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07 JULY

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READING

Let's be honest—when it comes to English for some political exams, reading isn't just important; it's everything. Nearly half of the questions—directly or indirectly—are based on how well you read. Don't think I'm saying that to scare you. You don't have to become a speed reader overnight. What you need is smart, consistent reading. That's why I've picked real, relevant content from daily newspapers just for you. It'll train your mind to think, understand, and respond faster. Every passage you read here brings you a step closer to confidence and clarity. Read this, and you've already won half the battle.

VOCABULARY

I know vocabulary can feel overwhelming sometimes—so many words, so little time. But here's the truth: it doesn't have to be that way. This section is designed to help you truly connect with words—not just memorize them. You'll learn them in context, understand how they're used in real life, and slowly start to own them. Everything you see here is from actual newspapers, so it's relevant, real, and reliable. Over time, you'll notice something beautiful—you won't just remember the words, you'll feel them. And that changes everything.

GRAMMAR

Grammar... it has a bit of a reputation, right? You study rules, you memorize exceptions. But here's the thing: grammar doesn't have to be dry or confusing. In fact, it can be one of the most empowering tools you have. We're not going to give you rules—we're going to understand them, together. All examples come from real newspaper content, so you'll see how grammar actually works in real life. Shortcuts, patterns will start to click. You'll begin spotting mistakes instantly, understanding structure intuitively. That's grammar doing its job, and you're becoming your own support system.

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Idioms and phrases—these little expressions that often confuse us in the exam—don't worry, we've got this. I've picked the ones you'll actually come across in exams, pulled straight from daily newspapers. But more importantly, I'll help you understand them in a way that sticks. Not by rote, but through real context and simple meaning. Over time, these phrases will become second nature to you, and you'll be able to use and spot them effortlessly. It's one of those small things that makes a big difference.

DESCRIPTIVE WRITING

Descriptive writing is where your preparation meets your personality. It's not just about grammar or structure—it's about how you think, how you feel, and how clearly you express that. Whether you're writing an essay, a profile, or a report, I'll help you shape your thoughts with clarity and purpose. All the topics we'll work on come from current news, so your writing stays fresh, relevant, and impactful. And here's my promise—you'll never feel lost staring at a blank page again. Together, we'll build your voice, one word at a time.

When pigs fly

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MALEGAON BLAST CASE: ALL 7 ACCUSED ACQUITTED





POSIT

मंजूर करना ✓

To put forward as a fact or principle ✓

Position

SYNONYMS

- Assert ✓
- Propound ✓
- Postulate ✓
- Hypothesize ✓

Propose

ANTONYMS

- Refute ✓
- Contradict ✓
- Disprove ✓
- Reject ✓

Disavow

Renounce

FORMS

Noun-(position)

Repudiate



He _____ that social behavior is influenced by environmental factors.



EMULATE

अनुकरण ✓

Verb

to use (someone or something) as the model for one's speech, mannerisms, or behavior

SYNONYMS

- Ape ✓
- Simulate ✓
- Rival
- Echo ✓

Imitate
Replicate

ANTONYMS

- Diverge ✓
- Innovate ✓
- Differ ✓
- Disregard ✓

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Haan tu kuch bhi kar sakta hai...

FORMS

Noun-(emulation)

Her _____ of the master's technique was remarkable.



FRAUGHT

भरा हुआ

(Am)

possessing or covered with great numbers or amounts of something specified

SYNONYMS

- Replete ✓
- Crammed ✓
- Awash ✓
- Teeming ✓

Rife
Brimming

ANTONYMS

- Stark ✓
- Void ✓
- Depleted ✓
- Barren ✓

On Encumbered

Deplete

Devoid - of
Bereft - of



FORMS

Her voice was _____ with emotion during the farewell speech.



PIVOTAL

आधारभूत

(Adh)

of the greatest possible importance

SYNONYMS

- Vital ✓
- Decisive ✓
- Requisite ✓
- Indispensable ✓

Momentous

KEY

ANTONYMS

- Peripheral ✓
- Trivial ✓
- Negligible ✓
- Insignificant ✓

Superfluous

Marginal
Redundant



FORMS

Noun-(pivot)

Education is _____ to a country's development.



PROFOUND

अगाध

extreme in degree, power, or effect

(Adm)

Perfunctory

SYNONYMS

- Ferocious ✓ *Intense*
- Penetrating ✓
- Erudite ✓
- Philosophical ✓ *Insightful*

ANTONYMS

- Frivolous ✓
- Facile ✓
- Trite ✓
- Inane ✓

Shallow

Superficial

Answers

FORMS

Noun-(profundity)



The _____ of his philosophical thoughts is widely recognized.



