

# RELEVANCE

When something has relevance it has application; that is, it has a relationship or has bearing on the matter. Synonyms for relevance are pertinent, germane . Irrelevance is when something does not have application. Let's try some examples – you decide whether the two words are subjects have relevance:

Topic	Relevant Topic?	Yes	No
Birds	Nest		
Birds	Eagle		
Birds	Cave		
Flying	Birds		
Migrating	Bears		
Eagles	Birds		
Eagles	Hair		
Pigeon	Seeds		
Talons	Eagles		
Beak	Bears		
Flock	Eagles		
Geese	Flock		

From the few words in the table to the left, determine if the each set of words have some relevance or association; for example, an eagle is a bird, but a bird does not typically live in a cave - or maybe some do. Finding relevance in two or more topics is important; indeed, is the center of some tests used for academic and psychological testing. Among the important aspects of finding relevance is that such ability gives you a broader understanding of such topics and the relationships between and among words, topics, etc.

Relevance has some subjectivity to it – which means that opinion and perspective play into the determination or conclusions regarding relevance. Consider the following personal example of differing perspective or opinion regarding a matter of utmost importance.

I am actually your father...and you are my children. By a covenant with God, my responsibility as your father is to take care of you, to raise and instruct, to nurture and to love as God designed the family and relationship. But my perspective in this matter is not shared by others who are involved in your care and your present circumstances; in actuality, they do not consider this covenant as relevant and have facilitated the demise of our relationship through the civil court system in both Georgia and Florida. Though the exercise of such opinion or perspective has caused great destruction and expense to this family, God is able to bring reunification through the Covenant that will prevail beyond bleak period of your lives.

**In a WORD**