

Miles to go: On Congress' Bharat Jodo Yatra

The Bharat Jodo Yatra did **strike a chord**, **exemplified** in the final Srinagar event

After 135 days on the road, the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra ended in Srinagar, on the Mahatma's death anniversary, with several Opposition leaders attending the **unfurling** of the **tricolour**. **That** the yatra, or at least its south-to-north version, finished thus, **was** a **befitting** end to an **arduous** journey made by a leader **seeking** to **revive** the **fortunes** of the **beleaguered** Congress. The yatra's objective was to **emphasise** the **contrast** between the party's vision for India, **built on** its **slogan** of "**unity in diversity**", and the Hindutva **ideology** of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The party's **outreach** might not have immediately **resuscitated** its electoral fortunes — there has been a **steady** decline in its influence and a **flight** of many of its leaders to the BJP. But the **imagery** of the Congress **scion** interacting with civil society and the **citizenry** across the country, and just the organisation of the yatra **infused** energy into the political machine of India's grand old party. The yatra's messaging might have been **rudimentary** and a **medley** of slogans, but it did clearly **articulate** some of the party's **distinctive** core values **to a large extent**. This was even more **evident** in the **optics** in Srinagar.

Jammu and Kashmir has been India's most **conflict-ridden province** and now, **inexplicably**, remains a Union Territory after having its special status **abruptly stripped** and being **bifurcated** into two Union Territories in 2019. In the **succeeding** years, there has been **heightened** violence in the Kashmir Valley, the **weakening** of the **mainstream** polity (which was **bracketed** with the **separatist current** for a period of time), and the **imposition** of **communication lockdowns** and measures to control the freedom of the press. After months of **turmoil**, Kashmir has **limped** back to economic activity, with the tourism sector **picking up** well, but the **sense** of **disquiet** with the **abrupt** changes **has persisted** in the **Valley** and beyond. Repeated **incidents** of violence against Kashmiri Pandits **have** also been indicative of the **persisting** turmoil. The **presence** of the Peoples Democratic Party and the National Conference in the flag **hoisting** ceremony in Srinagar **was** proof of the **extent** of the **appeal** of the yatra for the mainstream parties in the Valley, and **in a way marks** a genuine attempt at **solidarity** between the Kashmiri polity and the national opposition. Yet, in terms of the actual steps for the Congress's revival, there is still many a **proverbial** mile to go with the party requiring to **do the hard yards** in building organisational **relevance** in several parts of the country, especially in North India.

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

[Practice Exercise]

Vocabulary

1. **Strike a chord** (phrase) – Create an emotional response के साथ जुड़ाव होना
2. **Exemplify** (verb) – Demonstrate, represent, illustrate, show, embody उदाहरण देना
3. **Unfurling** (noun) – If a flag, sail, or banner unfurls, it becomes open from a rolled position, and if you unfurl a flag, etc., you make it do this फहराना।
4. **The Tricolour** (noun) – Indian Flag
5. **Befitting** (adjective) – suitable, appropriate. उपयुक्त, उचित
6. **Arduous** (adjective) – Difficult, hard, laborious, demanding, strenuous, onerous कठिन
7. **Seek** (Verb) – try, attempt, endeavour, strive प्रयास करना
8. **Revive** (verb) – revitalize, renew, restore, refresh, reawaken पुनर्जीवित करना
9. **Fortune** (noun) – luck, chance, fate, destiny भाग्य
10. **Beleaguered** (adjective) – in a very difficult situation; Stressed, longsuffering संकटग्रस्त
11. **Emphasis** (verb) – stress, highlight, underline, accentuate, underscore ज़ोर देना
12. **Contrast** (adjective) – The opposition or dissimilarity of things that are compared विपरीत
13. **Built on** (phrasal verb) – Develop; use something as a basis for further development पर आधारित
14. **Slogan** (noun) – a short phrase नारा
15. **Unity in diversity** (noun) – Unity in diversity is used as an expression of harmony and unity between dissimilar individuals or groups अनेकता में एकता
16. **Ideology** (noun) – philosophy, creed, credo, belief, doctrine विचारधारा
17. **Outreach** (noun) – The act or process of reaching out. पहुँच
18. **Resuscitate** (verb) – Revive, resurrect, save, revitalize, renew, breathe new life into पुनर्जीवित करना
19. **Steady** (adjective) – constant, unchanging, changeless, unvarying, invariable स्थिर, लगातार
20. **Flight** (noun) – a group of people move from one place to another दल-बदली
21. **Imagery** (noun) – A set of mental pictures or images.
22. **Scion** (noun) – A descendant or heir, especially of a wealthy or prominent family: वंशज, वारिस

