# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

19th March 2025

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

## 1. Swarm (झुंड में इकट्ठा होना)

➜ **Meaning: To move or gather in large numbers, often in a disorderly manner.**

➜ **Synonyms: Flock, throng, crowd**

➜ **Antonyms: Disperse, scatter, separate**

➜ **Example: As soon as the store announced a massive discount, customers swarmed in to grab the best deals.**

## 2. Diabolical (शैतानी , दुष्टतापूर्ण )

➔ **Meaning: Extremely evil or cruel; wicked in nature.**

➔ **Synonyms: Devilish, fiendish, malevolent**

➔ **Antonyms: Kind, benevolent, virtuous**

➔ **Example: The dictator's diabolical plan led to immense suffering for the people.**

## 3. Poignancy (मार्मिकता , भावनात्मक तीव्रता)

➔ **Meaning: The quality of evoking a strong sense of sadness or regret.**

➔ **Synonyms: Deep emotion, intensity, pathos**

➔ **Antonyms: Insensitivity, dullness, numbness**

➔ **Example: The poignancy of the farewell speech left everyone in tears.**

## 4. Cunningly (चालाकी से, धूर्तता से)

➔ **Meaning: In a clever and deceptive manner.**

➔ **Synonyms: Deceptively, slyly, craftily**

➔ **Antonyms: Honestly, naively, straightforwardly**

➔ **Example: The thief cunningly escaped through a secret passage.**

## 5. Anguish (व्यथा, पीड़ा)

➜ **Meaning: Severe mental or physical pain or suffering.**

➜ **Synonyms: Agony, distress, torment**

➜ **Antonyms: Comfort, relief, peace**

➜ **Example: She was in deep anguish after hearing the tragic news.**

## 6. Disembodied (अशरीरी , निराकार )

➔ **Meaning: Separated from or lacking a physical form.**

➔ **Synonyms: Ghostly, ethereal, incorporeal**

➔ **Antonyms: Physical, embodied, tangible**

➔ **Example: The eerie sound of a disembodied voice sent chills down his spine.**

## 7. Dystopian (विकट भावी संसार, अमानवीय दुनिया)

➔ **Meaning: Relating to an imagined state or society where there is great suffering, oppression, or injustice.**

➔ **Synonyms: Apocalyptic, nightmarish, totalitarian, oppressive**

➔ **Antonyms: Utopian, ideal, perfect, harmonious**

➔ **Example: The novel depicts a dystopian future where citizens are constantly monitored and have no personal freedom.**

## 8. Relentless (निरंतर)

➔ **Meaning: Unceasingly intense; never giving up or lessening**
➔ **Synonyms: Persistent, unyielding, unforgiving**
➔ **Antonyms: Lenient, yielding, gentle**
➔ **Example: The relentless heat of summer made working outdoors unbearable.**

## 9. Impermanence (अस्थिरता )

➔ **Meaning: The state of not lasting forever or being temporary**

➔ **Synonyms: Temporariness, transience, fleetingness**

➔ **Antonyms: Permanence, stability, endurance**

➔ **Example: The impermanence of life teaches us to appreciate each moment.**

## 10. Entrench (मजबूत करना)

➔ **Meaning: To establish an attitude, habit, or position so firmly that change is very difficult or unlikely**

➔ **Synonyms: Establish, root, embed**

➔ **Antonyms: Dislodge, weaken, uproot**

➔ **Example: Over the years, these ideas became deeply entrenched in society.**

**One-word substitute:**

**1. The study of elections and voting behavior:**
**Psephology**

**2. A workplace, often a factory, where workers are employed under poor conditions with low wages and long hours:**
**Sweatshop**

