NEWS
LIVE
EDITORIAL
ANALYSIS
29/01/2025

GUILLAIN-BARRE SYNDROME
67 CASES REPORTED IN PUNE

A question of hygiene

The GBS outbreak in Pune reveals the fragility of its urban systems

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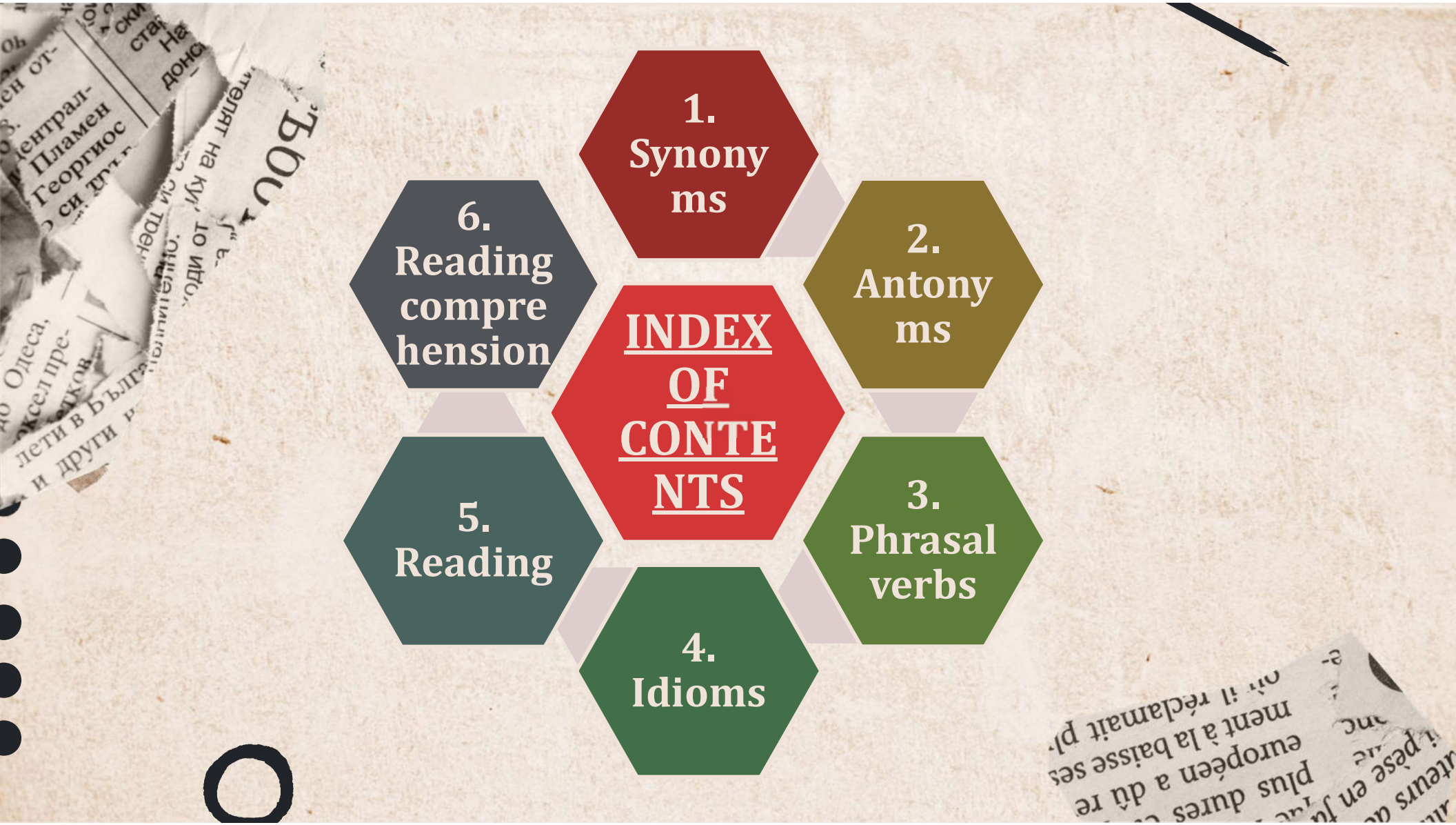
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1. Contaminated

Part of Speech: Adjective

Meaning: Made impure or harmful by exposure to pollutants

Hindi Translation: दूषित

Synonyms:

1. Polluted,
2. tainted,
3. infected,
4. spoiled

Adulterate
Defile
Corrupt
Infect
Blight
Spoil
Marred
Impair

Antonyms:

1. Pure,
2. clean,
3. uncontaminated,
4. sterile

Example Sentence: Drinking contaminated water can lead to serious health issues.

