

# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

4th June 2025

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

## 1. Defiant (अवज्ञाकारी / विरोधी )

- **Meaning:** Openly resisting or challenging authority or an opposing force.
- **Synonyms:** Rebellious, unyielding, confrontational
- **Antonyms:** Submissive, compliant, obedient
- **Example:** If Russia has battlefield momentum, Ukraine stays defiant.

## 2. Bifurcated (दो भागों में बाँटा हुआ)

- **Meaning:** Divided into two branches or parts.
- **Synonyms:** Split, divided, separated
- **Antonyms:** United, merged, combined
- **Example:** The former State of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into Union Territories.

### 3. Anachronistic (पुराने समय का)

- **Meaning:** Belonging to a period other than that being portrayed; outdated or old-fashioned.
- **Synonyms:** Outdated, obsolete, antiquated
- **Antonyms:** Modern, contemporary, up-to-date
- **Example:** The Maoist ideology is often criticized as being anachronistic in today's political climate.

## 4. Scrupulous (ईमानदार / सतर्क)

- **Meaning:** Very careful to do what is morally right or to do something exactly as it should be done.
- **Synonyms:** Meticulous, honest, conscientious, precise
- **Antonyms:** Careless, dishonest, negligent
- **Example:** The journalist was scrupulous in checking her facts before publishing the article.

## 5. Ineffable (अवर्णनीय)

- **Meaning:** Too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words.
- **Synonyms:** Indescribable, inexpressible, beyond words
- **Antonyms:** Expressible, describable, explainable
- **Example:** The beauty of the Himalayas at sunrise was truly ineffable.

## 6. Inadvertent (अनजाने में हुआ)

- **Meaning:** Not resulting from or achieved through deliberate planning; unintentional.
- **Synonyms:** Accidental, unintentional, unplanned
- **Antonyms:** Deliberate, intentional, planned
- **Example:** An inadvertent error in the report led to a major misunderstanding.

## 7. Axiomatic (स्वयंसिद्ध )

- **Meaning:** Self-evident or unquestionable; accepted as true without controversy.
- **Synonyms:** Obvious, unquestionable, evident
- **Antonyms:** Debatable, questionable, uncertain
- **Example:** It is axiomatic that hard work usually leads to success.



## 8. Garish (चमकीला / भड़कीला )

- **Meaning:** Obtrusively bright and showy; overly vivid in a tasteless way.
- **Synonyms:** Gaudy, flashy, lurid
- **Antonyms:** Subtle, understated, elegant
- **Example:** The room was decorated in garish colors that hurt the eyes.

## 9. Jeopardise (जोखिम में डालना)

- **Meaning:** To put something at risk of harm, loss, or failure.
- **Synonyms:** Endanger, threaten, imperil
- **Antonyms:** Protect, safeguard, secure
- **Example:** Ignoring climate goals could jeopardise the future of our planet.

## 10. Subjugate (वश में करना)

- **Meaning:** To bring under control or domination, often by force.
- **Synonyms:** Conquer, dominate, overpower
- **Antonyms:** Liberate, free, emancipate
- **Example:** The new law was seen by many as an attempt to subjugate the transparency of public institutions.

## VOCABULARY

### One-word substitute:

**1. A remote or less developed area away from urban centers:**

**Hinterland**

**2. A noisy or petty quarrel, usually about a trivial matter:**

**Squabble**

**3. The arrangement of events or dates in the order of their occurrence:**

**Chronology**

**4. The arrival or entry of a large number of people or things into a place:**

**Influx**

# VOCABULARY

## Phrasal Verbs:

### 1. Opt out of

Meaning: To choose not to participate in something.

### 2. Size up

Meaning: To assess or evaluate something before making a decision.

### 3. Pick up on

Meaning: To notice and select something that others may overlook.

### 4. Weed out

Meaning: To remove or eliminate unwanted choices to leave the best ones.