PURPORT

कथित

Purpose N

the idea that is conveyed or intended to be conveyed to the mind by language, symbol, or action

SYNONYMS

- Intent ✓
- Implication ✓
- Connotation ✓
- Essence ✓

claim
allude
imply

ANTONYMS

- Surface
- Façade
- Exterior
- Contradict

deny



FORMS

Noun-(purport)

He _____ to be an expert, but his knowledge was superficial.



SCRUPULOUS

ईमानदार ✓ (Iman)

guided by or in accordance with one's sense of right and wrong ✓

SYNONYMS

ethical

ANTONYMS

dishonest

- Punctilious ✓
- Fastidious ✓
- Meticulous ✓
- Decent ✓

Conscientious

- Cutthroat
- Wicked ✓
- Depraved ✓
- Dissolute ✓

deceitful

Haan Haan!



FORMS

Noun-(scrupulousness)

The accountant is known for his _____ attention to detail.



WISTFUL

उदास

showing or evoking a sad longing for an often idealized past

SYNONYMS

- Sloppy ✓
- Misty-eyed ✓
- Dreamy ✓
- Maudlin ✓

longing

Melancholic

yearn
Pine

ANTONYMS

- Cynical ✓
- Hardheaded ✓
- Unsentimental ✓

Blithe Nonchalant

Indifferent
Apathetic
Unconcerned
Carefree

FORMS

Noun-(wistfulness)

Adverb-(wistfully)

Aksar Teri Yaadein Mujhe Aise Gher
Leti Hai



Jaise Railway Par 10 - 12 Auto Wale

There was a _____ in her voice when she spoke of her hometown.



UNDAUNTED

निडर

feeling or displaying no fear by temperament

SYNONYMS

- Heroical ✓
- Valiant ✓
- Gallant ✓
- Stouthearted ✓

Lion

Andacious
Valorous
Stalwart

ANTONYMS

- Timorous
- ~~Yellow~~
- Craven
- Pusillanimous

Timid

Mellow

Cowardly

When I accidentally whistle on night.
Ghosts *



FORMS

Noun-(undauntedness) ✓

Adverb- (undauntedly) ✓

_____ by the storm, the hikers continued their journey to the summit.



AUDACITY

shameless boldness

दुस्साहस

Bravery | Boldness

SYNONYMS

- Temerity
- Gall
- Nerve
- Effrontery

Confidence

ANTONYMS

- Timidity
- Diffidence
- Modesty
- Hesitancy



FORMS

Adjective- (Audacious)
Noun- (Audaciousness)
Adverb- (Audaciously)

She _____ pitched her idea to the CEO during the elevator ride.



CONDUIT

सेतु

N

A person, system, or organization that acts as a medium for transmitting something

SYNONYMS

- Intermediary ✓
- Disseminator ✓
- facilitator ✓
- Vector ✓

ANTONYMS

- Obstructor ✓
- Isolator ✓
- Bottleneck ✓
- Terminus ✓

Impediment
Hindrance
Conduit

(On Valentine)

My friend: Bhai tu jake baat kr meri usse sayad maan jaaye Le she 😊:



FORMS

The NGO served as a vital _____ between local communities and international donors.



IDIOMS

The tip of the iceberg

Meaning: A small, visible part of a much larger issue

Example: The leaked email was just the tip of the iceberg in the corruption scandal.

Move the needle ✓

Meaning: To cause a significant change or impact

Example: Her research on renewable energy really moved the needle in climate policy circles.

Sweep under the rug ✓

Meaning: To ignore or hide a problem instead of addressing it

Example: Instead of confronting the allegations, the management swept them under the rug.

PHRASAL VERBS

•Lay bare ✓

Meaning: To reveal or expose something hidden or unpleasant

Example: The investigation laid bare the systemic negligence in the healthcare sector.

•Stand up to ✓

Meaning: To confront or oppose someone or something fearlessly

Example: She stood up to the board members who tried to silence her concerns.

•Open up ✓

Meaning: To make accessible or available; to unlock opportunities

Example: The new trade route opened up fresh markets for local farmers.

root word: "tang / tact / tag", which comes from Latin and means "to touch".

1. Tangible (adjective) – Perceptible by touch; real and concrete

Example: The fear in the courtroom was so intense, it felt almost tangible.

2. Tactile (adjective) – Related to the sense of touch

Example: The fabric had a rich tactile texture that made it perfect for winter.

3. Intact (adjective) – Untouched or not damaged; whole

Example: Despite the explosion, the scientist's notes remained intact.

