

PRACTICE

MOCK



The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary

MAY 2020



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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 31, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
take cognisance of	to understand
plight	difficult or unfortunate situation
unrelenting	not becoming less severe
suo motu	an action taken by a court of its own accord, without any request by the parties involved
leave in lurch	to leave in an uncomfortable or desperate situation
self-effacement	the quality of not claiming attention for oneself
self-abnegation	self-denial
set off	to start
stem	to originate
fallout	the adverse side effects or results of a situation
call somebody out	summon somebody to deal with an emergency
abdication	failure to fulfil a duty
stellar	of an extremely high standard
denounce	to criticize someone or something strongly and publicly

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 30, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
distract	divert attention
ostentatious	intended to attract admiration or notice
peaceable	peaceful
ill-defined	not clearly explained
shoving	to push someone or something forcefully
contested	an attempt to win or to get power
rhetoric	speech or writing that is effective and persuasive
fraying	a fight or argument
ramping	a large increase in activity
ostensibly	(in a way that appears or claims to be one thing when it is really something else)
slew	to turn
precedence	the fact that something is more important than other things

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 29, 2020

Difficult Word/Phrase	Contextual Meaning
salvage	rescue from loss
throes	intense struggle
spate	a large number of similar events occurring in quick succession
free fall	the process of failing quickly and continuously
forbearance	restraint and tolerance
prop up	to give support to
bulwark	something that protects you from unpleasant situations
slip by	to pass quickly
prognosis	the likely course of an ailment
hedge	to protect oneself against financial loss or other adverse circumstances
on the back foot	in a worse situation than other people or groups

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 28, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
rising tide	an increase in the amount or strength of something, especially something that you must oppose
water cannon	a device that ejects a powerful jet of water, typically used to disperse a crowd.
stun	shock
table	present formally for discussion or consideration at a meeting
autonomy	the right of self-government
adjudication	make a formal judgement on a disputed matter
bedrock	the fundamental principles on which something is based
seeditious	inciting or causing people to rebel against the authority of a state
curb	keep in check
stack	If someone in authority stacks an organization or body, they fill it with their own supporters so that the decisions it makes will be the ones they want it to make

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 27, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
quagmire	a difficult situation
perilously	full of risk
acerbic	sharp and forthright
draw closer	approach
hazard	risk
mollify	to soothe in temper
concertedly	done in cooperation
savage	very large and severe
roil	annoy or irritate
bilateral	involving two parties
bungling	carry out a task clumsily
torrid	full of difficulty
at large	in general

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 26, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
reckless	without thinking or caring about the consequences of an action
indiscriminate	done at random or without careful judgment
quash	to reject
invoke	to use a law in order to achieve something
impulsive	done without forethought
throttling	controlling
threshold	the magnitude or intensity that must be exceeded for a certain reaction, phenomenon, result, or condition to occur or be manifested
scrutinise	examine or inspect closely and thoroughly
imputation	accusation
enunciate	say clearly
strike a blow for something	to do something to help an idea

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 25, 2020

Difficult Words/ Phrases	Contextual Meaning
supplement	add an extra amount to
extensive	covering a large area
procurement	the action of obtaining something
languish	suffer from being forced to remain in an unpleasant place or situation
bottom of the economic pyramid	the poorest two-thirds of the economic human pyramid; people living in abject poverty
palliative	something that makes a problem seem less serious but does not solve the problem or make it disappear
toe the line	accept the authority, policies, or principles of a particular group, especially unwillingly
render	make
vulnerability	the state of being exposed to the possibility of being harmed
morbidity	the condition of being diseased

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 24, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase/ Term	Contextual Meaning/ Definition
casualties	a person killed or injured
pummel	hit repeatedly
ravaging	to cause great damage
credible	able to be believed or trusted
vulnerable	able to be easily attacked
trauma	severe emotional shock and pain
obligations	a legal or moral duty to do something

