

ENGLISH WORKBOOK

8

For the preparation of National
& International Olympiads



- Chapter-wise practice exercises
- Previous year paper

English Olympiad

Exams Preparation Book

CEO | IEO | UEO | IOEL | UIEO | HEO

Grade 8



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CREST English Olympiad Workbook for Grade 8

Second Edition

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Disclaimer: The information in the Workbook is to give you the path to success but it does not guarantee 100% success as the strategy is completely dependent on its execution. And it is based on previous year papers of CEO exam.

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Preface

We are pleased to launch a thoroughly revised edition of this workbook. We welcome feedback from students, teachers, educators and parents. For improvements in the next edition, please send your suggestions at info@crestolympiads.com.

CREST Olympiads is one of the largest Olympiad Exams with students from more than 25 countries. The objective of these exams is to build competitive spirit while evaluating students on conceptual understanding of the concepts.

We strive to provide a superior learning experience, and this workbook is designed to complement the school studies and prepare the students for various competitive exams including the CREST Olympiads. This workbook provides a crisp summary of the topics followed by the practice questions. These questions encourage the students to think analytically, to be creative and to come up with solutions of their own. There's a previous year paper given at the end of this workbook for the students to attempt after completing the syllabus. This paper should be attempted in 1 hour to get an assessment of the student's preparation for the final exam.

Publishers



Synonyms and Antonyms

Synonyms, Antonyms, Homonyms and Homophones

Synonyms

Synonyms are words that have precisely or nearly the same meaning as the other given word or words. For example, the word “**probe**” is a synonym of the word “**investigate**”. It can also be used interchangeably with words like “**scrutinise**”, “**explore**”, “**examine**”, “**analyse**”, “**inspect**”, etc. All the given words can be said to be synonymous with one other.

One way to verify that a word is synonymous with the other word is to use it in place of that particular word in a sentence.

Look at the sentences given below:

- I. There are **innumerable** stars in the sky.
- II. There are **countless** stars in the sky.

The words “innumerable” and “countless” can mostly be used interchangeably. One can also use the word “numberless” in place of the given words.

Some more examples of synonyms include*:

- Resilient-tough
- Specific-particular
- Prevalent-widespread
- Source-origin
- Consistent-persistent
- Perish-vanish
- Concise-brief
- Modify-adjust
- Validate-confirm
- Conclude-close
- Gruesome-frightful
- Inspire-motivate
- Universal-general
- Despicable-hateful
- Recur-reoccur
- Beginner-novice
- Encompass-contain
- Bizarre-strange
- Wise-prudent
- Daring-audacious

Note

Words generally have multiple synonyms. For example, the word “audacious” can also be replaced by words like “bold”, “fearless”, “courageous”, “valiant”, etc. However, it is essential to remember that synonyms cannot always be used interchangeably. It is always important to consider the context and the sentence in which the word is being used.

Synonyms and Antonyms

For example, although the words “unique” and “special” are generally regarded as synonymous, they cannot always be used interchangeably.

If a person is dear to someone, he/she can say that the person is “special” to him/her. However, if one intends to communicate that the person is one of a kind, he/she can say that the person is “unique”.

Similarly, the words “complete” and “finish” can also not always be used interchangeably. Hence, it is very essential to know the intent before using any synonymous word.

Antonyms

Antonyms are defined as words that have opposite meanings.



Ancient



Contemporary/Modern

For example, the antonym of “ancient” is “modern” or “contemporary”. Similarly, the antonym of “democracy”, that is, a government that is directly or indirectly chosen by the people will be “tyranny”, that is, a government where one person has the supreme authority and is not chosen by the people. One can also use “dictatorship” as an antonym of “democracy”.

Some more examples of antonyms*:

- Elementary-advanced
- Adversity-prosperity
- Assent-dissent
- Acquit-condemn
- Arrogant-humble
- Arbitrary-rational
- Humid-dry
- Ancient-modern
- Certainly-probably
- Appreciate-depreciate
- Private-public
- Descendant-ancestor
- Export-import
- Vaguely-vividly
- Compulsory-voluntary
- Vertical-horizontal
- Attack-defend
- Ascent-descent
- Annoy-soothe
- Particular-general

Homophones

Homophones are words that have similar or almost similar pronunciation but are spelled in a different way and have different meanings as well. The meaning of such a word can either be understood in the context of the sentence in which it is used or by analysing their spellings. For instance, the words ‘dyeing’ and ‘dying’ have similar pronunciations but their spellings as well as their meanings vary significantly. ‘Dyeing’ refers to the process of adding colour or pigment to something, while ‘dying’ refers to someone being on the verge of death.

