

Countering terror: On action against groups targeting civilians

All nations must come together against groups **targeting civilians**

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's **listing** of four **hurdles** to better **counterterrorism** cooperation, i.e., **state** support for financing terror; **multilateral mechanisms** that are **opaque** and **agenda driven**; **double standards** and **politicisation** of countering terrorism according to where terror groups belong, and the "next **frontier**" (the use of emerging technologies such as **drones** and **virtual currency** by terrorists), **needs** attention. The **focus** of the UNSC special **briefing** on Thursday, 'Global Counterterrorism Approach', that was **convened** by India, **is well-timed given** that the "**Global War** on Terrorism" and the **sanctions regimes** launched after 9/11 **are in disarray**. In their **haste** to exit Afghanistan in 2021, for example, the UNSC's permanent members, the U.S. and the U.K. **struck** the biggest **blow** to the sanctions regime by **holding talks** with the Taliban, easing their path to power in Kabul and **letting** their **handlers** in Pakistan **off the hook**. Second, as Mr. Jaishankar has **pointed out**, a **P-5 country** (China) continues to block the **designations** of Pakistan-based terrorists, including five named this year, from the LeT and the JeM. Finally, instead of uniting to accept India's proposal, of 1996, of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terror to institute global practices on countering terror, the P-5 countries are hopelessly **polarised**, and **irrevocably** so, over Russia's war in Ukraine. Given the **scenario**, New Delhi's **attempt** at **highlighting** the issues during the last few weeks of its two-year UNSC tenure **was apt**, as it built up to the briefing with **conferences** in India including a UN Counter-Terrorism Committee meeting, the No Money For Terror conference, and an **Interpol** conference.

It is **unfortunate**, however, that the briefing appears to have been **overshadowed** by **heated** words outside the Council between Mr. Jaishankar and his Pakistani **counterpart** Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. In response to Mr. Jaishankar's comments on Pakistan being the "**epicentre** of terrorism", Mr. Bhutto chose to launch a personal **tirade** against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the 2002 Gujarat **riots**. **That** Pakistan's "**dossier**" on what it **claims** is an Indian hand behind a blast in Lahore essentially **pertains** to an attack on the 26/11 terrorist strikes **mastermind** and LeT chief Hafiz Saeed **is** equally telling about the Pakistan government's **regard** for him, as well as its desire to **muddy** the global **narrative** on terrorism. The Government would be better served by not **taking the bait**, and focusing instead on the task **at hand**: "**re-invigorating**" the global agenda and counter-terrorism **architecture** by **emphasising** the need for unity on the issue, and for all countries to provide resources to the battle against those driven by a **radical ideology** who continue to **threaten** civilian populations worldwide.

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.
- **Dossier** (noun) – a collection of papers containing detailed information about a person, an event or a subject एक प्रकार कि फ़ाइल जिसमें किसी व्यक्ति, घटना या विषय पर विस्तृत जानकारी हो

Vocabulary

1. **Counter** (verb) – oppose, contradict, retort, combat, respond सामना करना follow or achieve but other people are not दोहरा मापदंड
2. **Target** (verb) – to try to have an effect on a particular group of people; to try to attack somebody/something किसी पर आक्रमण करने की कोशिश करना
3. **Civilian** (noun) – civil, citizen, noncombatant, civic, private citizen नागरिक
4. **Hurdle** (noun) – obstacle, hindrance, barrier, obstruction, impediment बाधा
5. **Counter-terrorism** (noun) – anti-terrorism आतंकवाद के खिलाफ़
6. **State** (noun) – Country
7. **Multilateral** (adjective) – Agreed upon or participated in by three or more parties, especially the governments of different countries. बहुपक्षीय
8. **Mechanism** (noun) – procedure, process, system, operation, method तंत्र
9. **Opaque** (adjective) – obscure, unclear, अस्पष्ट
10. **Agenda-driven** (adjective) – Motivated or influenced by agenda एजेंडे से प्रेरित
11. **Double standard** (noun) – a rule or standard of good behaviour that, unfairly, some people are expected to
12. **Politicisation** (noun) – the action of causing an activity or event to become political in character राजनीतिकरण
13. **Next Frontier** (noun) – the principles and policies
14. **Drone** (noun) – a remote-controlled pilotless aircraft or small flying device.
15. **Virtual currency** (noun) – a digital representation of value only available in electronic form.
16. **Briefing** (noun) – a meeting for giving information or instructions. वार्ता
17. **Convene** (verb) – assemble, gather, meet, get together, come together आयोजित करना
18. **Well-timed** (adjective) – occurring at an appropriate time; timely. सामयिक
19. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into account, bearing in mind देखते हुए
20. **Sanction** (noun) – Restriction, ban, penalty, punishment, injunction प्रतिबंध
21. **Regime** (noun) – system, arrangement, scheme, code व्यवस्था

