

## Fall from grace: on the political trajectory of Boris Johnson

The **refusal** of Boris Johnson to go quietly **can** damage the **Tories**

Four years ago, Boris Johnson won an election for the Tories with an 80-seat majority, their biggest **victory** since 1987. But his fall from grace has been so **steep** that he is not even an MP today. **The Conservative leader**, who quit as British Prime Minister in July last year **amid** an inner-party **revolt**, **announced** his resignation as a **lawmaker** last week after a House committee **probing** the 'Partygate' **scandal** found that he had **misled** Parliament. **Mr. Johnson**, when Prime Minister, **had** attended a **host** of parties during the COVID-19 lockdown, breaking the rules **imposed** on the public by his own government; he then told the **House of Commons** that "all guidance was followed completely in No 10 (Downing Street)". Last year, **a report** by Sue Gray, a senior civil servant, **had** offered details of the social events he had attended during the lockdown. The MPs panel **apparently** recommended his lengthy **suspension** from the House, and he announced his resignation before the report was **made public**. **Mr. Johnson**, a former journalist-turned-politician whose **hyperbole conservatism** and **hardline nationalism** helped him rise to the top of the Conservative Party during the **chaotic Brexit** years, **did** not go quietly. He **accused** the committee, which has Labour, Liberal and Conservative MPs as its members, of a "**witch hunt**" and **slammed** the report as "**revenge** for Brexit".

**One** of the biggest **highlights** of Mr. Johnson's political career, as Prime Minister or a **back bencher**, **was** his **object disregard** for **accountability**. He neither took responsibility for **violating** lockdown rules nor **repented lying** to Parliament. Even while exiting the House, Mr. Johnson attacked an **imagined racket** of **Remainers** rather than **coming to terms with** the **mess** he **left behind** in the Conservative Party. His continued attack on Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, whose **rebellion** against Mr. Johnson as a member of his Cabinet **quicken**ed the Tory leader's **fall** as Prime Minister, **sounds** more political than a **constructive assessment** of the government's performance. Mr. Johnson's resignation leaves Mr. Sunak facing a tougher situation. Three Tory **MPs**, including Mr. Johnson, **have** quit recently, and Labour expects to win all three seats in **by-elections**. Faced with **back-to-back setbacks** in by-elections and local votes, **the Tories**, whose public support is around 30% against Labour's 40% in opinion **polls**, **are** already under pressure. Mr. Johnson has **dropped** hints of a comeback. There are talks in political circles about forming a **right-wing** party. It is not clear what he will do next. But he has already done enough damage to the Tories. **Any attempt** at a political comeback **will** further **destabilise** the party and **rupture** Britain's conservative political **landscape** that is caught between Brexit **isolationism**, a **battered** economy **at home** and an unrealistic **quest** to "make Britain great again". **[Practice Exercise]**

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Fall from grace** (phrase) – lose favour or a position of power or honour. सम्मान खोना
2. **Trajectory** (noun) – Path, arc, curve, track, course प्रक्षेप-पथ
3. **Refusal** (noun) – denial, rejection, rebuff, repudiation, negation इनकार
4. **Tory** (noun) – (in the UK) a member or supporter of the Conservative Party.
5. **Victory** (noun) – Triumph, success, achievement, conquest, win विजय
6. **Steep** (adjective) – Sharp, precipitous, abrupt, sudden तीव्र
7. **Conservative Party** (noun) – A political party in Great Britain, successor to the Tory party and characterized by moderate progressivism.
8. **Amid** (preposition) – Among, in the middle of, surrounded by के बीच
9. **Revolt** (noun) – Rebellion, insurrection, uprising, mutiny विद्रोह
10. **Lawmaker** (noun) – Legislator, member of parliament, policymaker विधायक
11. **Probe** (verb) – Investigate, examine, inspect, scrutinize छानबीन करना
12. **Partygate** (noun) – A political scandal in the United Kingdom, regarding parties and other gatherings of government and Conservative Party staff held during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, when there were public health restrictions that prohibited most gatherings. पार्टीगेट
13. **Scandal** (noun) – Disgrace, outrage, ignominy, scandalous behaviour कांड
14. **Mislead** (verb) – Deceive, delude, misinform, fool गुमराह करना
15. **A host** (of) (noun) – A lot, multitude, abundance, numerous सै बहुत सारे
16. **Impose** (verb) – Inflict, enforce, levy, apply थोपना
17. **House of Commons** (noun) – The lower house of the Parliament of the United Kingdom
18. **Apparently** (adverb) – Seemingly, evidently, ostensibly, superficially प्रत्यक्ष रूप से
19. **Suspension** (noun) – Pause, interruption, break, halt निलंबन
20. **Make public** (phrase) – Disclose, reveal, announce, make known सार्वजनिक करना
21. **Hyperbole** (noun) – Exaggeration, overstatement, magnification अतिशयोक्ति
22. **Conservatism** (noun) – A political and social philosophy promoting traditional social institutions. संरक्षणवाद
23. **Hardline** (adjective) – Uncompromising, strict, rigid, unyielding कट्टरपंथी

