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# EDITORIAL

## ANALYSIS

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### READING

Let's be honest—when it comes to English for competitive exams, reading isn't just important... it's everything. Start by half of the questions—directly or indirectly—on how well you read. Don't stress, 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 know the rules, but many 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 cram 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. Short, snappy, patterns will start to click. You'll begin spotting mistakes naturally, understanding structure intuitively. That's grammar stops being scary and starts being your silent 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.



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**SPOTLIGHT**

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# INDIA'S CAPITAL NO CITY FOR STRAY DOGS





## SWELL

वृद्धि Verb

to become greater in extent, volume, amount, or number

Increase

Decrease

### SYNONYMS

Surge

### ANTONYMS

Shrink

- Accelerate
- Proliferate
- Bourgeon
- Snowball

Augment

Mushroom

Uptick

- Lessen
- Dwindle
- Recede
- Wane

Deteriorate

Decelerate

Debilitate

Contract wither

Balloon/Inflate

### FORMS

Adjective-(swollen)



The floodwaters began to \_\_\_\_\_ rapidly, causing alarm.





## CONURBATION

महानगर ✓

to become greater in extent, volume, amount, or number

### SYNONYMS

- Metropolis ✓
- Megalopolis ✓
- Cosmopolis ✓
- Asphalt jungle

### ANTONYMS

- Hamlet ✓
- Hinterland ✓
- Countryside ✓



### FORMS

While conurbations expand, many \_\_\_\_\_ areas face population decline.



## MENACE

खतरा

Noun / Verb

something that may cause injury or harm

### SYNONYMS

- Jeopardize ✓
- Imperil ✓
- Intimidate ✓
- Wager ✓
- Venture ✓

Danger

Peril

Perilous

treacherous

Deleterious

### ANTONYMS

- Shield ✓
- Shelter ✓
- Security ✓
- Aid ✓



### FORMS

Verb-(menace)

The increasing crime rate is a \_\_\_\_\_ to society.



## SKEW

पक्षपाती ✓ Vol 6

to change (something) in a way that makes it unfair or inaccurate

### SYNONYMS

- Predispose ✓
- Incline ✓
- Persuade ✓
- Dispose ✓

Biased ✓  
Prejudice ✓  
Prone ✓

### ANTONYMS

- Align ✓
- Neutral ✓
- Equality ✓
- Accuracy ✓

Parity ✓



### FORMS

Adjective-(skewed)

The report provided a skewed view of the company's performance.



## ADDUCE

to give as an example

साक्ष्य देना (Ver 6)



## SYNONYMS

- Cite ✓
- Quote ✓
- Illustrate ✓
- Validate ✓
- Corroborate ✓

Exemplify

## ANTONYMS

- Suppress ✓
- Conceal ✓
- Withhold ✓
- Withdraw ✓

Subdue  
Subjugate

## FORMS

While he adduced facts to prove his point, others chose to \_\_\_\_\_ contradictory data.



## BELEAGUER

घेर लेना (Veg)

to surround (as a fortified place) with armed forces for the purpose of capturing

### SYNONYMS

- Beseige ✓
- Blockade ✓
- Leaguer ✓
- Assail ✓
- Badger ✓

### ANTONYMS

- Emancipate ✓
- Rescue ✓
- Liberate ✓
- Release ✓

Emanate



### FORMS

The company was \_\_\_\_\_ by continuous financial problems.



## CHARLATAN

ढोंगी

(H)

one who makes false claims of identity or expertise



### SYNONYMS

- ✓ Sham
  - ✓ Phony
  - Fakir
  - ✓ Imposter
  - Quack
- Hypocrite*  
*Rhetoric*  
*Deceit*

### ANTONYMS

- Wizard
- Ace
- Maestro
- Whiz

*Wisdom*

*Sagacious*  
*Prudent*  
*Pragmatic*

### FORMS

*Natio*

The seminar exposed the speaker as a \_\_\_\_\_ with no real expertise.



## FLUMMOX

हैरान करना

to throw into a state of mental uncertainty

Verb

### SYNONYMS

- Perplex ✓
- Bewilder ✓
- Baffle ✓
- Befuddle ✓
- Confound ✓

Muddle

astomish

### ANTONYMS

- Assure ✓
- Enlighten ✓
- Assist ✓

illuminate



### FORMS

The sudden change in policy \_\_\_\_\_ the entire team.



## GERMANE

अनुकूल

having to do with the matter at hand

### SYNONYMS

- Pertinent ✓
- Apropos ✓
- Appropriate ✓
- Significant ✓

*Essential*

### ANTONYMS

- Trivial ✓
- Frivolous ✓
- Negligible ✓
- Extraneous ✓

*Imperative*

*(Add)*



### FORMS

The lawyer's arguments were \_\_\_\_\_ to the case.



