

Founding ideals: On President Murmu's first Republic Day address to the nation

Adherence to basic principles of the Constitution **is what unifies** India

In her first and **customary** Republic Day address to the nation, President Draupadi Murmu **reiterated** the founding ideals of the Republic **on the eve of** the 74th anniversary of the **adoption** of its Constitution. As the first tribal woman to **occupy** the highest office in the country, the 15th President of India is **emblematic** of the Republic's continuing journey of democracy, **pluralism** and **empowerment** of the weaker sections. The **values** of **fraternity** and democracy that its founding leaders **etched** into the **genetic makeup** of the modern nation **were derived** from the learnings of an ancient **civilisation**. Ms. Murmu **underscored** this quality of the Republic — the **amalgamation** of the old and the new, the traditional and the modern. A unified and unifying **struggle** against British **imperialism**, as the President noted, **was** "as much about winning Independence as about rediscovering our own ideals". Ms. Murmu **laid emphasis on** the "essence of India" — which is **profound** and **predictable** at once. "We have succeeded... because so many **creeds** and so many languages have not divided us, they have only united us." A **commitment** to this creed has **sustained** the modern nation, and the long and ancient civilisation that **evolved** and reformed over **millennia**.

It can be **argued** that the Republic is continuously in formation, as thoughts and ideas emerge. As new **ambitions inspire** the country, some foundational principles must remain the **timeless codes** for survival and success. Ms. Murmu's address reiterated those, while celebrating India's successes in various fields, particularly the economy. While noting India's **emergence** as an influential leader in global **affairs**, she underscored the **principles** of Sarvodaya and Atmanirbhar Bharat — **uplift** of all, and **self reliance** — which **are** guiding the government as they have the earlier ones. **Oppression** and **debilitating poverty** continue to **shackle vast** sections, and India must constantly remember this fact, and certainly on **occasions** when it **reflects** on its progress. At various points, challenges to the ideals of the Constitution and the national movement arose in the form of political **authoritarianism**, **sectarian extremism**, and **separatism**, but India **overcame** them — a reason for satisfaction but also a **call for constant vigil**. Ms. Murmu's **reiteration** of the founding principles of the Republic, and her **reassurance** to fellow citizens **come** at time when the **sanctity** of the Constitution **is** under attack. While **debate** about the Constitution is also part of the democracy it **establishes**, adherence to its basic principles is what unifies the people of India. Ms. Murmu made that point. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Ideals** (noun) – Socialist, secular, sovereign, democratic, republic, equality, justice, liberty, fraternity are the ideals stated in preamble of Indian Constitution.
2. **Address** (noun) – a formal speech that is given to an audience भाषण, संबोधन
3. **Adherence** (to) (noun) – Attachment or commitment to a person, cause, or belief. अनुपालन
4. **What** (pronoun) – The thing or things that
5. **Unify** (verb) – Unite, join, amalgamate, merge, combine, coalesce, bring together एकीकृत करना
6. **Customary** (adjective) – commonly used or practiced; usual प्रथागत
7. **Reiterate** (verb) – repeat, say again, restate, retell, recapitulate दोहराना
8. **On the eve of** (phrase) – the period or day before an important event के ठीक पहले
9. **Adoption** (noun) – Acceptance, implementation, espousal, acquiring अपनाना
10. **Occupy** (verb) – hold (a position or job). पद ग्रहण करना
11. **Emblematic** (adjective) – Symbolic, representative, demonstrative, suggestive प्रतीकात्मक
12. **Pluralism** (noun) – the existence of different types of people, who have different beliefs and opinions, within the same society बहुलवाद
13. **Empowerment** (noun) – authorization, empower, empowering, authority सशक्तिकरण
14. **Fraternity** (noun) – The state or quality of being fraternal or brotherly; brotherhood. भाईचारा
15. **Etch** (verb) – engrave, carve, inscribe, mark उकेरना
16. **Genetic Makeup** (noun) – it refers to the genes that determine what you look like and what physical characteristics you have.
17. **Derive** (from) (verb) – Originate, stem, spring, arise, come from प्राप्त करना
18. **Civilisation** (noun) – a particular society at a particular time and place; सभ्यता
19. **Underscore** (verb) – emphasize, underline, stress, highlight, accentuate जोर देना
20. **Amalgamation** (noun) – Merger, union, combination, mix, blend, fusion, compound समामेलन

