

Relief, rebuff: On Teesta Setalvad bail plea

The Supreme Court of India has done well to reject **stiff opposition** from Government to giving bail to **activist**

In granting **interim** bail to activist Teesta Setalvad, the Supreme Court of India has dealt a **firm** rebuff to the Gujarat government, which **stoutly** opposed her release after showing great **alacrity** in arresting her for **pursuing allegations** that high **functionaries** were involved in the Gujarat **pogrom** of 2002. **The order** by a Bench headed by the Chief Justice of India, Justice U.U. Lalit, **is** limited in scope, as it will now be the Gujarat High Court that will decide on the grant of regular bail on **merits**. However, its real **significance** is that it is a strong **pushback** against a government that **seems intent** on keeping her **behind bars** for **daring** to **assist** victims of **heinous** communal violence in their efforts to **seek** justice. In an earlier judgment that **endorsed** the **findings** of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) that **absolved** Narendra Modi, the then Chief Minister, the Supreme Court **virtually canvassed** for the arrest and **prosecution** of Ms. Setalvad and former police officers, R.B. Sreekumar and Sanjiv Bhatt. The Court had accused her of “**keeping the pot boiling**” in a **pejorative** reference to the help she **rendered** to Zakia Jafri, among others, in seeking justice for the death of her husband Ehsan Jafri, a former MP, and many others in a **mob** attack on Gulbarg Society in Ahmedabad. In cases registered in response to the Supreme Court’s orders, the three have been accused of being part of a **conspiracy** to **forge** documents and present false evidence in court to **implicate** political leaders.

The Supreme Court raised some **sharp** and **pertinent** questions to the State government represented by the Solicitor General of India during the arguments. A key **consideration** was the unusually long postponement of the bail **hearing** before the Gujarat High Court, which had issued notice to the police **returnable** after nearly six weeks. While the Solicitor General raised a technical objection to Ms. Setalvad **approaching** the Supreme Court even while the High Court **proceedings** were **on**, the Bench was of the view that such a long **adjournment** may **warrant** interim bail until it is heard. Ultimately, the Bench has clarified that the High Court will take an independent view without being **influenced** by any of its observations. It also seems to have **taken into account** a provision in law that allows grant of bail on the **ground** that the accused is a woman. Noting that the documents **allegedly** forged and submitted in court **pertained** to a period prior to 2012 and **considering** that she has been in custody for over two months and had been **interrogated** in custody for seven days, the Bench rightly felt that **granting** interim relief **would** be quite **in order**. The **relief** given to Ms. Setalvad **should** be welcomed by those who value personal **liberty** as well as activism in support of **the vulnerable**. **[Practice Exercise]**

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where ‘red’ denotes ‘subject’ and ‘blue’ denotes ‘verb’ in the sentence.

Vocabulary

1. **Rebuff** (noun) – Rejection, Refusal, Snub, Slight, Denial, Putdown झिड़की
2. **Deal a blow to** (phrase) – harm, upset, or shock someone or something
3. **Plea** (noun) – appeal, entreaty, petition, supplication, request याचिका
4. **Stiff** (adjective) – hard, firm, rigid, strong, unyielding कड़ा
5. **Opposition** (noun) – resistance, antagonism, objection, opponent, hostility विरोध
6. **Activist** (noun) – Advocating or engaged in activism कार्यकर्ता
7. **Interim** (adjective) – temporary, provisional, meanwhile, meantime, acting अंतरिम
8. **Firm** (adjective) – unyielding, hard, resolute, stable, strong दृढ़
9. **Stoutly** (adverb) – strongly, boldly, powerfully, vigorously, bravely दृढ़ता से
10. **Alacrity** (noun) – willingness, readiness, promptitude, preparedness, forwardness तत्परता
11. **Pursue** (verb) – Carry out or participate in an activity; be involved in पीछे लगे रहना
12. **Allegation** (noun) – accusation, claim, assertion, charge, declaration आरोप
13. **Functionary** (noun) – official, bureaucrat, officer, public servant, officeholder अधिकारी
14. **Pogrom** (noun) – massacre, carnage, butchery, genocide, slaughter हत्याकांड
15. **Merit** (noun) – Good point, strong point, capability योग्यता
16. **Significance** (noun) – importance, meaning, import, consequence, sense महत्व
17. **Pushback** (noun) – opposition, defiance, resistance विरोध
18. **Seem** (verb) – appear, look, sound, feel, appear to be प्रतीत होना
19. **Intent** (adjective) – determined to, resolved to, committed to दृढ़
20. **Behind bars** (phrase) – in prison, in jail, imprisoned, incarcerated, locked up सलाखों के पीछे
21. **Dare** (verb) – challenge, venture, defy, presume, brave साहस करना
22. **Assist** (verb) – help, support, assistance, helping, promote सहायता करना
23. **Heinous** (adjective) – atrocious, monstrous, abominable, odious, vile जघन्य