2. Cluster

Part of Speech: Noun/Verb

Meaning: A group of similar things or people gathered together

Hindi Translation: समूह

Synonyms:

1. Group,
2. bunch,
3. collection,
4. aggregation

Hoard → Horde → Crowd

Accumulation

Aggregate

Agglomeration

Antonyms:

1. Individual,
2. dispersal,
3. separation,
4. scattering

Reservoir

Example Sentence: A cluster of students gathered around the teacher to ask questions

3. Predominant

Part of Speech: Adjective

Meaning: Most common or noticeable

Hindi Translation: प्रमुख

Synonyms:

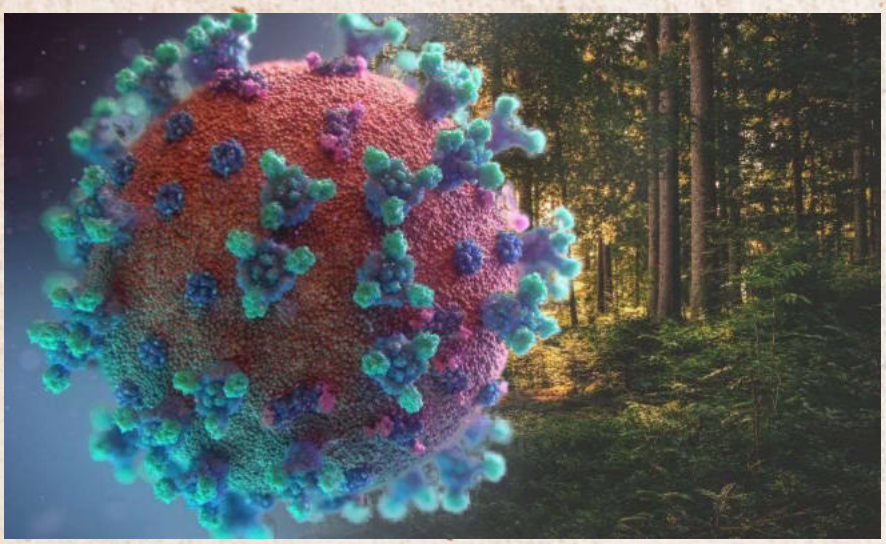
1. Dominant,
2. prevalent,
3. principal,
4. overriding

Antonyms:

1. Minor,
2. subordinate,
3. secondary,
4. insignificant

Example Sentence: Agriculture remains the predominant occupation in rural areas.

Prevailing (प्रचलित)
Crucial
Pivotal
Dominate ≠ Pertinent (Imp)
Trivial
Paramount
Ample Importance
Impertinent



4. Epidemic

Part of Speech:
Noun/Adjective

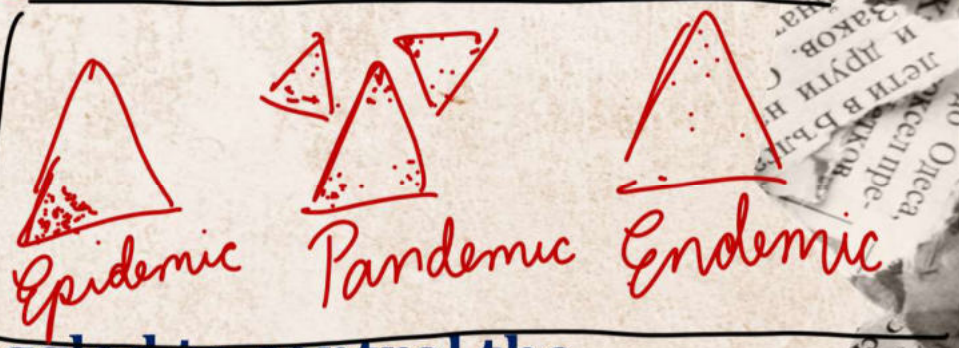
Meaning: A rapid spread of a disease within a specific area or population.

Hindi Translation: महामारी

Synonyms:

1. Outbreak,
2. plague,
3. contagion,
4. pandemic

Upsurge
Rampant
flare up
Widespread
Spate
Universal
Ubiquitous
Prevalent



Antonyms:

1. Containment,
2. immunity,
3. cure,
4. health

Example Sentence: The country struggled to control the epidemic of dengue fever.

5. Intravenous

Part of Speech: Adjective

Meaning: Administered into a vein.

Hindi Translation: अंतःशिरा

Synonyms:

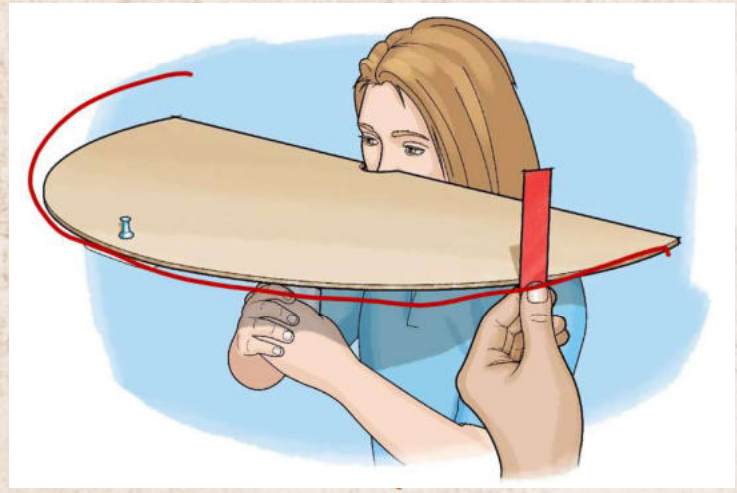
1. Injected,
2. venous,
3. intra-arterial,
4. parenteral

Innoculate

Antonyms:

1. Oral,
2. external,
3. superficial,
4. non-invasive

Example Sentence: The patient was given intravenous fluids to prevent dehydration.



