

# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

27th May 2025

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

# 1. Chutzpah (हिम्मत / दुस्साहस)

- **Meaning:** Shameless audacity or impudence; boldness to do something daring.
- **Synonyms:** Audacity, boldness, nerve
- **Antonyms:** Timidity, meekness, hesitation
- **Example:** Gill needs to show the leadership chutzpah that India's former captains were known for.

## 2. Goad (उकसाना / प्रेरित करना)

- **Meaning:** To provoke or encourage someone to act, especially to perform better.
- **Synonyms:** Urge, spur, prod
- **Antonyms:** Deter, discourage, dissuade
- **Example:** Captaincy may goad Gill into becoming a more responsible batter.

### 3. Intrinsic (अंतरनिहित / मूलभूत)

- **Meaning:** Belonging naturally; essential to the nature of something.
- **Synonyms:** Inherent, innate, fundamental
- **Antonyms:** Extrinsic, acquired, external
- **Example:** The hope for a successful transition is intrinsic to the selectors' decision.

#### 4. Prolific (उत्पादक / अत्यधिक उत्पादन करने वाला)

- **Meaning:** Producing a lot of something, especially works, results, or offspring.
- **Synonyms:** Productive, abundant, fruitful
- **Antonyms:** Unproductive, barren, sparse
- **Example:** Karun Nair has been prolific in the domestic circuit, earning him a recall.

## 5. Acclimatise (अनुकूलन / अभ्यस्त होना)

- **Meaning:** To adapt or become accustomed to a new climate or environment.
- **Synonyms:** Adjust, adapt, familiarize
- **Antonyms:** Resist, misadjust, reject
- **Example:** Playing county cricket has helped Karun Nair acclimatise to English conditions.

## 6. Belies (झूठा साबित करना / खंडन करना)

- **Meaning:** To give a false representation or to contradict.
- **Synonyms:** Contradicts, misrepresents, disguises
- **Antonyms:** Reveals, validates, supports
- **Example:** The Centre's call for unity belies the actual strain in Centre-State relations.

## 7. Unwieldy (भारीभरकम / असुविधाजनक )

- **Meaning:** Difficult to handle or manage due to size, complexity, or awkwardness.
- **Synonyms:** Cumbersome, unmanageable, awkward
- **Antonyms:** Manageable, convenient, simple
- **Example:** A body comprising all States is often considered too unwieldy for quick decision-making.



## 8. Patchy (अपूर्ण / असंगत)

- **Meaning:** Not consistent or uniform; irregular in quality or coverage.
- **Synonyms:** Irregular, inconsistent, uneven
- **Antonyms:** Consistent, uniform, steady
- **Example:** States' progress in boosting their tax revenues has been patchy.

## 9. Subsumed (समाहित करना / सम्मिलित करना)

- **Meaning:** To include or absorb something into something else.
- **Synonyms:** Absorbed, incorporated, integrated
- **Antonyms:** Excluded, separated, distinguished
- **Example:** The GST regime subsumed many of the State-level taxes.

## 10. Pruning (काट-छांट)

- **Meaning:** The act of reducing or trimming something, especially in terms of resources or budgets.
- **Synonyms:** Cutting, trimming, reducing
- **Antonyms:** Expanding, increasing, growing
- **Example:** The company began pruning its expenses to stay profitable during the recession.

# VOCABULARY

## One-word substitute:

**1. The act of burying a dead body in a grave or tomb:**

**Interment**

**2. A serious crime, typically one punishable by imprisonment for more than one year or by death:**

**Felony**

**3. A detailed explanation or description of an idea or theory:**

**Exposition**

**4. The act of retrieving money that has already been paid, often due to legal or contractual reasons:**

**Clawback**

# VOCABULARY

## Phrasal Verbs:

### 1. Dob in

Meaning – To inform on someone or report their wrongdoing.

### 2. Ebb away

Meaning – To gradually decrease or fade away.

### 3. Hack off

Meaning – To cut something off roughly or to annoy someone greatly.

### 4. Zip by

Meaning – To pass quickly or speed past.

