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EDITORIAL

ANALYSIS

READING

GRAMMAR

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EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

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ENGLISH

CLASS: 01

BY ANUBHAV SIR

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READING

Let's be honest—when it comes to English for some 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. Don't show a sorry, you don't have the time to devote a special 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? You study 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 exams—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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MAINS

SPECIAL

CLASS : 1

**ERROR
DETECTION**

93 DAYS

LEFT TO MAINS

ENGLISH

-BY ANUBHAV SIR



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POPULATION





INSIDIOUS

धोखेबाज (Ady)

causing harm in a way that is gradual or not easily noticed

Surreptitious

SYNONYMS

- Perfidious ✓
- Treacherous ✓
- Deceptive ✓
- Sly ✓

Pernicious

Malicious

Devious

Clandestine

✓

Adv-ty

ANTONYMS

- Candid ✓
- Illuminating ✓
- Explanatory ✓
- Frank ✓

Lucid
Cogent

FRIEND 1: yaar exam me help kar d
FRIEND 2: maine padhayi hi nahi ha
FRIEND 2: ma'am extra sheet.



Dhokha swabhaav hai mera

FORMS

Noun-(insidiousness)

The virus spread _____, infecting thousands before anyone realized.



PARSIMONIOUS

किफ़ायती

giving or sharing as little as possible

SYNONYMS

- Penurious
- Stingy
- Tightfisted
- Niggardly

*Frugal***ANTONYMS**

- Lavish
- Extravagant
- Munificent
- Bountiful

*Penny*what are other
words for
parsimonious?penurious, stingy, miserly,
mean, niggardly, sparing, tight,
cheap, close, frugal

thesaurus.plus

FORMS

Noun-(parsimony)



While he remained parsimonious in personal spending, his sister was known for her _____ nature.

QUIXOTIC

① अव्यावहारिक (Adi)

having or marked by a tendency to be guided more by ideals than by reality

SYNONYMS

- Utopian ✓
- Idealistic ✓
- Romantic ✓
- Visionary ✓

Imaginative Chimeric

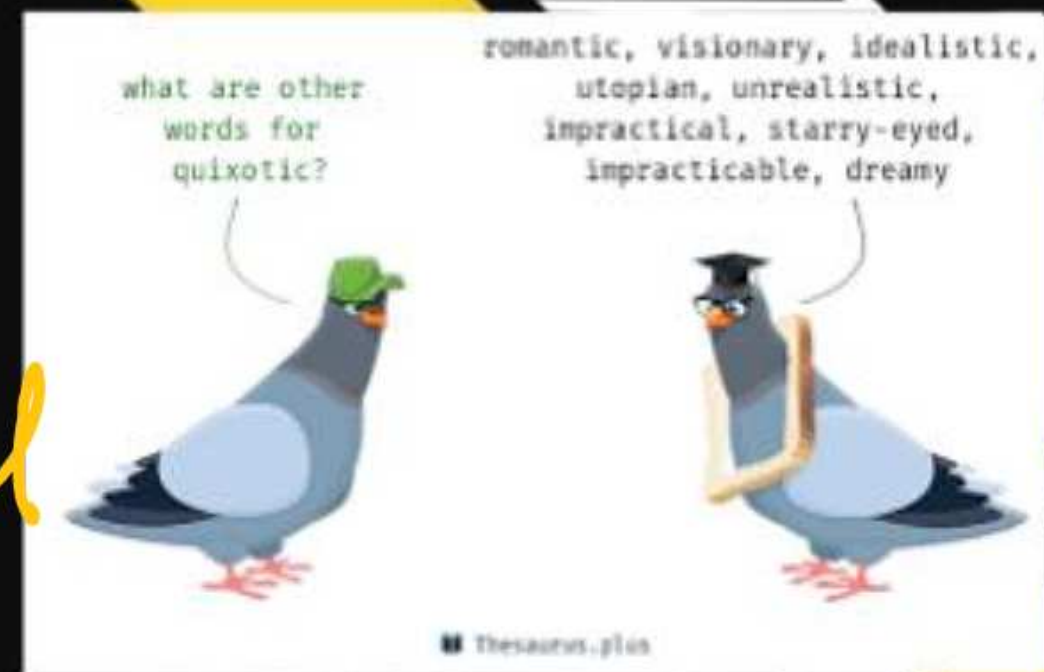
ANTONYMS

- Pragmatic ✓
- Hardheaded ✓
- Realistic ✓
- Sensible ✓

Rational

Sagacious

②



FORMS

Noun-(quixotism)

Her _____ often made her the subject of ridicule.



