

Evolving chair

Clarity is needed on the relationship of the Chief of Defence Staff with the Service Chiefs in operational roles and administrative duties

The **Government** on Wednesday **announced** the appointment of **former** Eastern Army Commander Lt. Gen. Anil Chauhan, 61, as the next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), nine months after the **untimely** death of India's first CDS, Gen. Bipin Rawat in December 2021. He could be in office for almost four years. His appointment is until further orders, or when he turns 65. Lt. Gen. Chauhan will **pick up** the **stalled** process of transformation and **reorganisation** of the armed forces and bring in **synergy** that was **envisaged** along with the creation of the post. An **ambitious** component of the new vision is the **proposed** reorganisation of the armed forces into **integrated theatre commands**, which is yet to get the required **consensus** among military leaders. When the office of the CDS was created in 2019, its **mandate** was to **ensure** "jointness" of the three services in operations, **logistics**, transport, training, support services, communications, repairs and maintenance, within three years of the first CDS **assuming** office. That **ambition** was **disrupted** by the death of Gen. Rawat, and then the delay in the appointment of his **successor**. Lt. Gen. Chauhan has served a range of command, staff and **instrumental** appointments including that of Director General of Military Operations, and brings hope and experience.

The nine months and changes in eligibility criteria it took before the appointment could be made **point to** the fact the CDS is still an evolving institution. The **arbitrary changes** which **expanded** the **pool** of eligible candidates for appointment as CDS **may** have **diminished** the **dignity** of the evolving office. In 2019, the Ministry of Defence was **reorganised** and a new department of military affairs was **carved out** with the CDS as its secretary. That did not, however, ensure clarity in terms of functions and roles across the Defence Ministry. The CDS is also the Principal Military Adviser to the Defence Minister and Permanent Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee, which requires him to **straddle** administrative and operational functions. More clarity is needed regarding the functions of the CDS, particularly his relationship with the Service Chiefs in terms of operational roles and administrative duties. While the big focus is likely going to be the **theatrisation** process, the other **tasks** before him **would** be to bring in **fiscal prudence** and **optimisation** in utilisation of the defence budget especially **given** the tough economic **outlook**. **The war** in Ukraine **has** also **underscored** the need to **accelerate** the effort to build **indigenous** capacities in defence manufacturing and **resilient** logistical chains to be prepared for future wars effectively. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Evolve** (verb) – to develop gradually,
विकसित होना
2. **Chair** (noun) – (the official position of) a
person in charge of a meeting, official
group or organization
3. **Former** (adjective) – previous, past,
earlier, prior भूतपूर्व
4. **Untimely** (adjective) – happening before
the normal or expected time असामयिक
5. **Pick up** (phrasal verb) – Speed up,
accelerate, improve, quicken, stimulate
तेज करना
6. **Stalled** (adjective) – Stopped, halted,
paused, checked, impeded ठप
7. **Reorganisation** (noun) – the act of
organizing something again in order to
improve it: पुनर्गठन
8. **Synergy** (noun) – the combined power of
a group of things when they are working
together that is greater than the total
power achieved by each working
separately तालमेल
9. **Envisage** (verb) – envision, imagine,
visualize, foresee, contemplate परिकल्पना
करना
10. **Ambitious** (adjective) – Strongly desirous
महत्वाकांक्षी
11. **Proposed** (adjective) – Intended, planned,
anticipated प्रस्तावित
12. **Integrated theatre command** (noun) – it
envisages a unified command of the three
Services, under a single commander, for
geographical theatres (areas) that are of
strategic and security concern.
13. **Consensus** (noun) – Agreement; accord;
consent सर्वसम्मति
14. **Mandate** (noun) – an authoritative
command अधिदेश
15. **Ensure** (verb) – Make certain of, make
sure सुनिश्चित करना
16. **Jointness** (noun) – the cooperation and
integration of different branches of the
military संयुक्तता
17. **Logistic** (noun) – the transfer of personnel
and materiel from one location to
another, as well as the maintenance of
that material
18. **Assume** (verb) – to take or begin to have
responsibility or control ग्रहण करना
19. **Ambition** (noun) – aspiration, goal, desire,
objective, महत्वाकांक्षा
20. **Disrupt** (verb) – disturb, interrupt, upset,
disorder, unsettle बाधित करना
21. **Successor** (noun) – A person who follows
next in order उत्तराधिकारी

