

## IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

- ❖ **tabletop runway** (noun) – it is an airport located and built on top of a plateau or hilly surface, with one or both ends of the runway overlooking a drop. The airports in the country which would count as “tabletops”, are namely Lengpui (Mizoram), Shimla and Kullu (Himachal Pradesh), Pakyong (Sikkim), Mangaluru (Karnataka), Kozhikode and Kannur (both Kerala).
- ❖ **arrester bed/system** (noun) – made out of “engineered materials”, an arrester (also “arrester”) bed is a surface made of special materials – a type of “soft” concrete used to stop aircraft that overrun a runway – designed to reduce the severity of the consequences of a runway overshoot.
- ❖ **rubber deposit** (noun) – rubber deposits occurs recurrently at the touchdown area on runways due to vulcanized (hardened) rubber of aircraft tires during landings and lesser during take-offs. Heavy rubber deposits may completely cover the pavement surface texture and cause loss of aircraft braking capability and directional control when runways are wet.
- ❖ **Western Ghats** (noun) – The mountain range that runs along the west coast of peninsular India from Tamil Nadu through Kerala, Karnataka and Goa to Maharashtra is known as the Western Ghats.
- ❖ **geological survey of india** (noun) – the principal function of Geological Survey of India (GSI) (Established in 1851) relate to creation and updation of national geoscientific data and mineral resource assessment, air-borne and marine surveys and conducting multifarious geo-technical, geo-environmental and natural hazards studies, glaciology, seismotectonics, etc. and to nurture studies on fundamental research.
- ❖ **national landslide susceptibility mapping (NLSM)** (noun) – This programme is launched by The GSI to prepare seamless (continuous) landslide susceptibility maps of the hilly regions of the country.
- ❖ **zoning laws** (noun) – laws of local municipal governments or other local authorities that dictate the use of land and construction of buildings.
- ❖ **Seventh Fleet** (noun) – Established on March 15, 1943, it is the largest forward-deployed U.S. fleet with 60 to 70 ships, 300 aircraft and 40,000 Navy and Marine Corps personnel and its area of responsibility includes the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean. (“the fleet” means a country’s navy).
- ❖ **foreign direct investment (FDI)** (noun) – Investment from one country into another (normally by companies rather than governments) that involves establishing operations or acquiring tangible assets, including stakes in other businesses.
- ❖ **subsidy** (noun) – also called as subvention; a financial contribution granted to help an industry or business, mostly given by a government, in order to keep the price of service/goods at a low level.
- ❖ **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)
- ❖ **Line of control (LoC)** (noun) – it is a 450 mile-long military control line lying between India and Pakistan’s controlled parts of the former (under the British) Jammu and Kashmir. This line is not actually a legally recognized international boundary but prevails as per de facto. After the Simla Agreement signed in July 1972, this line was officially renamed as “Line of Control” from “the Cease-fire Line”.
- ❖ **(hydrogen) fuel cell** (noun) – a device that converts chemical potential energy (energy stored in molecular bonds) into electrical energy. A fuel cell works much like an electric battery, converting chemical energy into electrical energy using the movement of charged hydrogen ions across an electrolyte membrane to generate current.
- ❖ **Little Boy** (noun) – an atomic/nuclear bomb (uranium gun-type bomb) dropped by the United States on the Japanese city of Hiroshima on 6 August 1945 during World War II. It exploded with an energy of approximately 15 kilotons of TNT (63 TJ). It was the first nuclear weapon used in a war.

