

# The Hindu EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

23rd April 2025

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

# **1. Grievous (गंभीर)**

- **Meaning:** Very serious or severe, often used to describe harm or injury.
- **Synonyms:** Severe, dire, egregious
- **Antonyms:** Minor, trivial, negligible
- **Example:** The accident resulted in grievous injuries to several passengers.

## **2. Surreptitious (गुप्त/छिपा हुआ)**

- Meaning: Done secretly, without being noticed.**
- Synonyms: Clandestine, covert, stealthy**
- Antonyms: Open, overt, transparent**
- Example: The journalist made surreptitious attempts to gather information on the scandal.**

### 3. Intricacies (जटिलताएँ )

- **Meaning:** The small, complex details of something.
- **Synonyms:** Complexities, complications, subtleties
- **Antonyms:** Simplicities, clarity, obviousness
- **Example:** Scientists are still trying to understand the intricacies of the human brain.

## 4. Ubiquitous (सर्वव्यापी /हर जगह मौजूद)

- **Meaning:** Present, appearing, or found everywhere.
- **Synonyms:** Omnipresent, pervasive, universal
- **Antonyms:** Rare, scarce, uncommon
- **Example:** AI-powered chatbots have become ubiquitous in customer service industries.

## 5. Saboteur (विनाशक / बाधा डालने वाला)

- **Meaning:** A person who deliberately destroys, damages, or obstructs something.
- **Synonyms:** Wrecker, destroyer, underminer
- **Antonyms:** Supporter, helper, contributor
- **Example:** If not trained, the subconscious mind can act as a silent saboteur of success.

## 6. Embargoed (प्रतिबंधित )

- **Meaning:** Formally banned from trade or commerce.
- **Synonyms:** Banned, restricted, prohibited
- **Antonyms:** Allowed, permitted, open
- **Example:** Certain high-tech products are embargoed from trade with hostile nations.

## 7. Exuberant (उत्साही )

- **Meaning:** Filled with or characterized by a lively energy and excitement.
- **Synonyms:** Enthusiastic, energetic, lively
- **Antonyms:** Gloomy, apathetic, subdued
- **Example:** The fans showed exuberant support for their team throughout the match.



## 8. Diminution (घटाव)

- **Meaning:** A reduction in the size, extent, or importance of something.
- **Synonyms:** Decrease, reduction, decline, lessening
- **Antonyms:** Increase, expansion, enlargement, augmentation
- **Example:** The diminution of the company's profits worried the investors.

## 9. Overhaul (संशोधन)

- **Meaning:** A thorough examination and repair of something.
- **Synonyms:** Renovation, refurbishment, reorganization
- **Antonyms:** Neglect, damage, destruction
- **Example:** The company decided to overhaul its outdated computer system to improve efficiency.

## 10. Malfeasance (दुराचार )

- **Meaning:** Wrongdoing, especially by a public official.
- **Synonyms:** Misconduct, wrongdoing, corruption
- **Antonyms:** Integrity, honesty, righteousness
- **Example:** The mayor was accused of malfeasance after evidence of bribery came to light.

# VOCABULARY

## One-word substitute:

**1. The use of many words where fewer would do, especially to be vague or evasive:**

**Circumlocution**

**2. A person who is excessively concerned with minor details or rules, or with displaying academic learning:**

**Pedant**

**3. To express disapproval of something:**

**Deprecate**

**4. Traveling from place to place, especially for work:**

**Itinerant**

# VOCABULARY

## Phrasal Verbs:

### 1. Turn in

Meaning - to submit (e.g., homework); to go to bed.

### 2. Turn on

Meaning - to start a device; to excite or arouse.

### 3. Use for

Meaning - to apply or employ something for a specific purpose.

### 4. Wrap up

Meaning - to finish or complete something.

# VOCABULARY

## Idioms & Phrases

### 1. Lend an ear

Meaning : To listen to someone sympathetically

### 2. Keep one's nose to the grindstone

Meaning : To work very hard.

### 3. Stick one's nose into something

Meaning : To interfere in someone else's business.