24. **Seek** (verb) – search, request, attempt, pursue, find माँगना, लेना
25. **Endorse** (verb) – support, approve, sanction, back, ratify समर्थन करना
26. **Findings** (noun) – discovery, decision, ruling, verdict निष्कर्ष
27. **Absolve** (verb) – exonerate, excuse, acquit, forgive, discharge दोषमुक्त करना
28. **Virtually** (adverb) – practically, almost, nearly, essentially, in effect लगभग
29. **Canvass** (verb) – Get the opinions (of people) by asking specific questions मत माँगना
30. **Prosecution** (noun) – litigation, prosecute, lawsuit, pursuance, trial अभियोजन
31. **Keep the pot boiling** (phrase) – to make sure that a process does not stop; keep people interested in idea or plan
32. **Pejorative** (adjective) – depreciatory; disparaging; unfavorable. अपमानजनक
33. **Render** (verb) – give, provide, deliver प्रदान करना
34. **Mob** (noun) – A disorderly crowd of people भीड़
35. **Conspiracy** (noun) – plot, intrigue, scheme, cabal, collusion साजिश
36. **Forge** (verb) – Falsify, distort, fake, misrepresent, alter, cook जाली (दस्तावेज) बनाना
37. **Implicate** (verb) – involve, incriminate, entangle, embroil, inculpate फँसाना
38. **Sharp** (adjective) – Clear, Well-defined, Definite; Severe, Harsh तीखा
39. **Pertinent** (adjective) – relevant, appropriate, germane, applicable, apposite प्रासंगिक
40. **Consideration** (noun) – thought, attention, regard, concern विचार
41. **Hearing** (noun) – trial, Inquiry, Enquiry, Examination सुनवाई
42. **Returnable** (adjective) – that can or must be sent, taken, given, or put back to where it came from प्रत्यावर्तनीय
43. **Approach** (verb) – Contact, Accost, Move toward पहुँचना
44. **Proceedings** (noun) – litigation, lawsuit कार्यवाही
45. **On** (adjective) – Happening, Taking place, Going on चल रहा
46. **Adjournment** (noun) – postponement, suspension, deferment, dissolution, deferral स्थगन

47. **Warrant** (verb) – necessitate, require, involve, demand, need, entail आवश्यक बनाना
48. **Influenced** (adjective) – affected, swayed, persuaded, biased, stirred प्रभावित
49. **Take into account** (phrase) – take into consideration, consider, bear in mind, include, keep in mind ध्यान में रखना
50. **Ground** (noun) – base, foundation, cause, reason आधार
51. **Allegedly** (adverb) – supposedly, reportedly, ostensibly, apparently, seemingly कथित तौर पर
52. **Pertain** (verb) – Be relevant to संबद्ध होना, सरोकार रखना
53. **Considering** (preposition) – taking into account, bearing in mind, given ध्यान में रखते हुए
54. **Interrogate** (verb) – question, interview, examine पूछताछ करना
55. **In order** (phrase) – Acceptable, Correct, Appropriate स्वीकार्य, उचित
56. **Liberty** (noun) – freedom, independence, right, privilege, permission स्वतंत्रता
57. **The Vulnerable** (noun) – people who can be easily physically or mentally hurt, influenced, or attacked: कमजोर लोगों को

Practice Exercise

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

- The Supreme Court of India has dealt a firm **rebuff** to the Gujarat government
 - Belligerent
 - Profound
 - Incongruous
 - Rejection
- it is a strong pushback against a government that seems intent on keeping her behind bars for daring to assist victims of **heinous** communal violence in their efforts to seek justice.
 - Ebullient
 - Dreadful
 - Scintillate
 - Construe
- the three have been accused of being part of a conspiracy to forge documents and present false evidence in court to **implicate** political leaders.
 - Alloy
 - Robust
 - Mandate
 - Incriminate
- Idioms & Phrase**

The team has several talented young players waiting **in the wings**.

