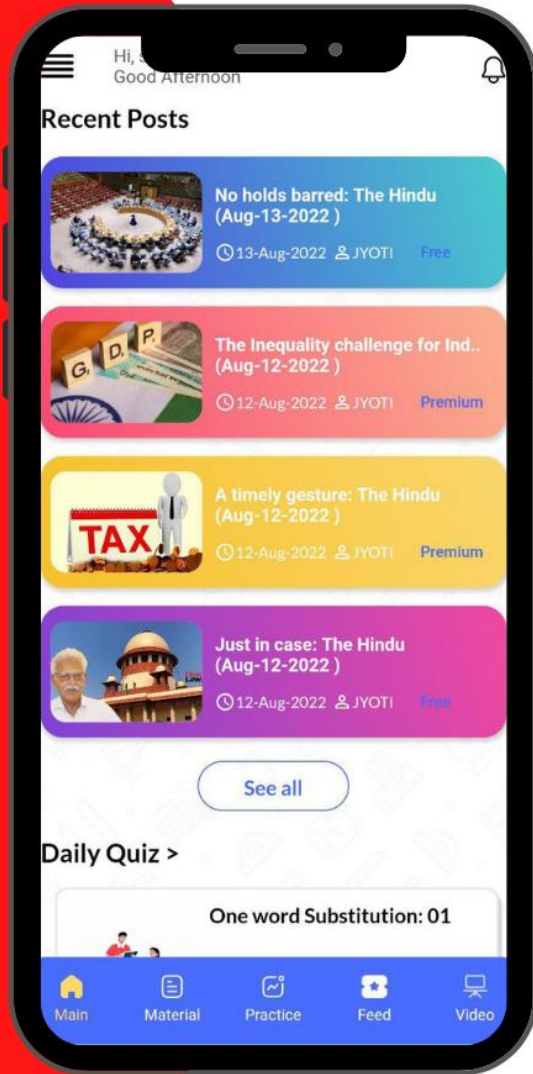
According to the given options only (i) & (iii) are contextually correct.

19. Note that this phenomenon has a purely inertial character; viscous forces cannot prevent it, **although** these forces guarantee the space regularity of the solution.

20. **Enamour** (with) (verb) – Be filled with a feeling of love for.

Explanation of other important words

Sr. NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Chicanery	noun	Trickery; deceitfulness; artifice, especially legal or political	झूठा इलज़ाम
	Amiable	adjective	Friendly; agreeable	सौम्य, सुशील
	Infamous	adjective	Shamefully wicked, having an extremely bad reputation; disgraceful	बदनाम
Q2	Anachronism	noun	Something out of place in time or history; an incongruity	तिथि व समय की अशुद्धता; बेतुकापन
	Proponent	noun	An advocate; a support of a position	समर्थक
	Benefactor	noun	On who provide help, especially in the form of a gift or donation	दान देनेवाला
Q3	Decimate	verb	To kill or destroy a large part of	बरबाद करना
	Contentious	adjective	Argumentative; Quarrelsome	विवादास्पद
	Distinguish	verb	To tell apart; to cause to stand out	अंतर करना, भेद करना
Q11	Rebuke	verb	To criticize sharply	तीखी आलोचना करना
	Connoisseur	noun	An expert, particularly in matters of art or taste	विशेषज्ञ
	Illicit	adjective	Illegal; not permitted	अवैध, अनुचित
Q12	Edify	verb	To enlighten; instruct, especially in moral or religious matter	उपदेश देना
	Aptitude	noun	Capacity for learning; natural ability	योग्यता, कौशल
	Gesticulate	verb	To make gestures, especially when speaking or in place of speaking	इशारा करना
Q13	Fastidious	adjective	Meticulous; demanding; finicky	नकचढ़ा, तुनक मिजाज
	Cacophony	noun	Harsh sounding mixtures of words, voices or sounds	कोलाहल
	Disparage	verb	To belittle; to say uncomplimentary things about, usually in a somewhat indirect way.	नीचा दिखाना, उपेक्षा करना



Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam

