

The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

30th December 2024

**PREPARE FOR BANK (PO/ CLERK), SSC, UPSC,
State PSC, CAT, CTET, RAILWAY EXAMS, CDS,
TET, NDA/AIRFORCE, NET and all Govt.
Exams**

VOCABULARY

1. Typecast (विशेष वर्ग में बाँधना)

Meaning: To assign someone a role or attribute that restricts them to a narrow scope.

Synonyms: Stereotype, categorize, label

Antonyms: Diversify, liberate, differentiate

Example: The actor was typecast as a villain after playing similar roles in several movies.

2. Forbearance (सहनशीलता)

Meaning: Patient self-control; restraint and tolerance.

Synonyms: Patience, endurance, tolerance

Antonyms: Impatience, agitation, frustration

Example: The landlord showed forbearance by giving the tenant extra time to pay the rent.

VOCABULARY

3. Renege (इनकार करना)

Meaning: To go back on a promise, undertaking, or contract.

Synonyms: Break, default, backtrack

Antonyms: Fulfill, honor, adhere

Example: The company reneged on its agreement to provide free healthcare for employees.

4. Wake-up call (सावधान करने वाली घटना)

Meaning: An event or situation that alerts one to a problem that needs immediate attention.

Synonyms: Warning, red flag, alert

Antonyms: Ignorance, oversight, inattention

Example: The near-miss car accident was a wake-up call for her to drive more cautiously.

VOCABULARY

5. Apportion (विभाजन करना)

Meaning: To divide and allocate responsibility or blame.

Synonyms: Assign, distribute, allocate

Antonyms: Combine, unify, withhold

Example: The profits were apportioned among the partners according to their investments.

6. Threshold (सीमा)

Meaning: The starting point of an experience, event, or capacity.

Synonyms: Boundary, brink, verge

Antonyms: End, conclusion, closure

Example: She has a low threshold for pain, so she avoids extreme physical activities.

VOCABULARY

7. Complacency (आत्मसंतोष)

Meaning: A feeling of smug satisfaction with oneself or one's achievements, often unaware of danger.

Synonyms: Self-satisfaction, overconfidence, negligence

Antonyms: Vigilance, awareness, concern

Example: The team's complacency after winning the first game led to their defeat in the next.

8. Pitfall (जाल/खतरा)

Meaning: A hidden or unsuspected danger or difficulty.

Synonyms: Hazard, trap, drawback

Antonyms: Safety, advantage, benefit

Example: One of the pitfalls of online shopping is the risk of falling for scams.

VOCABULARY

9. Utterance (कथन)

Meaning: A spoken word, statement, or vocal sound.

Synonyms: Remark, expression, declaration

Example: His utterance of the phrase "I'm sorry" was barely audible.

10. Ruinous (विनाशकारी)

Meaning: Involving or causing sudden great damage or suffering.

Synonyms: Disastrous, calamitous

Antonyms: Fortunate, favorable, harmless

Example: The company's ruinous decision to expand too quickly led to bankruptcy.

VOCABULARY

Phrasal Verbs:

1. Chew out

Meaning: reprimand someone severely

2. Cling to

Meaning: to hold on tightly to somebody/something

3. Count on

Meaning: rely on someone or something

4. Gin up

Meaning: generate or increase something, especially by dubious or dishonest means

VOCABULARY

Idioms & Phrases

1. Haste makes waste

Meaning: rushing through something can lead to mistakes or poor results

2. Get wind of something

Meaning: hear news of something secret

3. Shape up or ship out

Meaning: work better or leave

VOCABULARY

4. Dog days of summer

Meaning: the hottest day of the summer season

5. Bits and Pieces

Meaning: small things of different types

Article for Reading

**A culture of hope and
promise**

“Sanskar” is a very Indian concept and therefore to translate it into English will always be risking getting into the pitfalls of semantics. However if the word has to be understood in English, it has to be translated as best as possible. Simply put, it refers to the values or impressions one has received from one’s ancestors including parents. “Sanskar” also encompasses cultural traits. One often hears of things like “To help fellow human beings is in his ‘sanskar’” or “To be selfish and think only about oneself is his ‘sanskar’” or “To donate to charities” or “to use others’ resources to further one’s own selfish needs or ends” are his “sanskar”. It is not that people will forever be typecast in a certain “sanskar”. It is said that some learn from observing, some others learn from listening while most others have to personally and necessarily experience a situation before doing any course correction assuming that such an intent is there. Some who are associated with a certain “sanskar” do make an effort to change from a negative “sanskar” to a more positive and robust personality.