## Phrasal Verbs

- **Bear out** – *to confirm or support something*
- *Example:* The latest data **bears out** the economist's warning about a potential slowdown in growth.
- **Clamp down on** – *to take strict action to stop or control something*
- *Example:* Authorities have vowed to **clamp down on** illegal mining operations in the region.
- **Flesh out** – *to add more details to make something complete or more understandable*
- *Example:* The minister's statement lacked clarity, and officials are expected to **flesh out** the policy in the coming days.

## Idioms

- **Cut to the chase** – *to get to the main point without wasting time*
- *Example:* The editorial quickly **cut to the chase**, addressing the core issue of rising unemployment.
- **In the crosshairs** – *being the target of criticism, attack, or intense scrutiny*
- *Example:* The company's environmental record is **in the crosshairs** of global watchdogs.
- **Raise the bar** – *to set a higher standard or level of expectation*
- *Example:* The new education policy aims to **raise the bar** for quality in public schools.

**BANKING | SSC | OTHER COMP EXAMS**



# **150** CONCEPTS OF **GRAMMAR**

**NO RULE APPROACH**

– By Anubhav Sir



The August 11, 2025 Supreme Court order represents the most forceful judicial intervention yet on the matter of free-roaming dogs. By directing Delhi and its satellites to collect every street dog within eight weeks, confine them permanently in pounds, and expand shelter capacity at speed, the Court has signalled its willingness to override administrative lethargy. Delhi records roughly 30,000 dog bite cases a year and rabies still kills poor urban residents with patchy access to post-exposure prophylaxis. The Court's blunt instrument conflicts with the Animal Birth Control Rules 2023, specifically its doctrine of "capture, neuter, vaccinate, release", and which forbid municipalities from permanently relocating healthy dogs or impounding them for long periods except if a dog is rabid, incurably ill or found to be dangerously aggressive by a veterinarian. The Rules have failed the test of numbers, however. Urban dog populations have continued to swell despite sporadic sterilisation drives because 70% coverage, below which reproduction rebounds, has almost nowhere been reached. The prescription to return dogs to their territories has entrenched packs in the same high-density neighbourhoods where children play and garbage accumulates. The Rules also block municipalities from exploring alternative strategies such as long-term impoundment. Now, if the Rules are intact, municipal officers who confine dogs could be prosecuted; if they obey the Rules, they risk contempt of court.

Policymakers should treat this conflict as an opportunity to confront an outdated legal setup. The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 was enacted when India's urban footprint was modest. Today's **conurbations** with dense informal settlements cannot afford such dog populations. Entrenched ideological positions that romanticise "community dogs" and regard confinement as **oppression** take insufficient account of the dense human ecology. A modern statute should clearly distinguish between sociable dogs that can find homes; aggressive or chronically ill dogs that require euthanasia; and the large residual category that can live in proper shelters — but none on public roads. Cities should impose duties on municipalities, specify minimum staffing and veterinary standards for pounds, and tie fiscal transfers to reductions in morbidity. Urban local bodies also need steady funding, perhaps under the National Centre for Disease Control, to bankroll the construction and operation of shelters and to fund large-scale sterilisation teams. Veterinary education councils should integrate shelter medicine into curricula to ensure a workforce exists to staff new facilities. Without such support, Delhi risks swapping its dog menace with underfunded canine slammers at the city's edge, invisible but also cruel.

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7-8  
10

## 1. Inference Based Question

Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the Court's decision in relation to the Animal Birth Control Rules 2023?

- (a) The Court fully endorses the Rules but demands stricter compliance timelines.
- (b) The Court's directive effectively bypasses certain safeguards embedded in the Rules.
- (c) The Court's stance aligns with the Rules' emphasis on "release" after sterilisation.
- (d) The Court's order is aimed solely at improving shelter capacity, not controlling dog populations.
- (e) The Court intends to amend the Rules through judicial legislation.

## 2. Vocabulary Based Question

The phrase “*administrative lethargy*” as used in the passage most nearly means:

- (a) Bureaucratic inefficiency and inaction.
- (b) Government enthusiasm for rapid reforms.
- (c) Judicial overreach into policy-making.
- (d) Policy conflicts between central and state governments.
- (e) Structured planning without urgency.

### 3. True False

According to the passage, the ABC Rules 2023 allow municipalities to confine healthy dogs indefinitely **only** when such dogs are found to be dangerously aggressive.

