

### Important Definitions

- ❖ **trust deficit** (noun) — lack of trust (on authorities-from societal point of view). Situations with low levels of trust are not supportive and often counterproductive. People feel vulnerable and look at each other with suspicion. As a result, they are less open, since they fear that they will not be fairly treated by the other side.
- ❖ **theocracy** (noun) — A form of government in which God or a deity of some type is recognized as the supreme ruling authority. A form of government by religious leaders.
- ❖ **intellectual vitality** (noun) — it is your curiosity about the world and your approach to discovering the answers to questions you have. It doesn't mean having a genius IQ. A person of average IQ may have enormous intellectual vitality, while a person with a extremely high IQ may have scant (little) intellectual vitality. The students with high intellectual vitality nurture and refine their raw intellect to make it a powerful force that draws them to explore new and challenging territory; to question and probe. They turn it into energy (something vital, as in —yes — vitality).
- ❖ **coronavirus** (CoV)(noun) — a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases. common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.
- ❖ **pandemic** (noun) — the worldwide spread of a new disease; The illness spreads around the world and typically affects a large number of people across a wide area.
- ❖ **virtual conference** (noun) — an interactive online event that brings together a group of people with similar interests or expertise so that they can learn/share information from one another.
- ❖ **hegemonic stability theory** (noun) — a theory of international relations, rooted in research from the fields of political science, economics, and history. HST indicates that the international system is more likely to remain stable when a single nation-state is the dominant world power, supreme leader, or hegemon.
- ❖ **collective consciousness** (noun) — (sometimes collective conscience or conscious) the set of shared beliefs, ideas, and moral attitudes which operate as a unifying force within society.
- ❖ **pneumonia** (noun) — pneumonia is an infection of the lungs. It is treatable and preventable. However, pneumonia is the leading cause of death among children under five.
- ❖ **track II circuit/diplomacy** (noun) — track II diplomacy., back channel diplomacy., it is defined as unofficial, informal interaction between members of adversary groups or nations that aim to develop strategies, to influence public opinion, organize human and material resources in ways that might help resolve their conflict.
- ❖ **track one circuit/diplomacy** (noun) — traditional diplomacy., official diplomacy; it is defined as an instrument of foreign policy for the establishment and development of contacts between the governments of different states through the use of intermediaries mutually recognized by the respective parties. It follows a certain protocol to which every state is a signatory. Track One Diplomacy is usually considered to be the primary peacemaking tool of a state's foreign policy. It is carried out by diplomats, high-ranking government officials, and heads of states and is aimed at influencing the structures of political power.

- ❖ **relative gain** (noun) — (in international relations) the "relative gain" theory is single-minded in weighing the effects of an action towards power balances. Since it is a zero-sum game, states have to compete with each other to increase their own benefits.
- ❖ **absolute gain** (noun) — (in international relations) the "absolute gain" theory measures the total effect, comprising power, security, economic, and cultural effects of an action. Referring to a non-zero-sum game, they suggest that all states can benefit peacefully and simultaneously by virtue of comparative advantages.
- ❖ **herd immunity** (noun) — it refers to a means of protecting a whole community from disease by immunizing a critical mass of its populace (population). It is also defined as a form of indirect protection from infectious disease that occurs when a large percentage of a population are immune to an infection, thereby providing a measure of protection for individuals who are not immune.
- ❖ **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** (noun) — The sustainable development goals (SDGs) are a new, universal set of goals, targets and indicators that UN member states will be expected to use to frame their agendas and political policies over the next 15 years.
- ❖ **global value chains (GVC)** (noun) — International production, trade and investments are increasingly organised within so-called global value chains (GVCs) where the different stages of the production process are located across different countries.
- ❖ **community transmission** (noun) — community spread/transmission means spread of an illness/disease for which the source of infection is unknown. An infected person has no travel history to an affected area and no known contact with a person previously diagnosed with a particular disease. It is possible the patient is exposed to a returning traveler who is infected.
- ❖ **local transmission** (noun) — local spread/transmission means spread of an illness/disease for which the source of infection is known. An infected person has travel history to an affected area. We could be able to identify and trace individual cases, and ring-fence a cluster (of them) to prevent the spread of infection.
- ❖ **whip** (noun) — a written notice provided by the party (Whip) to their members in Parliament/Legislative Assembly to vote to support the act/policy. (a member of a political party who is in charge of providing that written notice is also called as "Whip").
- ❖ **Anti-defection law** (noun) — The 10th Schedule to the Constitution, popularly referred to as the 'Anti-Defection Law,' was inserted by the 52nd Amendment in 1985. The grounds of disqualification are specified in Paragraph 2 of the 10th Schedule. A member would incur a disqualification under paragraph 2 (1) (a) when he "voluntarily gives up his membership of a party" and under 2 (1) (b) when he/she votes (or abstains from voting) contrary to the directive issued by the party.
- ❖ **screening** (noun) — examination, testing (of a group of people for the symptoms of a disease). The process of identifying healthy people who may be at increased risk of disease or condition.
- ❖ **quarantine** (noun) — separate, set apart, segregate, detach (people, animals and things (such as plants) from others for a period of time in order to control/restrict the spread of a contagious disease).

