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THE HINDU

THE HINDU EDITORIAL VOCABULARY BOOSTER

DECEMBER 2020

FOR ALL BANKING AND GOVERNMENT EXAMS

The Hindu Newspaper is treated as the Bible by the Exam Aspirants be it Bank Exam Aspirants, SSC Aspirants or UPSC Aspirants. Reading the Editorial section of the newspaper daily has twofold benefits: (a) It gives the editor's views on the latest happenings in India and the World, (b) It helps enhance English Vocabulary. In this eBook of "**The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary Booster December 2020**", we have come up with a list of difficult words taken from the Hindu Editorials of the **December Month**, with their Meanings, Synonyms, Antonyms, and the Correct Usage of those words. Read along to understand it better.

The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary Booster – December 2020

Sr. No.	Words	Meanings & Synonyms	Antonyms	Usage
1.	Abdicate	Fail to fulfil or undertake (a responsibility or duty). Disown, Spurn, Reject, Renounce	Accept, Take on	She abdicated all responsibility for the project.
2.	Abeyance	A state of temporary disuse or suspension. Moratorium, Quiescence, Suspension	Continuance, Continuation	Our weekend plans were held in abeyance until we could get a weather forecast.
3.	Aggravate	Make (a problem, injury, or offense) worse or more serious. Annoy, Irritate, Exasperate, Anger	Calm, Conciliate	Attempts to restrict parking in the city centre have further aggravated the problem of traffic congestion.
4.	Anecdote	A short, interesting story about a real person or event. Story, Tale, Yarn		He told one or two amusing anecdotes about his years as a policeman.
5.	Anomalous	Deviating from what is standard, normal, or expected. Abnormal, Atypical, Irregular, Aberrant	Normal, Typical, Regular	Researchers could not explain the anomalous test results.
6.	Apprehension	Anxiety or fear that something bad or unpleasant will happen. Anxiety, Angst, Alarm, Worry	Confidence	It is normal to feel a little apprehension before starting a new job.

7.	Beleaguered	In a very difficult situation.		The board is supporting the beleaguered director amid calls for his resignation”.
8.	Brazen	Bold and without shame. Brash, Immodest	Timid, Shy	He went about his illegal business with a brazen assurance.
9.	Brinkmanship	The art or practice of pursuing a dangerous policy to the limits of safety before stopping, especially in politics.		The talks have collapsed and both sides have resorted to brinkmanship .
10.	Caught in the Crossfire	To be involved in a situation where people around you are arguing. Altercation, Argument	Agreement	The Health Minister, who resigned today, claims she is an innocent victim caught in the crossfire of the current battle over inflation.
11.	Caveat	A warning or proviso of specific stipulations, conditions, or limitations. Warning, Caution, Admonition, Monition		Sound great? There is just one caveat : Knowledge about how genes work is still in the scientific Stone Age.
12.	Charisma	Compelling attractiveness or charm that can inspire devotion in others. Charm, Appeal, Presence	Repulsion	His success was largely due to his charisma .
13.	Collusion	Secret agreement or cooperation especially for an illegal or deceitful purpose. Complicity, Connivance, Conspiracy	Honesty	The company was acting in collusion with manufacturers to inflate prices.
14.	Confrontational	Tending to deal with situations in an aggressive way; hostile or argumentative. Battle, Combat, Conflict		He distanced himself from the confrontational approach adopted by his predecessor.
15.	Connoisseurs	An expert judge in matters of taste. Epicure, Gastronome, Buff, Maven	Ignoramus	The mushrooms had the chewy, savoury flavour preferred by connoisseurs .