22. **In disarray** (noun) – a state of disorganization or untidiness; Disorder, confusion, chaos अस्त-व्यस्त
23. **In Haste** (phrase) – fast, quickly, speedily, swiftly, hurriedly, in a hurry जल्दबाजी में
24. **Strike blow to** (phrase) – to do something to fight for or against something. विरोध में कार्य करना।
25. **Hold talk** (phrase) – to have formal or official discussions about an issue or a situation.
26. **Let** (verb) – allow, permit, give permission to होने देना
27. **Handler** (noun) – undercover agent, enemy agent संचालक
28. **Off the hook** (phrase) – no longer in difficulty or trouble. सुरक्षित निकल जाना (कठिन परिस्थिति से)
29. **Point out** (phrasal verb) – indicate, mention, note, highlight, emphasize इशारा करना
30. **P-5 country** (noun) – refers to the UN Security Council's five permanent members (the P5); namely China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
31. **Designation** (noun) – title, name, term, label, tag
32. **Polarise** (verb) – Divided into two sharply contrasting groups ध्रुवीकृत
33. **Irrevocably** (adverb) – in a way that cannot be changed, reversed, or recovered. अपरिवर्तनीय ढंग से
34. **Scenario** (noun) – sequence of events, series of developments, situation परिदृश्य
35. **Highlight** (verb) – underline, underscore, call attention to, focus attention on, stress, emphasize प्रमुखता से दिखाना
36. **Apt** (adjective) – appropriate, fitting, suitable, proper, relevant उपयुक्त
37. **Conference** (noun) – a formal meeting for discussion सम्मेलन
38. **Interpol** (noun) – it is an abbreviation of "international police" and it was chosen in 1946 as a telegraphic address इंटरपोल
39. **Unfortunate** (adjective) – unlucky, hapless, out of luck, down on one's luck दुर्भाग्य
40. **Overshadow** (verb) – appear more prominent or important than.
41. **Heated** (adjective) – (used about a person or discussion) angry or excited (व्यक्ति या चर्चा) क्रोधित या उत्तेजनापूर्ण

42. **Counterpart** (noun) – equivalent, opposite number, peer, समकक्ष
43. **Epicenter** (noun) – the central point of something, typically a difficult or unpleasant situation. उपरिकेंद्र
44. **Tirade** (noun) – a long, angry speech of criticism or accusation. निंदा-भाषण
45. **Claim** (noun) – Assertion, statement, accusation, declaration, allegation, contention दावा
46. **Pertain** (to) (verb) – be relevant to , relate से संबंधित होना
47. **Mastermind** (noun) – planner, organizer
48. **Regard** (noun) – respect or admiration for someone or something सम्मान, ध्यान, लिहाज़
49. **Muddy** (verb) – make (something) hard or harder to understand; obscure, confuse, obfuscate, blur, cloud उलझना
50. **Narrative** (noun) – An explanation or interpretation of events in accordance with a particular theory, ideology, or point of view
51. **Take the bait** (phrase) – To respond to someone's actions or words in the way that they intended
52. **At hand** (phrase) – close in time; about to happen आसन्न
53. **Re-invigorate** (verb) – to give new or renewed strength or energy to (something or someone) पुनर्जीवित करना
54. **Architecture** (noun) – structure, construction, form, formation, shape, composition ढांचा
55. **Emphasize** (verb) – stress, highlight, underline, accentuate, underscore ज़ोर देना
56. **Radical** (adjective) – revolutionary, extremist, extreme, fanatic, progressive अतिवादी
57. **Ideology** (noun) – philosophy, creed, credo, belief, doctrine विचारधारा
58. **Threaten** (verb) – endanger, jeopardize, menace, intimidate, imperil खतरे में डालना