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 23, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase/ Term	Contextual Meaning/ Definition
play out	to develop in a particular way
step up to the plate	take action in response to an opportunity or crisis
repo rate	the rate at which commercial banks borrow money by selling their securities to the Central bank of our country i.e Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to

	maintain liquidity, in case of shortage of funds or due to some statutory measures
shave off	to remove something in small amounts
reverse repo rate	the rate at which the Reserve Bank of India borrows funds from the commercial banks in the country
nadir	the lowest point
on the anvil	in a formative but immature or unready state; being prepared, discussed, planned, etc., but not yet ready
pat on the back	praise
moratorium	a temporary prohibition of an activity
take to	like
working capital	the capital of a business which is used in its day-to-day trading operations, calculated as the current assets minus the current liabilities
daunting	intimidating
crank up	get started

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 22, 2020

Word/Phrase	Contextual Meaning
surplus	excess
complacency	feeling of calm satisfaction with your own abilities or situation
deteriorating	to become worse
depreciating	to lose value
forex	foreign exchange
war-chest	a large amount of money that a company or a government keeps for a particular purpose
merchandise	goods that are bought and sold
discretionary	decided by officials and not fixed by rules
remittances	act of sending payment to someone
diaspora	the scattering of people from their original country to other places
expedient	helpful or useful in a particular situation
flip-flops	to change a plan completely

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 21, 2020

Word/Phrase	Contextual Meaning
shun	persistently avoid, ignore
crisis	time of intense difficulty or danger
pronouncements	an official announcement
enumeration	the act of naming things separately
ensued	to happen after something else, esp. as a result of it
stranded	left without the means to move from somewhere
inevitably	in a way that cannot be avoided
defy	openly resist or refuse to obey
unambiguous	expressed in a way that makes it completely clear what is meant

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 20, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
stimulus	something that causes growth or activity
suspension	the act of stopping something happening, operating, etc. for a period of time
insolvency	the condition of not having enough money to pay debts, buy goods, etc
steep haircuts	haircut refers to a reduction applied to the value of an asset
breather	a short rest
dilapidated	in bad condition
grappling	to fight
delinquencies	an action that is illegal or not acceptable
cushion the impact	soften an impact
moratoriums	a stopping of an activity for an agreed amount of time
liquidity	the fact of being available in the form of money
mitigate	to make something less harmful
looming	about to happen soon
aversion	unwillingness to do something
collateral-free	a loan provided to the borrower without any

loans	guarantee
recapitalisation	company getting more capital
battered	damaged

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 19, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
adequately	to a satisfactory or acceptable extent
overwhelmingly	strongly or completely
infusion	the act of adding one thing to another
prospect	the possibility that something good might happen in the future
unveil	show it or make it known for the first time
perusal	the action of reading through something
egregiously	extreme, beyond any reasonable degree
serialised	to arrange something in a series
fleeing	to escape by running away

MGNREGA	The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
alleviating	to make pain or problems less severe
fiscal	connected with public money
orientation	arrangement or direction
reiterated	to say something again, once or several times
prudence	behaviour that is careful and avoids risks

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 18, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
surpass	exceed
contrary	opposite in nature
testimony	proof
peak	reach the highest point
sentinel	an indicator of the presence of disease
asymptomatic	showing no symptom
resurgence	an increase or revival after a period of little activity

surveillance	close observation
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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 17, 2020

Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
porous	not retentive or secure
controversy	a lot of disagreement or argument about something
clutch	to hold or try to hold something tightly
surveillance	careful watching of a person or place
sponsored	to support a person, organization, or activity by giving money
aplenty	available in large amounts
violation	an action that breaks or acts against something
self-evident	clear or obvious
counterproductive	having an effect that is opposite to the one intended or wanted