# VOCABULARY

## Idioms & Phrases

### 1. Jump the gun

**Meaning:** To start something too soon or act prematurely.

### 2. Burn the candle at both ends

**Meaning:** To overwork yourself by doing too much, often leading to exhaustion.

### 3. The elephant in the room

**Meaning:** A major issue or problem that everyone is avoiding or ignoring.

## VOCABULARY

### **4. Bite the hand that feeds you**

**Meaning:** To harm or criticize someone who has helped or supported you.

### **5. Under one's belt**

**Meaning:** To have achieved or experienced something that adds to one's knowledge or skills.

## **Article for Reading**

**War and talks: On  
Russia and Ukraine**



**The Russia-Ukraine war has entered a new phase, marked by intensified military attacks and direct negotiations. On Sunday (June 1, 2025), on the eve of the second round of talks, Ukraine carried out its most daring drone attack deep inside Russia, targeting military airfields. According to Ukrainian intelligence officials, the drones, which were transported by trucks into Russia and launched remotely, resulted in “the destruction” of dozens of strategic bombers. While these claims have not been independently verified, Russia’s Ministry of Defence confirmed that five of its airfields came under attack, and aircraft at two stations, one close to the Norwegian border and the other in Siberia, “caught fire”. That Ukraine managed to carry out such an attack is a morale booster for its troops and a tactical setback for Russian President Vladimir Putin. Prior to Kyiv’s attack, Russia had launched an avalanche of drones and missiles across Ukraine, significantly straining the country’s air defences.**

**It included a missile strike at a military training base on Sunday, killing at least 12 Ukrainian soldiers. But a silver lining amid the intensifying military exchanges was that Russia and Ukraine went ahead with the planned direct talks in Istanbul on Monday. In the hour-long meeting, negotiators agreed to a prisoner exchange deal, and scheduled a third round of talks later in June. Forty months into the war, the signs of exhaustion are evident on both sides. Ukraine, faced with battlefield challenges, is trying to offset its vulnerabilities by staging innovative drone attacks to make the Kremlin feel the pain of the war. Kyiv has not had any major territorial victory in its lost territories since the Kherson offensive of late 2022. Over the past year, Ukraine has lost nearly 5,000 sq. km of its territory to the Russians. Russia has recaptured the land Ukraine had seized in Kursk. Russia's spring offensive is now gaining momentum, with territorial advances in the Sumy region, while Ukraine is grappling with weakened air defences, an acute manpower crisis and uncertainty about continued U.S. support under President Donald Trump.**

**Russia has found it increasingly difficult to prevent Ukraine's drone attacks targeting its energy infrastructure, the Black Sea fleet and now airfields hosting strategic bombers. If Russia has battlefield momentum, Ukraine stays defiant. If the war continues to drag on, the toll on both sides will only deepen. So far, efforts by Mr. Trump to broker peace have yielded little progress. But he should not give up. Russia has long-standing grievances and future security concerns that must be addressed. Ukraine wants credible security guarantees that shield it from future attacks. The U.S. has a crucial role to play in narrowing these differences and working toward a durable ceasefire.**

## Summary

**The Russia-Ukraine war has entered a new, intensified phase characterized by escalated military strikes and renewed diplomatic engagement. Ukraine launched its deepest drone strike into Russia, reportedly damaging strategic bombers, while Russia struck back with a large-scale missile and drone offensive. Despite the heightened conflict, both nations proceeded with direct talks in Istanbul, agreeing to a prisoner exchange and planning further negotiations. The war, now in its 40th month, shows signs of fatigue on both sides. Ukraine is relying on innovative tactics amid battlefield setbacks and resource constraints, while Russia gains momentum on the ground. U.S. mediation under President Trump has made little headway, but continued efforts are essential to address the core concerns of both sides and work toward a sustainable ceasefire.**

## **Tone:**

**Analytical and cautiously hopeful — the passage objectively outlines the escalating conflict while emphasizing the significance of ongoing diplomacy and the potential role of the U.S. in facilitating peace.**

## Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

**Question 1:**

**Which development in Ukraine's recent military strategy represents a shift in its battlefield tactics?**

- A. Recapturing Kherson from Russian forces in 2025**
- B. Requesting NATO boots on ground in Russian territory**
- C. Launching truck-transported drones into deep Russian airbases**
- D. Conducting missile strikes near the Black Sea Fleet**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 2:**

**What does the passage suggest as a persistent challenge for Russia despite its battlefield gains?**

- A. Failure to maintain control of Crimea**
- B. Inability to control Ukraine's energy exports**
- C. Military disloyalty among its northern regiments**
- D. Difficulty preventing drone strikes on strategic targets**
- E. None of the above**



**Question 3:**

**What role is envisioned for the United States, particularly under President Trump, in resolving the conflict?**

- A. Militarily enforcing a no-fly zone over eastern Ukraine**
- B. Serving as a peace negotiator by addressing both sides' concerns**
- C. Supplying hypersonic weapons to Ukrainian forces**
- D. Sanctioning Turkey for hosting peace talks**
- E. None of the above**