23. **Citizenry** (noun) – The citizens of a place regarded collectively. नागरिक
24. **Infuse** (verb) – instil, breathe, inject, impart, inculcate, introduce, implant, add डालना
25. **Rudimentary** (adjective) – Basic, elementary, simple, undeveloped, fundamental, primary प्रारम्भिक
26. **Medley** (noun) – a mixture of various types or elements मिश्रण
27. **Articulate** (verb) – Express, convey, communicate, speak out, put into words साफ़ साफ़ बोलना
28. **Distinctive** (adjective) – clearly different from others and therefore easy to recognize सबसे स्पष्टतया अलग और सरलता से पहचान में आने वाला, भेदकारी
29. **To a large extent** (phrase) – in a substantial way; largely.
30. **Evident** (adjective) – obvious, apparent, noticeable, conspicuous, perceptible स्पष्ट
31. **Optics** (noun) – the public's opinion and understanding
32. **Conflict-ridden** (adjective) – dominated or plagued by conflicts संघर्ष से ग्रस्त
33. **Province** (noun) – territory, region, state, department, zone प्रांत/ प्रदेश
34. **Inexplicably** (adverb) – in a way that cannot be explained or understood अकथनीय रूप से
35. **Abruptly** (adverb) – Suddenly, unexpectedly, rapidly, hastily, immediately, quickly, hurriedly अचानक, एकाएक से
36. **Strip** (verb) – Remove, exclude, deprive, divest, take away हटाना
37. **Bifurcate** (verb) – divided into two branches दो भागों में बँटना
38. **Succeeding** (adjective) – Following, later, subsequent, ensuing, next, successive उत्तरवर्ती
39. **Heightened** (adjective) – More intense than normal. बढ़ा हुआ
40. **Weakening** (noun) – Deterioration, decline, damage, destabilisation, undermining दुर्बलता
41. **Mainstream** (adjective) – belonging to or characteristic of the mainstream मुख्य धारा
42. **Bracket** (verb) – Connect, link, join, related, associate, जोड़ना
43. **Separatist** (adjective) – Dissenter, secessionist, protestor, rebel, separationist अलगाववादी

44. **Current** (noun) – the general tendency or course of events or opinion. धारा
45. **Imposition** (noun) – imposing, foisting, levying, forcing, inflicting आरोपण, थोपना
46. **Communication Lockdown** (noun) – an act of imposing restriction of communication channel like stoppage of Internet connection or calling in a particular area for some period of time.
47. **Turmoil** (noun) – Chaos, Disorder, confusion, uproar, mayhem, tumult, commotion उथल-पुथल
48. **Limp** (verb) – to progress with great difficulty.
49. **Pick up** (phrasal verb) – increase, become stronger, accelerate तेज होना
50. **Disquiet** (noun) – Unrest, Uneasiness, Concern, Worry, Anxiety, Alarm अशांति/ बेचैनी की स्थिति
51. **Abrupt** (adjective) – sudden, immediate, instantaneous, hurried अचानक, एकाएक
52. **Persist** (verb) – persevere, continue, carry on, go on कायम रहना
53. **The Valley** (noun) – It refers to Jammu & Kashmir.
54. **Persisting** (adjective) – enduring, continuing, lasting, staying सतत, निरंतर
55. **Hoist** (verb) – raise (something) by means of ropes and pulleys. फहराना
56. **Extent** (noun) – Degree, amount, range, scope हद
57. **Appeal** (noun) – Charm, attractiveness, attraction, influence आकर्षण
58. **In a way** (phrase) – considered in a particular manner एक तरीके से
59. **Mark** (verb) – Indicate, Denote, Show, Demonstrate, Exhibit चिह्नित करना
60. **Solidarity** (noun) – unity, unanimity, harmony, cooperation एकजुटता
61. **Proverbial** (adjective) – well known, कहावती, लोकसिद्ध
62. **Do the hard yards** (phrase) – do the hard work needed to succeed.
63. **Relevance** (noun) – significance, importance, application, bearing, pertinence प्रासंगिकता

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.