24. **Nationalism** (noun) – Patriotism, national pride, xenophobia राष्ट्रवाद
25. **Chaotic** (adjective) – Disordered, confused, tumultuous, in disarray अराजक
26. **Brexit** (noun) – the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community
27. **Accuse** (of) (verb) – charge with, indict for, arraign for आरोप लगाना
28. **Witch hunt** (noun) – an intensive inquiry, originally or purportedly to discover and expose dishonesty, subversion, or other wrongdoing, अत्यधिक जांच
29. **Slam** (verb) – criticize, censure, attack, denounce आलोचना करना
30. **Revenge** (noun) – retaliation, retribution, requital प्रतिशोध
31. **Highlight** (noun) – focus of attention, centre of interest, most interesting part मुख्य बातें
32. **Back bencher** (noun) – a Member of Parliament who is not a minister or shadow minister; they sit towards the back of the chamber
33. **Abject** (adjective) – miserable, hopeless, wretched, woeful, awful, appalling, pathetic. घोर
34. **Disregard** (noun) – neglect, ignore, overlook, carelessness, indifference, inattention उपेक्षा
35. **Accountability** (noun) – responsibility, liability, answerability जवाबदेही
36. **Violate** (verb) – breach, break, disobey उल्लंघन करना
37. **Repent** (verb) – express regret, feel remorse पश्चाताप करना
38. **Lie** (to) (verb) – deceive, mislead, falsify झूठ बोलना
39. **Imagined** (adjective) – supposed, presumed, assumed, guessed, believed कल्पित
40. **Racket** (noun) – fraudulent scheme, illegal business, criminal activity, illegal scheme, swindle धांधली, धमाचौकड़ी
41. **Remainer** (noun) – a person who supported the UK staying in the EU
42. **Come to terms with** (phrase) – accept, reconcile oneself to, come to accept स्वीकार करना
43. **Mess** (noun) – chaos, disorder, disarray गड़बड़ी
44. **Leave behind** (phrase) – abandon, desert, forsake पीछे छोड़ना

45. **Rebellion** (noun) – uprising, revolt, insurrection विद्रोह
46. **Quicken** (verb) – accelerate, hasten, speed up गति बढ़ाना
47. **Fall** (noun) – downfall, degradation, decline, defeat, collapse, overthrow पतन
48. **Sound** (verb) – seem, appear, look प्रतीत होना
49. **Constructive** (adjective) – positive, beneficial, useful सकारात्मक
50. **Assessment** (noun) – evaluation, appraisal, analysis मूल्यांकन
51. **By-election** (noun) – an election to choose a new Member of Parliament for a particular town or area (a constituency). It is held when the former member has died or left suddenly उप-चुनाव
52. **Back-to-back** (adjective) – Consecutive, sequential, successive, following, continuous एक के पीछे एक
53. **Setback** (noun) – Obstacle, hitch, complication, difficulty बाधा
54. **Poll** (noun) – Survey, ballot, vote, election मतदान
55. **Drop** (verb) – Abandon, give up, discard, relinquish त्यागना
56. **Right-wing** (adjective) – Conservative, reactionary, traditionalist, ultraconservative दक्षिणपंथी
57. **Destabilise** (verb) – undermine, weaken, impair, damage, subvert, sabotage अस्थिर करना
58. **Rupture** (verb) – Break, split, fracture, breach टूटना
59. **Landscape** (noun) – a particular field of activity परिदृश्य
60. **Isolationism** (noun) – a policy of remaining apart from the affairs or interests of other groups, especially the political affairs of other countries. अलगाववाद
61. **Battered** (adjective) – Damaged, beaten, worn, ruined क्षतिग्रस्त; पस्त
62. **At home** (phrase) – In one's own country अपने ही देश में
63. **Quest** (noun) – Search, mission, pursuit, exploration, expedition खोज, तलाश

