

## **List of Words Appeared in CSS Exam from 1971 to 2011**

**1971**

**Use the following words in at least two senses, either as a verb or as a noun, or as an adjective or as both:**

1. Clear
2. Face
3. Energy
4. Value
5. Build

**1972**

**Distinguish between the meanings of the words in the following pairs, and use them in illustrative sentences:**

1. Consciousness, conscientiousness
2. Ingenious, ingenuous
3. Fantastic, fanatical
4. Honourable, honorary
5. Politician, statesman

**1973**

**Each of the following words has more than one meaning. Choose any five of them and by using them in at least two sentences each indicates what these different meanings are:**

1. Report
2. Ruler
3. Point
4. Wear
5. Glasses
6. Vessel
7. Stage
8. Spirit

## 1974

**Distinguish between the meanings of the words in the following pairs and use them in sentences to illustrate:**

1. Grateful, gratified
2. Imaginary, imaginative
  
3. Negligent, negligible
4. Placable, placeable
5. Restive, restless

## 1975

**Distinguish between the meanings of the words in the following pairs and use them in sentences to indicate what these different meaning are:**

1. Amiable, amicable
2. Considerable, considerate
3. Ingenuous, ingenious
4. Momentary, momentous
5. Virtuous, virtual

## 1976

**Use five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out the difference in their meaning:**

1. Par, at a par
2. Compliment, complement
3. Complacent, complaisant
4. State, government
5. Eminent, prominent
6. Below, beneath
7. Portly, comely
8. Setup, set upon
9. Shall, will
10. Sink, drown

## 1977

**Use any five of the following pairs of words in sentences to bring out clearly their difference in meaning:**

- Altar, alter
- Apposite, opposite
- Bear, bare
- Complacent, complaisant
- Confident, confidant
- Disease, decease
- Gate, gai
- Judicial, judicious
- Ingenious, ingenuous
- Voke, yolk

## 1978

**Use five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out their meaning:**

- Affection, affectation
- Urban, urbane
- Official, officious
- Beside, besides
- Casual, causal
- Pour, pore
- Humiliation, humility
- Wreck, reak
- Bare, bear
- Temporal, temporary

## 1979

**Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out their meanings:**

- Cession, session
- Canon, cannon
- Barbarism, barbarity
- Artist, artisan
- Antic, antique
- Illusion, allusion
- Aspire, expire
- Collision, collusion
- Counsel, council
- Expedient, expeditious

## 1980

**Write brief definitions of the following ten words:**

- Munificent
- Rapacious
- Jeopardize
- Fatuous
- Edify
- Esoteric
- Impasse
- Incongruous
- Docile
- Repercussions

**Correct the spelling of the following ten words:**

- Occurance
- Esctacy
- Drunkenness
- Irrisistible
- Supercede
- Embarrasing
- Dissappoint
- Occasional
- Indespensible
- Preservance

## 1981

**Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out their meanings:**

- Canvas, canvass
- Cast, caste
- Appraise, apprise
- Allusion, illusion
- Continual, continuous
- Berth, birth
- Apposite, opposite
- Artist, artiste
- Adapt, adopt

## 1982

Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences to bring out their meaning:

- Mitigate, alleviate
- Persecute, prosecute
- Popular, populace
- Compliment, complement
- Excite, incite
- Voracity, veracity
- Virtual, virtuous
- Exceptional, exceptionable

## 1983

Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out their meaning:

- Allusion, illusion
- Ardour, odour
- Conquer, concur
- Cite, site
- Addict, edict
- Proceed, precede
- Right, rite
- Weather, wether

Check and write the word or phrase you believe is nearest to the meaning of any ten of the following words:

- **Moratorium:** a) large tomb. b) waiting period. c) security for debt. d) funeral house
- **Prolific:** a) skilful. b) fruitful. c) wordy. d) spread out.
- **Bi-partisan:** a) narrow minded. b) progressive. c) representing two parties. d) divided.
- **Unequivocal:** a) careless. b) unmistakable. c) variable. d) incomparable.
- **Covenant:** a) prayer. b) debate. c) garden. d) agreement.
- **Tentative:** a) expedient. b) nominal. c) provisional.
- **Demographic: relating the study of:**
  - Government
  - Demons
  - Communications
  - Population
- **Sonar: apparatus to:**
  - Detect something in the air
  - Locate objects under water
  - Measure rain
  - Anticipate earthquake
- **Progeny:** a) a genius. b) offspring. c) ancestors. d) growth.

