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JULY

EDITORIAL

ANALYSIS

READING

GRAMMAR

VOCAB

WITH **MCQs**

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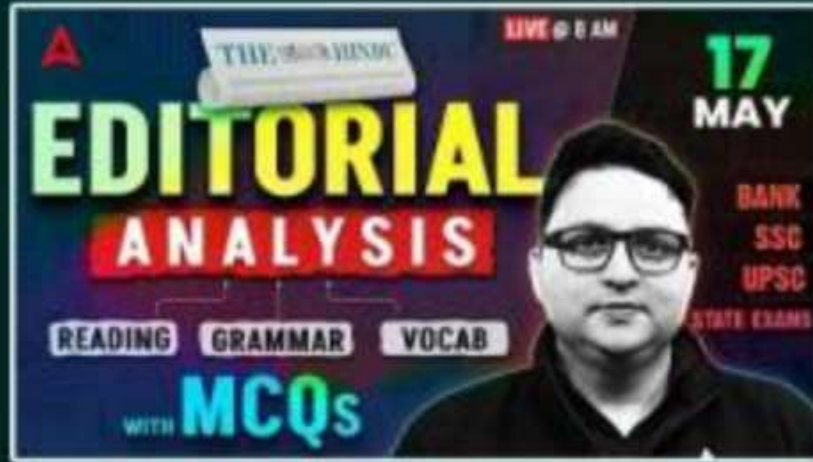
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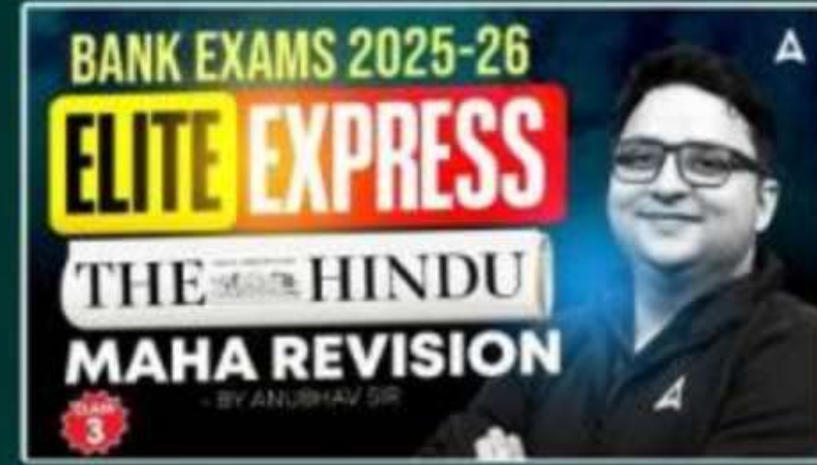
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BY ANUBHAV SIR

JULY 1 - AUG 15



English Simplified : Newspaper से नौकरी तक

**READING**

Let's be honest—when it comes to English for competitive exams, reading isn't just important... it's everything. Nearly half of the questions—directly or indirectly—are based on how well you read. But don't worry, 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. Nail 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? Too many rules, too 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. Slowly, patterns will start to click. You'll begin spotting mistakes naturally, understanding structure intuitively. That's grammar steps being scary and starts being your silent support system.

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Idioms and phrases—those 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.

When pigs fly**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 précis, 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.



Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions

**US-China climbdown in trade war – a welcome pause**

The United States and the People's Republic of China have announced a pause in the ongoing trade war between the two countries. The announcement came after two days of high-level negotiations in Geneva. The two economies have been locked in a tariff war since February 1, when US President Donald Trump imposed a 10 per cent tariff on China, as well as 25 per cent each on Mexico and Canada, citing the sale of fentanyl in the US. Reportedly, in the US, in 2021, deaths due to overdose of opioids surpassed 1,00,000, with 67 per cent of those deaths involving fentanyl. But Trump wanted to slap tariffs for other reasons as well, such as the US's large trade deficit vis-à-vis the rest of the world and the loss of manufacturing industry inside the US. For its part, China started retaliating with counter-tariffs of its own. This process escalated quickly after Trump's announcement of reciprocal tariffs on April 2. By April 10, the situation had worsened to a point where the US had imposed 145 per cent tariffs on China and China had retaliated with 125 per cent tariffs on the US.