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 16, 2020

Difficult Words/ Phrases/ Abbreviation	Contextual Meaning/ Full Form
zeal	great enthusiasm
dwindling	gradually diminishing
stagnation	the state of not moving
mandating	making something compulsory
TASMAC	The Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation (TASMAC) is a company owned by the Government of Tamil Nadu, which has a monopoly over wholesale and retail vending of alcoholic beverages in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu
appalling	causing shock
go-by	ignore disdainfully
spiralling	show a continuous and dramatic increase
reel under	to struggle to deal with some oppressive or difficult burden or responsibility
cluster	a group of similar things or people positioned or occurring closely together
sound	based on reason, sense, or judgement
ring true	seems to be true

cut into	interrupt the course of
live up to	fulfil

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 15, 2020

Difficult Word/Phrase	Contextual Meaning
succour	assistance and support in times of hardship and distress
travails	work especially of a painful or laborious nature
arduous	involving strenuous effort
explicit	stated clearly and in detail, leaving no room for confusion or doubt
fragile	easily damaged
stationed	to place in a position
beneficiaries	a person who derives advantage from something
sparingly	in an infrequent manner
near-universal	existing nearly everywhere or involving almost everyone
crux	the most important point

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 14, 2020

Difficult Word/Phrase	Contextual Meaning
tranche	portion
existential	relating to existence
collateral-free	without anything pledged as security for repayment of a loan, to be forfeited in the event of a default
crank up	increase
sovereign credit guarantee	a promise by the Government to discharge the liability of a third person in case of his default
dull	lacking interest or excitement
subordinated	used to describe a loan that will be paid back after other loans, if the person borrowing money gets into financial difficulty
logjam	a situation that seems irresolvable
attenuate	reduce the effect of
backstop	act as a support or reinforcement

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 12, 2020

Difficult Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
ethics committee	a body responsible for ensuring that medical experimentation and human subject research are carried out in an ethical manner in accordance with national and international law
hurdle	difficulty
convalescent plasma	People who've recovered from COVID-19 have antibodies to the disease in their blood. Doctors call this convalescent plasma
feasibility study	an analysis that takes all of a project's relevant factors into account—including economic, technical, legal, and scheduling considerations—to ascertain the likelihood of completing the project successfully
efficacy	the ability to produce a desired or intended result
severe	intensely bad
antibody	Y-shaped proteins that are produced by the immune system to help stop intruders from harming the body
randomised	employ random selection or sampling
insistence	the act of demanding something forcefully
cavalier	not considering other people's feelings or safety
prophylaxis	action taken to prevent disease

overwhelmingly	with a great majority
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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 11, 2020

Difficult Words/ Phrases	Contextual Meaning
come to terms	to begin to understand, accept, and deal with a difficult or problematic situation
community transmission	when a disease spreads in the population in such a way that people don't know how they were exposed to the contagion
sentinel	an indicator of the presence of disease
exposure	the state of being exposed to contact with something
stage three	in reference to COVID-19: community transmission
droplet transmission	Droplet transmission occurs when a person is in close contact (within 1 m) with someone who has respiratory symptoms (e.g., coughing or sneezing) and is therefore at risk of having his/her mucosae (mouth and nose) or conjunctiva (eyes) exposed to potentially infective respiratory droplets
contaminated	having been made impure by addition of a poisonous substance
erode	gradually destroy
hotspot	a place of significant danger

antibody	Y-shaped proteins that are produced by the immune system to help stop intruders from harming the body
ELISA test	a test that detects and measures antibodies in your blood
asymptomatic	showing no symptom

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 10, 2020

Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
revival	an improvement in the condition of something
amoral	unconcerned with the rightness or wrongness of something
perverse	having the effect of being the opposite of what is usually considered reasonable
sweeping	making a big difference to a particular situation and affecting a lot of people
embarked	began
ordinance	a law or rule made by a government or authority
assent	approval
wholesale	done on a large scale
egregious	shocking
underclass	the lowest social stratum in a country, consisting of the poor and unemployed

misery	a state of great distress
apathy	lack of interest

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 9, 2020

Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
culpability	considered responsible for something bad
hazardous	dangerous
vicinity	the area immediately surrounding something
stringent	being extremely limiting
liability	the amount of money that a person or organization owes
consented	permission
expeditiously	quickly