Senegal holding its nerve to beat Egypt via a penalty shoot-out (4-2) on Sunday at the Stade d'Olembe in Yaounde, Cameroon, to _____1_____ its maiden Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) brought the curtains down _____2_____ a drama-filled, and at the same time tumultuous, tournament. Egypt, led by the Liverpool talisman Mohamed Salah, came into the final with big-match pedigree, having won the title a record seven times. The North African heavyweight had also won its last six shoot-outs and _____3_____ seen off fancied sides such as Ivory Coast, Morocco and the host Cameroon earlier in the competition. Senegal, on the other hand, had lost twice in the final, but found a hero in Sadio Mane, another of Liverpool's effervescent stars, who scored the decisive penalty. It was _____4_____ of sorts for the 29-year-old, for he had fluffed a spot-kick as early as the sixth minute. But the night ended in _____5_____, capped by a celebratory lap of honour with his nation's flag draped around his shoulders.

- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. A. Overcome | B. Clinch | C. Covet | D. Scupper |
| 2. A. By | B. In | C. To | D. On |
| 3. A. Had | B. Have | C. Were | D. Was |
| 4. A. Disservice | B. Spoilsport | C. Redemption | D. Impression |
| 5. A. Unsavoury | B. Delirious | C. Mark | D. Glory |

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. Resuscitate
B. Recusiatate
C. Resusciatiate
D. Resusciate

Directions: In the following questions, the passage/sentence is split into four parts and named P, Q, R and S. 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. Then on the third day, he sent for all his huntsmen, and said: 'Scour the whole forest through, and do not give up until you have found all three.'
Q. Perhaps some accident has befallen him,' said the king, and the next day he sent out two more huntsmen who were to search for him, but they too stayed away.
R. One day he sent out a huntsman to shoot him a roe, but he did not come back.
S. There was once upon a time a king who had a great forest near his palace, full of all kinds of wild animals.

A.SRQP B.SRPQ C.SQRP D.SPQR

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. Alexander expected to conquer the world.

- A. It was expected by Alexander that he should conquer the world.
 - B. It was expected by Alexander that he would conquer the world.
 - C. It was expected by Alexander that he will conquer the world.
 - D. It had been expected by Alexander that he would conquer the world.
9. **She begins her day with a cup of coffee.**
- A. Her day is being begun with a cup of coffee.
 - B. Her day is begun by her with a cup of coffee.
 - C. A cup of coffee is beginning her day.
 - D. A cup of coffee has begun her day.

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. **"If you want to smoke, you'll have to go out", said the conductor.**
- A. The conductor ordered me to go out and smoke.
 - B. The conductor said that if I/he wanted to smoke, I/he would have to go out.
 - C. The conductor told me that smoking is not permitted in the bus.
 - D. The conductor told me that I will have to go out and smoke.
11. **"Be careful; the steps are very slipper", I warned him.**
- A. I warned him to be careful as the steps were very slippery.
 - B. I warned him to be careful as the steps are very slippery.
 - C. I warned him to be careful and steps were very slippery.
 - D. I told him to be careful and the steps are very slippery.

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

12. **One who assume a character or title not his own to deceive others**
- A. Imposter
 - B. Misnomer
 - C. Tremor
 - D. Criminology
13. **One who deal in clothes**
- A. Remission
 - B. Impalpable
 - C. Pessimist
 - D. Draper

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

14. **Strike a chord**
- A. To move or happen at a slower pace than someone or something else
 - B. Create an emotional response
 - C. to try to make a situation better after something bad has happened
 - D. To establish a limit beyond which someone's behaviour is no longer acceptable
15. **Do the hard yards**
- A. To remove the inside of something

- B. Be very close to a difficult or dangerous situation
- C. More difficult to do than to talk about
- D. Do the hard work needed to succeed

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

16. **SOLIDARITY**

- A. Discord
- B. Abash
- C. Paucity
- D. Censure

17. **DISQUIET**

- A. Clique
- B. Impervious
- C. Amenable
- D. Calmness

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

18. **TURMOIL**

- A. Flaunt
- B. Ephemeral
- C. Panacea
- D. Chaos

19. **RUDIMENTARY**

- A. Expedient
- B. Elementary
- C. Artifice
- D. Alleviate

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. He felt exhausted as he was working since 4 O' clock in the morning

- A. Has been working
- B. Had been working
- C. Is working
- D. No improvement

21. Most people in India like to give a lot of free advice.

- A. advices
- B. advises
- C. advise
- D. No improvement

Directions: Find out the error, if any –

22. A naughty student is often taken to task (A)/ for being involved in (B)/ all types of mischiefs (C)/ No error (D)
23. At arrival in Delhi (A)/ I went straight (B)/ to the nearest hospital (C)/ No error (D)
24. I answered (A)/ the questions (B)/ as best as I could. (C)/ No error (D)
25. It took me (A)/ almost a hour (B)/ to fill the application form (C)/ No error (D)