# VOCABULARY

## Idioms & Phrases

### 1. Queer the pitch

Meaning - Spoil a plan

### 2. Vanish into thin air

Meaning - Disappear completely

### 3. Cool as a cucumber

Meaning - Very calm and composed

## VOCABULARY

### **4. Down in the dumps**

**Meaning - Feeling depressed**

### **5. Hit the books**

**Meaning - Start studying seriously**

## **Article for Reading**

**Testing times: on  
India's new Test  
Captain**



**In the cyclical nature of cricket, India is stepping into a new era in Tests. The appointment of Shubman Gill as captain in the game's longest format hints at a break from the past and new beginnings. At 25, Gill is part of the young turks within the squad, while K.L. Rahul and Jasprit Bumrah, at ages 33 and 31 respectively, remain the senior duo with previous captaincy stints. But in picking Gill as the leader, the selectors, especially chairman Ajit Agarkar, have loudly proclaimed that they are looking at the long road into the future, and not a short-term replacement. The retirements of regular skipper Rohit Sharma and talisman Virat Kohli in quick succession meant that big gaps had to be filled both in terms of leadership chutzpah and batting acumen. Gill, with all the high potential through which he stepped into the game at all levels, be it under-19, Punjab and later the national unit, seems a good fit.**

**He is also leading Gujarat Titans in the Indian Premier League and is clued into the art of captaincy. Men younger than him have led India in the past, notably Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi, and Gill, with Rishabh Pant as his deputy, will learn more on the job starting with the five Tests commencing in England in June. He will have the freedom and responsibility to shape the team he leads. Besides Rahul and Bumrah, Gill has to contend with other seniors, including Ravindra Jadeja, who, at 36, is closer to the finish line. It is what Mohammad Azharuddin dealt with while having Kapil Dev, Dilip Vengsarkar, K. Srikkanth and Ravi Shastri in the ranks. M.S. Dhoni too had a similar task as Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, Rahul Dravid, V.V.S. Laxman and Virender Sehwag reported to him. Gill has the respect of the dressing room, being marked for greatness as he climbed the rungs.**

**With 1893 Test runs averaging 35.05, his numbers seem underwhelming but there is no mistaking his talent, and captaincy may well goad him to temper his glorious stroke play with some caution. Leadership caused a surge in Kohli's run-making ability, and the expectation is that Gill too may reap some benefits. India will also miss R. Ashwin when it embarks on the tour of the Old Blighty, and Gill has to helm this transition well. That hope is intrinsic to this unit is evident as Karun Nair makes a comeback after last turning up for India in 2017. He has been prolific in the domestic circuit besides doing well in county cricket over the previous few seasons, and the last bit should help him acclimatise to English conditions, faster.**

## Summary

**The passage highlights a significant transition in Indian Test cricket as Shubman Gill is appointed the new captain, signaling a generational shift after the retirement of stalwarts Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli. At 25, Gill represents a long-term investment by the selectors, indicating a focus on the future rather than a temporary solution. With senior players like K.L. Rahul, Jasprit Bumrah, and Ravindra Jadeja still in the mix, Gill faces the challenge of leading a team with experienced figures while shaping it with his own vision. Comparisons are drawn with past leadership transitions involving Azharuddin and Dhoni. Though Gill's Test stats are modest, his talent and leadership potential are undeniable. His IPL experience and the support of vice-captain Rishabh Pant could aid his captaincy journey. The team also sees the return of Karun Nair, who has performed well domestically and in English county cricket, which might help during the upcoming England tour.**

## **Tone:**

**The tone is hopeful, analytical, and forward-looking, with a respectful nod to the past and a cautiously optimistic view of the future under Shubman Gill's leadership.**

## Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

**Question 1:**

**What strategic shift does the appointment of Shubman Gill as Test captain most strongly signify for Indian cricket, according to the passage?**

- A. A tactical shift to enhance India's overseas performance record**
- B. A symbolic break from a leadership structure based on seniority**
- C. A reaction to Jasprit Bumrah's inability to lead due to injury history**
- D. A reward for Gill's IPL captaincy success with Gujarat Titans**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 2:**

**What implication does the passage draw from the retirements of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli?**

- A. A vacuum in wicketkeeping duties has emerged**
- B. India is left without experienced overseas performers**
- C. The team is deprived of both leadership flair and batting strength**
- D. The selectors are planning to recall veteran players**
- E. None of the above**



**Question 3:**

**Why is Karun Nair's inclusion in the squad for England significant, as per the author?**

- A. He has been India's highest scorer in recent Test series**
- B. He has been successful in county cricket, aiding in acclimatisation**
- C. He was Gill's teammate in the Under-19 World Cup**
- D. He is expected to replace Jadeja permanently**
- E. None of the above**

