

Big money, short format: On the IPL auctions

The Indian Premier League has **emerged** as a sporting **behemoth** over the years

The Indian Premier League (IPL) auctions have **come a long way** since those initial days in 2008. Just as the league emerged as a sporting behemoth attracting leading cricketers and fresh talent both from the **overseas** and domestic sectors, its **brand equity** was **often revealed** through the **astronomical** money that the **franchises** were allowed to spend at the player auctions. **The mini-auction** at Kochi again **reiterated** the **robust** financial **underpinnings** of the league with **top dollar** being spent on the cricketers. The **overwhelming flavour** though was about team owners **chasing** all-rounders, as **those** who offered value with both bat and ball **stayed in demand**. It was no surprise that England's Sam Curran was picked by Punjab Kings at ₹18.5 crore while Mumbai Indians **jostled for a while** to **grab** the **star**. Mumbai Indians **settled for** Australia's Cameron Green at ₹17.5 crore. **Meanwhile**, Chennai Super Kings (CSK) **associated** with a sense of continuity through its **core** group led by M.S. Dhoni, **splurged** ₹16.25 crore on Ben Stokes. The England Test **skipper** and coach Brendon McCullum have **redefined** the way cricket's longest format is played, and Stokes also **lends** a **spark** to Twenty20s, the only other segment he plays after retiring from ODIs. **England**, which had **disdain** towards the IPL during its **formative** years, **has** now **embraced** the league.

A combined expenditure of ₹167 crore for 80 players **was incurred** by the franchises during a **frenetic** evening at Kochi. Having **retained** essential players in the **lead-up** to this auction, **teams** ranging from **defending champion** Gujarat Titans to Lucknow Super Giants **were keen to plug their resource-gaps**. Even if all-rounders were the **flavour**, money was spent on the single-skilled players too, especially batters. With the IPL **set to unveil** the 'impact-player' rule in the coming season, which means a **super-substitute** could be **fielded** for his primary ability, it was no surprise that **the likes of** Harry Brook, Mayank Agarwal or a Manish Pandey, **evoked** interest. Titans also **picked** Kane Williamson, the New Zealander, who was released by Sunrisers Hyderabad. There could be captaincy **sweepstakes** too and while there is **speculation** around Stokes being a **probable successor** to Dhoni at CSK, **the fact** that the Chennai unit **went all out** to retain a **miffed** Ravindra Jadeja well ahead of the auction, **adds** an **intriguing thread**. But then Stokes does not lead England in T20s with Jos Buttler **doing the honours**. Having **coped with** the COVID-19 pandemic and its **logistical disruptions** in the previous editions, the league's **administrators** are hoping that the **forthcoming** summer edition will be smooth even if there are fears over another **wave**. **[Practice Exercise]**

- **Sipper** (noun) – Captain
- **Flavour** (noun) – a distinctive quality or feature
- **Redefine** (verb) – define again or differently. परिभाषित करना
- **Do the honours** (phrase) – perform a social duty for others सम्मान करना

Vocabulary

1. **Emerge** (verb) – come out, appear, come into view, become visible उभरना/ बाहर आना
2. **Behemoth** (noun) –Something enormous, especially a big and powerful organization दिग्गज
3. **Come a long way** (phrase) – to make considerable progress; be very successful काफी प्रगति करना
4. **Overseas** (adjective) –In a foreign country विदेशी
5. **Brand equity** (noun) – a brand's value
6. **Often** (adverb) –frequently, in many instances, repeatedly, again and again अक्सर
7. **Reveal** (verb) – divulge, disclose, tell, make known, make public खुलासा करना
8. **Astronomical** (adjective) – (of an amount) extremely large. बहुत बड़ा
9. **Franchise** (noun) – a professional sports team
10. **Reiterate** (verb) – Repeat, say again, restate, retell, recapitulate दोहराना
11. **Robust** (adjective) – strong, vigorous, sturdy, tough, powerful मज़बूत
12. **Underpinning** (noun) – Solid foundation बुनियाद
13. **Top dollar** (noun) – the highest amount (being paid for cricketers) बहुत अधिक कीमत।
14. **Overwhelming** (adjective) – Very large, profuse, enormous, immense, inordinate ज़बर्दस्त
15. **Chase** (verb) – pursue, hunt, trail, search for पीछा करना
16. **In demand** (phrase) – needed or wanted by many people; popular मांग में होना
17. **Jostle** (verb) – struggle or compete forcefully for. संघर्ष करना
18. **For a while** (phrase) – for a short time थोड़े समय के लिए
19. **Grab** (verb) – clutch, grip, grasp, seize, take, snatch हथियाना
20. **The Star** (noun) – Here it refers to ‘Sam Curran’
21. **Settle** (for) (verb) – accept something less than what you wanted
22. **Meanwhile** (adverb) – at the same time, simultaneously, concurrently, meantime इस दौरान
23. **Associate** (with) (verb) – be involved with; connect के साथ जुड़े होना
24. **Core** (adjective) – Essential, central, fundamental, main मुख्य