WOMEN'S DAY





STEADFAST

दृढ़ (Adhi)

firm in one's allegiance to someone or something

SYNONYMS

Constant

ANTONYMS

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| • Staunch ✓ | ✓ Persevering | • Fickle ✓ |
| • Resolute ✓ | ✓ Unwavering | • Perfidious ✓ |
| • Fervent ✓ | ✓ Unflinching | • Vacillating ✓ |
| • Devout ✓ | | • Dubious ✓ |
| • Ardent ✓ | | |

capricious



FORMS

Noun-(steadfastness)

Her steadfast loyalty contrasted sharply with his _____ attitude.



STATUTORY

वैधानिक

फर्म

firm in one's allegiance to someone or something

SYNONYMS

- Prescribed ✓
- Legislated ✓
- Mandated ✓
- Constitutional ✓
- De jure ✓

ANTONYMS

- Illicit ✓
- Corrupt ✓
- Illegitimate ✓
- Guilty ✓

FORMS



Any _____ use of these funds is a violation of statutory provisions.



INERT

अक्रिय

(अध)

not being in a state of use, activity, or employment

SYNONYMS

- Dormant ✓
- Sluggish ✓
- Passive ✓
- Static ✓
- Latent ✓

Stagnant

ANTONYMS

- Operating ✓
- Dynamic ✓
- Energetic ✓
- Mobile ✓

The kind of sleep I want



FORMS

Noun-(inertness)

Their _____ response to the crisis drew widespread criticism.



BENIGN

सौम्य (Aa)

not causing or being capable of causing injury or hurt

SYNONYMS

- Innocuous ✓
- Anodyne ✓
- Salubrious ✓
- Benevolent ✓

humane

Compassionate

ANTONYMS

- Pernicious ✓
- Noxious ✓
- Sinister ✓
- Baleful ✓
- Malignant ✓

Hostile

FORMS

Teacher gave him homework to draw a cat ✓



Thank God she didn't asked to draw a Lion or Snake.

He gave her a _____ look that immediately put her at ease.



ABNEGATE

अस्वीकार करना

to give up (as a position of authority) formally

VERB

SYNONYMS

- Relinquish ✓
- Abdicate ✓
- Renounce ✓
- Abjure ✓
- Forsake ✓

ANTONYMS

- Assume ✓
- Appropriate ✓
- Arrogate ✓
- Seize ✓
- Confiscate ✓



FORMS

Noun-(abnegation)

His _____ of fame and wealth inspired many.



CHICANERY

छल

Noun

the use of clever underhanded actions to achieve an end

SYNONYMS

- Deceit
- Subterfuge
- Evasion
- Trickery
- Treachery

Deception

Skulduggery

ANTONYMS

- Candor
- Honesty
- Integrity
- Sincerity

②

FORMS

Aaya hoon to kuch na kuch
LOOT ke jaunga



30.48 CM

45.72 CM

He built his reputation on _____, refusing to engage in any form of chicanery.



DISCOMFIT

बिगाड़ना

to prevent from achieving a goal

Comfortable

SYNONYMS

Confound

ANTONYMS

- Thwart
- Hinder
- Impede
- Hamper
- Agitate

*Embarrass
Fluster
Baffle
Perplex*

- Encourage
- Soothe
- Assist
- Foster

*Placate
Assuage
Mollify*

FORMS

Noun-(discomfiture)



The journalist's probing questions _____ the minister.



EFFULGENT

दीप्तिमान

giving off or reflecting much light

(Adm)

SYNONYMS

- Luminous ✓
- Radiant ✓
- Refulgent ✓
- Dazzling ✓

ANTONYMS

- Obscure ✓
- Sombre ✓
- Gloomy ✓
- Dusky ✓
- Murky ✓

FORMS

Noun-(effulgence)



Her effulgent personality stood out in an otherwise _____ gathering.



