

**SSC CGL 2017**

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English for Competitive Exams Module 11 – SSC & Bank Exams

Whether you are trying to learn English for competitive exams or simply trying to improve your language skills, this module is the ideal way to master the language. Learn different concepts in one place for SSC & Banking Exams. Learn something new about grammar, vocabulary and verbal skills every day. This is useful for all sorts of exams like IBPS Clerk, SBI Clerk, SSC CGL, and others. Before you attempt English for Competitive Exams Module 11, try **previous modules** as well.

Read the short passage below. Pay special attention to the highlighted words and phrases. Then read the discussion below.

English for Competitive Exams Module 11 - PASSAGE

After four months of **battling** to pass unpopular security legislation, Shinzo Abe, Japan's prime minister, lost no time in returning to somewhat safer **ground**: the economy. On September 24th, he **fired off** what he called "three new arrows" in service of Abenomics, his programme of monetary easing, fiscal stimulus and **far-reaching** structural reform. Yet recent data suggest the economy may offer Mr Abe no **respite** from a bruising year.

DISCUSSION

Battling

The phrase 'battling to pass unpopular security legislation' is a gerund phrase as it starts with the gerund 'battling'.

Ground



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Fired off

Abe's new policies have been called 'arrows'. They have been 'fired off' meaning shot like from a weapon such as a bow or a gun. 'Fired off' also means to 'write and send something quickly'.

E.g. *He fired off an email to customer care as he was unhappy with the services.*

Far-reaching

This is an adjective. This is a very commonly used word which means 'extensive'.

E.g. *The fall of the Roman Empire had far-reaching effects on trade around the world.*

Respite

This is a noun which means to get a break from something difficult. It has been used in this context in the sentence. The other usage of 'respite' is as a verb. This is a rare use which means to postpone a sentence or obligation etc.

E.g. *The meeting was respite a few months.*

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