25. **Splurge** (verb) – spend (money) freely or extravagantly. खर्च करना (बहुत पैसा)
26. **Lend** (verb) – add, impart, give, bestow, confer, provide देना
27. **Spark** (noun) – a sense of liveliness and excitement. चिंगारी, उत्साह, जोश
28. **Disdain** (noun) – the feeling that somebody/something is not good enough to be respected यह भावना कि कोई सम्मानीय नहीं है, तिरस्कार, अवज्ञा
29. **Formative** (adjective) – Developmental, developing, growing, निर्माणात्मक
30. **Embrace** (verb) – Accept, include, encompass, incorporate, contain अपनाना
31. **Incur** (verb) – suffer, sustain, experience, bring upon oneself वहन करना/झेलना
32. **Frenetic** (adjective) – filled with excitement, activity, or confusion wild or frantic उन्मत्त
33. **Retain** (verb) – keep, preserve, hold बनाए रखना
34. **Lead-up** (noun) – The events or period of time preceding/before a specified event
35. **Defending champion** (noun) – the champions who currently hold the title
36. **Keen** (to) (adjective) – enthusiastic about, all in favour of, favourable toward, उत्सुक
37. **Plug the gap** (phrase) – To provide something that is needed
38. **Flavour** (noun) – a person or thing that is very popular at a particular time
39. **Set** (to) (verb) – ready, prepare तैयार होना
40. **Unveil** (verb) – introduce something new अनावरण करना
41. **Impact player** (noun) – the one who can be substituted in playing XI during a game from a group of extra players to enhance the chances of victory
42. **Rule** (noun) – control of or dominion over an area or people. शासन,
43. **Super-substitute** (noun) – A substitute that, when substituted in, saves the game, generally by scoring a late equalising or winning goal.
44. **Field** (verb) – send out (a team or individual) to play in a game मैदान में उतारना
45. **The likes of** (phrase) – Someone or something regarded as a type. के जैसे
46. **Evoke** (verb) –to appear or occur; give rise to, call forth पैदा करना
47. **Pick** (verb) – choose (someone or something) from a number of alternatives. चुनना
48. **Sweepstakes** (plural noun) – a form of betting in which the winner gets all the

money bet by everyone else एक प्रकार का जुआ जिसमें दाँव पर लगे सभी पैसे विजेता को मिलते हैं

49. **Speculation** (noun) – supposition, guess, conjecture, hypothesis, surmise
अटकलबाज़ी, विचार
50. **Probable** (adjective) – likely, possible, potential, prospective, expected संभावित
51. **Successor** (noun) – A person or thing that succeeds another. उत्तराधिकारी
52. **Go all out** (phrase) – to put all your energy or enthusiasm into what you are doing कोई कसर नहीं छोड़ना
53. **Miffed** (adjective) – a little angry or upset क्रोधित या नाराज़, परेशान; चिढ़ा हुआ
54. **Intriguing** (adjective) – Fascinating, interesting, exciting, absorbing, captivating, stimulating दिलचस्प
55. **Thread** (noun) – an idea or a feature that is part of something greater; an idea that connects the different parts of something
56. **Cope with** (phrasal verb) – deal with, handle, manage, tackle, contend with
निपटना
57. **Logistical** (adjective) – relating to the process of planning and organizing to make sure that resources are in the places where they are needed, so that an activity or process happens effectively
58. **Disruption** (noun) – disturbance, interruption, disorder, break व्यवधान
59. **Administrator** (noun) – Manager, superintendent, overseer, supervisor, official, director प्रबंधक
60. **Forthcoming** (adjective) – Approaching, impending, imminent, upcoming, coming
आगामी
61. **Wave** (noun) – a sudden occurrence of or increase in phenomenon (i.e. COVID) लहर

