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27  
MAY

# EDITORIAL

## ANALYSIS

READING

GRAMMAR

VOCAB

WITH

MCQs

BANK

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# IBPS PO 2026



# ENGLISH



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**Complete Guide**





YT01

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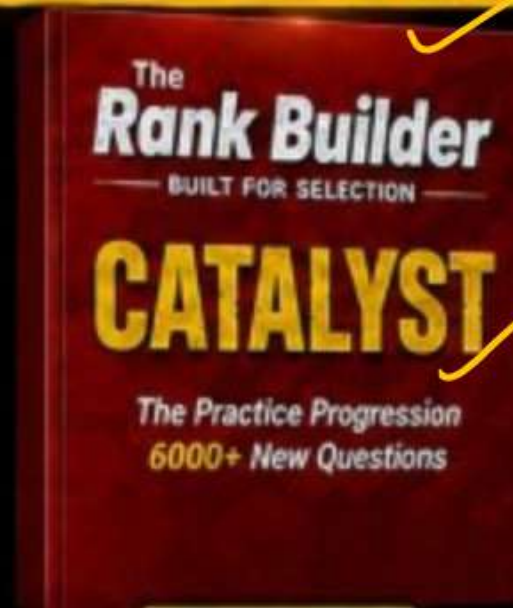
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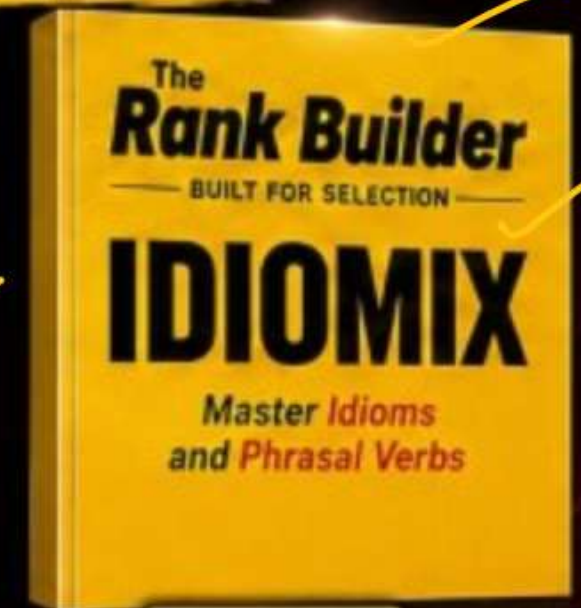
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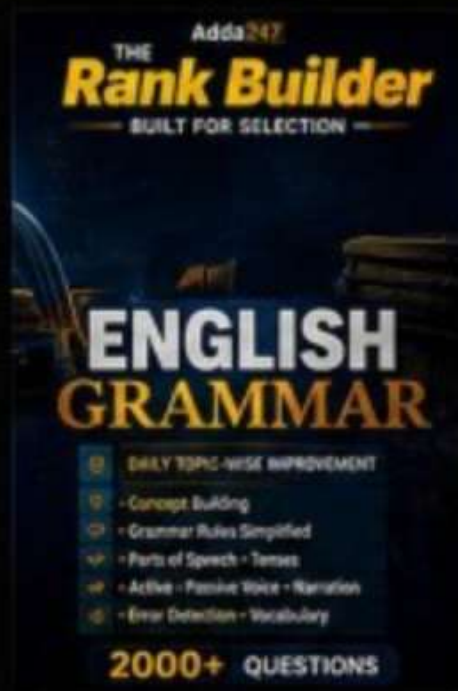
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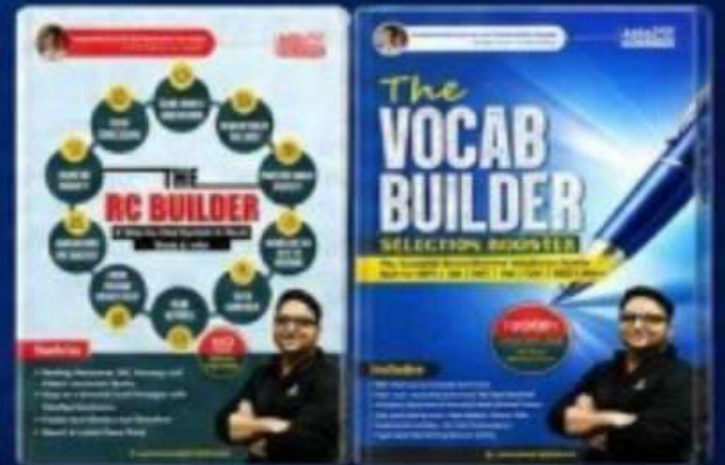
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FRIVOLOUS

हल्का (AOM)

lacking seriousness or depth

SYNONYMS

- superficial ✓
- flippant ✓
- facetious ✓
- vacuous ✓

Frothy

Trivial ✓  
 Fatuous ✓  
 Puerile ✓  
 Non-Sensical ✓

ANTONYMS

- profound ✓
- earnest ✓
- weighty ✓
- solemn ✓

Crave

Cerebral ✓  
 Substantive ✓  
 Rational ✓  
 Judicious ✓  
 Pragmatic ✓



FORMS

fiddling while Rome burns ✓  
 full of sound and fury ✓

The committee dismissed his \_\_\_\_\_ remarks as lacking any serious analysis.