**3. Lack of skill, ability, or competence:**
**Ineptitude**

**4. A strong preference or liking for something:**
**Predilection**

**Phrasal Verbs**

**1. Put off**
Meaning: To delay or postpone something.

**2. Get along (with)**
Meaning: To have a friendly relationship with someone.

**3. Carry on**
Meaning: To continue doing something.

**4. Set up**
Meaning: To establish or arrange something; to start a business or organization.

**Idioms & Phrases**

**1. Riding a High Horse**
**Meaning: to start talking angrily about something**

**2. Dark Horse**
**Meaning:  an unexpected winner**

**3. Dog Days**
**Meaning: the hottest days of the summer**

**4. Black Sheep**

**Meaning: a disfavored or disreputable member of a group**

**5. Thinking outside the box**

**Meaning: to think differently**

# Article  for Reading

High base effect: On a shrinking trade deficit, rising exports

India's goods trade in February saw its steepest decline in nearly two years. Exports fell by 10.9% to $36.91 billion, while imports dropped 16.3% to $50.96 billion, resulting in the smallest trade deficit in over three years (42 months) at $14 billion. While a shrinking trade deficit driven by rising exports would have been a positive development, the simultaneous decline in exports and imports is a cause for concern. Experts partly attribute this narrowing deficit to a high base effect, as exports in February last year, a leap year, stood at $41.4 billion and imports at $60.92 billion. However, exporters also report a trend of American importers holding back on orders, fearing the reciprocal tariffs set to take effect on April 2, as announced by U.S. President Donald Trump on February 13. This announcement came just before his meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, where they unveiled an ambitious plan to boost bilateral trade to $500 billion by 2030 and finalise a free trade agreement (BTA) in the months ahead.

Despite Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal's diplomatic outreach to U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick this month, discussions yielded little beyond a commitment to continue BTA negotiations. The looming threat of reciprocal tariffs has unsettled Indian exporters, as the U.S. is India's second-largest trading partner, accounting for $118.3 billion in trade last fiscal year. It is also the only country among India's top five trading partners with which India enjoys a trade surplus. Imports also declined sharply, led by a 62% plunge in gold imports compared to last February. This drop is linked to domestic gold prices surging to ₹87,886 per 10 grams last week, dampening consumer demand. Oil imports also fell nearly 30% as India diversified its supply sources in response to additional U.S. sanctions on Russian oil producers and tankers in early January.

By mid-2023, Russia accounted for over 40% of India's crude imports, a significant increase from less than 1% before western sanctions on Moscow following its 2022 invasion of Ukraine. If Washington moves to neutralise its trade deficit with New Delhi, India could face a 15% widening in its overall trade deficit, based on last fiscal year's $241 billion shortfall. India must diversify its goods and services trade to reduce its heavy reliance on the U.S. Two potential markets are China and the U.K. While imports from China have contributed to about a third of India's trade deficit for over five years, India's trade imbalance with the U.K. accounted for less than 3% of its total deficit last fiscal year. The free trade agreement negotiations with the U.K. are an opportunity for India to shift this balance in its favour.

## Summary

India's goods trade experienced its sharpest decline in nearly two years in February, with exports dropping by 10.9% and imports falling by 16.3%. This led to the smallest trade deficit in 42 months at $14 billion. However, the decline in both exports and imports raises concerns. While a high base effect is partly responsible, Indian exporters also attribute the decline to American importers delaying orders due to upcoming reciprocal tariffs announced by former U.S. President Donald Trump. Despite diplomatic efforts, trade negotiations with the U.S. have seen limited progress. A sharp decline in gold and oil imports contributed to the overall fall in imports, with domestic gold prices surging and India adjusting its crude supply sources amid U.S. sanctions on Russian oil. If the U.S. seeks to neutralize its trade deficit with India, India's overall trade deficit could widen by 15%. To mitigate this risk, India must diversify its trade relations, exploring opportunities with China and the U.K., with the latter being a more favorable option due to ongoing free trade agreement negotiations.

**Tone:**

The tone of the passage is analytical and cautionary. It presents a detailed assessment of India's trade situation while highlighting potential risks and strategic considerations for the future.

**Reading Comprehension**

**Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:**

**Question 1:**
What is the primary reason for concern regarding India's shrinking trade deficit in February?

(A) India's reliance on the U.S. for trade has decreased significantly.
(B) The deficit is expected to increase in the coming months.
(C) It resulted from a simultaneous decline in both exports and imports.
(D) It was primarily driven by an increase in exports.
(E) The deficit was the highest in over three years.

**Question 2:**
**What factor has contributed to the decrease in Indian exports to the U.S.?**

**(A) The appreciation of the Indian rupee against the U.S. dollar.**
**(B) American importers holding back on orders due to expected tariffs.**
**(C) The suspension of bilateral trade agreements.**
**(D) A decline in U.S. demand for Indian goods due to inflation.**
**(E) None of the above**

**Question 3:**
What strategic move does the passage suggest India should take to reduce its heavy trade reliance on the U.S.?

