

Extreme measure: On false claims and arrests

Not every **instance** of sharing false news requires arrest and **remand**

A political party's **spokesman** has been arrested for sharing an **apparently** false claim about the expenditure involved in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Morbi in Gujarat, in November, in the **aftermath** of the **collapse** of a bridge that caused nearly 140 deaths. Even if the **claim** that a **fabulous** sum of money was spent on preparations and the **renovation** of **facilities** for the visit **was** false, the **arrest** of Saket Gokhale, spokesman of the All India Trinamool Congress, **is in striking contrast to** the fact that the **promoters** and **executives** of the company, whose **negligence** could have caused the recently renovated bridge to collapse, **have** not been **detained so far**. It is difficult not to **highlight** the **irony** involved, as the **penal sections invoked** against Mr. Gokhale for the offence of **forgery attract** prison terms of two to three years only; **whereas** the acts of commission and omission that led to such a high **fatality** figure **are** punishable with prison terms ranging from 10 years to life. Nothing but an intention to teach a lesson to an Opposition political **activist** can explain the arrest of Mr. Gokhale when he could, instead, have been **summoned** for an inquiry. It is one of those cases in which arrest is obviously avoidable, even if the government of the day is seriously **aggrieved** by the **purported falsehood** in the claim that he shared on Twitter.

That police custody was **sought** and obtained in a case in which not much is needed to be investigated or **unearthed** — except **perhaps** the **provenance** of the purported Right to Information reply that contained the false claim — **is** quite **strikingly** indicative of **vendetta**. Another **aspect**, which is **taking place** with disturbing **frequency**, **is** the fact that the Gujarat police went to Jaipur in time to detain Mr. Gokhale and bring him to Ahmedabad. It is **disconcerting** that **provisions** relating to the **inter-State** operation of criminal law **allow** anyone to be **held** by the police from another State with **ease**, especially when the arrest is required by a State in which the Bharatiya Janata Party is the **ruling** party. It is not clear if the **jurisdiction** police were informed about the **impending** arrest. The **dissemination** of fake news is **indeed** a **formidable** problem in times when social media are a major source of information. **That** those with a significant **following** on these platforms should **exercise** due care before sharing information they receive **is** also not **in doubt**. However, it is questionable whether every **instance** of the dissemination of possibly false information **should** lead to arrest, unless **grave consequences** are likely to arise. An official fact-check and a legal **takedown** may well **meet** the **ends** of justice. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Claim** (noun) – Assertion, statement, accusation, declaration, allegation, contention दावा
2. **Instance** (noun) – example, occasion, occurrence, case, representative case उदाहरण, घटना
3. **Remand** (noun) – the time before a prisoner's trial takes place कैदी पर मुकदमा शुरू होने से पहले का समय; रिमांड
4. **Spokesman** (noun) – a person who is chosen to speak for a group or an organization प्रवक्ता
5. **Apparently** (adverb) – seemingly, evidently, it seems, obviously प्रत्यक्ष रूप से
6. **Aftermath** (noun) – consequence, effect, outcome (of a significant unpleasant event) दुष्परिणाम
7. **Collapse** (noun) – Break down, ruin, downfall, breakdown, fall ढहना, एकाएक गिरना
8. **Fabulous** (adjective) – Excellent, wonderful, marvelous, tremendous, magnificent शानदार
9. **Renovation** (noun) – Revamp, overhaul, restoration, transformation, reconstruction मरम्मत
10. **Facilities** (noun) – the buildings, equipment, and services provided for a particular purpose.
11. **In contrast to** (phrase) – contrary to, in opposition to, by comparison with, opposed to के विपरीत
12. **Promoter** (noun) – an individual or organization that helps raise money for some investment activity
13. **Executive** (noun) – a person who has an important position as a manager of a business or organization कार्यकारी अधिकारी, प्रबंधक
14. **Striking** (adjective) – noticeable, obvious, conspicuous; significant, remarkable, extraordinary, उल्लेखनीय
15. **Negligence** (noun) – neglect, carelessness, oversight, Inattention, disregard लापरवाही
16. **Detain** (verb) – Arrest, hold, capture, confine, control, restrain गिरफ्तार करना
17. **So far** (phrase) – thus far अभी तक
18. **Highlight** (verb) – underline, underscore, call attention to, focus attention on, stress, emphasize प्रमुखता से दिखाना
19. **Irony** (noun) – paradox, paradoxical nature, incongruity, incongruousness, peculiarity विडंबना

