



**THE HINDU**

# EDITORIAL ANALYSIS

**&**

**VOCABULARY**

- **IMPORTANT NEWS**
- **READING**
- **GRAMMAR**
- **SKIMMING**

**08  
AM**

**19 March**



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## Trade puzzle: On exports and global trade

The uptick in goods exports is heartening, but difficult to sustain

## Hollow victory: On the Russian election,

### Putin's win

The manner of Putin's win exposes the underlying weakness of the regime



# QUIZ



# ANTONYM OF CONVOLUTED

1. **Involved**
2. **Intricate**
3. **Tangled**
4. **Direct**
5. **Wrangle**



# ANTONYM OF BURGEONING

1. **Thriving**
2. **Flourishing**
3. **Growing**
4. **Blossoming**
5. **Withering**



# SYNONYM OF VOCIFEROUS

1. **Quiet**
2. **Clamorous**
3. **Subdued**
4. **Silent**
5. **Calm**



# SYNONYM OF PARVENUS

1. **Old money**
2. **Elites**
3. **Gentry**
4. **Climbers**
5. **Enthusiastic**





# ANTONYM OF ESPOUSAL

1. **Support**
2. **Advocacy**
3. **Marriage**
4. **Help**
5. **Opposition**



# Trade puzzle



# VOCABULARY



## Trade puzzle

## UPTICK

Parts of Speech: **NOUN**

Meaning: **A small increase or rise, especially in a numerical value or activity level; an upward tick or movement.**

Synonyms: **Increase, rise, growth, upsurge**

Antonym: **Downtick, decrease, decline**

Sentence: **The stock market experienced an uptick in trading activity following positive economic news.**





## Trade puzzle

# TUMULTUOUS

Parts of Speech: **ADJ.**

Meaning: **Characterized by uproar, chaos, or disturbance; marked by tumult or disorder.**

Synonyms: **Turbulent, chaotic, stormy, disorderly**

Antonym: **Peaceful, calm, tranquil, orderly**

Sentence: **The country experienced tumultuous protests following the controversial election results.**





## Trade puzzle

## SPURT

Parts of Speech: **VERB OR NOUN**

Meaning: **To gush or shoot out suddenly and forcefully, often in a rapid stream or burst.**

Meaning (Noun): **A sudden, forceful gush or burst of something.**

Synonyms : **Gush, squirt, jet, surge Jet, surge, gush, outburst**

Antonym: **Trickle, dribble, slow**

Sentence : **When he cut the watermelon, juice spurted out in all directions.: The hose had a sudden spurt of water, soaking everyone nearby**





## Trade puzzle

# THROTTLE

Parts of Speech: **VERB**

Meaning: **To control or restrict something, especially an engine or vehicle, by means of a throttle; to reduce the flow or speed of something.**

Synonyms: **Limit, restrict, control, regulate**

Antonym: **Release, unleash, accelerate**

Sentence: **The pilot gently throttled back the engines as the plane began its descent for landing.**





## Trade puzzle

# BACKLOGGED

Parts of Speech: **ADJ.**

Meaning: **Having an accumulation of work, tasks, or items that need to be dealt with, especially ones that have been delayed or postponed.**

Synonyms: **Backlogged, piled up, accumulated, pending**

Antonym: **Current, up-to-date, cleared**

Sentence: **Due to the recent surge in orders, the company's shipping department became backlogged, causing delays in delivery.**



## Trade puzzle

## RECKON

Parts of Speech: **VERB**

Meaning: **To calculate or estimate something; to consider or regard something in a particular way; to think or believe.**

Synonyms: **Calculate, estimate, assess, consider**

Antonym: **Disregard, ignore, discount**

Sentence: **I reckon it will take us about two hours to reach our destination by car.**







## Trade puzzle

## DERAIL

Parts of Speech: **VERB**

Meaning: **To cause something to go off course or deviate from its intended track, plan, or purpose; to obstruct or hinder the progress or development of something.**