**BELABOUR**

बुरी तरह पीटना *Verb*

explain or attack excessively



**SYNONYMS**

*Hammer  
Dwell*

**ANTONYMS**

*Truncate  
Streamline*

overemphasize  
overstate  
harp  
expatiate

*Flog*

summarize  
condense  
abridge  
curtail

*Restrain  
Understate  
Epitomize*

*Re-iterate  
Exaggerate  
Overwork  
Berate  
Lambaste*

**FORMS**

beat a dead horse  
labour the point

There is no need to \_\_\_\_\_ the issue; everyone already understands the main concern.



**PROFOUND**

गहन

(Aaj)

intellectually or emotionally deep

*Momentous*

**SYNONYMS**

deep / *Insightful*  
 recondite  
 philosophical  
 penetrating  
*Erudite*  
*Abstrusive*  
*Sagacious*

**ANTONYMS**

shallow  
 superficial  
 trivial  
 jejune



**FORMS**

scratch beneath the surface  
 the tip of the iceberg

His understanding of the subject remained disappointingly \_\_\_\_\_.



GOAD

: provoke into action

उकसाना

Verb

SYNONYMS

Prod  
Agitate

provoke ✓  
spur ✓  
incite ✓  
instigate ✓

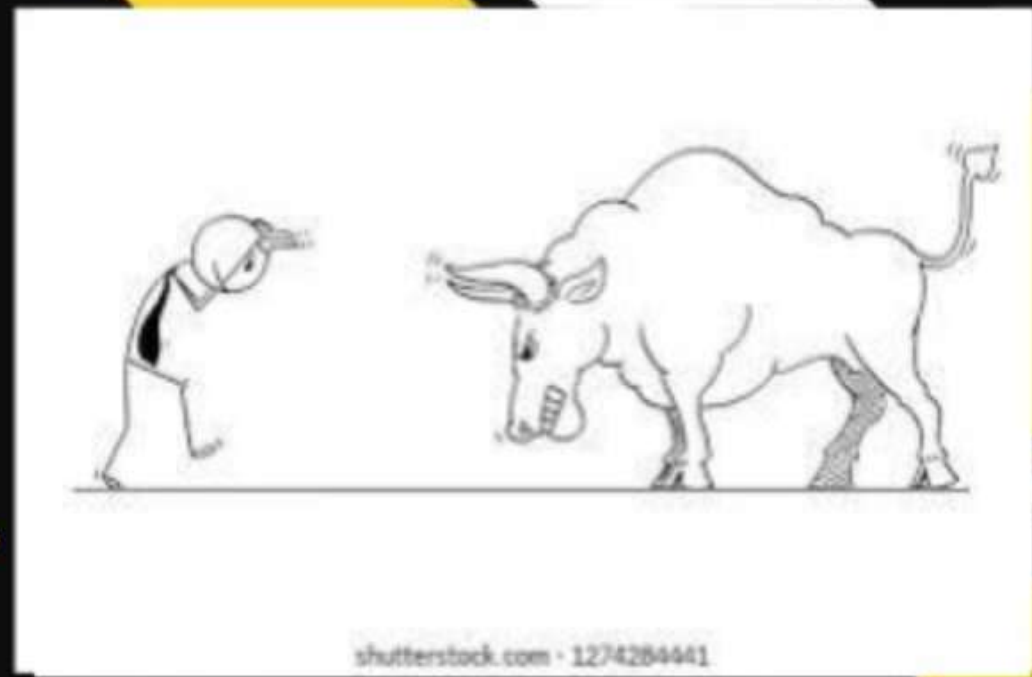
Aggravate ✓  
Inflame ✓  
Egg ✓  
Impel ✓

ANTONYMS

deter ✓  
dissuade ✓  
discourage ✓  
restrain ✓  
Constrain ✓

Bottleneck

Impede  
Hinder  
obstruct  
Inhibit  
Stymie ✓



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FORMS

add fuel to the fire ✓  
poke the bear ✓

Continuous criticism only served to \_\_\_\_\_ him into proving his critics wrong.

