

On the moon, over the moon

Chandrayaan-3 **signals** the launch of India's time in space **exploration**

At 5.40 p.m. on August 23, the Chandrayaan-3 lander was a 1.7-tonne **hunk** of metal, plastic, and glass speeding in an orbit some 30 km above the moon. But in the next 23 minutes, it had made history by slowing down, righting itself, and — guided by a **suite** of sensors and **actuators** — gently **descending** to the moon's surface. As it touched down shortly after 6 p.m., people gathered at the various Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) centres, and across India were **jubilant**. India is only the fourth country in history to have soft-landed a spacecraft on the moon, and the first to have done so in the moon's South Polar region. The **feat illustrated** a simple fact of complex space flight missions: **by virtue of their enormous hunger** for resources but at the same time capacity for **caprice**, succeeding at them is **indistinguishable** from a **triumph** of human **will**. That is why they are capable of **galvanising** people — as Chandrayaan-3 has now done for India. The immediate **implication** of the Chandrayaan-3 lander now sitting on the moon **is** that ISRO took away the right lessons from the failure of the **preceding** mission, Chandrayaan-2. In September 2019, as the Chandrayaan-2 lander was 2.1 km above the **lunar** surface, ISRO lost contact. Based on data **transmitted** by the lander until then and that from other sources, including the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter, ISRO **pieced together** the **distal** causes of the lander's **premature demise**. Experts at ISRO then modified 21 subsystems to **give rise to** the upgraded Chandrayaan-3 lander. **The latter** is particularly **distinguished** by the **redundancies** built into it: if one component or process had failed, another would likely have **taken over**.

Taking a broader view of time, Chandrayaan-3 sits at an important **juncture**. India is now a member of **the Artemis Accords**, the U.S.-led **multilateral** effort to place humans on the moon by 2025 and thereafter to expand human space exploration to the earth's wider **neighbourhood** in the solar system. **Given** the firsts that India has now achieved, it has an opportunity to lead the other Artemis countries interested in maximising the contributions of the space sector to their **economies**, alongside the U.S. While Russia and India were not racing to **land** on the moon this week, the **failure** of Russia's Luna-25 spacecraft on August 19 **foretells** the country's ability to contribute in more limited **fashion**, in this **decade** at least, to the International Lunar Research Station programme, which it leads together with China as a **parallel axis** to the Artemis Accords. With Chandrayaan-3, India has also **demonstrated** familiarity with the major types of **interplanetary** spacecraft: orbiters, landers, and rovers. The Chandrayaan-3 rover is **rudimentary**, and **speaks to** an important focus area for the Indian space programme: the planning and implementation of scientific missions. The **data** from Chandrayaan-3's scientific instruments **will** be crucial because the mission will be the first to physically, chemically, and thermally **characterise** the soil, **subsoil**, and air near the moon's South Pole on location. India has some measure of technological **superiority** now compared to most other **space-faring** countries, and it should **press the advantage** by going to more places in the solar system and conducting **stellar** science. The better space-based scientific **instruments** currently operated by India

are largely **concerned** with earth-observation and remote-sensing; **AstroSat** is a **notable** exception as the **forthcoming** Aditya-L1, XPoSAt, and NISAR missions are expected to be. In the relatively recent past, Chandrayaan-1 was scientifically **well-equipped** whereas the Mars Orbiter Mission had **room** for improvement (it was a technology **demonstrator** but at the same time it did get to Mars). Better science results demand more investment in research, both in the public and private sectors, rather than spending cuts, and mission design that puts scientific **outcomes** before engineering **thresholds** and **launchability**.