Synonyms: **Disrupt, obstruct, hinder, impede**

Antonym: **Facilitate, assist, support**

Sentence: **The unexpected financial crisis threatened to derail the company's expansion plans.**





## Trade puzzle

## FRUITION

Parts of Speech: **NOUN**

Meaning: **The attainment or realization of something desired or worked for; the point at which a plan, project, or goal is achieved.**

Synonyms: **Realization, achievement, fulfillment, completion**

Antonym: **Failure, nonfulfillment, disappointment**

Sentence: **After years of hard work and dedication, her dream of starting her own business finally came to fruition.**





## Trade puzzle

# LINGERING

Parts of Speech: **ADJ.**

Meaning: **Lasting for a long time; remaining present or noticeable for an extended period.**

Synonyms: **Persistent, enduring, remaining, sustained**

Antonym: **Brief, fleeting, momentary**

Sentence: **The lingering scent of the flowers filled the room long after they had been removed.**





## Trade puzzle

# PLUMMET

Parts of Speech: **VERB**

Meaning: **To fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decrease rapidly in value, amount, or level.**

Synonyms: **Drop, plunge, fall, decline**

Antonym: **Rise, increase, climb**

Sentence: **After the company's scandal was exposed, its stock prices plummeted, causing panic among investors.**





# ARTICLE ANALYSIS

## THE HINDU EDITORIAL





## Trade puzzle



**TRADE PUZZLE: ON EXPORTS AND  
GLOBAL TRADE**

**THE UPTICK IN GOODS EXPORTS IS HEARTENING,  
BUT DIFFICULT TO SUSTAIN**



Towards the end of a tumultuous trading year, India's goods exports jumped 11.9% in February, marking the healthiest uptick in 20 months. The \$41.4 billion tally is the highest in 11 months, and only the third occasion in two years that the \$40 billion mark has been breached. It is remarkable that this spurt, significantly higher than the average export tally of \$35.4 billion in the first ten months of this year, comes amid persistent concerns about disruptions in the Red Sea and the drought-hit Panama Canal that have throttled vital trading routes and spiked the time and cost of moving consignments. While the last two months' trade numbers suggest that India is yet to feel the full impact of the logistics challenges for servicing key markets in Europe and the Americas, it may be too simplistic a conclusion. It is plausible that some of February's numbers may reflect shipments that were probably despatched earlier and reached their destinations only last month using longer routes.



Economists believe a combination of backlogged orders attaining fruition and demand improvements may be at work. However, with interest rates still high, global demand conditions are yet to demonstrate the rebound the World Trade Organization (WTO) had hoped for in 2024.

The WTO expects global trade to rise 3.3% this year after a 0.8% crawl in 2023. But by its own reckoning, using a gauge called the Goods Trade Barometer, things are yet to perk up. As of March 8, the barometer, where a reading of over 100 reflects above-trend exim volumes, had a reading of just 100.6. The export orders parameter was marginally higher at 101.7 but container shipping slipped to 98.6. Some modest gains in the first quarter of 2024 may be seen owing to the base effects of a weak 2023, but any such gains could be easily derailed by regional conflicts and geopolitical tensions, the WTO has warned.





Policymakers may have turned upbeat about surpassing last year's record overall exports (merchandise and services combined), but must not lose sight of the lingering risks and challenges, including the impact of freight hikes on margins. While electronics goods exports have been an outlier in 2023-24's weak exports narrative (-3.5% so far), the WTO's latest barometer reading for electronic components trade has plummeted to 95.6. This is visible in February's numbers as both electronics imports and exports grew just fractionally over 1%. For now, the trade deficit should not be a concern, despite imports jumping at a 17-month high pace last month, led by a spike in inflows of increasingly pricey gold. Finding better ways to support exporters, especially in adversely hit employment-intensive sectors such as textiles, and gems and jewellery, remains critical.



**What is the tone of the **PASSAGE** used by the writer ?**

- 1. ANALYTICAL**
- 2. NEUTRAL**
- 3. OPTIMISTIC**
- 4. CRITICAL**
- 5. PESSIMISTIC**



**THANK  
YOU**