20. **Penal** (adjective) – punitive, punishing, severe, strict, disciplinary, corrective
दण्डनीय
21. **Invoke** (verb) – put into effect, resort to, use, put into use
इस्तेमाल करना
22. **Forgery** (noun) – fake, counterfeit, imitation, falsification, sham
जालसाजी
23. **Whereas** (conjunction) – used for showing a fact that is different
जबकि
24. **The acts of commission and omission** (noun) – Things you have failed to do, and things you have done
25. **Lead** (to) (verb) – cause, give rise to, result in, bring about
वजह बनना
26. **Fatality** (noun) – death, mortality, casualty
मृत्यु संख्या
27. **Activist** (noun) – campaigner, reformer, demonstrator
कार्यकर्ता
28. **Summon** (verb) – invite; to order a person to come to a place
बुलवाना
29. **Aggrieved** (adjective) – offended, upset, peeved, injured
व्यथित/ पीड़ित
30. **Purported** (adjective) – supposed, alleged, ostensible, so-called
कथित
31. **Falsehood** (noun) – a lie. झूठ
32. **Seek** (verb) – Ask for (something) from someone. मांगना
33. **Unearth** (verb) – uncover, discover, find, reveal, excavate
पता लगाना
34. **Perhaps** (adverb) – maybe, for all I know, for all you know
शायद
35. **Provenance** (noun) – Origin, attribution, derivation, source
उत्पत्ति, सूत्र, मूल-स्रोत
36. **Strikingly** (adverb) – Noticeably, markedly, conspicuously, prominently, unusually
स्पष्ट रूप से
37. **Vendetta** (noun) – Feud, quarrel, dispute, grudge, revenge, vengeance, retaliation
प्रतिशोध, दुश्मनी
38. **Aspect** (noun) – A distinct feature or element
पहलू
39. **Take place** (phrase) – happen, occur, come about, transpire, come to pass
घटित होना
40. **Frequency** (noun) – rate of occurrence, frequentness, आवृत्ति
41. **Disconcerting** (adjective) – Disturbing, upsetting, confusing, unsettling, discomfiting
चिंताजनक
42. **Inter-state** (adjective) – in a different state from one referred to or understood.
अंतरराज्यीय
43. **Hold** (verb) – Detain, imprison, incarcerate, confine, पकड़ना

44. **Ease** (noun) – Effortlessness, easiness, simplicity, straightforwardness आराम, सुगमता
45. **Ruling** (adjective) – governing, in charge, leading, dominant, controlling, सत्तारूढ़
46. **Jurisdiction** (noun) – authority, control, power, dominion, rule, administration क्षेत्राधिकार
47. **Impending** (adjective) – about to happen, imminent, forthcoming निकटस्थ/ आसन्न
48. **Dissemination** (noun) – Distribution, broadcasting, diffusion, propagation, spreading प्रसार
49. **Indeed** (adverb) – as expected, to be sure, in fact, in point of fact वास्तव में
50. **Formidable** (adjective) – Difficult, tough, taunting, arduous, challenging, forbidding, terrible विकट, भयंकर
51. **Following** (noun) – Followers
52. **Exercise** (verb) – use, employ, make use of, utilize, avail oneself of प्रयोग करना
53. **In doubt** (phrase) – doubtful, uncertain, dubious, questionable, debatable संदेह में होना
54. **Grave** (adjective) – giving cause for alarm; serious. गंभीर
55. **Consequence** (noun) – result, effect, outcome, upshot परिणाम
56. **Takedown** (noun) – the removal of a website, web page, or file from the internet, typically in response to a formal request. हटाया जाना
57. **Meet** (verb) – fulfil, achieve, accomplish पूरा करना
58. **End** (noun) – aim, goal, purpose, objective, object, उद्देश्य

Practice Exercise

Direction: (Q1 – Q5): In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Read the passage carefully and select the most appropriate option to fill in each blank. [Editorial page]

A question like "How big is Faerie?" does not admit (1)_____ a simple answer. Faerie, after all, is not one land, one principality or (2)_____ Maps of Faerie are unreliable, and may not be (3)_____ upon. Faerie is bigger than England, as it is bigger than the world. In the middle of a wood so thick it was very nearly a forest was a small hut, (4)_____ of thatch and grey clay. A yellow bird in a cage sat on its perch outside the house. It did not sing, and sat (5)_____ silent.

1. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
 - A. about
 - B. of
 - C. off
 - D. in accordance
2. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
 - A. dominion
 - B. organism
 - C. entity
 - D. unit
3. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
 - A. depended
 - B. wobbled
 - C. steady
 - D. stabilized
4. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
 - A. created
 - B. built
 - C. build
 - D. carved
5. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
 - A. blissfully
 - B. mournfully
 - C. gaily
 - D. chirpily

Directions (Q6–Q7): In the following questions, four words are given in each question, out of which only one word is rightly spelt. Find the correctly spelt word.

6. A. Aftermathe
- B. Aftermath
- C. Aftermth
- D. Aftarmath

7. A. Forgury
- B. Forgary
- C. Forgery
- D. Fourgery

Directions (Q8–Q9): In the following questions, the 1st and the last sentence are numbered 1 and 6. The rest of the sentences/passage is split into four parts and named P, Q, R and S. These four sentences/ parts are not given in their proper order. Read the sentences/passage and find out which of the four combinations is correct. Then find the correct answer.

8. 1. Even the smallest insect of the living world is made up of a large number of cells.
 P. Furthermore, the cells in these small creatures widely differ in their structure and function.
 Q. An ant, or a gnat, for example is composed of hundreds of thousands of cells.
 R. Even a mite has cells making up its skeletal structure.
 S. It also has cells dedicated to digestive and reproductive functions.
 6. The cell system of small organisms is microscopic but marvellous, isn't it?
 A.SRPQ B.QRSP C.SQPR D. QPRS
9. 1. Advocates of space programme argue for spending huge amounts of money on exploring Mars.
 P. But there is no firm evidence of any valuable mineral that can be extracted from Mars and transported to Earth.
 Q. Worst, nobody has any idea what undesirable microbes or poisonous materials we will be importing from Mars.
 R. They are also unrealistic about the cost of transportation that will be involved in interplanetary movement of men and materials.
 S. These enthusiasts argue that Mars could be a perennial source of materials for us earthlings.
 6. Our race to Mars is likely to be a wild goose chase.
 A.SPRQ B.QPRS C.PRSQ D. SRQP

Directions (Q10-Q12): In the following questions, a sentence has been given in Active/Passive Voice. Out of the four alternatives suggested, select the one which best expresses the same sentence in Passive/Active Voice.

10. **Look at the poll results-do they inspire hope?**
 A. Let the poll results be looked- is hope inspired by them?
 B. Let the poll results be looked at-has hope been inspired by them?
 C. Let the poll results be looked at-is hope being inspired by them?
 D. Let the poll results be looked at-is hope inspired by them?
11. **It is your duty to make tea at eleven O'clock.**
 A. You are asked to make tea at eleven O'clock.
 B. Your are required to make tea at eleven O'clock.
 C. You are supposed to make tea at eleven O'clock.
 D. Tea is to be made by you at eleven O'clock.
12. **He was congratulated by his teacher on his brilliant success in the recent examination.**
 A. His teacher congratulated him on his brilliant success in the recent examination.
 B. His teacher congratulated him for his success in the examination.

- C. His teacher congratulated him on his success.
- D. His teacher congratulated him.

Directions (13-14): In the following questions, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/sentence.

13. **Stealthily done**

- A. devious
- B. nefarious
- C. surreptitious
- D. villainous

14. **Something no longer in use**

- A. desolate
- B. absolute
- C. obsolete
- D. primitive

Directions (15 – 16): Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/Phrase.

15. We shouldn't look down upon the wretched of the earth.

- A. sympathise with
- B. hate intensely
- C. be indifferent to
- D. regard with contempt

16. Because of his misbehavior, he is bound to face the music.

- A. get finished
- B. get reprimanded
- C. feel sorry
- D. listen to the music

Directions (17-18): choose the word opposite in meaning to the given word.

17. **DISCONCERTING**

- A. Oblivion
- B. Prolific
- C. Soothing
- D. Destitute

18. **FORMIDABLE**

- A. Culinary
- B. Easy
- C. Eminent
- D. Insular

Direction: (19-20): In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the word which best expresses the meaning of the given word.

19. **INVOKE**

- A. Resort
- B. Commensurate
- C. Grandiose

D. Machination

20. **FATALITY**

A. Covert

B. Exhort

C. Indignant

D. Mortality

Directions (21 – 22): In the following questions, some part of the sentence is underlined. Which of the options given below the sentence should replace the part underlined to make the sentence grammatically correct. If the sentence is correct as it is given then choose option D 'No Correction required' as the answer.