22. **Instrumental** (adjective) – important in causing something to happen सहायक, साधक
23. **Point to** (phrasal verb) – Indicate, point out, show, suggest, direct इंगित करना
24. **Arbitrary** (adjective) – random, dictatorial, absolute, capricious, autocratic मनमाना
25. **Expand** (verb) – extend, increase, enlarge, grow, broaden बढ़ाना
26. **Pool** (noun) – a number of people; group, team, collection, consortium
27. **Diminish** (verb) – reduce, lessen, decrease, dwindle, decline कम होना
28. **Dignity** (noun) – the quality of being serious and formal गरिमा, मर्यादा
29. **Reorganise** (verb) – to organize something again or in a new way पुनः या नए तरीके से किसी को संगठित करना
30. **Carve out** (phrasal verb) – to make or create बनाना
31. **Straddle** (verb) – to favor or appear to favor both sides of
32. **Theatrisation** (noun) – It is a concept that seeks to integrate the capabilities of the three services -- army, air force and navy - - and optimally utilise their resources for wars and operations.
33. **Fiscal** (adjective) – Financial, monetary वित्तीय
34. **Prudence** (noun) – the state of being careful in the way you make decisions or spend money so that you avoid unnecessary risks विवेक, सावधानी
35. **Optimisation** (noun) – the action of making the best or most effective use of a situation or resource. इष्टतमीकरण
36. **Given** (preposition) – Considering, bearing in mind, taking into consideration देखते हुए
37. **Outlook** (noun) – perspective, prospect, attitude, view, viewpoint दृष्टिकोण
38. **Underscore** (verb) – emphasize, underline, stress, highlight, accentuate जोर देना
39. **Accelerate** (verb) – expedite, speed up, hasten, quicken तेज करना
40. **Indigenous** (adjective) – native, aboriginal, local देशज
41. **Resilient** (adjective) – Robust, strong, buoyant, tough, hardy मजबूत

Practice Exercise

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

- The **arbitrary** changes which expanded the pool of eligible candidates for appointment as CDS may have diminished the dignity of the evolving office
 - Stagnation
 - Ramification
 - Vex
 - Random
- The war in Ukraine has also underscored the need to accelerate the effort to build indigenous capacities in defence manufacturing and **resilient** logistical chains to be prepared for future wars effectively.
 - Strong
 - Temperate
 - Corroborate
 - Amorous
- Lt. Gen. Chauhan will pick up the stalled process of transformation and reorganisation of the armed forces and bring in synergy that was **envisaged** along with the creation of the post
 - Sublime
 - Felicity
 - Acquiesce
 - Foresee

4. **Idioms & Phrase**

The immense interconnectivity of social media has **tilted the scales** of power somewhat back into the hands of the ordinary population.

- A situation in which an advantage that is won by one of two sides is lost by the other
 - Remain calm and determined in a difficult situation
 - To use one's influence or power to support or promote someone or something
 - To change the balance of a situation, such that one side or element is favored or gains advantage.
5. **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.**
- In his first visit to West Asia as President, Joe Biden sought to strengthen America's traditional partnerships and alliances in the region, involving Israel and Sunni Arab countries.**
- P.** In his brief visit to the Palestinian West Bank, he was careful not to criticise the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories.
- Q.** Later, in a summit with Arab leaders in Jeddah, he said the U.S. would not walk away from West Asia, leaving a vacuum which China, Russia or Iran would try to fill.
- R.** In Israel, he promised that the U.S. would do everything it could to stop Iran from getting a nuclear bomb.

