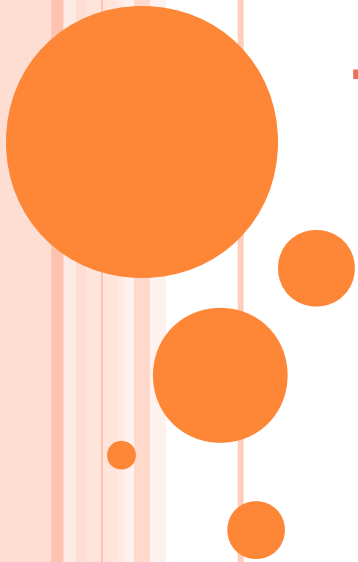


# DICTIONARY SKILLS.


*How to make the best use of  
dictionary.*




MEANING OF DICTIONARY;  
REF: OXFORD ENGLISH  
DICTIONARY.

- *n. book explaining, usually in alphabetical order, words of a language, or giving their equivalent in another language; reference book of words and topics of subjects arranged in alphabetical order*

# DICTIONARY: ITS MEANING.

- It is primarily a book of reference, a book worth studying.
  - It is to supply much more than just meanings and spellings.
  - It has a wealth of information.
  - It records the changes in vocabulary.
- 

# HOW TO USE A DICTIONARY?

- Dictionary can be easy to use by knowing its Plan, the Dictionary plan.
  - Each and every dictionary has its unique plan.
  - Read first a few pages of dictionary to understand dictionary.
  - The introduction explains the plan of
- 

# WHY USE THE DICTIONARY?

- To Look up the meaning of an English word you see or hear.
- To Find the English translation of a word in your language.
  - To Check the spelling of a word.
  - To Check the plural of a noun or past tense of a verb.
- To Find out other grammatical information about a word.
  - To Find the synonym or antonym of a word.
    - To Look up the collocations of a word.
    - To Check the part of speech of a word.
      - To Find out how to say a word.
  - To Find out about the register of a word.
- To Find examples of the use of a word in natural language.



# FUNCTIONS OF DICTIONARY.

What most of people think is that the dictionary has only one function to describe one word's meaning, but the dictionary has even more functions; <sup>1. Synonyms</sup> that are mentioned below:

2. Usage of

words.

3. Parts of speech.

4.

Pronunciation.

5. Syllabication.

6. Meaning.

7. Etymology.

8. Variants



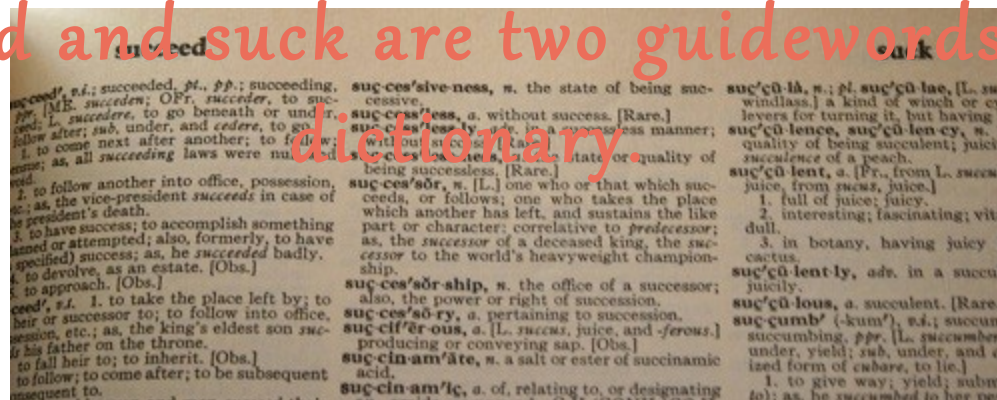
## ❖ GUIDEWORDS:

Guidewords are the two words present on the top of every page of the dictionary. The one on the left corner is the first word of the page and the last one is present on the right corner.

All the words whose information are given on that page lie within these two words' gap.

For example:

Succeed and suck are two guidewords of a



## ❖ ENTRY WORD

Entry words are the words that are explained on the page. They are typed in bold letters so that it is easy to locate the word we want to search the meaning of.

For Example:

- **Highroad.**
- **High school.**
- **High sounding, etc.**





# SYNONYMS

Synonyms are the words that are same in meanings. Dictionary acts as a Thesaurus and helps building vocabulary by explaining a word's synonyms too.

For example:

Synonyms for LOVE are:

- Deep affection.
- Fondness
- Tenderness
- Warmth
- Intimacy
- Attachment
- Endearment, etc.



# USAGE

A dictionary helps a person by telling the use of a word as well, How should it be used; formally or informally.

Example:

➤ Formal: Much.

Thank you very much.

➤ Informal: Heap.

Thanks a heap!



# PART OF SPEECH

A dictionary helps us by explaining the parts of speech the word is.

A word can be, sometimes, two or more than two parts of speech.

A dictionary explains the meaning of the word according to Light word is.

- The sun gives us light. (noun)
- A light purse makes a heavy heart. (Adj)
- We need torch to light us on our way. (verb)
- He treated it in light hearted manner. (Adv.)



# PRONUNCIATION

Pronunciation is the the way in which a word is pronounced, it is the manner of speaking.

The pronunciation of entry words follow and these are present in brackets and explains us the way to pronounce the word we are searching about.

○ For example:

Pronunciation of pronunciation is:



# SYLLABICATION

It is Accentuation: Stress pattern.

It is important to learn which syllable take stress (it is indicated by a dash or dot placed immediately after the stressed syllable).

Transfer of stress from one syllable to another sometimes alter the grammatical functions as well as the meaning of a word.

For instance,


ab'stract, with stress on first syllable, is a noun and means a summary, while abstract', the stress on the second syllable, is a verb

# MEANING

The most important function of the dictionary for which we commonly consult it is finding the meaning of a word. A dictionary explains all the possible meanings of a word.

For example:

The word 'Choke' has 4 meanings.  
One as a verb, one as a phrasal verb and the other two as noun.



# ETYMOLOGY

Etymology means the study of roots. In dictionary, Etymology of words are given which tell us from where the word is derived, what is its origin, when was it first spoken, what did it mean previously, etc. ●

# VARIANTS

Variants are the different ways of saying a word.

These variations are caused by spellings or pronunciations.

For Example:

Colour and color.

Behaviour and Behavior.

Flavour and Flavor.





# INFLECTIONS

In grammar, inflection or inflexion is the modification of a word to express different grammatical categories;

Such as tense, mood, voice, aspect, person, number, gender and case.

The inflection of verbs is also called conjugation, and the inflection of nouns and pronouns is called declension.



## ANOTHER FUNCTION OF DICTIONARY IS THAT IT ENRICHES VOCABULARY.

- A good vocabulary is one of the hall-marks of an educated person, and a priceless possession in educational, business and in social life.

- How to acquire it?




# ACQUIRE VOCABULARY FROM:

Conversations, By Listening to radio,  
Watching TV, audio tracks, Reading and  
Regular use of the DICTIONARY.

**DON'T FORGET!**

It is not enough to know only what a word  
means one must be able to use it in  
conversation and writing.



# THE NEED FOR EXACTNESS:

- Ability to choose and use the right words depends upon the range of one's vocabulary, and this will be adequate only if opportunities are taken to refer good dictionaries.

- Words change their meanings.

- See this example:

Variants of word 'KILL'

- He was slain on the battlefield.
    - The robbers killed him.
    - He was murdered in cold blood.
    - All the sheep were slaughtered.