Answers

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

Explanation

1. **Clinch** (verb) – win, be the winner of, triumph in, achieve success in जीतना
 - **Overcome** (verb) – get the better of, prevail over, control, काबू पाना
 - **Covet** (verb) – want, wish for, long for, yearn for, dream of, aspire to चाहना
 - **Scupper** (verb) – ruin, wreck, destroy, devastate, wreak havoc on तबाह करना
2. **Bring the curtain down on** (phrase) – to bring an end to something समाप्त करना
4. **Redemption** (noun) – retrieval, recovery, reclamation, repossession, return पुनर्प्राप्ति/वापसी
 - **Disservice** (noun) – unkindness, bad turn, ill turn, disfavor निर्दयतापूर्वक काम
 - **Spoilsport** (noun) – A person who behaves in a way that spoils others' pleasure, especially by not joining in an activity. खेल बिगाड़ने वाला व्यक्ति
 - **Impression** (noun) – feeling, sense; impact, effect, influence छाप
5. **Glory** (noun) – magnificence, splendour, resplendence भव्यता
 - **Unsavory** (adjective) – disreputable, unpleasant, disagreeable, nasty लज्जाजनक
 - **Delirious** (adjective) – ecstatic, euphoric, elated, thrilled, overjoyed उत्साहित
 - **Mark** (verb) – characterize, distinguish, identify, typify, signalize चिह्नित करना
6. **Resuscitate** (verb) – Revive, resurrect, save, revitalize, renew, breathe new life into पुनर्जीवित करना
7. **SRQP**

There was once upon a time a king who had a great forest near his palace, full of all kinds of wild animals. One day he sent out a huntsman to shoot him a roe, but he did not come back. 'Perhaps some accident has befallen him,' said the king, and the next day he sent out two more huntsmen who were to search for him, but they too stayed away. Then on the third day, he sent for all his huntsmen, and said: 'Scour the whole forest through, and do not give up until you have found all three.'
12. **Imposter** – One who assume a character or title not his own to deceive others ढोंगी
 - **Misnomer** – Wrong use of a name, word or description असंगत नाम
 - **Tremor** – An involuntary quivering movement कंपन
 - **Criminology** – Science of crimes and criminals. अपराध विज्ञान
13. **Draper** – One who deal in clothes
 - **Remission** – Pardon or forgiveness for breaking religious laws क्षमा, कमी

- **Impalpable** – Incapable of being perceived by touch दुर्बोध
 - **Pessimist** – One who looks at the dark side of things निराशावाद
14. **Strike a chord** (phrase) – Create an emotional response के साथ जुड़ाव होना
15. **Do the hard yards** (phrase) – do the hard work needed to succeed
16. **Solidarity** (noun) – unity, unanimity, harmony, cooperation एकजुटता
- **Abash** (verb) – To make ashamed; to embarrass लज्जित करना, शरमाना
 - **Paucity** (noun) – Scarcity कमी
 - **Censure** (verb) – To condemn severely for being something bad निंदा
17. **Disquiet** (noun) – Unrest, Uneasiness, Concern, Worry, Anxiety, Alarm अशांति/ बेचैनी की स्थिति
- **Clique** (noun) – An exclusive group bound together by some shared quality or interest गुट
 - **Impervious** (adjective) – Not allowing anything to pass अभेद्य, अप्रवेश्य
 - **Amenable** (adjective) – Obedient; willing to give in to the wishes of another; agreeable उत्तरदायी, जिम्मेदार
18. **Turmoil** (noun) – Chaos, Disorder, confusion, uproar, mayhem, tumult, commotion उथल-पुथल
- **Flaunt** (verb) – To show off; to display ostentiously इठलाना, शान दिखाना
 - **Ephemeral** (adjective) – Lasting a very short time अल्पकालिक
 - **Panacea** (noun) – Something that cures everything रामबाण
19. **Rudimentary** (adjective) – Basic, elementary, simple, undeveloped, fundamental, primary प्रारम्भिक
- **Expedient** (adjective) – Providing an immediate advantage; serving one's immediate self-interest; practical. उपाय, ढंग, प्रणाली
 - **Artifice** (noun) – A clever trick; cunning चालाकी, युक्ति
 - **Alleviate** (verb) – To relieve, usually temporally or incompletely; to make bearable; to lessen कम करना, हलका कर देना, धीमा करना
20. (B) The past perfect continuous tense will be used.
21. (D) The word advice is a noun and has no plural form. Advise is a verb. So option a, b, c all get eliminated.
22. (A) 'taken to task' के बदले 'brought to book' होना चाहिए, क्योंकि 'take somebody to task for / over something' का प्रयोग एक idiom (मुहावरा) के रूप में होता है जिसका अर्थ है 'किसी चीज के लिए किसी व्यक्ति की कठोर निंदा करना' जबकि 'bring somebody to book for something' का प्रयोग भी एक idiom (मुहावरा) के रूप में होता है जिसका अर्थ है 'कोई गलत कार्य करने के लिए किसी व्यक्ति को सजा देना'; जैसे-