S. The visit practically brought to an end Washington's early attempts to punish and isolate Prince Mohammed.

T. In Saudi Arabia, Mr. Biden met Mohammed bin Salman, the Crown Prince who, according to the CIA, ordered the 2018 killing of Saudi dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

U. He promised aid, but said the ground situation was not ready for reviving the peace process.

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

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

Direction (Q6 – Q7): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them

6. If I had lots of money (A)/ I'd give some to anybody (B)/ who asked for it. (C)/ No error (D)
 7. The old man felled (A)/ some of the trees in the garden (B)/ with hardly no efforts at all. (C)/ No error(D)

Directions (8-9): In the following questions two columns are given containing three Sentences/phrases each. In first column, sentences/phrases are A, B and C and in the second column the sentences/phrases are D, E and F. A sentence/phrase from the first column may or may not connect with another sentence/phrase from the second column to make a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. Each question has five options, four of which display the sequence(s) in which the sentences/phrases can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. If none of the options given forms a correct sentence after combination, mark option (E), i.e. "None of these" as your answer

8.

	Column (1)		Column (2)
A.	At the heart of what has gone wrong is the absence of	D	and it is impossible to disagreeing .
B.	One just needs to look at	E	what last year's Copa America win meant to Lionel Messi.
C.	Mane called it the best day of his life	F	an effective mechanism to ensure environmental compliance.

- A. A-E B.B-E, A-F C.A-E, C-D D.B-E, A-F, C-D E. None of these

9.

	Column (1)		Column (2)
A.	There is no doubt that the mandatory nature of NEET	D	the Governor should delay the matter no further.
B.	The advent of social media has no doubt changed	E	on a pan-India basis undermines the role of State governments in medical education.
C.	Regardless of the Bill's merits,	F	how diplomacy are conducted between countries.

A. A-E, B-F

B. A-D, B-E

C. A-E, C-D

D. B-D

E. None of these

10. Find out the misspelt word

- A. Mischievous
- B. Occurrence
- C. Gauge
- D. Embarass

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

(The Hindu Editorial: The spirit of 1971 – Sep 08, 2022)

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's ongoing state visit to India and meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi **(A)**/ has resulted in positive outcomes and seven agreements, **(B)**/ which include the conclusion of the first water sharing agreement in 26 years, **(C)**/ the launch of free trade agreement talks, and infrastructure projects particularly in the railways sector. **(D)**

The water sharing agreement on the Kushiara, which was preceded by the first Joint River Commission meeting in 12 years, is a particularly hopeful sign on resolving water management, and a very **contentious** issue, of 54 trans-boundary rivers. While there has been a smaller agreement on the withdrawal of 1.82 cusecs from the Feni in the interim period, the Kushiara agreement is the first time the Centre has been able to bring on board Assam and other north-eastern States, for the agreement since the 1996 Ganga water treaty. However, the Teesta agreement, of 2011, held up by West Bengal, remains _____ **11** _____, a point Ms. Hasina made several times. Clearly, the Teesta river agreement will require more efforts by the Modi government, and flexibility from the Mamata Banerjee-led State government, if the deal is to be sealed soon. The timeline grows more important for Ms. Hasina, who is due to hold elections at the end of next year, after three terms in office. Much of her focus was also on attracting investment by Indian industry, which now _____ a small _____ of Bangladesh's FDI inflows. Ms. Hasina made particular mention of two dedicated Special Economic Zones for Indian companies, coming up at Mongla and Mirsarai.