- ❖ **public-health** (noun) — the branch of medicine handling public health; public is also the science of protecting and improving the health of people and their communities through education, policy making and research for disease and injury prevention).
- ❖ **social distancing** (noun) — a term means actively avoiding crowded public places, is a key element in decreasing the rapid spread of COVID-19. This is an effort intended to limit exposure by reducing face-to-face contact and preventing spread among people in community settings.
- ❖ **non-alignment** (noun) — a term used for an international organization who do not want to officially align themselves with, or against, any major power bloc (group of countries).
- ❖ **rules-based (system)** (noun) – the systems that represent knowledge in the form of rules. Rule-based systems normally use a working memory that initially contains the input data for a particular run, and an inference engine to find applicable rules and apply them.
- ❖ **electoral bond** (noun) – an electoral bond is designed to be a bearer instrument like a Promissory Note — in effect, it will be similar to a bank note that is payable to the bearer on demand and free of interest. It can be purchased by any citizen of India or a body incorporated in India. it allows limitless, secret donations to political parties, including (and especially) by corporations.
- ❖ **socio-economic equality** (noun) – it describes a theoretical circumstance or goal where all people have an equal social (position, rank, or importance) and economic (income, pay, and wealth) status.
- ❖ **primary** (noun) – (in the US) an election in which members of the same political party run against each other for the chance to be in a larger and more important election, especially presidential election.
- ❖ **caucus** (noun) – (in the US) a party-organized gathering of members to discuss their presidential preferences, elect local party leadership and discuss issues that make up the party's platform. A closed meeting of supporters or members of a specific political party or movement. It is also defined as hours-long voting meeting run by a political party.
- ❖ **democratic socialist** (noun) – a person who believes in the idea of that both the economy and society should be run democratically—to meet public needs, not to make profits for a few. (democratic socialism is a call for the democratically-elected (government) to use the public sector to promote greater equality and opportunity).
- ❖ **humanitarian crisis** (noun) – it is also called as humanitarian disaster; a situation with high levels of human suffering in which basic human welfare is in danger on a large scale.
- ❖ **Master of the Roster** (noun) – it refers to the privilege of the Chief Justice to constitute Benches to hear cases; In November 2017, when a Constitution Bench, led by the Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra, declared that the Chief Justice is the master of the roster and he alone has the prerogative (privilege/right) to constitute the Benches of the Court and allocate cases to the Benches so constituted.
- ❖ **checks and balances** (plural noun) — a system in which all departments of a government organization have right to amend/limit the powers of the other departments in order to avoid dominance of one department.
- ❖ **constitutional morality** (noun) — the principle of constitutional morality basically means to bow down to the norms of the Constitution and not to act in a manner which would become violative of the rule of law or reflectible of action in an arbitrary manner.