## Summary of the Editorial

1. Boris Johnson, former British Prime Minister, resigned as an MP following a House committee investigation into the 'Partygate' scandal.
2. Johnson attended various parties during the COVID-19 lockdown, breaching his government's own imposed rules.
3. He misled Parliament by asserting that "all guidance was followed completely in No 10 (Downing Street)".
4. The House committee's report apparently recommended Johnson's lengthy suspension, prompting his resignation before the report's publication.
5. Johnson, known for his hyper-conservatism and hardline nationalism, accused the committee of conducting a "witch hunt" and labeled the report as "revenge for Brexit".
6. Throughout his political career, Johnson displayed an evident disregard for accountability, neither taking responsibility for lockdown violations nor admitting to misleading Parliament.
7. Even while leaving the House, Johnson attacked an alleged Remain faction rather than acknowledging his part in creating disorder within the Conservative Party.
8. Johnson has continuously criticized Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, a former ally whose rebellion helped hasten Johnson's downfall.
9. His resignation adds to the challenges faced by Sunak, particularly as three Tory MPs, including Johnson, have quit recently.
10. The Tory party is under pressure due to prospective losses in by-elections and local votes, with public support waning as Labour's rises.
11. Johnson has hinted at a possible political comeback, causing speculation in political circles about the formation of a new right-wing party.
12. It remains uncertain what Johnson's next steps will be.
13. However, Johnson's past actions have already inflicted significant damage on the Tory party.
14. Any attempt at a political comeback could further destabilize the party and disrupt Britain's conservative political landscape.
15. This situation leaves the UK grappling with Brexit isolationism, a struggling economy, and the unrealistic aspiration to "make Britain great again".

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern based

[Editorial Page]

1. **What led to Boris Johnson's resignation as a lawmaker?**
  - A. He was not elected as an MP in the last election.
  - B. He decided to retire from politics.
  - C. He was found to have misled Parliament over his involvement in the 'Partygate' scandal.
  - D. He decided to focus on journalism.
2. **Based on the passage, which of the following best represents a critical assessment of Boris Johnson's political trajectory?**
  - A. Boris Johnson resigned due to pressure from other Tory MPs and is planning to make a political comeback with a new right-wing party.
  - B. Boris Johnson's refusal to accept accountability for his actions and his continued political attacks are causing further instability within the Conservative Party.
  - C. Boris Johnson, despite his fall from the position of Prime Minister, has maintained a significant public support at around 30% in opinion polls.
  - D. Boris Johnson's resignation was an act of contrition for his disregard of lockdown rules and lying to Parliament.
3. **According to the passage, which of the following are true about Boris Johnson?**
  - i. He was accountable and responsible during his political career.
  - ii. His continuous attacks on Prime Minister Rishi Sunak were more political in nature than a constructive criticism of the government's performance.
  - iii. His resignation has put the Tories under pressure with the threat of losses in upcoming by-elections and local votes.
  - A. Only i
  - B. Only ii
  - C. Only ii, iii
  - D. I, ii, iii
4. **How did Boris Johnson respond to the committee's probe into the 'Partygate' scandal?**
  - A. He accepted all the accusations and apologized.
  - B. He denied all the accusations and declared the investigation as a 'witch hunt'.
  - C. He accepted his suspension quietly.
  - D. He took no action and remained silent.
5. **What is the tone of the passage?**
  - A. Optimistic
  - B. Critical
  - C. Indifferent
  - D. Praise-worthy
6. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
  - A. The success of Boris Johnson's political career
  - B. The future plans of the Conservative Party
  - C. The fall of Boris Johnson and its repercussions on the Conservative Party
  - D. The policies implemented during Boris Johnson's tenure as Prime Minister