 - Used to announce the beginning of a race.
 - Ready to do something or to be used at the appropriate time
 - In a difficult situation
 - Something that is very difficult to do
- Direction: Six 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.**

The slogans raised by a child at a rally in Kerala's Alappuzha on May 21 were chilling not merely for the death threats that they make.

 - It is merely using the democratic space and the prevailing environment of Hindutva upsurge to advance its dangerous, nihilistic communal agenda.
 - At least five people have been killed in Kerala in SDPI-Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) rivalry in the State in recent months.
 - Organisers of the rally, the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), disowned the slogans, but not in any reassuring manner.
 - The Islamist group's claim that its rally was to save the Republic does not cut ice,
 - The fact that an innocent child could be indoctrinated and tutored such that he could call for violence portends a communal storm that is making landfall in the State.

U. considering its track record and the threatening posturing that it has engaged in, in recent years.

Which among the following will be the **Last** sentence of the paragraph after the rearrangement?

- A. P B.T C.U D.Q E.R

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

6. A. There has not been any rainfall here for six months.
B. The police investigated the matter.
C. Now we come to the important question of where this great swarm of galaxies have come from.
D. Ramchandra Murthy and his family have been in Guyana since 1985.
E. All are correct
7. A. She has been working in this office for ten years.
B. Fewer rainfall means less traffic accidents, according to the experts' report on highway safety.
C. If I were you I should tell him the truth.
D. Patna is more populous than any other town in Bihar
E. All are correct
8. If I were him (A)/ I would not have (B)/accepted the offer. (C)/ No error(D)
9. What the nation (A)/ needs (B)/ is people of character. (C)/ No error(D)
10. **Find out the misspelt word**
A. Grandiose
B. Brandish
C. Effulgence
D. Diletory

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

(The Hindu Editorial: A tryst with the past – Aug 15, 2022)

Seventy-five years ago, on this day, India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru made these remarks in his _____**11**_____ speech on India attaining freedom at midnight: "The achievement we celebrate today is but a step, an opening of opportunity, to the greater triumphs and achievements that await us. Are we brave enough and wise enough to grasp this opportunity and accept the challenge of the future?" These words ring true even today just as when Independence **unshackled** India from British rule — a milestone that, in some cases, inspired the birth of other new nation-states across the world, freed from the yoke of colonialism. Independent India embarked upon a new journey, imbued with the vision of its freedom fighters and a mission set on course by the members of the Constituent Assembly who worked on its unique liberal democratic Constitution. There have been significant achievements — a constitutional scheme guaranteeing rights that included freedom of speech, religion and a secular state, implementation of universal adult franchise in periodic elections, a _____**12**_____ legislature, establishments allowing for a formal separation of powers, a quasi-

federal union of States that were reorganised on a linguistic basis, the building of institutions (industrial, educational, medical) that heralded progress, and the unleashing of knowledge and communication sectors that tied India beneficially to the world economy. There have also been missteps and failings — the **inability (A)** to eradicate extreme poverty and marginalisation even though these did come down dramatically since 1947, the **strains (B)** in implementing the constitutional order and values, **decentralization (C)** communal majoritarianism, which was decidedly rejected by both the freedom fighters as well as the framers of the Constitution, the incomplete nature of **burgeoning (D)** of power, and rising economic inequality. Today, on the one hand, India stands tall as one of the world's emerging economies with an advantageous demographic dividend, a _____ **13** _____ democracy that ensures enthusiastic participation in elections, a diverse polity, and a diversified economy. But it also faces humongous challenges. Its people live in a more _____ **14** _____ world where cooperation and liberal trade relations have taken a beating and where climate change is a challenge.