- ❖ **rule of law** (phrase) — it is described as "a principle of governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and which are consistent with international human rights norms and standards.
- ❖ **fourth branch institution** (noun) — the independent institutions, which are tasked with the protection of key constitutional values such as democracy, legality, impartiality, probity, human rights and price stability, are characterized as the fourth branch of the state, because of their distinctiveness from the three "branches"- the executive, legislature and judiciary. In the Indian context, institutions of the fourth branch include the Election Commission, Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General, Central Bureau of Investigation, Reserve Bank, National Statistics Commission, National Human Rights Commission, Public Service Commission, University Grants Commission, Finance Commission, Niti Aayog and others.
- ❖ **collegium** (noun) — The collegium system is the one in which the Chief Justice of India and a forum of four senior most judges of the Supreme Court recommend appointments & transfers of judges. There is no mention of the collegium in the Constitution of India.
- ❖ **quasi-judicial** (adjective) — relating to the actions by any non-judicial body or government entity in which there are hearings, orders, judgements-and other activities similar to those conducted by courts.
- ❖ **economic insecurity** (noun) — Economic insecurity can be defined as the anxiety produced by the possible exposure to adverse economic events and by the anticipation of the difficulty to recover from them". Examples could include a fear of unemployment, or an expectation of a worsening financial situation.
- ❖ **frontline responder** (noun) — a person who is among the first to arrive and provide assistance at the scene of an emergency. First/front line responders typically include paramedics, emergency medical technicians, police officers, firefighters & etc.,.
- ❖ **bubonic plague** (noun) — an infectious disease., patients develop sudden onset of fever, headache, chills, and weakness and one or more swollen, tender and painful lymph nodes (called buboes).

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**Phrasal Verbs**

- ❖ **come up with** — produce, put forward, present/submit.
- ❖ **lay down** — formulate, stipulate, frame.
- ❖ **break out** — (of fighting/violence) flare up, begin/start suddenly, erupt.
- ❖ **roll back** — reverse the progress of something.
- ❖ **snuff out** — kill (in a sudden manner).
- ❖ **live through** — survive, undergo, experience (an unpleasant experience or period).
- ❖ **account for** — constitute, make up, comprise, form.
- ❖ **knock down** — demolish, destroy, pull down.
- ❖ **move on** — develop, progress; get better, take steps forward, march forward.
- ❖ **put behind** — to stop focusing on something.
- ❖ **reach out** — contact someone to obtain or offer help, assistance, cooperation.
- ❖ **come after** — follow, happen occur, ensue.