4. Contagious (adjective) – Able to be transmitted by touch or close contact

Example: Her enthusiasm was so contagious that the whole team felt energized.

5. Tact (noun) – Sensitivity in dealing with others or difficult issues

Example: It takes tact to deliver criticism without offending someone.

The 2008 Malegaon blast, killing six and injuring 95 others, during Ramzan, was an extreme act of terror. The initial investigation by the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) **posited** a chilling conspiracy by Hindutva extremists to exact revenge through a “blast for a blast”, **emulating** the polarising methods of Islamist terror groups. This narrative seemed solidified by circumstantial evidence, including electronic transcripts of secret meetings and a confession by Sangh Parivar activist Aseemanand. The case was politically **fraught** from the start. The ATS investigation was a **pivotal** moment, as it sought to identify perpetrators irrespective of religion, especially after Muslim youth were wrongly charged and later acquitted in the 2006 Malegaon blasts. However, this unbiased approach appeared to falter with the consolidation of Hindutva political power. After the case was transferred to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), the agency filed a supplementary charge sheet. Amid allegations that the NIA was under pressure to be lenient, a Special Court rightly ruled in 2018 that a full trial was the best course. Seventeen years later, the final acquittal of all accused, including Lt. Col. Prasad Purohit and Pragya Singh Thakur, leaves a **profound** sense of unease. Far from refuting the existence of Hindutva-led extremism, the judgment is an indictment of the prosecution's methods and a reminder of how justice can be undone.

The court exposed a foundation of unreliable evidence, noting that key witnesses turned hostile, alleging coercion by the ATS — a claim also noted by the NIA. The explosive electronic transcripts were deemed inadmissible for failing to meet mandatory legal safeguards against tampering. The court also rejected the defence of Purohit, who argued that he was a military intelligence officer infiltrating the group, but acquitted him as the evidence failed to meet what it saw as the legal standard for a conviction. The political circumstances suggest a consistent attempt to reframe the alleged acts of terror not as criminal, but with a communal narrative. In 2019, while still under trial for grave terror charges, Pragya Thakur was fielded as a parliamentary candidate by the and won from Bhopal. Her political elevation as a Hindutva icon was precisely because of her **purported** role in fomenting retaliatory attacks against Muslims. Her subsequent career, marked by an endorsement of Mahatma Gandhi's assassin, Nathuram Godse, has only confirmed the dangerous mainstreaming of extremist voices. The acquittal lays bare the unsettling reality that when state agencies fail, extremist organisations can get away with heinous crimes. Terror has no single religious face and, without a competent and **scrupulous** policing, prosecution and justice system, its perpetrators, whoever they may be, can walk free

1. Inference-Based Question

The author's central **critique** of the Malegaon case outcome is that

- A. extremist ideologies were vindicated by the acquittals
- B. the prosecution's evidence-gathering was compromised by political pressures
- C. the judiciary erred in rejecting the "blast for a blast" theory
- D. the NIA overstepped its mandate by filing a supplementary charge sheet
- E. military intelligence narratives skewed the investigation

5/6

2. Vocabulary-in-Context

What is the closest meaning of "**emulating**" as used in the sentence: "...emulating the polarising methods of Islamist terror groups"?

- A. Mocking
- B. Copying ✓
- C. Criticising
- D. Undermining
- E. Disapproving

3. Understanding context

The phrase “**blast for a blast**” conveys the idea of

- A. reciprocal violence modeled on Islamist methods
- B. a coded ATS communiqué to NIA agents
- C. an official legal justification for acquittal
- D. a journalistic tagline to sensationalize the trial
- E. an informal defence strategy employed by Purohit

4. Tone Analysis

Which of the following best describes the tone of the author in the passage?

- A. Optimistic and triumphant
- B. Detached and analytical
- C. Cautionary and critical ✓
- D. Humorous and ironic
- E. Celebratory and neutral

5. True/False Evaluation (Multi-statement pattern)

Evaluate the following statements:

I. The court accepted Purohit's defence that he ~~was~~ acting as an intelligence mole.

II. Witness testimonies remained consistent throughout the ~~trial~~.

III. The ATS had previously falsely implicated Muslim youth in the 2006 Malegaon blasts.

Which of the above statements are true?

A. Only I

B. Only II

C. II and III

D. Only III ✓

E. I and III

6. Assertion & Reasoning

Assertion (A): The political rise of Pragya Thakur exemplifies the mainstreaming of extremist ideologies. ✓ T

Reason (R): She was praised for denouncing Mahatma Gandhi and supporting his assassin. T

Choose the correct option:

- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
- B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A ✓
- C. A is true, R is false
- D. A is false, R is true
- E. Both A and R are false

The completion of the Udhampur–Srinagar–Baramulla rail link, nearly four decades in the making, marks a historic engineering milestone and a quiet but powerful fulfilment of a long-standing promise between the Indian state and the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Spanning 272 km through the Pir Panjal and Himalayan ranges, this railway line is more than a feat of steel and concrete — it is a bridge of belonging.

