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## VOCABULARY

1. Attrition: The Gradual reduction of something.
  - Synonyms: Erosion, Depletion, Exhaustion, Diminishment.
  - Antonyms: Augmentation, Restoration, Replenishment.
  - sentence: The constant attrition of the coastline by the ocean waves is evident.
  
2. Insurgency: A violent rebellion against a government or authority.
  - Synonyms: Revolt, Uprising, Insurrection, Mutiny.
  - Antonyms: Compliance, Stability, Tranquility, Adherence.
  - sentence: The insurgency threatened the stability of the region.
  
3. Sparse: Something that is thinly scattered.
  - Synonyms: Limited, Inadequate, Paltry, Scant.
  - Antonyms: Ample, Copious, Abundant, Plentiful.
  - sentence: The sparse vegetation in the desert struggled to survive in the harsh conditions.
  
4. Discontented: A feeling of dissatisfaction.
  - Synonyms: Disgruntled, Displeased, Unsatisfied, Unhappy.
  - Antonyms: Pleased, Satisfied, Gratified, Complacent.
  - sentence: Despite his success, he remained discontented with his life.

5. Unconventional: Something that is not based on commonly accepted standards.

Synonyms: Unique, Original, Innovative, Quirky.

Antonyms: Typical, Standard, Regular, Traditional.

sentence: Her unconventional style made him stand out from the crowd.

6. Hitherto: Something that has occurred or been the case before a specified time.

• Synonyms: Up to now, Until this point, As yet, So far.

• Antonyms: Henceforth, Hereafter, Later on.

• sentence: Hitherto, she had never traveled outside her home country.

7. Anachronistic: Something that is outdated or no longer relevant to the current time period.

• Synonyms: Obsolete, Archaic, Antiquated, Old-fashioned.

• Antonyms: Contemporary, Modern, Up-to-date, Fitting.

• sentence: The antique clock in the sleek, modern living room appeared anachronistic.

8. Tepid: Something that is lacking in enthusiasm.

• Synonyms: Apathetic, Lackluster, Subdued, Mild.

• Antonyms: Passionate, Zealous, Excited, Fervid.

• sentence: She gave a tepid response to the proposal, showing little interest.

9. Cushioned: Being protected or insulated from something unpleasant.
- Synonyms: Shielded, Guarded, Secured, Buffered.
  - Antonyms: Unshielded, Exposed, Vulnerable.
  - sentence: The padded seat provided a cushioned landing for the gymnast after her routine.
10. Desertion: The act of abandoning someone.
- Synonyms: Renunciation, Defection, Withdrawal.
  - Antonyms: Perseverance, Adherence, Fidelity.
  - sentence: The soldier faced serious consequences for his desertion during the battle.

### **IDIOMS AND PHRASES**

11. Death by a thousand cuts: Something is weakened over time.
12. Go through the roof: A significant increase in something.
13. Go south: A decrease or decline in something.
14. Worn down: Being gradually weakened or exhausted through prolonged use.
15. Wipe out: To completely eliminate or destroy something

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**19<sup>th</sup> April, 2024**

1. World Heritage Day, also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites, is observed annually on April 18.
  - This year, the theme of World Heritage Day is 'Discover and Experience Diversity'.
2. The British government proposed a landmark smoking ban to prevent young people from starting to smoke. The bill aims to make it illegal to sell tobacco products to individuals born after January 1, 2009.
3. ISRO launched a mission called PSLV-C58/XPoSat and made sure it left no debris in space. It did this by turning the last stage of the rocket into a small space station called POEM-3 (PSLV Orbital Experimental Module-3).
  - Instead of leaving it to float in space, they let it come back into the Earth's atmosphere after the mission was completed.
  - In a remarkable display of cutting-edge space technology, India is set to launch the European Space Agency's (ESA) revolutionary Proba-3 mission in September 2024.
4. India and the US plan to restart the Indian Ocean Observing System (IndOOS), a network of 36 buoys stationed in the high seas. These buoys will collect detailed data on ocean and atmospheric conditions to help improve weather forecasts.

5. Alia Bhatt's inclusion in TIME Magazine's '100 Most Influential People of 2024' underscores her remarkable ascent as a global icon. Renowned director Tom Harper, lauding her as a "truly international star," highlights her multifaceted talent and magnetic presence both on and off-screen.
6. Central Government has entrusted IAS officer Saurabh Garg with the additional charge of Secretary of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
7. After Bengaluru, Chennai residents are facing the worrying prospect of a water crisis as summer heat intensifies - Veeranam Lake, one of the city's primary water sources, has already run dry. The water storage in Veeranam Lake was recorded at zero million cubic feet (mcft) on April 15, 2024.
8. Indonesian rescuers raced to evacuate thousands of people Thursday after a volcano erupted five times, forcing authorities to close a nearby airport and issue a warning about falling debris that could cause a tsunami.
9. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Thursday successfully tested the Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.

- "During the test, the missile performance was monitored by several Range Sensors like Radar, Electro Optical Tracking System (EOTS), and Telemetry deployed by ITR at different locations to ensure complete coverage of the flight path.

**10.** Australian skipper Pat Cummins and England allrounder Nat Sciver-Brunt have been named as the Wisden Leading Cricketers in the World in the 2024 edition of Wisden Cricketers' Almanack.