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ANALYSIS

READING

GRAMMAR

VOCAB

WITH **MCQs**

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IBPS CLERK
2025

ENGLISH

**PREVIOUS YEAR
PAPER**

by Anubhav Sir



#1



I am



वाली
APPROACH

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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 piece, 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.

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**TARIFF SHOWDOWN:
INDIA REFUSES TO BOW TO TRUMP**



ABEYANCE

निलम्बन

Noun

a state of temporary inactivity

SYNONYMS

- Moratorium
- Hiatus
- Quiescence
- Dormancy

Suspension
Inactivity
Latency

ANTONYMS

- Resuscitation
- Resumption
- Prosecution
- Perpetuation

**FORMS**

Adjective-(abeyant)

Remission

Buoyancy

Although the work was in abeyance, the office continued its _____ without pause.



ABSCISSION

अलगाव

Noun

the act or process of cutting off : removal

Scission

Reconciliation

SYNONYMS

- Decortication ✓
- Severance ✓
- Disjunction ✓
- Excision ✓

Enstrangement

ANTONYMS

- Adhesion ✓
- Annexation ✓
- Integration ✓
- Connection ✓

Amalgamation

Solidarity

Camaraderie

Cordially

Adhesive



FORMS

Adjective-(abeyant)

The a_____ of old leaves helps the plant conserve energy during winter.



BEGUILE

मोहना (Veil)

to attract or delight as if by magic

SYNONYMS

- Entice ✓
- Enchant ✓
- Bewitch ✓
- Delude ✓
- Hoodwink ✓

Deceive

Seduce

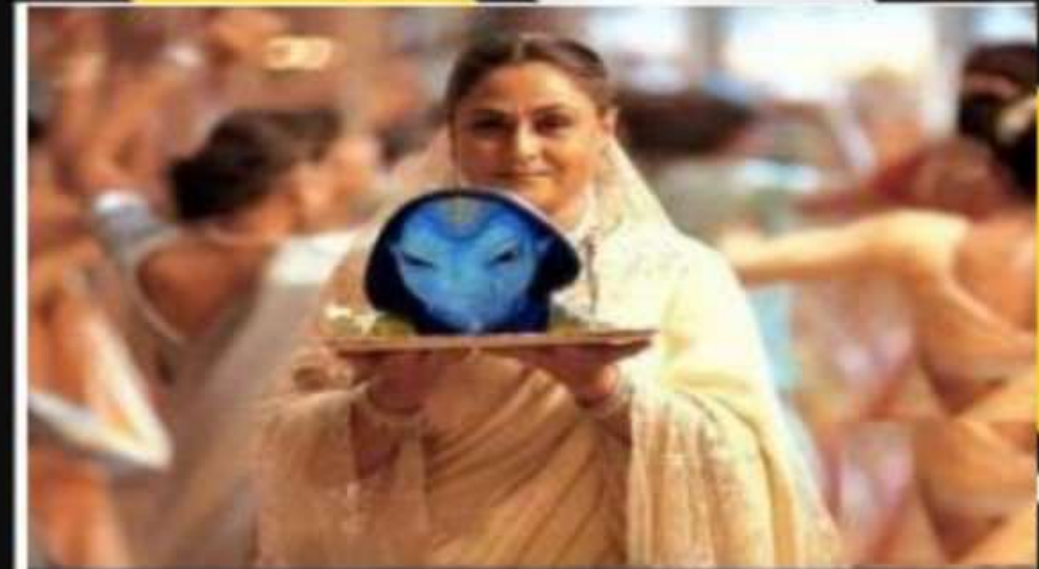
ANTONYMS

- Repel ✓
- Offend ✓
- Disgust ✓
- Irk ✓

Disenchant

FORMS

Noun-(beguilement)



Maa ke hathon mein Jadu hai !

The salesman tried to _____ the buyers with exaggerated claims.



CHOLERIC

चिड़चिड़ा

easily irritated or annoyed

SYNONYMS

- Petulant ✓ *Irritable*
- Crotchety ✓ *Peevish*
- Grouchy ✓ *Fractional*
- Irascible ✓

ANTONYMS

- Stoic ✓
- Amiable ✓
- Gregarious ✓
- Cordial ✓

(Aam)
Aggravated
Benign
Amiable
Benign
Sociable



FORMS

Noun-(choler)

Placid
Serene
Palliative
Tranquil

Although he was usually choleric, today he appeared surprisingly ____.



CHURLISH

अकस्वड

(Achy)

having or showing crudely insensitive or impolite manners ✓

SYNONYMS

- Boorish ✓
- Uncouth ✓
- Loutish ✓
- Cloddish ✓

On civic
Coarse

ANTONYMS

- Sophisticated ✓
- Genteel ✓
- Cultivated ✓
- Gracious ✓

polite
Courteous

FORMS



It was _____ of him to ignore their invitation.



CUMBERSOME

बोझिल

difficult to use or operate especially because of size, weight, or design ✓

SYNONYMS

- Clumsy ✓
- Elephantine ✓
- Ponderous ✓
- Cumbersome ✓

Overbearing

Unwieldy

ANTONYMS

- Handy ✓
- Functional ✓
- Efficient ✓
- Streamlined ✓

Me: *gets bored of using too much phone*
My phone to me:



FORMS

Carrying the _____ equipment made the journey exhausting.



DOLOROUS

दर्दनाक

expressing or suggesting mourning

SYNONYMS

- Lugubrious ✓
- Wailing ✓
- Plaintive ✓
- Anguished ✓

Melancholic ✓
dismal ✓

Somber ✓
Gloomy ✓

Despondent ✓

ANTONYMS

- Mirthful ✓
- Rejoicing ✓
- Glorifying ✓
- Jocund ✓

Jubilant ✓

(Aps)

Buoyant
Gleeful



FORMS

Ecstatic ✓
Exulting ✓
Joyful ✓

The _____ song echoed the pain of lost love.



UNFETTER

मुक्त ✓

to set free (as from slavery or confinement)

SYNONYMS

Exonerate

ANTONYMS

- Emancipate ✓
- Manumit ✓
- Disenthrall ✓
- Extricate

Acquit

- Shackle ✓
- Manacle ✓
- Trammel ✓
- Subjugate

Suppress

Oppress

Disparage

FORMS

Subdue

Belittle



The reforms aim to _____ businesses from excessive regulations.



MITIGATION

शमन

to make smaller in amount, volume, or extent

SYNONYMS

- Alleviation ✓
- Mollification ✓
- Assuagement ✓
- Salving ✓
- Amelioration ✓

ANTONYMS

- Anguish ✓
- Torture ✓
- Torment ✓
- Twinge ✓

*Predicament
Plight*

FORMS



The city implemented strict policies for the _____ of air pollution.



CONTENTIOUS

विवादास्पद

feeling or displaying eagerness to fight

SYNONYMS

- Litigious ✓
- Pugnacious ✓
- Assaultive ✓
- Belligerent ✓

Hastile

Bellious

ANTONYMS

- Conciliatory ✓
- Pacific ✓
- Benevolent ✓
- Affable ✓



FORMS

The debate on environmental policies became very _____.



PRAGMATIC

व्यावहारिक

willing to see things as they really are and deal with them sensibly

SYNONYMS

- Utilitarian ✓
- Cynical ✓
- Skeptical ✓
- Rational ✓

*Logical
Rational*

Sagacious

ANTONYMS

- Quixotic ✓
- Speculative ✓
- Theoretical ✓
- Idealistic ✓



FORMS

A ____ leader focuses on achievable goals rather than ideals.



BANKING | SSC | OTHER COMP EXAMS



150 CONCEPTS OF **GRAMMAR**

NO RULE APPROACH

– By Anubhav Sir



Idioms

Throw a spanner in the works — to hinder or disrupt progress.

Example: The engineer recall **threw a spanner in the works** of India's electronics push.

Draw a line in the sand — set a firm, non-negotiable boundary.

Example: Delhi **drew a line in the sand** on agriculture and dairy concessions.

Sword of Damocles — a constant, looming threat hanging over someone.

Example: The 1.5°C threshold is a **Sword of Damocles** over reluctant states.