DAUNTLESS

निडर

feeling or displaying no fear by temperament

Audacious

SYNONYMS

Adventurous

ANTONYMS

Heroic

- Valiant ✓
- Gallant ✓
- Intrepid ✓
- Valorous ✓
- Stalwart ✓

lion

hearted

Mettle some

- Timid ✓
- Craven ✓
- Diffident ✓
- Dastardly ✓

Hare-hearted

Cowardly



FORMS

Noun-(dauntlessness)

The soldiers' _____ inspired the entire nation.



SYCOPHANT

चापलूस

a person who flatters another in order to get ahead ⁽¹⁴⁾

SYNONYMS

- Flunkey ✓
- Henchman ✓
- Lickspittle ✓
- Toady ✓

Boot-Licker

ANTONYMS

- Critic ✓
- Opponent ✓
- Adversary ✓
- Disputer ✓

Defiant
Rebellious

Life mai bohot paap kiye



par kabhi marks ke liye
teachers ki chamcha giri nahi ki

FORMS

Adjective-(sycophantic)

(Adi)

While he preferred sycophants who always praised him, she valued honest _____.



INTERTWINE

गुथना

to cause to twine about one another

SYNONYMS

- Entwine ✓
- Writhe ✓
- Mesh ✓
- Implicate ✓

ANTONYMS

- Uncoil ✓
- Unravel ✓
- Disconnect ✓
- Untangle ✓



FORMS

Adjective-(intertwined)
Noun-(intertwining)

Serpentile

The economies of the two countries are deeply _____.



JUXTAPOSED

having a border in common

जुड़ा हुआ

(Adj)

SYNONYMS

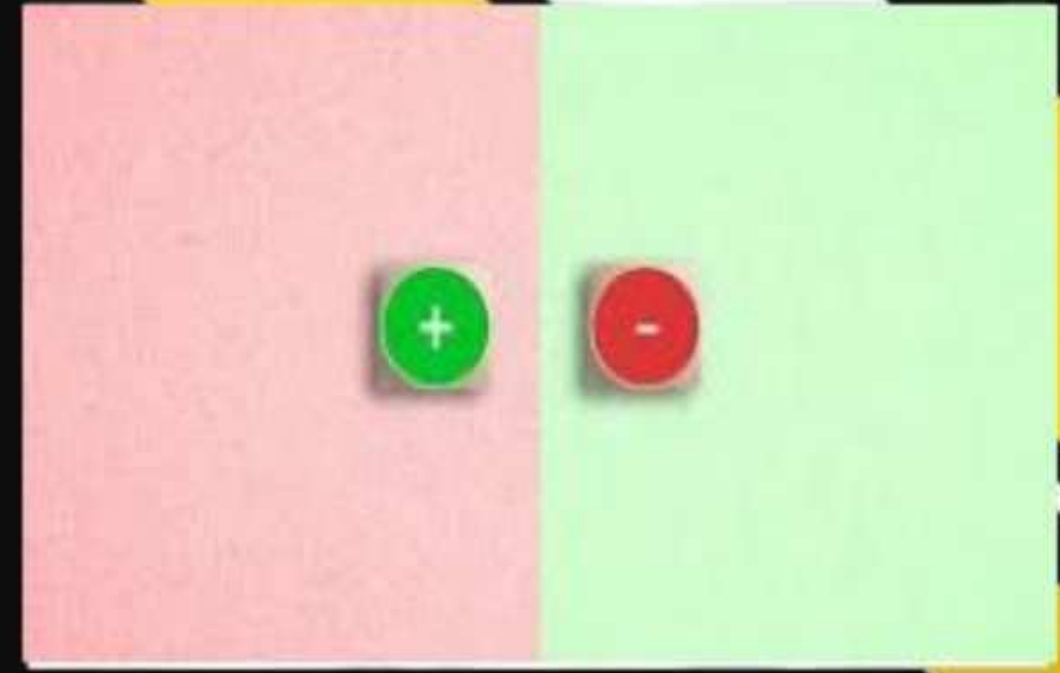
- Adjacent ✓
- Adjoining ✓
- Collocated ✓
- Contiguous ✓

ANTONYMS

- Separate ✓
- Dispersed ✓
- Detached ✓
- Isolated ✓

FORMS

Verb-(juxtapose) ✓
Noun-(juxtaposition) ✓



The _____ of luxury and poverty in the city is striking.