6. Peripheral

Part of Speech: Adjective

Meaning: Relating to the outer edges or secondary in importance.

Hindi Translation: परिधीय

Synonyms:

1. Outlying,
2. marginal,
3. secondary,
4. external

Antonyms:

1. Central,
2. core,
3. primary,
4. crucial

Paramount
foremost
Zenith
Acme
Primary
Cardinal
Topmost
Culmination

Example Sentence: The manager focused on the main issue, ignoring the peripheral details.

7. Fragile

Part of Speech: Adjective

Meaning: Easily broken or damaged.

Hindi Translation: नाजुक

Synonyms:

1. Delicate,
2. brittle,
3. weak,
4. breakable

delicate brittle

fragile

Debility

feeble

Flaccid

Antonyms:

1. Strong,
2. sturdy,
3. durable,
4. resilient

Enervated

Vulnerable

Example Sentence: The fragile glass sculpture needed careful handling.

8. Scaffold

Part of Speech: Noun

Meaning: A temporary structure used for supporting workers during construction or repairs.

Hindi Translation: मचान

Synonyms:

1. Platform,
2. framework,
3. support,
4. staging

Antonyms:

1. Ground,
2. base,
3. foundation,
4. dismantling

bolster

fortify → Counterfeit

strengthen

Cajole

Example Sentence: The workers climbed the scaffold to repair the building's exterior.

9. Havoc

Part of Speech: Noun

Meaning: Widespread destruction or chaos.

Hindi Translation: तबाही

Synonyms:

1. Devastation,
2. chaos,
3. destruction,
4. disorder

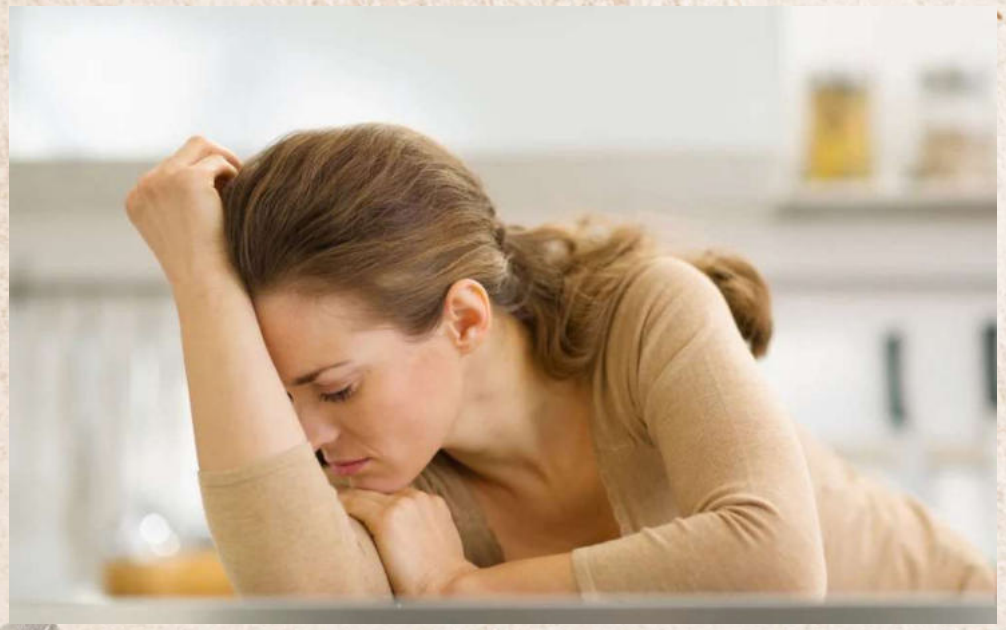
Antonyms:

1. Order,
2. peace,
3. harmony,
4. stability

Desolation
Ravage
Depredation
Vandalism
Depredation

plunder
looting
despoilment
Pillage (Steal forcu)
Harrying (Enemy)
Ransacking (find Chaos)

Example Sentence: The hurricane caused havoc in the coastal regions.



10. Debility

Part of Speech: Noun

Meaning: Physical weakness or lack of strength.

Hindi Translation: दुर्बलता

Synonyms:

1. Weakness,
2. frailty,
3. feebleness,
4. infirmity

Antonyms:

1. Strength,
2. vitality,
3. robustness,
4. vigor

Example Sentence: Prolonged illness led to his debility and fatigue

11. Flaccid

Part of Speech: Adjective

Meaning: Lacking firmness or strength.

Hindi Translation: शिथिल

Synonyms:

1. Limp,
2. weak,
3. soft,
4. drooping

Antonyms:

1. Firm,
2. strong,
3. rigid,
4. taut

Example Sentence: The patient's muscles became flaccid due to prolonged inactivity.

Idioms

1. At the heart of – The most important part of something.

Example: "At the heart of the current Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) outbreak in Pune is a bacterial infection."