7. Which of the following words is a synonym for "**hyperbole**" as used in the passage?
- A. Restraint
  - B. Exaggeration
  - C. Accuracy
  - D. Humility
8. Which of the following is a synonym for the word "**revolt**" as used in the context of this passage?
- A. Agreement
  - B. Rebellion
  - C. Conformity
  - D. Acceptance
9. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice**  
**Let the farewell be bidden to our seniors**
- A. We should be bidden farewell by our seniors.
  - B. Our seniors should bid farewell to us.
  - C. Let us bid farewell to our seniors.
  - D. Our seniors should be bidden farewell.
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**  
Despite his illness, he decided to \_\_\_\_\_ with his work.
- A. persevere
  - B. perish
  - C. percolate
  - D. permeate
11. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. The introduction of 33 per cent reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), it was felt, would herald socio-political reform. The transformation towards gender equity has been annoyingly slow, patriarchy continues to mark its presence in proxy attendance, but change has decidedly come.
  - Q. After each village is given a code, seats will be reserved for women and men on the basis of even-odd numbers. Where a woman sarpanch is elected first, the village will have an 'other than woman' successor; it may even include a transgender, according to the Chief Minister.
  - R. Active participation by women and assertion of rights and duties are encouraging milestones. Taking it forward is an evolving process. In that context, the passage of a Bill to amend the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act that seeks to ensure that 50 per cent seats are kept for women is a bold step.
  - S. The rule will be applicable in future elections to Zila Parishads, Block Panchayat Samitis and Gram Panchayats.
- A. PQRS                      B.RPQS                      C.QPRS                      D.PRQS
12. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. Citing public health concerns, Delhi, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Chandigarh have already prohibited firecrackers till the month-end or for an indefinite period.



- Q. If strictly enforced, the order can help to counter the deadly cocktail formed by the Covid-19 pandemic and air pollution during the festive season.
- R. Importantly, this ban will be applicable to all cities and towns in the country where the average ambient air quality during November 2019 was poor or worse.
- S. The National Green Tribunal's (NGT) ban on the sale or use of firecrackers in the National Capital Region till November 30 has literally come as a gasp of breath.
- A. SQRP      B.QPSR      C.RSPQ      D.SPRQ
- 13. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. The verdict is significant as it departs from an earlier judgment of January this year that struck down some clauses of the Punjab Action Plan, 2014, which lays down the procedure for the eviction of a person on orders of a District Magistrate from the property of a senior citizen.
- Q. The court's heart is in the right place as it goes all out in favour of senior citizens in distress over disputes relating to their rights for protection of life and property against transgression by their children and other close relatives.
- R. This is evident from a large number of court verdicts that have supported the elderly in matters of conflict between them and their relatives across the country in the past decade.
- S. Upholding the spirit of this sentiment is the latest ruling of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, restoring the powers of eviction to maintenance tribunals set up under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act.
- A. SRPQ      B.QRSP      C.SRQP      D.SPRQ
- 14. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. and the collective net of journalistic safeguards is cast cautiously even for those independent journalists who work without the protection and privilege of large media brands
- Q. Still, outside the walls of well-guarded establishments, individual YouTubers and digital media reporters await the fate of Ram Chander Chhatrapati,
- R. There are times aplenty when journalists forcefully defend fellow truth-seekers against disproportionate and illegitimate use of force by law enforcement agencies;
- S. the editor of Poora Sach of Sirsa, who paid the price of honest, investigative journalism with his life
- A. RPSQ      B.PSRQ      C.RPQS      D.PQSR
- 15. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. During October-November, farm fires contribute significantly to the poor air quality of the NCR, which is among the most polluted areas of the world.
- Q. As dense smog and haze once again envelope the northern region, the burning question of the authorities' inability to combat the situation assails the citizens, who experience the debilitating effects of air pollution year after year.
- R. In fact, the ground reality portends a yawning gap between the steps purported to have been taken to deter/incentivise the farmers from setting ablaze stubble and the veracity of the claims.