## **Article for Skimming**

**Act north: On the  
needs of Ladakh**

**The measures notified by the Centre on June 3, 2025 seek to address the several concerns that have been raised by the people of Ladakh regarding their language, culture and land. These issues came to the fore after the special status of the former State of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), under Article 370, was withdrawn in 2019 and it was bifurcated into Union Territories (UT). New policies on reservation, languages, domicile and composition of hill councils for the UT of Ladakh include a provision for up to 85% reservation for indigenous people in government jobs. Further clarity is expected when the rules are framed. Several States in the Northeast have reservation above 80% for indigenous people in various sectors — for instance, Mizoram has 92%, and Arunachal Pradesh has 80% in jobs. To be counted as a domicile of Ladakh, a person must have a continuous 15-year stay from 2019 in Ladakh.**

**This means that migrants in Ladakh, after it lost its special status in 2019, will be considered for domicile only after 2034. The comparable provision in the UT of J&K considers anyone who has completed 15 years as a registered migrant eligible for domicile. In hill councils, one-third of the seats will be reserved for women, as per the policy. English, Hindi, Urdu, Bhoti and Purgi languages will be the official languages. These measures fall short of the demands that civil society organisations in Ladakh have been raising. They want full Statehood, inclusion in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution which provides for special protection for tribespeople in several parts of the country, a second seat in the Lok Sabha and the constitution of a public service commission. While Ladakh, with a population of 2.74 lakh (2011 Census) has been demanding constitutional safeguards to protect its identity, culture and land, the lack of jobs and employment opportunities for the youth were at the heart of protests witnessed by the Union Territory in the past five years.**

**A parliamentary panel was informed by the Union Home Ministry earlier this year that none of the 1,275 gazetted posts in Ladakh has been filled since the region became a centrally administered territory in 2019. The sustained campaign by the Ladakhis, both in Kargil and Leh, forced the government to form a high-powered committee in 2023, headed by Minister of State Nityanand Rai, to look into their demands. Ladakh is strategically located at the junction of India, Pakistan and China, where both neighbours have border disputes with India. Recent developments have demonstrated that both these countries often act in tandem. It is imperative that New Delhi pays close attention to the sentiments of the region.**

**Question 4:**

**Why does the domicile rule for Ladakh potentially exclude many current residents from accessing government benefits until 2034?**

- A. Only descendants of original inhabitants are eligible**
- B. It applies only to those with prior government employment**
- C. It requires a 15-year continuous stay from the year 2019**
- D. It restricts eligibility to only Scheduled Tribes**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 5:**

**Despite the Centre's new measures, which of the following demands of Ladakh's civil society remains unfulfilled?**

- A. Creation of a public service commission**
- B. Adoption of Bhoti and Purgi as official languages**
- C. Reservation for women in hill councils**
- D. Recognition of Hindi as the sole official language**
- E. None of the above**

## Today's Descriptive Question:

- **Write an essay of 200 words about to raise mental health awareness in Schools**



**Raising mental health awareness in schools is crucial for fostering a supportive and healthy learning environment. Mental health issues, such as anxiety, depression, and stress, affect a significant number of students, impacting their academic performance, social interactions, and overall well-being. By integrating mental health education into the school curriculum, students can learn about the importance of mental health, recognize signs of distress in themselves and others, and understand how to seek help.**

**One of the primary benefits of raising mental health awareness is the reduction of stigma. When students and staff openly discuss mental health, it normalizes these conversations and encourages those struggling to seek support without fear of judgment.**

**Schools can promote awareness through workshops, seminars, and incorporating mental health topics into existing subjects. This education helps build empathy, resilience, and coping skills among students.**

**Moreover, providing access to mental health resources, such as counseling services and peer support groups, is essential. Trained professionals can offer guidance and support to students in need, helping them navigate their challenges and improve their mental well-being. Additionally, creating a safe and inclusive school environment where students feel valued and understood can significantly contribute to their mental health.**

**In conclusion, raising mental health awareness in schools is vital for creating a supportive atmosphere that enhances students' emotional and psychological well-being.**

**Through education, open dialogue, and accessible resources, schools can play a pivotal role in promoting mental health and ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive.**

- **Write a letter to your brother advising him to read textbooks.**

**ABC, Z block  
Dwarka  
New Delhi**

**07 October, 2024**

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

**I hope this letter finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to talk to you about the importance of reading your textbooks.**

**Textbooks are a vital resource for your studies. They provide**

**comprehensive information on the subjects you are learning, ensuring you have a strong foundation in each topic. By regularly reading your textbooks, you can better understand the material and be well-prepared for exams.**

**Additionally, textbooks often contain valuable examples, practice questions, and explanations that can clarify complex concepts. These resources can significantly enhance your learning experience and help you achieve better grades.**

**I know it can sometimes be challenging to stay focused, but developing a habit of reading your textbooks will pay off in the long run. Set aside dedicated time each day for reading, and try to create a quiet and comfortable study environment.**