- **Empirical:** a) rely on theory. b) based on experience. c) having vision of power. d) disdainful.
- **Polarize:** a) chill. b) to separate into opposing extremes. c) slant. d) cause to be freely movable.
- **Apolitical:** a) conservative. b) rude. c) non-political. d) radical.
- **Plenary:** a) timely. b) combined. c) florid. d) full.
- **Entourage:** a) decorators. b) tourist. c) attendant. d) adversaries.
- **Diagnosis:** a) identification of an illness. b) prophecy. c) plan. d) likeness
- **Nucleus:** a) core. b) outer part. c) inedible nut. d) quality.

## 1984

**Examine the following word groups. Explain and use any five of them in sentences to determine where genuine differences of meaning and function exist within the group:**

- Table, brand
- Opinion, judgement
- Uninterested, disinterested
- Revolt, mutiny
- Decay, spoil
- Adjourn, postpone
- Ignore, neglect
- Conspiracy, plot

## 1985

**Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out the difference in meaning clearly:**

- Eminent, imminent
- Deference, difference
- Eligible, illegible
- Judicial, judicious
- President, precedent
- Superficial, superfluous
- Immigrant, emigrant
- Rightful, righteous
- Contemptible, contemptuous
- Ingenious, ingenuous

**Use any five of the following phrases in your own sentences so as to make their meaning clear:**

- Ab initio
- Bona fides
- En bloc
- Ex parte

- Sine die
- Status quo
- Ad valorum
- Alter ego

**1986**

**Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences to differentiate them in their meaning and functions:**

- Complement, compliment
- Outbreak, breakout
- Facilitate, felicitate
- Precede, proceed
- Layout, outlay
- Cease, seize
- Career, carrier
- Acculturate, acclimitise

**Describe the meaning of any five of the following foreign phrases:**

- Prima fac
- Ex post facto
- Fait accompli
- Vis-à-vis
- Modus operandi
- Aide memoire
- Laissez faire
- Au revoir

**1987**

**Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out the differene in meaning clearly:**

- Disclosure, exposure
- Rigorous, vigorus
- Custom, habit
- Peculiar, particular
- Prescribe, proscribe
- Accident, incident
- Choice, preference
- Ascent, assent
- Emigrant, immigrant
- Continuous, continual

**Complete any five of the following sentences supplying the missing word or phrase in each:**

- He wondered \_\_\_\_\_ he has lost his money.
- Her father knew that she \_\_\_\_\_ disobey him.
- When Ahmed saw me coming he \_\_\_\_\_.
- Don't imagine you can get away \_\_\_\_\_.
- He puts up \_\_\_\_\_ almost anything.
- I have applied \_\_\_\_\_ a new job.
- Her parents strongly object \_\_\_\_\_ travelling alone.
- As soon as the plane had refueled \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ you take this medicine you will feel better.
- A car with a good engine can go \_\_\_\_\_.

**1988**

**Use any five of the following pairs of words in your sentences to differentiate their meaning:**

- Custom, habit
- Deface, efface
- Differ, defer
- Conduct, character
- Considerate, considerable
- Complement, compliment
- Feet, feat
- Fair, fare
- Envable, envious

**1989**

**Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out the difference in meaning clearly:**

- Collision, collusion
- Verbal, verbose
- Facilitate, felicitate
- Conscious, conscientious
- Wave, waive
- Wreck, wreak
- Virtual, virtuous
- Flatter, flutter
- Deference, difference
- Humility, humiliation

Given below are a number of key words. Select any five and indicate the word or phrase you believe is nearest in meaning to the key word:

- **Foible:** a) witty refort b) petty lie c) personal weakness
- **Premise:** a) assumption b) outline c) commitment
- **Sacrosanct:** a) peaceful b) sacred c) mundane d) painful
- **Calumny:** a) misfortune b) praise c) quietness d) slander
- **Viable:** a) credible b) questionable c) workable d) vital
- **Decorum:** a) style of decoration b) innocence c) social conformity d) modesty
- **Touchstone:** a) goal post b) worry bead c) magic jewel d) standard or criterion
- **Sheepish:** a) embarrassed b) confirming c) cowardly d) unfortunate

### 1990

Use any three of the following sets of words in sentences so as to bring out clearly the difference in their meaning:

- Adept, adopt, adapt
- Alleged, accused, suspected
- Bear, borne, born
- Raise, rise, raze
- Smeel, stink, scent
- Least, less, lest
- Quiet, quite, quite a
- Their, there, they're

Given below are a number of key words. Select any three and indicate the word or phrase you believe is nearest in meaning to the key word:

