

## IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

- ❖ **National Institute of Virology (NIV)** (noun) – The National Institute of Virology is one of the major Institutes of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). It was established at Pune, Maharashtra State in 1952 as Virus Research Centre (VRC) to do intensive training and research in virology in India.
- ❖ **nautical mile** (noun) – it is a unit of measurement defined as 1.852 kilometres, used on water by sailors and/or navigators in shipping and aviation. It is the average length of one minute of one degree along a great circle (circumference) of the Earth. One nautical mile corresponds to one minute of latitude.
- ❖ **International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLO )** (noun) – The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea is an independent judicial body established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to adjudicate disputes arising out of the interpretation and application of the Convention.
- ❖ **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)** (noun) - This convention provides the overarching framework for the governance of the oceans. It governs relations among countries on oceans-related issues. It outlines the rights and responsibilities countries have related to the use of the oceans, the seabed and their resources, and the protection of the ocean environment. This Convention was signed on 10 December 1982 and entered into force on 16 November 1994.
- ❖ **humanitarian assistance/humanitarian aid** (noun) – it is intended to “save lives, alleviate suffering and maintain human dignity during and after man-made crises and disasters caused by natural hazards, as well as to prevent and strengthen preparedness for when such situations occur. It is given to meet the immediate needs of victims of disasters or violence. It can include food, money, medical supplies, and other things required by those affected; compensation.
- ❖ **anti-intellectualism** (noun) – an attitude that devalues/distrusts intellectual pursuits; Hostility to and mistrust of intellect, intellectuals, and intellectualism. People with this attitude dismiss art, literature, and science as impractical, politically motivated.
- ❖ **Corps** (noun) – it literally means “army body”; The corps is treated as an operational unit of employment by the Army and can be comprised of 20,000-45,000 soldiers. It is sometimes known as a field corps, which consists of two or more divisions. It is commanded by the Corps Commander, who holds the rank of Lieutenant General. “Corps” was first introduced in France about 1805 by Napoleon as a more flexible tactical grouping of two or more divisions.
- ❖ **People’s Liberation Army (PLA)** (noun) – People’s Liberation Army (PLA) is the armed forces of the country of China and Communist Party of China (CPC). It is one of the largest military forces in the world.
- ❖ **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** (noun) – the de-facto (effective) border between India and China. The LAC is a 4,057-km border running through three areas-Western (Ladakh, Ladakh (Kashmir)), middle (Uttarakhand, Himachal) and eastern (Sikkim, Arunachal).
- ❖ **Contiguous Zone** (noun) – an area of sea contiguous to and extending seaward of the territorial sea, in which the coastal State may exercise the control necessary to prevent and

punish infringements of its customs, fiscal, immigration, and sanitary laws within its territory or territorial sea. The contiguous zone is a band of water extending farther from the outer edge of the territorial sea to up to 24 nautical miles (44.4 km; 27.6 mi) from the baseline.

- ❖ **redaction** (noun) – it means that certain text contained in a document filed with the Court (or a judgment provided by the Court) is concealed from view for privacy protection; Hiding some text in a document for privacy.
- ❖ **Vienna convention** (noun) – the treaty that lays down the rules about treaties – legal agreements between countries. This Vienna Convention on Diplomatic/Consular relations, which was agreed in 1961 and went into force in 1964.
- ❖ **freedom of navigation (F N)** (noun) – a principle of customary (established) international law that ships flying the flag of any sovereign state shall not suffer interference from other states, apart from the exceptions provided for in international law.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **hot springs** (noun) – Hot Springs (Kiyam) is the location of an Indian border checkpost operated by Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) in the Chang Chenmo River valley in Ladakh near the disputed border with China. It is so named because there is a hot spring at this location. (hot spring is generally a spring (well head) with water at temperatures substantially higher than the air temperature of the surrounding region).
- ❖ **institution** (noun) – the (independent) institutions such as Election Commission, Central Bureau of Investigation, Reserve Bank & etc are tasked with the protection of key constitutional values such as democracy, legality, impartiality, probity, human rights and price stability.
- ❖ **ruler and the ruled** (adjective) – relating to the political system/structure wherein the higher authority/supreme ruler is also a part of the political order just as much as his subjects (citizen) are.
- ❖ **social contract theory** (noun) – social contract theory is the view that persons’ moral and/or political obligations are dependent upon a contract or agreement among them to form the society in which they live.
- ❖ **monarchy** (noun) – kingdom, sovereign state; a form of government in which a country is ruled by someone who rules for life and usually receives their position from another person when that person dies.
- ❖ **antibody** (noun) – it is also called ‘immunoglobulin’; a protective protein produced mainly by plasma (blood) cells in the immune system in response to the presence of antigens (disease causing organisms (bacteria & viruses) and other harmful/toxic foreign substances like insect venom).
- ❖ **containment** (noun) – an act of keeping something (harmful) under control (it means quickly identifying cases of coronavirus through testing, placing infected individuals in isolation, tracking who infected persons might have been in contact with and potentially quarantining those who came into contact with infection so that the disease doesn’t continue to spread).