Idioms

2. Cause havoc – Create widespread disruption or damage.

Example: "Pathogens manage to breach all safety nets and cause havoc."

phrasal verbs

1. Attack on – Direct harmful actions toward something.

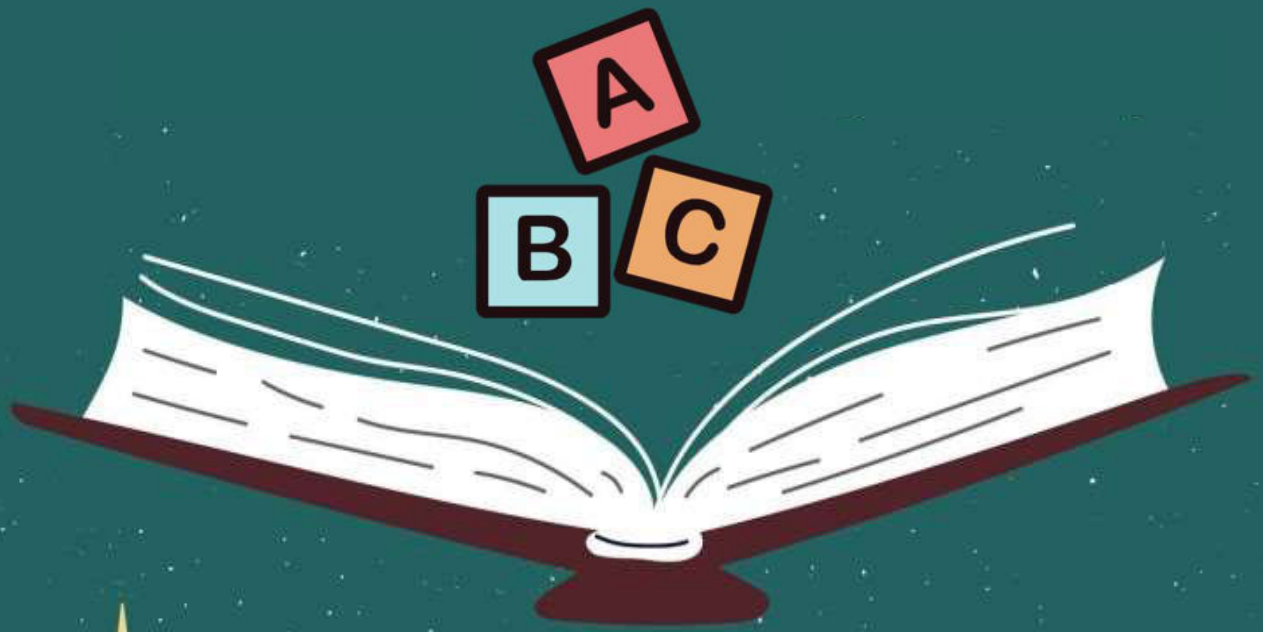
Example: "A person's immune system launches an attack on the peripheral nervous system."

phrasal verbs

2. Rush to – Move quickly toward a place.

Example: "A central team has also been rushed to affected areas."

SHALL WE READ?



At the heart of the current Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) outbreak in Pune, where over 100 cases of suspected GBS have been recorded, is a bacterial infection. A health investigation has revealed Campylobacter jejuni, a bacteria found in contaminated food and water, to be behind the first cluster of cases. In almost all the patients, recent case history has shown episodes of gastroenteritis, vomiting, diarrhoea and nausea before the onset of the characteristic peripheral numbing of GBS, leading to paralysis. One case of death due to suspected GBS has also been recorded — of a patient who had visited Pune. This outbreak reveals the fragility of the scaffolding that urban systems in India are built on, with pathogens managing to breach all safety nets that humans have built for themselves, to emerge through and cause havoc. Any slip up in maintenance or in surveillance, clearly leads to discomfort, ill health and debility for a large number of people. GBS is a rare, autoimmune neurological disorder, in which a person's immune system launches an attack on the peripheral nervous system, leading to tingling, weakening of muscles, numbing and paralysis in the arms and legs, not unlike in the acute flaccid paralysis of polio.

XXX

It can be caused by viral or bacterial pre-infections, as per the World Health Organization (WHO). Globally, it is estimated that GBS has an incidence of 1-2 per 1,00,000 population, and is more predominant among adult males. While India-specific large epidemiological studies on GBS are lacking, as testing for GBS in a resource-poor setting is difficult, according to a WHO report (1993), it was estimated that 138 cases of GBS were seen annually in seven major teaching hospitals, with approximately 75% of cases occurring in adults. While studies across the world have shown numbers to rise in seasons of weather change, it is possible that this is India's largest outbreak in recorded history. Patients are treated with plasma exchange or intravenous immunoglobulin therapy, and most recover. However, these treatments are most effective if started within two weeks of the first symptoms, making early detection and initiation of treatment absolutely crucial. Rapid response teams in Pune are in place, collecting water samples and mounting surveillance on the community, and a central team has also been rushed to affected areas. It is key to ensure that all measures are in place to pick up patients, and initiate treatment as soon as possible.It is the duty of the local and State governance to provide clean drinking water to all residents and ensure that adequate social messaging is provided periodically on avoiding contaminated, unhygienic food.