21. When she regained consciousness she was stretched in the ditch out, soaked to the skin.

A. out in the ditch stretched

B. on the ditch outstretched

C. outstretched in the ditch

D. No improvement

22. Too little is known by this time about possible side-effects of the drug.

A. presently

B. in the end

C. before hand

D. No improvement

Directions (Q23– Q25): Find out the error, if any –

23. Ajeet (A)/ is a bigger scholar (B) than his brother. (C)/ No error(D)

24. Whenever I saw (A)/ him, he (B)/ has been reading the same novel. (C)/ No error(D)

25. He is (A)/ better than any boy (B)/ in the class. (C)/ No error(D)

Answers

1. B 2. A 3. A 4. B 5. B 6. B 7. C 8. D 9. A 10. D 11. C 12. A
 13. C 14. C 15. D 16. B 17. C 18. B 19. A 20. D 21. C 22. A 23. B 24. C
 25. B

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

- Admit** of – allow the possibility of.
- Dominion** – sovereignty or control. प्रभुत्व, अधिराज्य
- Depend** (on/upon) – be rely on पर निर्भर होना
- Past of **build** (i.e. built) should be used as sentence is in past tense.
- Mournfully** – Sadly, sorrowfully, somberly, desolately, despondently शोक में डूबा, अफसोस जताते हुए
 - Blissfully** – Supremely, wonderfully, ecstatically, happily आनंदपूर्वक
 - Gaily** – Merrily, casually, carelessly, unthinkingly, cheerily खुशी
 - Chirpily** – Cheerfully, animatedly, cheerily खुशमिजाज
- Aftermath** (noun) – consequence, effect, outcome (of a significant unpleasant event) दुष्परिणाम
- Forgery** (noun) – fake, counterfeit, imitation, falsification, sham जालसाजी
- QPRS**
 Even the smallest insect of the living world is made up of a large number of cells. An ant, or a gnat, for example is composed of hundreds of thou-sands of cells. . Furthermore, the cells in these small creatures widely differ in their structure and function. Even a mite has cells making up its skeletal structure. It also has cells dedicated to digestive and reproductive functions. The cell system of small organisms is microscopic but marvellous, isn't it?
- SPRQ**
 Advocates of space programme argue for spending huge amounts of money on exploring Mars. These enthusiasts argue that Mars could be a perennial source of materials for us earthlings. But there is no firm evidence of any valuable mineral that can be extracted from Mars and transported to Earth. They are also unrealistic about the cost of transportation that will be involved in interplanetary movement of men and materials. Worst, nobody has any idea what undesirable microbes or poisonous materials we will be importing from Mars.
- Let the poll results be looked at-is hope inspired by them?
- You are supposed to make tea at eleven O'clock.
- His teacher congratulated him on his brilliant success in the recent examination.
- Surreptitious**- Stealthily done गुप्त

- **Devious** – stealthily done ; secretly done कुटिल
 - **Nefarious** – criminal अति दुष्ट
 - **Villainous** –very evil and unpleasant उपद्रवी
14. **Obsolete**- Something no longer in use अप्रचलित
- **Desolate** – empty and without people, making you feel sad/frightened सुनसान
 - **Absolute** – total and complete संपूर्ण
 - **Primitive** – belonging to an early stage in the development of humans and animals आदिम
15. **look down upon** (Phrase) – regard with contempt हेय दृष्टि से देखना
16. **Face the music** (Phrase) – get reprimanded किये का परिणाम भुगतना
17. **Disconcerting** (adjective) – Disturbing, upsetting, confusing, unsettling, discomfiting चिंताजनक
- **Oblivion** (noun) – Total forgetfulness; the state of being forgotten भुलक्कड़पन
 - **Prolific**(adjective) – Abundantly productive; fruitful or fertile उपजाऊ
 - **Destitute** (adjective) – Extremely poor; utterly lacking बेसहारा, दीन
18. **Formidable** (adjective) – Difficult, tough, taunting, arduous, challenging, forbidding, terrible विकट, भयंकर
- **Culinary** (adjective) – Relating to cooking or the kitchen पाक शाला संबंधी, रसोई का
 - **Eminent** (adjective) – Well known and respected; standing out from all others in quality or accomplishment; outstanding. विख्यात, प्रसिद्ध
 - **Insular** (adjective) – Like an island; isolated द्वीपीय
19. **Invoke** (verb) – put into effect , resort to, use, put into use इस्तेमाल करना
- **Commensurate** (adjective) – Equal; proportionate अनुरूप, सम्मेल्य
 - **Grandiose** (adjective) – Absurdly exaggerated दिखावटी
 - **Machination** (noun) – Scheming Activity for an evil purpose चालबाज़ी
20. **Fatality** (noun) – death, mortality, casualty मृत्यु संख्या
- **Covert** (adjective) – Secret; hidden गुप्त, गोपनीय
 - **Exhort** (verb) – To urge strongly; to give a serious warning to समझाना
 - **Indignant** (adjective) – Angry; especially as a result of something unjust or unworthy; insulted. क्रोधित