21. **Imperialism** (noun) – a political system in which a rich and powerful country controls other countries (colonies) which are not as rich and powerful as itself साम्राज्यवाद
22. **Lay emphasis on** (phrase) –to stress or emphasize (something) very much इस पर जोर देना
23. **Essence** (noun) – the basic or most important idea or quality of something मूलतत्त्व
24. **Profound** (adjective) – Deep, thoughtful, reflective, weighty, insightful गहरा
25. **Predictable** (adjective) – foreseeable, to be expected, only to be expected, expected, उम्मीद के मुताबिक
26. **Creed** (noun) – Faith, dogma, doctrine, credo, belief, principle पंथ, मत, मज़हब
27. **Commitment** (to) (noun) – A pledge or undertaking. प्रतिबद्धता
28. **Sustained** (adjective) – continue, carry on, keep, maintain, prolong, preserve बनाए रखना
29. **Evolve** (verb) – develop, advance, grow, mature, progress विकसित होना
30. **Millennia** (noun) – a period of a thousand years सहस्राब्दी/ सदियों
31. **Argue** (verb) – Contend, say, maintain, reason, claim तर्क करना
32. **Ambition** (noun) – aspiration, goal, desire, objective महत्वाकांक्षा
33. **Inspire** (verb) – stimulate, motivate, excite, encourage, rouse प्रेरित करना
34. **Timeless** (adjective) – Eternal, ageless, enduring, undying, everlasting, unending, endless कालातीत
35. **Code** (noun) – laws, body of law, rules, regulations, constitution, संहिता, नियमसंग्रह
36. **Emergence** (noun) – appearance, arrival, coming उद्भव
37. **Influential** (adjective) – Powerful, Important, Significant, Persuasive, Dominant, Leading, Prominent प्रभावशाली
38. **Affair** (noun) – matter, event, issue, situation, concern, case, thing मामला
39. **Uplift** (noun) – raise the level of; improve. उत्थान
40. **Uplift of all** (noun) – Sarvodaya
41. **Self-reliance** (noun) – Self-dependent; Atmanirbhar
42. **Oppression** (noun) – Domination, coercion, cruelty, tyranny, subjugation,

- persecution, harassment अत्याचार,
दमन, उत्पीड़न
43. **Debilitating** (adjective) – making someone very weak and infirm. दुर्बल करने वाला
44. **Poverty** (noun) – the state of being extremely poor. गरीबी
45. **Shackle** (verb) – If you are shackled by something, it prevents you from doing what you want to do: बेड़ी लगाना
46. **Vast** (adjective) – massive, huge, incalculable, immense बड़ा, विशाल
47. **Occasion** (noun) – time, case, juncture, event, instance, occurrence, point अवसर
48. **Reflect on** (verb) – think deeply; think about, consider, review विचारना
49. **Authoritarianism** (noun) – despotism, dictatorship, tyranny, absolutism, totalitarianism सत्तावाद
50. **Sectarian** (adjective) – rigidly following the doctrines of a sect or other group सांप्रदायिक
51. **Extremism** (noun) – fanaticism, radicalism, zealotry, zeal, fundamentalism, उग्रवाद/ अतिवाद
52. **Separatism** (noun) – the support of cultural, ethnic, tribal, religious, racial, governmental, or gender separation from the larger group. अलगाववाद
53. **Overcome** (verb) – Succeed in dealing with (a problem or difficulty) दूर करना
54. **Call for** (phrasal verb) – demand, require, request, ask for, मांग करना
55. **Constant** (adjective) – persistent, steady, perpetual, consistent निरंतर/स्थिर
56. **Vigil** (noun) – Watch, surveillance, monitoring निगरानी
57. **Reiteration** (noun) – Recurrence, repetition, replication पुनरावृत्ति
58. **Reassurance** (noun) – advice or help that you give to somebody to stop him/her worrying or being afraid आश्वासन
59. **Sanctity** (noun) – Holiness, sacredness, blessedness, purity, inviolability, पवित्रता
60. **Debate** (noun) – Discussion, argument, dispute, deliberation बहस
61. **Establish** (verb) – set up, determine, create, institute स्थापित करना

Practice Exercise

Direction: In the following passage some words have been deleted. Fill in the blanks with the help of the alternatives given. Select the most appropriate option for each number.