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Q1. What does the article suggest about the primary cause of the GBS outbreak in Pune?

A) A new strain of the polio virus.

B) Poor air quality in urban areas.

C) A bacterial infection from contaminated food and water.

D) A genetic predisposition among Pune residents.

E) Excessive use of antibiotics.

Q2. What can be inferred about Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) based on the article?

A) It is a highly contagious disease that spreads from person to person.

B) It primarily affects children under the age of five.

C) It is an autoimmune disorder triggered by bacterial or viral infections.

D) It is untreatable and always results in permanent paralysis.

E) It is caused by air pollution and poor respiratory health.

3. What does the article imply about India's ability to track and manage GBS cases?

A) India has a well-documented history of GBS outbreaks with detailed data.

B) Large-scale epidemiological studies on GBS in India are limited.

C) GBS testing is widely available and accessible across all hospitals.

D) India has successfully eradicated GBS through national health programs.

E) The government does not consider GBS a significant public health concern.

4. What can be inferred about the response to the outbreak in Pune?

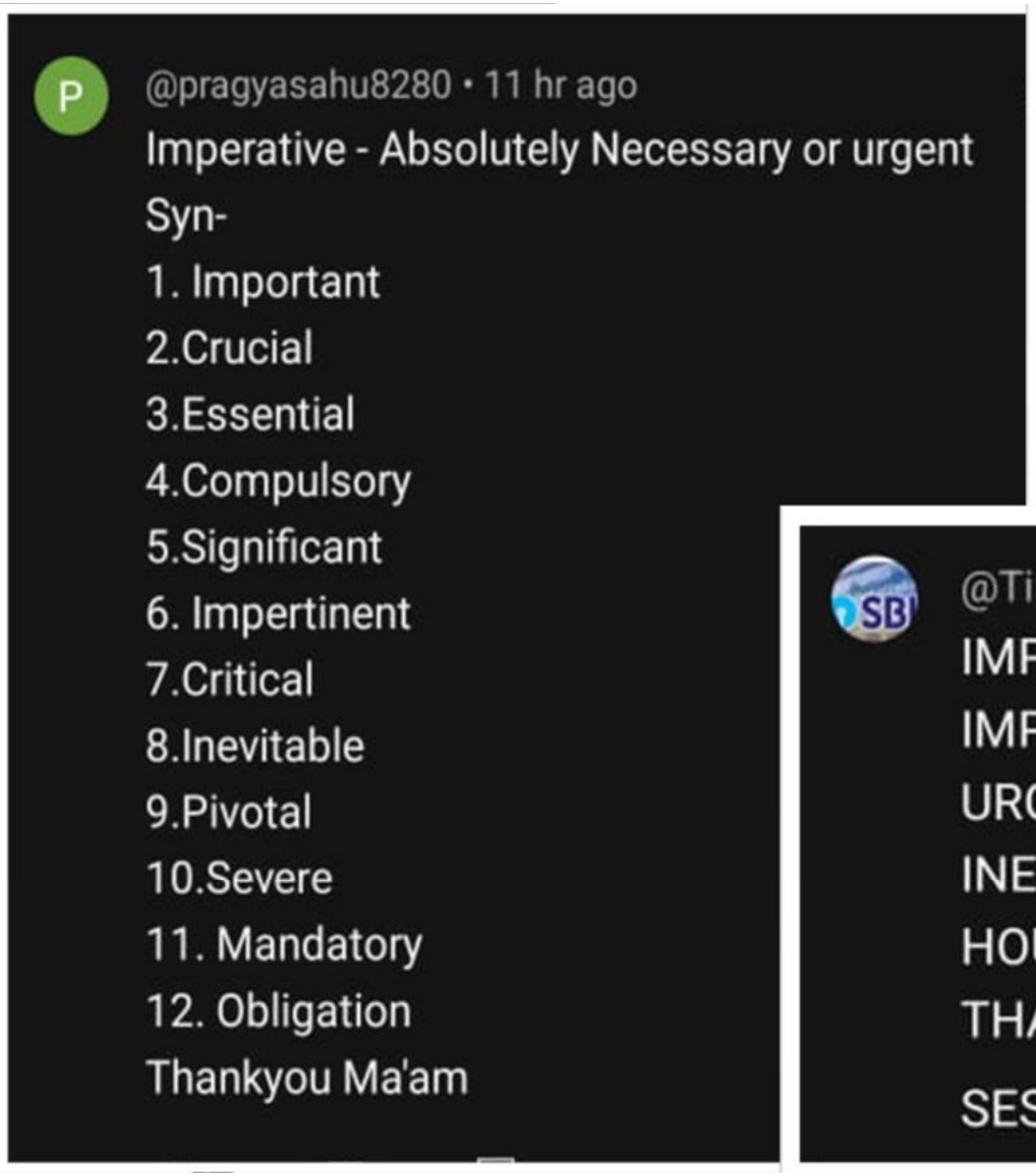
A) Authorities have taken immediate action by deploying rapid response teams.