- ❖ **Fat man** (noun) – an atomic/nuclear bomb (plutonium implosion bomb) dropped by the United States on the Japanese city of Nagasaki on 9 August 1945 during World War II. It exploded with an energy of approximately 21 kilotons of TNT (88 TJ). It was the second nuclear weapon used in a war.
- ❖ **(nuclear weapon explosive) yield** (noun) – a nuclear weapon (bomb) is measured in terms of its explosive yield, which is referenced in terms of “tons,” “kilotons,” and “megatons” of the TNT explosive power they put off. For example, the explosive yield from a conventional bomb would be about 500 pounds (250 kilograms). The largest conventional weapon in the U.S. arsenal “Mother of all Bombs,” or MOAB is around 11 tons, about 44 times the size of a conventional bomb.
- ❖ **the Cold War** (noun) – The Cold War was a state of political and military tension after World War II between powers in the Western Bloc (the United States and a group of countries) and powers in the Eastern Bloc (the Soviet Union and a group of countries).
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **antigen** (noun) – disease causing organisms (bacteria & viruses) and other harmful/toxic foreign substances like insect venom that induce an immune response in the body.
- ❖ **rapid antigen test (RCT)** (noun) – It is a test on swabbed nasal samples that detects antigens (foreign substances that induce an immune response in the body) that are found on or within the SARS-CoV-2 virus. It is a point-of-care test, performed outside the conventional laboratory setting, and is used to quickly obtain a diagnostic result. In a reliable rapid antigen detection test, the maximum duration for interpreting a positive or negative test is 30 minutes.
- ❖ **RT-PCR testing** (noun) – Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing; it is one of the most accurate laboratory methods for detecting, tracking, and studying the coronavirus. It is a nuclear-derived method for detecting the presence of specific genetic material from any pathogen, including a virus. (pathogen is a bacteria/virus that causes disease).
- ❖ **public health** (noun) – the branch of medicine handling public health; public health 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.
- ❖ **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).
- ❖ **one country two systems policy** (noun) – the One Country Two Systems policy was originally proposed by Chinese communist leader Deng Xiaoping shortly after he took the reins of the country in the late 1970s. Deng’s plan was to unify China and Taiwan under the One Country Two Systems policy. He promised high autonomy to Taiwan. Under Deng’s plan, the Taiwan could follow Chinese capitalist economic system, run a separate administration and keep its own army but under Chinese sovereignty.
- ❖ **Mischief Reef** (noun) – a reef surrounding a large lagoon in the Spratly Islands, an area of the South China Sea. (lagoon is a shallow body of water separated from a larger body of water by barrier islands or reefs).
- ❖ **reef** (noun) – a ridge of material (rock, coral, sand) at or near the surface of the ocean. Natural reefs are made of rocks or the skeletons of small animals called corals. Reefs can also be artificial (created by human beings).
- ❖ **Spratlys** (noun) – the Spratly Islands are a disputed archipelago in the South China Sea. (archipelago is a group of (small) islands closely scattered in a body of water; e.g. Indonesia, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Japan, the Philippines, Maldives & etc).

- ❖ **beachhead** (noun) – in military strategy, as a way to invade territory of enemy by concentrating on small area (beachhead-landing on an enemy shore) from which further attacks could be performed; foothold, grip, anchorage.
- ❖ **steel frame** (noun) – civil servants; The first Home Minister of Independent India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers in 1947 at Metcalf House, Delhi, he referred to civil servants as the ‘steel frame of India’.
- ❖ **Scarborough Shoal confrontation/standoff** (noun) – it refers to tensions between China (PRC) and the Philippines which began on April 8, 2012 over the Philippine Navy apprehension of eight mainland Chinese fishing vessels in the disputed Scarborough Shoal. Scarborough Shoal is (a ring shaped) rock/reef in the South China Sea. It barely consists of land and is mostly made up of “uninhabited rocky outcrops, atolls, sandbanks, and reefs”.
- ❖ **The Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)** (noun) – The Permanent Court of Arbitration, established by treaty in 1899, is an intergovernmental **organization** providing a variety of dispute resolution services to the international community.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **constitutional secularism** (noun) – India’s constitutional secularism requires that the Indian state be neither wholly respectful nor disrespectful to religions. Critical respect for all religions is the hallmark of Indian secularism.
- ❖ **party-political secularism** (noun) – it means that political institutions like the state and political party keep an opportunist distance from the notorious and highly politicised sections of all religious groups.
- ❖ **majoritarianism** (noun) – a philosophy that states that a majority (sometimes categorized by religion, language, social class, or some other identifying factor) of the population is entitled to a certain degree of primacy (priority) in society, and has the right to make decisions that affect the society.
- ❖ **vicious cycle** (noun) – also known as a vicious circle; a chain of negative events reinforce themselves. The situation spirals in a downward loop, becoming increasingly worse with time. A situation in which the solution to one problem creates a chain of problems, each making it more difficult to solve the original one.
- ❖ **running mate** (noun) – the person who runs with someone in an election (such as an election to choose a new president) and who is given the less important position (such as vice president) if they are elected.
- ❖ **presumptive nominee** (noun) – In United States presidential elections, the presumptive nominee is a presidential candidate who is assumed to be their party’s nominee, but has not yet been formally.
- ❖ **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
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **migration** (noun) – the (temporary) movement of people from one region to another – either within a country or across national borders in order to find work or better living conditions.