HOAX

छल

VIN

an imitation that is passed off as genuine

SYNONYMS

- Counterfeit ✓
- Sham ✓
- Dupe ✓
- Ruse ✓

ANTONYMS

- Authenticity ✓
- Reality ✓
- Honesty ✓
- Fact ✓



FORMS

Noun-(hoaxer)

The hackers _____ users into giving up their personal information.



COMPLACENT

आत्मतुष्ट

having too high an opinion of oneself

SYNONYMS

- Smug ✓
- Conceited ✓
- Domineering ✓
- Pompous ✗

ANTONYMS

- Modest ✓
- Humble ✓
- Diffident ✓
- Meek ✓

WORD

complacent
self-satisfied



We have become
complacent and lazy.

www.englishwithketan.com

FORMS

Noun-(complacency)

_____ in the face of competition can lead to failure.



REINSTATE**पुनर्स्थापित करना**

To restore someone or something to a former position, condition, or status.

SYNONYMS

- Restore
- Reestablished
- Reintroduce
- Return

ANTONYMS

- Abolish
- Suspend
- Displace
- Remove

Repeal

Abrogate

Annul

Admonish

FORMS

Noun-(reinstatement)



While some argued to reinstate the policy, others insisted it should be permanently _____.



ABSURD

विसंगत / (असंगत)

conceived or made without regard for reason or reality

SYNONYMS

- Bizarre
- Ridiculous
- Grotesque
- Peculiar
- Ludicrous

Preposterous

irrational

ANTONYMS

- Rational
- Logical
- Sensible
- Reasonable

Pragmatic

Sagacious

FORMS

Noun-(absurdity)



The sheer _____ of the situation made everyone laugh.



PHRASAL VERBS

• **Play out** – This means *to unfold or develop over time*.

Example: The long-term effects of sub-replacement fertility will play out gradually across generations, not overnight.

• **Zero in on** – It means *to focus closely or exclusively on something*.

Example: Policymakers must zero in on structural barriers—like childcare costs and job insecurity—that prevent families from having children.

• **Bear down on** – It means *to apply pressure or aggressively target something*.

Example: Some governments are beginning to bear down on women's reproductive choices in response to falling birth rates.

IDIOMS

• **A ticking time bomb** – Refers to a situation that may seem stable now but is likely to become dangerous or problematic.

Example: Some economists view ageing populations as a ticking time bomb for national healthcare and pension systems.

• **Throw the baby out with the bathwater** – Means to eliminate something valuable along with the undesirable.

Example: In critiquing pronatalist policies, we shouldn't throw the baby out with the bathwater by ignoring real parental challenges.

• **Grasp at straws** – Means to try desperate or ineffective solutions.

Example: Announcing one-time cash incentives for childbirth is like grasping at straws—it doesn't solve deeper societal problems.

Root Word: "dict" (Latin: *to say or speak*)

Word	Meaning	Example Sentence
Dictate ✓	To command or <u>speak</u> with authority ✓	The manager dictated a list of tasks for the day.
Predict ✓	To forecast or say something will happen	Experts predicted a drop in the birth rate.
Verdict ✓	A formal <u>decision</u> given by a jury	The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilt.
Contradict	To speak against or deny	His actions contradict his earlier promises.
Diction	The choice and use of words in speech/writing	Her clear diction made the speech impactful.

Demographic thinking has always been **intertwined** with public discourse and, at times, poorly interpreted. With every passing 'Population Day', we see a shifting discourse: from a Malthusian cry about runaway growth and ecological strain to an animated fear of fast-falling fertility rates.