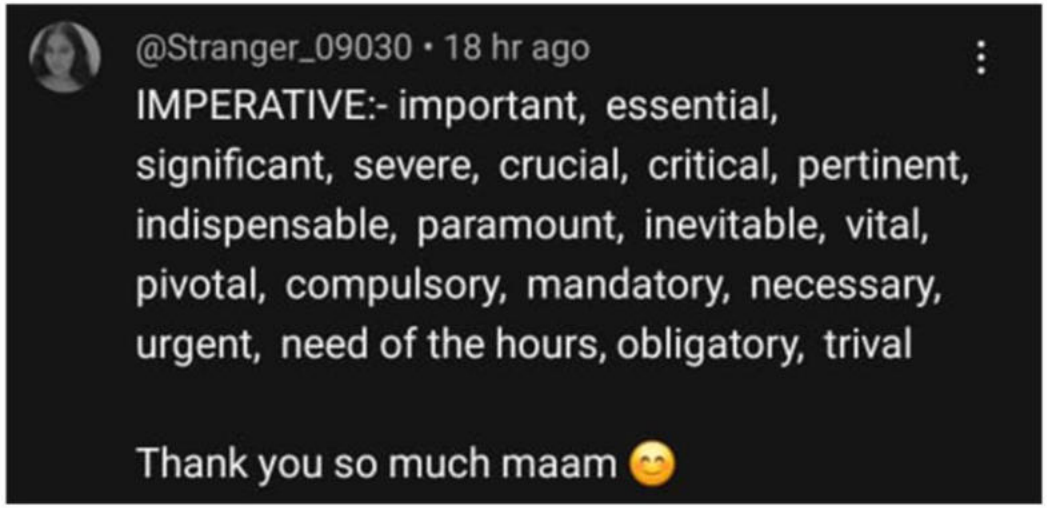
B) The outbreak has been ignored by local and state governments.

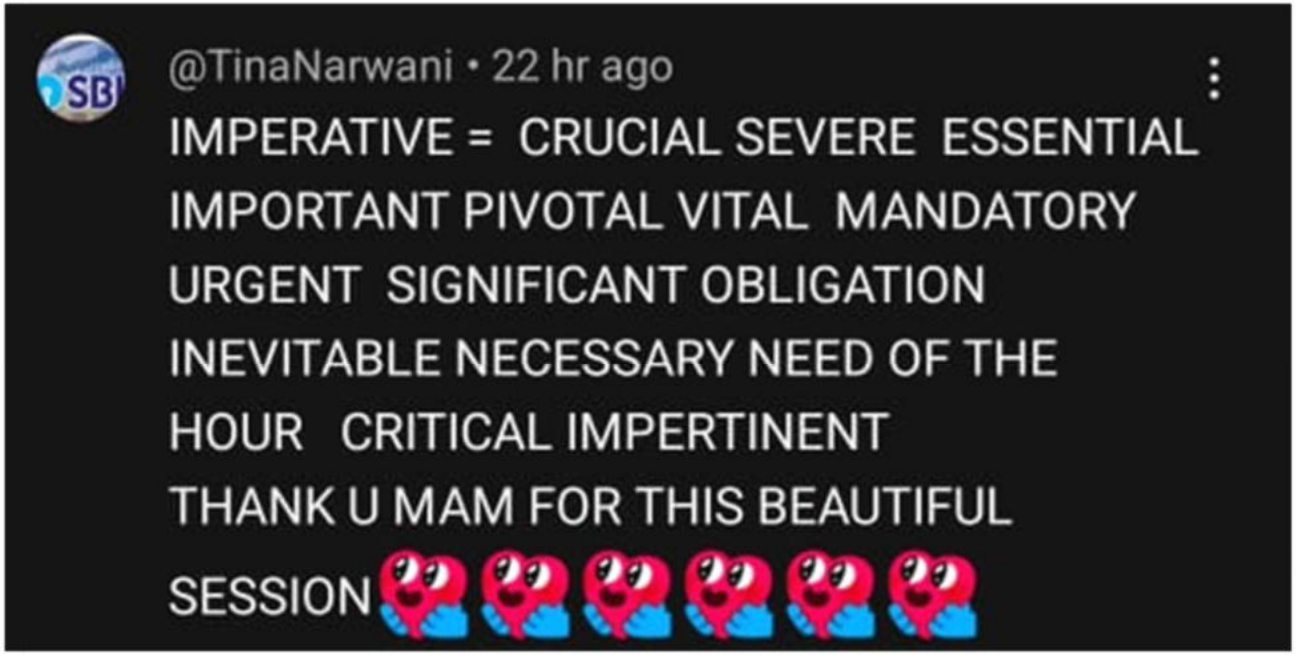
C) No efforts have been made to collect water samples for testing.

D) There is no known treatment for GBS, so no medical intervention has been planned.

E) The central government has dismissed the severity of the outbreak.