The landing also **brings to a close** the second phase of India's lunar exploration programme. The third phase will begin with a **collaboration** between ISRO and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) for the Lunar Polar Exploration (LUPEX) mission, which also involves a lander and a rover that will study water-ice at the moon's South Pole. LUPEX is **set to** use the landing system that ISRO developed for Chandrayaan-2 and -3. This is an important reason why the failure of the surface component of the Chandrayaan-2 mission placed its **successor** under great pressure. It is notable that this is the **gear** that Russia was to provide for Chandrayaan-2, but could not in the **aftermath** of its **ill-fated** Fobos-Grunt mission in 2011, **prompting** ISRO to develop one on its own. Finally, ISRO is on a roughly fixed path **vis-à-vis** future missions from which **deviations** — such as those **as a result of** Chandrayaan-2 and the COVID-19 pandemic, but also the **sluggish** production of rockets — **are** financially and politically expensive. The **success** of Chandrayaan-3 **gives** ISRO the confidence to **graduate** to the next steps: satellites powered by electric motors, quantum communications, human space flight, reusable launch vehicles, planetary **habitation**, and interplanetary communications, **to name a few**. The **commerce** of space also demands a greater launch **cadence** and lower launch costs. Private sector **contributions** to many of these **aspects will** be crucial, especially to **accelerate** innovation and open new **vistas** in which this renewed **vector** of human **enterprise** can contribute to India's development. India is over the moon. From now on, ISRO will have the chance to **lead from the front**.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Signal** (verb) – indicate, express, announce, declare, show संकेत करना
2. **Exploration** (noun) – investigation, examination, study, probe, inquiry अन्वेषण
3. **Hunk** (noun) – piece, chunk, lump, segment, portion टुकड़ा
4. **Suite** (noun) – set, collection, grouping, arrangement, sequence समूह
5. **Actuator** (noun) – A device that causes a machine or other device to operate.
6. **Descend** (verb) – drop, fall, plunge, sink, decline उतरना
7. **Jubilant** (adjective) – ecstatic, delighted, elated, overjoyed, thrilled प्रफुल्लित, उल्लसित
8. **Feat** (noun) – achievement, accomplishment, deed, exploit, triumph उपलब्धि
9. **Illustrate** (verb) – depict, demonstrate, show, exemplify, represent चित्रित करना
10. **By virtue of** (phrase) – because of, thanks to, due to, on account of के कारण
11. **Enormous** (adjective) – huge, massive, vast, gigantic, colossal विशाल
12. **Hunger** (noun) – desire, craving, appetite, longing, yearning इच्छा/ चाह
13. **Caprice** (noun) – whim, fancy, impulse, unpredictability सनक
14. **Indistinguishable** (adjective) – identical, alike, undifferentiable, indiscernible, similar अभिन्न
15. **Triumph** (noun) – victory, win, success, conquest, achievement विजय
16. **Will** (noun) – determination, resolve, resolution, intention, drive इच्छा
17. **Galvanise** (verb) – stimulate, energize, electrify, invigorate, spark प्रेरित करना
18. **Implication** (noun) – inference, indication, suggestion, insinuation, intimation निहितार्थ
19. **Preceding** (adjective) – previous, prior, earlier, foregoing, antecedent पिछले
20. **Lunar** (adjective) – relating to the moon चंद्रमा संबंधित
21. **Transmit** (verb) – convey, send, relay, broadcast, communicate प्रसारित करना
22. **Piece together** (phrasal verb) – to understand a story, situation, etc. by taking all the facts and details about it and putting them together. समझना
23. **Distal** (adjective) – situated away from the point of attachment or origin or a central point. दूरस्थ

24. **Premature** (adjective) – early, untimely, ahead of time, precipitate असमयिक
25. **Demise** (noun) – end, failure, collapse. दुर्घटना, विनाश
26. **Give rise to** (phrase) – cause, produce, generate, bring about, lead to उत्पन्न करना
27. **The latter** (noun) – Chandrayaan-3 lander
28. **Distinguish** (verb) – differentiate, tell apart, discriminate, discern पहचानना; अंतर करना
29. **Redundancy** (noun) – superfluity, excess, surplus, sparseness, repetitiveness अतिरिक्त
30. **Take over** (phrasal verb) – assume control, acquire, take charge of, seize संभालना
31. **Juncture** (noun) – point, moment, occasion, phase, stage समय
32. **The Artemis Accords** (noun) – A series of bilateral agreements established by the United States with partnering nations for the purposes of ensuring responsible lunar exploration and activity.
33. **Multilateral** (adjective) – multi-sided, multiple, many-sided, collective, all-inclusive बहुपक्षीय
34. **Neighbourhood** (noun) – vicinity, locality, area, region, surroundings पड़ोस
35. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into account, in light of देखते हुए
36. **Economies** (noun) – Countries in terms of GDP अर्थव्यवस्था
37. **Land** (verb) – alight, arrive, come down, settle, touch down उतरना
38. **Foretell** (verb) – predict, foresee, prophesy, anticipate भविष्यवाणी करना
39. **Fashion** (noun) – manner, way, style, method, means तरीका
40. **Decade** (noun) – Period of ten years दशक
41. **Parallel** (adjective) – analogous, similar, comparable, akin, related समानांतर
42. **Axis** (noun) – alliance, coalition, bloc, union गुट
43. **Demonstrate** (verb) – show, display, reveal, manifest प्रदर्शित करना
44. **Interplanetary** (adjective) – between planets ग्रहों के बीच
45. **Rudimentary** (adjective) – basic, elemental, primary, introductory प्रारम्भिक
46. **Speak to** (phrasal verb) – address, discuss, touch on; discuss something officially अभिव्यक्त करना
47. **Characterise** (verb) – define, describe, mark, distinguish विशेषता देना
48. **Subsoil** (noun) – the layer of soil that is under the surface level.