## VOCABULARY

### **4. Put your foot in your mouth**

**Meaning :** To say something embarrassing or inappropriate.

### **5. Hands are tied**

**Meaning :** Unable to act or help.

## **Article for Reading**

**South Asia will  
change with global  
economy's transition**



**April 2025 has been an absolute whirlwind. Tariffs have been announced and tariffs have been suspended. So with retaliations. Markets have risen at their fastest in modern times and fallen sharply in the same day. The shock to the global system as a result of all this is unlikely to fade away soon. It has already left too many scars. When the world changes, what will be next? For South Asia, which has not really been the focus just yet, what will the future be? Since at least the early 1940s, the world has been living under a dollar-based system. Since the 1970s, this dollar-based system has additionally taken on the form of a U.S.-deficit system. As the consumer of the first and last resort, it has been the U.S. household that has been buying the world's products, in many cases by borrowing from the world itself. As different countries rose and fell in their role as the factories of the world, money flowed across these different players.**

**If any country or region was lucky enough to be the intermediate between these flows, it benefited. For quite a while, this became East Asia and the varied countries in the region. From the mid-2000s, this became a more singular story. China emerged as the clear and increasingly singular counterparty to the U.S. deficit. It was the rise of China's factories that led to cheaper goods across the world, to money that flowed between the U.S. and China through the rest of the world, and to a growth boom across the developing world. For the U.S., this singular counterparty was one of stability. No longer did shifts in capital create crises in the same way. The deficit ran strong and the U.S. even started growing faster itself. Today, this world looks like it's behind us. Direct trade between the U.S. and China is effectively embargoed at tariff rates north of 100%. Trade across the rest of the world is also higher. Regardless of the specifics of where the tariffs end up, at this point it looks increasingly clear the world will find it hard to credibly depend on the U.S. as the consumer of the first and last resort for too long.**

**The world of trade looks like it's changing. Where will it go from here? In the previous global economic order of U.S. deficits and East Asian surpluses, South Asia played a relatively clear role. South Asians were, on the whole, net importers — more of a household than a factory. In that role, they borrowed from the capital stockpiles of the world — directly from East Asia in some cases, and indirectly through other beneficiaries. This borrowed capital then helped drive strong growth in the region. On a smaller scale, South Asia also served as an intermediary of trade. On the whole, the region has a trade deficit with East Asia and a trade surplus with the U.S. Small amounts of trade (small compared with the size of South Asia's economy) then flowed from East Asia, value-added in South Asia, and consumed in the U.S. This was not by any means the most important part of the South Asian economy — household consumption was.**

## Summary

**The passage outlines recent global economic upheavals in April 2025, marked by rapid tariff changes, trade disruptions, and market volatility. It reflects on the decline of the long-standing U.S.-led, dollar-based trade system — particularly the U.S. deficit model where American consumers fueled global demand. Historically, East Asia played a central manufacturing role, with China emerging as the primary counterparty to the U.S. This system enabled global growth, including in South Asia, which largely imported goods and benefited from borrowed capital. However, with escalating tariffs and a breakdown in U.S.-China trade, the passage suggests a significant shift in the global trade landscape, questioning the future role of South Asia in this evolving order.**

## Tone:

**Reflective and analytical, with a hint of concern about economic uncertainty and systemic change.**

## Reading Comprehension

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

**Question 1:**

**What is the primary concern the author expresses about the current state of the global trade system?**

- A. The growing dominance of South Asia in trade flows**
- B. The inability of East Asia to maintain its trade surplus**
- C. The collapse of the U.S.-based consumer-driven model**
- D. Overdependence on multilateral trade agreements**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 2:**

**According to the passage, what was the main stabilizing feature of the U.S.-China trade relationship from the mid-2000s?**

- A. China's willingness to act as a consumer of U.S. goods**
- B. China's emergence as a singular counterparty to the U.S. deficit**
- C. Balanced bilateral trade ensured by multilateral treaties**
- D. China's ability to replace U.S. households as global consumers**
- E. None of the above**



**Question 3:**

**Which of the following statements best summarizes the central theme of the passage?**

- A. South Asia's future lies in becoming a manufacturing giant like China**
- B. The end of the U.S.-China trade partnership will benefit East Asian economies**
- C. Tariff wars will likely restore the dominance of the dollar-based system**
- D. The breakdown of the traditional global trade system demands new roles for regions like South Asia**
- E. None of the above**