16.	Controversial	Giving rise or likely to give rise to controversy or public disagreement. Contentious, Disputed	Uncontroversial, Anodyne	The book was very controversial .
17.	Covenant	A formal agreement or promise between two or more people.		The contract contained a restrictive covenant against building on the land.
18.	Crucial	Extremely important. Important, Significant	Minor	Her work has been crucial to the project's success.
19.	Debilitate	To make somebody's body or mind weaker. To make someone or something weak. Devitalize, Enervate, Enfeeble	Fortify, Strengthen	Chemotherapy exhausted and debilitated him.
20.	Deprivation	The damaging lack of material benefits considered to be basic necessities in society. Poverty, Impoverished, Penury, Privation	Wealth	They used sleep deprivation as a form of torture.
21.	Disaffection	A state or feeling of being dissatisfied, especially with people in authority or a system of control. Discontent, Restlessness, Frustration	Contentment, Loyalty	Poverty clearly causes disaffection and unrest.
22.	Edifice	A system that has been established for a long time.		It looks as if the whole political edifice of the country is about to collapse.
23.	Elude	Escape from or avoid (a danger, enemy, or pursuer), typically in a skilful or cunning way. Evade, Avoid, Dodge, Flee	Encounter, Meet, Confront, Court, Dare, Defy	They had minor breakthroughs, but real success eluded them.
24.	Enshrine	Preserve (a right, tradition, or idea) in a form that ensures it will be protected and respected.	Abase, Degrade, Demean, Humble, Humiliate	A lot of memories are enshrined in this photo album.

		Set down, set out, spell out, Lay down		
25.	Exaggerated	Regarded or represented as larger, better, or worse than in reality. Overstated, Overemphasized, Inflated, Magnified, Amplified	Understated	The threat of attack has been greatly exaggerated .
26.	Expediency	The situation in which something is helpful or useful in a particular situation, but sometimes not morally acceptable. Haste	Imprudence, Inadvisability, Inexpedience, Inexpediency, Injudiciousness, Unwisdom	I think this government operates on the basis of expediency , not of principle.
27.	Expedient	An action convenient and practical although possibly improper or immoral. Convenient, Advantageous	Inexpedient, Ill-advised	Marley found it expedient to maintain social relationships with gunmen and politicians from both political parties.
28.	Exuberance	The quality of being full of energy, excitement, and cheerfulness; ebullience. Buoyancy	Gloom, Meagreness, Inactivity, Lifelessness	The exuberance of the housing market was an encouraging economic indicator.
29.	Fait accompli	A thing accomplished and presumably irreversible.		He charged that the members were presented with a fait accompli instead of being called to a meeting to discuss the policy change.
30.	Feasibility	The possibility that can be made, done, or achieved, or is reasonable. Reasonable, Likely	Hopeless, Impossible, Impracticable, Infeasible, Nonviable	We are looking at the feasibility of building a shopping centre there.
31.	Feverish	Suffering from or caused by a fever.		I am feeling a bit feverish – I hope it is not the start of the flu.
32.	Fledgling	A person or organization that is immature, inexperienced, or underdeveloped. Emerging, Emergent, Arising	Declining, Mature	The current economic climate is particularly difficult for fledgling businesses.
33.	Foster	I am trying to foster an interest in classical music in my children.	Discourage, Frustrate, Hinder, Inhibit	I am trying to foster an interest in classical music in my children.

		Advance, Cultivate, Encourage, Incubate		
34.	Fragile	Easily destroyed or threatened. Tenuous, Weak, Delicate, Brittle	Strong, Robust	The assassination could do serious damage to the fragile peace agreement that was signed last month.
35.	Fraught	Causing or affected by anxiety or stress. Anxious, Worried, Upset, Distraught	Calm	From beginning to end, the airlift was fraught with risks.
36.	Futile	Incapable of producing any useful result; pointless. Fruitless, Vain, Pointless, Useless, Worthless, Ineffectual	Useful, Fruitful	It is completely futile trying to reason with him – he just will not listen.
37.	Grandiose	Impressive and imposing in appearance or style, especially pretentiously so. Magnificent, Grand, Impressive, Imposing	Unimpressive, Humble	This grandiose plan for rural transformation faltered with its first steps.
38.	Immunogenic	Relating to or producing an immune response.		Researchers would try to determine if the candidate is safe and immunogenic .
39.	Impasse	A situation in which no progress is possible, especially because of disagreement; a deadlock. Deadlock, Stalemate, Checkmate, Standstill	Way out, Solution	The dispute had reached an impasse , as neither side would compromise.
40.	Inconceivable	Not capable of being imagined or grasped mentally; unbelievable. Unbelievable	Believable, Conceivable, Convincing, Credible	The fire caused an inconceivable amount of damage.
41.	Indefinitely	For an unlimited or unspecified period of time. Boundless, Endless	Bounded, Circumscribed, Confined, Definite, Finite, Limited, Restricted	The negotiations have been put off/postponed indefinitely .
42.	Inequity	Lack of fairness or justice.	Equity, Fairness, Justice	The inequity of the punishment led many people to believe that the