49. **Superiority** (noun) – dominance, supremacy, ascendancy, pre-eminence
श्रेष्ठता
50. **Space-faring** (adjective) – space traveling, space-exploring अंतरिक्ष यात्री
51. **Press the advantage** (phrase) – capitalize on an opportunity, utilize a favorable position लाभ उठाना
52. **Stellar** (adjective) – exceptional, outstanding, excellent तारकीय
53. **Concerned** (adjective) – involved, related, connected संबंधित
54. **AstroSat** (noun) – India's first dedicated multi-wavelength space observatory.
55. **Notable** (adjective) – noteworthy, remarkable, outstanding उल्लेखनीय
56. **Forthcoming** (adjective) – upcoming, imminent, approaching आनेवाला/ आगामी
57. **Well-equipped** (adjective) – well-prepared, well-set-up, fully furnished अच्छी तरह से सुसज्जित
58. **Room** (noun) – space, area, capacity, scope गुंजाइश
59. **Demonstrator** (noun) –A person who shows how a particular piece of equipment works or who shows how something is done. प्रदर्शक
60. **Outcome** (noun) – result, conclusion, consequence परिणाम
61. **Threshold** (noun) – limit, boundary, starting point सीमा
62. **Launchability** (noun) –The capability or suitability of something to be launched, especially in the context of spacecraft.
63. **Bring to a close** (phrase) – conclude, terminate, end, finish, wrap up समाप्त करना
64. **Collaboration** (noun) – partnership, alliance, cooperation, joint venture सहयोग
65. **Set** (to) (adjective) – Be ready to do something तैयार
66. **Successor** (noun) – something that comes after another thing
67. **Gear** (noun) – equipment, apparatus, machinery, tackle उपकरण
68. **Aftermath** (noun) – consequence, result, outcome, repercussion दुष्परिणाम
69. **Ill-fated** (adjective) – unlucky, cursed, doomed, ill-omened दुर्भाग्यशाली
70. **Prompt** (verb) – cause, lead to, bring about, instigate प्रेरित करना
71. **Vis-à-vis** (preposition) – in relation to, concerning, regarding के संबंध में

72. **Deviation** (noun) – divergence, departure, difference, variance विचलन
73. **As a result of** (phrase) – due to, owing to, because of के कारण
74. **Sluggish** (adjective) – slow, lethargic, listless, inactive सुस्त
75. **Graduate** (verb) – progress, advance, move up, go forward प्रगति करना
76. **Habitation** (noun) – residence, dwelling, living place निवास
77. **To name a few** (phrase) – as examples, for instance, such as कुछ उदाहरण के रूप में
78. **Commerce** (noun) – trade, trading, business, buying and selling व्यापार
79. **Cadence** (noun) – rhythm, beat, tempo, pace ताल/ लय
80. **Aspect** (noun) – feature, facet, dimension, side पहलू
81. **Accelerate** (verb) – speed up, hasten, quicken, expedite तेज़ करना
82. **Vista** (noun) – view, prospect, panorama, scene दृश्य
83. **Vector** (noun) – a course to be taken by an aircraft. मार्ग
84. **Enterprise** (noun) – activity, venture, pursuit, endeavour. जोखिम का काम, व्यवहार-कुशलता
85. **lead from the front** (phrase) – to act or behave in a way that guides or inspires others; to take a leadership role in a proactive manner सामने से नेतृत्व करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Chandrayaan-3 Lander's Achievement:** At 5:40 p.m. on August 23, Chandrayaan-3, a 1.7-tonne spacecraft, successfully landed on the moon.
2. **A Historical Moment for India:** This made India the fourth nation to achieve a soft landing on the moon and the first to land in the moon's South Polar region.
3. **Triumph of Human Will:** The success represents more than just technological achievement; it's a testament to human determination.
4. **Reaction in India:** The nation celebrated with jubilation at ISRO centers and throughout the country.
5. **Learning from Past Failures:** This success indicated that ISRO learned and rectified the issues from Chandrayaan-2, which had failed in 2019, 2.1 km above the lunar surface.
6. **Improvements in Chandrayaan-3:** ISRO modified 21 subsystems from Chandrayaan-2 to make Chandrayaan-3, ensuring redundancies were in place for better chances of success.
7. **Artemis Accords Participation:** India's achievement and participation in the Artemis Accords signifies a strong position in global lunar exploration plans.
8. **Comparison with Russia's Efforts:** While India succeeded, Russia's Luna-25 failed, casting doubt on its contribution to lunar exploration in the near future.
9. **India's Technological Familiarity:** With Chandrayaan-3, India showcased expertise in orbiters, landers, and rovers, asserting its space capabilities.
10. **Scientific Importance of Chandrayaan-3:** The mission will provide first-hand data about the soil, subsoil, and air near the moon's South Pole.
11. **Push for More Space Exploration:** The editorial urges India to capitalize on its current momentum and expand its exploration within the solar system.
12. **Call for Investment:** There's a need for greater investment in space research, both public and private, and ensuring scientific goals are prioritized.
13. **Third Phase of Lunar Exploration:** The next phase includes collaboration with Japan's JAXA for the Lunar Polar Exploration (LUPEX) mission.
14. **Future Challenges for ISRO:** With the success of Chandrayaan-3, the editorial underscores the importance of ISRO continuing to innovate, highlighting goals like human space flight, reusable launch vehicles, and interplanetary communications.
15. **Role of the Private Sector:** The editorial emphasizes the importance of private sector contributions for quicker innovations and to pave the way for India's leadership role in space exploration.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following statements best captures the significance of the Chandrayaan-3 mission for India?** [Editorial Page]
- (i) Chandrayaan-3 only validated the functionality of ISRO's sensors and actuators.
 - (ii) Chandrayaan-3 marked India's first attempt to land a spacecraft on the moon.
 - (iii) The successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 showed that ISRO learned from the failure of Chandrayaan-2.
 - (iv) Chandrayaan-3 primarily focused on the moon's North Polar region.
- A. Only (ii)
 - B. Only (i)
 - C. Only iii
 - D. All of the above
2. **According to the passage, all of the following are true about the Chandrayaan-3 EXCEPT that:**
- A. It landed in the moon's South Polar region, being the first to do so.
 - B. The Chandrayaan-3 landing signaled India's entry into space exploration.
 - C. ISRO made no modifications to the subsystems of Chandrayaan-3 after the failure of Chandrayaan-2.
 - D. If one component of Chandrayaan-3 failed, there was a backup system in place to take over.
3. **What is India's potential role among the Artemis countries based on its achievements as described in the passage?**
- A. Following the lead of other countries in space exploration.
 - B. Taking a backseat in human space exploration.
 - C. Leading other Artemis countries in maximizing space sector contributions to their economies.
 - D. Contributing minimally to the Artemis Accords.
4. **What is a primary focus area for the Indian space programme, as highlighted by the nature of the Chandrayaan-3 rover?**
- A. Improving engineering capabilities and launchability.
 - B. Planning and implementing scientific missions.
 - C. Collaborating exclusively with Russia for lunar missions.
 - D. Building more technologically superior rovers than other countries
5. **What is the tone of the passage?**
- A. Pessimistic
 - B. Jubilant and proud
 - C. Neutral
 - D. Critical
6. **Which of the following words is closest in meaning to "galvanising" as used in the passage?**
- A. Stagnating
 - B. Motivating
 - C. Dissuading