- ❖ **black lives matter (BLM)** (noun) – an international activist movement, originating in the African-American community, that campaigns against violence and systemic racism towards black people.
- ❖ **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)** (noun) – a process of evaluating the likely environmental impacts of a proposed project or development, taking into account inter-related socio-economic, cultural and human-health impacts, both beneficial and adverse.
- ❖ **Environmental Performance Index (EPI)** (noun) – The EPI offers a scorecard that highlights leaders and laggards in environmental performance and provides practical guidance for countries that aspire to move toward a sustainable future. Overall EPI rankings indicate which countries are best addressing the environmental challenges that every nation faces.
- ❖ **trade-off** (noun) – a situation in which you must choose between (balance) two things that are opposite or cannot be had at the same time; a compromise; swap, exchange.
- ❖ **clean chit** (noun) – In India, the expression is used to mean ‘cleared of any wrongdoing’. Native speakers of English prefer to use ‘**clean sheet**’, instead.
- ❖ **crony capitalism** (noun) – it is a term describing an economy in which success in business depends on close relationships between business people and government officials. A person who is involved in this relationship is called as crony capitalism.
- ❖ **Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)** (noun) – In India, the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Rules govern human and industrial activity close to the coastline, in order to protect the fragile ecosystems near the sea. They restrict certain kinds of activities — like large constructions, setting up of new industries, storage or disposal of hazardous material, mining, reclamation and bunding – within a certain distance from the coastline.
- ❖ **regulatory burden** (noun) – compliance burden; it includes all costs that result from mandatory obligations placed on businesses by public authorities on the basis of a law, decree or similar act.
- ❖ **global warming** (noun) – it is the unusually rapid increase in Earth’s average surface temperature over the past century primarily due to the greenhouse gases released as people burn fossil fuels.
- ❖ **watershed (moment)** (noun) – it used to mean ‘important changes’ or the ‘turning point’ in a situation or event. The event that marks a historic change; historic moment.
- ❖ **succession** (noun) – succession is the process by which the all the earthly property of a person (dead/alive) are dealt with. Succession results into inheritance. Inheritance is the transfer of rights of property from the person (dead/alive) to a successor.
- ❖ **Hindu succession act** (noun) – The Supreme Court of India reiterated (said again) that the Hindu Succession Act – that was amended in 2005 gives women equal inheritance rights. The apex court has now categorically (clearly) ruled that a woman can claim equal share in family property as a daughter in the same way “as that of a son,”. This right flows (comes) from her birth and not by any other factor such as the existence of her father.
- ❖ **ratification** (noun) – an act by which a State (Country) signifies an agreement to be legally bound by the terms of a particular treaty. To ratify (approve) a treaty, the State first signs it and then fulfils its own national legislative requirements. Once the appropriate national organ of the country (e.g.Parliament) follows domestic constitutional procedures and makes a formal decision to be a party to the treaty; approval, sanction, endorsement, finalization/formalization.
- ❖ **smart power** (noun) – In international relations, the term smart power refers to the combination of hard power and soft power strategies.
- ❖ **soft power** (noun) – soft power is convincing & effective power deriving from attraction and imitation and be based on intangible (non-physical) resources such as culture, ideology, and institutions.
- ❖ **hard power** (noun) – hard power is coercive power executed through military threats and economic incentives and based on tangible resources such as the army or economic strength.