**Remember, education is one of the most important investments you can make in**

**your future. By committing to your studies and making the most of your textbooks, you are setting yourself up for success.**

**If you ever need help or advice on your studies, don't hesitate to reach out. I'm always here to support you.**

**Take care and keep up the good work!**

**Best regards,**

**[Your Name]**

**Match the column**

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. Jump the gun                 | A. A major issue that everyone is avoiding                  |
| 2. Burn the candle at both ends | B. To harm someone who has helped you                       |
| 3. The elephant in the room     | C. To start something too soon                              |
| 4. Bite the hand that feeds you | D. To have achieved something that adds to one's knowledge. |
| 5. Under one's belt             | E. To overwork yourself by doing too much                   |

**Answer:**

**1-c**

**2-e**

**3-a**

**4-b**

**5-d**



## Vocabulary

1. Defiant:
2. Bifurcated:
3. Anachronistic:
4. Scrupulous:
5. Ineffable:
6. Inadvertent:
7. Axiomatic:
8. Garish:
9. Jeopardise:
10. Subjugate:

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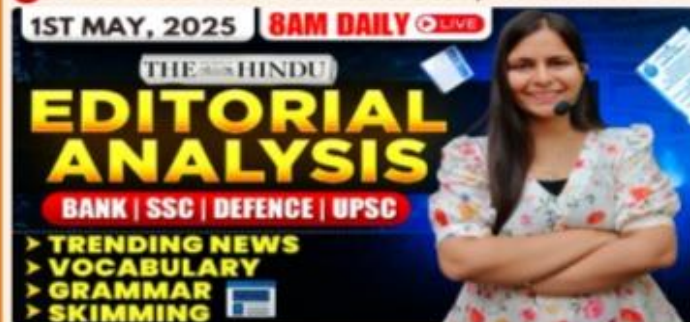


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## Rc ans

1.

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

**Reference:**

“...Ukraine carried out its most daring drone attack deep inside Russia, targeting military airfields... drones, which were transported by trucks into Russia and launched remotely...”

:

Ukraine’s innovative tactic of infiltrating drones into Russian territory via trucks and launching them internally marks a strategic evolution from traditional territorial offensives to asymmetrical attacks.

**Incorrect Options:**

A. Wrong timeframe: Ukraine recaptured Kherson in 2022, not recently.

"...no major territorial victory... since the Kherson offensive of late 2022."

B. No mention of NATO boots or such an escalation in the text.

D. While drone attacks have targeted the Black Sea fleet, it’s not the specific new tactic highlighted here.

**2.**

**Ans: D**

**Explanation:**

**Reference:**

“Russia has found it increasingly difficult to prevent Ukraine’s drone attacks targeting its energy infrastructure, the Black Sea fleet and now airfields hosting strategic bombers.”

Despite battlefield success, Russia faces vulnerabilities on the home front due to Ukraine’s effective use of drones.

**Incorrect Options:**

A. Crimea is not mentioned at all in the passage.

B. Ukraine's energy exports are not discussed; the focus is on Russian infrastructure being attacked.

C. No mention of military disloyalty.

**3.**

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

**Reference:**

“Russia has long-standing grievances and future security concerns... Ukraine wants credible security guarantees... The U.S. has a crucial role to play in narrowing these differences and working toward a durable ceasefire.”

The passage outlines the U.S.'s diplomatic role, suggesting it is uniquely positioned to mediate and address both Russian and Ukrainian demands.

**Incorrect Options:**

- A. No mention of U.S. military intervention or no-fly zones.
- C. Hypersonic weapons are not referenced.
- D. The U.S. does not oppose Turkey’s involvement — Istanbul hosted talks

**4.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

**Reference:**

“To be counted as a domicile of Ladakh, a person must have a continuous 15-year stay from 2019 in Ladakh.”

This policy delays domicile eligibility for post-2019 migrants until 2034, thereby limiting access to local benefits, including job reservations, in the interim.

**Incorrect Options:**

A. No ancestry condition is mentioned.

B. Prior employment is not a condition for domicile status.

D. Though tribal protections are discussed, domicile rules apply generally.



**5.**

**Ans: A**

**Explanation:**

**Reference:**

“They want... the constitution of a public service commission.”

The creation of a public service commission is among the unmet demands, as opposed to policy items that have already been enacted.

Incorrect Options:

B. Both Bhoti and Purgi are among the official languages.

C. Reservation for women is included:

“In hill councils, one-third of the seats will be reserved for women.”

D. Multiple languages are official — not only Hindi:

“English, Hindi, Urdu, Bhoti and Purgi languages...”