Practice Exercise

Direction (Q1 – Q3): Select the best express synonym of the given words Editorial page

1. Given the scenario, New Delhi's attempt at highlighting the issues during the last few weeks of its two-year UNSC tenure was apt, as it built up to the briefing with conferences in India.
 - A. Adroit
 - B. Infer
 - C. Relevant
 - D. Defame

2. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's listing of four hurdles to better counterterrorism cooperation, i.e., state support for financing terror; multilateral mechanisms that are opaque and agenda driven;
 - A. Curtail
 - B. Obscure
 - C. Strife
 - D. Platitude

3. Finally, instead of uniting to accept India's proposal, of 1996, of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terror to institute global practices on countering terror, the P-5 countries are hopelessly polarised, and irrevocably so, over Russia's war in Ukraine.
 - A. Microcosm
 - B. Malinger
 - C. Tangential
 - D. Permanently

4. **Idioms & Phrase**
 He's the best graphic designer we have, so I'm confident that he can deliver the goods for this ad campaign.
 - A. Because of or on the strength of (something)
 - B. Difficult work needing a lot of effort.
 - C. Provide that which is promised or expected
 - D. Cease to operate or cause to cease operating

5. **Direction: Two statements are given below, which are jumbled in any random order. These statements will form a coherent and meaningful paragraph, when arranged in the correct sequence. Arrange the sentences in the right order and answer the questions that follow.**
 - (i) The missile incident in Poland (D)/, the Ukraine conflict could potentially spill over into a wider war between nuclear-armed Russia and NATO. (E)/ , should serve as a warning: (F)/ in which two people were killed (G)/
 - (ii) Ukraine with military supplies have brought the two sides to an eyeball-to-eyeball situation (A)/ The Russian invasion of its neighbouring country and NATO's decision to back (B)/, with only a spark needed for a conflagration. (C)
 - A. ABC, EFDG
 - B. DGFE, BAC
 - C. BAC, FDEG

- D. FDGE, CBA
- E. None of the above

Direction (Q6 – Q9): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them

6. He is (A)/ too foolish (B)/ that he will not act. (C)/ No Error(D)
7. He is too much worried (A)/ about his friend's reaction (B)/ to his statement. (C)/ No Error(D)
8. It upset him (A)/ at seeing his son (B)/ in such pain. (C)/ No Error(D)
9. My sister and myself (A)/are pleased to accept (B)/ your invitation to dinner. (C)/ No Error(D)
10. **Find out the misspelt word**
 - A. Erroneous
 - B. Splendid
 - C. Impressive
 - D. Slege

Direction: Read the passage given below and answer the following questions.

(The Hindu Editorial: Measuring trade – Nov 12, 2022)

The foreign trade numbers for October 2022 and beyond will be released by the middle of the next month, as was the practice till two years ago. **(1/)** The Government has quietly dropped the practice of releasing preliminary monthly merchandise trade estimates at the beginning of the month, and updating them two weeks later with 'quick' estimates. **(2/)** for assessing the direction of the economy as it found its feet again after the battering from COVID-19 lockdowns.**(3/)** Perhaps the idea of issuing early estimates for export and import shipments in late 2020 was driven by the need to have some more high frequency indicators. **(4/)** While one cannot really say the pandemic is over yet, it is a sensible decision to now revert to the older system when 'quick' estimates were released on the fifteenth day of each subsequent month, or earlier if that date happened to fall on a weekend. The early estimates have emitted conflicting signals about the economy in recent months, thanks _____(a)_____ sharp variations between the preliminary and 'quick' estimates in the volume of trade and even the direction of exports growth. For instance, the first data set for August suggested a 1.15% contraction in exports — the first such _____(b)_____ since February 2021 — while September's numbers showed a 3.5% dip year-on-year. Even as industry and economists read this as an omen of the global turmoil and slowdown coming home to hurt the Indian recovery engine, the 'quick' estimates for both these months showed a 1.6% and 4.8% uptick, respectively, in outbound goods trade.

