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VOCABULARY

1. Threadbare: Something that is worn out.
 - Synonyms: Tattered, Frayed, Ragged, Shabby.
 - Antonyms: Pristine, Immaculate, Spotless, Intact.
 - sentence: The old rug was so threadbare that you could see the floor beneath it.

2. Reiterate: Repeating something that has already been said or done.
 - Synonyms: Restate, Reaffirm, Recap, Reassert.
 - Antonyms: Revise, Amend, Redefine, Reframe.
 - sentence: I will reiterate the plan one more time before we proceed.

3. Ascribing: Assigning or giving credit for a particular trait or action.
 - Synonyms: Attributing, Accrediting, Associating, Crediting.
 - Antonyms: Disclaiming, Renouncing, Disowning, Refusing.
 - sentence: He was ascribing his recent achievements to his mentor's guidance.

4. Prosaic: Something that is dull or ordinary.
 - Synonyms: Mundane, Boring, Routine, Pedestrian.
 - Antonyms: Eccentric, Extraordinary, Exotic, Unique.
 - sentence: The meeting was rather prosaic, lacking any exciting or innovative idea.

5. Perplexing: Something that is confusing or difficult to understand.

- Synonyms: Puzzling, Baffling, Bewildering, Disconcerting.
- Antonyms: Obvious, Lucid, Intelligible, Straightforward.
- sentence: The mysterious disappearance of the keys was perplexing.

6. Rebound: A recovery or resurgence following a decline.

- Synonyms: Revival, Upturn, Renewal, Improvement.
- Antonyms: Downturn, Recession, Contraction, Reduction.
- sentence: The rebound in consumer spending boosted confidence in the economy.

7. Benevolent: Someone or something that is kind.

- Synonyms: Generous, Charitable, Philanthropic, Altruistic.
- Antonyms: Malevolent, Miserly, Callous, Stingy.
- sentence: She had a benevolent smile that warmed everyone's hearts.

8. Reluctant: Someone who is unwilling to do something.

- Synonyms: Hesitant, Resistant, Wary, Averse.
- Antonyms: Enthusiastic, Amenable, Eager, Accepting.
- sentence: Despite her reluctance, she eventually agreed to attend the party with her friends.

9. Flagging: Becoming less energetic or enthusiastic.
- Synonyms: Waning, Ebbing, Tapering, Slacking.
 - Antonyms: Energizing, Strengthening, Reviving.
 - sentence: The flagging energy of the team affected their performance in the second half.
10. Reticent: Someone who is reserved or hesitant to speak.
- Synonyms: Taciturn, Quiet, Silent, Introverted.
 - Antonyms: Talkative, Garrulous, Loquacious, Vocal.
 - sentence: She was reticent about sharing her personal experiences with strangers.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

11. Uphill task: something that is very difficult.
12. Without any ifs and buts: Being straightforward or decisive without any hesitation.
13. Silver lining: a ray of hope or positive aspect in a difficult situation.
14. Ramp up: To increase or raise something.
15. Scaling down: the action of reducing the size or scope of something.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

13th May, 2024

1. The 5th Joint Group of Customs (JGC) meeting between India and Bhutan was held on 6th-7th May, 2024 in Leh, Ladakh. The meeting was cochaired by Mr. Surjit Bhujabal, Special Secretary and Member (Customs), Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Government of India, and Mr. Sonam Jamtsho, Director General, Department of Revenue and Customs, Ministry of Finance, Royal Government of Bhutan.
2. Two temple administration boards in Kerala have banned the use of 'arali' (oleander) flower in the offerings to the deity (naivedyam) as well as in food given to devotees as 'prasadam' in the backdrop of concerns over the toxic content in it, people familiar with the matter said.
3. At 77th edition of the Cannes film festival India will host Bharat Parv.
 - The official poster and trailer of the 55th India International Film Festival, to be held in Goa from November 20 to 28, will also be unveiled at the Bharat Parv.
 - Bharat Parv will also see the release of the 'Save the Date' for the 1st World Audio-Visual and Entertainment Summit.

4. Pawan Sindhi was bestowed with Global Pride of Sindhi Award 2024. The occasion celebrated Mr. Sindhi's remarkable contributions to society and his dedication to serving humanity.
5. The United Nations General Assembly supported a Palestinian bid for full U.N. membership on May 10. The General Assembly recommended the U.N. Security Council to reconsider the matter favorably.
 - The vote reflected global support for the Palestinian bid after the U.S. vetoed it in the Security Council the previous month.
 - The resolution passed with 143 votes in favor, 9 against (including the U.S. and Israel), and 25 abstentions.
 - This resolution doesn't grant full U.N. membership to Palestine but acknowledges its qualification to join.
6. World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) is an annual global campaign that aims to raise awareness about the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats.
 - This year, World Migratory Bird Day will be celebrated on two dates: Saturday, 11 May 2024, and Saturday, 12-October 2024, to align with the cyclic patterns of bird migration in different hemispheres.

- The theme for World Migratory Bird Day 2024 is “Insects”. This year’s campaign will focus on highlighting the vital role that insects play in the lives of migratory birds. It will also emphasize the concerns surrounding the declining populations of insects and the potential impact it could have on these feathered travelers.

7. The United Nations General Assembly has declared May 25 of every year to celebrate World Football Day.

- This was followed by a United Nations General Assembly resolution on Tuesday, May 7 to allow football fans to celebrate the most popular sport in the world.

8. India becomes 1st country in world to build 100km in 100hour.