With the Himalayas looming over Dharamshala, India scaled fresh heights in its evolving journey in Twenty20 Internationals. After winning the inaugural 2007 ICC World T20 in South Africa, the Men in Blue flattered to deceive in cricket's shortest version, specifically in global events. However, India largely does _____1_____ in bilateral series and the latest triumph was the 3-0 sweep against the visiting Sri Lankans in a clash that had its final episode at Dharamshala on Sunday night. After _____2_____ the opening fixture at Lucknow, India extended that winning-act in the next two games under the mountain skies. Having recently swept past the West Indies at 3-0 each in ODIs and T20Is, Rohit Sharma's cup of joy continues to brim. The latest squad missed Virat Kohli and Rishabh Pant, who were given a bio-bubble break, while the injured duo of K.L. Rahul and Hardik Pandya remain on the recovery path. Yet, India papered over the _____3_____ and found men who could fill these vacant boots. Even Rohit after a 44 at Lucknow, managed just one and five in the last two encounters. The absence of key personnel and the _____4_____ batting returns from the captain were tided past. The West Indies earlier and Sri Lanka now are essentially outfits in transition, _____5_____ India deserves credit for the way it drove home its advantage with emphatic performances.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. A. Infuse | B. Excel | C. Boot | D. Attest |
| 2. A. Switching | B. Hailing | C. Emerging | D. Clinching |
| 3. A. Cracks | B. chords | C. Credits | D. Cores |
| 4. A. Evident | B. Meagre | C. Ample | D. Wary |
| 5. A. Unless | B. But | C. Whereas | D. And |

Directions: 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. Minuscule
B. Minisculle
C. Minisscule
D. Minnuscule

Directions: In the following questions, the passage/sentence is split into four parts and named P, Q, R, S and T. 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.** She had two children who were like the two rose-trees, and one was called Snow-white, and the other Rose-red.
Q. They were as good and happy, as busy and cheerful as ever two children in the world were, only Snow-white was more quiet and gentle than Rose-red.
R. Rose-red liked better to run about in the meadows and fields seeking flowers and catching butterflies; but Snow-white sat at home with her mother, and helped her with her housework, or read to her when there was nothing to do.

S. In front of the cottage was a garden wherein stood two rose-trees, one of which bore white and the other red roses.

T. There was once a poor widow who lived in a lonely cottage.

A. TSPQR

B. TSQPR

C. TQPRS

D. TSPRQ

Directions: 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. **Everyone must read this book.**

A. This book should be read by everyone.

B. This book has to be read by everyone.

C. This book is to be read by everyone.

D. This book must be read by everyone.

9. **He knew that his own life was unjust.**

A. It was known to him that his own life had been unjust.

B. It was known by him that his own life was unjust.

C. It was known to him that his own life was unjust.

D. It was known by him that life was unjust.

Directions: 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. **Nisha told Monica, "What a beautiful dress you are wearing!"**

A. Nisha exclaimed that Monica was wearing a very beautiful dress.

B. Nisha exclaimed that it is a very beautiful dress.

C. Nisha exclaimed that Monica is wearing a very beautiful dress.

D. Nisha told Monica that was a beautiful dress.

11. **"Call the witness", said the magistrate.**

A. The magistrate requested to call the witness.

B. The magistrate begged for calling the witness.

C. The magistrate ordered to call the witness.

D. The magistrate prayed to call the witness.

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

12. **Commencement of adjacent words with the same letter**

A. Consultant

B. Alliteration

C. Conceited

D. Ineligible

13. **One who takes care of eyes and treats various eye problems and performs different eye surgeries**

A. Ophthalmologist

B. Ablution

C. Fiasco

D. Exonerate

Directions: Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/Phrase.

14. **Take a cognisance of**

- A. To arrive at some event or location successfully or on time
- B. To make something seem less certain or good
- C. To initiate a discussion about something with someone, often regarding a problem or complaint
- D. To notice or give attention to (something)

15. **Raise eyebrow**

- A. To cause other people to react with surprise or mild disapproval
- B. Stop having faith or belief in someone or something
- C. To be brought before a judge for a crime or misdeed
- D. To focus on or bring attention to someone or something

Directions: choose the word opposite in meaning to the given word.

16. **FRATERNITY**

- A. Hostility
- B. Delude
- C. Debacle
- D. Augment

17. **AMALGAMATION**

- A. Faction
- B. Amenity
- C. Separation
- D. Condescend

Direction: In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the word which best expresses the meaning of the given word.

