

MASTERING ENGLISH VOCABULARY USING ROOT-WORDS; PART-03

PLAC/PLAIS-

These are the root words from the Latin word “**placere**” meaning to please, to soothe, to calm down.

The following words are based on the root words ‘plac / plais’ -

1. **PLACATE** (verb) – to pacify, calm down, to appease, and to make someone less angry.
2. **PLACID** (adj.) – quiet, serene, calm, tranquil. Examples; the cricket pitch is placid. The placid waters of a small lake.
3. **PLACABLE** (adj.) – who can be pleased, easily calmed; gentle and forgiving.
4. **IMPLACABLE** (adj.) – who cannot be pleased, angry, violent. (Opposite of placable).
5. **COMPLACENT** (adj.) – self-satisfied, content.
6. **PLACEBO** (noun) – a fake treatment/medication given to a person to satisfy him/her psychologically. Placeboes are given to convince patients into thinking that they are given real treatment.
7. **COMPLAISANT** (adj.) – willing to please others or accept what they do or say without protest; obedient, agreeable.

SYNONYMS & ANTONYMS

1. **PLACATE** (verb)

SYNONYMS - pacify, appease, mollify (to soothe in temper), tranquillize (to relax), allay (to subdue), conciliate, propitiate, assuage, mitigate

(lessen), alleviate (make less severe) E.g.,” he couldn’t prevent her pain, only alleviate it”.

ANTONYMS – provoke, incite, instigate, enrage, infuriate (fury means anger), foment, ferment (increase the chemical reaction), embroil, incense, irk, exasperate, stir, aggravate.

2. **COMPLAISANT** (adjective)

SYNONYMS – agreeable, docile (ready to accept control), submissive, servile (to serve, please), subservient, meek, yielding, flexible.

ANTONYMS – adamant, obstinate, obdurate, rigid, firm (determined), pig-headed, stubborn, dogged

(dog-tail), opinionated (one who sticks to his opinions), mulish (resembling a mule in being stubborn), intransigent (unwilling to change his view about something), resolute, steadfast, ossified (as hard as bone, hard nut to crack).

