

theories and subjects: *Marxism, physics, geography*

conditions: *childhood, youth, slavery*

Here are some sentences with abstract nouns.

- The little girl's **bravery** left us spellbound.
- He likes to paint in his **leisure** time.
- The Internet is a vast source of **knowledge**.
- The **birth** of Lord Krishna is celebrated all over India.

1. Underline the abstract nouns in these sentences.

- The length of the rope was not enough.
- There is a vacancy for the post of Associate Director.
- Indians had to struggle hard to gain independence.
- Intelligence can often ^{adv}overpower strength.
- The candle did not make much difference to the darkness in the room.

2. Fill in the blanks with abstract nouns. Refer to the hints given in brackets.

- cruelty to animals is a punishable offence. (*cruel*)
- Ashraf went on a pilgrimage to Mecca. (*pilgrim*)
- It is a great pleasure for me to welcome our honoured guest. (*please*)
- Simplicity is a rare quality in people today. (*simple*)
- Sahana's dedication towards her work is admirable. (*dedicate*)



Pronunciation Junction

We have already learnt that every word is divided into units of pronunciation known as syllables. Did you know that each word has a stressed syllable?

Let us find out more about stressed and unstressed syllables.

Every word that has more than one syllable is a combination of a stressed and at least one unstressed syllable. The stressed syllable is emphasised more than the unstressed syllable. In other words, the stressed syllable is pronounced more loudly, clearly and for a longer duration than the unstressed syllable.

The hyphen (-) separates the two syllables while the stress marker (') is on the stressed syllable.

For example:

I didn't take the bus; instead, I took the train.

- If the items in a series have commas, they are separated from each other by semicolons.

For example:

I have to send invitations to friends in Dehradun, Uttarakhand; Gangtok, Sikkim; and Mangalore, Karnataka.

Colon

- A colon is used to introduce a list or an explanation.

For example:

We need a domestic help to do the following: wash clothes, do the dishes and mop the floor.

We only had one motto throughout the competition: Win the prize.

1. Fill in the blanks with a comma or a semicolon.

(a) My grandpa prefers living in the countryside _____ the city makes him ill at ease.

(b) If he misses this flight _____ he'll have to pay double for the next one.

(c) I love Spanish cuisine _____ in fact _____ I'm learning to make Paella from my aunt who lives in Spain.

(d) I wanted to go to the concert _____ but there were no tickets available.

(e) The first generation of computers could perform complex calculations _____ but they could not reason at all.

2. Look at the following sentences and check if the punctuation marks have been correctly used. Make corrections, where necessary.

(a) 'Ouch', exclaimed Yuri, 'I hurt my toes!'

(b) Some people like to wake up early in the morning; others prefer sleeping late.

(c) Some of the sandwich choices we offer are cheese and tomato, cheese, garlic and chicken; and cheese, ham; and bacon.

(d) This semester, we are going to read *The Old Man and the Sea*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Dubliners*.

(e) Sunny has only one thing on her mind, food.



Speaking Junction

Oration is a form of public speech with the primary objective of impressing or entertaining the audience. It can also be used as a method of indirect persuasion.

Orate a famous speech of your choice with appropriate voice modulation.