- ❖ **pull out** — withdraw, leave, abandon.
- ❖ **put aside** — disregard/forget, set aside, ignore, pay no heed to, shrug off.
- ❖ **factor in** — included/added as a factor/point when making a decision.
- ❖ **scale up** — increase.
- ❖ **step up** — increase, intensify, augment, strengthen, accelerate.
- ❖ **set up** — establish, start, begin.
- ❖ **put off** — postpone, defer, delay.
- ❖ **live up to** — satisfy, fulfil, achieve.
- ❖ **go against** — oppose, be contrary to.
- ❖ **take up** — accept, agree to, accede to, say yes to.
- ❖ **move away from** — change/alter one's ideas/beliefs and so
- ❖ **go on to** — talk at length, continue, proceed.
- ❖ **build upon** — develop, expand/enlarge on; enhance.
- ❖ **look for** — search for, try to find, look around for.
- ❖ **fall for** — to be tricked/deceived by something/someone.
- ❖ **rely upon** — depend on; resort to have recourse to.
- ❖ **push through** — succeed in passing a law accepted by the people who oppose it.
- ❖ **feed into** — have an effect/influence on something; help to make something happen.
- ❖ **brine upon** — cause to happen, give, deal out (something bad/unpleasant).
- ❖ **call for** — require, publicly ask/necessitate, demand.
- ❖ **walk out** — depart, leave, get out (suddenly).
- ❖ **put out** — publish, release, publicize/circulate.
- ❖ **embark upon** — start, begin, initiate/commence.
- ❖ **look at** — regard, consider, view/see; check out, analyse, appraise.
- ❖ **kick in** — come into effect.
- ❖ **send out** — give out, announce, deliver/release.
- ❖ **keep out** — exclude, deny access to, prohibit.
- ❖ **go beyond** — to do more than (required).
- ❖ **point out** — identify, recognize, draw attention to, mention.
- ❖ **put (someone) in** — appoint (someone) to fulfill a particular role.
- ❖ **usher in** — start, begin, initiate/introduce.
- ❖ **come under** — be subjected to.
- ❖ **stem from** — originate from, arise from, come from.
- ❖ **put forward** — moot, propose, recommend, suggest (an idea)
- ❖ **take to** — resort to, turn to, have recourse to.
- ❖ **set out** — present, describe, detail.
- ❖ **call on** — appeal to, demand/ask, request.
- ❖ **put up** — give, provide, come up with; present, put forward, propose.
- ❖ **see through** — get/have the measure of, fathom, realize. understand.
- ❖ **come down** — decrease, reduce, lessen.
- ❖ **flare up** — break out, start suddenly, erupt.

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**Idioms & Phrases**

- ❖ **(have a long) way to go** — to do a lot of work before accomplishing a goal.
- ❖ **way to go!** — used to tell someone when they have done something well.
- ❖ **naming and shaming** — to publicly identify someone who have done something wrong.
- ❖ **on the ground** — in a situation/place where things are happening really/practically.
- ❖ **suo mote** — Latin term means "on its own motion". It is used where a government agency acts on its own knowledge.
- ❖ **take cognisance of** — consider something; take something into account, give attention to something, to take notice of something.
- ❖ **anyone's guess** — very difficult to predict.
- ❖ **set on fire** — cause to burn, ignite, set ablaze.
- ❖ **take into account** — consider, respect, take account of.
- ❖ **no wonder** — it is not surprising.
- ❖ **burst into flames** — be on fire, be ablaze, burn, be aflame.
- ❖ **out-of-the-box thinking** — thinking creatively/unconventionally/differently.
- ❖ **more or less** — approximately, roughly, nearly, almost.
- ❖ **even more so** — used to emphasize that something holds good (true/valid) more than usual in a certain situation; especially, particularly.
- ❖ **change the course** — divert something completely in a new & different path/direction.
- ❖ **far beyond** — outside the limits/scope/ambit of something.
- ❖ **a new lease of life** — an improved and energetic life after making something better than.
- ❖ **all eyes on** — used for saying that everyone is paying attention to a particular person, event, or situation.
- ❖ **in every sense** — in all the ways (it may be defined).
- ❖ **on the strength of** — on the basis of; on the influence of (something) with the justification/merit of (something).
- ❖ **few and far between** — not happening frequently; infrequent, rare, occasional; insufficient, negligible, meagre.
- ❖ **in the blink of an eye** — immediately, at once, straight away.
- ❖ **live the dream** — do what someone wanted to do.
- ❖ **at peace** — undisturbed, untroubled, unworried; free from distress; anxiety-free.
- ❖ **at the earliest** — as soon as possible, without delay, in a very quick time.
- ❖ **take into consideration** — consider, take into account, foresee, anticipate.
- ❖ **to a tee** — completely, perfectly, exactly, rightly, to perfection.
- ❖ **in keeping with** — consistent with, in accordance with, in line with.
- ❖ **bring/throw something into sharp relief** — to make something very noticeable; highlight, emphasize, underline, underscore.
- ❖ **be staring something in the face** — to seem impossible to avoid/escape from (something noticeable/visible very clearly, but not attended till date).
- ❖ **state of play** — the current situation (of a continuous process).