Ms. Hasina's visit, which follows her previous state visit in 2017, and Mr. Modi's visit to Bangladesh in 2021, have set India-Bangladesh ties on a firmer footing, and on course for closer engagement in trade, connectivity and people-to-people ties. However, the positive trend in ties goes further back, to Ms. Hasina's _____ **12** _____ to power in 2009, her unilateral moves to shut down terror training camps, and to hand over more than 20 wanted criminals and terror suspects to India. It is incumbent on New Delhi, which has benefited from such outcomes and the turnaround in relations with what used to be an _____ **13** _____ neighbour, to be equally sensitive to Dhaka's concerns, particularly

when it comes to comments made by ruling party leaders on deporting Rohingya refugees, comparing undocumented migrants to “termites”, the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, and more recent references to _____14_____ Bangladesh for “Akhand Bharat”. While cross-border **sensitivities (A)** in South Asia often run high **on (B)** such political **rhetoric (C)**, it is necessary that New Delhi and Dhaka remain focused on their future cooperation, built **over (D)** their past partnership, and what is referred to as the “Spirit of 1971”

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

11. the Teesta agreement, of 2011, held up by West Bengal, remains _____11_____, a point Ms. Hasina made several times.
 - A. Perquisite
 - B. Tenuous
 - C. Elusive
 - D. Infamous
12. the positive trend in ties goes further back, to Ms. Hasina’s _____12_____ to power in 2009, her unilateral moves to shut down terror training camps, and to hand over more than 20 wanted criminals and terror suspects to India.
 - A. Egregious
 - B. Advent
 - C. Indolent
 - D. Dilettante
13. It is incumbent on New Delhi, which has benefited from such outcomes and the turnaround in relations with what used to be an _____13_____ neighbor.
 - A. Clandestine
 - B. Martyr
 - C. Inimical
 - D. Perjury
14. particularly when it comes to comments made by ruling party leaders on deporting Rohingya refugees, comparing undocumented migrants to “termites”, the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, and more recent references to _____14_____ Bangladesh for “Akhand Bharat”.
 - A. Annexing
 - B. Vicarious
 - C. Arduous
 - D. Avuncular
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.**
 Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina’s ongoing state visit to India and meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi **(A)**/ has resulted in positive outcomes and seven agreements, **(B)**/ which include the conclusion of the first water sharing agreement in 26 years, **(C)**/ the launch of free trade agreement talks, and infrastructure projects particularly in the railways sector.
(D)
 - A. (A)

- B. (B)
- C. (C)
- D. (D)
- E. No Error

16. **Directions:** In the question below, a sentence is given with two blanks that indicate that some parts are missing. Identify the correct pair of words that fit in the sentence to make it grammatically and contextually correct.

The timeline grows more important for Ms. Hasina, who is due to hold elections at the end of next year, after three terms in office. Much of her focus was also on attracting investment by Indian industry, which now _____ a small _____ of Bangladesh's FDI inflows.

- A. Establish, group
- B. Constitutes, Fraction
- C. Instituted, amount
- D. Composed, Parts
- E. None of the above

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**

CONTENTIOUS

- (i) She has some very **contentious** views on education.
- (ii) Opponents of the government have criticized the president's **contentious** approach and believe broader international alliances are required.
- (iii) Until such functional mutations are identified, the biological mechanisms underlying the interaction will remain **contentious**.

- 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.**

While cross-border **sensitivities (A)** in South Asia often run high **on (B)** such political **rhetoric (C)**, it is necessary that New Delhi and Dhaka remain focused on their future cooperation, built **over (D)** their past partnership, and what is referred to as the "Spirit of 1971".

- A. C – A
- B. A – D
- C. B – D
- 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) He may be the best-dressed man around.

(ii) he has a really good taste in fashion.

A. Then

B. Although

C. Indeed

D. Instead

E. None of the above

20. **Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks**

He repented _____ the misdeeds of his youth.