## Article for Skimming

**Greater share: on  
States and central  
taxes**

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi's exhortation to the Chief Ministers gathered at the 10th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog over the weekend, in New Delhi, that the Centre and States should come together as "Team India" to propel the country forward, is a good sentiment; but, it belies reality. The Centre-States relationship right now is a one-way street, with the Centre resorting to the stick, and, occasionally, to the carrot method, to make the States comply with its wishes. The States are finding it increasingly difficult to voice their often genuine and serious grievances at the national level since federal bodies such as the NITI Aayog Governing Council or the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council do not meet often. Meeting once a year is not nearly enough for the Governing Council of a body whose very first objective is to develop a "shared vision of national development priorities".**

**The GST Council, too, has not met in more than five months, when regulations say it should meet at least once a quarter. So, when the States do get a chance to speak at the national level, as they did on Saturday, most have no choice but to focus on their individual problems or achievements rather than on a collaborative 'Team India' approach. There were, however, some notable deviations where Chief Ministers looked beyond their States' borders in an attempt to drive national growth. One was Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's proposal for the creation of three sub-groups of States to focus attention on the issues of GDP growth and investments, leveraging India's demographic bounty, and using technology to drive governance. Sub-groups are a good way for the Centre to bring States on board, if it finds a body comprising all States to be too unwieldy. The most notable pan-India suggestion was probably Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin's call for the Centre to share 50% of its tax revenue with the States, up from the current formula of 41%.**

**This is an issue that certainly requires more discussion. The implicit condition behind the Centre providing States compensation for any losses arising out of GST for five years was that the States would use this time to bolster their own tax revenues. While progress on this has been patchy — with some States doing far better than others — it has nevertheless been significant. The States' combined own tax revenues as a percentage of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) grew from 6.6% in 2017-18 to 7.2% in 2024-25. On the other hand, GST has failed to live up to its potential, with net revenues only recently surpassing pre-GST indirect tax levels. Since GST subsumed many of the States' levies, it seems only fair that the Centre seriously consider their demand for a bigger share in central taxes.**

**Question 4:**

**Why is the frequency of meetings of federal bodies like the NITI Aayog Governing Council considered insufficient?**

- A. Because constitutional provisions mandate monthly meetings.**
- B. Because annual meetings hinder the development of a shared national development vision.**
- C. Because quarterly performance appraisals are required by law.**
- D. Because budget allocations are reviewed only at these meetings.**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 5:**

**According to the editorial, why is the States' demand for a larger share in central taxes seen as fair?**

- A. Because the Centre receives revenue from States through GST and fails to redistribute it.**
- B. Because States failed to meet GST compensation targets.**
- C. Because the Centre has reduced overall tax collection.**
- D. Because GST replaced many State-level taxes, limiting their revenue autonomy.**
- E. None of the above**

## Today's Descriptive Question:

- **Write an essay of 200 words about the effects of Brexit on the European Union.**



**Brexit, the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union (EU), has significantly impacted the EU both economically and politically. Economically, Brexit has led to disruptions in trade and investment. The UK was one of the EU's largest economies and trading partners, so its exit has meant the loss of a significant market. This has necessitated the EU to seek new trade partnerships and renegotiate existing agreements to mitigate the loss. Additionally, Brexit has impacted the EU's budget, as the UK was a substantial net contributor. The EU has had to adjust its financial plans to account for this gap, leading to potential cuts in funding for various programs and policies.**

**Politically, Brexit has underscored the challenges of maintaining unity within a diverse union of member states. It has emboldened Eurosceptic movements in other countries, raising concerns about the potential for further exits and the overall stability of the union.**

**The EU has had to reinforce its commitment to integration and cohesion to prevent a domino effect. Moreover, Brexit has prompted the EU to reconsider its policies and priorities, especially regarding enlargement, migration, and the balance between national sovereignty and collective decision-making. Overall, Brexit has acted as a catalyst for introspection and reform within the European Union.**

- **Write a letter to your friend congratulating him/her on his/her success in class 12 board exam.**

**XYZ**

**Delhi**

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**Dear [Friend's Name],**

**I hope this letter finds you well. I just heard the fantastic news about your success in the Class 12 board exams, and I wanted to send my heartfelt congratulations! I know how hard you worked to achieve these amazing results, and I couldn't be prouder of you.**

**Your dedication and perseverance have truly paid off, and you deserve all the recognition and celebration for this accomplishment. I always knew you had it in you to excel, but you've exceeded even my expectations!**

**I'm so excited to see what the future holds for you as you move on to new challenges and opportunities. You have proven that you can achieve anything you set your mind to, and I have no doubt you'll continue to shine in all your endeavors.**