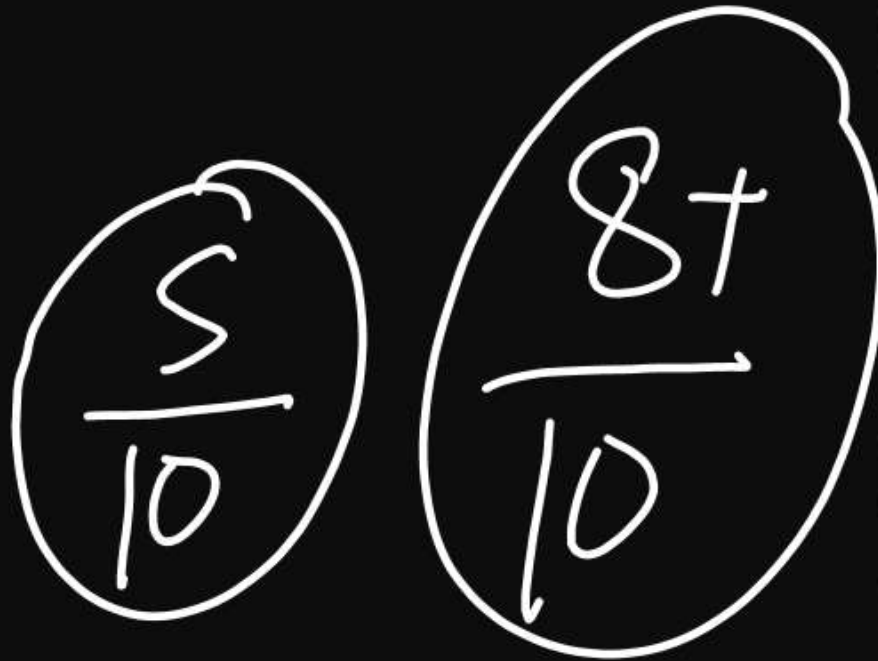
PHRASAL VERBS

Phrasal verb

clamp down on

choke off

lean on



Meaning (concise)

Impose strict controls or restrictions to curb an activity.

Severely limit or cut the flow/supply of something (e.g., tech, inputs).

Exert pressure to force compliance or concessions.

From edging closer to signing a trade deal in early July, to the imposition of a 25 per cent penalty on August 6, on top of a 25 per cent tariff levied just a few days earlier, India-US trade relations have now moved into uncharted territory. While the additional tariffs will come into play in 21 days, opening up a possible window for negotiations — US trade negotiators are slated to arrive in Delhi on August 25 — the weaponisation of tariffs by US President Donald Trump to achieve what seem to be both trade and non-trade objectives, has placed India at a considerable disadvantage when compared to competitors such as Vietnam and Indonesia. In the face of this mounting pressure, India must stand firm, put its national interest first.

increase

Not surprisingly, Trump's action has evoked a strong response. Calling it "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable", the Narendra Modi government has said it will take "all actions necessary to protect its national interests". As it continues the trade talks with the Trump administration, it may be possible to offer more concessions in certain segments, there may be room for greater give and take. But, at the same time, Delhi should stay with its red lines in the face of mounting pressure in sectors such as agriculture and dairy — politically contentious areas, which are critical to the livelihoods of large sections of the Indian labour force. On Thursday, speaking at the MS Swaminathan Centenary International Conference in Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphatically stated the government's position: "India will never compromise on the interests of its farmers, livestock rearers and fisherfolk".

India's purchase of discounted Russian oil, which has ensured price stability in the global oil market, was a **pragmatic** move to secure its energy supplies. But with Trump raising the costs of continuing with this trade — as he attempts to curb the flow of money to Russian President Vladimir Putin (ostensibly) to end the conflict in Ukraine — the same hard-headed realism must guide Delhi's approach now. Imports of Russian oil were at 1.6 million barrels per day in July, down 24 per cent from the month before, as per a report in this paper. The cost-benefit analysis of relying on one source of supply to such a large extent, however, must be seen only through the prism of India's interests — not dictated by Trump (Goldman Sachs, an investment firm, has estimated that the higher tariff on India could bring down economic growth by around 0.6 percentage points. But who India should trade with, or for that matter, with whom it should build ties, must be part of a larger strategic plan that keeps BRICS — should it be expanded as planned — at the centre. US issues should, in any case, not be part of that trade calculus.

Pattern 1 Main Idea Based Question

What best captures the passage's central claim? ^{Main title}

- a) India should capitulate quickly to avoid punitive tariffs. ⁺
- b) India must hold its ground, offer targeted concessions only, and keep a BRICS-centric long game.
- c) Delhi should replace Russian oil with U.S. supplies to normalize ties. ^x
- d) BRICS expansion risks undermining India's strategic autonomy. ^x
- e) Vietnam and Indonesia will align with India against the U.S. tariffs. ^x

Pattern 2 Inference Based Question

The mention that the added tariffs kick in after 21 days and U.S. negotiators arrive on August 25 most plausibly implies that:

- a) India is expected to sign a deal immediately to avoid retroactive duties. X
- b) The sequencing is designed to pressure India into concessions just before enforcement. ✓
- c) The tariffs are merely symbolic and unlikely to be implemented. X
- d) Only congressional action can halt the tariffs. X
- e) India lacks any scope to negotiate within this window. X

3. True – False Multi statement

- I. The additional tariffs take effect immediately upon announcement. ~~X~~
- II. Delhi is advised to hold its red lines in agriculture and dairy. ✓ T
- III. Russian oil purchases are portrayed as destabilising global oil prices. ~~X~~

Which are true?

- A. Only I and II **B. Only II** C. Only II and III D. I, II, and III E. Only III

4. Vocab based

In “the **weaponisation** of tariffs,” the underlined term most nearly means:

- a) ceremonialisation
- b) instrumentalisation
- c) demilitarisation ✓
- d) securitisation
- e) commoditisation

Pattern 5 – Argument Based Question

Which new fact would most **undermine** the passage's case for holding red lines in agriculture/dairy?