FATUOUS

बुद्धिहीन

not having or showing an ability to absorb ideas readily

SYNONYMS

- Idiotic ✓
- Vacuous ✓
- Obtuse ✓
- Inane ✓
- Ridiculous ✓

Stupid
puerile

ANTONYMS

- Prudent ✓
- Sensible ✓
- Intelligent ✓
- Apt ✓

Pragmatic
Rational
Sagacious

FORMS

Noun-(fatuousness)

②

Koi Mujhe Batayega Ki
'Hmm' Ke Baad Kya Reply Diya Jata Hai?



Download

He _____ assumed that no one would notice his mistakes.



OBSEQUIIOUS

चापलूस

(Adm)

too eager to help or obey someone important

Subservient

SYNONYMS

- Servile ✓
- Groveling ✓
- Unctuous ✓
- Sycophantic ✓
- Ingratiating ✓

ANTONYMS

- Assertive ✓
- Domineering ✓
- Confident ✓
- Rebellious ✓

Defiant



FORMS

Noun-(obsequiousness)

The director surrounded himself with _____ assistants who never questioned his decisions.



Phrasal Verb

bear down on ✓

Meaning

Move toward someone/something in a threatening way

Example Sentence

The storm clouds began to bear down on the coastal village.

gloss over ✓

Avoid or ignore unpleasant facts; to downplay

The report tried to gloss over the government's failures.

clamp down on ✓

Take strict action to stop or limit something

The authorities plan to clamp down on illegal mining operations.

paper over

Try to hide a problem instead of solving it ✓

They attempted to paper over the corruption scandal with empty reassurances.

Idiom

Meaning

Example Sentence

call someone's bluff

Challenge someone to prove their claim, assuming they're being dishonest or exaggerating

The journalist called the minister's bluff by demanding evidence of the alleged reforms.

bark up the wrong tree

Accuse or pursue the wrong person; follow a false lead

If you think I'm behind the leaked memo, you're barking up the wrong tree.

throw the baby out with the bathwater

Discard something valuable while trying to eliminate something undesirable

In reforming the education system, we must not throw the baby out with the bathwater.

Word

Voc

Meaning

Usage Example

Vocal

Related to the voice or expressing opinions freely

She was very **vocal** about her dissatisfaction with the policy.

Invoke

To call upon (a higher power or law) for help or inspiration

The leader **invoked** the Constitution during his speech.

Revoke

To officially cancel or take back

His license was **revoked** due to reckless driving.

Evoke

To bring a feeling, image, or memory into the mind

The painting **evoked** memories of her childhood.

Convocation

A large formal assembly, often for a ceremony

The university held its annual **convocation** for graduating students.

Empowerment begins with access — access to rights, to services, to protection, and to opportunity. Over the past decade, this access has been redefined and democratised through the focused commitment of the Modi government to build a more inclusive and digitally empowered India. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been **at the forefront** of this transformation. Guided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat@2047, the Ministry has integrated technology into its programmes, ensuring that benefits reach the last mile swiftly, transparently, and efficiently.

What was once aspirational is now operational thanks to the government's emphasis on digital public infrastructure, real-time data systems, and responsive governance. With **steadfast** focus on care, protection, and empowerment, the Ministry has strengthened access to nutrition, education, legal safeguards, and essential entitlements, ensuring that women and children lead healthier, more secure lives, and also emerge as confident leaders and change makers of Amrit Kaal.

Transformative initiatives - A cornerstone of this transformation is the Saksham Anganwadi initiative, designed to modernise and empower over 2 lakh Anganwadi centres across India. These centres are being upgraded with smart infrastructure, digital devices, and innovative learning tools, enabling more effective delivery of nutrition, healthcare, and pre-school education services.

The integration of services provided by 14 lakh Anganwadi centres across the nation with the Poshan Tracker has enabled real-time data entry, performance monitoring, and evidence-based policy interventions. Over 10.14 crore beneficiaries, including pregnant women, lactating mothers, children under six, and adolescent girls, are now registered on Poshan Tracker. At its core, Poshan Tracker is driving the national vision of a Swasth Bharat, Suposhit Bharat. It reimagines Anganwadi centres as digitally empowered community hubs that bridge the urban-rural divide. Recognised with the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration (2025), it also supports Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi, providing digital training modules to Anganwadi workers for early childhood education. Further, to reduce leakages in the Supplementary Nutrition Programme, a facial recognition system has been introduced to ensure that eligible beneficiaries alone receive nutrition support. Beyond nutrition, the Ministry is ensuring safety and support for women through technology-led platforms. The SHe-Box portal provides single-window access to every woman to lodge complaints under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. It enables online redressal and tracking. Meanwhile, the Mission Shakti dashboard and mobile app provide integrated assistance to women in distress, connecting them to the nearest one-stop centre, now operational in nearly every district.