- ❖ **inequality** (noun) – Inequality is simply defined as “the state of not being equal, especially in status, rights and opportunities; imbalance, unevenness, disproportion, disparity.
- ❖ **severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)** (noun) – SARS coronavirus (SARS-CoV) is thought to be an animal virus from an as-yet-uncertain animal reservoir, perhaps bats, that spread to other animals (civet cats). It is a viral (human-to-human transmission) that can cause severe respiratory illness or death.
- ❖ **Gini Coefficient/Gini Index** (noun) - a statistical measure of economic inequality in a population. The coefficient measures the dispersion of income or distribution of wealth among the members of a population.
- ❖ **health intelligence** (noun) – the surveillance and monitoring of population health and the determinants of health and well being; support for evidence-based practice; and assessment of the effectiveness of policies, programmes and services. The ability to aggregate and apply health knowledge in order to affect the health of an individual person or group of people.
- ❖ **International Health Regulations (IHR)** (noun) – IHR represents an agreement between 196 countries including all WHO Member States to work together for global health security. Through IHR, countries have agreed to build their capacities to detect, assess and report public health events.
- ❖ **immigration** (noun) – the act of leaving one’s countries and moving to another country of which they are not natives, nor citizens, to settle or reside there, especially as permanent residents or naturalized citizens, or to take-up employment as a migrant worker or temporarily as a foreign worker.
- ❖ **Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)** (noun) – ICE stands for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, an agency within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. ICE was created in 2003, as a part of the government’s reorganization after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. ICE’s stated mission is to protect America from the cross-border crime and illegal immigration that threaten national security and public safety.
- ❖ **fall semester** (noun) – most US universities have two admission intakes every year when they accept students into their respective classes and courses. Fall semester starts in late August and ends in late December or early January whereas the Spring semester begins in January and ends in early May.
- ❖ **H-1B visa** (noun) – it permits a foreign professional (with a (min. 4 years) university degree or its equivalent) to work in specialty occupations (or skilled employments) in the United States (issued for a max of 6 years in total).
- ❖ **L-1 visa** (noun) – it is an intra-company transfer US visa. It allows a US company to transfer a key employee from one of its offices in another country into the United States.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **fiscal space** (noun) – it is commonly defined as the budgetary room that allows a government to provide resources for public purposes without undermining fiscal sustainability.

- ❖ **Indian Penal Code (IPC)** (noun) – The Indian Penal Code (IPC) is the official criminal code of India. It is a comprehensive code intended to cover all substantive aspects of criminal law. The draft was passed into law on 6 October 1860. The Code came into operation on 1 January 1862. The Indian Penal Code of 1860, sub-divided into 23 chapters, comprises 511 sections. IPC deals with crimes and punishments.
- ❖ **Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC)** (noun) – The Code of Criminal Procedure (in India). The main legislation on procedure for administration of substantive criminal law in India. It was enacted in 1973 and came into force on 1 April 1974. CrPC tells about the criminal trial procedure.
- ❖ **The Indian Evidence Act** (noun) – The Indian Evidence Act passed in India by the Imperial Legislative Council in 1872. It contains a set of rules and allied issues governing admissibility of evidence in the Indian courts of law.
- ❖ **credit rating agency (CRA)** (noun) – a credit rating agency is an entity which assesses the ability and willingness of the issuer company for timely payment of interest and principal on a debt instrument.
- ❖ **Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement (FPSS)** (noun) – it outlines the strategic priorities of the government in the fiscal area for the ensuing financial year relating to taxation, expenditure, lending and investments, administered pricing, borrowings and guarantees.
- ❖ **cross the river by feeling the stones** (phrase) – It refers to the pragmatic (practical) policy to move ahead with economic reforms slowly and pragmatically. This phrase was coined by Deng Xiaoping, a Chinese politician.

