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## VOCABULARY

1. Rejoinder: A quick response.

- Synonyms: Reply, Answer, Counterargument.
- Antonyms: Silence, Ignorance, Indifference, Disregard.
- sentence: Her quick rejoinder silenced the room.

2. Obstructing: The act of blocking movement.

- Synonyms: Hindering, Impeding, Thwarting, Hampering.
- Antonyms: Facilitating, Fostering, Aiding, Enabling.
- sentence: The fallen trees obstructing the road, causing a delay in our journey.

3. Stipulated: To demand as a condition of a contract.

- Synonyms: Specified, Mandated, Required, Prescribed.
- Antonyms: Optional, Voluntary, Flexible, Arbitrary.
- sentence: The contract stipulated that the project must be completed within six months.

4. Breakthrough: A significant development that advances knowledge in a particular field.

- Synonyms: Discovery, Milestone, Achievement, Innovation.
- Antonyms: Stagnation, Impasse, Deadlock, Stalemate.
- sentence: The scientist made a breakthrough in their research.

5. Vanquished: To defeat thoroughly in a battle or competition.
- Synonyms: Conquered, Subjugated, Overpowered, Subdued.
  - Antonyms: Champion, Winner, Victorious, Superior.
  - sentence: The hero vanquished the villain with a swift strike.
6. Blip: A temporary and minor deviation from the norm.
- Synonyms: Anomaly, Disturbance, Irregularity, Glitch.
  - Antonyms: Normality, Regularity, Constant, Consistency.
  - sentence: The stock market experienced a brief blip yesterday before returning to its upward trend.
7. Bulldozed: Forcefully pushing through obstacles.
- Synonyms: Coerced, Compelled, Intimidated, Pressured.
  - Antonyms: Persuaded, Negotiated, Coordinated, Collaborated.
  - sentence: The protesters felt bulldozed by the sudden decision to demolish their neighborhood.
8. Vested: Having a significant personal interest.
- Synonyms: Entrenched, Assured, Firm, Fixed.
  - Antonyms: Unconcerned, Indifferent, Uninvolved, Uninterested.
  - sentence: Despite his vested interest in the project, he remained impartial in his decision-making.

- 9. Stocktaking:** The process of counting and evaluating the inventory.
- Synonyms: Stock audit, Stock assessment, Inventory inspection.
  - Antonyms: Stock expansion, Stock proliferation, Stock accumulation.
  - sentence: We need to do a quick stocktaking to see if we have enough supplies for the event.
- 10. Vitiate:** To impair the quality or efficiency of something.
- Synonyms: Spoil, Ruin, Degrade, Undermine.
  - Antonyms: Strengthen, Bolster, Enhance, Fortify.
  - sentence: The misleading information served to vitiate the credibility of the entire report.

### IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 11. Crying foul:** To complain about something, often when one believes there is unfairness.
- 12. Leave no room for :** To eliminate the possibility of something happening.
- 13. Hold in a good stead:** To be useful or helpful to someone or something.
- 14. Mark out:** To indicate or designate something by making marks or boundaries.

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

7<sup>th</sup> May, 2024

1. The United Nation's First International Conference on Digital Public Infrastructure was held under India's leadership to harness the technology to propel Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and foster inclusivity, India's Permanent Representative to UN, Ruchira Kamboj said in a press statement.
2. As artificial intelligence (AI) technology takes the industries by storm, the world has got its first AID diplomat who will represent Ukraine. The Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs introduced Victoria Shi –an AI-generated spokesperson, marking the first use of an AI avatar for official government statements in history.
3. Flying Wedge Defence, a city based defence and aerospace technology firm on Friday unveiled the FWD-200B unmanned aircraft.
  - The firm claimed that it is India's first indigenous bomber unmanned aircraft.
4. American Express is set to open its state-of-the-art campus in India, spanning 1 million sq ft of space, highlighting the company's commitment to expanding its presence in the region.

5. In a significant stride towards preserving India's rich textile heritage, the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs, and Trademarks (CGPDTM) has bestowed the Geographical Indication (GI) certificate upon the traditional artisans of 'Kutch Ajrakh,' hailing from the vibrant region of Kutch in Gujarat.
6. Koovagam, a tiny village 30 km from Villupuram, is a popular destination for transgender celebrations, drawing spectators from all over India.
7. The Indian Army and the Air Force are planning to jointly deploy MQ-9B Predator drones at two key air bases for upgrading their surveillance capabilities all along the Line of Actual Control with China from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh.
8. Retired Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra has been appointed as the President of the Goods & Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) by the Centre.
9. China secured its 16th Uber Cup championship by defeating Indonesia with a score of 3-0 in Chengdu on Sunday. The tournament was held in China for the first time since 2016, and the host nation was heavily favoured to win after losing to South Korea in the previous final two years ago.

10. Mumbai City FC stunned home-favourite Mohun Bagan Super Giant 3-1 to win its second Indian Super League (ISL) 2023-24 final at the Salt Lake Stadium.
11. ICC appoints Javagal Srinath as match referee for T20 World cup 2024.
12. IIT Madras launches India's 1<sup>st</sup> Mobile facility for medical devices calibration.
  - This innovation project has been developed as part of the 'Annaivarukkum IITM' (IITM for all) initiative.