(A) Increase trade relations with China and the U.K.
(B) Impose reciprocal tariffs on U.S. imports.
(C) Focus on reducing its trade deficit rather than expanding exports.
(D) Negotiate a trade deal with Russia to offset U.S. losses.
(E) None of the above

# Article  for Skimming

**The dystopian side of Insta-commerce**

In various urban centres, we often see a gathering of a range of mazdoors (labourers) with their tools early in the morning, waiting for someone to call them to work. When an employer or thekedaar turns up, huge numbers of these men and women swarm around him and he begins a negotiation process of getting the best deal for himself. From the point of view of the worker, who is a part of an enormous and growing unemployed workforce, the deal is made in desperation. It is a supplier's market. The thekedaars are a creation of managerial facilitation where employers are able to get a 'middleman' to squeeze the greatest possible amount from labour, and offer them the greatest possible profits. Spend an hour in a labour chowk or a mazdoor mandi (job market) and you will understand how people's labour is sold in an auction on a daily or piece rate basis, where the lowest wage wins. This lesson has been learnt rapidly and more diabolically by employers of gig and digital platforms. The gig economy relies on a paradigm of piece rate work, offering so-called employment and 'choice' to workers, thereby shedding all responsibility vis-à-vis workers, their wages, their working conditions, and social security.

The digital medium has been cunningly used to repurpose the work of the thekedaar (the middleman) by creating a platform that would do his dirty work virtually, and outside of the public eye. Every unemployed worker would now become part of your mazdoor mandi, desperately looking for work and supposedly exercising his/her choice by clicking on any option that might help them survive another day. The advantages of the mandi where the auction is a downward bid, with the lowest wage winning, have been multiplied virtually, exponentially, and seamlessly so that you don't see the unfair work practice that the thekedaar plays and the anguish on the worker's face. There is also no possibility of collective bargaining because the collective has been atomised into a million desperate workers individually checking their phones in search of employment. When they 'accept' a ride, delivery, or a service, the aggregator (thekedaar) holds it up as their great benevolent service to the nation of creating employment. The magic is all too real for them to know because they control it all through a disembodied app.

They know how much to offer, on what terms, and under what conditions. Their algorithms help them maximise profits in a way that the worker can either choose to say yes to or perish in a market that is dominated by a consumer class that only sees the convenience of someone providing a service at the mere click of a button. The consumer sees a worker, who has driven through pollution, rushed up the stairs, and is dripping from sweat or wet with rain, only for a brief moment. The worker's indignity is compounded when he is forced to desperately seek a five-star rating. The distressing story of exploitation has now reached a new high, with the introduction of 'Insta Maids'. This service offers a house help within 15 minutes to clean utensils and sweep the house for "₹49 an hour". Workers understand what is happening and are fighting back. Some of their slogans point to the poignancy of the situation – "rating nahi, haq chaahiye (we don't want ratings, we want rights)!" and "insaan hai hum, ghulaam nahi (we are human beings, not slaves)!"

**Question 4:**
What is the primary criticism of consumer behavior in the gig economy, as described in the passage?

A) Consumers actively campaign for better wages and rights for gig workers
B) Consumers are indifferent to the exploitation of workers, focusing only on personal convenience
C) Consumers support fair wages and working conditions by giving high ratings to workers
D) Consumers negotiate fair wages with gig workers before accepting services
E) None of the above

**Question 5:**
How does the passage describe the transformation of traditional labour exploitation into the gig economy?

A) It has empowered workers by giving them the freedom to choose their work and wages
B) It has digitized the labour system, making work allocation more efficient and worker-friendly
C) It has enhanced the transparency of wages and working conditions, benefiting both employers and employees
D) It has multiplied and worsened worker exploitation by atomizing individuals and eliminating collective bargaining
E) None of the above

# Today's Descriptive Question

## Original Text:

The emergence of AI tools like ChatGPT has significantly impacted journalism, transforming how news is produced, distributed, and consumed. These AI-driven tools enhance efficiency by assisting journalists in content creation, fact-checking, and data analysis. However, they also raise concerns about misinformation, job displacement, and ethical implications in news reporting. One of the most notable benefits of ChatGPT in journalism is speed and efficiency. AI can generate reports, summarize articles, and analyze vast amounts of data within seconds, allowing journalists to focus on investigative work and in-depth reporting.