- **Domesticate:** a) to turn native b) be exclusive c) cut claws d) tame
- **Antics:** a) expectation b) temper c) string games d) absurd behavior
- **Recapitulate:** a) to surrender b) be indecisive c) summarise d) retract
- **Hypothetical:** a) philosophical b) truce c) assumed d) volatile
- **Data:** a) ideas b) belief c) point of origin d) information
- **Era:** a) disaster b) cycle c) period of history d) curious event
- **Trait:** a) a narrow enclosure b) strong point c) distinguishing feature d) footprint

### 1991

Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences demonstrating difference in their meaning:

- Access, excess
- Ascent, accent
- Resources, recourse
- Whether, weather

- Premier, premiere
- Ingenious, ingenuous
- Felicitate, facilitate
- Conscious, conscientious
- Disease, decease

**For each of the phrases at the left, write in your answer book the word closest in meaning to the phrase from the four words given on the right**

- **Clear away:** a) clean b) empty c) remove d) finish
- **Break down:** a) collapse b) enter c) cut off d) begin
- **Keep up:** a) restrain b) control c) continue d) arrive
- **Turn out:** a) refuse b) start c) produce d) arrive
- **See over:** a) examine b) repair c) discover d) enquire

## 1992

**Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out the difference in their meaning:**

- Assent, ascent
- Ballot, ballet
- Corps, corpse
- Due, dew
- Diary, dairy
- Momentary, momentous
- Route, rout
- Veil, vale

**Given below are a number of key words. Select any five and indicate the word you believe is nearest in meaning to the key word:**

- **Perturb:** a) to upset b) to cause doubt c) to burden d) to test
- **Wry:** a) twisted b) sad c) witty d) suffering
- **Ferret:** a) to search b) to trap c) to hide d) to flee
- **Pallid:** a) weak b) pale c) dull d) scared
- **Intrepid:** a) fearless b) cowardly c) dull d) fool hardy
- **Reprisal:** a) surprise b) award c) revision d) retaliation
- **Viable:** a) wavering b) divided c) capable of living d) fading
- **Resurgent:** a) revolutionary b) fertile c) rising again d) fading

## 1993

Use any five of the following pairs of words so as to bring out the difference in their meanings:

- Queue, cue
- Differ, defer
- Conscious, conscience
- Confidant, confidante
- Atheist, agnostic
- Loose, lose
- Briefing, debriefing
- Dual, duel
- Complement, compliment

Indicate the meaning of any five of the following:

- Brag
- Antiquarian
- Input
- Prodigal
- Bibliophile
- Nostalgia
- Output
- Feedback
- Agrarian

## 1994

Use any five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences to bring out the difference in their meaning:

- All, awl
- Boy, buoy
- Fallow, fellow
- Jewry, jury
- Functional, dysfunctional
- Yew, eue
- Allusive, elusive
- Ladylike, ladyship

1996

Use five of the following pairs of words or phrases into sentences so that the difference in the meaning of each pair is made clear:

- Altogether, all together
- Ambiguous, ambivalent
- Apprise, appraise
- Bad, badly
- Compare, contrast
- Deduce, imply
- Differ from, differ with
- Farther, further

1997

Re arrange the following in pairs of synonyms:

- Garrulous
- Selfish
- Near
- Talkative
- Obstruct
- Egoistic
- Wealthy
- Impede
- Affluent filch
- Imminent
- Essess
- Tempting
- Ponder
- Augment
- Enticing
- Modilate
- Increase
- Estimate
- Steal

**1998**

**Use five of the following pairs of words/phrases in sentences of your own to bring out the difference:**

- Occulude, occult
- Practical, practicable
- Raze, raise
- Cannon, ???
- Avenge, revenge
- Caret, carat
- Revel, reveal
- Aviary, apiary
- Demense, mean

**2000**

**Use five of the following pairs of words in sentences of your own to bring out the difference:**

- Knead, need
- Queue, cue
- Quarts, quartz
- Choral, coral
- Discrete, discreet
- Epoch, epic
- Libel, liable
- Male, mail
- Banned, band
- Barred, bard

**2001**

**Use five of the following pairs of words in sentences:**

- Brooch, broach
- Collusion, collision
- Fain, feign
- Hoard, horde
- Illusion, delusion
- Persecute, prosecute
- Prescribe, proscribe
- Respectfully, respectively
- Complacent, complaisant
- Corporal, corporeal

## 2004

Choose the word that is nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters:

- **Archipelago:** a) reef b) glacier c) cluster of islands d) lagoon
- **Piazza:** a) cheese dish b) veranda c) public square d) style or dash
- **Baklava:** a) stringed instrument b) dessert c) whirling dance d) gratuity
- **Ionic:** a) indian stone monument b) greek architecture c) roman sculpture d) mediteranean sea
- **Cicerone:** a) teacher b) literary classic c) chaperone d) guide