Also, the emergence and consolidation of **(A)** / a dominant political force that seeks to centralise power and homogenise the idea of India has **(B)**/ threatened to unravel the constitutional structure of recognition of diversity **(C)**/ and inclusion as the means for overall progress. **(D)**

Health care and thoroughgoing economic growth than other regions, an issue that requires careful deliberation in the near future. **(1)**/ Economic progress through inclusive growth — a process that was accelerated following comprehensive reforms in the early 1990s and **(2)**/ the institution of a rights-based approach towards welfare in the mid-2000s — has slowed down in the last few years. **(3)**/ Meanwhile, there is an exacerbation of inter-State disparities, with southern and western India delivering better outcomes in education **(4)**/

Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word given in the option (From Q11 – Q14)

11. Seventy-five years ago, on this day, India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru made these remarks in his _____ **11** _____ speech on India attaining freedom at midnight:
 - A. Denizen
 - B. Munificent
 - C. Stirring
 - D. Amenable
12. There have been significant achievements — a constitutional scheme guaranteeing rights that included freedom of speech, religion and a secular state, implementation of universal adult franchise in periodic elections, a _____ **12** _____ legislature, establishments allowing for a formal separation of powers.
 - A. Thriving
 - B. Civil
 - C. Bucolic
 - D. Utilitarian
13. Today, on the one hand, India stands tall as one of the world's emerging economies with an advantageous demographic dividend, a _____ **13** _____ democracy that ensures enthusiastic participation in elections, a diverse polity, and a diversified economy.

- A. Gesticulating
B. Vibrant
C. Amenable
D. Debauchery
14. Its people live in a more _____ world where cooperation and liberal trade relations have taken a beating and where climate change is a challenge.
- A. Perennial
B. Chaotic
C. Infer
D. Pragmatic
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.**
Also, the emergence and consolidation of **(A)** / a dominant political force that seeks to centralise power and homogenised the idea of India has **(B)**/ threatened to unravel the constitutional structure of recognition of diversity **(C)**/ and inclusion as the means for overall progress. **(D)**
- A. (A)
B. (B)
C. (C)
D. (D)
E. No Error
16. **Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.**
Health care and thoroughgoing economic growth than other regions, an issue that requires careful deliberation in the near future. **(1)**/ Economic progress through inclusive growth — a process that was accelerated following comprehensive reforms in the early 1990s and **(2)**/ the institution of a rights-based approach towards welfare in the mid-2000s — has slowed down in the last few years. **(3)**/ Meanwhile, there is an exacerbation of inter-State disparities, with southern and western India delivering better outcomes in education **(4)**
- A. 2341
B. 2314
C. 1234
D. 2143
E. 3214
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
- UNSHACKLE**
- (i) More homebuyers want to **unshackle** themselves from their mortgages early.
(ii) The press, once heavily censored, has managed to shake off its **unshackles**.
(iii) The **unshackles** had begun to cut into his ankles.

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

There have also been missteps and failings — the **inability (A)** to eradicate extreme poverty and marginalisation even though these did come down dramatically since 1947, the **strains (B)** in implementing the constitutional order and values, **decentralization (C)** communal majoritarianism, which was decidedly rejected by both the freedom fighters as well as the framers of the Constitution, the incomplete nature of **burgeoning (D)** of power, and rising economic inequality.

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

19. Select the connector from the given options which can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences given below, implying the same as expressed in the statement sentence.

- (i) Journalistic freedom is inextricably and inalienably linked to good practices.
 - (ii) Some media houses publicize pointless news just to gain more TRP ratings.
- A. Whereas
 - B. Although
 - C. And
 - D. Unless
 - E. Even though

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

My classroom has been almost empty all week because one kid afflicted the others _____ chicken pox.