Practice Exercise

1. **Why England had not shown interest in taking participation in IPL during its initial years?**
 - A. Because Stokes does not lead England in T20s with Jos Buttler doing the honours.
 - B. Because England players were not picked by the franchises at an acceptable rate.
 - C. Because England did not expect that IPL would be successful in the near term.
 - D. England had a feeling of contempt for IPL regarded as unworthy or inferior.
2. **What reflected the brand value of The Indian Premier League (IPL)?** [Editorial page]
 - A. The successful completion of previous edition despite the second wave of pandemic.
 - B. The attraction of England players toward IPL who had disdain toward the IPL during its formative years.
 - C. The astronomical money that the franchises were allowed to spend at the player auctions.
 - D. None of the above.
3. **Why administrators are hoping that the forthcoming summer edition will be smooth?**
 - A. Because the previous edition was ruined by COVID-19 pandemic and its logistical disruptions.
 - B. Because the fear of declining TRP was looming over the league.
 - C. Because Players were exhausted with successive series so administrators feels that the performance of players get affected.
 - D. Because defending champion Gujarat Titans are required to plug resource gap in order to retain the seal.
4. **'Mumbai Indians settled for Australia's Cameron Green at ₹17.5 crore'**
What do you infer from the referred sentence?
 - A. Mumbai Indians player ready to settle in Australia at Cameron Green residence for Rs. 17.5 Cr.
 - B. Cameron Green wanted to play for Punjab kings instead of Mumbai Indians
 - C. Mumbai Indian took in Camereon in its team that is not exactly what MI wanted but is the best that is available.
 - D. Mumbai Indian reluctantly spent large sum of money i.e. 17.5 cr. over Australia's Cameron Green.
5. **What do you understand from the term 'Impact-player'?**
 - A. It means a person taking part in a sport or game
 - B. It means a super-substitute could be fielded for his primary ability.
 - C. It means a player who plays like a all-rounder in a game
 - D. It means a player who is playing in the game as the likes of Harry Brook, Mayank Agarwal or a Manish Pandey.

Directions (Q8): In the following questions, four words are given in each question, out of which only one word is rightly spelt. Find the rightly spelt word.

6. A. Alure
B. allore

- C. allure
- D. Allure

Directions (9): In the following questions, the passage/sentence is split into four parts and named A, B, C and D. These four parts are not given in their proper order. Read the sentence/passage and find out which of the four combinations is correct. Then find the correct answer.

7. **P.** Rice, wheat and sugar are agri-commodities in which India's production, for much of the last decade and more has been surpassing its consumption requirement.
Q. During 2021-22, exports of rice alone were valued at \$9.7 billion, with sugar and wheat accounting for \$4.6 billion and \$2.1 billion respectively.
R. Mills will begin the new sugar season from October with carryover stocks that are the lowest in five years.
S. But those surpluses suddenly seem a past story. Public wheat stocks on September 1 were at a six-year-low for this date
T. This has resulted in overflowing godowns and the country also turning into a significant exporter.

- A. PQRST B. RSQPT C. SRQTP D. PTQSR

Directions (10-11): 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.

8. One must keep one's promises.
 A. One's promises are kept.
 B. Promises must be kept.
 C. One's promises were kept.
 D. One's promises must kept.
9. They have cut all the telephone wires.
 A. All the telephone wires will be cut.
 B. All the telephone wires had been cut.
 C. All the telephone wires have been cut.
 D. All the telephone wires shall be cut.

Directions (12-13): In the following questions, a sentence has been given in Direct/Indirect Speech. Out of the four alternatives suggested, select the one which best expresses the same sentence in Indirect/Direct Speech.

10. My father said, "Honesty is the best policy."
 A. My father stated that honesty was the best policy.
 B. My father said that honesty is the best policy.
 C. My father said that honesty was the best policy.
 D. My father said that honesty has been the best policy.
11. She yelled, "Please help me."
 A. She yelled at one for some help.
 B. She yelled for someone to help.
 C. She yelled for someone to help her.

D. She yelled at someone to help her.

Directions (14-15): In the following questions, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/sentence.

12. The action of looking within or into one's own mind
- A. Intrigue
 - B. Mummy
 - C. Pedestrian
 - D. Introspection
13. A person who helps a stranger or a helpless person in difficulties
- A. Samaritan
 - B. Infectious
 - C. Discrepancy
 - D. Invulnerable

Directions (16-17): Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/Phrase.

14. Walk the talk
- A. To oppose or struggle against
 - B. To show or express a particular type of opposition to something
 - C. To do what one said one could do, or would do
 - D. To make someone feel much healthier or happier
15. Hold one's nerve
- A. To be successful
 - B. To decide not to do anything about a situation or project until a later date
 - C. Create situation that allows something to happen.
 - D. Remain calm and determined in a difficult situation

Directions (18-19): choose the word opposite in meaning to the given word.