A rising chorus of voices is warning the world of population decline and civilisation "dwindling to nothing". Yet, much of this alarmism is premature, analytically flawed, and ethically troubling. While there is no ambiguity that the fertility rate is falling, the implications drawn are often ill-informed. Pro-natalist movements are gaining currency among nation-states with varying degrees of urgency. For the last few years, the self-identified 'demographer' Elon Musk has been 'concerned' about falling birth rates and predicted a 'population collapse' within the next 20 years. The Musk Foundation even made its biggest donation to a higher education institution — about \$10 million, to the University of Texas — to establish the 'Population Wellbeing Initiative'. **Juxtaposed** with Mr. Musk's claims are the data by the United Nations World Population Prospects (WPP), released every two years. The world's population is predicted to increase during the next 50 years, from 8.2 billion in 2024 to a peak of about 10.3 billion in the mid-2080s, according to WPP 2024.

The population is expected to steadily decline after this peak, but 10.2 billion people is proof that the (population collapse) is a **hoax** — even though the 2100 population is predicted to be 6% smaller, or roughly (700) million fewer people than estimated a decade ago. A large portion of the alarmism misses two points. First, projections are not predictions. The underlying assumptions regarding future vital rates drive these projections — the farther the projection, the less accurate it is. Second, there is a lag effect in demographic change, i.e., the time lag between changes in (survival and reproduction and their implication on age distribution and population size. When a population reaches below-replacement fertility ($TFR < 2.1$), it can continue to grow for decades due to population momentum — growth is maintained because a significant portion of the reproductive-age population continues to produce children, albeit fewer than in the past. No population shrinks overnight or reaches stationarity linearly. The panic over (falling births) and an ageing population has unjustly targeted women who have opted out of (childbearing, curbing their rights to abortion and contraception. The homogenisation of women as a single entity, shedding the idea of childbearing, is **absurd**. Most people want to have children, around two, yet they are shut out of parenthood.

The focus should shift to those who want children but are unable to do so — not the voluntarily childless. Target-driven pronatalism, such as baby bonuses and one-off benefits, **reinstates** traditional gender roles, ignores men's contribution, and often does more harm than good.

Countries facing declining fertility must let go of ethno-nationalist discourse and support societal changes in favour of women and families. The fear of a shrinking workforce should be addressed not by pressuring women to have more babies, but by hiring them in the paid workforce and not penalising them for motherhood.

$$\frac{5}{10}$$

$$\frac{8+}{10}$$

1. Inference (Advanced Cause-Effect Reasoning)

The author would most likely agree with which of the following statements regarding the perceived threat of a declining population?

- A. It is a legitimate concern requiring urgent policy intervention across all countries.
- B. It is a speculative concern rooted more in ideology and faulty projections than in demographic certainty.
- C. It reflects the global south's fear of being overwhelmed by ageing western societies.
- D. It is inevitable and should be embraced rather than resisted.
- E. It has been underestimated by global population agencies like the UN.

2. Vocabulary – Contextual Interpretation

In the phrase “*ethically troubling*”, the word “*troubling*” most likely implies:

- A. morally ambiguous and legally unenforceable
- B. mildly controversial but ultimately tolerable
- C. emotionally triggering in public discourse
- D. deeply problematic from a moral or human rights standpoint
- E. logically flawed but socially acceptable

3. Implied Meaning / Paradox Resolution

Which of the following best resolves the apparent contradiction between a falling fertility rate and continued population growth?

- A. Fertility rates are cyclical and naturally recover over time.
- B. Many people are still unaware of contraceptive methods.
- C. Population growth is driven by momentum from past reproductive trends.
- D. Governments manipulate demographic data for political ends.
- E. Migration fills the fertility gap in ageing societies.

4. Logical Structure (Purpose of Example)

What is the function of the example involving the Musk Foundation's donation?

- A. To illustrate the disproportionate (influence) of tech billionaires in academic discourse
- B. To showcase the misuse of philanthropy to advance corporate interests
- C. To provide a concrete instance of rising concern over population decline
- D. To highlight a contrast between private and governmental demographic approaches
- E. To show how universities depend on demographic research grants

5. Critical Reasoning – Strengthening the Argument

Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's argument against population collapse panic?

- A. Several countries with below-replacement fertility have experienced a rise in immigration-driven growth.
- B. Most families are delaying childbirth due to financial insecurity.
- C. Fertility incentives have led to a marginal rise in birth rates in select regions.
- D. The global south is now experiencing similar declines in fertility.
- E. A higher education level correlates with fewer children globally.

