

A deeper message: On Nepal elections

The unexpected **performance** of **newcomers** in Nepal's elections **is** a **call for** change

At face value, the **outcome** of Nepal's general election **was**, expectedly, favourable to the **ruling** five-party **alliance** of the Nepali Congress, CPN (Maoist-Centre), CPN (Unified Socialist), Loktantrik Samajwadi Party, Nepal and Rastriya Janamorcha, which has won or **established** a lead in at least 87 of the 165 seats in the **FPTP system** and is **tipped to** win close to half of the 110 **proportional representation** seats. The coming together of the alliance is what helped it **overcome** the opposition **coalition** led by the K.P. Oli-**helmed** Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) — it won or leads in 49 seats in the FPTP system while the UML is leading as the single largest party **in terms of** PR votes. But the **mandate** shows that the **long-standing mainstream parties** now **have** challengers — the largely urban-based newcomer Rashtriya Swatantra Party has a lead in or won eight seats while **emerging** as the third largest party in vote terms and also get a **sizeable** number of PR seats in the House of Representatives. Led by a former television personality, Rabi Lamichhane, the RSP has **vague ideological** views but a clear position against **federalism**, **seeking to dissolve** the **provincial assemblies** that were **set up** under the **federalist** constitution. Its performance **points to** the inability of mainstream parties to ensure **stability** or **effect** policies to **lift** the **living standards** of Nepalis in a country that sees much youth **out-migration**.

The election results have also been a **blow** to the Maoists and the Madhesi parties, which **played** a crucial **role** in the **federalisation** of republican Nepal. **Their legacy** in constitution-building **did** not help them overcome the fact that voters were **tired of** their **opportunistic political stances**. While there is no threat to **republicanism** or **secularism** in Nepal, a more **comprehensive federal** agenda will have to ensure that provinces are sufficiently **empowered** or else the **enthusiasm** for **federalism** **will wane** further. The winning Nepali Congress will also have to look deeper into its electoral results which has been **buoyed** by the performance of its youth candidates. Led by **veterans**, the party must consider **letting** a younger leader (Gagan Thapa) **take over**. Unlike other south Asian democracies, Nepal's **elections were marked** by the absence, largely, of calls for voting on religious/**sectarian** basis, and delivered results true to the country's political **diversity**. Yet, a **beleaguered** Nepali **citizenry** that has waited for **decades** for democracy to **unleash** better developmental outcomes **deserves** change: it **is now up to** the parties to provide that. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Newcomer** (noun) – Any new participant in some activity नवागंतुक
2. **Call** (for) (noun) –demand, Request, plea, appeal मांग
3. **At face value** (phrase) – To accept it and believe it without thinking about it very much, even though it might be untrue
4. **Outcome** (noun) – result, end result, consequence, conclusion परिणाम
5. **Ruling** (adjective) – governing, in charge, leading, dominant, controlling, सत्तारूढ़
6. **Alliance** (noun) – association, coalition, union, treaty, pact गठबंधन
7. **Establish** (verb) – set up, determine, create, institute स्थापित करना
8. **FPTP system** (noun) – The first – past – the – post (FPTP) is also known as the simple majority system. The candidate who receives the most votes in a constituency is declared the winner
9. **Tip to** (verb) – predict, think of, expect (as likely to win something)
10. **Proportional representation** (noun) – an electoral system in which parties gain seats in proportion to the number of votes cast for them. डाले गए वोटों की संख्या के अनुपात में सीट मिलना
11. **Overcome** (verb) – Succeed in dealing with (a problem or difficulty) काबू पाना, हराना
12. **Coalition** (noun) – alliance, union, partnership, affiliation, bloc, गठबंधन
13. **Helm** (verb) – control or manage by संचालन करना
14. **In terms of** (phrase) – with regard to, as regards, regarding के संबंध में
15. **Mandate** (noun) – the authority to carry out a policy, regarded as given by the electorate to a party or candidate that wins an election. जनादेश
16. **Long-standing** (adjective) – Established, long-lasting, enduring, well established लंबे समय से चली आ रही
17. **Mainstream** (adjective) – belonging to or characteristic of the mainstream मुख्य धारा
18. **Emerge** (verb) – come out, appear, come into view, become visible उभरना
19. **Sizeable** (adjective) – Fairly large in size बड़ा
20. **Vague** (adjective) – Unclear, Imprecise, Indefinite, Ambiguous, Inexplicit अस्पष्ट
21. **Ideological** (adjective) – Based on or relating to a system of ideas and ideals, especially concerning economic or political theory and policy. वैचारिक