This change however comes to only those who constantly review their words and deeds and have a desire to self-improve. One comes across people who talk big, promise a lot of things only to renege on every one of them or pretend as if there was nothing mentioned. Such people are not only fooling themselves but also letting themselves to be exposed as persons who lack sincerity and dignity in their words and utterances. Good behaviour and mannerisms are noticed as much as negative or insincere behaviour and both can be attributed to a person's "sanskar". Very recently, the young World Chess Champion, Gukesh, all of 18 years and a few months, was seen rearranging the pieces on the chessboard not just of himself but also of his opponent (who had left soon after the match) after the championship match was over. He could have been excused in the wake of his memorable victory to leave soon after the match. But no, he made sure that he put not just the chessboard pieces but also his own chair back in place before demonstrating any form of celebration of his victory. Some would perhaps term this conduct his "sanskar".

It is not just what one does but how one does it. It matters not what one does for oneself but what one does for someone else. Somebody might give something precious to someone but how one gives it matters a lot. Does he give it with grace or does he give it with an expressed feeling of loss or remorse? I have seen sportsmen take a loss in their stride with great dignity and forbearance. I recollect the touching note penned by Roger Federer, one of the greatest tennis players to have played the sport, in memory of his arch rival and equally illustrious friend, Rafael Nadal, with whom he had multiple meetings — some of which he won while some others he lost — on the tennis court of various ATP and other tournaments. There is a recognition here that in the field of sports, there are bound to be wins and losses and one needs to take both in one's stride.

Summary

The passage delves into the Indian concept of sanskar (values or impressions inherited from ancestors and culture), emphasizing its significance in shaping behavior, character, and societal interactions. It explains how sanskar reflects a person's actions, attitudes, and intentions, both positive and negative, and highlights the possibility of transforming negative traits into positive ones through self-reflection and a genuine desire for improvement. The author illustrates this with examples, such as the gracious behavior of young chess champion Gukesh and the dignified sportsmanship of Roger Federer. The passage underscores that how actions are performed—whether with sincerity, grace, or selflessness—matters more than the actions themselves.

The tone is reflective and didactic, with a blend of admiration for positive examples and a subtle critique of insincere or negative behavior. The author employs an illustrative and philosophical approach to emphasize the importance of values and conduct.

Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

Question 1:

What is the significance of the example of Gukesh's behavior after his chess championship match?

- a) It shows that celebrations should always be modest and controlled.**
- b) It demonstrates how good “sanskar” reflects in small, thoughtful actions.**
- c) It highlights the importance of respecting opponents in sports.**
- d) It illustrates that young people can also be champions of morality.**
- e) None of the above**

Question 2:

What is the author's perspective on the way one gives something to others?

- a) The act of giving is more important than the manner of giving.**
- b) Giving should be done only when one has abundance.**
- c) The manner of giving is as important as the act itself.**
- d) One should avoid expressing any emotions while giving.**
- e) None of the above**

Question 3:

What broader message does the anecdote about Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal convey?

- a) Rivalries in sports are meaningless.**
- b) Winning and losing are both inevitable parts of life.**
- c) Emotional displays are unnecessary in sports.**
- d) True friendships cannot exist among competitors.**
- e) None of the above**

Article for Skimming

**Incidents on loop, but
it's escape for
regulator, airlines**

The recent incident, on December 5, 2024, involving an Air India Airbus A320 aircraft at Goa's Mopa airport is another wake-up call for Indian aviation. The crew of the Hyderabad-bound aircraft had to reject takeoff after entering a parallel taxiway instead of the main runway. This is not the first time an event such as this has happened to airlines in India. This falls under the category of runway confusion. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the regulatory body that primarily deals with safety issues, as we have seen during the past 20 years, will blame the pilots and sweep the report under the carpet. The blame, squarely, points to the regulator and the airlines. It has failed to learn from earlier events. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)'s Annex 13 makes it mandatory for a member-state to investigate accidents, serious incidents and also incidents and identify the cause and take corrective steps to prevent a recurrence.