## **Article for Skimming**

**Unlocking the Hidden  
Power Within: The  
Role of the  
Subconscious Mind**

**In a world increasingly driven by data, logic, and measurable outcomes, we often overlook one of the most powerful tools available to us—the human subconscious mind. While science continues to uncover the intricacies of the brain, what remains clear is that the subconscious wields a quiet yet commanding influence over every facet of our lives. From the choices we make to the emotions we feel and the habits we form, the subconscious operates like an invisible force, constantly shaping our experiences and outcomes. Unlike the conscious mind, which is deliberate and analytical, the subconscious is intuitive, automatic, and vast. It stores every memory, every emotional imprint, and every belief—both empowering and limiting—that we have accumulated over a lifetime. It is the reason why old fears persist despite rational thinking, why success may elude even the most hardworking individuals, and why patterns often repeat in our lives without apparent cause.**

**The subconscious does not argue or question; it simply absorbs and executes, making it both a formidable ally and a subtle saboteur, depending on how we engage with it. What makes the subconscious truly powerful is its responsiveness to repetition and suggestion.**

**Athletes visualize victories, public speakers rehearse success, and successful entrepreneurs train their minds to see possibilities rather than obstacles—not because they ignore reality, but because they understand that the mind, once conditioned, can unlock levels of confidence, clarity, and creativity that conscious effort alone cannot achieve. Tools like positive affirmations, visualization techniques, meditation, and even hypnotherapy are not mystical; they are rooted in the science of neuroplasticity—the brain's ability to rewire itself through consistent thought patterns. The implications of this are profound.**

**If individuals can train their subconscious minds to support their goals, rather than hinder them with outdated fears or inherited beliefs, the scope for personal and professional growth expands dramatically. Education systems, mental health practices, and leadership training programs are increasingly acknowledging the need to go beyond surface-level instruction and address the inner mindset—the subconscious framework—that ultimately determines performance and wellbeing. In essence, the subconscious mind is not just a passive reservoir of thoughts—it is an engine of potential, waiting to be harnessed. In the quiet chambers of the mind where dreams are born and fears are hidden, lies the key to transformation. The question is not whether the subconscious mind is powerful; the question is whether we are ready to understand it, influence it, and use it wisely.**

**Question 4:**

**What is the primary distinction between the conscious and subconscious mind as described in the passage?**

- A. The conscious mind is emotional, while the subconscious is rational.**
- B. The subconscious mind questions decisions, while the conscious mind does not.**
- C. The conscious mind operates through logic, while the subconscious works intuitively and automatically.**
- D. The subconscious processes short-term memory, while the conscious holds long-term memory.**
- E. None of the above**

**Question 5:**

**According to the passage, what gives the subconscious mind its power?**

- A. Its ability to influence conscious decision-making in real time**
- B. Its reliance on facts, statistics, and measurable data**
- C. Its function as a logical problem-solving tool**
- D. Its responsiveness to repetition and suggestion**
- E. None of the above**

# Today's Descriptive Question

## Precis Writing:



## **Original Text:**

**The Go First crisis marks one of the most significant setbacks in India's aviation sector. Formerly known as GoAir, the airline faced severe financial distress, leading it to suspend operations and file for voluntary insolvency in May 2023. The crisis was attributed to operational inefficiencies, financial mismanagement, rising fuel costs, and supply chain disruptions. However, the primary reason cited by the airline was the non-availability of engines from Pratt & Whitney, which grounded nearly half of its fleet, leading to revenue losses. The impact of Go First's financial collapse has been far-reaching. Thousands of passengers were left stranded due to sudden flight cancellations, and employees faced job insecurity. The crisis also intensified concerns over the financial viability of low-cost carriers (LCCs) in India, as rising operational costs and high competition make profitability challenging. Suppliers, creditors, and airport operators also suffered financial losses due to unpaid dues.**

**The Go First debacle has also raised questions about airline regulations, aircraft leasing policies, and the dependency of Indian airlines on foreign engine manufacturers. The crisis underscores the need for better financial planning, supply chain resilience, and regulatory intervention to ensure the stability of India's aviation industry.**

## Precis:

**The Go First crisis resulted in the airline's suspension of operations and insolvency filing in May 2023, mainly due to engine shortages, financial mismanagement, and rising operational costs. It disrupted passenger travel, caused job losses, and raised concerns over the financial health of low-cost airlines. The crisis highlights the need for stronger airline regulations, supply chain resilience, and financial sustainability to prevent similar setbacks in India's aviation sector.**

- You are a customer support executive, and a customer has complained about poor service. Write an email apologizing and assuring them of improved service.