22. **Federalism** (noun) – democratism, socialism, unionism, Unitarianism संघवाद
23. **Seek** (verb) – Try, effort, strive, endeavour कोशिश करना
24. **Dissolve** (verb) – disband, break up, split-up भंग करना
25. **Provincial** (adjective) –local, regional, state, territorial प्रांतीय
26. **Set up** (phrasal verb) – establish स्थापित करना
27. **Federalist** (adjective) – relating to or denoting a system of government in which several states unite under a central authority. संघीय
28. **Point to** (phrasal verb) – indicate, mention, note, highlight, emphasize इशारा करना
29. **Stability** (noun) – permanence, constancy, balance, solidity, firmness स्थिरता
30. **Effect** (verb) – To implement अमल में लाना
31. **Lift** (verb) – raise, rise, boost, elevate उठाना
32. **Living standard** (noun) – the quality of housing, material comfort, and wealth experienced by an individual or group.
33. **Out-migration** (noun) – the action of leaving one place to settle in another, especially within a country. बाहर प्रवासन
34. **Blow** (noun) – shock, unexpected outcome, setback, upset झटका
35. **Play a role** (phrase) – contribute to, be instrumental in, be a factor in में भूमिका निभाना
36. **Federalisation** (noun) – The unification of states to form a federal union संघीकरण
37. **Legacy** (noun) – a situation that has developed as a result of past actions and decisions
38. **(be) Tired of** (verb) – Lose interest in; become bored with से थक चुके हैं
39. **Opportunist** (adjective) – exploiting immediate opportunities, especially regardless of planning or principle. अवसरवादी
40. **Stance** (noun) – attitude, stand, point of view, viewpoint, opinion, way of thinking रुख
41. **Republicanism** (noun) – support for government by elected representatives of the people गणतंत्रवाद
42. **Secularism** (noun) – the belief that religion should not influence or be involved in the organization of society, education, government, etc. धर्मनिरपेक्षता
43. **Comprehensive** (adjective) – inclusive, all-inclusive, complete व्यापक /विस्तृत

44. **Federal** (adjective) – Relating to or denoting the central government संघीय
45. **Empower** (verb) – authorize, license, entitle, permit, allow, सशक्त करना
46. **Enthusiasm** (noun) – Eagerness, interest, fervor, passion, zest, keenness उत्साह
47. **Federalism** (noun) – a system of government in which powers have been divided between the centre and its constituent parts such as states or provinces. संघवाद
48. **Wane** (verb) – Diminish, decrease, decline, fade कम होना/ घटना
49. **Buoy** (verb) –make (someone) cheerful and confident; encourage, stimulate उत्साहित करना
50. **Veteran** (noun) – Expert, old-time, past master, Experienced person अनुभवी/ दिग्गज
51. **Let** (verb) – allow, permit, give permission to होने देना
52. **Take over** (phrasal verb) – Assume control of something सत्ता संभालना
53. **Mark** (verb) – Indicate, Denote, Show, Demonstrate, Exhibit चिह्नित करना
54. **Sectarian** (adjective) – rigidly following the doctrines of a sect or other group. सांप्रदायिक
55. **Diversity** (noun) – variety, miscellany, assortment, mixture विविधता
56. **Beleaguered** (adjective) – in a very difficult situation; Stressed, long-suffering संकटग्रस्त
57. **Citizenry** (noun) – The citizens of a place regarded collectively. नागरिक
58. **Decade** (noun) – A period of 10 years दशक
59. **Unleash** (verb) – release, free, let loose; to let happen or begin something powerful that, once begun, cannot be controlled शुरू करना, खोल देना
60. **Be up to someone** (phrase) – be decided by particular person; be the responsibility of particular person. के ऊपर होना