18. **PROFOUND**

- A. Ambience
- B. Deep
- C. Succinct
- D. Adulterate

19. **CREED**

- A. Agnostic
- B. Dogma
- C. Penitent
- D. Protagonist

Directions: 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.

20. Mr. Gupta insisted that he was fully prepare to prevent the proposal.
- A. Was fully prepared

- B. Is fully prepared
 - C. Does prepare
 - D. No correction required
21. I know that eventually ***he will succumb to*** me and confess that he has committed a crime
- A. He would succumb for
 - B. He succumb for
 - C. He succumbed to
 - D. No correction required

Directions: Find out the error, if any –

22. It is (A)/ raining (B)/ since the morning. (C) / No Error (D)
23. We (A)/ refused (B)/ them admission. (C) / No Error (D)
24. A majority (A)/ of the (B)/ shareholders want the merger. (C) / No Error (D)
25. I (A)/ cannot do this work as (B)/ it is under my dignity. (C) / No Error (D)

Answers

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

Explanation

1. **Excel** (verb) – Shine, outshine, outclass, surpass, top, outdo श्रेष्ठ होना
 - **Infuse** (verb) – fill, pervade, permeate, suffuse, charge भरना
 - **Boot** (verb) – start up, fire up, prepare, ready, make ready शुरू करना
 - **Attest** (verb) – certify, corroborate, confirm, verify, substantiate, document अनुप्रमाणित करना
2. **Clinch** (verb) – win, be the victor in, be the winner of, be victorious जीत हासिल करना
 - **Switch** (verb) – change, shift, convert, divert बदलना
 - **Hail** (from) (verb) – come from, be from, be a native of, से आना
 - **Emerge** (verb) – come out, appear, come into view, become visible उभरना, निकलना
3. **Paper over the cracks** (phrase) – to try to hide faults or difficulties. अपने कठिनाइयों पर पर्दा डालना
4. **Meagre** (adjective) – inadequate, scanty, scant, paltry, limited अपर्याप्त
 - **Evident** (adjective) – Obvious, plain, apparent, manifest, palpable स्पष्ट
 - **Ample** (adjective) – huge, plentiful, abundant, copious, profuse प्रचुर
 - **Wary** (adjective) – cautious, careful, circumspect, on one's guard, सावधान, सजग
5. **Minuscule** (adjective) – extremely small; tiny. बहुत छोटा
6. **TSPQR**
There was once a poor widow who lived in a lonely cottage. In front of the cottage was a garden wherein stood two rose-trees, one of which bore white and the other red roses. She had two children who were like the two rose-trees, and one was called Snow-white, and the other Rose-red. They were as good and happy, as busy and cheerful as ever two children in the world were, only Snow-white was more quiet and gentle than Rose-red. Rose-red liked better to run about in the meadows and fields seeking flowers and catching butterflies; but Snow-white sat at home with her mother, and helped her with her housework, or read to her when there was nothing to do.
12. **Alliteration** – Commencement of adjacent words with the same letter अनुप्रास अलंकार
 - **Consultant** – A person who gives expert advice in business सलाहकार
 - **Ineligible** – Not suitable to be elected or selected under the rules अयोग्य
 - **Conceited** – To have a very high opinion of oneself अहंकारी