The history of runway confusion errors by Indian carriers is long. In 1993, a Jet Airways Boeing 737 inaugural flight to Coimbatore landed at the Sullur air base of the Indian Air Force instead of Peelamedu civil airport. In September 2002, a Jet Airways Boeing 737 landed on the taxi track in Dabolim airport in Goa. In June 2007, a Spicejet Boeing 737 landed on the wrong runway at Delhi. In December 2008, a Spicejet Boeing 737 landed on a wrong runway at Kolkata. In March 2009, a Jetlite CRJ landed on a wrong runway at Kolkata. In September 2018, an Air India Airbus A320 on the Delhi-Thiruvananthapuram-Male sector landed on a wrong (under construction) runway in the Maldives. Just a month earlier, a Jet Airways Boeing 737 had to abort takeoff while on a taxiway at Riyadh in Saudi Arabia. In January 2014, an Air India Boeing 787 almost landed at Melbourne's Essendon airport before air traffic control directed the crew to Melbourne Tullamarine airport. And in December 2020, a Spicejet Boeing 737 had a hard touchdown short of the runway threshold in Guwahati, Assam.

Had the DGCA and the airlines concerned taken proactive and corrective steps, India would not have to cut a sorry figure in international aviation. India is lucky that none of these events resulted in fatalities. The blame is apportioned to pilot error while the airlines and the regulator walk away without accountability. In June 2010, in the first meeting of the Civil Aviation Safety Advisory Council (CASAC), formed after the Mangaluru crash of an Air India Express flight (May 2010), this writer had highlighted some of the events, between 2002 and 2009, in a presentation before the Union Minister of Civil Aviation. If such serious incidents are still taking place in 2024, the blame falls squarely on the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the DGCA and the airlines for their failure to prevent a recurrence.

Question 4:

What was the primary reason for the recent incident involving an Air India Airbus A320 at Goa's Mopa airport?

- a) Mechanical failure in the aircraft.**
- b) Adverse weather conditions at the airport.**
- c) The crew mistakenly entered a taxiway instead of the main runway.**
- d) A communication error between air traffic control and the crew.**
- e) None of the above**

Question 5:

What is the core criticism of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in the passage?

- a) Failing to regulate ticket prices effectively.**
- b) Overburdening airlines with excessive safety checks.**
- c) Focusing solely on pilot training programs.**
- d) Ignoring safety issues and not implementing corrective measures.**
- e) None of the above**

Today's Descriptive Question:

- Write an essay of 250 words about the role of technology in revolutionizing education.

Technology has transformed the education sector, ushering in a new era of accessibility, personalization, and efficiency. The integration of digital tools and platforms has revolutionized traditional teaching methods, making learning more interactive and inclusive.

One of the most significant contributions of technology is its ability to bridge geographical gaps. Online learning platforms, such as Coursera and Khan Academy, have made quality education accessible to students worldwide, irrespective of their location. Similarly, virtual classrooms enable real-time interaction between students and teachers, breaking the barriers of distance and time zones.

Technology also enhances personalized learning experiences. Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools assess students' strengths and weaknesses, tailoring educational content to their specific needs.

For example, adaptive learning software adjusts difficulty levels based on a learner's progress, ensuring a pace suitable for every individual. Moreover, interactive technologies like augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) bring abstract concepts to life, making subjects like science and history more engaging. Gamification of lessons, through quizzes and challenges, motivates students and fosters a sense of achievement.

Despite these advantages, the digital divide remains a challenge. Not all students have access to the internet or devices, emphasizing the need for inclusive policies and infrastructure development.

In conclusion, technology has undeniably revolutionized education by making it more accessible, personalized, and engaging. As it continues to evolve, addressing challenges like affordability and accessibility will be crucial in ensuring that its benefits reach every corner of society.