Practice Exercise

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

1. While there is no threat to republicanism or secularism in Nepal, a more comprehensive federal agenda will have to ensure that provinces are sufficiently empowered or else the enthusiasm for federalism will wane further
 - A. Strife
 - B. Diminish
 - C. Alloy
 - D. Cognitive
2. The winning Nepali Congress will also have to look deeper into its electoral results which has been buoyed by the performance of its youth candidates
 - A. Appease
 - B. Ameliorate
 - C. Legacy
 - D. Encourage
3. Yet, a beleaguered Nepali citizenry that has waited for decades for democracy to unleash better developmental outcomes deserves change: it is now up to the parties to provide that
 - A. Infamous
 - B. Substantive
 - C. Stressed
 - D. Vicarious
4. **Idioms & Phrase**
 She still bore the scars of a very acrimonious divorce, which made her wary of new commitments.
 - A. To be considered important enough to influence other people
 - B. To turn or swerve very suddenly and forcefully into someone or something
 - C. To continue to do something in an even more determined way than before
 - D. To still suffer emotional pain from something unpleasant that happened in the past
5. **Direction: Five 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 Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is trying to expand its footprint beyond its cradle of Delhi.
 - P. AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal is spending a lot of time in the State in the hope of displacing the Congress to emerge as the prime challenger to the BJP, which has been in power since the 1990s.
 - Q. The BJP faces significant anti-incumbency though the Hindutva sauce that it dishes out generously made it more palatable than the Congress all this while.
 - R. Mr. Kejriwal has an expanding catalogue of promises for Gujaratis.
 - S. He has now promised a fully paid pilgrimage for Gujaratis, mainly senior citizens, to Ayodhya, after being labelled by the BJP as ‘anti-Hindu’.

T. The party is now eyeing Gujarat, where the contest between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Congress went down to the wire in 2017, and elections are due later this year.
 U. It is also seeking to capitalise on its success in Punjab, where it formed a government earlier this year, and which boosted that ambition.

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

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

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

6. His ordeal would have continued (A)/ and for the intervention (B)/ of two persons (C)/ No Error(D)
7. If I am (A)/ in your position, (B)/ I would not have agreed to that. (C)/ No Error. (D)
8. The thief escaped (A)/ from the prison two (B)/ days after he were (C)/ arrested by the police. (D)/ No Error. (E)
9. They managed to (A)/ retrieve all the (B)/ deleted e-mails with the (C)/ helping of a new software. (D)/ No Error. (E)
10. **Find out the misspelt word**
 - A. Trigger
 - B. Rejuvenate
 - C. Overhaul
 - D. Contuor

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

(The Hindu Editorial: Vital intervention – Oct 24, 2022)

The Court has also warned of contempt action if the police showed any hesitation in compliance.(1)/ Directed at the police in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the order is in response to the “unending flow of hate speeches” highlighted in a writ petition before it. (2)/ The Court has referred to the growing “climate of hate”, and taken note of the inaction in most instances, despite the law containing provisions to deal with the phenomenon.(3)/ There is good reason for the Supreme Court of India to ask the police to be proactive in dealing with hate speech by taking immediate legal action without waiting for a formal complaint.(4)/ It is quite apparent that the governments at the Centre and in some like-minded States do not share the Court’s concern for communal harmony, fraternity and tranquillity; in fact, some of them may be contributing to the _____11_____ atmosphere either by studied inaction or complicity in allowing provocative speeches in purported religious gatherings by majoritarian elements.

Intervention by the higher court has become (A)/ necessary in the light of some controversial religious leaders (B)/ getting away lightly after making unacceptable comments, (C)/ some of them tinged with a genocidal tenor. (D)

It is in such a backdrop that the Court has underscored the constitutional values of secularism and fraternity among all religions and social groups.

