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VOCABULARY

UNI-DIMENSIONAL

Parts of Speech: ADJ.

Meaning: Having or involving only one dimension, aspect, or perspective; limited to a single dimension of measurement or consideration.

Synonyms: One-dimensional, narrow, limited, singular.

Antonym: Multi-dimensional, complex, varied, comprehensive.

Example Sentence: The analysis of the issue was uni-dimensional, focusing solely on economic factors and neglecting social and cultural aspects.

FATHOM

Parts of Speech: **VERB**

Meaning: To understand or comprehend something

deeply, especially something mysterious or complex.

Synonyms: Grasp, comprehend, understand,

penetrate.

Antonym: Misunderstand, confuse.

Example Sentence:

It is difficult to fathom the complexities of quantum physics without a strong background in the subject.

ASSIMILATE

Parts of Speech: **VERB**

Meaning: To absorb and integrate information, ideas, or culture into one's own understanding or identity; to become similar or part of a larger whole.

Synonyms: Absorb, integrate, incorporate, comprehend, understand.

Antonym: Reject, resist, isolate, segregate.

Example Sentence: Immigrants often strive to assimilate into the new culture while preserving aspects of their own traditions.

WHOLESOME

Parts of Speech: ADJ.

Meaning: Conducive to or suggestive of good health, physical well-being, or moral integrity; promoting health and well-being.

Synonyms: Healthy, nutritious, beneficial, pure.

Antonym: Unhealthy, harmful, detrimental, impure.

Example Sentence: Eating a balanced diet and exercising regularly are essential for maintaining a wholesome lifestyle.

COUCH

Parts of Speech: **VERB**

Meaning: To express something in a particular way, often using carefully chosen words; to phrase or formulate.

Synonyms: Express, articulate, phrase, formulate.

Antonym: Suppress, silence.

Example Sentence: The author couched the complex ideas in simple language to make them accessible to a wider audience.

SOBERING

Parts of Speech: ADJ.

Meaning: Making one more serious, thoughtful, or reflective; causing a person to become more realistic or serious about a situation.

Synonyms: Serious, solemn, thoughtful, somber.

Antonym: Light-hearted, cheerful, trivial.

Example Sentence: The documentary presented a sobering look at the environmental challenges facing our planet.

PRECANCEROUS

Parts of Speech: ADJ.

Meaning: Referring to a condition or state that may lead to the development of cancer; indicating a risk or tendency for the formation of cancerous cells.

Synonyms: Pre-malignant, atypical, potentially cancerous.

Antonym: Healthy, normal, non-cancerous.

Example Sentence: Regular screenings are essential to detect and treat precancerous lesions before they become malignant.

IRONICALLY

Parts of Speech: ADVERB

Meaning: In a way that is contrary to what one might expect or in a way that is amusingly or strangely coincidental.

Synonyms: Paradoxically, unexpectedly, strangely, counterintuitively.

Antonym: Predictably, logically, straightforwardly. Example Sentence: Ironically, the fire station burned down while the firefighters were away on a training exercise.

LESIONS

Parts of Speech: **NOUN**

Meaning: Abnormal changes or damage to body tissues or organs, often caused by injury or disease.

Synonyms: Wounds, injuries, sores, damages.

Antonym: Healing, recovery, wellness.

Example Sentence: The doctor examined the patient's skin for any lesions that could indicate a skin disorder.

DILUTION

Parts of Speech: **NOUN**

Meaning: A he process of making a substance less concentrated by adding a solvent or another less concentrated solution.

Synonyms: Thinning, weakening, reduction, attenuation.

Antonym: Concentration, strengthening.

Example Sentence:

The scientist recommended dilution of the chemical solution to reduce its potency.

PHRASAL VERBS

FLESHED OUT: To provide more detail

PICKED UP WITH: Detected or recognised through

a specific method

Rolls out: To officially launch something

SOBERING FACT: A hard truth that makes one think seriously

FAR-REACHING IMPACT: A significance effect or influence









KEEP IT WHOLESOME: ON SHAPING A NATIONAL CERVICAL CANCER CONTROL PROGRAMME



Health is seldom uni-dimensional, and it must not be seen as such. Government policy, particularly, must fathom the entirety of the issue, and assimilate multiple aspects in a field strategy, for optimum realisation of the intended goal. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's announcement during the presentation of the interim Budget that the government plans to encourage vaccination against cervical cancer for girls aged nine to 14, is no doubt a step in the right direction. While the scheme will be fleshed out post elections, it is also time to question if any programme to handle cervical cancer would be wholesome if it did not assimilate a screening aspect. Cancer of the cervix (literally, the neck of the womb) is unique among cancers because almost all the cases (99%, according to the World Health Organization) are linked to infection with the human papillomavirus (HPV), a common virus transmitted through sexual contact.



While most HPV infections resolve spontaneously and the women remain symptom-free, persistent infection can lead to cervical cancer. It is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women in India (over 77,000 annually), and is estimated to be the second most frequent cancer among Indian women between 15 and 44 years. While the good news is couched in the availability of a vaccine, the sobering fact is that the average national prevalence of cervical cancer screening hovers at just under 2% and outcomes depend on the stage of detection.

Ironically, cervical cancer can be easily diagnosed in a public health setting with minimal tools — the human eye, a dilution of white vinegar, and a dab of Lugol's iodine. These are known as VIA and VILI tests and help look for precancerous lesions and cancer, much before an advanced stage of the disease can be picked up with cytology.



A simple, short procedure, cryotherapy, can then be done while the patient is awake, to destroy the abnormal growth. Given that it is easy to prevent, identify and treat cervical cancer, it is unacceptable that so many women are dying of the disease. As the government rolls out its vaccination programme, it must also mandate screening right at the primary health centre, and if abnormalities are identified, offer cryotherapy right then. It is unlikely that vaccination of young girls alone will have a far-reaching impact in the short and medium term. The only way to prevent deaths is to deploy the entire assembly of tools as part of a national cervical cancer control programme, accessible to all women, irrespective of age, education, affordability or social status.

TONE OF THE PASSAGE

- 1. INFORMATIVE
- 2. ANALYTICAL
- 3. SKEPTICAL
- 4. SUPPORTIVE
- 5. CRITICAL



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