13. **Ophthalmologist** – One who takes care of eyes and treats various eye problems and performs different eye surgeries नेत्र विशेषज्ञ
- **Ablution** – Ritual washing of the body स्नान
 - **Fiasco** – Complete failure असफलता
 - **Exonerate** – Pronounce not guilty of criminal charges बरी कर देना
14. **Take a cognisance of** (Phrase) – to notice or give attention to (something) संज्ञान लेना
15. **Raise eyebrow** (Phrase) – to cause other people to react with surprise or mild disapproval. अचरज में डालना
16. **Fraternity** (noun) – The state or quality of being fraternal or brotherly; brotherhood. भाईचारा
- **Delude**(adjective) – To deceive धोखा देना
 - **Debacle** (noun) – Violent Breakdown; sudden overthrow पराजय, शिकस्त
 - **Augment** (verb) – To make bigger; to add to; to increase बढ़ाना,
17. **Amalgamation** (noun) – Merger, union, combination, mix, blend, fusion, compound समामेलन
- **Faction** (noun) – A group, usually a small part of larger group, united around some cause; disagreement within an organization. गुट, दल
 - **Amenity** (adjective) – Pleasantness; attractive or comfortable feature सुख सुविधा
 - **Condescend** (verb) – To stoop to someone else's level, usually in an offensive way; to patronize झुकना, दबना
18. **Profound** (adjective) – Deep, thoughtful, reflective, weighty, insightful गहरा
- **Ambience** (noun) – Atmosphere; mood; feeling माहौल
 - **Succinct** (adjective) – Brief and to the point; concise संक्षिप्त
 - **Adulterate** (verb) – To contaminate; to make impure मिलावट करना
19. **Creed** (noun) – Faith, dogma, doctrine, credo, belief, principle पंथ, मत, मज़हब
- **Agnostic** (noun) – One who believes that the existence of a god can be neither proven or disproven अनीश्वरवादी, संशयवादी
 - **Penitent** (adjective) – Sorry; repentant; contrite माफ़ करना
 - **Protagonist** (noun) – The leading character in a novel, play or other work; a leader or champion. नायक
20. 'prepare' के बदले 'prepared' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'he' की विशेषता बताने के लिए 'Be' क्रिया 'was' के बाद 'prepare' का past participle रूप 'prepared' adjective का काम करेगा जिसकी विशेषता adverb 'fully' बताएगा।

- 'prepared' will be used instead of 'prepared' because 'be' to describe 'he', after the verb 'was', the past participle form of 'prepared' will act as a 'prepared' adjective characterized by 'adverb' fully' will tell.

21. No Correction required

22. (A) 'is' के बदले 'has been' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि 'since + Point of Time' का प्रयोग होने पर वाक्य सामान्यतः Present Perfect Continuous Tense में होता है; जैसे-

i. It has been raining since 7 a.m.

- 'has been' will be used instead of 'is', because when 'since + Point of Time' is used, the sentence is generally in Present Perfect Continuous Tense; As-

i. It has been raining since 7 a.m.

23. (D) no error

24. (D) no error

25. (C) 'under' के बदले 'below' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'under' 'के नीचे' के अर्थ में vertical position जबकि 'below' 'के नीचे' के अर्थ में level बताता है; जैसे-

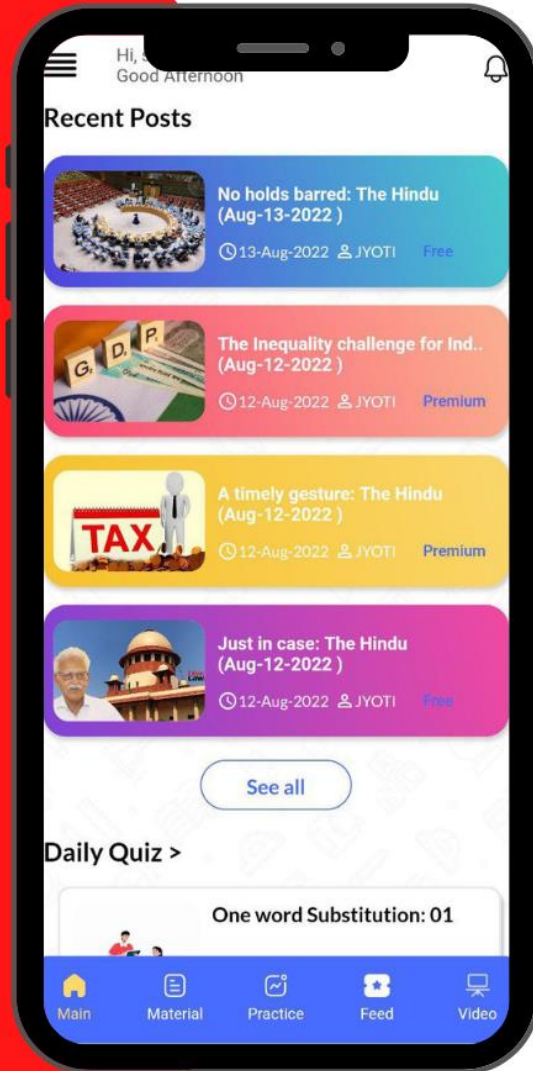
i. There is a box under the table.

ii. This type of work is below my dignity.

- 'below' will be used instead of 'under' because 'under' means vertical position while 'below' indicates level; As-

i. There is a box under the table.

ii. This type of work is below my dignity



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