It was a religious conclave held in Haridwar late last year that set the tone for the 'hate speech' case that is being heard now. Even then, the Court had called for _____**12**_____ measures, leading to another conclave being prevented by local authorities in Roorkee in Uttarakhand. While the intervention may have halted a few meetings at that time, it cannot be said that such transgressions have ended. There has been a _____**13**_____ pattern of Hindu festivals becoming an occasion for the conduct of religious processions that end in clashes caused by provocative behaviour. In the name of dealing with the resulting clashes or disturbances, officials have resorted to demolishing the houses of those allegedly involved in the incidents, without following any process of law. Such developments have given rise to new curbs on minorities, such as unwarranted police probes into the holding of group prayers, and new allegations of purported plots to _____**14**_____ Hindu events. Some television channels have been adding to the bigotry by their manner of functioning. Administrative bias on the one hand and the spread of social **prejudice(A)** on the other cannot be allowed to **nudge(B)** the national mood. Towards that end, the Court must do everything possible to **vitate(C)** authorities to enforce the law against the **propagation(D)** of hate.

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

11. Some of them may be contributing to the _____ atmosphere either by studied inaction or complicity in allowing provocative speeches in purported religious gatherings by majoritarian elements.
 - A. Touchstone
 - B. Vitiated
 - C. Avuncular
 - D. Tirade
12. Even then, the Court had called for _____ measures, leading to another conclave being prevented by local authorities in Roorkee in Uttarakhand
 - A. Chimera
 - B. Bourgeois
 - C. Arcane
 - D. Corrective
13. There has been a _____ pattern of Hindu festivals becoming an occasion for the conduct of religious processions that end in clashes caused by provocative behaviour.
 - A. Mentor
 - B. Disconcerting
 - C. Adage
 - D. Covert
14. Such developments have given rise to new curbs on minorities, such as unwarranted police probes into the holding of group prayers, and new allegations of purported plots to _____ Hindu events.
 - A. Domestic
 - B. Histrionic
 - C. Bucolic
 - D. Infiltrate

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.

Intervention by the higher court has become (A)/ necessary in the light of some controversial religious leaders (B)/ getting away lightly after making unacceptable comments, (C)/ some of them tinged with a genocidal tenor. (D)

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

16. Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.

The Court has also warned of contempt action if the police showed any hesitation in compliance.(1)/ Directed at the police in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the order is in response to the "unending flow of hate speeches" highlighted in a writ petition before it. (2)/ The Court has referred to the growing "climate of hate", and taken note of the inaction in most instances, despite the law containing provisions to deal with the phenomenon.(3)/ There is good reason for the Supreme Court of India to ask the police to be proactive in dealing with hate speech by taking immediate legal action without waiting for a formal complaint.(4)/

- A. 2341
- B. 1234
- C. 4123
- D. 2143
- E. 4321

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

NUDGE

- (i) He cleverly **nudges** us towards the conclusion he himself has reached.
- (ii) Do you find your parents **nudging** you in the direction of further study?
- (iii) "we have to **nudge** the politicians in the right direction"

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

Administrative bias on the one hand and the spread of social **prejudice (A)** on the other cannot be allowed to **nudge (B)** the national mood. Towards that end, the Court must do everything possible to **vitiating (C)** authorities to enforce the law against the **propagation (D)** of hate.

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

19. In the questions given below few sentences are given which are grammatically correct and meaningful. Connect them by the word given above the statements in the best possible way without changing the intended meaning. Choose the answers accordingly from the options to form a correct and coherent sentence(s).

But

- I. the kitten gave a leap through the remaining opening and at once scampered up into the air
 - II. It was quite another thing to thoroughly accept something she had always considered wrong
 - III. making the sense of that silent, aimless, dayless life all the more intense
 - IV. the mouth of the hole was nearly filled up now
- A. I-II
 - B. IV-II
 - C. III-II
 - D. IV-I
 - E. None of these

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

He did not dare to venture _____ new enterprise.

