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VOCABULARY

1. Succour: help or sympathy given to somebody who is suffering or has problems
 - Synonyms: Aid, Assistance, Help, Support, Relief
 - Antonyms : Neglect, Abandonment , Negligence, Desertion, Disregard
 - Sentence: The humanitarian organization provided succour to the victims of the natural Adisaster by distributing food and medical supplies.

2. Deceive: to make someone believe something that is not true
 - Synonyms :Mislead, Cheat, Dupe, Trick, Defraud
 - Antonyms : Enlighten, Inform, Guide, Clarify, Truthful
 - Sentence: She tried to deceive him by promising something she couldn't deliver.

3. Spectrum: a range of different positions, opinions, etc. between two extreme points
 - Synonyms: Range, Array, Scale, Scope, Variety
 - Antonyms : Singular, Individual, Unit, One-dimensional, Limited Sentence: The political spectrum ranges from extreme left to extreme right, encompassing a wide variety of ideologies.

4. Acceleration: the act or process of moving faster or happening more quickly

- Synonyms: Speed-up, Quickening, Increase, Escalation, Augmentation
- Antonyms :Deceleration, Slowdown, Retardation, Decrease, Slowing
- Sentence:The car experienced a sudden acceleration as the driver pressed down on the gas pedal.

5. Preceding : occurring immediately before in time or place

- Synonyms: Previous, Prior, Antecedent, Former, Precedent
- Antonyms : Subsequent, Following, Succeeding, Later
- Sentence: The preceding chapter provides important background information for understanding the current situation.

6. Counterparts: (a person or thing that has the same position

- Synonyms: Peers, Colleagues, Equals, Companions, Associates
- Antonyms :Opposites, Adversaries, Foes, Enemies, Rivals
- Sentence:The marketing team in the New York office works closely with their counterparts in the London office to coordinate global campaigns.

7. Sizzling: hot enough to burn with

- Synonyms : Scorching, Roasting, Sweltering, Blistering, Burning
- Antonyms : Cool, Chilled, Cold, Freezing, Frigid
- Sentence: The sizzling heat of the summer made it unbearable to stay outside for too long.

8. Expenditure: Expenses

- Synonyms: Spending, Outlay, Expense, Cost, Disbursement
- Antonyms : Saving, Conservation, Thriftiness, Economizing, Frugality
- Sentence : The company decided to cut down on its expenditure by reducing unnecessary expenses.

9. Cereals: Grain that can be eaten

- Synonyms : Grains, Staples, Crops, Corn, Wheat
- Antonyms: Non-cereal, Non-grain, Non-staple
- Sentence: Cereals like wheat, rice, and corn are essential components of many diets around the world.

10. Steeper : having an almost vertical slope or pitch

- Synonyms: More vertical, More precipitous, More inclined, More abrupt, More slanted
- Antonyms: Shallower, Gradual, Gentle, Leveler, Flatter
- Sentence: The path became steeper as they climbed higher up the mountain.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

11. Under the weather: Feeling ill / Getting a cold
12. Getting cold feet: Becoming nervous
13. Kill two birds with a stone: Achieve two results by doing one thing
14. Apple of my eye: Used to refer to someone whom you are very fond of or like
15. Set the record straight: To reveal the truth / To clarify

CURRENT AFFAIRS

15th May, 2024

1. Egypt has issued a stern warning to Israel, threatening to nullify the historic Camp David Accords if Israel proceeds with its invasion of Rafah, as reported by Israeli media. This threat comes amidst escalating tensions over Israel's ongoing military operation in Rafah, with the United States reportedly escalating its warnings to Israel regarding its actions in the region.
2. India is soon expected to sign a 10-year management agreement for Chabahar Port in Iran. This development is part of India's strategic effort to enhance connectivity with Afghanistan, Central Asia, and the broader Eurasian region. Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal is scheduled to attend the signing ceremony in Iran.
3. Mount Ibu, a volcano in Indonesia's North Maluku province, erupted on Monday, spewing thick grey ash and dark clouds 5,000 meters (16,400 feet) into the sky for five minutes, officials said.
 - "The volcanic earthquakes are still intense so there is a potential for a future eruption," Hendra Gunawan, chief of the Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation said.
4. The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd to conduct two Pilot Projects under the Drone Didi Yojana.

5. Senior BJP leader Sushil Modi died at Delhi's All-India Institute of Medical Sciences Monday evening. The 72- year-old was battling cancer and was admitted in the intensive care unit of AIIMS for the last one month.
6. Pakistan's CubeSat, launched as part of China's Chang'e-6 mission, has achieved a major milestone by sending back its first images of the sun and moon from lunar orbit.
 - The images were unveiled during a ceremony at the China National Space Agency (CNSA) to celebrate the successful mission.
7. Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana of India is among 20 items of the Asia Pacific region which has been included in the 2024 cycle of the 'UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register'.
8. A voter turnout of more than 36 per cent took place in the redrawn Srinagar Lok Sabha seat without any untoward incident on Monday, the highest since 1996 when the constituency in Jammu and Kashmir recorded nearly 41 per cent polling.

- 9.** Son of a Haryana farmer Parvej Khan has shown his mettle by winning the Gold medal at the SEC championships on May 11. Parvej clinched the yellow metal in the 1500m race with a timing of 3:42.73s in Louisiana.
- 10.** India debuts its 1st professional pickleball league, WPBL, initiated by Natekar Sports & Gaming and SETVI to boost the sport.
- Pickleball has been one of the fastest-growing sports in India since 2008.
 - With over 30,000 amateurs and 8,000 registered players, pickleball's growth targets 1 million players in India within five years.
 - Arvind Prabhoo: President of All India Pickleball Federation