ChatGPT can also assist in fact-checking, identifying inconsistencies in news stories, and providing multilingual translations to make news accessible to a broader audience.However, AI-driven journalism comes with risks. ChatGPT lacks human judgment and contextual understanding, sometimes generating inaccurate or biased content. The spread of AI-generated misinformation or deepfakes can undermine public trust in the media. Additionally, as AI takes over routine reporting tasks, concerns about job losses in journalism arise, potentially reducing employment opportunities in traditional newsrooms. Despite these challenges, AI and journalism can coexist productively. News organizations must establish ethical guidelines for AI use, ensuring human oversight in news production. Combining AI's efficiency with human editorial judgment can improve journalism's quality, making news more accurate, accessible, and engaging.

## Precis:

ChatGPT has transformed journalism by enhancing efficiency in content creation, fact-checking, and data analysis. It allows journalists to focus on investigative work while making news more accessible. However, risks like misinformation, bias, and job displacement remain concerns.

To balance AI's benefits and challenges, human oversight and ethical guidelines are essential. Combining AI's speed with human judgment can improve journalism's accuracy and reliability while preserving its integrity.

- **Write an email to the customer service department of a company to lodge a formal complaint about the poor quality of their product or service.**

**To: …….@gmail.com**

**Subject: Formal Complaint Regarding Poor Quality of [Product/Service]**

**Dear Customer Service Team,**

**I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to formally lodge a complaint regarding the poor quality of [product/service] that I recently purchased/experienced from your company.**

**On [purchase date/service date], I bought/used [product/service name] from [store/website/location]. Unfortunately, I was extremely disappointed with its quality/performance. [Briefly describe the issue, e.g., "The product stopped working within a few days," or "The service provided was unsatisfactory due to delays/errors."]**

This has caused significant inconvenience, and I believe it does not meet the quality standards expected from your brand.

I have attached relevant documents, including the receipt, photographs, and any communication related to this issue, for your reference. I request an immediate resolution, either through a replacement, refund, or appropriate corrective action.

Looking forward to your swift resolution. You may contact me at [your phone number] or [your email address] for further discussion.

Best regards,
[Your Full Name]
[Your Contact Information]
[Your Address (if required)]

**Match the column**

1. Riding a High Horse        A. a disfavored or disreputable member of a group
2. Dark Horse                        B. to start talking angrily about something
3. Dog Days                          C. to think differently
4. Black Sheep                      D. an unexpected winner
5. Thinking outside the box E.  the hottest days of the summer

**Answer:**
1-b
2-d
3-e
4-a
5-c

## Vocabulary

1. Swarm:
2. Diabolical:
3. Poignancy:
4. Cunningly:
5. Anguish:
6. Disembodied:
7. Dystopian:
8. Relentless:
9. Impermanence:
10. Entrench:

**1.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

The passage states that while a shrinking trade deficit driven by rising exports would have been a positive sign, the current reduction is concerning because both exports and imports declined simultaneously. This suggests weakening trade activity rather than improved economic performance.

Why Other Options Are Incorrect:

(A) Incorrect: India's reliance on the U.S. remains strong, with trade at $118.3 billion last fiscal year.

(B) Incorrect: The passage does not state that the deficit is expected to increase.

(D) Incorrect: The deficit was not driven by increased exports; exports actually declined.

**2.**

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

The passage states that "exporters also report a trend of American importers holding back on orders, fearing the reciprocal tariffs set to take effect on April 2." This indicates that anticipated tariffs announced by the U.S. have contributed to the decline in Indian exports.

**Why Other Options Are Incorrect:**

(A) Incorrect: The passage does not mention currency fluctuations as a factor.

(C) Incorrect: India and the U.S. are still negotiating a free trade agreement (BTA).

(D) Incorrect: While economic factors could play a role, the primary reason mentioned is tariff concerns.

**3.**

**Ans: A**

**Explanation:**

The passage states, "India must diversify its goods and services trade to reduce its heavy reliance on the U.S. Two potential markets are China and the U.K." This suggests that India should strengthen trade ties with these countries.