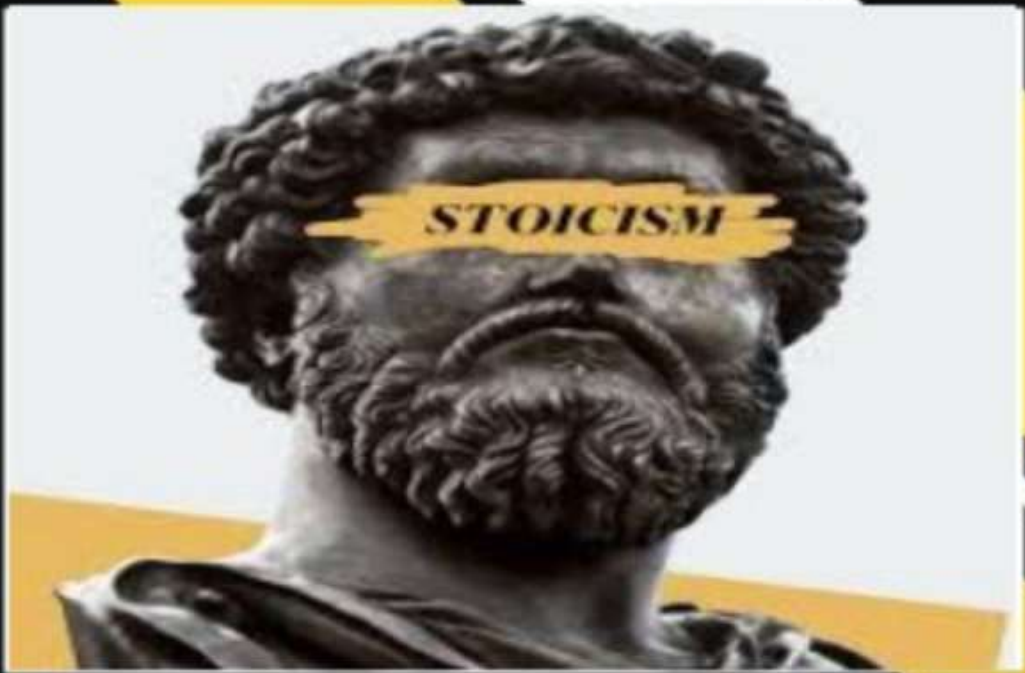


# STOICISM

धैर्यपूर्ण सहनशीलता

(+) Noun

endurance without complaint



## SYNONYMS

fortitude  
equanimity  
endurance  
impassivity

Steadfastness

Forbearance

Austerity

Phlegm

Sanghoid

## ANTONYMS

emotionalism  
agitation  
hysteria  
volatility

Caprice

Panic

Fragility

Impulsiveness

Haste

Hypocrisy

Hysteria

## FORMS

keep a stiff upper lip  
grin and bear it

She endured the painful treatment with remarkable \_\_\_\_\_.



PERDURE

लंबे समय तक बने रहना

continue enduringly

Persist

Ver6

Sustain

SYNONYMS

Abide

ANTONYMS

Expire

- persist
- endure
- subsist
- prevail

- Comply
- Adhere

- perish
- vanish
- dissipate
- cease

- Collapse
- Dismantle

linger

- Persevere
- Perpetuate

Succumb



FORMS

- stand the test of time
- go the distance

Without immediate intervention, several endangered species may \_\_\_\_\_.



**FIASCO**

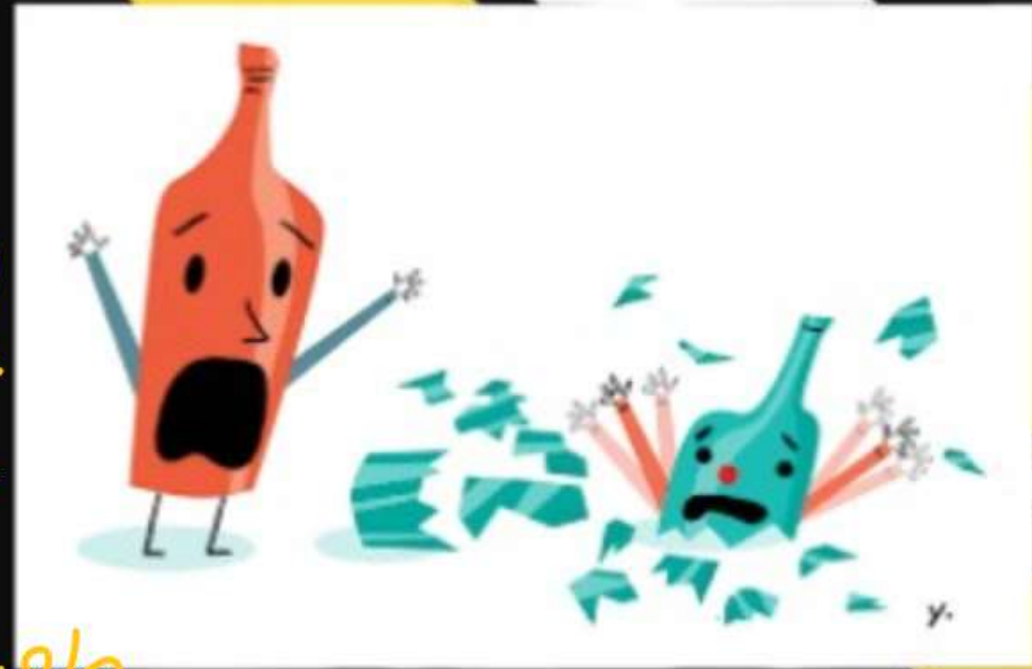
complete disastrous failure

घोर विफलता

Noun

Feat

Windfall



**SYNONYMS**

- debacle ✓
- catastrophe ✓
- calamity ✓
- disaster ✓

Blunder ✓  
 Shambles ✓  
 Ruin ✓  
 Wreck ✓

Botch

**ANTONYMS**

- triumph ✓
- success ✓
- accomplishment ✓
- coup ✓

Breakthrough

Master-stroke

Win

**FORMS**

- go down in flames ✓
- come a cropper ✓

Winning the championship after years of struggle was a genuine \_\_\_\_\_.