- i. A thief must be brought to book.
- ii. He was brought to book for stealing money.
- iii. A leader must be taken to task for telling lies.

- 'taken to task' should be replaced with 'brought to book', because 'take somebody to task for / over something' is used as an idiom which means 'to harshly condemn someone for something' Whereas 'bring somebody to book for something' is also used as an idiom meaning 'to punish someone for doing something wrong'; As-
- i. A thief must be brought to book.
 - ii. He was brought to book for stealing money.
 - iii. A leader must be taken to task for telling lies.

23. (A) 'At' के बदले 'After' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'after one's arrival at/ in' का प्रयोग होता है। देखें-

- i. Shortly after arrival in Turkey Lisa became very ill.

- 'After' will be used instead of 'At' because 'after one's arrival at/in' is used. see-
- i. Shortly after arrival in Turkey Lisa became very ill.

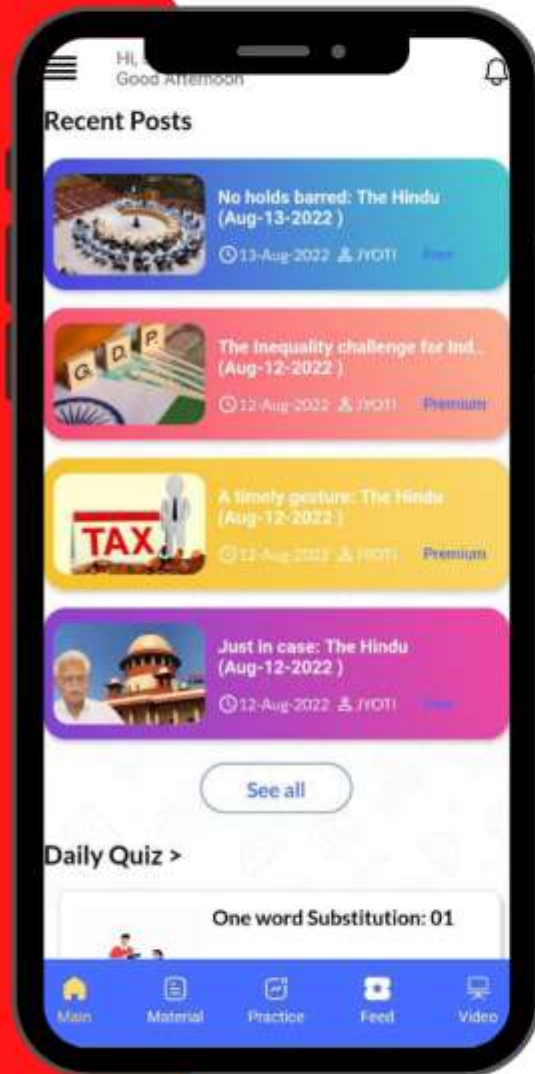
24. (C) 'as best as' के बदले 'as well as' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'as/ so /too/comparatively / relatively + Positive Degree' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे-

- i. She is as tall as her mother.
- ii. She weather is comparatively good today.

- 'as well as' shall be substituted for 'as best as' because 'as/ so /too/comparatively / relatively + Positive Degree' is used; As-
- i. She is as tall as her mother.
 - ii. She weather is comparatively good today.

25. (B) 'a hour' के बदले 'an hour' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि 'hour' का पहला sound/ऑ/ एक Vowel है, और Vowel sound के पहले 'an' का प्रयोग होता है, जबकि Consonant sound के पहले 'a' का।

- 'an hour' will be used instead of 'a hour', because the first sound/o/ of 'hour' is a vowel, and 'an' is used before a vowel sound, while for before consonant sound article 'a'



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