S. For, it is certain that if the alternatives given were viable, no peasant would have willingly set aflame the stubble and exposed himself and his fellowmen to the health risks posed by the noxious fumes and particulate matter polluting the air and travelling afar with the wind.

- A. QRSP      B.QSRP      C.PSQR      D.PRQS

### Comprehension

This hermeneutical concept of culture can be \_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_ to be at the heart of the celebration of the World Cultural Diversity Day, where “cultures need to assemble, and not resemble each other”, as a UN secretary-general put it. Viewing culture as a global public good and setting it within the framework of sustainable development, is a unique UNESCO initiative. In the realisation that cultures and subcultures may flow into each other \_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_ in the modern world, it holds up a multiplicity of perspectives, each to be valued and treasured by the other.

This notion of the \_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_ of diverse ideas and cultures has, of course, characterised the \_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_ mind since time immemorial. Indic thought has constantly returned to this theme of synthesis, and not just in thought but in every aspect of life. Every idea and every culture has been celebrated, even through turbulent times, such has been the Upanishadic vision laid \_\_\_\_\_ by the ancients. Sri Aurobindo saw a spiritual aspiration as the “governing force of this culture, its core of thought”.

16. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1.**

- A. Seen
- B. Saw
- C. Argue
- D. Underlied

17. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.**

- A. Grossly
- B. Seamlessly
- C. Simultaneously
- D. Precipitously

18. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.**

- A. Assimilation
- B. Realisation
- C. Observation
- D. Resolution

19. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.**

- A. Holistic
- B. Humongous
- C. Indic
- D. Tactic

20. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 5.**

- A. Up
- B. By
- C. To
- D. Down

## Answers

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

## Explanations

1. C) The editorial mentions that Boris Johnson resigned as a lawmaker after a House committee investigating the 'Partygate' scandal found that he had misled Parliament. Therefore, option (c) is the correct answer.
2. **B) Boris Johnson's refusal to accept accountability for his actions and his continued political attacks are causing further instability within the Conservative Party.**  
 The correct answer demonstrates critical thinking by evaluating Boris Johnson's behaviors and their potential impact on the Conservative Party. The passage indicates that his lack of accountability and continued attacks, particularly on Rishi Sunak, have destabilized the Conservative Party. Options A, C, and D either misinterpret the passage or include details not mentioned or implied in the editorial (e.g., Johnson's public support level or his motivation for resignation).
3. **C) The options ii, iii are all supported by the passage.**  
 The passage makes it clear that Boris Johnson showed a "disregard for accountability", refusing to take responsibility for breaking lockdown rules and lying to Parliament. Hence, the statement i is incorrect
4. B) The editorial suggests that Boris Johnson accused the committee of a 'witch hunt' and slammed the report as 'revenge for Brexit', indicating that he rejected the accusations and did not go quietly. Hence, the correct answer is option (b).
5. **B) Critical**  
 The passage demonstrates a critical tone as it presents a scrutinizing view of Boris Johnson's actions and his political career. The author criticizes his lack of accountability, the scandals he was involved in, and the potential damage he could inflict on the Conservative Party. Words and phrases such as "abject disregard for accountability", "the mess he left behind", and "he has already done enough damage to the Tories" exemplify this tone.
6. **C) The fall of Boris Johnson and its repercussions on the Conservative Party**  
 The passage primarily focuses on Boris Johnson's political downfall, including his resignation amidst a scandal and the resultant challenges faced by the Conservative Party. The author discusses Johnson's lack of accountability, his potential plans for a political comeback, and the uncertain future of the Tories, making this the central theme of the passage.
7. **B) Exaggeration**  
 In the passage, the term 'hyperbole'(अतिशयोक्ति) refers to exaggerated statements or claims made by Boris Johnson. Thus, the synonym for 'hyperbole' in this context is 'exaggeration'.
8. **B) Rebellion**  
 In this context, "**revolt**" refers to a refusal to accept authority or control. So, the term 'rebellion' is a synonym for 'revolt' as both suggest a form of resistance or defiance.