**INTERNECINE**

परस्पर विनाशकारी (Aam)

mutually destructive conflict

Antagonistic

Benevolent

**SYNONYMS**

Combative

**ANTONYMS**

Conciliatory  
Tractable

fratricidal  
destructive  
hostile  
ruinous

Belligerent  
Bellucose  
Pugnacious

harmonious  
conciliatory  
amicable  
peaceful

Docile  
Amicable  
Congenial

Vicious

Acrimonious



**FORMS**

cut each other's throats  
at daggers drawn

The party's \_\_\_\_\_ disputes weakened its public image.



# JEJUNE

नीरस

dull, immature, lacking substance

## SYNONYMS

- vapid ✓
- insipid ✓
- superficial ✓
- banal ✓
- Bland ✓

Monotonous  
 Prosaic  
 pedestrian  
 Mundane

## ANTONYMS

- profound ✓
- sophisticated ✓
- stimulating ✓
- incisive ✓



# jejune

adjective (jɪˈdʒuːn)

childish, simplistic, or uninteresting

thehindu.com/word-of-the-day

## FORMS

- thin gruel ✓
- all froth and no substance ✓

Critics described the novel as \_\_\_\_\_, full of clichés and shallow arguments.



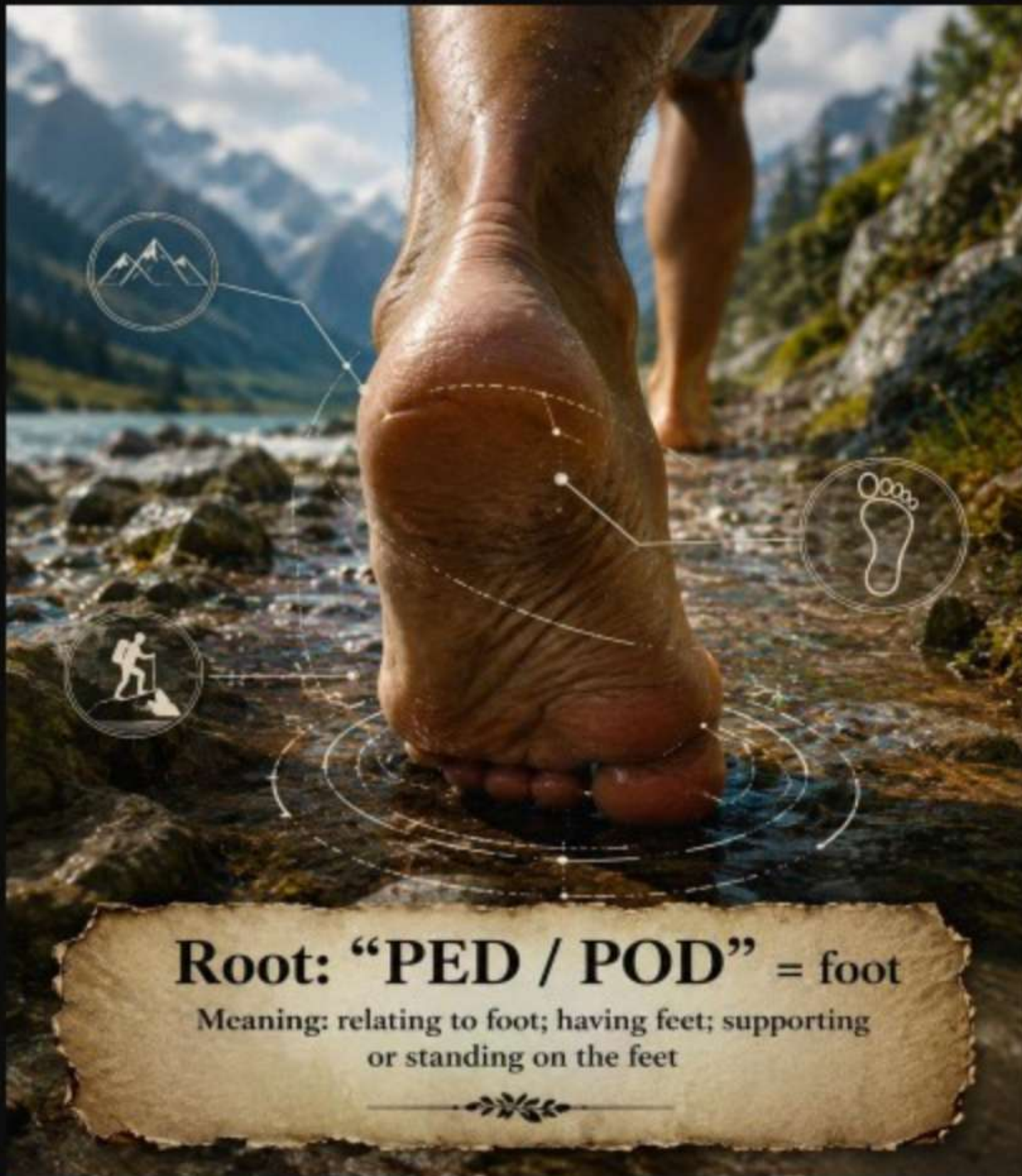
# The Editorial Analysis | Logical English | Anubhav Sir | 8 am