The difference in the two sets of numbers largely arises from the lack of electronic data interchange facilities at some ports, thus making it difficult to factor _____(c)_____ such shipments into the first data set. But with variations so wide, it is smarter to wait till all the data is compiled and released at one go — even as attempts must be redoubled to ensure all ports onboard the electronic data system. The Government should now stick to a clear time table for releasing the trade data — recent months were also **marred** by suspense over when the initial estimates would be released and the last set came about 90 minutes before midnight on October 3. It should also _____(d)_____ from being selective about data points. For March, it initially only released export numbers, and September's

preliminary data **bolster (A)** the growth rates for India's top 10 export, import items. A consistent, **comprehensive (B)** and transparent approach to releasing economic data will also **omitted (C)** the country's credibility as a reliable **alternative (D)** to China.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

11. The early estimates have emitted conflicting signals about the economy in recent months, thanks to _____ sharp variations between the preliminary and 'quick' estimates in the volume of trade and even the direction of exports growth.

Fill the most appropriate option in (a)

- (i) Off
- (ii) On
- (iii) To
- (iv) Over
- (v) In

A. Only (iii) B. Only (ii) C. Only (v) D. Both (ii) and (iv) E. None of the above

12. For instance, the first data set for August suggested a 1.15% contraction in exports — the first such _____ since February 2021 — while September's numbers showed a 3.5% dip year-on-year.

Fill the most appropriate option in (b)

- (i) Across
- (ii) Misfortune
- (iii) Ascent
- (iv) Contraction
- (v) Shrinkage

A. Only (i) B. Only (ii) C. Only (v) D. Both (v) and (iv) E. None of the above

13. The difference in the two sets of numbers largely arises from the lack of electronic data interchange facilities at some ports, thus making it difficult to factor _____ such shipments into the first data set.

Fill the most appropriate option in (c)

- (i) By
- (ii) To
- (iii) Into
- (iv) In

A. Only (i) B. Only (ii) C. Only (iv) D. Both (i) and (ii) E. None of the above

14. It should also _____ from being selective about data points.

Fill the most appropriate option in (d)

- (i) Refrain
- (ii) Relax
- (iii) Tighten

(iv) Clasp

- A. Only (i) B. Only (iv) C. Only (iii) D. Both (iii) and (ii) E. None of the above

15. **The following sentence may or may not contain an error in one of its parts. Identify the part containing the error. If the sentence is correct, select 'No error' as your answers.**

While one cannot really say the pandemic is over yet (A), it is a sensible decision to now revert to the older system when 'quick' estimates (B) were released on the fifteenth day of each subsequently month, (C) or earlier if that date happened to fall on a weekend(D).

- A. (A)
B. (B)
C. (C)
D. (D)
E. No Error

16. **Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.**

The foreign trade numbers for October 2022 and beyond will be released by the middle of the next month, as was the practice till two years ago. **(1/)** The Government has quietly dropped the practice of releasing preliminary monthly merchandise trade estimates at the beginning of the month, and updating them two weeks later with 'quick' estimates. **(2)/** for assessing the direction of the economy as it found its feet again after the battering from COVID-19 lockdowns.**(3)/** Perhaps the idea of issuing early estimates for export and import shipments in late 2020 was driven by the need to have some more high frequency indicators. **(4)/**

- A. 2341
B. 1234
C. 2134
D. 2143
E. 4321

17. Given below is a word, followed by three sentence that consist of that word. Identify the sentence (S) that best express (es) the meaning of the word. Choose option 5 'None of the above' if the word is not suitable in any of the sentence

MAR

- (i) But it is unfortunate that the very last sentence is **marred** by an egregious slip.
(ii) The book has been **marred** under auspices that ought to ensure high quality.
(iii) The volume suffers from a paucity of maps, and two or three chapters are **marred** by inexcusably obscure language.

- A. Only (i)
B. Only (ii)
C. Only (iii)
D. (i), (iii)
E. (ii), (iii)

18. **In the following question, a sentence is given with four words marked as (A), (B), (C), and (D). These words may or may not be placed in the correct order. Four options with different**

arrangements of these have been provided. Mark the option with the correct arrangement as the answer. If no rearrangement is required, mark option (5) as your answer.

