**Unit: II Writing Skills**

**Topic: Words used in Newspaper Headlines**

*(***Note***: In the examination, you will be asked to match the meanings with the words given in the headlines)*

**Act:**take action; do something  
POWER CRISIS: GOVERNMENT TO ACT

**Aid**: (noun) military or financial help  
**Aid** (verb): to help  
MORE AID FOR POOR COUNTRIES  
UNIONS AID BANK STRIKERS

**Alert**: alarm, warning  
TERROR ALERT IN THE CAPITAL

**Allege**: make an accusation  
BLIND GIRL ALLEGES UNFAIR TREATMENT

**Appear**: appear in court accused of a crime  
MP TO APPEAR ON DRUGS CHARGES

**Axe** (verb): abolish, close down  
**Axe**(noun): abolition, closure  
POSTAL SERVICES AXED  
SMALL SCHOOLS FACE AXE

**Back:**support  
OPPOSITION BACKS PM

**Ban:**forbid, refuse to allow something  
GOVERNMENT BANS SMOKING IN PUBLIC

**Bar:**refuse   
HOTEL BARS FOOTBALL FANS

**Bid:**attempt  
WOMAN MAKES SUICIDE BID

**Blast:**explosion  
**Blast:**criticize violently  
BLAST AT AIRPORT  
OPPOSITION BLASTS PM

**Blaze:**fire  
SIX DIE IN TEMPLE BLAZE

**Blow:**bad news, unfortunate happening  
SMITH ILL: BLOW TO WORLD CUP HOPES

**Bond:**political or business association  
INDIA CUTS TRADE BONDS WITH CHINA

**Boom:**big increase; prosperous period  
ECONOMIC BOOM: URBAN RICH TO BENEFIT

**Boost:**encourage  
GOVERNMENT PLANS TO BOOST EXPORTS

**Brink:**edge of disaster  
GLOBAL WARMING: EARTH ON BRINK OF DISASTER

**Call for**: demand/ appeal for  
TRADE UNIONS CALL FOR STRIKE

**Campaign**: organized effort to achieve social or political result  
MP LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN FOR TAX REFORMS

**Claim**(verb): make a statement that something is true  
US SCIENTISTS CLAIM CANCER BREAKTHROUGH

**Clamp down on**: deal firmly with  
POLICE TO CLAMP DOWN ON EVE TEASING

**Clash**: quarrel, fight  
STUDENTS CLASH WITH POLICE

**Clear**: find innocent  
MP CLEARED ON DRUG CHARGES

**Con**: swindle  
TEENEGERS CON WIDOW OUT OF LIFE SAVINGS

**Crackdown**: firm application of the law  
GOVERNMENT PROMISES CRACKDOWN ON INFILTRATORS

**Crash**: failure  
TEN PEOPLE DIE IN PLANE CRASH

**Curb**: restrict  
GOVERNMENT TO CURB ILLICIT LIQUOR TRADE

**Cut**: reduce  
US CUTS AID TO INDIA

**Dash**: make quick journey  
PM IN DASH TO BLAST HOSPITAL

**Deadlock**: disagreement that cannot be solved  
DEADLOCK IN INDO-US NUCLEAR DEAL

**Deal**: agreement  
INDIA SIGNS NUCLEAR DEAL WITH US

**Drive**: united effort  
DRIVE TO SAVE PLANET

**Drop**(verb): give up; get rid of  
**Drop**(noun): fall  
GOVERNMENT TO DROP TERROR REFORMS  
DROP IN FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