- A. Of
- B. From
- C. With
- D. To
- E. None of the above

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

4. **In the wings** (phrase) – ready to do something or to be used at the appropriate time. अपनी बारी का इंतज़ार करना

5. **TRSUPQ**

The slogans raised by a child at a rally in Kerala's Alappuzha on May 21 were chilling not merely for the death threats that they make. The fact that an innocent child could be indoctrinated and tutored such that he could call for violence portends a communal storm that is making landfall in the State. Organisers of the rally, the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), disowned the slogans, but not in any reassuring manner. The Islamist group's claim that its rally was to save the Republic does not cut ice, considering its track record and the threatening posturing that it has engaged in, in recent years. It is merely using the democratic space and the prevailing environment of Hindutva upsurge to advance its dangerous, nihilistic communal agenda. At least five people have been killed in Kerala in SDPI-Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) rivalry in the State in recent months.

6. 'have' के बदले 'has' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Verb 'has come' का Subject 'this swarm' है और यह Singular है।

➤ 'has' will be used instead of 'have' because the subject of the verb 'has come' is 'this swarm' and it is singular.

7. 'Fewer rainfall means less traffic accidents' के बदले 'Less rainfall means fewer traffic accidents' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि 'little' एक Quantitative Adjective है जिसका Comparative 'less' है, जबकि 'few' एक Numeral Adjective है जिसका Comparative 'fewer' है और 'rainfall' एक Uncountable Noun है जिसके पहले आवश्यकतानुसार 'little/little/very little, less' etc. का प्रयोग होगा जबकि 'accidents' एक Plural Countable Noun है जिसके पहले आवश्यकतानुसार 'few, a few, very few, fewer' etc. का प्रयोग होगा।

➤ 'Less rainfall means fewer traffic accidents' will be used instead of 'Fewer rainfall means less traffic accidents', because 'little' is a Quantitative Adjective whose Comparative is 'less', while 'few' is a Numeral Adjective whose Comparative is 'fewer' and 'rainfall' is an Uncountable Noun which is preceded by 'little/little/very little, less' etc. Where 'accidents' is a Plural Countable Noun preceded by 'few, a few, very few, fewer' etc. Will be used.

8. 'if I were him' के बदले 'if I were he' का प्रयोग होगा।

➤ 'if I were he' will be used instead of 'if I were him'.

9. 'is' के बदले 'are' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'what' का अर्थ यदि 'that which' हो, तो what के लिए Singular Verb, किन्तु 'what' का अर्थ यदि 'those which' हो तो 'what' के लिए Plural Verb का प्रयोग होता है;

➤ 'are' will be used instead of 'is' because if 'what' means 'that which', then Singular Verb for what, but if 'what' means 'those which' then the Plural Verb is used for 'what'.

10. **Dilatory** (adjective) – intended to cause delay. विलम्बकारी

11. **Stirring** (adjective) – exciting, thrilling, action-packed, gripping, riveting उत्तेजक

12. **Thriving** (adjective) – flourishing, prosperous, prospering, growing, developing, संपन्न

13. **Vibrant** (adjective) – resonant, sonorous, throbbing, pulsating, reverberating, जीवंत

14. **Chaotic** (adjective) – disorderly, disordered, in disorder, in chaos अराजक

15. (B), Replace 'Homonised' with 'Homonise' as the error of parallelism.

When words connected with 'And' then the form of words must be same.

16. (A) **2314**

Economic progress through inclusive growth — a process that was accelerated following comprehensive reforms in the early 1990s and the institution of a rights-based approach towards welfare in the mid-2000s — has slowed down in the last few years. Meanwhile, there is an exacerbation of inter-State disparities, with southern and western India delivering better outcomes in education, health care and thoroughgoing economic growth than other regions, an issue that requires careful deliberation in the near future.

17. **Unshackle** (verb) – Liberate; set free स्वतंत्र करना

According to the given options only (i) is contextually correct.

Because the (ii) and (iii) sentences are not giving any meaning and correct sentences should be like

The press, once heavily censored, has managed to shake off its shackles.