		Unfairness, Injustice		defendant was being punished for his political beliefs.
43.	Inevitable	Certain to happen; unavoidable. Unavoidable, Inescapable, Inexorable	Avoidable, Uncertain	The accident was the inevitable consequence/result/outcome of carelessness.
44.	Intermittent	Occurring at irregular intervals; not continuous or steady. Sporadic, Irregular, Fitful, Spasmodic, Broken	Constant, Continuous, Incessant, Unceasing, Steady	In the intermittent light, he could make out the shape of a solitary oak tree, spreading great arms from its short, tremendous trunk.
45.	Jurisprudence	A legal system. A department of law		For her part, Barrett described her faith as important, but irrelevant to her jurisprudence .
46.	Manoeuvre	Something clever that you do in order to win something, trick somebody, etc. Steer, Guide, Exercise, Pilot	Botch, Bungle, Foozle, fumble	Reversing around a corner is one of the manoeuvres you are required to perform in a driving test.
47.	Meddle	To take too much interest in somebody's private affairs or to touch something that does not belong to you Interfere, Interlope, Intrude	Avoid, Eschew, Shun, Disregard, Ignore, Neglect, Overlook	Please stop meddling in your sister's marriage, even though you mean well.
48.	Modus operandi	A method of procedure A distinct pattern or method of operation that indicates or suggests the work of a single criminal in more than one crime		The best approach ... was to do things through quiet persuasion, which was his modus operandi .
49.	Morbidity	The condition of suffering from a disease or medical condition.		The therapy can substantially reduce respiratory morbidity in infants.
50.	Moribund	A person at the point of death. A thing in terminal decline Waning, Dying, Declining	Flourishing	The peace talks are moribund .
51.	Nuance	A subtle difference in or shade of meaning, expression, or sound.		Nuances of flavour and fragrance cannot be described accurately.

		Gradation, Modulation, Subtlety, Refinement, Overtone	Variation, Degree, Nicety,	
52.	Ostensibly	As appears or is stated to be true, though not necessarily so; apparently. Apparently, Seemingly	Genuinely, Really, Truly	Their ostensible goal was to clean up government corruption, but their real aim was to unseat the government.
53.	Penchant	Something that you like very much to do. Affection, Affinity, Aptitude, Bent	Dislike	Martha remembered that Harold Sherman's penchant for wearing white shirts on weekdays raised eyebrows.
54.	Piecemeal	Done or happening a little at a time. Gradually, Inchmeal, Incremental, Step-by-step	Abruptly, Suddenly	Unfortunately, everything is being done piecemeal .
55.	Pre-eminent	Surpassing all others; very distinguished in some way. Greatest, Leading, Foremost, Best, Finest	Unknown, Undistinguished , Inferior	She is the pre-eminent authority in her subject.
56.	Prevaricate	To avoid answering a question directly in order to hide the truth. Fabricate, Lie	Affirm, Asseverate, Maintain, Reiterate	Government officials prevaricated about the real costs of the project.
57.	Profiteer	Make or seek to make an excessive or unfair profit, especially illegally or in a black market. Overcharge, Racketeer, Extortionist		Humanitarian aid such as cans of oil was resold by war profiteers .
58.	Prognosticate	Foretell or prophesy (a future event). Forecast, Predict, Prophesy, Foretell		He is in a good position to prognosticate on the future of commerce.
59.	Quantifiable	Able to be measured. Perceptible, Quantitative, Mensurable	Imperceptible, Insignificant, Immeasurable	The benefits of the new policy are not easily quantifiable .
60.	Ravaged	Severely damaged; devastated.		The area has been ravaged by drought.