A. Of

B. In

C. With

D. To

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

4. **Tilt the scales/balance** (phrase) –To change the balance of a situation, such that one side or element is favored or gains advantage.
5. **RPUTSQ**
 In his first visit to West Asia as President, Joe Biden sought to strengthen America's traditional partnerships and alliances in the region, involving Israel and Sunni Arab countries. In Israel, he promised that the U.S. would do everything it could to stop Iran from getting a nuclear bomb. In his brief visit to the Palestinian West Bank, he was careful not to criticise the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories. He promised aid, but said the ground situation was not ready for reviving the peace process. In Saudi Arabia, Mr. Biden met Mohammed bin Salman, the Crown Prince who, according to the CIA, ordered the 2018 killing of Saudi dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi. The visit practically brought to an end Washington's early attempts to punish and isolate Prince Mohammed. Later, in a summit with Arab leaders in Jeddah, he said the U.S. would not walk away from West Asia, leaving a vacuum which China, Russia or Iran would try to fill.
6. No error
7. 'hardly' को हटाना पड़ेगा या 'hardly any' का प्रयोग होगा तो 'no' तथा 'at all' को हटाना पड़ेगा क्योंकि 'hardly, scarcely, rarely seldom' और 'no, not' का प्रयोग एक साथ नहीं होता है; जैसे-
- I have no money at all.
 - I have hardly any money.
- 'hardly' has to be removed or if 'hardly any' is used then 'no' and 'at all' will have to be removed because 'hardly, scarcely, rarely seldom' and 'no, not' are not used together; like-
- I have no money at all.
 - I have hardly any money.
8. **Correct Option: B**
At the heart of what has gone wrong is the absence of an effective mechanism to ensure environmental compliance.
 Fragment A of column 1 is matched with fragment F of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct.
One just needs to look at what last year's Copa America win meant to Lionel Messi.
 Fragment B of column 1 is matched with fragment E of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct
Mane called it the best day of his life and it is impossible to disagreeing.

Fragment C of column 1 is matched with fragment D of column 2 to make the sentence contextually but grammatically it wrong. **The correct sentence would be:** Mane called it the best day of his life and it is impossible to **disagree**

9. **Correct Option: C**

There is no doubt that the mandatory nature of NEET on a pan-India basis undermines the role of State governments in medical education.

Fragment A of column 1 is matched with fragment E of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct

Regardless of the Bill's merits, the Governor should delay the matter no further.

Fragment C of column 1 is matched with fragment D of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct

The advent of social media has no doubt changed how diplomacy are conducted between countries.

Fragment B of column 1 is matched with fragment F of column 2 to make the sentence contextually but grammatically it wrong. **The correct sentence would be:** The advent of social media has no doubt changed how diplomacy **is** conducted between countries.

10. **Embarrass** (verb) – shame, humiliate, mortify, abash, discomfit शर्मिदा करना

11. **Elusive** (adjective) – difficult to find, achieve हाथ न आनेवाला

12. **Advent** (noun) – Emergence, approach, arrival आगमन

13. **Inimical** (adjective) – unfriendly, harmful, detrimental, hostile, antagonistic विरोधी

14. **Annex** (verb) – To attach or connect मिला लेना

15. Replace 'Have' with 'has' as the subject is plural (i.e. Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's ongoing state **visit** to India and **meeting** with Prime Minister Narendra Modi)

16. **Constitute** (verb) – form, establish, make, compose, बनाना

Fraction (noun) – portion, part, piece, fragment, section अंश, भाग

17. **Contentious** (adjective) – controversial, quarrelsome, combative, disputatious, argumentative विवादपूर्ण

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

ii. Opponents of the government have criticized the president's unilateral approach and believe broader international alliances are required.