@pragyasahu8280 • 11 hr ago
Imperative - Absolutely Necessary or urgent
Syn-
1. Important
2.Crucial
3.Essential
4.Compulsory
5.Significant
6. Impertinent
7.Critical
8.Inevitable
9.Pivotal
10.Severe
11. Mandatory
12. Obligation
Thankyou Ma'am


@Stranger_09030 • 18 hr ago
IMPERATIVE:- important, essential, significant, severe, crucial, critical, pertinent, indispensable, paramount, inevitable, vital, pivotal, compulsory, mandatory, necessary, urgent, need of the hours, obligatory, trival
Thank you so much maam


@TinaNarwani • 22 hr ago
IMPERATIVE = CRUCIAL SEVERE ESSENTIAL IMPORTANT PIVOTAL VITAL MANDATORY URGENT SIGNIFICANT OBLIGATION INEVITABLE NECESSARY NEED OF THE HOUR CRITICAL IMPERTINENT
THANK U MAM FOR THIS BEAUTIFUL SESSION

REVISION

Match the columns

0:40

Column A	Column B
A. Grapples	P. The ability to work successfully or the capacity to survive or develop.
B. Interim	Q. Including all or nearly all elements or aspects; thorough.
C. Decisive	R. Something that is absolutely necessary or required.
D. Viability	S. Struggles or wrestles with something, often in a figurative sense.
E. Allocations	P. The process of distributing resources or tasks.
F. Mitigation	Q. The action of reducing the severity or seriousness of something.
G. Imperative	R. Having the ability to make decisions quickly and effectively; clear and conclusive.
H. Comprehensive	S. Temporary or provisional, meant to fill a gap until something permanent is in place.
I. Implementation	P. The process of putting a decision, plan, or system into effect.

Answer

A. Grapples	S.
B. Interim	S.
C. Decisive	R.
D. Viability	P.
E. Allocations	P.
F. Mitigation	Q.
G. Imperative	R
H. Comprehensive	Q.
I. Implementation	P.

DESCRIPTIVE WRITING

WRITE A PRECIS ON TODAY'S ARTICLE

WRITE SYNONYMS FOR THE WORD 'Fragile'