16. **FATIGUE**
- A. Flagrant
 - B. Dubious
 - C. Chasm
 - D. Energy
17. **JOYOUS**
- A. Expedient
 - B. Sad
 - C. Strife
 - D. Sensory

Direction: (20-21): In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the word which best expresses the meaning of the given word.

18. **DROUGHT**
- A. Deficiency
 - B. Plethora
 - C. Unwitting

D. Convivial

19. UPHILL

A. Affluent

B. Arduous

C. Sensory

D. Sanctimonious

Directions (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 E 'No Correction required' as the answer.

20. You can spare me ten minutes of your valuable time, isn't it?

A. Doesn't it?

B. Can't it?

C. Isn't you?

D. Can't you?

E. No correction required

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

21. Unless aid arrives (A)/ within the next few weeks (B)/ thousands are starving. (C)/ No Error (D)

22. I have been (A)/ working in this organisation (B)/ since three years. (C)/ No Error. (D)

23. Neither of the two (A)/ candidates have (B)/ paid his subscription. (C)/ No Error (D)

24. I wasn't (A)/ at the last meeting and (B)/ neither was you. (C) / No Error. (D)

25. The three individuals are so different (A)/ that their tastes vary (B)/ from one another. (C)/ No Error. (D)

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanation

6. **Allure** (noun) – attraction, lure, draw, pull, appeal, glamour, आकर्षण
7. **PTQSR**
 Rice, wheat and sugar are agri-commodities in which India's production, for much of the last decade and more has been surpassing its consumption requirement. This has resulted in overflowing godowns and the country also turning into a significant exporter. During 2021-22, exports of rice alone were valued at \$9.7 billion, with sugar and wheat accounting for \$4.6 billion and \$2.1 billion respectively. But those surpluses suddenly seem a past story. Public wheat stocks on September 1 were at a six-year-low for this date. Mills will begin the new sugar season from October with carryover stocks that are the lowest in five years.
8. **Intrigue/conspire** – Make or carry out secret planning षड्यंत्र
Mummy – Body of a human being or animal embalmed for burial परिरक्षित शव
Pedestrian – One who walks पैदल यात्री
Introspection – The action of looking within or into one's own mind अंतरावलोकन
9. **Samaritan** – A person who helps a stranger or a helpless person in difficulties नेक आदमी
Infectious – A disease which spreads through air and water संक्रामक
Discrepancy – Difference between two things that should be the same अंतर
Invulnerable – Incapable of being harmed अभेद्य
16. **Fatigue** (noun) – exhaustion, weariness, tiredness, weakness, lethargy थकान
 ➤ **Flagrant** (adjective) – Glaringly bad; notorious; scandalous निन्दनीय, धोर
 ➤ **Dubious** (adjective) – Full of doubt; uncertain संदिग्ध
 ➤ **Chasm** (noun) – A deep, gaping hole; a gorge खाई, दरार
17. **Joyous** (adjective) – joyful, cheerful, happy, jolly, delighted आनंदपूर्ण
 ➤ **Expedient** (adjective) – Providing an immediate advantage; serving one's immediate self-interest; practical. उपाय, ढंग, प्रणाली
 ➤ **Strife** (noun) – Bitter conflict; Discord; a struggle or clash कलह
 ➤ **Sensory** (adjective) – Having to do with the sense of sensation ग्रहणशील
18. **Drought** (noun) – a prolonged absence of a specified thing; Lack, deficiency अभाव
 ➤ **Plethora** (noun) – An excess बहुतायत
 ➤ **Unwitting** (adjective) – Unintentional; ignorant; not aware अनिच्छित, बेखबर

- **Convivial** (adjective) – Fond of Partying; Festive खुशनुमा; उत्सव का
19. **Uphill** (adjective) – arduous, difficult, rising, laborious, tough कठिन
- **Affluent** (adjective) – Rich; Prosperous संपन्न, समृद्ध
 - **Sensory** (adjective) – Having to do with the sense of sensation ग्रहणशील
 - **Sanctimonious** (adjective) – Pretending to be devout; affecting religious feeling पाखंडी
20. 'isn't it' के बदले 'can't you' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य का subject 'you' तथा verb 'can' है, और यदि वाक्य का subject कोई personal pronoun हो तो Question tag का subject भी वही personal pronoun होता है और जो सहायक क्रिया वाक्य के subject के साथ प्रयुक्त होती है वही सहायक क्रिया question tag में subject के साथ भी प्रयुक्त होती है; जैसे-

- i. I was late, wasn't I?
- ii. You can do it, can't you?