**Why Other Options Are Incorrect:**

(B) Incorrect: The passage does not recommend imposing tariffs on U.S. imports.
(C) Incorrect: The goal is to expand trade, not just reduce the deficit.
(D) Incorrect: The passage does not propose a trade deal with Russia as the solution.

**4.**

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

**Reference from the passage:** "The consumer sees a worker, who has driven through pollution, rushed up the stairs, and is dripping from sweat or wet with rain, only for a brief moment."

The passage describes how consumers only see the convenience of services without considering the struggles and exploitation of workers.

**Why the other options are incorrect:**

A) Consumers actively campaign for better wages and rights for gig workers – Incorrect, as no such activism is mentioned.

C) Consumers support fair wages and working conditions by giving high ratings to workers – Incorrect, since ratings do not improve wages or conditions.

D) Consumers negotiate fair wages with gig workers before accepting services – Incorrect, as wages are dictated by the platform, not negotiated.

**5.**
**Ans: D**
**Explanation:**
**Reference from the passage:** "The digital medium has been cunningly used to repurpose the work of the thekedaar (the middleman) by creating a platform that would do his dirty work virtually, and outside of the public eye."

"There is also no possibility of collective bargaining because the collective has been atomised into a million desperate workers individually checking their phones in search of employment."

The passage details how gig economy platforms mimic and worsen the exploitative role of the thekedaar, making workers compete for the lowest wages while removing any possibility of collective bargaining. The gig economy's so-called "choice" is merely an illusion because workers must accept poor wages to survive.

**Why the other options are incorrect:**

A) It has empowered workers by giving them the freedom to choose their work and wages – Incorrect, because workers are forced into desperation-driven choices where they must take whatever work is available.

B) It has digitized the labour system, making work allocation more efficient and worker-friendly – Incorrect, as the passage describes the digital system worsening exploitation rather than improving it.

C) It has enhanced the transparency of wages and working conditions, benefiting both employers and employees – Incorrect, since employers control wages through algorithms, hiding unfair labour practices.

# NIMISHA BANSAL
## EXCLUSIVE SUBSCRIPTION

- ☑ **ACCESS TO ALL COURSES ( PERFECTION, GRAMMAR GRANTH, ERRORS**
- ☑ **Live+** Recorded Sessions
- ☑ **Class PDF's**
- ☑ **Basic To Advance** level
- ☑ **Best Courses** Till Date

**Price : ₹ 2499**
₹

## USE CODE _____

# JOIN TELEGRAM CHANNEL

## ENGLISH WITH NIMISHA BANSAL
## @NimishaMam

**English with Nimisha Bansal**
452 824 subscribers

YouTube
**Editorial Analysis | 1st January, 2025 | Vocab, Grammar, Reading, Skimming | Nimisha Bansal**
Editorial Analysis | 1st January, 2025 | Vocab, Grammar, Reading, Skimming | Nimisha Bansal

✅One Premium Subscription
USE CODE - SAFALTA
https...

1ST JANUARY, 2025 **DAILY 7AM** 🔴LIVE

THE HINDU
**EDITORIAL ANALYSIS**
BANK | SSC | DEFENCE | UPSC
➤ TRENDING NEWS
➤ VOCABULARY
➤ GRAMMAR
➤ SKIMMING

30K 👁 08:00

Perfection Class: Debunking English Grammar Myths I
Perfection I

## CONTENT - NIMISHA BANSAL
## @mamnimisha

**Content- Nimisha Bansal**
174 346 subscribers

annotation 1st Jan 2025
2.6K 👁 13:37

Forwarded from
English with Nimisha Bansal

**Perfection_Clas...t_Jan_2025.pdf**
3.1 MB ·

Perfection Class Error detection with annotation 1st Jan 2025
2.9K 👁 13:37

Forwarded from
English with Nimisha Bansal

**PERFECTION CLA...T January.pdf**
34.1 MB ·

PERFECTION CLASS NOTES
1K 👁 14:14

Forwarded from
English with Nimisha Bansal

**EDITORIAL VOC...UARY 2025.pdf**
2.7 MB ·

EDITORIAL VOCAB 1ST JANUARY 2025
1K 👁 14:14