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## IDIOMS & PHRASES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>hit home</b> – (of a criticism/remark) to be fully understood or accepted as true/real.</li> <li>❖ <b>cut corners</b> – to do something very cheaply &amp; quickly without following the procedures correctly.</li> <li>❖ <b>cast anchor</b> – secure a vessel/ship with an anchor; drop anchor, fix, fasten.</li> <li>❖ <b>at the mercy of</b> – in the power of, under the control of, unprotected against, defenceless against.</li> <li>❖ <b>get/have the measure of</b> – judge or evaluate the character of someone or something.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>walk/go down memory lane</b> – to recall or remember happy things happened in the past.</li> <li>❖ <b>know for a fact that</b> – used to highlight that you are certain something is true; surely.</li> <li>❖ <b>be easier said than done</b> – used to say that something sounds like a good idea in theory, but it would be very difficult to do.</li> <li>❖ <b>status quo ante</b> – a Latin phrase meaning “the state of affairs existing before” (or) “the way things were before”.</li> </ul> |
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- ❖ **a bolt out of the blue** – shock, surprise, revelation, jolt.
- ❖ **the jury is still out** – a final decision has not yet been reached.
- ❖ **have little/nothing to do with** – have no connect/contact with, steer clear of, keep away from.
- ❖ **take something in one's stride** – deal with easily, cope with easily, accept as quite normal.
- ❖ **cheek by jowl** – very close together, with each other closely, jointly.
- ❖ **bring to the fore** – to move something forward to a most important position (to make it more visible).
- ❖ **a seat at the table** – a position as a member of a group that makes decisions.
- ❖ **take a step back** – to withdraw oneself from something temporarily in order to think about it in a new way completely.
- ❖ **push the envelope** – extend the limits of what is possible; try new things that have not been acceptable or tried before.
- ❖ **take at face value** – to accept or believe something as someone says without thinking whether it is true or not.
- ❖ **put a lid on** – stop, finish, end, destroy (something before it increases or becomes severe/serious).
- ❖ **quid pro quo** – “something for something”; a support in exchange for something.
- ❖ **to one's credit** – used to mention that someone deserves praise/admiration for his achievement.
- ❖ **down the road** – in the future.
- ❖ **thus far** – until now, till now, up to this point.
- ❖ **at hand** – imminent, close at hand, approaching, about to happen, just around the corner.
- ❖ **over time** – it describes something which happens gradually.
- ❖ **in principle** – in general, in essence; on paper, in theory.
- ❖ **bring to light** – reveal, disclose, expose/ identify.
- ❖ **in the midst of** – in the middle of.
- ❖ **in a hurry** – quickly, with urgency, in a rush.
- ❖ **make public** – announce, communicate, make known, disseminate.
- ❖ **in one's favour** – to one's benefit/ advantage.
- ❖ **more so** – to a greater degree; to a greater extent.
- ❖ **stand beside** – stand by, support; to stand behind someone physically.
- ❖ **leave open** – make vulnerable, jeopardize, endanger, risk.
- ❖ **(keep) in the dark** – unaware of, ignorant of, uninformed about.
- ❖ **lose no (or little) time** – be quick, hurry up, speed up.
- ❖ **all but** – nearly, almost (all except).
- ❖ **all along** – from the beginning, all the time.
- ❖ **play a part/role** – contribute to, be instrumental in, be a factor in.
- ❖ **on the ground** – in a situation/place where things are happening really/practically.
- ❖ **hold someone responsible/accountable for** – blame someone for something.

- ❖ **by the same token** – in the same way.
- ❖ **in due course** – at the appropriate time, in time, eventually.
- ❖ **under way** – going on, continuing, in progress.
- ❖ **in theory** – in principle, on paper.
- ❖ **muddy the waters** – make the issue more complicated.
- ❖ **on account of** – because of, owing to/due to, by virtue of.
- ❖ **shoot to fame** – to quickly become very popular.
- ❖ **at the hands of** – (suffer, get hurt & be treated badly) as a consequence of someone's actions.
- ❖ **far from** – not, not at all, nowhere near.
- ❖ **on the go** – (while) working, at work, on the job.
- ❖ **at the very least** – to put it mildly, without any exaggeration, taking pessimistic view.
- ❖ **at someone's mercy** – under the control of, in the power of.
- ❖ **at will** – as one wishes, at one's pleasure, at one's discretion.
- ❖ **thanks to** – as a result of, owing to, due to, because of.
- ❖ **business as usual** – routine, regularity, normal pattern.
- ❖ **out of control** – uncontrollable, unmanageable, ungovernable.
- ❖ **as things stand** – in the present situation.
- ❖ **come as no surprise** – something which is not surprising someone, but is as expected one.
- ❖ **owing to** – because of, as a result of, on account of
- ❖ **in the course of** – during (the particular period/activity).
- ❖ **in the hands of** – in the possession of.
- ❖ **shine a light** – to examine something more precisely in order to make it more clear.
- ❖ **come to someone's aid** – to provide support to someone.
- ❖ **at stake** – at risk, at issue, in question.
- ❖ **all the while** – during the entire time.
- ❖ **make a mockery of** – make something to look foolish/absurd.
- ❖ **far more** – a lot more, much more.
- ❖ **state of affairs** – condition, circumstances, situation.
- ❖ **for someone's sake** – benefit, advantage, good/gain.
- ❖ **over and above** – in addition to, as well as, besides.
- ❖ **fall short** – be deficient, inadequate, be insufficient.
- ❖ **in short** – briefly, in essence, in sum.
- ❖ **get tough on** – to deal with something strictly.
- ❖ **as it stands** – in the present condition.
- ❖ **exchange of fire** – an incident in which two opposite sides shoot at each other (using guns).
- ❖ **at all** – under any circumstances, by any means, in any way.
- ❖ **gain ground** – become accepted, become popular, make headway, make progress.
- ❖ **in the public domain** – if something (e.g. information) is in the public domain, people generally know about it since it is not secret.