6. Tone (Nuanced Identification)

Q6. The tone of the passage toward state-led pronatalist policies is best described as:

- A. Dispassionate and explanatory
- B. Cautiously optimistic and reform-oriented
- C. Satirical and dismissive
- D. Critical and gender-conscious
- E. Alarmist and nationalist

On July 9, 2025, a span of a 40-year-old bridge in Vadodara in Gujarat caved in, sending half-a-dozen vehicles into the Mahisagar river below. On Thursday (July 10, 2025), 18 people were confirmed dead. Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has ordered an investigation into the cause, which locals have alleged to be the long-standing neglect by local authorities. On June 15, 2025, an iron pedestrian bridge over the Indrayani river in Pune district collapsed due to overloading, leaving four dead. In May, a concrete slab being hoisted by a crane at the site of the construction of a bridge over the Kathajodi river in Cuttack fell on workers below, killing three. Similarly, in 2024, the Ghatkopar hoarding collapse in Mumbai resulted in 17 fatalities. And in 2023, there were more accidents — a girder failure at an under-construction railway bridge in Mizoram left 26 workers dead; a rooftop billboard collapse killed two women in Lucknow; and a pillar collapse at a metro construction site in Bengaluru killed a mother and her toddler. In 2022, the Morbi suspension bridge over the Machchhu river, again in Gujarat, failed, killing more than 140 people. These are only some of the hundreds of incidents involving the catastrophic failure of public infrastructure. They are accompanied by road accidents and deadly fires in crowded areas, both of which regularly claim many lives.

Even if they are isolated, they are not entirely accidental: they are symptoms of India's ageing infrastructure that is being tested, especially in peri-urban areas, as industrial growth and urban populations expand. Facilities such as bridges, roads and hospitals that were designed for some number of users, are progressively giving way under the weight of more. So also are the departments responsible for their upkeep, many of which remain underfunded, understaffed or **complacent**. While the authorities have ordered investigations into these incidents, few have yielded failure analysis reports into the public domain. Some also prompted audits but they were restricted to infrastructure of the same type. Given the evident ubiquity of the problem, India must modify asset-creating initiatives such as the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund to have additional priorities and adjust the incentives of rehabilitative schemes such as the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation to help regularly maintain ageing urban assets in all centres, with greater frequency in those peopled by 10 lakh or more. Second, while baseline audit frameworks for municipal bridges exist, they must be enforced more uniformly and transparently. Finally, until then, accidents must trigger a probe by a statutory body plus a mandatory audit of all major infrastructure, and States must endeavour to publish the findings at the earliest.

7. Grammar Error Spotting

Identify the segment with a grammatical error:

Even though India's urban assets (A) / are ageing rapidly and often overloaded, (B) / most of the authorities have not (C) / made any systemic changes in how it is maintained. (D) / No error (E)

A. A

B. B

C. C

D. D

E. E

They are

8. Idiom or Expression – Interpretation

Q8. What is the meaning of the phrase “*giving way under the weight of more*” in the context of infrastructure?

- A. Becoming more inclusive as populations grow
- B. Expanding their design capacity
- C. Succumbing to excessive pressure from overuse
- D. Becoming financially unviable
- E. Evolving to meet modern standards

9. Column-Based (Match cause with effect)

Match the items in Column A with the most appropriate consequence from Column B:

Column A (Reason)	Column B (Effect)
A. Underfunded departments ✓ <u>A1</u>	1. Result in poor maintenance of infrastructure ✓
B. Infrastructure not designed for current load ✓ <u>B2</u>	2. Begins to collapse under pressure ✓
C. Failure audits not released publicly ✓ <u>C3</u>	3. Reduces public accountability ✓

Options:

A. A-2, B-3, C-1

D. A-2, B-1, C-3

B. A-1, B-2, C-3 ✓

E. A-1, B-3, C-2

C. A-3, B-1, C-2

10. Sentence Completion (Advanced Causal Reasoning)

Given the passage's argument, audits restricted to similar types of infrastructure are insufficient because _____.

- A. they cannot address the issue of rural underdevelopment
- B. they exclude large-scale assets like hospitals and metros
- C. systemic vulnerabilities often span different infrastructure types
- D. bridge-related data is already publicly available
- E. these audits result in project delays and public disapproval

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