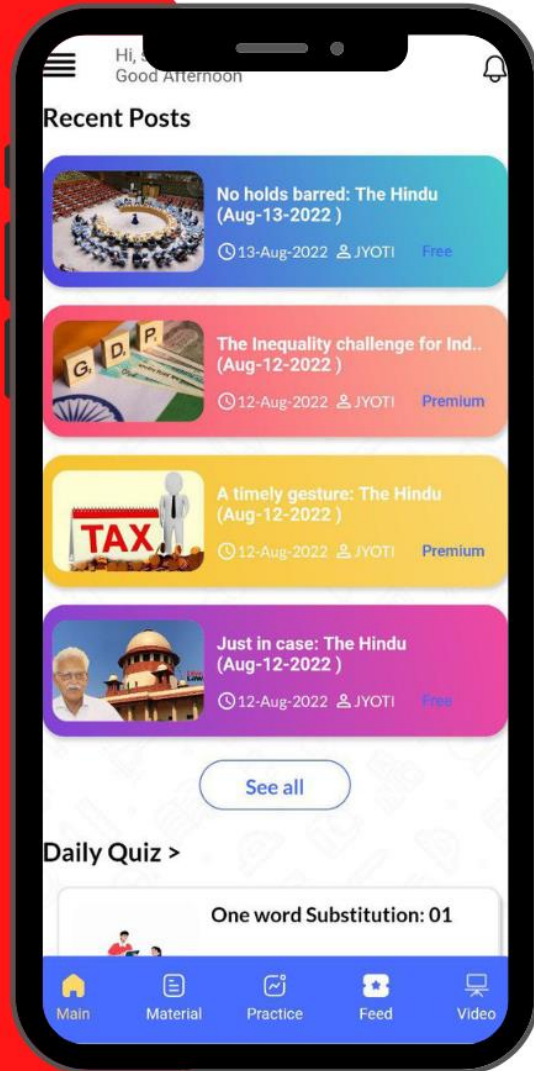
iii. Until such functional mutations are identified, the biological mechanisms underlying the interaction will remain elusive.

18. While cross-border sensitivities in South Asia often run high over such political rhetoric, it is necessary that New Delhi and Dhaka remain focused on their future cooperation, built on their past partnership, and what is referred to as the "Spirit of 1971".

19. He may be the best-dressed man around. **Indeed**, he has a really good taste in fashion.

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Stagnation	noun	Motionless; inactivity	स्थिरता
	Ramification	noun	A consequences; a branching out	शाखा विस्तार
	Vex	verb	To annoy; to pester; to confuse	तंग करना
Q2	Temperate	adjective	Mild; moderate; restrained	हल्का; मध्यम
	Corroborate	verb	To confirm; to back up with evidence	पुष्ट करना
Q3	Amorous	adjective	Feeling loving; especially in sexual sense in love; relating to love	कामुक, प्रणयशील
	Sublime	adjective	Awesome; extremely exalted; lofty; majestic	अति उत्तम
	Felicity	noun	Happiness; skillfulness, especially at expressing thing; adeptness	परम सुख, आनंद
	Acquiesce	verb	To comply passively; to accept; to assent; to agree	संतुष्ट होना, चुपचाप स्वीकार कर लेना
Q11	Perquisite	noun	A privilege that goes along with a job; a perk	रिआयत
	Tenuous	adjective	Flimsy; extremely thin	तुच्छ
	Infamous	adjective	Shamefully wicked, having an extremely bad reputation; disgraceful	बदनाम
Q12	Egregious	adjective	Extremely bad; flagrant	भयंकर, असाधारण
	Indolent	adjective	Lazy	आलसी
	Dilettante	noun	Someone with superficial knowledge of the arts; an amateur; a dabbler	कला-प्रेमी, शौकीन
Q13	Clandestine	adjective	Secret; sneaky; concealed and usually, up to no good	गुप्त
	Martyr	noun	Someone who gives up his or her life in pursuit of a cause, especially a religious one; one who suffers for a cause; on who make a show of suffering in order to arouse sympathy.	शहीद
	Perjury	noun	Lying under oath	झूठा साक्ष्य
	Vicarious	adjective	Experienced performed or suffered through someone else; living through the experience of another as though they were one's own experience.	उपनियुक्त
Q14	Arduous	adjective	Hard; Difficult	कठिन
	Avuncular	adjective	Like an uncle, especially a nice uncle	चाचा या मामा का



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