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VOCABULARY

1. Bountiful: Something that is abundant.
 - Synonyms: Plentiful, Copious, Prolific, Lavish.
 - Antonyms: Inadequate, Scarce, Insufficient, Meager.
 - sentence: The garden produced a bountiful crop of vegetables.

2. Stoking: To encourage or intensify a feeling.
 - Synonyms: Fueling, Provoking, Inciting, Stimulating.
 - Antonyms: Dampening, Suppressing, Calming, Soothing.
 - sentence: The chef was stoking the flames to prepare for grilling.

3. Prevalent: Something that is widespread or common.
 - Synonyms: Ubiquitous, Rampant, Pervasive, Rife.
 - Antonyms: Sporadic, Rare, Infrequent, Unusual.
 - sentence: The use of social media is prevalent among teenagers in today's society.

4. Vulnerable: Being susceptible to harm.
 - Synonyms: Fragile, Weak, Precarious, Endangered.
 - Antonyms: Protected, Fortified, Resilient, Defended.
 - sentence: Children are particularly vulnerable to colds and flu during the winter months.

5. Bolster: To support or strengthen something.
 - Synonyms: Reinforce, Boost, Underpin, Prop up.

- Antonyms: Weaken, Undermine, Thwart, Impede.
- sentence: She used a pillow to bolster her back while reading in bed.

6. Robust: Something that is strong.

- Synonyms: Vigorous, Powerful, Potent, Sturdy.
- Antonyms: Fragile, Feeble, Flimsy, Debilitated.
- sentence: The athlete's robust physique allowed him to excel in various sports competitions.

7. Persistent: Something that continues to exist.

- Synonyms: Relentless, Steadfast, Unwavering, Resolute.
- Antonyms: Transient, Fickle, Fluctuating, Temporary.
- sentence: Despite the setbacks, his persistent efforts eventually led to success.

8. Tardy: Someone or something that is late or delayed.

- Synonyms: Overdue, Belated, Sluggish, Behindhand.
- Antonyms: Timely, Punctual, Diligent, Expedient.
- sentence: The students received a detention for being tardy to class three times in a row.

9. Embittering: Something that causes bitterness or a feeling of injustice.

- Synonyms: Frustrating, Vexing, Disheartening, Irritating.
- Antonyms: Pleasing, Gratifying, Delightful, Inspiring.
- sentence: The argument was embittering for both parties involved.

10. Altar: A raised structure or platform.
- Synonyms: Pedestal, Sanctum, Shrine.
 - Antonyms: Irreverent, Disrespect, Impiousness.
 - sentence: She left a bouquet of flowers at the altar as a symbol of remembrance.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

11. Silver lining: Finding something positive in a negative situation.
12. To open a can of worms: To introduce a complicated or troublesome situation.
13. Walking on eggshells: A situation where people are careful and cautious in their actions or words.
14. Account for: Explaining the significance of something.
15. Draw up: Articulate significance typically through communication or expression.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

18th April, 2024

1. An International humanitarian conference for Sudan and neighbouring countries was held in the French capital, Paris, on 15th April, 2024 to raise funds for the people of Sudan who have been caught in a war between Sudan's army and the Rebel paramilitary force Rapid Support Forces.
 - The conference was organised in response to the United - Nations funding appeal on 7 February 2024.
2. Former United States President Donald Trump has become the first US President to face a criminal trial. Donald Trump appeared in a Manhattan court in the US to face charges of paying hush money to a porn star.
 - Donald Trump served as the 45th President of the United States from January 20, 2017, to January 20, 2021.
 - This case could disrupt Donald Trump's attempt to win the US presidential election in November 2024.
3. The Global Forest Watch reveals that India has experienced significant tree cover loss since 2000, totaling 2.33 million hectares. This loss includes both natural disturbances and human-induced factors, impacting the country's carbon balance and climate change.

4. Nigeria has become the first country to administer the Men5CV/MenFive conjugate vaccine recommended by WHO, which protects from five strains of meningococcal bacteria.
5. Bollywood veteran Amitabh Bachchan will be honoured with the prestigious third Lata Dinanath Mangeshkar award for his remarkable dedication to the nation, its people, and society, the Mangeshkar family announced on Tuesday.
6. Heavy rains have hit the United Arab Emirates, flooding highways and disrupting flights at one of the world's busiest airports. The government described it as the largest amount of rainfall in the past 75 years.
7. The Indian government has launched CDPSURAKSHA, a groundbreaking digital platform aimed at streamlining the distribution of subsidies to horticulture farmers under the Cluster Development Programme (CDP).
 - This initiative comes amidst the significant contribution of the horticulture sector to India's agricultural Gross Value Added (GVA), with consistent growth in crop production over the years.

- 8.** 'Surya Tilak' (Sun's rays) illuminated Lord Ram Lallaidol's forehead at Ayodhya Temple on the occasion of Ram Navami on Wednesday, April 17. The 'Surya tilak' of the deity was made possible by an elaborate mechanism involving mirrors and lenses. The system was tested by the scientists on Tuesday.
- 9.** Indonesian Badminton player Jonatan Christie won his first Asian Badminton Championship by defeating the Chinese player Li Shi Feng in the final of the 2024 Badminton Asia Championships on 14 April 2024. The 41st Badminton Asia Championships was held in the coastal city of Ningbo, located in the Zhejiang province of China, from 9-14 April.
- 10.** Rajasthan Royals' Jos Buttler showcased his batting brilliance once again as he blazed his way to a magnificent unbeaten century, catapulting himself to the second position in the list of most hundreds in the history of the Indian Premier League (IPL).