- ❖ **cut no ice** — to have no influence on someone; to fail to convince someone.
- ❖ **in retrospect** — looking back, on reflection, in/with hindsight.
- ❖ **stage a comeback** — achieve a success after failure.
- ❖ **stand out from the pack** — to be different from other people; distinct, noticeable, unique.
- ❖ **early on** — at an initial stage (during the process).
- ❖ **owing to** — because of, as a result of, on account of
- ❖ **stand a chance** — have a chance of doing (winning)
- ❖ **in short** — briefly, in a nutshell; in conclusion/summary.
- ❖ **much to the delight of someone** — used to say that something has provided someone a feeling of very great pleasure.
- ❖ **in the interest of** — for the benefit of, for the sake of, considering.
- ❖ **at the hands of** — as a consequence of actions (suffer, get hurt & be treated badly by someone).
- ❖ **strike a blow against** — do something in opposition to.
- ❖ **put an end to** — block, thwart, end/stop.
- ❖ **sort of** — to some extent, somewhat, somehow, slightly.
- ❖ **bear in mind** — take into account, heed, remember, consider.
- ❖ **out of respect for** — because of the respect for.
- ❖ **lend credence to** — to make something (opinion/idea) seem correct.
- ❖ **far from** — not, not at all, nowhere near.
- ❖ **in the very act of** — in the nick of the time.
- ❖ **short of** — less than.
- ❖ **down the line** — at an unspecified point; at some stage.
- ❖ **at best** — simply, merely, only, nothing but.
- ❖ **now or never** — something has to be done now, very quickly (as another chance will never be available again).
- ❖ **as yet** — so far, thus far, still, until now.
- ❖ **at the highest (level)** — to the maximum level/extent.
- ❖ **play a part/role** — contribute to, be instrumental in, be a factor in.
- ❖ **it stands to reason** — it is logical, it is understandable, it is true, it is clear, it is likely to happen.
- ❖ **at the very least** — to put it mildly, take the most pessimistic view.
- ❖ **in sum** — briefly, to come to the point, in essence.
- ❖ **little by way of** — not (very) much; less.
- ❖ **if and when** — used to say something about an future event/situation that may or may not happen.
- ❖ **at the forefront** — be in a leading position in an important activity that is trying to achieve something.
- ❖ **all the time** — constantly, relentlessly, always.
- ❖ **so far** — until now, up to the present, up to this point.
- ❖ **to put someone at ease** — to make (someone) to feel calm & relaxed.
- ❖ **go a lone way** — to do a lot of work before accomplishing a goal.
- ❖ **join hands** — work together.
- ❖ **on several fronts** — in several area of activity

- ❖ **to this end** — to achieve the (previously) specified goal/aim.
- ❖ **on the streets** — (of a crowd) to come together in the streets to display communal harmony in either celebration or opposition.
- ❖ **in the trip of** — dominated/affected by something undesirable.
- ❖ **lay claim to** — to assert one's possession of or right to.
- ❖ **seek refuge** — to go to a place for protection from trouble
- ❖ **well past** — a long time past.
- ❖ **under the cover of darkness/night** — at night (hidden by in the darkness)
- ❖ **at all costs** — regardless of the effort needed.
- ❖ **hold sway** — be in power/control, rule.
- ❖ **under siege** — surrounded/encircled, besieged/blockaded, under attack.
- ❖ **go up in flames** — burn, blaze, destroy (by fire).
- ❖ **no man is an island, entire of itself** — a person needs support of others and society as a whole in order to survive.
- ❖ **for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee** — it explains that although you may hear the bell announcing a death of someone, the bell is not only for the dead person but to remind you that you are part of all mankind.
- ❖ **zero-sum game** — zero-sum game is one in which no wealth is created or destroyed. So, in a two-player zero-sum game, whatever one player wins, the other loses.

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