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 8, 2020

Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
bodes	to be a sign of something that will happen in the future
volatility	the quality or state of being likely to change suddenly
viable	able to be done
elevated	raised
adornment	something decorative
scrutiny	careful & detailed examination
pandemic	a dangerous disease that infects many people at one time
safe haven assets	financial instrument that is expected to retain, or even gain value during periods of economic downturn
floundering	serious financial or economic problems
inter-depository	Transfer of securities from an account in one depository to an account in another depository

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 7, 2020

Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
ad-hoc	created or done for a particular purpose as necessary
dashed	to hit something with great force, especially causing damage
seldom	almost never
blips	an unexpected and unusual condition that is usually temporary
hefty	large in amount
recalibrate	to change the way you do or think about something
coffers	the financial accounts of a government or an organization
moot	not important
perpetually	very often
tenterhooks	worried or nervous
accustomed	familiar with something
milking	to get as much money or information from something as possible
myriad	very large number of something
lukewarm	not enthusiastic

gratuitous

not necessary

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 6, 2020

Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
precipitated	cause to happen unexpectedly
hinterlands	an area lying beyond what is visible or known
war footing	the condition of being prepared to undertake or maintain war
fiasco	complete failure
deterioration	the process of becoming progressively worse
incurring	become subject to something unwelcome or unpleasant
festering	something that becomes worse
vulnerability	quality of being easily hurt or influenced
mandated	to give official permission for something to happen
conferred	to talk together and exchange ideas
purview	the limit of someone's responsibility
consortium	an organization of several businesses or banks joining together as a group for a shared purpose

herculean task

extremely difficult task

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 5, 2020

Difficult Word/Phrase	Contextual Meaning
combat	take action to reduce or prevent (something bad or undesirable)
involuntary	compulsory
assessment	the evaluation of the nature, quality, or ability of someone or something
sunset clause	a measure within a law, regulation or statute that provides that the law shall cease to have effect after a specific date, unless the law is extended by legislative action
spell out	to explain something in a very clear way with details
surveillance	close observation
abide by	follow
strike down	to declare (a law) illegal and unenforceable
spark	to cause the start of something, especially an argument
heed	take notice of

allay	put to rest
anonymising	not identifying by name

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 4, 2020

Difficult Words/ Phrases	Contextual Meaning
fiscal	relating to government revenue, especially taxes
stimulus	something that causes growth or activity
pre-emptive	done before someone else can act
deficits	the amount by which money spent is more than money received
standstill	a condition in which all movement or activity has stopped
overshooting	to go past or beyond a limit
resuscitating	make something active or vigorous again
stringency	the quality of being very strict, severe
underwhelming	not causing someone to feel any excitement
frugal	careful
harbinger	a thing that shows that something is going to happen soon, especially something bad

rendering	the way that something is performed
untrammelled	not limited by rules

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 3, 2020

Difficult Words/ Phrases	Contextual Meaning
metric	system of measurement
parameter	set of facts
case fatality rate	the proportion of people who die from a specified disease among all individuals diagnosed with the disease over a certain period of time
imperative	of vital importance
pace	the speed at which something changes
contrasting	differing strikingly
underscore	to emphasize the importance of something
hypotheses	proposed explanation
dismal	very bad
immunisation	immunisation – the act of making immune (especially by inoculation)
convalescent	People who've recovered from COVID-19 have

plasma	antibodies to the disease in their blood. Doctors call this convalescent plasma.
drive down	to make an amount fall to a lower level

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 2, 2020

Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
unsustainable	not able to be upheld
intensifying	to become greater, more serious
vulnerable	able to be easily attacked
flatten	cause something to become level
decimate	to reduce something severely
wiping	eliminate completely
pandemic	a dangerous disease that infects many people at one time
crippling	causing a severe and almost insuperable problem
containment	the act of controlling or limiting something

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The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary – May 1, 2020

Word/ Phrase	Contextual Meaning
amendment	Change
forefront	important position
leeway	freedom to act within particular limits
fiscal	connected with public money
alleviate	to make something bad less severe
apprehensions	anxiety about the future, fear of something unpleasant
prolonged	continuing for a long time
slump	falling suddenly
spur	encouraging an activity
aftermath	after effects of an unpleasant event
think out-of-the-box	think in an original or creative way

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