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— “ —

It always seems
impossible until
it's done.

— ” —

Nelson Mandela

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VOCABULARY

1. **Akin to:** Similar or related in some way.
 - Synonyms: Similar, comparable, related, alike.
 - Antonyms: Dissimilar, unrelated, different.
 - Example: His sense of humour is akin to that of his father.
2. **Cognitive:** Relating to the process of acquiring knowledge and understanding through experience and thought.
 - Synonyms: Mental, intellectual, perceptual.
 - Antonyms: Non-cognitive, instinctive.
 - Example: Cognitive development is crucial in early childhood.
3. **Delicate:** Easily broken, sensitive, requiring careful handling.
 - Synonyms: Fragile, dainty, subtle.
 - Antonyms: Sturdy, robust, insensitive.
 - Example: Handle the glassware with delicate hands to avoid any damage.

4. **Rampant:** Widespread and uncontrollable, often negative.
 - Synonyms: Uncontrolled, widespread, pervasive.
 - Antonyms: Controlled, restrained, limited.
 - Example: Rumours of corruption were rampant in the government.

5. **Sweeping:** Extensive in scope or effect, comprehensive.
 - Synonyms: Comprehensive, extensive, broad.
 - Antonyms: Limited, narrow, confined.
 - Example: The new policy had a sweeping impact on the entire organisation.

6. **Beacon:** A signalling light or device, often used as a guide or warning.
 - Synonyms: Signal, guide, light.
 - Antonyms: Darkness, obscurity.
 - Example: The lighthouse served as a beacon for ships navigating the treacherous waters.

7. **Poise:** Graceful and elegant composure.
 - Synonyms: Composure, balance, elegance.
 - Antonyms: Unsteady, awkward, imbalance.

- Example: Despite the unexpected challenge, she maintained her poise and professionalism.
8. Repercussions: Unintended consequences or effects that follow an action.
- Synonyms: Consequences, outcomes, aftermath.
 - Antonyms: Anticipation, prediction, foresight.
 - Example: The economic downturn had severe repercussions on the global market.
9. Decisive: Settling an issue or producing a definite result.
- Synonyms: Conclusive, resolute, final.
 - Antonyms: Indecisive, hesitant, uncertain.
 - Example: The team's decisive victory secured their place in the finals.
10. **Indispensable**: Absolutely necessary, essential.
- Synonyms: Essential, crucial, vital.
 - Antonyms: Dispensable, unnecessary, optional.
 - Example: Communication is indispensable for a successful team.

Phrases

11. **Run rampant:** To spread uncontrollably. In this context, it refers to negative emotions spreading unchecked.
12. **Bogged down:** To become stuck or entangled, often in a difficult or complicated situation.
13. **Into high gear:** Referring to an increased level of activity or intensity.
14. **Throwing a wrench into the gears:** Figuratively indicating an obstacle or disruption to a smooth process.
15. **Navigating the ebbs and flows:** Figuratively managing the ups and downs or fluctuations in life.
16. **Riding out the storm:** Figuratively enduring and waiting patiently through a difficult or challenging period.
17. **Keeping one's cool:** Figuratively maintaining composure and not succumbing to stress or pressure.

18. **Rising above the fray:** Figuratively transcending conflicts or disturbances and maintaining a higher perspective.
19. **Finding the silver lining:** Figuratively discovering a positive aspect in a seemingly negative situation.
20. **Embracing the bumps in the road:** Figuratively accepting and dealing positively with challenges or obstacles.
21. **Weathering the ups and downs:** Figuratively enduring and surviving the highs and lows of life.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

13th FEBRUARY, 2024

1. In a major diplomatic win for India, Qatar has released eight ex-Indian Navy personnel who were jailed over spying charges, the government has said. Seven of them have already returned to India after serving a sentence of 18 months.
2. Every year on February 13th, the world unites to celebrate World Radio Day, a day that marks the enduring significance of radio as a medium of communication.
 - The theme for World Radio Day 2024, “Radio: A Century Informing, Entertaining and Educating,” celebrates the historical evolution of radio and its profound impact on society.
3. PM Matsya Kishan Samridhi Saha Yojna:

Through this project, an investment of more than Rs 6000 crore will be made to micro and small enterprises in the fisheries sector to improve the quality of fish and fishery products in the domestic market.

This investment will be made in the next 4 years in all states and union territories.

4. Tata Group's combined market capitalisation soared past ₹30 lakh crore, marking a historic moment for Indian business. This remarkable surge in shareholder wealth has been primarily fueled by the notable interest in shares of Tata Consultancy Services, Tata Motors, Tata Power, and Indian Hotels throughout the year.
5. Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is going to launch meteorological satellite INSAT3DS on February-17. The INSAT-3DS mission will be launched from Satish Dhawan Space Center (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota.
6. PM Narendra Modi dedicates and lays foundations for development projects worth Rs. 7300 cr in Jhabua, MP, benefiting tribal communities.
7. India's flagship instant payment system, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), along with the RuPaycard, will be introduced in Sri Lanka and Mauritius on February 12.

- 8.** The floor test of the Nitish Kumar-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government in Bihar concluded on Monday with Kumar securing 130 votes in favour.
- 9.** Australia U19 win U19 World Cup 2024 by 79 runs! With the massive win over India, Australia have secured its fourth World Cup title in U-19 cricket.
- 10.** Ministry of Education collaborates with FIFA to enhance football access in schools, distributing 11 lakh footballs nationwide, benefiting more than 1.5 lakh schools.
- 11.** Taylor Swift beats Arjit Singh to become 2nd most followed spotted artist.
- 12.** Former PM Alexander Stubb wins Finland presidential election.