- A. The minister's **deliberate** delay was meant to avoid answering the uncomfortable questions. *(Adj) — Intentional*
- B. After several meetings, the board made a **deliberate** decision to expand into rural markets. *(N) — Plan/Calculate*
- C. The principal will **deliberate** carefully before approving the students' unusual proposal.
- D. The panel continued to **deliberate** for hours before announcing the final winner. *DISCUSS*
- Think carefully*

Word	Use	Part of Speech	English Meaning	Hindi Meaning	Two Synonyms	Example
<b>Deliberate</b>	Use 1	Adjective	Done intentionally, not by mistake	जानबूझकर किया गया	<b>Intentional, Wilful</b>	His silence was a <b>deliberate</b> attempt to avoid controversy.
<b>Deliberate</b>	Use 2	Adjective	Planned or calculated carefully	सोच-समझकर किया गया	<b>Calculated, Considered</b>	The company made a <b>deliberate</b> decision to reduce expenses.
<b>Deliberate</b>	Use 3	Verb	To think carefully before making a decision	गहराई से विचार करना	<b>Ponder, Contemplate</b>	The committee will <b>deliberate</b> on the proposal tomorrow.
<b>Deliberate</b>	Use 4	Verb	To discuss something formally before deciding	विचार-विमर्श करना	<b>Confer, Consult</b>	The jury continued to <b>deliberate</b> for several hours.

## ONE WORD SUBSTITUTION

OWS / Vocabulary Word	Meaning (English)	Part of Speech
Banal	Irritatingly unattractive or unpleasant	Adjective
Esoteric	Difficult to understand; obscure	Adjective
Repudiate	Deny or contradict	Verb
Perfunctory	Done with minimal effort or care	Adjective
Cynical	Sharply critical; biting in tone	Adjective



Word	Meaning (English)	Part of Speech
<b>Pedestrian</b> ✓	Related to <u>walking</u> ; <u>ordinary</u>	Noun / Adjective
<b>Expedite</b> ✓	Free the feet; speed <u>up</u>	Verb
<b>Pedal</b>	Foot lever	Noun / Verb
<b>Podiatrist</b>	Foot specialist	Noun
<b>Pedestal</b>	Foot/base support	Noun

**Root: "PED / POD" = foot**

Meaning: relating to foot; having feet; supporting or standing on the feet



# 1 TAMP DOWN



**MEANING:**  
suppress or reduce something.

**HINDI:**  
दबाना / कम करना

**EXAMPLE:**  
The government tried to **tamp down** fears after the sudden market crash.

# 2 TAMP BACK



**MEANING:**  
hold back or restrain something.

**HINDI:**  
रोकना / दबाकर रखना

**EXAMPLE:**  
She struggled to **tamp back** her anger during the tense discussion.

*Reduce*

*Control*

# TAMP

# 3 TAMP IN

*Embed*



**MEANING:**  
press something firmly into place.

**HINDI:**  
अंदर दबाकर जमाना

**EXAMPLE:**  
The worker used a tool to **tamp in** the loose soil.

# 4 TAMP INTO



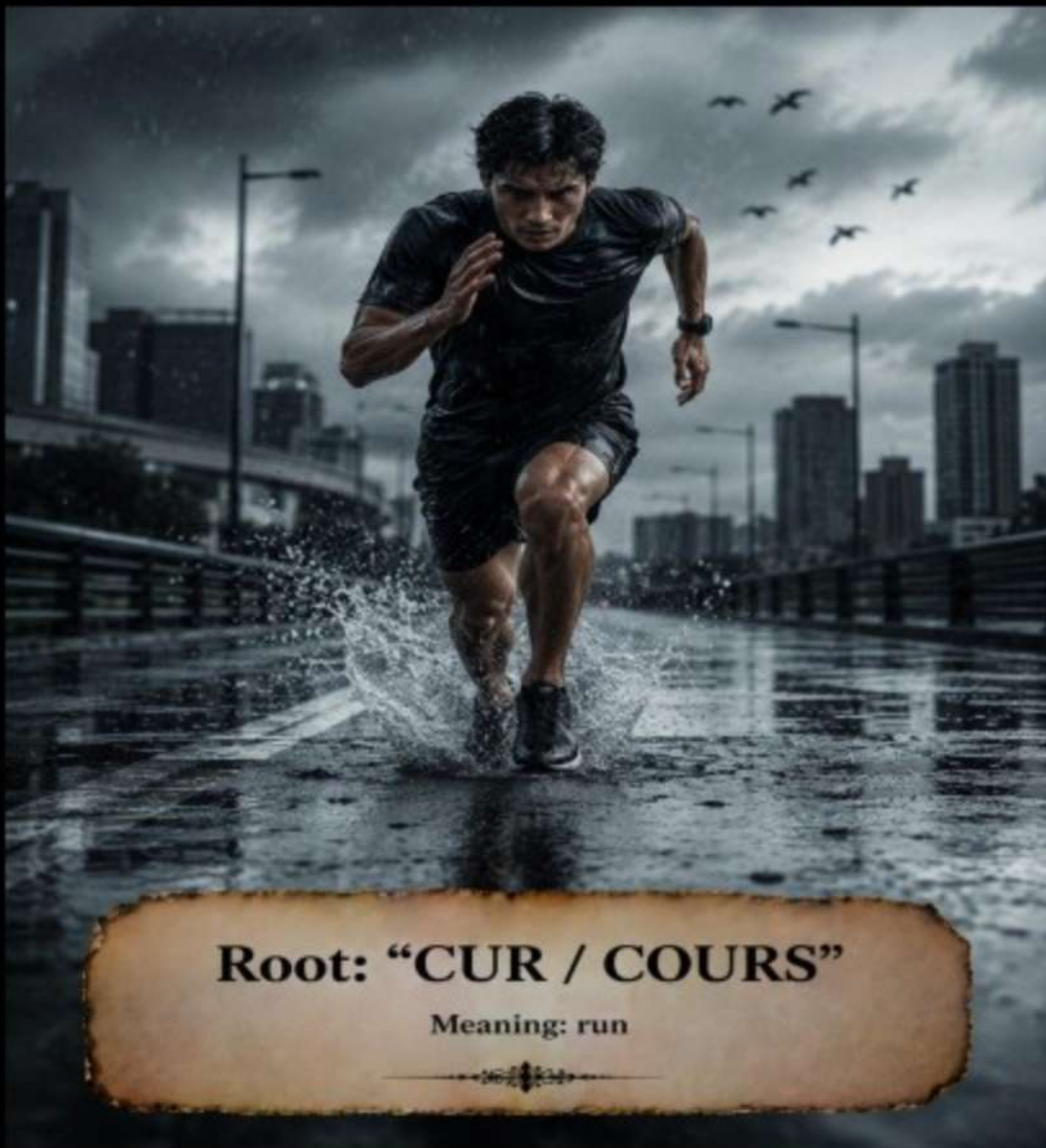
**MEANING:**  
force or press into something tightly.