- A. Of
- B. Upon
- C. By
- D. To

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

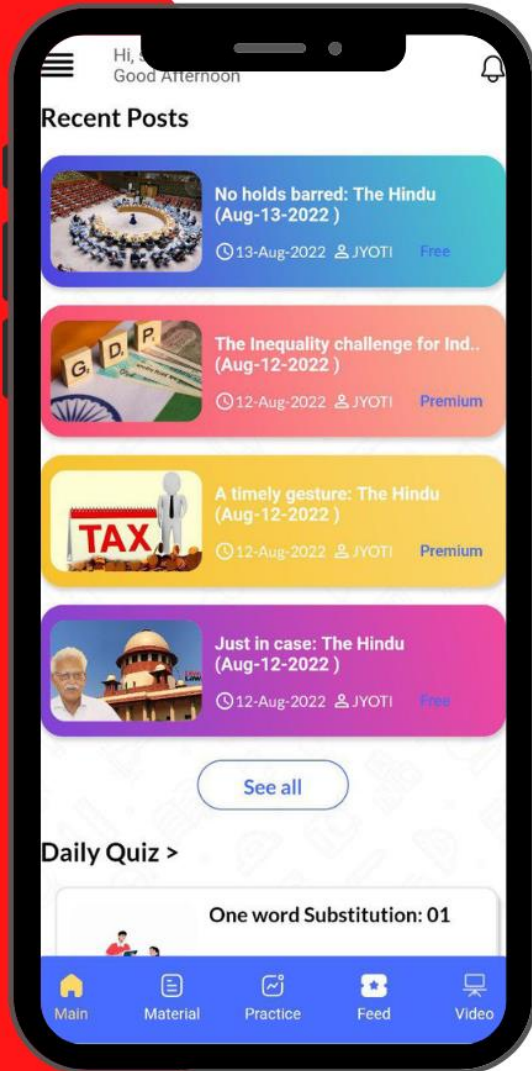
Explanations

4. **Bear the scar** (Phrase) – to still suffer emotional pain from something unpleasant that happened in the past
5. **UTPQSR**
 The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is trying to expand its footprint beyond its cradle of Delhi. It is also seeking to capitalise on its success in Punjab, where it formed a government earlier this year, and which boosted that ambition. The party is now eyeing Gujarat, where the contest between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Congress went down to the wire in 2017, and elections are due later this year. AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal is spending a lot of time in the State in the hope of displacing the Congress to emerge as the prime challenger to the BJP, which has been in power since the 1990s. The BJP faces significant anti-incumbency though the Hindutva sauce that it dishes out generously made it more palatable than the Congress all this while. Mr. Kejriwal has an expanding catalogue of promises for Gujaratis. He has now promised a fully paid pilgrimage for Gujaratis, mainly senior citizens, to Ayodhya, after being labelled by the BJP as 'anti-Hindu'.
6. 'and for' के बदले 'but for' या 'without' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'but for' एक idiomatic use है जिसका अर्थ है 'without'; जैसे-
- i. I cannot do this work but for your help.
 - ii. I cannot do this work without your help.
- 'but for' or 'without' will be used instead of 'and for' because 'but for' is an idiomatic use which means 'without'; As-
 - i. I cannot do this work but for your help.
 - ii. I cannot do this work without your help.
7. 'If I am' के बदले 'If were' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि present के unreal situation को व्यक्त करने के लिए Conditional Clause में यदि 'if' का प्रयोग हो और Verb 'Be' हो तो 'Be' का केवल 'were' रूप प्रयोग में आता है चाहे Subject किसी भी Number या Person का क्यों न हो; जैसे-
- i. If I were you/ he/she, I would not do that work.
- 'If I am' will be replaced with 'If were' because 'if' is used in Conditional Clause to express unreal situation of present and 'Be' is used as Verb Only the 'were' form is used, even if the subject is of any number or person; As-
 - i. If I were you/ he/she, I would not do that work.
8. (C) 'were' के बदले 'was' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इसका Subject 'he' Third Person Singular Number का Pronoun है।