- (a) True, as long as the aggression is confirmed by a veterinarian.
- (b) True, but only if the dogs are ~~also~~ unvaccinated.
- (c) False, because healthy dogs can be confined for any safety reason.
- (d) False, since the Rules do not recognise “dangerously aggressive” as a category.
- (e) True, provided that the Court authorises such confinement.

#### 4. Assumption based

If policymakers followed the author's recommendations, which of the following would **most likely** occur?

- (a) Cities would ban all forms of dog ownership.
- (b) The ABC Rules 2023 would remain unchanged but better enforced.
- (c) There would be a statutory classification system for urban stray dogs.
- (d) All street dogs would be euthanised to reduce urban risks.
- (e) Rabies eradication would occur without any change in municipal funding.

## 5. Tone Based

Which option **best captures the author's tone** towards the ABC Rules 2023?

- (a) Reverent and nostalgic. ✗
- (b) Mildly supportive but cautious. ✗
- (c) Neutral and detached. ✗
- (d) Critical and reform-oriented. ✓
- (e) Apologetic and conciliatory.

## 6. Application of the Idea

If Delhi were to follow the Court's directive without amending the ABC Rules, which outcome is **most plausible**?

- (a) The city would face contempt charges from the Court.
- (b) Municipal officers might be legally prosecuted for confining dogs.
- (c) Rabies cases would instantly drop to zero.
- (d) Shelters would become overfunded and underused.
- (e) Dogs would voluntarily relocate to low-density areas.



When decisions are based on the principle of natural justice, they serve a particular social purpose or aim to right a specific wrong. The National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization's (NOTTO) recent advisory stating that women patients and relatives of deceased donors awaiting transplants will get priority as beneficiaries, walks the path of rewriting a gender trope. There is a gender **skew** as NOTTO's decadal data (2013-23) indicates. As per NOTTO, in 2023, women constituted 63% of all living donor transplants, and yet they comprised between 24% (for heart) and 47% (lung) as beneficiaries of organs for transplantation. In kidney transplants, women were only 37% of the beneficiaries in 2023, while for liver, women's share was 30%. For pancreas transplant, women totalled up to 26% of total beneficiaries. Analysis in the British Medical Journal showed that in the past five years, women contributed to 36,038 of the 56,509 living organ donations in India, and benefited from transplantation in only 17,041 cases. NOTTO, in its advisory, said the recommendation was an attempt to address the gender imbalance among organ transplant recipients; to make provisions for additional points in the allocation criteria for women patients in the waiting.

While certainly laudable in what it sets out to do, this move could well be beset with procedural hassles. Currently, organ allotment protocols do not allow for prioritising any one recipient over another, except on grounds of health. There are, therefore, no provisions to prioritise women and/or near relatives of previous donors.

Since the NOTTO advisory, questions have also been raised about whom the definition of 'near relatives' should include, and if all families involved in donating cadaveric organs for transplantation (since 1995) would be considered beneficiaries. The primary fear among implementers seems to be that this might become another backdoor way to facilitate out-of-turn allotments, particularly as organ harvesting rackets continue to be busted in India. However, it makes little sense to throw the baby out with the bathwater, particularly when operating with the intent to be more inclusive, in a society shaped by patriarchal norms. It is crucial that NOTTO makes this a participative process, taking along various agencies involved in implementation. While it is important to ensure proper implementation under the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, and widen access to the limited pool of organs, above all, it is imperative that the principle of not denying anyone whose need for an organ is the greatest, based on health parameters, is always adhered to.

## 7. Purpose Based

If Delhi were to follow the Court's directive without amending the ABC Rules, which outcome is **most plausible**?

- (a) The city would face contempt charges from the Court.
- (b) Municipal officers might be legally prosecuted for confining dogs.
- (c) Rabies cases would instantly drop to zero.
- (d) Shelters would become overfunded and underused.
- (e) Dogs would voluntarily relocate to low-density areas.

## 7. Vocab Based

The phrase “*throw the baby out with the bathwater*” in the context of the passage most nearly means:

- (a) Disregard something entirely due to a minor flaw in it.
- (b) Delay implementation until perfect procedures are in place.
- (c) Choose an alternative approach without evaluating its merits.
- (d) Sacrifice efficiency to achieve inclusivity.
- (e) Remove harmful elements while retaining useful aspects.

## 9. Inference Based

Which of the following can be **logically inferred** from the passage?

- (a) Women are more likely than men to donate organs but less likely to receive them.
- (b) Organ transplant allocation in India has historically favoured women due to social norms.
- (c) Legal provisions already exist to prioritise recipients based on gender.
- (d) The British Medical Journal opposes gender-based allocation of organs.
- (e) The NOTTO advisory has eliminated the possibility of out-of-turn allotments.