- ❖ **International Labour Organization (ILO)** (noun) – Since founded in 1919, the International Labor Organization (ILO) is devoted to promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights, pursuing its founding mission that labour peace is essential to prosperity. It brings together governments, employers and workers of all member States, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men.
- ❖ **eight core ILO Conventions** (plural noun) – The eight ILO fundamental/core Conventions are; the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) , the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) , the Freedom of Association and Protection of the right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) , the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) , the Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) , the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) , the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) , and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).
- ❖ **capacity-building** (noun) – capacity development; it has typically been defined as the development and strengthening of human and institutional resources. The United Nations Development Programme defines capacity as “the ability to perform functions, solve problems, and achieve objectives” at three levels: individual, institutional and societal.
- ❖ **learning loss** (noun) – often referred to as summer setback or the summer slide, summer learning loss is when students return to school at a lower academic level than the end of the last school year. This happens when children don’t use or practise the skills they learned at school during summer vacation.
- ❖ **framework agreement** (noun) – an agreement between two parties that recognizes that the parties have not come to a final agreement on all matters relevant to the relationship between them, but have come to agreement on enough matters to move forward with the relationship, with further details to be agreed to in the future.
- ❖ **Golan Heights** (noun) – Internationally recognized as Syrian territory occupied by Israel. Israel seized this Golan Plateau from Syria in 1967 and the status of this territory “remains unchanged”.
- ❖ **West Bank** (noun) – It is a significant amount of land located on the west bank of the River Jordan and surrounded by Israel to the north, west and south. Jordan lies to its east. The West Bank has been occupied by Israel since the 1967 Middle East war, but decades of difficult on-off talks between Israel and the Palestinians – both of whom assert rights there – have left its final status unresolved.
- ❖ **Sunni** (adjective) – relating to Sunni branch/sect of Islam. The other branch/sect of Islam is Shia. These two sects have co-existed for centuries and share many fundamental beliefs and practices, but they differ in doctrine, ritual, law, theology and religious organisation. Ten to 13% are Shia Muslims, and 87 to 90% are Sunni Muslims in the world. Sunni Muslims live across the Arab world, as well as in countries like Turkey, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Malaysia and Indonesia. Shia Muslims are in the majority in Iran, Iraq, Bahrain, Azerbaijan. Saudi Arabia and Iran, the dominant Sunni and Shiite powers in the Middle East, often take opposing sides in regional conflicts.
- ❖ **quiet diplomacy** (noun) – it is a way of conduct of international relations (through the interaction of official representatives of governments or groups) to create conditions in which parties feel comfortable to act, in particular allowing parties calmly to evaluate positions and interests, to weigh options and consider independent and impartial advice.
- ❖ **Arab Peace Initiative (API)** (noun) – The API aims to achieve a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Arab countries, led by Saudi Arabia, are offering to normalize relations with Israel in return for a full withdrawal to the pre-1967-war borders and a fair solution for the Palestinians.
- ❖ **Arab League** (noun) – The Arab League or the League of Arab States is a regional organization in the Arab world, which is located in Africa and Western Asia. The Arab League was formed in Cairo on 22 March 1945 initially with six members: Egypt, Iraq, Transjordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Syria and now it has 22 member states.

- ❖ **recognition** (noun) – (diplomatic) recognition in international law is a unilateral political act whereby a state acknowledges an act or status of another state or government in control of a state (may be also a recognized state).
- ❖ **high table** (noun) – a group with most important people. It exactly means (particularly in a dining hall of a college) a table put on a raised platform for most important people.
- ❖ **Wuhan spirit** (noun) – The two leaders [President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi] had a very successful meeting in Wuhan on April 27 -28, 2018. They established mutual trust and they jointly planned for the future of improvement and the strengthening of the China-India relationship. This summit brought in an “increased stability and fresh momentum in relations”.
- ❖ **Chennai Connect** (noun) – The two leaders [President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi] had a very successful meeting in Mamallapuram, Chennai on October 11 -12, 2019. They have had great exchange on bilateral and global issues. This summit saw a new era of cooperation that has begun in the relations of the two countries.
- ❖ **Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)** (noun) – a group of nuclear supplier countries that seeks to contribute to the non- proliferation of nuclear weapons through the implementation of two sets of Guidelines for nuclear exports and nuclear-related exports.
- ❖ **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NAT )** (noun) – NATO was created in 1949 by the United States, Canada, and several Western European nations to provide collective security against the Soviet Union.
- ❖ **Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)** (noun) – The NPT is a landmark international treaty whose objective is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament.
- ❖ **The Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Bill** (noun) – The Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Bill, 2010 seeks to create a mechanism for compensating victims of nuclear damage arising from a nuclear incident.
- ❖ **non-aligned** (adjective) – relating to a state (country) in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). (after the World War 2, the NAM was set up with an aim to “create an independent path in world politics that would not result in member States becoming pawns in the struggles between the major power blocs (Western/Capitalist bloc aligned with the USA or Eastern/Soviet bloc aligned with the former Soviet Union).
- ❖ **bottom of the pyramid (BOP)** (phrase) – the concept ‘Bottom of the Pyramid’ was first used by US President Franklin D Roosevelt in 1932, while talking about the poor people who are often forgotten because they live at the bottom of the economic pyramid. Bottom of the pyramid, also called the base of the pyramid, is a phrase in economics that refers to the poorest two-thirds of the economic human pyramid.