61.	Redundant	Not or no longer needed or useful; superfluous. Unnecessary, Inessential, Needless	Essential, Necessary	In the sentence "She is a single unmarried woman", the word "unmarried" is redundant .
62.	Reliability	The quality of being trustworthy or performing consistently well. Dependability, Trustworthiness	Dodginess, Unreliability	These data throw doubt on the reliability of national statistics.
63.	Reluctance	Unwillingness or disinclination to do something. Hesitation	Willingness, Eagerness	The mice showed an odd reluctance to eat the cheese we had put out for them.
64.	Reluctant	Unwilling and hesitant; disinclined. Disinclined, Unenthusiastic, Grudging	Willing, Eager, Ready	Many parents feel reluctant to talk openly with their children.
65.	Resilience	An ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change.		Biden then moved to remind viewers of the resilience of American democracy.
66.	Retrospective	Looking back on or dealing with past events or situations. Backdated	Future, Likely, Prospective, Potential	They issued a retrospective report.
67.	Slump	Sit, lean, or fall heavily and limply. Undergo a sudden severe or prolonged fall in price, value, or amount Plummet, Plunge	Rise, Soar	The value of the property has slumped .
68.	Sovereignty	Supreme power or authority. The authority of a state to govern itself or another state Autonomy, Supremacy, Dominion, Self-Government	Subservience, Subjection, Hegemony, Colonialism	Nor was the sovereignty of the Native Hawaiian race recognized at the time Hawaii became a state.
69.	Status Quo	The existing state of affairs.		He is content with the status quo and does not like change.

70.	Statutory	Required, permitted, or enacted by statute. Decided, controlled, or required by law.		In France, everybody is entitled to a statutory 25 days a year holiday.
71.	Suo Motu	(with reference to an action taken by a court) without any request by the parties involved.		The court has, Suo motu , decided to add the divisional commissioner as a respondent to the petition.
72.	Surveillance	Close observation, especially of a suspected spy or criminal. Observation, Scrutiny, Watch, Inspection		The bank robbery was recorded by surveillance video cameras.
73.	Susceptible	Likely or liable to be influenced or harmed by a particular thing. Endangered, Exposed, Liable, Sensitive	Immune, Resistant	These plants are particularly susceptible to frost.
74.	Tenuous	Very weak or uncertain.		The police have only found a tenuous connection between the two robberies.
75.	Therapeutic	Helping you to relax and feel better. Curative, Medicinal, Healing		Gardening can be very therapeutic .
76.	Thrive	To grow or develop well. Flourish, Prosper	Cease, Decrease	His business thrived in the years before the war.
77.	Throttling	To prevent something from succeeding.		The reduction in funds is throttling the development of new programmes.
78.	Transgressions	An act that goes against a law, rule, or code of conduct, an offence. Offence, Crime, Sin, Wrong, Felony, Misdemeanour	Obedience	I will be keeping an eye out for further transgressions .
79.	Transmissibility	The quality of a disease or trait being able to be passed on from one person or organism to another.		What measures should be taken will depend on the transmissibility of the virus".
80.	Turmoil	A state of great noise or confusion.	Calm, Ease, Peace, Peacefulness,	The country has been in turmoil for the past 10 years.

		Disquiet, Ferment, Restlessness, Uneasiness	Quiet, Tranquillity	
81.	Uncompromising	Showing an unwillingness to make concessions to others, especially by changing one's ways or opinions. Inflexible, Unbending, Unyielding, Unshakeable, Unwavering	Flexible, Compliant	The city council has taken an uncompromising stand against the proposals for the new building.
82.	Undermine	Lessen the effectiveness, power, or ability of, especially gradually or insidiously. Subvert, Sabotage, Threaten, Weaken, Compromise, Diminish	Enhance, Improve, Strengthen	Criticism just undermines their confidence.
83.	Unprecedented	Never having happened or existed before. Fresh, New, Original, Unknown, Unheard of	Familiar, Hackneyed, Old, Time-honoured, Tired, Warmed-over	This century has witnessed environmental destruction on an unprecedented scale.
84.	Unravelling	Investigate and solve or explain (something complicated or puzzling). Solve, Resolve, Workout	Complicate	Scientists are still unravelling the secrets of DNA.
85.	Unrelenting	Not yielding in strength, severity, or determination. Implacable, Inflexible, Uncompromising	Acquiescent, Agreeable, Amenable, Compliant, Complying, Flexible, Pliable, Pliant, Relenting, Yielding	She will be remembered as an unrelenting opponent of racial discrimination.
86.	Vigilance	The action or state of keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties. Surveillance, Attentiveness	Absentmindedness, Abstraction, Daydreaming, Daze, Distraction	The police said that it was thanks to the vigilance of a neighbour that the fire was discovered before it could spread.

Source: The Hindu Newspaper

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