For March, it initially only released export numbers, and September's preliminary data **bolster (A)** the growth rates for India's top 10 export, import items. A consistent, **comprehensive (B)** and transparent approach to releasing economic data will also **omitted (C)** the country's credibility as a reliable **alternative (D)** to China.

- A. A – D
- B. B – A
- C. D – B
- D. A – C
- E. No arrangement

19. In each of the questions given below two statements are given followed by 3 words/phrases. Find the alternative(s) that can act as a starter for the given sentence and combine them into a single sentence keeping the meaning of the sentence same as given in the question.

- (i) Som didn't like the Juice
- (ii) I enjoyed it very much.

- A. Unlike
- B. Although
- C. No sooner
- D. In spite
- E. None of these

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

They took recourse _____ wrong means for success.

- A. Of
- B. In
- C. With
- D. To

Answers

1. C 2.B 3.D 4. C 5. B 6.C 7.A 8.B 9.A 10.D 11. A
 12. D 13.C 14. A 15.C 16.D 17.D 18.D 19.B 20.D **[Practice Exercise]**

Explanations

4. **Deliver the goods** (Phrase) – provide that which is promised or expected.

5. **DGFE, BAC**

The missile incident in Poland, in which two people were killed, should serve as a warning: the Ukraine conflict could potentially spill over into a wider war between nuclear-armed Russia and NATO. The Russian invasion of its neighbouring country and NATO's decision to back Ukraine with military supplies have brought the two sides to an eyeball-to-eyeball situation, with only a spark needed for a conflagration

6. (C) 'that he will not' के बदले 'to' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Part (B) में 'too' का प्रयोग है और 'too' के साथ 'to + V1' का प्रयोग होता है, न कि That-clause का; जैसे-

i. She is too honest to take a bribe.

- 'to' is used instead of 'that he will not' because 'too' is used in Part (B) and 'too' is used with 'to + V1', not 'that'-clause; As-

i. She is too honest to take a bribe.

7. (A) 'too much' के बदले 'much too' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'too much + Noun' का प्रयोग होता है जबकि 'much too + Adjective/Adverb' का;

i. My wound gives me too much pain.['pain' Noun]

ii. The process of growing up is much too painful.['painful-Adjective]

iii. She drives the car much too fast.['fast'- adverb]

- 'much too' will be used instead of 'too much' because 'too much + Noun' is used while 'much too + Adjective/Adverb';

i. My wound gives me too much pain.['pain' Noun]

ii. The process of growing up is much too painful.['painful-Adjective]

iii. She drives the car much too fast.['fast'- adverb]

8. (B) 'at seeing' के बदले 'to see' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'upset' के बाद 'to + V1' अर्थात् Infinitive का प्रयोग होता है। देखें-

i. It upset me to think of her all alone in that big house.

- 'to see' will be used instead of 'at seeing' because 'to + V1' i.e. Infinitive is used after 'upset'. see-

i. It upset me to think of her all alone in that big house.

9. (A) 'My sister and myself' के बदले 'My sister and I' प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'myself' एक Reflexive Pronoun है जो किसी Verb या Preposition के Object का काम करता है, किन्तु Subject का काम 'I' करता है; जैसे-

i. I hurt myself.

ii. I laughed at myself.

- 'My sister and myself' will be replaced with 'My sister and I' because 'myself' is a reflexive pronoun which acts as an object of a Verb or Preposition, but 'I' acts as a subject ; As-
 - i. I hurt myself.
 - ii. I laughed at myself.

10. **Sledge** (noun) – a vehicle on runners for conveying loads or passengers over snow or ice
बेपहियों की गाड़ी

11. **Thanks to** (phrase) – owing to, as a result of, because of के कारण से

12. **Contraction** (noun) – Shrinkage, Reduction, Tightening संकुचन

- **Misfortune** (noun) – failure, problem, difficulty, trouble दुर्भाग्य
- **Ascent** (noun) – an upward slope, ramp, rise, climb चढ़ाई

13. **Factor in** (phrasal verb) – include, take into account शामिल करना

14. **Refrain** (from) (verb) – abstain, desist, forbear, avoid, eschew से बचना

- **Relax** (verb) – Unwind, loosen up, lighten up
- **Tighten** (verb) – make or become tight or tighter. कसकर बाँधना
- **Clasp** (verb) – clutch, grasp, embrace, hold, grip पकड़ना

15. 'subsequently' के बदले 'subsequent' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'subsequent' (बाद का) एक Adjective है जबकि 'subsequently' एक Adverb है, और noun 'month' की विशेषता एक Adjective बताएगा, न कि एक Adverb.