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## IDIOMS & PHRASES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>the writing on the wall</b> – it refers to a sign or warning; indication, signal, augury, forecast.</li> <li>❖ <b>pay lip service to</b> – approve/support something without taking any steps.</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> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>press home one’s advantage</b> – to capitalize on, make full use of (an advantage you have over someone/something).</li> <li>❖ <b>put/keep one’s house in order</b> – improve one’s own behaviour before criticizing others.</li> <li>❖ <b>throw one’s hat in the ring</b> – contend for, compete for, fight over.</li> </ul> |
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- ❖ **load the dice against someone** – a situation where everything is arranged to someone's disadvantage.
- ❖ **fish in troubled waters** – involve (oneself) in a dangerous situation in the hope of gaining some personal advantage.
- ❖ **hit a roadblock** – if you hit a roadblock, something (a problem/difficulty) stops you from making progress.
- ❖ **put one's foot down** – to act firmly, to tell someone in a strong way; impose, force, demand, insist, command with finality.
- ❖ **mend one's ways** – make a fresh start, change completely, change for the better, improve one's character/habit.
- ❖ **tilt the scales/balance** – to change the balance of a situation, so that one side is gaining advantage.
- ❖ **pass the buck** – fail to take responsibility for a problem and want someone else to solve it.
- ❖ **under someone's thumb** – under someone's influence, under someone's control.
- ❖ **touch a sore spot** – to mention a matter which makes you upset or angry.
- ❖ **take something on board** – understand, comprehend, work out, fathom out.
- ❖ **close on the heels of** – close behind, soon after, immediately after, following closely.
- ❖ **back to the drawing board** – used to indicate a new idea/plan has to be formed as the old one is not working well.
- ❖ **war of words** – disagreement, difference of opinion, argument.
- ❖ **bring down the curtain on** – to bring an end to.
- ❖ **pay the heavy price** – experience (a very) bad/unpleasant result of something that you have done.
- ❖ **come to a (grinding) halt** – a (bad) situation becomes inactive slowly and then stops completely.
- ❖ **in the air** – going on, happening .
- ❖ **make a name for oneself** – succeed, be successful, become famous/well known.
- ❖ **back home** – in/to one's (own) country/hometown.
- ❖ **cut corners** – to do something very cheaply & quickly without following the procedures correctly.
- ❖ **so far** – until now, up to the present, up to this point.
- ❖ **pay attention** – heed, attend, be attentive, concentrate on.
- ❖ **sooner rather than later** – soon, immediately, without delay.
- ❖ **come into force** – come to effect (a new law, rule, change etc.).
- ❖ **at the cost of** – at the expense of; loss, sacrifice.
- ❖ **so far as** – to the extent.
- ❖ **at someone's expense** – to someone's embarrassment, loss, at the cost of.
- ❖ **on board** – in a ship/aircraft.
- ❖ **as good as** – almost.
- ❖ **in sync** – working well together, in agreement.
- ❖ **give and take** – compromise, concession; cooperation/teamwork.
- ❖ **in the long run** – eventually, in the end, ultimately.
- ❖ **in a flash** – very quickly; immediately.
- ❖ **owing to** – because of, as a result of, on account of.
- ❖ **pave the way/path (for)** – clear the way for, create a situation to do something, precede, make provision for.
- ❖ **hold someone responsible for** – blame someone for something.
- ❖ **in character** – usual, typical, normal.
- ❖ **put up a good show** – to do/perform something well.
- ❖ **far from** – not, not at all, nowhere near.
- ❖ **in sight** – noticeable, visible, in view; near at hand.
- ❖ **contrary to** – conflicting with, opposed to.