**HINDI:**  
किसी चीज़ में दूँसकर दबाना

**EXAMPLE:**  
He **tamped** the tobacco into the pipe carefully.

# The Editorial Analysis | Logical English | Anubhav Sir | 8 am

No.	One Word	Meaning	Hindi Meaning	Example
1		A solution or remedy for all problems	रामबाण इलाज	Education is not a <b>panacea</b> for every social problem.
2		A perfect example of something	सर्वोत्तम उदाहरण	He is the <b>epitome</b> of honesty and discipline.
3		No longer in use	अप्रचलित	Many old teaching methods have become <b>obsolete</b> .
4		One who knows everything	सर्वज्ञ	In many stories, God is described as <b>omniscient</b> .
5		A person who selflessly helps others	परोपकारी व्यक्ति	A true <b>altruist</b> works for society without expecting rewards.



**Root: "CUR / COURS"**

Meaning: run

<b>Word</b>	<b>Meaning (English)</b>	<b>Part of Speech</b>
<b>Concurrent</b>	Running together	Adjective
<b>Courier</b>	One who runs/delivers	Noun
<b>Cursory</b>	Running over briefly	Adjective
<b>Recourse</b>	Course taken for help	Noun
<b>Discourse</b>	Running speech/discussion	Noun / Verb

# The absolute necessity of female friendships

**A**n enduring fiction about female friendship is that it is a leisure activity, an indulgence that exists on the margins of real life. For adult Indian women, this real life is imagined as marriage, children, domestic work and caregiving, and in some cases, paid work too (and in rarer cases, perhaps even a career). If one does not understand how female friendship can be a lifeline, it is easy to dismiss the time spent sustaining it as wasteful.

To appreciate the significance of female friendship, one must first understand the profound social isolation that defines the lives of countless Indian women.

Aside from writing fiction, the author of this article builds human-centred technology products at a nonprofit working in maternal and child health. A lot of time in this line of work is spent talking to and learning about diverse women from different parts of the country in order to understand how they access information, make decisions and exercise agency, especially around health and nutrition. Through such conversations and research, the author realised how difficult it was for Indian women to maintain friendships after marriage, and as a consequence, how uncommon it is for married women to have close friends.

## Documented gap

According to a Gallup poll from 2004 (incidentally, the same year the popular sitcom *Friends* aired its last season), the average American woman had eight close friends.

In contrast, more recent studies by the World Bank show that rural women in Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Uttarakhand have between one and three close social connections outside the family. In many ways, this is not surprising; in most parts of the country, women move homes – sometimes even towns and States – after marriage, and while more women than ever before now own



**Amrita Mahale**

Author of the novels 'Milk Teeth' and 'Real Life'. She also works in public health

Female friendship can be an emotional, social and political lifeline for women. Our friends show us different ways of being in the world

smartphones, there are gatekeepers who supervise and dictate their use of technology. Even if they were to reside in the same village or town, it is not much easier for women to keep in touch with a friend.

According to the most recent National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), only 42% of Indian women are allowed to travel alone outside the home, even to the market or to access health facilities. Additionally, over 10% of married women reported not being allowed to meet female friends.

## Method of isolation

This social isolation of young women is neither an accident, nor simply an unfortunate by-product of social norms. Limiting women's access to information and values which can challenge the status quo preserves patriarchal control over them.

