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VOCABULARY

1. **Underscore:** To highlight the importance of something.
 - Synonyms: Emphasize, Accentuate, Stress, Reinforce.
 - Antonyms: Minimize, Downplay, Diminish, Ignore.
 - sentence: The manager underscored the need for teamwork in achieving the project's goals.

2. **Vicious:** Something that is severe in a negative way.
 - Synonyms: Brutal, Malicious, Ruthless, Ferocious.
 - Antonyms: Benevolent, Gentle, Friendly, Peaceful.
 - sentence: Her vicious comment left a lasting sting.

3. **Hypocrisy:** The practice of claiming to have moral beliefs to which one's own behavior does not conform.
 - Synonyms: Deceit, Falseness, Phoniness, Pretense.
 - Antonyms: Truthfulness, Authenticity, Sincerity.
 - sentence: The politician's hypocrisy angered many of his constituents.

4. **Accusation:** Charges or claims that someone has done something wrong.
 - Synonyms: Allegation, Indictment, Insinuation.
 - Antonyms: Exoneration, Vindication, Acquittal.
 - sentence: The accusations against him proved to be unfounded.

- 5. Bolstered:** To strengthen something.
- Synonyms: Supported, Fortified, Backed, Reinforced.
 - Antonyms: Undermined, Debilitated, Hindered, Weakened.
 - sentence: The new evidence bolstered the prosecution's case against the suspect.
- 6. Proxy:** A person or thing that acts on behalf of another person or entity.
- Synonyms: Intermediary, Substitute, Surrogate, Representative.
 - Antonyms: Superior, Primary, Source, Original.
 - sentence: She appointed her sister as her proxy to vote on her behalf at the meeting.
- 7. Abundant:** Something that is present in large quantities.
- Synonyms: Plentiful, Ample, Copious, Prolific.
 - Antonyms: Meager, Sparse, Deficient, Limited.
 - sentence: The garden was abundant with ripe tomatoes and vibrant flowers.
- 8. Interpretation:** To explain the significance or intention of something.
- Synonyms: Elucidation, Clarification, Exposition.
 - Antonyms: Ambiguity, Obscurity, Ignorance.
 - sentence: His interpretation of the poem brought new insights to its meaning.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

9. In the heat of the moment: Actions or decisions made impulsively during a conflict.
10. Pull the strings: To control or manipulate events or people behind the scenes.
11. Call the shots: To be in charge or to make the important decisions in a situation.
12. Veer into: To suddenly change direction, often implying a deviation from the original plan.
13. Doubled down: To intensify one's efforts or commitment to a particular course of action.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

1st May, 2024

1. Dubai is embarking on an ambitious endeavor to construct the world's largest airport, Al Maktoum International Airport, boasting an unprecedented capacity to accommodate 260 million passengers annually, with 400 terminal gates and five parallel runways.
 - Spearheaded by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the project signifies Dubai's commitment to innovation and global connectivity.
2. The Gender Report of the Global Education Monitoring 2024 has recently been released by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
 - The title of this report is "Technology on her Terms".
3. Chhattisgarh's environmental activist and convenor of Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan Alok Shukla has been selected for the 2024 Goldman Environmental Prize. The Goldman Environmental Prize, also popularly known as the Green Nobel Prize, is awarded annually to grassroots environmental champions worldwide.

- 4.** Noted Hindi film superstars Hema Malini and Saira Banu, along with other prominent personalities from the fields of art and culture, will be honoured with the prestigious Pandit Lacchu Maharaj Award. The award ceremony will take place on 31 August 2024 in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- 5.** Zoya Mirza, hailing from Durg district, Chhattisgarh, made history by becoming a commissioned lieutenant doctor in the Indian Army after completing her MBBS at AFMC.
 - She achieved this feat by clearing the MBBS degree at the Armed Forces Medical College in 2023-24. The college has a higher cut-off for girls than for boys. Her journey reflects resilience, determination, and a strong commitment to serving her nation.
- 6.** International Labour Day, observed annually on May 1st, is a global tribute to the invaluable contributions of workers and the ongoing struggles of the working class.
- 7.** Ayushman Bharat Diwas is celebrated annually on April 30 to raise awareness about the Ayushman Bharat Yojana and its goals. This year, it falls on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. The day was established by the government to highlight the scheme's objective of providing better access to affordable and quality healthcare services, especially for the underprivileged.

- 8.** Indian men's recurve team of Dhiraj Bommadevara, Tarundeep Rai and Pravin Jadhav shocked reigning Olympic champions South Korea in a historic win to land an Archery World Cup gold medal after 14 years, in Shanghai on April 28

 - This is Indian men's recurve team's maiden triumph over the archery powerhouse in a World Cup final, and it will boost their chances of securing a berth in the upcoming Paris Olympics.
- 9.** India's Velavan Senthilkumar won his eighth Professional Squash Association (PSA) Tour title yesterday by winning the Batch Open, a PSA Challenger event, at the Societe Sportive du Jeu de Paume in Paris.

 - World No. 58 Senthilkumar, the top seed, beat Frenchman Melvil Scianimanico 11-6, 11-9, 11-6 to clinch the title.
- 10.** Uganda appoints former Delhi Cricketer Abhaya Sharma As head coach of the men's team for the T20 world cup 2024.