- ❖ **hold someone to account** – to require a person to explain or to accept responsibility for his or her actions; to blame or punish someone for what has occurred.
- ❖ **by way of** – via, by means of, as a form of.
- ❖ **the way forward** – something (a plan/action) that leads to success in the future.

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## PHRASAL VERBS

- ❖ **hold back** – stop oneself, desist, discontinue, refrain from doing something.
- ❖ **come out with** – utter, say, speak (suddenly & unexpectedly).
- ❖ **chase down** – run after and catch someone; follow and catch someone.
- ❖ **bend on** – be very determined, be inclined, be prepared to do something.
- ❖ **run over** – go over, go beyond, overreach/exceed (an expected limit).
- ❖ **get on to** – to start working on something, to start doing something; to start dealing with something.
- ❖ **bring out** – disclose, reveal, expose, become known; emphasize.
- ❖ **give way to** – be replaced by, be succeeded by, be followed by, be superseded by.
- ❖ **cry out for** – require, demand, need.
- ❖ **stand to** – be in a position, be ready (where one is likely to do something).
- ❖ **lose out** – fail to get a gain, fail to benefit from, be disadvantaged.
- ❖ **wall off** – separate, disallow, close off, barricade.
- ❖ **shore up** – support, assist, prop up (with some fund/finance to stop declining).
- ❖ **drown out** – make inaudible, be louder than, overpower, overwhelm.
- ❖ **haul up** – compel, force someone to appear in a court for trial/criticism.
- ❖ **revolve around** – be concerned with, be preoccupied with, focus/concentrate on.
- ❖ **dispense with** – discard, get rid of, do away with.
- ❖ **date back** – to have existed since a particular time in the past.
- ❖ **own up** – confess, admit to, accept responsibility.
- ❖ **cover up** – conceal, hide, camouflage (a mistake or crime).
- ❖ **crop up** – happen, occur, arise.
- ❖ **snuff out** – kill (in a sudden manner).
- ❖ **fire up** – activate, set in motion, turn on.
- ❖ **set up** – establish, start/begin, inaugurate, create.
- ❖ **level against** – direct (an accusation/charge).
- ❖ **end up** – be in a particular position finally; find oneself.
- ❖ **reach out** – contact someone to obtain/offer help/assistance/cooperation.
- ❖ **live up to** – satisfy, fulfil, achieve.

- ❖ **give up** – abandon, forgo, renounce, relinquish.
- ❖ **carry out** – conduct, perform, execute.
- ❖ **set out** – present, describe, detail.
- ❖ **pull back** – withdraw, retreat, disengage
- ❖ **put aside** – disregard/forget, set aside, ignore
- ❖ **stand (for)** – be a candidate in an election.
- ❖ **stand down** – withdraw, resign/quit, bow out.
- ❖ **pick up** – arrest, detain, take into custody.
- ❖ **sit up** – to start paying attention (quickly).
- ❖ **weave into** – include, add (as a element of something).
- ❖ **keep up** – continue, maintain, carry on/ sustain.
- ❖ **go up to** – approach, reach out to someone.
- ❖ **stay ahead** – to have an advantage; to remain in front.
- ❖ **go on to** – proceed to; continue, carry on.
- ❖ **throw up** – produce something.
- ❖ **take on** – compete against, oppose, challenge/confront.
- ❖ **lay bare** – reveal, expose, disclose.
- ❖ **go about** – begin, embark on, start, carry on (an activity).
- ❖ **point out** – identify, mention, indicate, draw attention to.
- ❖ **look to** – rely on, resort to, have recourse to, fall back on.
- ❖ **put up** – display a notice.
- ❖ **rein in** – restrict, control, restrain.
- ❖ **set aside** – cancel, annul, overrule, overturn.
- ❖ **push back** – force back, repel, fight off.
- ❖ **turn up** – arrive, come, go.
- ❖ **turn out** – transpire, emerge; happen.
- ❖ **come up with** – produce, put forward, present/submit.
- ❖ **speed up** – accelerate, expedite, hurry up.
- ❖ **put out** – publish, release, publicize/ circulate.
- ❖ **pass off** – happen, occur, take place, be completed.
- ❖ **scale up** – increase (in size or number).
- ❖ **wind up** – conclude, bring to an close, end/finish.
- ❖ **break down** – knock down, demolish, destroy.