9. C) Let us bid farewell to our seniors.

10. A) persevere - दृढ़ रहना

Explanation: In this context, "persevere" means to persist in doing something even in the face of difficulty or obstacles. It is the most appropriate option for the sentence, as the person is continuing to work despite being ill. The other options do not fit the context and convey different meanings.

11. D) **PRQS**

**P:** The paragraph starts with the sentence 'P' which describes the introduction of a 33 per cent reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), expressing the expectation for socio-political reform and the slow but definite change

**R:** Next, sentence 'R' expands on the topic, addressing the active participation by women and the passage of a new bill seeking to ensure that 50 per cent of seats are kept for women in the PRIs. This continues the narrative of increasing women's representation in local governance

**Q:** Then, sentence 'Q' provides specific details about how this reservation system will work in practice, and how it might even result in transgender individuals holding office

**S:** Finally, sentence 'S' indicates that this new rule will be applicable in future elections across various levels of local government, providing a fitting conclusion that generalizes the information presented in 'Q' to a broader context

12. A) **SQRP**

**S:** The paragraph starts with sentence S as it introduces the topic of the National Green Tribunal's ban on firecrackers. It forms a base for the subsequent statements.

**Q:** Next, sentence Q follows naturally from S by providing the rationale behind the NGT's decision: combating the twin threat of the Covid-19 pandemic and air pollution.

**R:** Sentence R builds on this by expanding the scope of the ban to all cities and towns with poor air quality in November 2019. It continues the topic from Q, adding further information about the extent of the ban

**P:** Finally, sentence P provides specific examples of regions where similar bans have been put in place due to public health concerns, thus providing concrete support to the discussion in the previous sentences. It acts as a solid conclusion because it shows that this approach is not only theoretically good but is also being practically implemented.

13. B) **QRSP**

**Q:** The paragraph begins with sentence Q, introducing the idea that the court supports the rights and protections of senior citizens.

**R:** Sentence R expands upon this by citing previous instances of court verdicts that have favoured the elderly, thus creating a logical link between these sentences.

**S:** Sentence S then introduces the latest ruling by the Punjab and Haryana High Court, providing a current example of such support.

**P:** Finally, sentence P provides more specific context to this ruling and its departure from a previous judgment, thereby concluding the paragraph with a significant point about the recent change in the court's approach.

14. **C) RPQS**

**R:** The sentence R introduces the main theme of the paragraph: the situation of journalists defending truth-seekers against excessive force.

**P:** Sentence P further develops the idea presented in sentence R, by illustrating the caution journalists take to protect even those who are independent and lack the protection of large media brands.

**Q:** Sentence Q adds a transition, introducing a specific instance of the broad idea discussed earlier, while also linking it to the broader theme of journalists under threat.

**S:** Finally, sentence S concludes the paragraph by providing the specific details about Ram Chander Chhatrapati, a journalist who paid a heavy price for his work.

15. **A) QRSP**

**Q:** The coherent paragraph starts with sentence Q, setting the scene of the air pollution issue in the northern region, and questioning the effectiveness of authorities in dealing with it.

**R:** Sentence R follows this up by giving more depth to the problem, focusing on the gap between the actions that have been reported to deter farmers from burning stubble and the reality.

**S:** Sentence S then builds on this by arguing that farmers wouldn't have chosen to burn their stubble if they were given viable alternatives, underlining the health risks involved.

**P:** Lastly, sentence P caps off the paragraph by describing the role that farm fires play in the pollution issue during the October-November period. Thus, the correct order is QRSP.