Pick the one most nearly opposite in meaning to the capitalized word:

- **Desiccate:** a) lengthen b) hallow c) exonerate d) saturate e) anesthetize
2. **Apotheosis:** a) departure from tradition b) impatience with stupidity c) demotion from glory d) surrender to impulse e) cause to grief
3. **Spunk:** a) success b) timidity c) growing awareness d) loss or prestige e) lack of intelligence
4. **Cavil:** a) discern b) disclose c) introduce d) flatter e) commend
5. **Raucous:** a) orderly b) absorbent c) buoyant d) mellifluous e) contentious

Use five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out their meanings:

- Auger, augur
- Fain, feign
- Emigrate, immigrate
- Envy, jealousy
- Invade, attack
- Trifling, trivial
- Simulation, dissimulation
- Venal, venial

## 2005

Choose the word that is nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters:

- **Anathema:** a) curse b) cure c) anemia d) asthma
- **Torpor:** a) fever b) lethargy c) taciturn d) torrid
- **Touchstone:** a) criterion b) gold c) character d) characteristics
- **Sequester:** a) eliminate b) finalize c) sedate d) isolate
- **Donouement:** a) denunciation b) dormancy c) termination d) explanation

**Pick the most nearly opposite in meaning to the capitalized word:**

- **Deleterious:** a) nourishing b) injurious c) vital d) fatal
- **Valedictory:** a) farewell b) final c) hopeful d) parting
- **Sedentary:** a) afraid b) loyal c) active d) torpid
- **Turbid:** a) muddy b) clear c) invariable d) improbable
- **Phlegmatic:** a) dull b) active c) lymphatic d) frigid

**Use five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out their meanings:**

- Council, counsel
- Distinct, distinctive
- Apposite, opposite
- Deprecate, depreciate
- Punctual, punctilious
- Judicial, judicious
- Salutory, salubrious
- Canvas, canvass

**2006**

**Choose the word that is nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters:**

- **Finicky:** a) unstable b) troubled c) fussy d) unpleasant
- **Samizdat:** a) underground press b) secret police c) twirling jig d) large metal tea urn
- **Veld:** a) arctic wasteland b) European plains c) southern african grassland d) deep valley

**4.Cajun:** a) French-canadian descendant b) American Indian c) native of the everglades d) early inhabitant of the bahama islands

**5.Loggia:** a) pathway b) marsh c) gallery d) carriage

**Pick the most nearly opposite in meaning to the capitalized word:**

- **Captious:** a) tolerant b) capable c) winning d) recollected
- **Penchant:** a) dislike b) attitude c) imminence d) distance
- **Putative:** a) powerful b) colonial c) undisputed d) unremarkable
- **Facsimile:** a) imitation b) model c) mutation d) pattern
- **Larceny:** a) appropriation b) peculation c) purloining d) indemnification

Use only five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences so as to bring out their meanings:

- Veracity, voracity
- Persecute, prosecute
- Moat, mote
- Loath, loathe
- Ingenious, ingenuous
- Fain, feign
- Emigrant, immigrant
- Wreak, wreck

2007

Choose the word that is nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters (Do only five). Extra attempt of any part of the question will not be considered:

- **Lacunae:** a) tiny marine life b) shallow water c) local dialect d) missing parts
- **Paroxysm:** a) moral lesson b) sudden outburst c) contradiction d) pallid imitation
- **Grotto:** a) statue b) cavern c) neighborhood d) type of moth
- **Fetter:** a) rot b) to restrain c) make better d) enable to fly
- **Stoicism:** a) indifference b) boldness c) deep affection d) patient endurance
- **Succulent:** a) edible b) parched c) generous d) mature
- **Malediction:** a) compliment b) summary c) perfume d) awkwardness

Pick the most nearly opposite in meaning to the capitalized word:

- **Twine:** a) straighten b) continue c) unravel d) detach
- **Frugal:** a) prodigal b) intemperate c) extravagant d) profuse
- **Gawky:** a) neat b) handy c) graceful d) handsome
- **Capricious:** a) firm b) decided c) inflexible d) constant
- **Congeval:** a) liquefy b) mollify c) harden d) solidify

Use only five of the following pairs of words in sentences which illustrate their meaning. Extra attempt of any part of the question will not be considered:

- Affluence, effluence
- Wretch, retch
- Euphemistic, euphuistic
- Amoral, immoral
- Imperial, imperious
- Degrade, denigrate
- Temporal, temporary
- Precipitate, precipitous