**Edge**: move gradually  
WORLD EDGES TOWARDS WAR

**Firm**: determined not to change  
PM FIRM ON TAX REFORMS

**Flak**: heavy criticism  
MINISTER FACES FLAK OVER RACIAL REMARKS

**Foil**: prevent somebody from succeeding  
GUARD FOILS BANK ROBBERY BID

**Gag**: censor; prevent from speaking  
AFRICAN PRESIDENT ACTS TO GAG PRESS

**Go**: resign; be lost, disappear  
PM TO GO?

**Go for**: be sold for  
PICASSO PAINTING GOES FOR $5 MILLION

Go-ahead: approval  
NUKE-PLAN GETS GO-AHEAD

**Grab**: take violently  
INDIANS GRAB SHARES IN FOREIGN COMPANIES

**Grip**: control; hold tightly  
COLD WAVE GRIPS COUNTRY

**Gun down**: shoot  
POLICE GUN DOWN TERRORISTS.

**Hail**: welcome; praise  
PM HAILS PEACE PLAN

**Halt**: stop  
AUTOMOBILE PLANT TO HALT PRODUCTION

**Haul**: amount stolen in robbery, or seized by police or customs  
MAJOR ARMS HAUL IN CAPITAL

**Head for**: move towards  
ECONOMY HEADING FOR DISASTER, EXPERTS WARN

**Hike**: rise in costs, prices etc.   
INTEREST HIKE WILL HIT REAL ESTATE MARKET

**Hit**: affect badly  
HEAVY RAINS HIT TRANSPORT

**Hit out at**: attack with words  
PM HITS OUT AT CRITICS

**Hitch**: problem that causes delay  
LAST-MINUTE HITCH DELAYS SATELLITE LAUNCH

**Hold**: arrest; keep under arrest  
POLICE HOLD TERROR SUSPECT

**Key**: important  
KEY WITNESS IN THE POACHING CASE VANISHES

**Landslide**: victory by a large majority in election  
LANDSLIDE FOR DEMOCRATS

**Lash**: criticize violently  
OPPOSITION LASHES GOVERNMENT REFORMS

**Lead**: clue (in police enquiry)   
LEAD IN RESORT MURDER CASE

**Leak**: unofficial publication of secret information  
PM FURIOUS OVER TAX PLAN LEAKS

**Leap**: big increase  
LEAP IN FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

**Life**: imprisonment for life  
LIFE FOR SERIAL MURDERER

**Loom**: threaten to happen  
VAT ON FOOD: NEW ROW LOOMS

**Mar**: spoil  
VIOLENCE MARS CUP FINAL

**Mission**: delegation (official group sent to a conference etc)   
UN MISSION ARRIVES TODAY

**Mob**: angry crowd  
**Mob**: organized crime/Mafia  
INFANT DIES: MOBS ATTACK HOSPITAL  
MOB LEADERS HELD

**Move**: step towards a particular result (often political)   
MOVE TO BOOST TRADE LINKS WITH CHINA

**Nail**: force somebody to admit the truth  
CRIME BRANCH NAILS THE ACCUSED

**Odds**: chances, probability  
MAYOR RE-ELECTED AGAINST THE ODDS

**Opt (for)**: choose  
WALES OPTS FOR INDEPENDENCE

**Oust**: drive out, replace  
DEMOCRATS OUSTED IN UNION ELECTIONS

**Over**: about; on the subject of, because of  
ROW OVER VAT ON FOOD

**Pact**: agreement  
DEFENCE PACT GETS CABINET NOD

**Peak**: high point  
INFLATION HITS NEW PEAK

**Peg**: hold (prices etc) at present level  
BANKS PEG INTEREST RATES

**Plea**: call for help  
BIG RESPONSE TO PLEA FOR FLOOD AID

**Press**: the newspapers  
BID TO GAG PRESS OVER DEFENCE SPENDING

**Press for**: ask for urgently  
OPPOSITION PRESS FOR ENQUIRY ON DEFENCE SCAM

**Pull out**: withdraw  
PAKISTAN PULLS OUT OF PEACE TALKS WITH INDIA

**Push for**: ask for, encourage  
SCHOOLS PUSH FOR MORE CASH

**Quit**: resign, leave  
OPPOSITION LEADER QUITS

**Raid**: enter and search  
POLICE RAID DUCHESS’S FLAT

**Rampage:** riot  
HOOLIGANS RAMPAGE THROUGH STREETS

**Rap**: criticize  
DOCTORS RAP HEALTH MINISTRY PLANS

**Riddle**: mystery  
MISSING TEENAGER RIDDLE: TWO MEN HELD

**Rift**: division, disagreement  
LABOUR RIFT OVER DEFENCE POLICY

**Rock**: shock, shake  
BANK SEX SCANDAL ROCKS THE CITY  
JAPAN ROCKED BY QUAKE

**Row**: noisy disagreement, quarrel  
NEW ROW OVER WAGE CUTS

**Rule out**: reject the possibility of  
PM RULES OUT MIDTERM ELECTION

**Sack**: dismissal from job  
STRIKING DOCTORS FACE SACK

**Scare**: public alarm, alarming rumour  
BIRD FLU SCARE IN MIDDLE EAST

**Scrap**: throw out as useless  
GOVERNMENT SCRAPS DEFENCE DEAL WITH ISRAEL

**Seize**: take especially in police and customs searches  
SMUGGLED ARMS SEIZED AT AIRPORT

**Set to**: ready to; about to  
PROPERTY PRIZES SET TO RISE

**Slam**: criticize violently  
OPPOSITION SLAMS DEFENCE POLICY

**Slash**: cut, reduce drastically  
GOVERNMENT TO SLASH HEALTH EXPENDITURE

**Slump**: fall (economic)   
EXPORTERS FEAR NEW SLUMP

**Spark**: cause to start  
REFEREE’S DECISION SPARKS RIOT

**Spree**: wild spending expenditure  
BUS DRIVER SPENDS MILLIONS IN CREDIT-CARD SPREE

**Stake**: financial interest  
GERMANS BUY STAKE IN BRITISH AIRWAYS

**Storm out of**: leave angrily  
TRADE UNION LEADERS STORM OUT OF MEETING WITH MINISTER

**Toll**: number killed  
QUAKE TOLL MAY RISE

**Urge**: encourage  
ENVIRONMENTALISTS URGE GOVERNMENTS TO ACT ON POLLUTION

**Vow**: promise  
EXILED PRESIDENT VOWS TO RETURN