16. (D) **2143**

The Government has quietly dropped the practice of releasing preliminary monthly merchandise trade estimates at the beginning of the month, and updating them two weeks later with 'quick' estimates. The foreign trade numbers for October 2022 and beyond will be released by the middle of the next month, as was the practice till two years ago. Perhaps the idea of issuing early estimates for export and import shipments in late 2020 was driven by the need to have some more high frequency indicators for assessing the direction of the economy as it found its feet again after the battering from COVID-19 lockdowns.

17. **Mar** (verb) – spoil, ruin, impair, upset, damage बिगाड़ना

According to the given options only (i) AND (iii) are contextually correct.

Because the (ii) sentence is not giving any meaning and correct sentences should be like

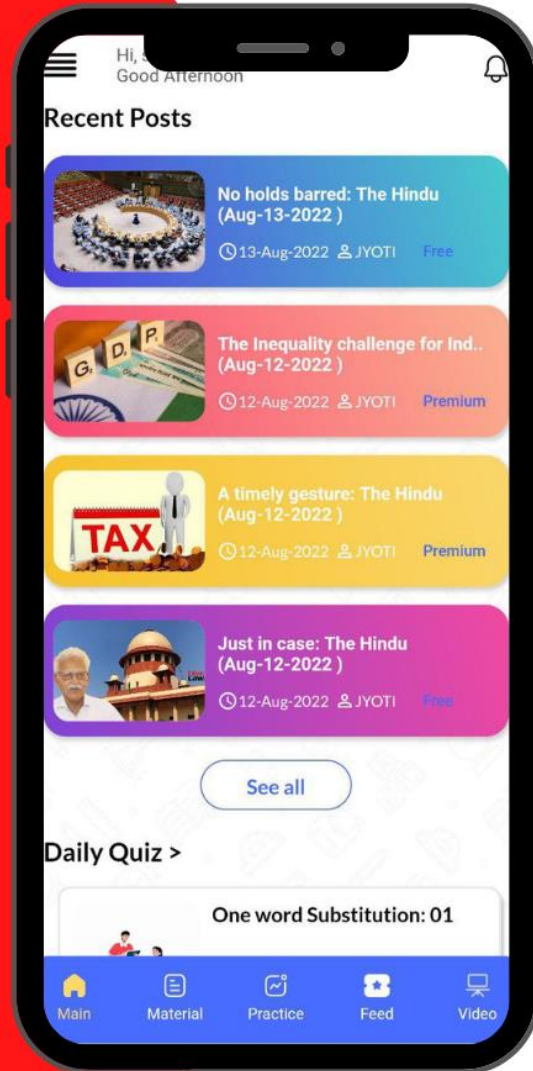
The book has been produced under auspices that ought to ensure high quality.

18. For March, it initially only released export numbers, and September's preliminary data omitted the growth rates for India's top 10 export, import items. A consistent, comprehensive and transparent approach to releasing economic data will also bolster the country's credibility as a reliable alternative to China.

19. **Although** Som didn't like the Juice I enjoyed it very much

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Adroit	adjective	Skillful; dexterous; clever; shrewd; socially at ease	निपुण, चतुर
	Infer	verb	To conclude; to deduce	अनुमान करना
	Defame	verb	To libel or slander; to ruin the good name of	बदनाम करना
Q2	Curtail	verb	To shorten; to cut short	घटाना, संक्षिप्त करना
	Strife	noun	Bitter conflict; Discord; a struggle or clash	कलह
	Platitude	noun	A dull or trite remark; a cliché	गंभीर टिप्पणी
Q3	Microcosm	noun	The world in miniature	सूक्ष्म जगत
	Malingering	verb	To pretend to be sick to avoid doing work	रोग का बहाना करना
	Tangential	adjective	Only superficially related to the matter at hand; not especially relevant; peripheral	स्पर्शरेखा का



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