21. outstretched in the ditch

Outstretched (Adj.): spread out as far as possible फैलाया हुआ

Stretch out (Phr. V.): to lie down in order to relax or sleep पसरना

22. presently

Presently (Adv.): now ; currently; at the time you are speaking शीघ्र

By this time: a particular allotted time इस समय तक

23. (B) 'bigger' के बदले 'better' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'big/ bigger/ Biggest' किसी चीज का 'size' (आकार, माप, विस्तार) बताता है जबकि 'good/ better/ best' किसी व्यक्ति या वस्तु का 'quality' (योग्यता, क्षमता, गुणवत्ता) बताता है; जैसे-

- a. This house is bigger than that.
- b. He is a better player than you.
- c. He is a better scholar than you.

➤ 'better' will be used instead of 'bigger' because 'big/ bigger/ Biggest' refers to the 'size' (size, measure, extent) of something whereas 'good/ better/ best' refers to a person or indicates the 'quality' (ability, capability, quality) of the commodity; As-

- i. This house is bigger than that.
- ii. He is a better player than you.
- iii. He is a better scholar than you.

24. (C) 'has been reading' के बदले 'was reading' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि past में यदि कोई घटना जारी रही हो और उसी बीच कोई घटना घटी हो तो जारी घटना के लिए Past Continuous और इस बीच घटने वाली घटना के लिए Simple Past का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे-

- a. When I went there, he was reading a novel.
- b. He was reading a novel when I went there.
- c. Whenever I saw him, he was reading a novel.

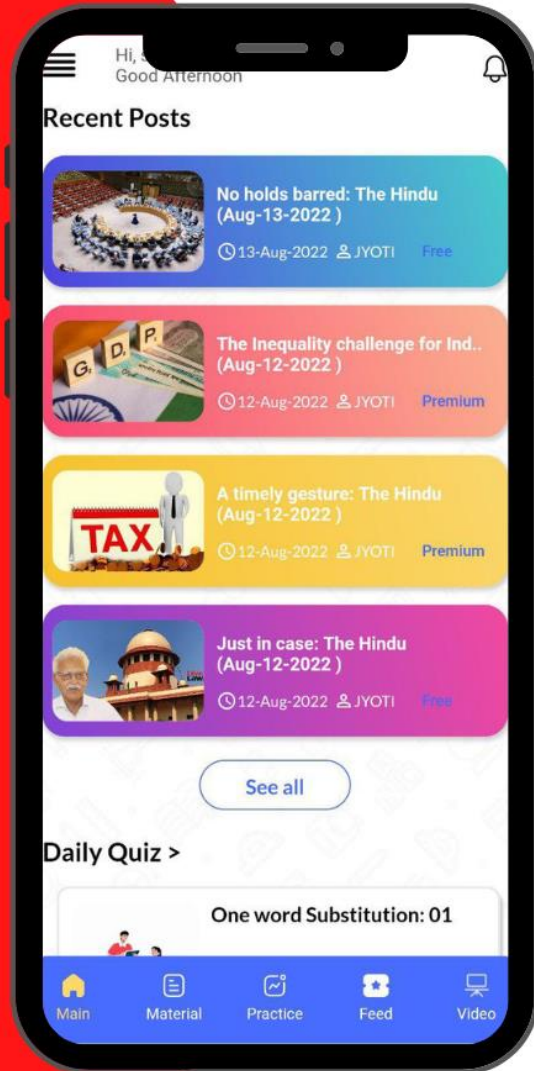
➤ 'was reading' will be used instead of 'has been reading' because if an event is continuing in the past and an event has happened in the meantime, then Past Continuous for the continuing event and Simple Past for the event occurring in the meantime is used; As-

- i. When I went there, he was reading a novel.
- ii. He was reading a novel when I went there.
- iii. Whenever I saw him, he was reading a novel.

25. (B) 'any boy' के बदले 'any other boy' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यदि एक group के एक सदस्य की तुलना उसी group के अन्य सदस्यों से हो, तो Comparative Degree में 'any' के बाद 'other' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे-

- a. Patna is more populous than any other town in Bihar.

- 'any other boy' will be used instead of 'any boy' because if a member of a group is compared with other members of the same group, then 'other' is used after 'any' in the comparative degree; As-
Patna is more populous than any other town in Bihar.



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