**To: .....@gmail.com**

**Subject: Sincere Apologies for Your Experience – Commitment to Improved Service**

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

**I sincerely apologize for the inconvenience you faced due to our service. We truly value your feedback and regret that we did not meet your expectations on this occasion.**

**At [Company Name], customer satisfaction is our top priority, and we are taking immediate steps to address the issue. We have reviewed your concern and are working diligently to ensure a smoother experience for you in the future.**

**Please be assured that we are committed to providing the highest level of service. If there is anything specific we can do to resolve your concern, please feel free to reach out to us at [contact details].**

**Once again, we appreciate your patience and the opportunity to improve. We look forward to serving you better.**

**Best regards,  
[Your Name]  
[Your Position]  
[Company Name]**

**Match the column**

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Lend an ear                       | A. To interfere in someone else's business |
| 2. Keep one's nose to the grindstone | B. To say something inappropriate          |
| 3. Stick one's nose into something   | C. To listen to someone                    |
| 4. Put your foot in your mouth       | D. Unable to act or help                   |
| 5. Hands are tied                    | E. To work very hard                       |

**Answer:**

**1-c**

**2-e**

**3-a**

**4-b**

**5-d**



## Vocabulary

1. Grievous:
2. Surreptitious:
3. Intricacies:
4. Ubiquitous:
5. Saboteur:
6. Embargoed:
7. Exuberant:
8. Diminution:
9. Overhaul:
10. Malfeasance:

**Rc ans**

**1.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

“It looks increasingly clear the world will find it hard to credibly depend on the U.S. as the consumer of the first and last resort for too long.”

This represents a fundamental shift away from a decades-old model, which is the author's key concern.

**Incorrect options:**

A. South Asia is still secondary and import-heavy, not dominant.

B. East Asia's status isn't the main concern; it's the U.S.-China shift.

D. No critique of multilateral trade pacts is present.

**2.**

**Ans: B**

**Explanation:**

“From the mid-2000s... China emerged as the clear and increasingly singular counterparty to the U.S. deficit... this singular counterparty was one of stability.”  
This centralized relationship allowed predictable flows of goods and capital, stabilizing global trade.

**Incorrect options:**

- A. The passage emphasizes China as producer, not consumer.
- C. No mention of treaties ensuring balance.
- D. U.S. households remained the global consumers.

**3.**

**Ans: D**

**Explanation:**

The author reflects on the collapse of the U.S.-China-centric, dollar-based order and ponders, “What will the future be?” especially for South Asia, indicating a global restructuring and the need for new regional roles.

**Incorrect options:**

- A. South Asia isn’t projected as a future factory like China.
- B. East Asia’s future benefits aren’t the focus.
- C. The passage predicts the decline, not resurgence, of the dollar system.

**4.**

**Ans: C**

**Explanation:**

“Unlike the conscious mind, which is deliberate and analytical, the subconscious is intuitive, automatic, and vast.”

This highlights the contrast: the conscious is analytical, while the subconscious is automatic and intuitive.

**Incorrect options:**

A. Emotion is more associated with the subconscious, not the conscious.

B. The subconscious does not question or argue, per the passage.

D. Memory distinctions aren't about short-term/long-term but emotional and belief storage in the subconscious.

**5.**

**Ans: D**

**Explanation:**

“What makes the subconscious truly powerful is its responsiveness to repetition and suggestion.”

The passage explains how techniques like visualization and affirmations rewire the brain through consistent input.

**Incorrect options:**

- A. Influence is implied but not in real time.
- B. Facts and data are associated with the conscious mind.
- C. The subconscious is not described as logical.



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