

*✓ The outlook for India in the year ahead*

### **Nothing alarming**

*✓* Reports of many HMPV cases in China  
reflect heightened surveillance



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# 1. Pivotal

Part of Speech: Adjective

**Meaning:** Of crucial importance  
in relation to the success or  
development of something



**Hindi Translation:** अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण

**Synonyms:**

1. Crucial, ✓
2. critical, ✓
3. essential, ✓
4. central ✓

**Antonyms:**

1. Insignificant, ✓
2. minor, ✓
3. trivial, ✓
4. secondary ✓

**Example Sentence:** India's role in global politics has reached a pivotal stage.

Vital  
significant  
Impertinent  
Inevitable  
Paramount  
Imperative  
Indispensable



## 2. Profound

Part of Speech: Adjective

**Meaning:** Very deep, intense, or having a great impact.



**Hindi Translation:** गहन / गहरा

**Synonyms:**

1. Deep ✓
2. intense ✓
3. significant ✓
4. far-reaching ✓

**Antonyms:**

1. Superficial ✓
2. shallow ✓
3. trivial ✓
4. insignificant ✓

**Example Sentence:** The speech had a profound impact on the audience.

Resounding

Down to nitty-gritty

Cut to the heart of matters

Astute (Practical)

Perceptive

गहरे

# 3. Herald

Part of Speech: Verb

**Meaning:** To signal or announce the coming of something.



**Hindi Translation:** घोषणा करना / संकेत देना

**Synonyms:**

1. Announce, ✓
2. proclaim, ✓
3. signal, ✓
4. foretell ✓

\* Harbinger (SBI PO 2023)

Precursor

**Antonyms:**

1. Conceal, ✓
2. suppress, ✓
3. ignore, ✓
4. retract ✓

पहले से

Troubazer

Whistle blower

Portender (ominous (bad))

**Example Sentence:** The blooming flowers herald the arrival of spring.

## Employee Disengagement



# 4. Disengagement

Part of Speech: Noun

**Meaning:** The process of withdrawing from involvement in a situation or activity.



**Hindi Translation:** विमुक्ति / अलगाव

**Synonyms:**

1. Withdrawal, ✓
2. detachment, ✓
3. separation, ✓
4. disconnection ✓

**Antonyms:**

1. ✓ Engagement,
2. ✓ involvement,
3. ✓ connection,
4. ✓ participation

**Example Sentence:** The disengagement of troops along the border is a positive step.

Isolated  
aloof

Dismissal  
Alienation

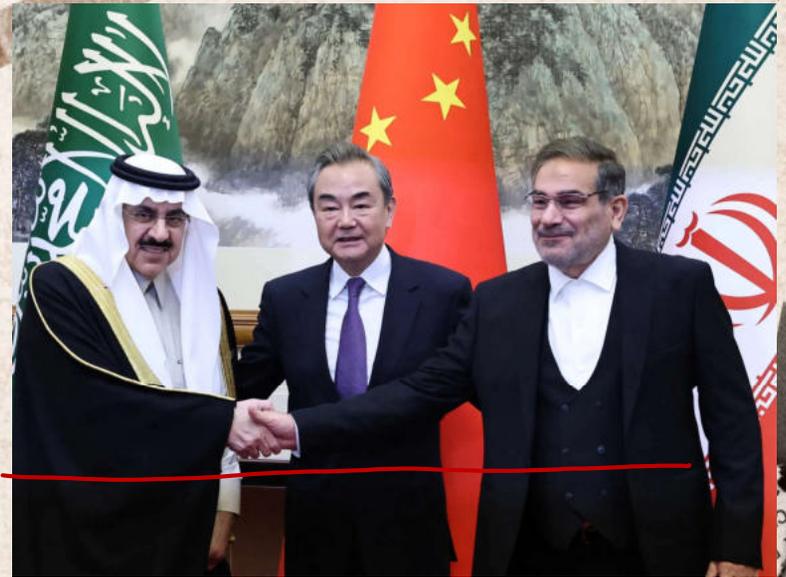
Callous, Hostile, Apathy

# 5. Détente

Part of Speech: Noun

*Mitigating*

**Meaning:** The easing of strained relations, especially in a political context.



**Hindi Translation:** तनाव में कमी

**Synonyms:**

1. Truce, ✓
2. relaxation, ✓
3. reconciliation, ✓
4. ceasefire ✓

**Antonyms:**

1. Hostility, ✓
2. conflict, ✓
3. tension, ✓
4. antagonism ✓

**Example Sentence:** The two nations achieved a détente after years of hostilities.

Mitigation

Resolution

Pacification

Amicable

Ami-friendship

Concord (Compromise)