- ❖ **take sides** – support/back, side with, ally with, favour.
- ❖ **cause for concern** – reason to feel anxiety/worry.
- ❖ **stir the pot** – disturb, agitate, instigate, provoke.
- ❖ **on the lines of** – in conformity with.
- ❖ **make headway** – make progress, advance, proceed, get ahead.
- ❖ **take into account** – consider, note, pay regard to, bear in mind.
- ❖ **pass muster** – be accepted as good enough or satisfactory.
- ❖ **on account of** – because of, owing to, due to, by virtue of.
- ❖ **in a bad light** – give a bad name to, disgrace, discredit.
- ❖ **heart and soul** – wholeheartedly, enthusiastically, eagerly, zealously.
- ❖ **grease somebody's palm** – bribe, corrupt.
- ❖ **mark time** – to do regular activities (and pass one's time).
- ❖ **play a part/role** – contribute to, be instrumental in, be a factor in.
- ❖ **at all costs** – irrespective of the effort needed; whatever happens; at any price; regardless of, in spite of everything.
- ❖ **(be) at the receiving end** – be subjected to something (criticism/attack).
- ❖ **as far as** – to the degree/extent that.
- ❖ **in view of** – in the light of, owing to, considering.
- ❖ **in keeping with** – in accordance with, in agreement with, in line with/true to.
- ❖ **leave alone** – stop disturbing something, stop interfering with something.
- ❖ **for the sake of** – for the purpose of, in order to improve/achieve; in the interest of.
- ❖ **cut a deal** – reach/make a deal (or an agreement).
- ❖ **close ranks** – (of a group of people) come together to protect each other.
- ❖ **as much as** – almost, nearly the same as.
- ❖ **at the heart of** – at the most important part of.
- ❖ **take a hit** – to get into a difficult situation; suffer, be badly affected by something.
- ❖ **carry weight** – be most important, be influential, be significant.
- ❖ **as a ticket to** – way of achieving something.
- ❖ **rather than** – instead of.
- ❖ **in the face of** – despite, notwithstanding, regardless of.
- ❖ **under way** – going on, continuing, in progress.
- ❖ **at the helm** – in charge, in command/control/authority; in the driving seat.
- ❖ **(step) up one's game on** – to improve one's performance, or the quality of one's work.
- ❖ **at a crossroads** – at a situation when an important decision ought to be made.
- ❖ **take for granted** – understand, assume, presume (something is true without cross-questioning it).
- ❖ **at least** – at the minimum, no less than.
- ❖ **at a time** – during.
- ❖ **at any cost** – no matter how much effort or money needed.
- ❖ **hand in hand** – closely together, in partnership, conjointly.
- ❖ **pay heed** – pay attention to, take notice of, listen to.
- ❖ **course correct** – fix a situation where there is a problem.
- ❖ **across the board** – applying to all.
- ❖ **in practice** – in reality, actually, practically, effectively.
- ❖ **in the name of** – for the sake of, at the behest of.
- ❖ **roll out the red carpet** – to provide someone (especially a guest) special treatment.
- ❖ **put simply/simply put** – used for saying that you are just giving the basic facts about a complicated situation.
- ❖ **make sense of** – understand, comprehend, fathom out.

- ❖ **at/in the forefront of** – be in a leading/front/important position in an important activity.
- ❖ **come into effect** – (of a law, rule, policy, etc) to become valid; came into force; start to apply.
- ❖ **make clear** – explain, clarify, elucidate.
- ❖ **set (something) at rest** – resolve or conclude something.
- ❖ **in line with** – in alignment with, in accordance with.
- ❖ **cause for celebration** – a reason to celebrate.
- ❖ **under the influence** – being effected by, being impacted by something; under the control of something.
- ❖ **if anything** – on the contrary.
- ❖ **seize the moment** – to make the most of today (present moment); to take full advantage (of opportunities).
- ❖ **on any count** – for anything; for any reason.
- ❖ **count for little** – have no value, influence or effect; be useless, be worthless.
- ❖ **in fashion** – (be) attractive, popular.
- ❖ **tighten your grip** – to start to control someone/something more stringently.
- ❖ **in accordance with** – in agreement with, in conformity with, in line with.
- ❖ **crack the whip** – to use power or authority to control someone.
- ❖ **worth the time** – valuable, useful, worthwhile.
- ❖ **in the public domain** – if something (e.g. information) is in the public domain, people generally know about it since it is not secret.
- ❖ **off the mark** – inaccurate, incorrect, wrong; irrelevant, inapplicable, inappropriate.
- ❖ **take exception to** – object/oppose strongly, disagree with, protest against.
- ❖ **of little value** – worthless, of no use, meaningless/useless.
- ❖ **lay a/the foundation for** – to make a start; to provide the base/support for something to begin at first.
- ❖ **come to a close** – come to an end; come to a climax; to end.
- ❖ **when sorrows come, they come not single spies, but in battalions** – (phrase written by William Shakespeare). When bad incidents occur, they do not happen alone and many other bad happenings occur simultaneously to contribute to human tragedy.
- ❖ **go without saying** – be obvious.
- ❖ **take by surprise** – surprise, shock, stun, stagger, take aback.
- ❖ **come as a surprise** – to be unexpected, to make someone feel surprised.
- ❖ **to say the least** – to put it mildly.