These interventions exemplify how technology is being used not just for efficiency, but for justice, dignity and empowerment. The Modi government has also operationalised the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) — a game changer in maternal welfare. Under the PMMVY Rules, 2022, pregnant women receive ₹5,000 for their first child. Under Mission Shakti, the benefit extends to ₹6,000 if the second child is a girl.

PMMVY is a fully digital programme — leveraging Aadhaar-based authentication, mobile-based registration, doorstep assistance from Anganwadi/ASHA workers, and real-time dashboards. A dedicated grievance redressal module and citizen-facing portal ensure transparency, trust, and accountability, strengthening the government's commitment to Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao.

Tangible outcomes - Digital transformation has played a key role in child protection and welfare. Digitisation has also improved monitoring of child care institutions, foster care placements, and **statutory** support structures under the Act.

This is New India where governance meets technology, and policy meets purpose. Over the last decade, the Ministry has not only adapted to digital change, but championed it.

10

64

$\frac{4}{10}$

$\frac{8}{10}$

Pattern 1 – Implication Based Question

What does the passage imply is the principal catalyst behind the recent strides in empowering women and children?

1. Broad-based reforms in educational infrastructure and delivery systems
2. Increased reliance on international collaboration and rural welfare funding
3. Strategic integration of technology with governance to enhance inclusion and efficiency

- A. Both 1 and 2
- B. Both 2 and 3
- C. Both 1 and 3
- D. Only 1
- E. Only 3

Pattern 2 – Vocab Based Questions

The phrase "What was once aspirational is now operational" most likely suggests that:

- A. All government schemes have now been permanently planned.
- B. Most policy dreams are relevant to today's governance.
- C. Ideas that once seemed idealistic are now practically implemented. ✓
- D. Aspirations have shifted from rural to urban empowerment.
- E. Operational frameworks are now determined by private players.

Pattern 3 Tone Based Question

Which of the following best reflects the **tone** of the passage?

- A. Cynical and dismissive
- B. Empirical and neutral
- C. Laudatory and assertive ✓
- D. Pessimistic and abstract
- E. Detached and philosophical

Pattern 4 – Logical Arrangement Question

Which of the following statements accurately reflect the role of technology as presented in the passage?

1. It ensures transparency and accountability in maternal welfare schemes.
2. It is used solely for administrative efficiency, not for social justice.
3. It facilitates grievance redressal for women facing workplace harassment.
4. It replaces the need for Anganwadi or ASHA workers.
5. It bridges the urban-rural divide through digitised services.

A. 1, 2 and 3

B. 1, 3 and 5 ✓

C. 2, 3 and 4

D. 1, 4 and 5

E. 2, 4 and 5

Pattern 5 – Logical Reasoning – Implicit Assumption

Which of the following best illustrates the passage's broader vision of 'Amrit Kaal' for women and children?

1. Enhanced welfare through subsidies and quotas
2. Systemic empowerment through integrated governance
3. Building digital bridges between policy and people
4. Incremental administrative changes without disrupting status quo

Choose the correct combination:

- A. 1 and 4
- B. 2 and 4
- C. 2 and 3
- D. 3 and 4
- E. 1 and 5

Pattern 6 – Title Based Question

~ Accurate

Which of the following titles best encapsulates the central theme of the passage?