A 2021 study from Uttar Pradesh showed that the number of peers a married woman has (or perhaps it is more appropriate to say, is 'allowed to have') shrinks when her mother-in-law does not approve of family planning or if the mother-in-law wants her to have more children, specifically more sons, than the younger woman herself would prefer to have. By restricting a young wife's ability to form friendships and consult with peers, the family can ensure that the preferences of the husband and the in-laws prevail, especially in critical decisions around fertility and family planning.

While this may seem far removed from our own lives and contexts, modern urban living introduces its own barriers to connection: the twin crises of time and space. Women across classes shoulder the double burden of professional and domestic work. Compared to their rural counterparts, urban women face another key disadvantage: nuclear family units leave women without the built-in "village" of female kin that can provide a buffer against

domestic stress. Friendship is one of the first casualties of this time-poverty.

Sociologist Ray Oldenburg coined the term "third places" for spaces of social gathering distinct from home and work. He argued that community and democracy thrive in third places; and friendships do, too. For many urban women today, safe, non-commercial spaces to congregate are vanishing.

## A potential lifeline

Ironically, the dismissal of friendship as unimportant hurts men just as deeply. We are currently witnessing a silent epidemic of male loneliness, where men, conditioned to prioritise stoicism and side-by-side activities over face-to-face connection and vulnerability, often reach middle age with no emotional support system outside of their marriage.

If men were to value friendship with the same intensity that women do, if they were to view it as an essential nutrient for a fulfilling life rather than a mere garnish, they might find themselves not only healthier, but less threatened by the women who have known this secret all along.

Female friendship can be an emotional, social and political lifeline for women. Our friends show us different ways of being in the world. They teach us how to take up space, how to challenge power and bargain with it. Perhaps this is what society fears. We often imagine the fight for women's empowerment as a public spectacle, as marches, protests, and activism, but this fight can take a very different form as well.

For many women in this country, sustaining and safeguarding female friendship – be it in the form of a catch-up on the phone, an exchange of messages on WhatsApp, or a walk around the neighbourhood late in the evening – is no less than an act of resistance.

Female friendship is often treated as a **frivolous** leisure activity, an indulgence that exists on the margins of "real" life. For adult Indian women, this so-called real life is usually imagined as marriage, children, domestic labour, caregiving and, in some cases, paid work or even a career. When one fails to understand how friendship can become a **lifeline**, it becomes easy to dismiss the time spent sustaining it as wasteful.

To understand the importance of female friendship, one must first recognise the **profound** <sup>deep</sup> social isolation that shapes the lives of countless Indian women. Through conversations with women across the country, especially around health, nutrition and decision-making, it becomes clear that maintaining friendships after marriage is extremely difficult. Consequently, many married women rarely have close friends outside the family.

This gap is well documented. While an average American woman reportedly had eight close friends in a 2004 Gallup poll, studies by the World Bank show that rural women in Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Uttarakhand often have only one to three close social connections outside the family. This is unsurprising. After marriage, many women move homes, towns or even States. Even when women own smartphones, their access is often monitored by **gatekeepers** who control how technology is used. Physical mobility is also restricted. According to NFHS-5, only 42% of Indian women are allowed to travel alone outside the home, even to markets or health facilities, and over 10% of married women reported being barred from meeting female friends.

This isolation is not accidental; it is a **deliberate** method of preserving patriarchal control. By limiting women's access to information, alternative values and supportive peers, families can ensure that the preferences of husbands and in-laws dominate critical decisions, especially around fertility and family planning. A 2021 study from Uttar Pradesh showed that a married woman's peer network shrinks when her mother-in-law disapproves of family planning or desires more sons than the younger woman herself wants.

## The Editorial Analysis | Logical English | Anubhav Sir | 8 am

Urban life creates its own barriers. Women across classes bear the double burden of professional and domestic work. Nuclear families often deprive urban women of the informal "village" of female kin that could buffer domestic stress. Friendship becomes one of the first casualties of time-poverty. Safe, non-commercial "third places" where women can gather are also disappearing.

Ironically, dismissing friendship harms men too. Many men, conditioned into **stoicism** and emotional silence, reach middle age without any real support system outside marriage.

Female friendship, therefore, is not merely emotional; it is social and political. Friends teach women new ways of being, taking up space, questioning power and negotiating with it. Perhaps this is precisely what society fears. For many women, a phone call, a WhatsApp exchange, or an evening walk with a friend is not a small indulgence; it is an act of resistance.

MCQS

Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the passage?

- (A) Female Friendship as Resistance Against Patriarchal and Social Isolation
- (B) Marriage, Mobility Restrictions, and the Decline of Women's Independence)
- (C) Patriarchal Control and the Political Significance of Female Friendship
- (D) Emotional Isolation and the Shrinking Social Worlds of Married Indian Women
- (E) Friendship as a Quiet Form of Resistance in Women's Everyday Lives

Title

Woman

Social  
circle

Married

Friendship

2. Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the passage?

- (A) Patriarchal families discourage friendships to reduce financial responsibilities (X)
- (B) Women avoid friendships because careers consume most emotional energy (X)
- (C) Emotional isolation frequently strengthens dependence on domestic authority ✓
- (D) Smartphones have significantly expanded women's independent social interactions X
- (E) Rural women voluntarily prioritise family duties over personal relationships

3. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's argument?

*Women - Friendship*

- (A) Women with supportive peer circles report greater decision-making autonomy
- (B) Urban men increasingly prefer smaller social circles after marriage
- (C) Smartphone ownership among rural women doubled during the previous decade
- (D) Married women often prioritise parenting responsibilities over social gatherings
- (E) Most Indian families encourage women to maintain childhood friendships

4. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument?

(A) Several rural communities actively organise women's independent friendship groups

(B) Many women voluntarily reduce friendships after becoming financially successful

(C) Patriarchal norms influence educational and professional opportunities for women

(D) Emotional companionship often improves women's confidence during domestic conflicts

(E) Urban workplaces increasingly provide collaborative spaces for female interaction

Women -  
Friendship

5. Which of the following statements is/are true according to the passage?

- I. Friendship is portrayed as socially insignificant in many traditional settings. ✓ T
- II. Urban women always possess stronger support systems than rural women. ✗
- III. Restricting women's mobility may reinforce patriarchal authority structures. ✓

- (A) Only I
- (B) Only II
- (C) Both I and III ✓
- (D) Both II and III
- (E) I, II and III

6. The author's tone throughout the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Nostalgic, celebratory, and emotionally detached from social realities
- (B) Analytical, critical, and sympathetic towards women's lived experiences
- (C) Cynical, dismissive, and unconcerned about patriarchal social arrangements
- (D) Humorous, conversational, and optimistic regarding urban family structures
- (E) Detached, descriptive, and largely indifferent towards gender inequalities

7. The word “deliberate” as used in the passage most nearly means:

- (A) Accidental
- (B) Calculated ✓
- (C) Fragile
- (D) Emotional
- (E) Temporary

India's education system is under severe stress. The NEET **fiasco** which caused immense suffering to nearly 22 lakh students exposed the deep structural flaws within the National Testing Agency, where one part conducts the JEE seamlessly while another appears clueless and completely out of its depth in conducting another high-stakes examination. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has caused much anxiety to and harmed a significant proportion of some 18 lakh students who took the Class 12 exams this year and whose answer scripts were evaluated through On Screen Marking (OSM) for the first time. It appears that little training was given to the staff scanning the answer sheets, and that no SOPs were in place after consultations with experts. Yet, some one crore sets of answer papers were scanned in record time. Evaluators were not really put through the paces; not prepped fully for the new interface; nor their screen fatigue evaluated for its impact on scoring. Ideally, OSM should first be tested on a smaller subset of answer sheets in parallel with the regular mode to evaluate whether there is any statistically significant deviation in scores between the two methods. This would have borne out whether the system was truly prepared for what was presented as a reform and allowed corrective measures before full-scale adoption. It appears none of this was done. The result: a clear reduction in student performance, which was too significant to be dismissed as coincidence. When students received their scanned answer scripts, their fears appeared to have been validated. Widespread reports of mismatched scripts, unevaluated supplementary sheets, and unclear scans flooded social media, while many students complained that they had not received their scanned copies.

## **The Editorial Analysis | Logical English | Anubhav Sir | 8 am**

To tamp down anger, the CBSE had slashed the fees for accessing answer scripts and re-evaluation while promising refunds where re-evaluation was found to be justified.

More than 1.25 lakh students applied for accessing nearly four lakh answer scripts within a few hours of the window opening. Since then, the deadline for script access was extended repeatedly before ending on May 25. The CBSE has not yet revealed the plans for re-evaluation which is likely to be of a higher order this year. The Education Minister has said that the IITs have now been involved in troubleshooting. What is at stake is not just the CBSE's credibility but also the future of lakhs of students. The immediate task before the CBSE is to carry out the re-evaluation to the satisfaction of students. A long-term task would be to honestly address the root causes of the fiasco and implement solutions.

**8. Which of the following are implied by the passage?**

- A. OSM needed parallel testing before wider implementation. ✓
- B. Screen fatigue could influence evaluation outcomes. ✓
- C. The CBSE deliberately intended to reduce student marks. ✗

**Choose the correct option.**

- A. Only A and B ✓
- B. Only B and C
- C. Only A and C
- D. A, B and C
- E. Only C

**9. What is the author's principal argument in the passage?**

- A. Digital evaluation should be permanently abandoned by CBSE.
- B. Student complaints are mainly driven by social media outrage.
- C. Examination bodies must reform only after judicial supervision.
- D. Administrative reforms require testing, training and accountability.
- E. IITs should conduct all high-stakes examinations in India.

**10. In the passage, “tamp down anger” most nearly means:**

- A. legally defend the institutional decision
- B. gradually suppress public resentment ✓
- C. openly acknowledge evaluation mistakes
- D. secretly delay corrective measures
- E. formally investigate student complaints

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## FILLERS

1. The government's emergency measures helped \_\_\_\_\_ public panic after the rumor spread online.
2. The professor's lecture on metaphysics was so \_\_\_\_\_ that many students struggled to follow it.
3. Critics dismissed the movie as \_\_\_\_\_, lacking originality or emotional depth.
4. The editor had to \_\_\_\_\_ the article to fit the newspaper's limited space.
5. Poor planning and technical failures turned the product launch into a complete

**Word Box:** Vapid, Abridge, Debacle, Recondite, Dissipate