(कमजोर) (weak)

- a) U.S. market access for Indian services rises if India opens agriculture modestly.
- b) Agriculture/dairy account for a negligible share of employment and have robust safety nets cushioning any shocks.
- c) India's farmers gain from BRICS-centric fertilizer cooperation.
- d) U.S. tariffs are automatically suspended during talks.
- e) Vietnam and Indonesia face similar tariff measures.

Pattern 6 – Contextual Understanding

Which set best reflects the passage's prescriptions?

- I. Offer selective concessions in non-contentious areas. ✓
- II. Hold firm on agriculture/dairy. ✓
- III. Let U.S. pressure dictate Russian oil decisions. ✗
- IV. Keep a BRICS-centred strategic frame. ✓

- a) I, II, and IV only ✓
- b) I and III only
- c) II and III only
- d) I and II only
- e) I, III, and IV only ✗

In light of the existential threat posed by climate change, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), also known as the World Court, delivered a landmark advisory opinion on states' obligations concerning climate change. Though not legally binding, such opinions are regarded as authoritative interpretations of international law and can influence state behaviour by generating international pressure.

States cannot ignore their duties - The Court unanimously ruled that states have legal obligations to protect the climate system and clarified the consequences for failing to meet them. Other international bodies, such as the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), have also recognised such responsibilities.

The opinion interprets climate treaties — including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement — in light of scientific consensus to strengthen their operation. The Paris Agreement's aim to limit temperature rise to "well below 2°C" and "pursue efforts" to limit it to 1.5°C was reinforced, with the Court holding 1.5°C as the relevant threshold.

It rejected the claim that states have **unfettered** discretion in preparing their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), ruling that they must reflect the 'highest possible' ambition and be supported by measures reasonably capable of achieving them.

The decision underscores the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC), meaning climate action standards depend on historical emissions, development level, and national circumstances. Developed nations have a binding duty to provide financial and technological support to developing countries for **mitigation** and adaptation, with breaches assessed on good faith and due diligence.

Self-contained regime rejected - The Court dismissed the argument that climate treaties form a self-contained regime, affirming the applicability of general international and environmental law. Obligations include due diligence, preventing significant harm, cooperation, assistance, and environmental impact assessment, drawn from various treaties, customary law, and human rights principles. Withdrawal from treaties does not remove climate obligations, and human rights must be safeguarded during the green transition.

It also rejected the claim that states cannot be held individually responsible due to attribution difficulties, noting that scientific methods can determine each state's total contribution to emissions.

Leverage for the Global South

Small island states, facing an existential threat from climate change, initiated the request for this advisory opinion — a significant legal victory that strengthens their ability to hold major emitters accountable. This decision is expected to bolster climate litigation, including the Ridhima Pandey case in India's Supreme Court.

Countries in the Global South can use this ruling to pressure developed nations to meet climate finance and technology transfer commitments, advancing both mitigation and adaptation efforts.

7. Assertion & Reasoning

Which statement best captures the passage's central claim?

- a) The ICJ has converted climate treaties into legally binding judgments enforceable by sanctions.
- b) The advisory opinion offers an authoritative legal reading that tightens state obligations and boosts Global South leverage.
- c) Climate governance is henceforth the exclusive province of human rights courts.
- d) The opinion chiefly narrows the Paris target from "well below 2°C" to exactly 1.3°C.
- e) States may exit climate treaties to avoid responsibility if attribution is difficult.

8. Cause-Effect Based

The opinion's view on NDCs most plausibly implies that:

- a) States retain unfettered discretion to set purely aspirational targets.
- b) Only Annex I (developed) states must align NDCs with highest ambition.
- c) Tokenistic pledges without credible measures fall short of legal expectations.
- d) NDCs must *guarantee* achievement of the 1.5°C limit.
- e) Reporting NDCs suffices; implementation is optional.

9. True/False Evaluation

- A. The ICJ opinion is non-binding yet regarded as an authoritative interpretation.
- B. The Court endorsed 1.5°C as the relevant temperature threshold.
- C. Treaty withdrawal extinguishes all climate obligations.

Which are true?

- A. Only I
- B. I and II only
- C. II and III only
- D. I, II, and III
- E. Only II

10. Tone Based

M-S - / class PC

The passage's overarching tone is best described as:

- a) Alarmist and accusatory
- b) Juridically assertive and clarificatory
- c) Celebratory and self-congratulatory
- d) Tentative and equivocal
- e) Cynical and defeatist

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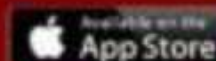
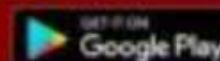
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