~ Complete

- A. Subsidy, Surveillance, and the Shifting Face of Indian Welfare
- B. Grassroots Governance: The Silent Role of Anganwadi Workers in Rural India
- C. Technology vs. Tradition: Dismantling India's Welfare Bureaucracy
- D. Empowered by Access: Digital Governance and Inclusive Welfare in New India
- E. The Digital Irony: Automation and Alienation in India's Social Schemes

Microcrystalline Cellulose (MCC) is chemically **inert**. The human body does not absorb it. The skin does not react to it. But it has several useful physical properties such as being a binder and texturiser, which is why it has varied applications in the pharmaceutical, food, cosmetics and other industries. MCC can add weight to a drug and facilitate the active ingredients to function effectively while making the drug conform to weight specifications. On Monday (June 30, 2025), however, the pharma unit of Sigachi Industries in Hyderabad, which makes this **benign** substance, was the scene of a lethal accident, with the toll rising to 36 on Tuesday (July 1, 2025). The making of this safe substance does involve risky processes, which can, however, be safe if appropriate procedures are followed by trained personnel. Most of the dead are young, poor, migrant workers from northern and eastern India who often lack social support. The Telangana government has announced an ex gratia of ₹1 crore and efforts must be made to ensure it reaches the families. It does seem that the response of (mitigation) agencies was timely and is ongoing.

The blast, however, puts the spotlight back on the pharma manufacturing industry, which has been a foreign exchange earner for India. Such accidents have been frequent, sadly. In August last year, there was a major accident at a pharma unit in Anakapalli near Visakhapatnam.

Months earlier, in April, there was another accident in Hyderabad. Officials suspect that Monday's accident happened due to equipment malfunction, likely due to poor maintenance. It could have led to an abnormal build-up of temperature, leading to the blast. Key aspects of operating such hazardous units safely are that HAZOP, or a form of process hazard analysis, should be carried out by competent and knowledgeable staff. The data that individual units generate, that would indicate any abnormality, should be seamlessly integrated into operation control, again manned by competent staff. Operators should be trained, constantly aware of safety issues and implement steps that can ensure safety. While these are recommended practices, what is crucial is that such plants should have a high level of safety culture. Operators, managers and workers should be conscious of the ever-present risks. In this era of heightened scrutiny of industrial accidents by proactive media, manufacturing units are expected to conform to global norms especially regarding safety. Major slip-ups, such as this accident in Hyderabad, are likely to have a negative bearing on this key source of trade for India.

Pattern 7 : Inference Based

What can be inferred about the likely long-term impact of the Hyderabad accident on India's pharmaceutical exports?

- A. The accident will lead to a complete shutdown of Sigachi Industries.
- B. The Indian government will ban MCC manufacturing.
- C. It may damage India's credibility in global pharmaceutical markets.
- D. It will result in stricter tax policies for exporters.
- E. It will make India an attractive alternative for safer MCC procurement.

Pattern 8 ~~Tone~~ Based Question

Which of the following is NOT **explicitly** stated in the passage?

- A. MCC is used as a binder and texturiser in multiple industries. (F)
- B. MCC is absorbed by the human digestive system.
- C. Poor maintenance may have triggered the accident. (F)
- D. The accident led to the death of young migrant workers. (F)
- E. Prior pharma accidents occurred in both Anakapalli and Hyderabad. (F)

Pattern 9 – Fill in the Blanks

The author would most likely agree with which of the following statements?

- A. The Telangana government acted swiftly but should have ~~restricted~~ migrant labor.
- B. MCC is inherently unsafe and must be banned.
- C. Technical competence alone is ~~enough~~ to prevent future accidents.
- D. A strong safety culture must accompany procedural recommendations in hazardous industries.
- E. Accidents in pharma units are too rare to require systemic reforms.

Pattern 10 – Grammar Based Question

Identify the grammatically correct version of the sentence extracted and modified from the passage:

Original idea: *The making of this safe substance does involve risky processes.*

Which of the following maintains the original meaning and is grammatically correct?

- A. The making for this safe substance do involve risky processes. ☒
- B. Making this safe substance do involves risky process. ☒
- C. The making of this safe substance involve risky processes. ☒
- D. The making of this safe substance involves risky processes. ☒
- E. The make of this safety substance does involve risk processes. ☒

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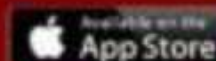
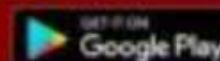
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