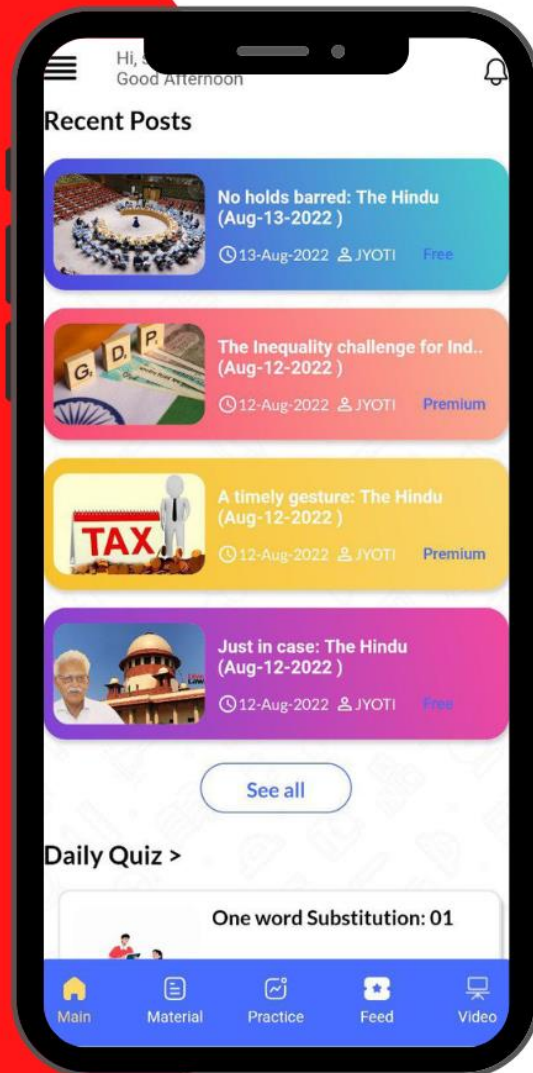
The shackles had begun to cut into his ankles.

18. There have also been missteps and failings — the inability to eradicate extreme poverty and marginalisation even though these did come down dramatically since 1947, the strains in implementing the constitutional order and values, burgeoning communal majoritarianism, which was decidedly rejected by both the freedom fighters as well as the framers of the Constitution, the incomplete nature of decentralisation of power, and rising economic inequality.

19. **Even though** Journalistic freedom is inextricably and inalienably linked to good practices, some media houses publicize pointless news just to gain more TRP ratings.

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Belligerent	adjective	Combative; Quarrelsome; waging war	लड़ाकू, युद्धकारी
	Profound	adjective	Deep (in several cases)	गहन
	Incongruous	adjective	Not harmonious; not consistent; not appropriate; not fitting in	बेमेल
Q2	Ebullient	adjective	Boiling; bubbling with excitement; exuberant	उत्तेजित, जोशीला
	Scintillate	verb	To sparkle, either literally or figuratively	चमकना
	Construe	verb	To interpret	शब्दानुवाद करना, अर्थ करना
Q3	Alloy	noun	A combination of two or more things, usually metals	मिश्र धातु
	Robust	adjective	Strong and healthy; vigorous	मजबूत
	mandate	noun	A command or authorization to do something; the will of voters as expressed by the result of an election.	शासनादेश
Q11	Denizen	noun	Inhabitant	निवासी
	Munificent	adjective	Very generous; lavish	उदार
	Amenable	adjective	Obedient; willing to give in to the wishes of another; agreeable	उत्तरदायी, जिम्मेदार
Q12	Civil	adjective	Polite; civilized; courteous	विनम्र
	Bucolic	adjective	Charmingly rural; rustic; country like	ग्राम्य
	Utilitarian	adjective	stressing usefulness or utility above all other qualities; pragmatic	उपयोगी
Q13	Gesticulate	verb	To make gestures, especially when speaking or in place of speaking	इशारा करना
	Amenable	adjective	Obedient; willing to give in to the wishes of another; agreeable	उत्तरदायी, जिम्मेदार
	Debauchery	noun	Wild living; excessive intemperance	ऐयाशी, भ्रष्ट आचरण
Q14	Perennial	adjective	Continual; happening again and again or year after year	चिरस्थायी
	Infer	verb	To conclude; to deduce	अनुमान करना
	Pragmatic	adjective	Practical; down to earth; based on experience rather than theory	व्यावहारिक



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