Some more examples of Homophones are*:

- Weather-whether
- Accept-except
- Foul-fowl
- Great-grate
- Cellar-seller
- Dual-duel
- Cereal-serial
- Principle-principal
- Billed-build
- Addition-edition
- Knead-need
- Descent-dissent
- Veil-vale
- Straight-strait
- Council-counsel
- Straight-strait
- Birth-berth
- Hale-hail
- Allowed-aloud
- Incite-insight

Homonyms

Homonyms are words that have the same pronunciation and mostly similar spellings but have different meanings. Usually, the meaning of such words can be inferred by the sentence in which they are used.

For example, “address” can mean either a location where one resides, or it can mean a formal speech. One can therefore say:

- i. The office has a new address.
- ii. The politician will address a rally.

Some more words that have more than one meaning are: Advocate, circular, clip, lie, rose, right, close, draft, watch, saw, watch, litter, light, might, etc.

*Note: This is just a representative and in-exhaustive list meant for guidance purpose only. Students are advised to visit: <https://www.crestolympiads.com/spellbee-winter-csbw-syllabus> for more such words.

Practice Questions

Direction (for questions 1-4): Choose the correct word that can replace the word in bold letters without changing the meaning of the sentence:

1. They are very **cordial** in their approach.
 - a. Calculated
 - b. Cautious
 - c. Stern
 - d. Affectionate
2. John was inspired by a number of **heroic** tales.
 - a. Serene
 - b. Gallant
 - c. Delightful
 - d. Unrealistic

Synonyms and Antonyms

3. I have never seen such a **magnificent** building.
- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| a. High | b. Crumbling |
| c. Splendid | d. Primeval |
4. It was a very **unpleasant** situation.
- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| a. Unavoidable | b. Irksome |
| c. Obligatory | d. Anticipated |
5. Pick out the word that is not a synonym of the given word:
Fundamental
- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| a. Major | b. Vital |
| c. Former | d. Crucial |

Direction (for questions 6-9): Choose the word that is the antonym of the word in bold letters:

6. She has always been **appreciative** of our efforts.
- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| a. Obligated | b. Grateful |
| c. Supportive | d. Ungrateful |
7. There was absolute **silence** in the hall.
- | | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| a. Tranquillity | b. Lull |
| c. Stillness | d. Ruckus |
8. His victory seemed absolutely **effortless**.
- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| a. Strenuous | b. Attainment |
| c. Superficial | d. Elementary |
9. It is futile to **conceal** your malice as your concern.
- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| a. Obscure | b. Invisible |
| c. Reveal | d. Unnoticeable |
10. Which of these is not an antonym of the word in bold?
Our destination is **approximately** two hundred miles farther.
- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| a. Precisely | b. Exactly |
| c. Accurately | d. Roughly |

Synonyms and Antonyms

Direction (for questions 11-16): Fill in the blanks with the appropriate word:

11. This is a very _____ surface.

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| a. course | b. coarse |
| c. corse | d. corpse |

12. She asked him not to sit _____.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a. idol | b. idle |
| c. idyll | d. ideal |

13. The rabbit was digging a _____.

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| a. borrow | b. borough |
| c. burrow | d. burro |

14. She had put on a _____.

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| a. vale | b. wail |
| c. vail | d. veil |

15. The car was _____ away.

- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| a. toed | b. towed |
| c. toad | d. toward |

16. Due to indiscriminate hunting, the species is likely to _____.

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| a. pearish | b. parish |
| c. paris | d. perish |

Direction (for questions 17-18): Choose the most appropriate word to fill in the blanks:

17. You should _____ with absolute confidence.

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| a. precede | b. forward |
| c. proceed | d. further |

18. There is no _____ in asking the question.

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| a. injury | b. bruise |
| c. wound | d. harm |

Direction (for questions 19-20): Pick out the word which is not a homonym:

19.

- a. Bark
- b. Lucrative
- c. Litter
- d. Fair

20.

- a. Bank
- b. Current
- c. Circular
- d. Announce

CREST International Spell Bee (Summer & Winter)

For Grades 1-8



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Exam Highlights

- ✓ Online proctored Spell Bee exam
- ✓ Focus on evaluating spellings, meanings and pronunciation.
- ✓ Exam Pattern: MCQ type questions + Audio Round (Students need to hear the question & write the spelling of the word asked)
- ✓ Get to attempt 2 Free Practice Tests