- 'can't you' will be used instead of 'isn't it' because the subject of the sentence is 'you' and the verb 'can', and if the subject of the sentence is a personal Pronoun then the subject of the question tag is also the same personal pronoun and the auxiliary verb.

21. (C) 'are starving' के बदले 'will starve' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'unless' वाले Clause में Present की condition है जिसका future में असर होगा; अर्थात् बनावट 'Unless + Simple Present + Simple Future' पर आधारित होगा; जैसे-

- i. Unless you work hard, you will not succeed.

- (C) 'will starve' will be used instead of 'are starving' because in the clause of 'unless' there is a condition of present which will have effect in future; That is, the formulation will be based on 'Unless + Simple Present + Simple Future'; As-
 - i. Unless you work hard, you will not succeed.

22. (C) 'since' के बदले 'for' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'since' का प्रयोग 'से' के अर्थ में Point of Time के पहले होता है जबकि 'for' का Period of Time के पहले; जैसे-

- i. I have been living here since 2011.
- ii. He has been living here for three years.

- (C) 'for' will be used instead of 'since' because 'since' is used in the sense of 'since' before Point of Time while 'for' before Period of Time; As-

- i. I have been living here since 2011.
- ii. He has been living here for three years.

23.(B) 'have' के बदले 'has' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'Neither of Either of/ Each of/ One of/ Every one of/ Any one of' के बाद Plural Noun या Pronoun का प्रयोग होता है किन्तु Singular Verb का; जैसे-

iii. Neither of these boys is intelligent.

iv. One of them is not laborious.

(B) 'has' will be used instead of 'have' because 'Neither of Either of/ Each of/ One of/ Every one of/ Any one of' is followed by Plural Noun or Pronoun but Singular Verb Of; As-

i. Neither of these boys is intelligent

ii. One of them is not laborious.

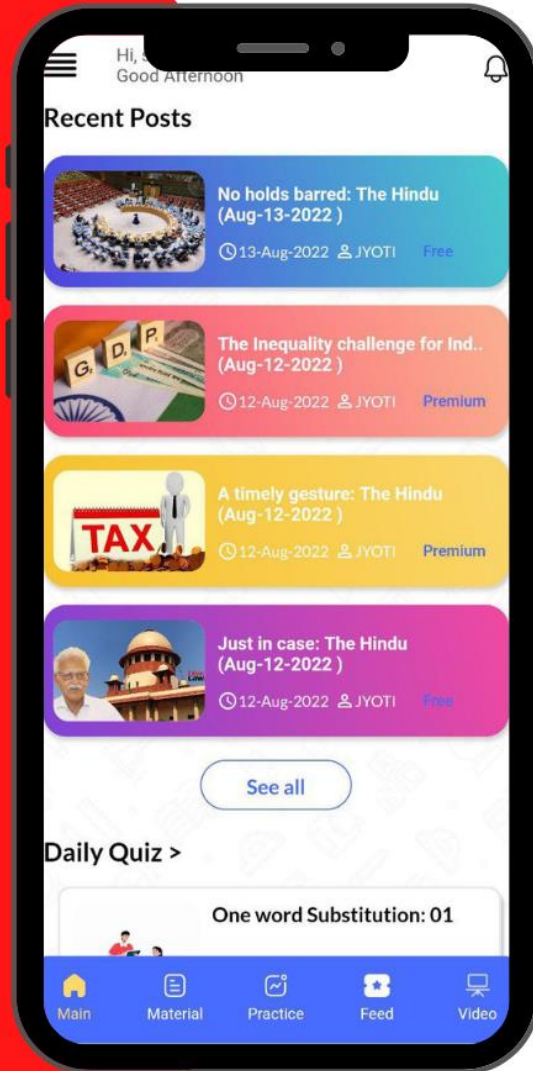
24.(C) 'was' के बदले 'were' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'you' के साथ हमेशा Plural Verb का प्रयोग होता है।

- 'were' will be used instead of 'was' because 'you' is always used with Plural Verb.

25.(C) 'one another' के बदले 'one another's' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि तुलना 'their tastes' तथा 'one another's tastes' के बीच है; जैसे-

i. Their ideas vary from one another's.

- 'one another' shall be substituted for 'one another's' as the comparison is between 'their tastes' and 'one another's tastes'; like-
Their ideas vary from one another's.



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