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VOCABULARY

1. **Explicit:** Stated clearly and in detail, leaving no room for confusion or doubt.
 - Synonyms: Clear, direct, unambiguous
 - Antonyms: Implicit, vague, ambiguous
 - Sentence: The instructions were explicit, making it easy for everyone to understand the process.
2. **Prevalent:** Widespread in a particular area or at a particular time.
 - Synonyms: Common, widespread, ubiquitous
 - Antonyms: Rare, uncommon, infrequent
 - Sentence: The use of smartphones has become prevalent in modern society.
3. **Overhaul:** A thorough examination and repair of something.
 - Synonyms: Renovation, refurbishment, reorganization
 - Antonyms: Neglect, damage, destruction
 - Sentence: The company decided to overhaul its outdated computer system to improve efficiency.
4. **Demoting:** To reduce to a lower rank or grade.
 - Synonyms: Downgrading, declassifying, reassigning
 - Antonyms: Promoting, elevating, advancing
 - Sentence: Due to his repeated mistakes, he was demoted from manager to assistant.

5. Lacerations: Deep cuts or tears in skin or flesh.

- Synonyms: Gashes, cuts, wounds
- Antonyms: Healing, repair
- Sentence: The animal suffered severe lacerations from the sharp rocks.

6. Non-consensual: Not agreed to by all parties involved; without consent.

- Synonyms: Unwilling, unapproved, forced
- Antonyms: Consensual, voluntary, agreed
- Sentence: Non-consensual sharing of personal images is a violation of privacy and can have serious legal consequences.

7. Smother: To cover someone or something entirely with a substance, often preventing air from getting through.

- Synonyms: Suffocate, choke, stifle
- Antonyms: Uncover, expose, ventilate
- Sentence: The fire was smothered quickly with a blanket.

8. Insidious: Proceeding in a gradual, subtle way, but with harmful effects.

- Synonyms: Cunning, stealthy, treacherous
- Antonyms: Harmless, straightforward, sincere
- Sentence: The insidious spread of the disease went unnoticed until it had affected a large portion of the population.

9. Mitigating: Making less severe, serious, or painful.

- Synonyms: Alleviating, reducing, easing
- Antonyms: Aggravating, intensifying, worsening
- Sentence: Mitigating factors were considered during the trial to reduce the defendant's sentence.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

10. Cool as a cucumber: Very calm and composed
11. Down in the dumps: Feeling depressed
12. Queer the pitch: Spoil a plan
13. Vanish into thin air: Disappear completely
14. Hit the books: Start studying seriously

CURRENT AFFAIRS

3rd August, 2024

1. The Assam government is gearing up for a grand Jhumur dance performance featuring 8,000 tea tribe artists this November.
 - Jhumur, also known as Jhumair, is a traditional folk dance performed by the tea tribe communities of Assam and parts of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh.
 - Primarily performed during the harvest season and festivals like Karam Puja and Tushu Puja.
2. The 4th edition of the Rashtriya Hindi Vigyan Sammelan 2024 was held in the Madhya Pradesh capital, Bhopal, on 30 and 31 July 2024. The Rashtriya Hindi Vigyan Sammelan's main purpose is to provide a platform for researchers to present and discuss their work in Hindi, enrich science and technology-based research in Hindi and popularise science and technology through Hindi medium.
 - The conference featured six sessions on diverse topics of Science, Technology, Ayurveda, Engineering, and Science Communication.

3. On July 30, 2024, devastating landslides occurred in Wayanad district, Kerala, India. These landslides resulted in more than 276 deaths and over 200 injuries, making them the deadliest landslides in Kerala's history.
- Wayanad, a hilly district in the Western Ghats mountain range, is prone to landslides during the monsoon season. Despite alerts issued by the district administration, some residents stayed in their houses, leading to tragic consequences. The affected villages include Mundakkai, Attamala, Chooralmala, and Kunhome.
 - Rescue operations were hindered by strong river currents and heavy rains, but relief teams, including the Indian Army, worked tirelessly to assist those affected.
4. India and Vietnam have partnered to develop the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) in Lothal, Gujarat, reflecting their deep maritime connections. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed at Hyderabad House in New Delhi marks a significant step in this collaborative effort, which aims to preserve and celebrate the shared maritime heritage of both nations.

5. India held onto its position as the world's eighth-largest exporter of agricultural products in 2023, despite a decline in exports from \$55 billion in 2022 to \$51 billion. This stability comes amid a general decrease in agricultural exports among seven of the top ten exporting nations.
6. India will host its first multinational air exercise, 'Tarang Shakti 2024', in two phases starting on the 6th August 2024 in Sular, Tamil Nadu. In this exercise, nearly 30 countries will participate, and out of 30, ten countries will join the exercise with their fighter aircraft. The exercise will showcase India's defence prowess and provide a platform for participating militaries to foster interoperability.
 - The first phase is to be held in Sular, Tamil Nadu, from 6th to 14th August, and the second phase in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, from 29th August to 14th September. 10 countries, including Australia, Bangladesh, France, Germany, Greece, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the USA, and Singapore, will join the exercise with their aircraft, and 18 countries will attend as observers.
 - India's fighter aircraft, including Tejas, Rafale, Mirage 2000, Jaguar, MIG 29 aircraft, and more, will take part in the exercise.

7. The GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums) Division of the Union Ministry of Culture has orchestrated a significant three-day event in New Delhi from August 1-3, 2024.

- The 'State Museum Conclave on the upcoming Yuga Yugeen Bharat Museum' marks a pivotal moment in India's cultural landscape, bringing together key stakeholders to discuss the ambitious project of creating the world's largest museum in the heart of the nation's capital.

8. KIIT Deemed to be University has been granted the distinguished Special Consultative Status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC), a recognition of the university's significant contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- Selected from a pool of 476 global applications, KIIT is one of only 19 organizations to receive this honor. The status was conferred during the UN ECOSOC management segment meeting on July 23, 2024, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

- 9.** India has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the secondlargest aluminium producer globally. This achievement underscores the country's growing industrial capabilities and its strategic importance in the global aluminium market. The nation's aluminium production capacity has surged due to increased investments in the sector and the adoption of advanced technologies.
- 10.** In a discovery that reads like celestial fiction, astronomers have uncovered evidence of a "vampire star" rejuvenating itself by feeding on a companion star in the "M67" star cluster.