Mobility equates to opportunity. Connecting places like Sopore, Anantnag, Qazigund, and Banihal to the national economy, the railway brings markets, education, and jobs within reach. It narrows physical and psychological distances alike, transforming national integration from symbolism to access, investment, and shared development. In a region long marked by conflict, this railway fosters a quieter narrative — one of connection, collaboration, and common purpose. It does not claim to resolve every issue, but it reshapes the discourse around inclusion and possibility.

None of this would have been possible without the undaunted spirit of India's railway engineers. From the snow-bound tunnels of Pir Panjal to the vertiginous heights of the Chenab bridge, engineers and workers toiled under harsh, often perilous conditions. Their courage and dedication deserve national gratitude. The Jammu–Baramulla line now joins India's lineage of audacity and infrastructure achievement.

It reminds us that while governments change, the anonymous railway engineer remains a vital architect of the Republic. They connect not just places, but lives, aspirations, and identities — transforming maps into meaning. The symbolism of this line lies in both what it connects and what it overcomes. The project tackled geotechnical challenges, climatic extremes, political uncertainty, and periods of civil unrest. Each tunnel and bridge is a testament to perseverance and institutional resolve in the face of adversity.

Strategically, the railway enhances logistical efficiency for civilian mobility, trade, and emergency response. It reduces dependence on the vulnerable Srinagar–Jammu highway, often shut during winters due to landslides, thereby strengthening Kashmir's year-round connectivity. This ensures a steady supply of essentials such as food, fuel, and medicine. For students and patients who earlier endured long, difficult road journeys, the train offers comfort, affordability, and dignity. It eases emotional and physical burdens and enables families to stay connected. Over time, the line is expected to attract investment, enabling the rise of industrial parks, agro-logistics hubs, and skill centres near key stations.

Culturally too, the railway is a conduit for exchange. Trains carry not just passengers but stories, memories, and mutual understanding. For many in the Valley, this opens a new window to the rest of India — and for India, a deeper connection with Kashmir.

7. Odd One Out – Advanced Conceptual Elimination

Which of the following concepts is **least coherent** with the passage's central narrative of infrastructural and socio-political transformation?

- A. Enhancing regional mobility as a tool for integration
- B. Fostering inter-community understanding through shared journeys
- C. Facilitating decentralised federal governance through local referendums
- D. Reinforcing logistical continuity in disaster-prone environments
- E. Bridging psychological distances between the Valley and the mainland

8. Column Matching – Nuanced Semantic Mapping

Match the terms in Column A with the **most contextually accurate interpretations** from Column B, based on their usage in the passage:

Column A	Column B
A. Conduit	i. A symbolic or literal medium for transfer or flow
B. Perseverance	ii. Endurance in the face of persistent difficulty
C. Audacity	iii. Calculated boldness in confronting uncertainty
D. Resilience	iv. Structural or emotional capacity to recover

Select the correct combination:

- A. A–ii, B–iii, C–i, D–iv
- B. A–i, B–ii, C–iii, D–iv
- C. A–i, B–iv, C–ii, D–iii
- D. A–i, B–ii, C–iv, D–iii
- E. A–iii, B–ii, C–iv, D–i

9. Critical Reasoning – Cause-Effect Inference

Which of the following most plausibly explains why the railway line is projected to attract long-term institutional and industrial investment in Kashmir?

- A. Its scenic route enhances the Valley's tourism branding among NRIs.
- B. Seamless rail connectivity eliminates the need for customs and excise clearance.
- C. Reliable transport infrastructure reduces transactional and logistical friction for enterprises.
- D. Railways are always accompanied by automatic land grants to private companies.
- E. The project promises complete elimination of natural disaster risks in the region.

10. Title Evaluation – Abstract Framing

Which of the following **abstract titles** best encapsulates the layered themes of the passage?

- A. “Iron Pathways to Strategic Autonomy in Mountain Economies”
- B. “Beyond Tracks: Kashmir’s Recasting through Connectivity and Commitment”
- C. “Transport Over Terrain: A Tale of Geographic Conquest”
- D. “Economic Corridors and Electoral Calculations in the Himalayan Belt”
- E. “High-Speed Hopes: Rail Tourism and the Pir Panjal Dream”

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