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VOCABULARY

- 1. Sordid: Something morally dishonorable.
 - Synonyms: Corrupt, Shameful, Unethical, Wretched.
 - Antonyms: Virtuous, Dignified, Noble, Admirable.
 - sentence: The sordid details of the scandal were shocking to everyone.
- 2. Revelation: The act of disclosing something.
 - Synonyms: Disclosure, Unveiling, Exposition, Uncovering.
 - Antonyms: Disguise, Obscurity, Camouflage, Hiding.
 - sentence: The sudden revelation of his true identity shocked everyone at the party.
- **3.** Lapse: a temporary failure or deviation from a particular course of action.
 - Synonyms: Error, Fault, Blunder, Oversight, Flaw.
 - Antonyms: Perfection, Accuracy, Success, Proficiency.
 - sentence: His lapse in judgement cost him the promotion.
- 4. Blaring: Emitting a harsh and powerful sound.
 - Synonyms: Raucous, Piercing, Clamorous, Loud.
 - Antonyms: Gentle, Hushed, Quiet, Peaceful.
 - sentence: The blaring sirens outside woke up the entire neighborhood.

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- 5. Staggered: Moving unsteadily.
 - Synonyms: Faltering, Wobbling, Tottering, Uncertain.
 - Antonyms: Firm, Stable, Unwavering, Balanced
 - sentence: He staggered slightly as he walked out of the dimly lit room.
- **6.** Equivocation: Use of ambiguous language or avoiding making a clear statement.
 - Synonyms: Obfuscation, Indirectness, Doublespeak.
 - Antonyms: Honesty, Truthfulness, Candor, Clarity.
 - sentence: His equivocation during the interview raised doubts about his honesty.
- 7. Sobering: Something that is serious.
 - Synonyms: Grave, Grim, Solemn, Dismal.
 - Antonyms: Exciting, Cheerful, Amusing, Joyful.
 - sentence: The doctor's diagnosis was sobering, indicating a serious health issue.
- 8. Contentious: Something that is likely to cause disagreement.
 - Synonyms: Disputable, Controversial, Debatable.
 - Antonyms: Amicable, Congenial, Agreeable, Unified.
 - sentence: The contentious debate divided the group into opposing factions.

- **9.** Subversive: Something that seeks to overthrow established systems.
 - Synonyms: Insurgent, Rebellious, Radical, Anarchistic.
 - Antonyms: Compliant, Conformist, Obedient, Loyal.
 - sentence: The author's subversive novel challenged societal norms and sparked controversy.
- **10.** Vindicate: To clear someone from blame.
 - Synonyms: Exonerate, Absolve, Justify, Support.
 - Antonyms: Accuse, Convict, Condemn, Refute.
 - sentence: The success of her project vindicated her unconventional approach.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- **11.** Tilting the scales: To influence a situation by swaying balance in favor of one option over another.
- **12.** Arm twisting: The act of using forceful tactics to compel someone to do something.
- **13.** Spill the beans: To reveal a secret.
- **14.** Striking down: To nullify something.
- **15.** Spread over: To extend or distribute something.

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<u>CURRENT AFFAIRS</u> <u>18th March, 2024</u>

- 1. India successfully conducted the first flight test of domestically developed Agni-V missile with Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle technology.
 - Three years ago, Pakistan attempted to develop the multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicle (MIRV) technology using 2.750 km Shaheen III missile with each warhead hitting the ground at the separation of two kilometres but as per DRDO top brass failed miserably.
- Ratan Tata, former chairman of Tata Sons, has been bestowed with the prestigious PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award. He received the award for his outstanding philanthropic contributions.
- 3. Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur, Kanpur and Palakkad have created a new system for a hybrid unmanned vehicle that can operate both underwater and in the air.
- The Indian Navy has finally got its own dedicated headquarters building. The newly constructed Nausena Bhawan located at Delhi Cantonment.

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- 5. The Maharashtra cabinet decided to ask the Ministry of Railways to rename Mumbai Central station after Nana Jagannath Shankarseth. Mumbai Central, located in the heart of the city.
- 6. International Day to Combat Islamophobia is observed every year on 15 March. In many countries, Muslims often face discrimination and hatred based on their religious beliefs.
- 7. Scientists recently discovered a massive volcano on Mars, temporarily designated 'Noctisvolcano', with the possible remains of a relict glacier at its base.
- 8. Britain's DragonFire Laser Directed Energy Weapon (LDEW) showcases precision targeting and cost-effectiveness in intercepting enemy threats.
- 9. RCB (Royal Challengers Bangalore) clinched victory in the final match of the Women's Premier League 2024.
 - Runners up- Delhi Capital
 - Queen Ellyse Perry won the Orange cap in WPL 2024.
 - Shreyanka won Purple cap in WPL 2024.

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- 10. In December 2023, ICC introduced stop clock on a trial basis in men's limited-overs international matches.
 - The stop-clock is set to become permanent in all ODIs and T20Is from June 2024, starting with the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 in the West Indies and USA.
- 11. Palestinian President appoints Mohammad Mustafa As new PM.
- 12. Retired Bureaucrat Navneet Kumar Sehgal appointed as New Prasar Bharati Chairman.