Alliance

Calm

Mollify





## 6. Steer

Part of Speech: Verb

**Meaning:** To guide or control  
the direction of something.



**Hindi Translation:** मार्गदर्शन करना

**Synonyms:**

1. Guide, ✓
2. navigate, ✓
3. direct, ✓
4. maneuver ✓

**Antonyms:**

1. Mislead, ✓
2. stray, ✓
3. wander, ✓
4. drift ✓

Lead To show the way

Orchestrate

Escort

Propel (force)

**Example Sentence:** The country has managed to steer through challenging global scenarios successfully.

# 7. Privy

Part of Speech: Adjective

Meaning: Having knowledge of something private or secret.



**Hindi Translation:** अवगत / गोपनीय जानकारी रखने वाला

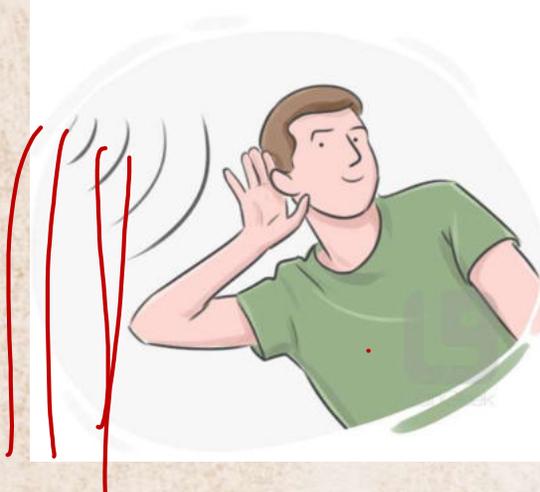
**Synonyms:**

- |    |               |          |               |
|----|---------------|----------|---------------|
| 1. | Informed, ✓   | Discreet | Soitto Voce   |
| 2. | aware, ✓      |          |               |
| 3. | acquainted, ✓ | Covert   | Surreptitious |
| 4. | cognizant ✓   |          |               |

**Antonyms:**

- |    |              |          |
|----|--------------|----------|
| 1. | Unaware, ✓   | Esoteric |
| 2. | oblivious, ✓ | Subdue   |
| 3. | ignorant, ✓  | Conceal  |
| 4. | uninformed   |          |

**Example Sentence:** As a close advisor, she was privy to the confidential discussions.



# 8. Heed

Part of Speech: Verb

**Meaning:** To pay close attention to; take notice of.

X  
X  
X

**Hindi Translation:** ध्यान देना / पर ध्यान देना

**Synonyms:**

1. Observe, ✓
2. regard, ✓
3. consider, ✓
4. notice ✓

**Antonyms:**

1. Ignore, ✓
2. disregard, ✓
3. neglect, ✓
4. overlook ✓

**Example Sentence:** The teacher warned the students to heed the instructions carefully.

Vigilance  
Forethought  
Insight  
Scrutiny  
Critical  
Discren  
Alary

x x

# Phrasal Verbs & Idioms

## Out of place

- **Meaning:** Unusual or inappropriate in a particular context or situation.

x x

# Phrasal Verbs & Idioms

## Too good to last

- **Meaning:** A situation or condition that seems unlikely to continue for long due to its favorable nature.

x x

# Phrasal Verbs & Idioms

## Managed to steer itself

- **Meaning:** Successfully navigated or directed through a challenging situation.

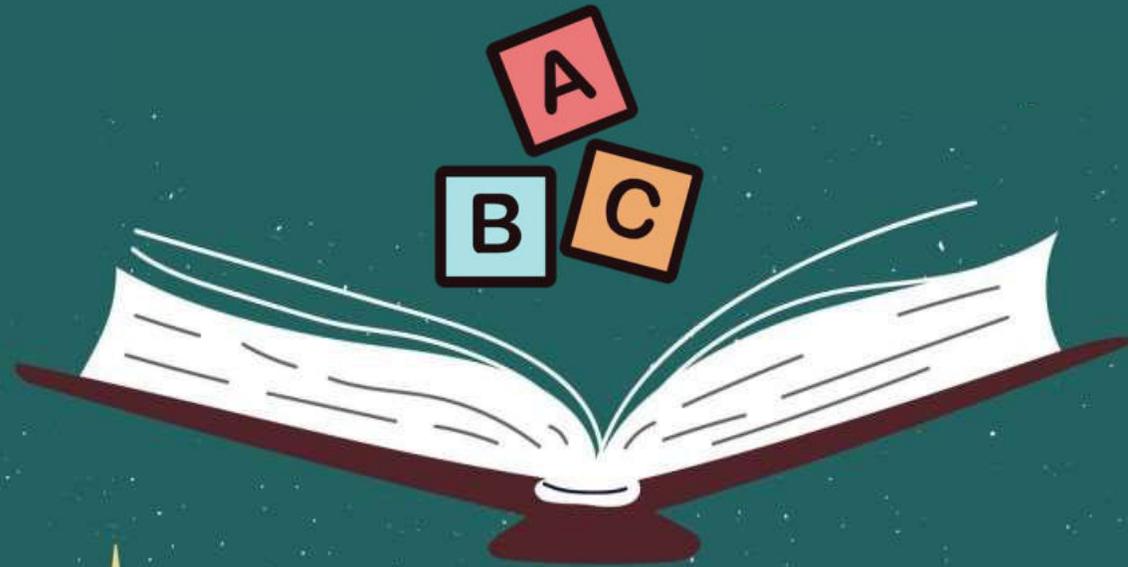
x x

# Phrasal Verbs & Idioms

## Take its eye off the ball

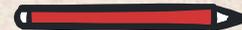
**Meaning:** To lose focus or fail to pay attention to an important issue or task.

# SHALL WE READ?



India is at a pivotal moment in its history. It is among the leading nations in the world when it comes to economic growth and political stability. India today projects an atmosphere of peace, which is seemingly out of place in a world that is undergoing a profound shift in its economic and geo-political landscape. India is today privy to the rise of new economic and political groupings. The year 2024 was a period of pronounced political uncertainty across the globe. Much of the world was a mute witness to the multiple and concurrent conflicts that threaten peace and stability today. This is specially true of Europe and West Asia.

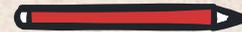
xxx



One major tragedy still unfolding is Gaza, which has few parallels, while the ongoing Ukraine conflict contains the seeds of a much wider conflict in the future. India has, however, managed to steer itself successfully within this geopolitical landscape.

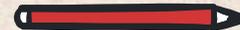
A year of new troubles This may, however, be too good to last. . Much is being made of the recent border negotiations and an apparent disengagement at the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh. This was followed by the first formal meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and China's President Xi Jinping meeting in five years, as well as the resumption of the Special Representatives' talks on border issues.

xxx



**Wiser heads would know that disengagement does not mean 'dispute resolution'. The border conflict still remains alive and unchanged. Far more needs to be done to reach any kind of détente. India, hence, cannot afford to 'take its eye of the ball'**

xxx



**1. Why might the author caution that the disengagement at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) does not mean "dispute resolution"?**

A. The disengagement might be temporary and could be reversed.

B. India and China still need to address underlying border issues. *direct Qs*

C. Previous agreements with China have not been fully implemented.

D. The LAC disengagement only addresses minor disputes.



**Q2. What can be inferred about India's global standing in 2024 based on the passage?**

A. India's economic and political stability contrasts with the global chaos. ←

B. India is struggling to manage its geopolitical relationships.

C. India has fully resolved its conflicts with neighboring countries.

D. India is isolated from global conflicts and groupings.

XXX

**Q3. According to the passage, which regions are currently facing pronounced political uncertainty?**

- A. Europe and Africa
- B. Europe and West Asia 
- C. Africa and West Asia
- D. South Asia and Europe
- E. East Asia and West Asia

**Q4. What does the author suggest about the disengagement at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh?**

- A. It resolves the border dispute entirely.
- B. It signifies the end of tensions with China.
- C. It is a step forward but not a resolution of the conflict. ←
- D. It eliminates the need for further negotiations.
- E. It concludes all geopolitical issues with China.

xxx  
xxx

**Q5. What is the significance of the ancient Chinese saying mentioned in the passage?**

- A. It highlights the importance of diplomacy.
- B. It warns of potential challenges ahead. 
- C. It emphasizes the need for disengagement. 
- D. It calls for better economic ties with China. 
- E. It reflects India's current political stance. 



@vaishalidhiman6775 • 1 day ago

Robust syn  
durable 4)  
brawny 8)f  
10)hardy1  
d15) tough  
16)mighty  
unyielding



1



@046\_sahilja

Robust syn

1. Magnan

2. Colossa

3. prolific ... Read more



@rajwaghmare5755 • 1 day ago

### Robust Synonyms

- 1) Strong
- 2) Sturdy
- 3) Resilient
- 4) Resolute
- 5) Vigorous
- 6) Brawny
- 7) Invigorate
- 8) Fortified



@sandhyamahi • 1 day ago (edited)

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## Match the columns

0:40

### Column A

### Column B

A. Portents

P. Strong, healthy, or vigorous; able to withstand or endure difficult conditions.

B. Perennial

Q. Signs or warnings that something significant or momentous is about to happen.

C. Correlation

R. Allowed or permitted by law, rules, or a particular set of conditions.

D. Contaminants

S. The act of restoring or filling something back to its original state or quantity.

E. Concentrations

T. A mutual relationship or connection between two or more things.

F. Permissible

U. Substances that pollute or make something impure, often harmful to health.

G. Replenishment

V. Lasting or existing for a long time; enduring. Often used for plants that live for more than two years.

H. Exploitation

W. The act of taking advantage of a situation or people for personal gain, often unethically.

I. Robust

X. The amount of a substance in a given volume or area.

J. Concerted

Y. Done with deliberate planning and effort, often with multiple people working together.

**Hindi Translation:** अवगत / गोपनीय जानकारी रखने वाला

**Synonyms:**

1. Informed,
2. aware,
3. acquainted,
4. cognizant

**Antonyms:**

1. Unaware,
2. oblivious,
3. ignorant,
4. uninformed

**Example Sentence:** As a close advisor, she was privy to the confidential discussions.

# Answer

- |                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| <b>A. Portents</b>       | <b>Q.</b> |
| <b>B. Perennial</b>      | <b>V.</b> |
| <b>C. Correlation</b>    | <b>T.</b> |
| <b>D. Contaminants</b>   | <b>U.</b> |
| <b>E. Concentrations</b> | <b>X.</b> |
| <b>F. Permissible</b>    | <b>R.</b> |
| <b>G. Replenishment</b>  | <b>S.</b> |
| <b>H. Exploitation</b>   | <b>W.</b> |
| <b>I. Robust</b>         | <b>P.</b> |
| <b>J. Concerted</b>      | <b>Y.</b> |

# DESCRIPTIVE WRITING

WRITE A PRECIS ON  
TODAY'S ARTICLE

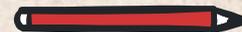
WRITE SYNONYMS FOR THE WORD ‘

xxx

*Profound*

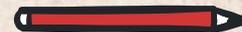
**Five years after the SARS-CoV-2 virus overwhelmed hospitals in Wuhan, China, acute respiratory diseases caused by viruses including the human metapneumovirus (HMPV) in children and the elderly, and influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), are increasing in the country, especially in its northern provinces. However, the sharp rise in acute respiratory diseases is not unusual during this time of the year, and as per a Chinese official, the overall number of cases in 2024 would be “smaller” than in 2023. Surprisingly, while the World Health Organization and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have not raised a red flag so far and there is almost nil reporting in the international media, the Indian media is awash with reports of an HMPV “outbreak” in China.**

xxx



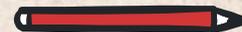
**A recent meeting of the Joint Monitoring Group under the aegis of the Union Health Ministry noted that the situation in China is “not unusual in view of the ongoing flu season”, and the “usual pathogens that are expected during the season” are causing the present surge in respiratory diseases. The HMPV virus was first identified in children in 2001 in the Netherlands. Infection with HMPV usually occurs by the age of five years with reinfection occurring throughout life as immune protection induced by the virus is too weak to prevent repeated infections. The virus causes upper and/or lower respiratory tract infections, with lower respiratory tract infections being among the most common.**

xxx



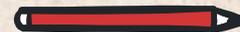
**While the virus often causes only mild disease, it can lead to severe illness requiring hospitalisation in children, immunocompromised populations and the elderly. Globally, 3%-10% of hospital admissions and 1% of acute lower respiratory infection-related deaths in children under age five in 2018 are attributed to HMPV, as per a 2021 paper. The study also found that children younger than six months, especially those in low- and lower-middle-income countries, are at greater risk of death caused by the HMPV virus. Detection of a large number of HMPV cases among children aged less than 14 years in China is a reflection of the heightened surveillance and testing for the virus.**

xxx



**On the contrary, India does not have any approved inexpensive tests that are widely available for diagnosing the virus. When testing for HMPV in patients with acute respiratory disease should be routine, as the virus has been in circulation for years globally, including India, and fatality is 1% in young children, India is only now expanding the number of laboratories testing for HMPV beyond the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) network due to the spike in HMPV cases in China. What is also urgently needed is a regulatory framework that facilitates a rapid approval of diagnostic tests in the context of local and global outbreaks of novel and less known pathogens**

xxx



## 1. Acute

**Meaning:** Severe or intense; of a serious nature.

**Part of Speech:** Adjective

**Hindi Translation:** गंभीर / तीव्र

**Synonyms:** Severe, critical, intense, drastic

**Antonyms:** Mild, moderate, trivial, negligible

**Example Sentence:** Acute respiratory infections are common during the flu season.

## 2. Surveillance

**Meaning:** Close observation, especially of a suspect or critical situation.

**Part of Speech:** Noun

**Hindi Translation:** निगरानी / पर्यवेक्षण

**Synonyms:** Monitoring, observation, oversight, scrutiny

**Antonyms:** Neglect, disregard, inattention, indifference

**Example Sentence:** The heightened surveillance led to the detection of more HMPV cases.



### **3. Immunocompromised**

**Meaning:** Having an impaired or weakened immune system.

**Part of Speech:** Adjective

**Hindi Translation:** प्रतिरक्षा-कमी वाले

**Synonyms:** Vulnerable, susceptible, defenseless, weakened

**Antonyms:** Resilient, immune, robust, fortified

**Example Sentence:** Immunocompromised individuals are at a higher risk of severe illness.

## 4. Routine

**Meaning:** Regularly performed or standard procedure.

**Part of Speech:** Adjective/Noun

**Hindi Translation:** नियमित / साधारण प्रक्रिया

**Synonyms:** Regular, habitual, standard, customary

**Antonyms:** Unusual, exceptional, rare, irregular

**Example Sentence:** Testing for respiratory viruses should be a routine practice in hospitals.

## 5. Framework

**Meaning:** A structure or system that supports or guides something.

**Part of Speech:** Noun

**Hindi Translation:** ढांचा / रूपरेखा

**Synonyms:** Structure, outline, scheme, foundation

**Antonyms:** Disorganization, chaos, disorder, randomness

**Example Sentence:** A regulatory framework is essential for the approval of diagnostic tests.

**1. Why might the increased detection of HMPV cases in China be attributed to heightened surveillance and testing rather than an actual outbreak?**

A. HMPV has not been reported in any other country.

B. China has implemented rigorous testing during the flu season. 

C. The HMPV virus is new and was first identified only recently.

D. The virus does not cause severe illnesses requiring hospitalization.

XXX

## **2. What inference can be made about India's approach to HMPV diagnosis compared to China?**

- A. India already has extensive surveillance for HMPV in place.**
- B. India lacks widely accessible and affordable diagnostic tests for HMPV.** 
- C. India has fewer HMPV cases because the virus is not common there.**
- D. India's regulatory framework ensures rapid approval of diagnostic tests.**

# SUMMARY

**Five years after COVID-19 hit China, other viruses like HMPV (human metapneumovirus), flu, and RSV are causing more respiratory illnesses, especially in northern China. However, this increase is normal for the flu season, and experts believe there are fewer cases in 2024 compared to 2023.**

# SUMMARY

HMPV was first found in children in 2001 and usually infects kids by age five, causing coughs and breathing problems. Most cases are mild, but it can be serious for babies, older people, or those with weak immune systems. In poorer countries, very young babies are more likely to face serious illness or death from this virus.

# SUMMARY

**China is finding more cases because they are testing more. In India, testing for HMPV isn't widely available, but the government is now working to expand testing. Experts also say India needs better rules to quickly approve tests for new viruses in the future.**



*PDF*



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