xxx

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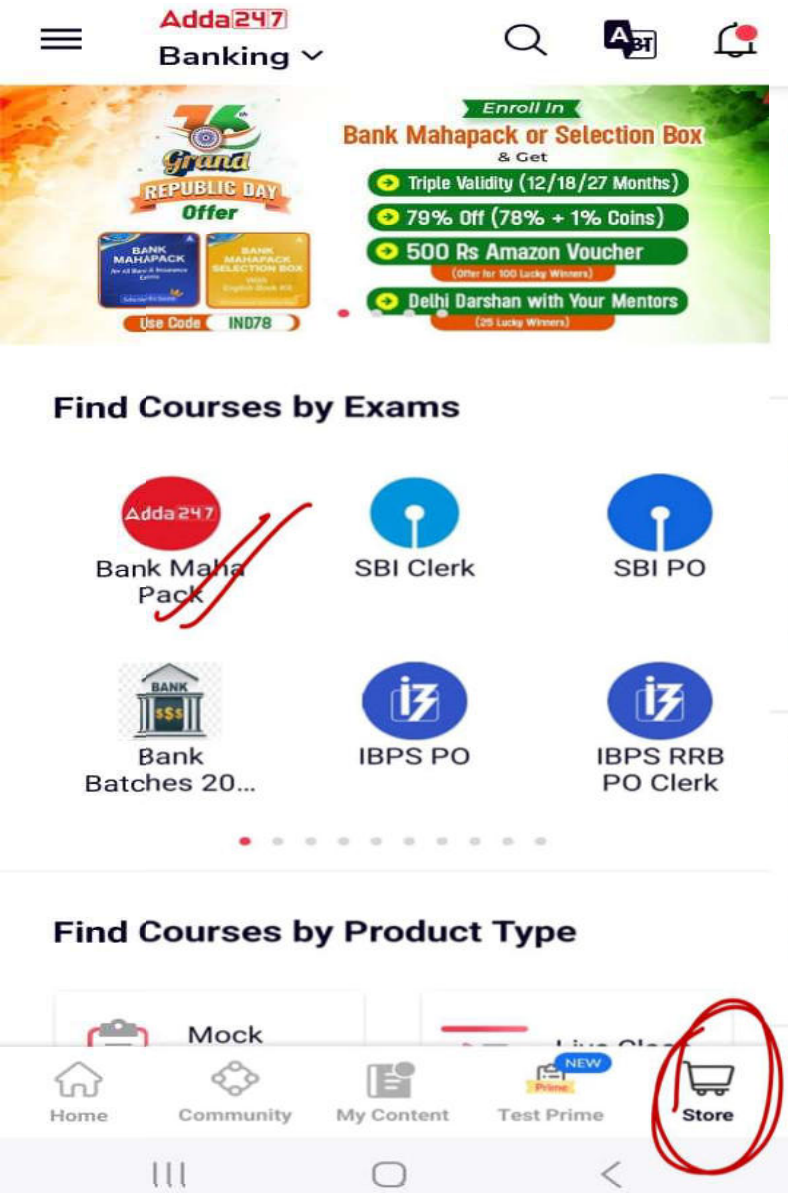
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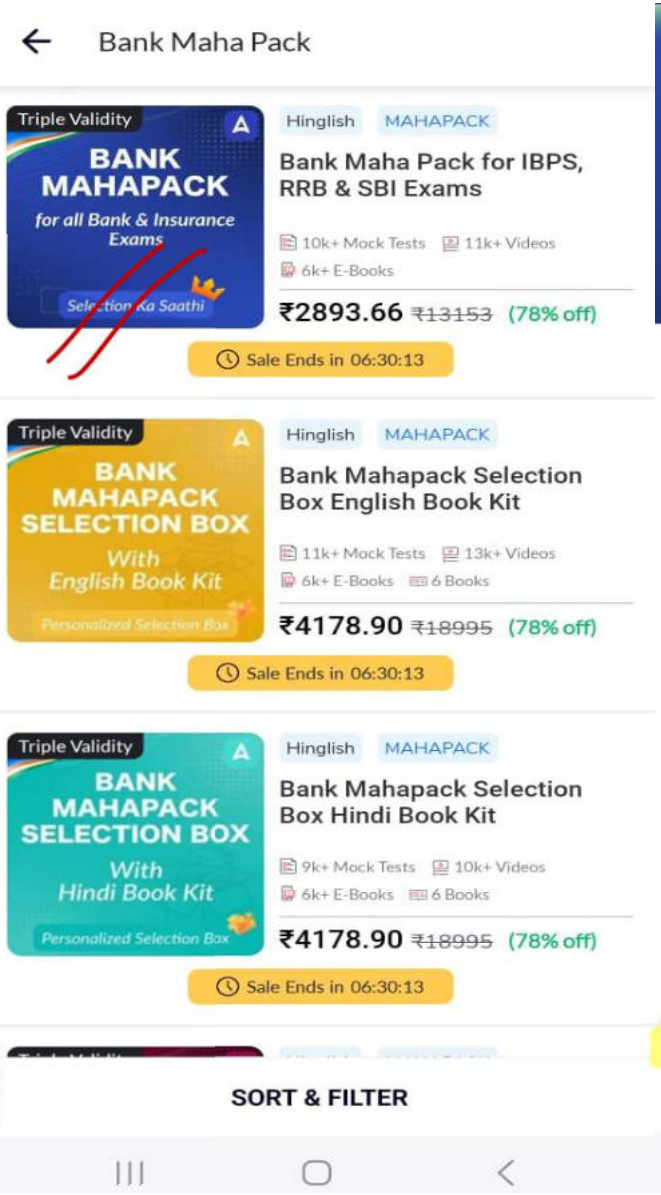
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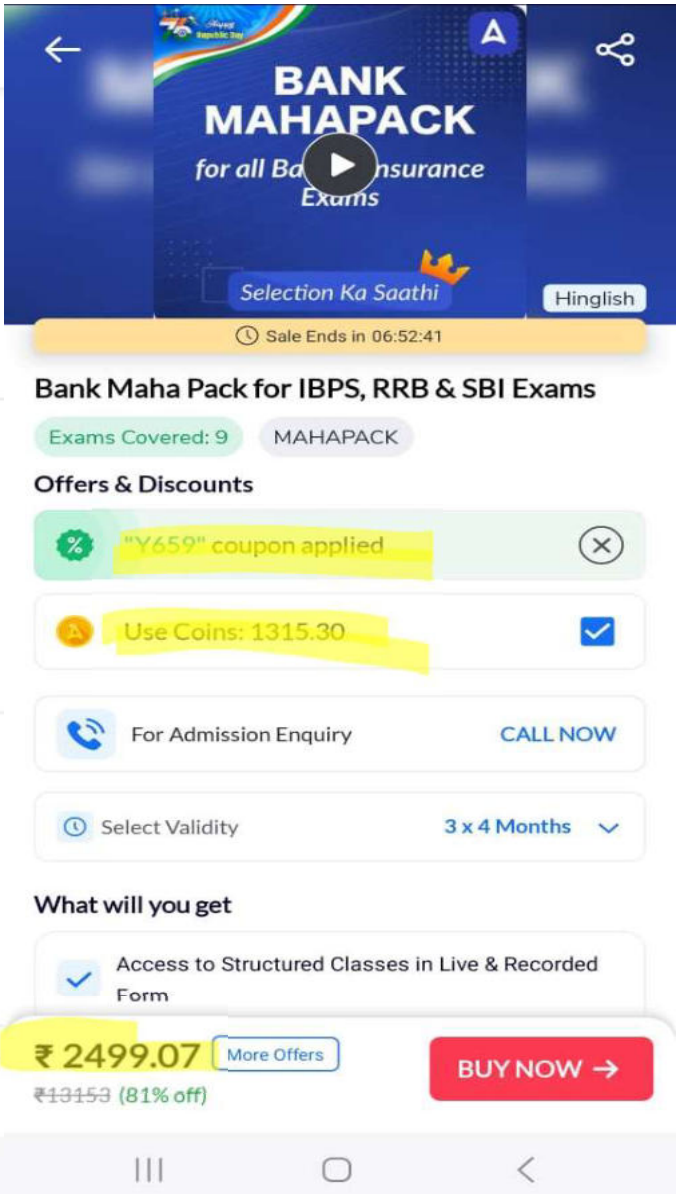
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