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## PHRASAL VERBS

- ❖ **wade into (something)** – to get involved in a difficult situation (argument, debate, fight & etc) without thinking about the possible consequences.
- ❖ **wither away** – diminish, dwindle, lessen, weaken.
- ❖ **cozy up to** – find the favour of, ingratiate oneself, get on the good side of.
- ❖ **fall off** – (to change/divert course and) fall down, collapse, crash in.
- ❖ **wipe out** – eliminate, abolish, remove (completely).
- ❖ **double down** – to be more firm & resolute on something (decided) even if that might be a risky choice.
- ❖ **pin on** – blame someone for something.
- ❖ **pull up** – reprimand, rebuke, admonish, reprove, criticize.
- ❖ **come about** – happen/occur, take place, transpire, appear/surface.

- ❖ **snuff out** – kill (in a sudden manner).
- ❖ **sketch (in)** – to give more details about something; describe, outline, indicate.
- ❖ **hand out** – distribute, dispense, give out, issue.
- ❖ **break out** – begin/start suddenly, flare up, erupt/burst out.
- ❖ **slip into** – gradually start to be in a bad state or situation; decline, deteriorate, get worse gradually.
- ❖ **crack down on** – get tough on, take severe measures against, clamp down on.
- ❖ **hot up** – become exciting; galvanize, make lively.
- ❖ **go by** – to form an opinion about someone/something from the experience.
- ❖ **weed out** – isolate, separate out, filter out.
- ❖ **blow over** – (of difficulty/issue/problem) disappear, vanish, fade away (without serious consequences).
- ❖ **brush aside** – dismiss, disregard, ignore.
- ❖ **knock down** (phrasal verb) – reduce, decrease, lessen.
- ❖ **factor in** – include, reckon with, take into account.
- ❖ **pick up** – recover, improve, get better, bounce back.
- ❖ **opt out** – decide not to participate in something.
- ❖ **do away with** – cancel, discard, get rid of, quash.
- ❖ **end up** – come/appear, find oneself (to a particular course of action in the end).
- ❖ **stand up** – be sound, remain strong, hold up.
- ❖ **go on to** – continue, proceed (to do something).
- ❖ **take up** – accept, say yes to, agree to.
- ❖ **lay bare** – reveal, uncover, expose, disclose.
- ❖ **carry out** – conduct, perform, execute.
- ❖ **count on** – rely on, depend on.
- ❖ **keep up** – continue, persist with, carry on with.
- ❖ **step up** – increase, intensify, escalate, scale up.
- ❖ **call off** – cancel, abandon, shelve/drop.
- ❖ **make for** – go/move towards, set out for, make a beeline for.
- ❖ **take forward** – manage, sort out, deal with, take responsibility for.
- ❖ **draw into** – get, make it, make one's way.
- ❖ **push forward** – advance, promote, assist, facilitate.
- ❖ **level against** – direct (an accusation/charge).
- ❖ **look up to** – have a high opinion of, think highly of, regard highly, value, admire, respect.
- ❖ **bring down** – topple, unsettle, unseat.
- ❖ **break down** – stop working, cease to function, cease to work, go wrong.
- ❖ **throw up** – produce something.
- ❖ **root out** – remove, destroy, eliminate.
- ❖ **shake up** – disturb, unsettle, trouble, shock, weaken.
- ❖ **borne out** past participle of **bear out** – confirm, validate, vindicate, justify/support (a claim).
- ❖ **go beyond** – to go past something, to be more than something, exceed.
- ❖ **come up with** – produce, put forward, present/submit.
- ❖ **turn to** – consult someone or help.
- ❖ **rein in** – restrict, control, limit, restrain.
- ❖ **reach out** – contact someone to obtain/offer help/assistance/cooperation.
- ❖ **go about** – start, begin, embark on.
- ❖ **bring in** – cause, bring about, create, produce.
- ❖ **count for** – be worth something.
- ❖ **give in** – surrender, give way, yield, submit, capitulate.
- ❖ **move away from** – change/alter one's ideas/beliefs and so.
- ❖ **keep alive** – keep going, continue, sustain.
- ❖ **set up** – establish, start/begin, inaugurate, create.