Use five of the following pairs of words in your own sentences to bring out their meaning:

- Mitigate, alleviate
- Persecute, prosecute
- Popular, populace
- Compliment, complement
- Excite, incite
- Voracity, veracity
- Virtual, virtuous
- Exceptional, exceptionable

Pick the most nearly opposite in meaning to the capitalized word. Do any five:

- **Moratorium:** a) large tomb b) waiting period c) security for debt d) funeral house
- **Prolific:** a) skilful b) fruitful c) wordy d) spread out
- **Bipartisan:** a) narrow minded b) progressive c) representing two parties d) divided
- **Unequivocal:** a) careless b) unmistakable c) variable d) incomparable
- **Covenant:** a) prayer b) debate c) garden d) agreement
- **Tentative:** a) expedient b) national c) provisional d) alternative

**7. Demographic: related to the study of:** a) government b) demons c) communications d) population

**8. Sonar: apparatus to:** a) detect something in the air b) locate objectives under water c) measure rain d) anticipate earthquake

Indicate meaning of any five of the following:

- Brag
- Antiquarian
- Input
- Prodigal
- Bibliophile
- Nostalgia
- Burn one's boats
- Feedback
- Agrarian

2009

Choose the word that is nearly similar in meaning to the word in capital letters. (Do only five). Extra attempt of any part of the question will not be considered:

- **Obscure:** a) unclear b) doubtful
- **Amiable:** a) obnoxious b) affable
- **Hoodwink:** a) delude b) avoid
- **Guileful:** a) honourable b) disingenuous
- **Obsession:** a) fixed ideas b) delusion
- **Radical:** a) innate b) moderate
- **Presumptive:** a) credible b) timid

Pick the most nearly opposite in meaning to the capitalized word:

- **Presentable:** a) unable b) scruffy c) suitable d) personable
- **Salvation:** a) escape b) starvation c) doom d) rescue
- **Plain:** a) clean b) distinct c) ambiguous d) frugal
- **Odious:** a) porous b) charming c) horrid d) offensive
- **Inflame:** a) calm b) anger c) excite d) kindle

Use only five of the following pairs of words in sentences which illustrate their meaning:

- Persecute, prosecute
- Luxuriant, luxurious
- Mean, mien
- Observation, observance
- Naughty, knotty
- Ghostly, ghastly
- Hew, hue
- Hoard, horde

2010

Pick the word that is nearly similar in meaning to the capitalized word.

- 1) Acrimonous  
a) Bitter b) Provocative c) Cheap d) Volatile
- 2) Calligraphy  
a) Computers b) Handwriting c) Blood Pressure d) Brain waves
- 3) Unequivocal  
a) Variable b) Plain c) Unmistakable d) Negligent
- 4) Demise  
a) Conclude b) End c) Affection d) Death
- 5) Incendiary  
a) Happy b) Sneer c) Causing fire d) Jolly
- 6) Touchstone  
a) Remind b) A hall c) at rest d) Criterion
- 7) Void

- a) Emptiness b) Lea c) Anger d) Trick
- 8) Essay
- a) Direct b) Copose c) Attempt d) Suppose

**b) Indicate the most nearly opposite in meaning**

- 1) Ignoble
  - a) Lowly b) Vile c) Good d) Noble
- 2) Melancholy
  - a) Sorrowful b) Happy c) Forbidden d) Brisk
- 3) Obliterate
  - a) Preserve b) Destroy c) Ravage d) Design
- 4) Ally
  - a) Alloy b) Foe c) Partner d) Accessory
- 5) Vulgar
  - a) Coarse b) Gross c) Exquisite d) Obscene
- 6) Pretend
  - a) Sham b) Substantiate c) Feign d) Fabricate
- 7) Liberty
  - a) Permission b) License c) Serfdom d) Bound
- 8) Conscienceious
  - a) Uncorrupt b) Honorable c) Principled d) Profligate

**Five pairs of words in sentences:**

- 1) Adverse, Averse
- 2) Maize, Maze
- 3) Medal, Meddle
- 4) Imperious, Imperial
- 5) Veracity, Voracity
- 6) Allusion, Illusion
- 7) Ordinance, Ordnance
- 8) willing, Wilful

**2011**

**Pair of Words**

- 1. Capital:, Capitol:
- 2. Assay:Essay:
- 3. Envelop:, Envelope:
- 4. Decree:, Degree:
- 5. Desolate:, Dissolute:
- 6. Species:, Specie:
- 7. Tortuous, Torturous:
- 8. Wet:, Whet: