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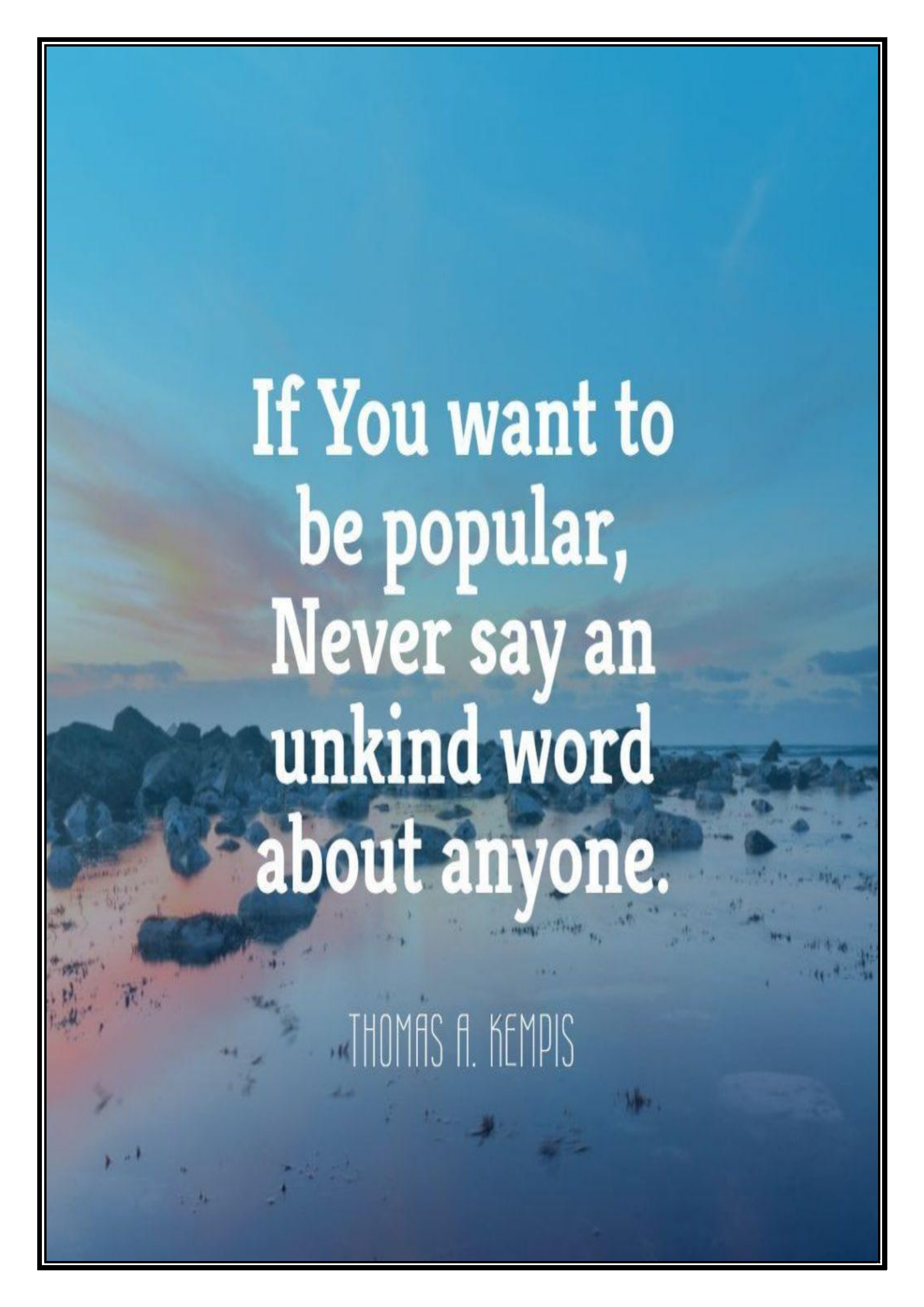
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If You want to
be popular,
Never say an
unkind word
about anyone.

THOMAS A. KEMPIS

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VOCABULARY

1. **Arbitrary**: Based on random choice or personal whim, rather than any reason or system.
 - Synonyms: Capricious, Unpredictable, Random, Whimsical, Haphazard.
 - Antonyms: Rational, Systematic, Consistent, Reasoned, Logical.
 - sentence: The decision seemed arbitrary, lacking a clear rationale or justification.
2. **Vague**: Unclear or not well-defined, lacking precision or explicitness.
 - Synonyms: Ambiguous, Uncertain, Indistinct, Nebulous
 - Antonyms: Clear, Explicit, Precise, Distinct, Definite.
 - sentence: The instructions were vague, leaving room for interpretation and confusion.
3. **Accede**: To agree to a demand, request, or proposal; to give in or consent.
 - Synonyms: Consent, Agree, Yield, Concede, Assent.
 - Antonyms: Refuse, Deny, Reject, Resist, Oppose.
 - sentence: After much negotiation, they finally acceded to the terms of the agreement.

4. **Contour**: The outline or shape of something, especially a figure or body; the outer edge or surface configuration.
- Synonyms: Outline, Silhouette, Shape, Profile, Form.
 - Antonyms: Flatness, Smoothness, Featureless, Shapelessness, Uncontoured.
 - sentence: The artist skillfully captured the contour of the mountain range in the landscape painting.
5. **Recourse**: The option or means of seeking help or protection in a difficult or unpleasant situation.
- Synonyms: Redress, Resort, Remediation, Solution, Alternative.
 - Antonyms: Helplessness, Powerlessness, Unavailability, Hopelessness, Inability.
 - sentence: When faced with the contractual dispute, they had no recourse but to seek legal advice.
6. **Extant**: Still in existence; not destroyed, lost, or extinct.
- Synonyms: Existing, Surviving, Present, Current, Remaining.
 - Antonyms: Extinct, Lost, Vanished, Nonexistent, Obliterated.
 - sentence: The ancient manuscript is one of the few extant copies of that historical text.

7. **Credence**: Belief or acceptance in the truth or validity of something; trustworthiness.

- Synonyms: Confidence, Faith, Trust, Acceptance, Conviction.
- Antonyms: Doubt, Skepticism, Disbelief, Mistrust, Distrust.
- sentence: Her consistent honesty gave credence to her statements in the eyes of her colleagues.

8. **Doddering**: Shaky or unsteady in movement, typically due to old age; feeble or infirm.

- Synonyms: Tottering, Unsteady, Wobbly, Quivering.
- Antonyms: Steady, Sturdy, Stable, Firm, Robust.
- sentence: The doddering old man struggled to walk without support, relying on his cane for balance.

9. **Attrition**: The gradual reduction or wearing down of something over time, often used to refer to the decrease in the number of personnel through retirement or resignation.

- Synonyms: Erosion, Reduction, Gradual loss, Weakening, Diminution.
- Antonyms: Increase, Growth, Augmentation, Strengthening, Expansion.

- sentence: The company experienced attrition as several employees retired, leading to a smaller workforce.

10. **Adamant:** Refusing to be persuaded or to change one's mind; unyielding or inflexible in attitude or opinion.

- Synonyms: Unyielding, Inflexible, Resolute, Firm, Stubborn.
- Antonyms: Flexible, Yielding, Pliable, Open-minded, Agreeable.
- sentence: Despite the objections, she remained adamant about her decision to pursue a career in the arts.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

11. **Run afoul:** To come into conflict or opposition; to encounter problems or difficulties.

- Synonyms: Clash, Conflict, Collide, Contravene, Violate.
- Antonyms: Agree, Harmonize, Conform, Comply, Cooperate.
- sentence: Their plans ran afoul of unexpected obstacles, causing delays in the project.

12. **To have a wide berth:** To keep a significant distance from something or someone; to avoid getting too close.

- Synonyms: Steer clear, Keep one's distance, Avoid, Shun, Give a wide berth.
- Antonyms: Approach closely, Narrow the distance, Engage closely.
- sentence: Knowing the potential dangers, they decided to have a wide berth from the turbulent waters.

13. **shot in the arm:** Something that revitalizes or provides a boost, often to morale or energy levels.

- Synonyms: Boost, Stimulus, Revitalization, Encouragement, Uplift.
- Antonyms: Setback, Disappointment, Letdown, Deterioration, Decline.
- sentence: The team's recent success was a much-needed shot in the arm for their confidence.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

24th February, 2024

1. President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan secured a fifth consecutive term in elections, winning 92% of the vote.
2. Turkey's homegrown KAAN combat aircraft achieved its maiden flight, a milestone celebrated by both local industry and government.



3.



Kosovars Begin Long-Awaited Visa-Free Travel To Schengen Countries

- Kosovo achieved a significant milestone after facing delays in Schengen approval. It has secured visa-free access to the Schengen zone, the world's largest area of free movement.
- Kosovo becomes the last non-European Union (EU) country in the Western Balkans to enjoy this privilege.

4. Microsoft and iCreate to launch the iMPEL-AI (iCreate-Microsoft program for Emerging Leaders in Artificial Intelligence) program marks a significant milestone in India.



Microsoft Starts iMPEL-AI Program to Empower India's AI Innovators

5. PhonePe, a Walmart Inc. owned fintech, has launched a mobile application store for consumers in India. The Android-based store is called Indus Appstore, pits the product against Google's Play Store.



6. The three day International Gita Mahotsav will commence from 1st of March. The festival will be held at the Nelum Pokuna Theatre premises with the financial sponsorship of Haryana's Kurukshetra Development Board. During the recent years the festival has been held in overseas countries.

7. The Forest Department in Uttar Pradesh's Gonda district, partnering with the Turtle Survival Alliance Foundation India, seeks to create a turtle conservation reserve along the Sarju river.
8. Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N) President Shehbaz Sharif is set to assume the role of Prime Minister of Pakistan a week after 176 out of 342 lawmakers of the National Assembly voted against former premier Imran Khan in a dramatic no-confidence motion resulting in his unceremonious exit.
9. Indian and Sri Lankan coast guard ships reached the Maldives to take part in the trilateral coast guard exercise Dosti16, a Chinese vessel was seen moored close to the port of Male in the morning raising questions about the security of the exercise.
10. Madhya Pradesh introduces “Bag-less School” Initiative.
11. Global Consensus: PM Modi tops all charts. PM Modi emerges as world’s most popular leader once again with 78% approval rating

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