**Looking forward to catching up soon and celebrating your success together!**

**Warm regards,  
[Your Name]**

## Match the column

- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Queer the pitch      | A. Very calm and composed   |
| 2. Vanish into thin air | B. Feeling depressed        |
| 3. Cool as a cucumber   | C. Start studying seriously |
| 4. Down in the dumps    | D. Spoil a plan             |
| 5. Hit the books        | E. Disappear completely     |

## **Answer:**

**1-d**

**2-e**

**3-a**

**4-b**

**5-c**

## Vocabulary

1. Chutzpah:
2. Goad:
3. Intrinsic:
4. Prolific:
5. Acclimatise:
6. Belies:
7. Unwieldy:
8. Patchy:
9. Subsumed:
10. Pruning:

# ENGLISH

EXCLUSIVE SUBSCRIPTION



## BASIC TO ADVANCE

- ➞ PERFECTION 2025 (1.0 – 12.0)
- ➞ PERFECTION 2024 (1.0–10.0)
- ➞ GRAMMAR GRANTH
- ➞ RECORDED + LIVE

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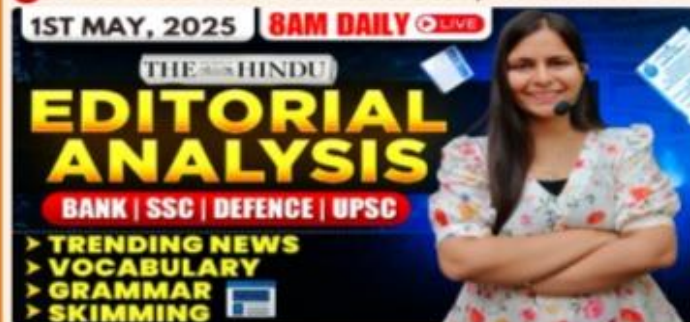


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## **Rc ans**

1.

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

The passage explicitly states:

“The appointment of Shubman Gill as captain in the game’s longest format hints at a break from the past and new beginnings.”

This directly suggests a symbolic break from past structures, which often relied on seniority-based leadership—referenced later by naming players like Rohit Sharma (retired), Kohli (retired), and seniors like Rahul (33), Bumrah (31), and Jadeja (36).

**Incorrect Options:**

A. While England is mentioned (“five Tests commencing in England in June”), the appointment is described as a long-term vision, not just a tactical move for overseas success.

C. Jasprit Bumrah is only mentioned as one of the senior players with previous captaincy stints. There is no mention of injury influencing Gill’s appointment.

D. Gill’s IPL captaincy is mentioned (“also leading Gujarat Titans...”), but it is supporting evidence of his captaincy experience—not the primary reason for his selection.

**2.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

This is directly stated:

“...big gaps had to be filled both in terms of leadershipchutzpah and batting acumen.”

**Incorrect Options:**

A. Not mentioned — in fact, Rishabh Pant is referenced as vice-captain.

B. No such implication is made — experienced players like Jadeja, Bumrah, and Rahul are still around.

D. Not supported — instead, a new captain (Gill) and returning player (Karun Nair) are discussed, but Nair is not a veteran in this context.

**3.**

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

Passage says:

“He has been prolific in the domestic circuit besides doing well in county cricket over the previous few seasons, and the last bit should help him acclimatise to English conditions, faster.”

**Incorrect Options:**

A. No recent Test mention — he “last turned up for India in 2017.”

C. No such connection is made in the passage.

D. Jadeja’s age is mentioned (36), but no replacement role for Nair is implied.



4.

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

The passage states:

“Meeting once a year is not nearly enough for the Governing Council of a body whose very first objective is to develop a ‘shared vision of national development priorities.’”

This clearly establishes the reason behind the critique.

**Incorrect options:**

- A. There’s no mention of constitutional requirements for monthly meetings.
- C. The quarterly requirement applies to the GST Council, not NITI Aayog.
- D. Budget allocations are not discussed as part of these meetings.

**5.**

**Ans: D**

**Explanation:**

The editorial argues:

“Since GST subsumed many of the States’ levies, it seems only fair that the Centre seriously consider their demand for a bigger share in central taxes.”

This implies that because States lost independent taxation powers, a higher central tax share is justified.

**Incorrect options:**

- A. GST revenue distribution isn't portrayed as exploitative by the Centre.
- B. The editorial says progress was patchy but significant — not that States failed.
- C. No mention of reduced overall tax collection by the Centre.