16. **A)** The verb "seen" is used after "can be" to form the passive voice, indicating that the action of the sentence happens to the subject, rather than the subject performing the action. "Can be seen" is a passive construction indicating that some observer or general consensus perceives the situation in a certain way.

**Argue** (verb) – Debate, discuss, dispute, contend, say, maintain तर्क-वितर्क करना

**Underlie** (verb) – Form the basis for, underpin, support, आधार बनना

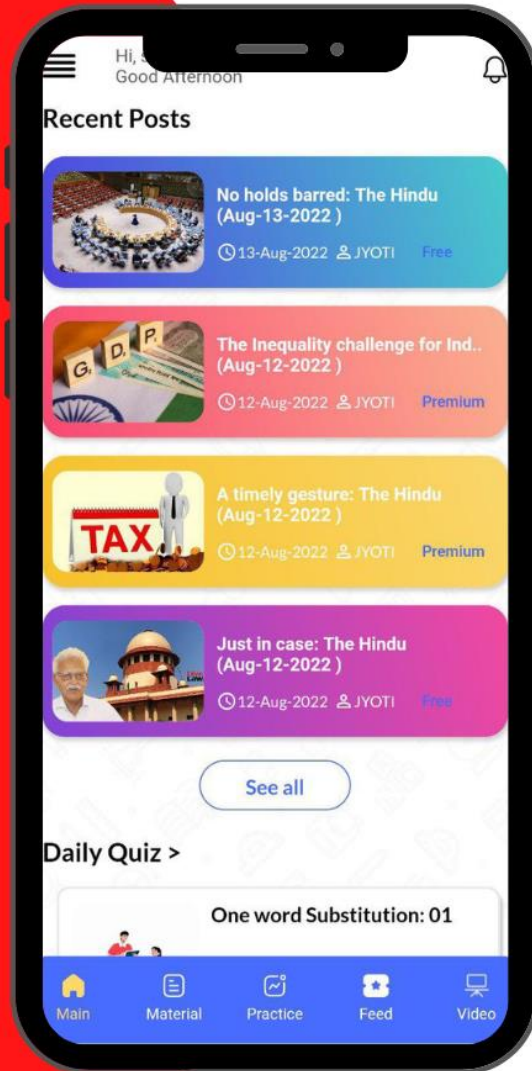
17. **B)** The word "**seamlessly**" fits best in blank, indicating that cultures and subcultures may merge into each other without noticeable disruption or boundaries.

**Seamlessly** (adverb) – Smoothly, flawlessly, without interruption, continuously, uninterrupted सहजता से

- **Grossly** (adverb) – Extremely, excessively, overly, enormously अत्यधिक
- **Simultaneously** (adverb) – Concurrently, at the same time, together, simultaneously समानांतर रूप से
- **Precipitously** (adverb) – Steeply, sharply, abruptly, अचानक

18. A) It refers to the process of understanding or fully comprehending an object or idea. In this context, it fits with the idea of different cultures absorbing and integrating with one another.
- Assimilation** (noun) – Integration, incorporation, absorption, inclusion, amalgamation समाहार
- Realisation** (noun) – Awareness, understanding, comprehension, recognition, acknowledgment समझ
- Observation** (noun) – a statement based on something one has seen, heard, or noticed टिप्पणी
- Resolution** (noun) – a firm decision or solution समाधान
19. The term "Indic" is most suitable for blank, which refers to something relating to India. The context mentions "Indic thought", implying it is referring to traditional Indian philosophical thought.
- C) Indic** (adjective) – Of or relating to Indian भारतीय
- Holistic** (adjective) – Comprehensive, total, all-inclusive, integrated समग्र
- Humongous** (adjective) – Huge, enormous, massive, gigantic विशाल
- Tactic** (noun) – Strategy, plan, approach, method, manoeuvre, रणनीति
20. **D)** The most appropriate word to fill in blank is "down". In this context, the phrase "laid down by the ancients" means established or put into place by the ancients. "Up", "by", and "to" would not be grammatically correct in this context
- Lay down** (phrasal verb) – Establish, dictate, set, prescribe, impose निर्धारित करना





# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

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