## 10. Tone Based

The tone of the author towards NOTTO's advisory is best described as:

- (a) Unreservedly celebratory
- (b) Cautiously supportive ✓
- (c) Overtly critical ✓
- (d) Detached and neutral
- (e) Skeptical and dismissive

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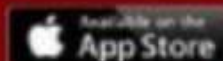
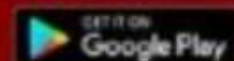
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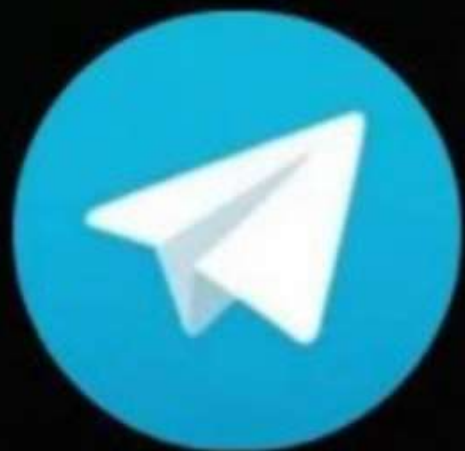
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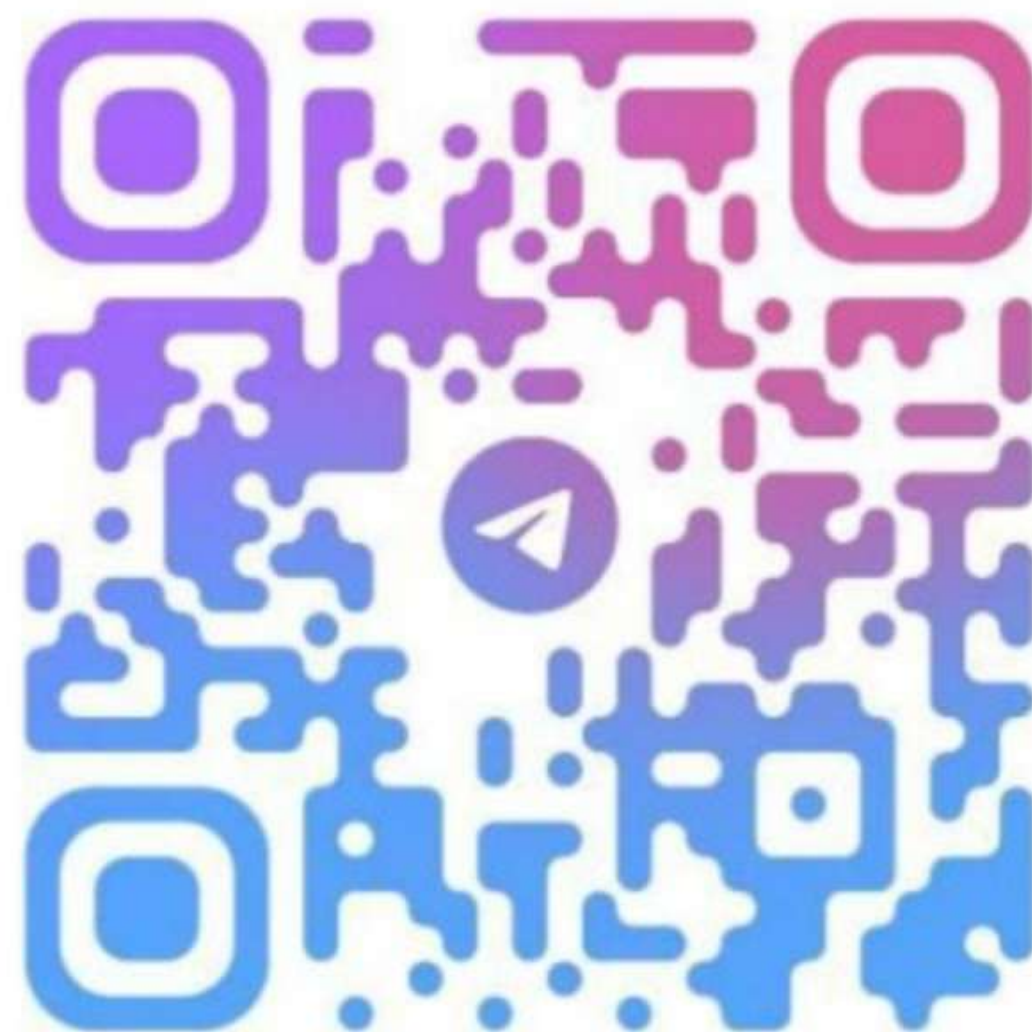
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