- **Write a letter to the bank manager complaining about the rude behavior of a bank employee.**

[Your Name]
[Your Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]
[Date]

The Branch Manager
[Bank Name]
[Branch Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]

Subject: Complaint Regarding Rude Behavior of a Bank Employee

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to bring to your attention an unpleasant experience I had during my recent visit to your branch on [date].

I have been a loyal customer of [Bank Name] for [duration], and this incident was contrary to the excellent service I have usually received.

On the aforementioned date, I visited the branch to address [briefly state the purpose of your visit, e.g., “a query regarding my account”]. Unfortunately, I encountered a bank employee, [if you know the name, mention it here, otherwise write “whose name I do not know”], who behaved in a rude and unprofessional manner.

Despite my polite approach, the employee responded curtly and seemed unwilling to assist with my query. The tone and attitude were disrespectful and made me feel uncomfortable. This was particularly disappointing as I believe customer service is a cornerstone of any reputable institution, especially a bank that handles sensitive matters.

I kindly request you to investigate this matter and take appropriate steps to ensure such incidents do not recur. As a valued customer, I expect to be treated with respect and professionalism. I trust that you will address this issue promptly and improve the quality of service at the branch.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to a resolution at your earliest convenience.

**Yours sincerely,
[Your Full Name]**

Match the column

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. Haste makes waste | A. hear news of something secret |
| 2. Get wind of something | B. small things of different types |
| 3. Shape up or ship out | C. the hottest day of the summer season |
| 4. Dog days of summer | D. work better or leave |
| 5. Bits and Pieces | E. rushing through something can lead to mistakes |

Answer:

1-e

2-a

3-d

4-c

5-b

Vocabulary

1. **Typecast:**
2. **Forbearance:**
3. **Renegade:**
4. **Wake-up call:**
5. **Apportion:**
6. **Threshold:**
7. **Complacency:**
8. **Pitfall:**
9. **Utterance:**
10. **Ruinous:**

RC ANS

1.

Answer: b) It demonstrates how good “sanskar” reflects in small, thoughtful actions.

Explanation:

Reference: “Some would perhaps term this conduct his ‘sanskar.’ It is not just what one does but how one does it.”

The example of Gukesh rearranging the chess pieces and chair, despite his significant victory, is used to illustrate how one’s “sanskar” is evident in considerate and gracious behavior.

- a) Incorrect: The focus is not on modest celebrations but on thoughtful conduct.
- c) Incorrect: While respect is important, the emphasis here is on values and impressions.
- d) Incorrect: Morality is not the main focus of this example.

2.

Answer: c) The manner of giving is as important as the act itself.

Explanation:

Reference: “It is not just what one does but how one does it. It matters not what one does for oneself but what one does for someone else.”

The passage underlines that it is not just about what one gives, but how it is given — with grace rather than reluctance or remorse.

a) Incorrect: The passage stresses the manner of giving as equally important.

b) Incorrect: Abundance is not a condition mentioned for giving.

d) Incorrect: Expressing emotions like grace is encouraged in the passage.

3.

Answer: b) Winning and losing are both inevitable parts of life.

Explanation:

Reference: "There is a recognition here that in the field of sports, there are bound to be wins and losses and one needs to take both in one's stride."

The author uses Federer's touching note about Nadal to illustrate the importance of accepting both victories and losses with grace and dignity.

a) Incorrect: The focus is on handling outcomes, not dismissing rivalries.

c) Incorrect: Emotional displays are not critiqued in the passage.

d) Incorrect: The example highlights mutual respect and friendship, not its absence.

4.

Answer: c) The crew mistakenly entered a taxiway instead of the main runway.

Explanation:

Reference: "The crew of the Hyderabad-bound aircraft had to reject takeoff after entering a parallel taxiway instead of the main runway."

The incident is categorized as "runway confusion" because the crew entered a parallel taxiway instead of the main runway during takeoff.

5.

Answer: d) Ignoring safety issues and not implementing corrective measures.

Explanation:

Reference: “The blame, squarely, points to the regulator and the airlines. It has failed to learn from earlier events.”

The DGCA is criticized for failing to learn from previous incidents, placing blame solely on pilots, and not taking proactive steps to prevent runway confusion events.

NIMISHA BANSAL

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