- 'was' will be used instead of 'were' because its subject 'he' is a Pronoun of Third Person Singular Number.
9. (D) 'helping' के बदले 'help' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'with + somebody/ something' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे-
- i. I did this work with the help of my friends.
 - ii. She usually comes here with John.
- 'help' will be used instead of 'helping' because 'with + somebody/ something' is used; like-
 - i. I did this work with the help of my friends.
 - ii. She usually comes here with John.
10. **Contour** (noun) – Outline, shape रूपरेखा
11. **Vitiated** (adjective) – Spoiled, destroyed, damaged दूषित किया गया
12. **Corrective** (adjective) – Remedial, counteractive, curative, helpful संशोधनात्मक
13. **Disconcerting** (adjective) – disturbing, upsetting, confusing, unsettling, discomfiting चिंताजनक
14. **Infiltrate** (verb) – to secretly become part of a group in order to get information घुसपैठ करना
15. 'higher' के बदले 'highest' का प्रयोग होगा !
16. (B) **4123**
- There is good reason for the Supreme Court of India to ask the police to be proactive in dealing with hate speech by taking immediate legal action without waiting for a formal complaint. The Court has also warned of contempt action if the police showed any hesitation in compliance. Directed at the police in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the order is in response to the “unending flow of hate speeches” highlighted in a writ petition before it. The Court has referred to the growing “climate of hate”, and taken note of the inaction in most instances, despite the law containing provisions to deal with the phenomenon.
17. **Nudge** (verb) – prompt, encourage, coax, stimulate प्रेरित करना
- According to the given options all options are contextually correct.
18. Administrative bias on the one hand and the spread of social prejudice on the other cannot be allowed to vitiate the national mood. Towards that end, the Court must do everything possible to nudge authorities to enforce the law against the propagation of hate.
19. The mouth of the hole was nearly filled up now, but the kitten gave a leap through the remaining opening and at once scampered up into the air. [FOR MORE DETAIL](#)

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Strife	noun	Bitter conflict; Discord; a struggle or clash	कलह
	Alloy	noun	A combination of two or more things, usually metals	मिश्र धातु
	Cognitive	adjective	Dealing with how we know the world around us through our sense; mental	संज्ञानात्मक
Q2	Appease	verb	To soothe; to pacify by giving in to	मनाना, शांत करना,
	Ameliorate	verb	To make better or more tolerable	सुधारना
	Legacy	noun	Something handed down from the past; a bequest	विरासत
Q3	Infamous	adjective	Shamefully wicked, having an extremely bad reputation; disgraceful	बदनाम
	Substantive	adjective	Having substance; real; essential; solid; substantial	मौलिक
	Vicarious	adjective	Experienced performed or suffered through someone else; living through the experience of another as though they were one's own experience.	उपनियुक्त
Q11	Touchstone	noun	A standard; a test of authenticity or quality	प्रामाणिकता या गुणवत्ता का परीक्षण
	Avuncular	adjective	Like an uncle, especially a nice uncle	चाचा या मामा का
	Tirade	noun	Prolonged, bitter speech	कड़वा भाषण
Q12	Chimera	noun	An illusion; a foolish fancy	काल्पनिक धारणा
	Bourgeois	adjective	Middle class, usually in a pejorative sense; Boringly conventional	रूढ़िवादी, संपत्तिजीवी
	Arcane	adjective	Mysterious; known only to a select few	रहस्य का, भेद का
Q13	Mentor	noun	A teacher, tutor, counselor or coach	परामर्शदाता
	Adage	noun	An old saying; a familiar bit of wisdom	कहावत
	Covert	adjective	Secret; hidden	गुप्त, गोपनीय
Q14	Domestic	adjective	Having to do with the household or family; not foreign	घरेलू, पालतू
	Histrionic	adjective	Overly dramatic; theatrical	नाटकीय
	Bucolic	adjective	Charmingly rural; rustic; country like	ग्राम्य



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