- D. Suppressing
7. **Select the most appropriate idiom (in the context) to fill in the sentence.**
Making the final paper was a really difficult task but by the end of the week, I was able to _____.
- A. bark up the wrong tree
 - B. wrap my head around it
 - C. cry my eyes out
 - D. run out of steam
8. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active/passive voice**
Do not take the coastal road during monsoons.
- A. You are not taking the coastal road during monsoons.
 - B. You will not take the coastal road during monsoons.
 - C. Coastal road is not being taken during monsoons.
 - D. Coastal roads should not be taken during monsoons
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
The sky is quite overcast. We're _____ to have rain today.
- A. likely
 - B. mostly
 - C. surely
 - D. probably
10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom**
She decided to ***take up the gauntlet*** and confront her critics directly.
- A. To decline politely
 - B. To accept a challenge
 - C. To hide the truth
 - D. To make a mistake
11. **Some sentences are given below. While the first and the last sentences (1 and 2) are in the correct order, the sentences in between are jumbled up. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph**
1. The withdrawal of the ₹2,000 note from circulation by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which it announced on May 19, 2023, marks the end of a sordid chapter in the tragi-comic demonetisation saga.
 - A. The presence of the ₹2,000 note in circulation was a constant reminder of the horrors of a "nation in the queue".
 - B. For the beleaguered government, the chapter on the ₹2,000 note had to be closed.
 - C. The note was also an object of ridicule, particularly due to bizarre claims at the time of its introduction, of a nano chip implanted in it.
 2. With fresh printing of the note stopped after 2018-19, its eventual withdrawal was expected.
 - A. BCA
 - B. ABC
 - C. ACB
 - D. CBA
12. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**

- P. The issue of manufacturing or services as the desirable path for India's economy makes the rounds in public fora periodically.
- Q. The frustration of the Indian economic policy maker can be well understood.
- R. This proposal challenged the standard model of economic development, for, in most successful economies, industrial expansion had come first.
- S. In the early part of this century, when India's software exports were booming, it had been asked why India's services sector should not leapfrog over manufacturing to propel the economy forward.

A. PSQR B.PSRQ C.SRQP D.PRQS

13. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.

- P. Allegiances are mostly fluid and the emotional connect with a team, even after 16 long years of the tournament, still lacks intensity
- Q. That lead to the chopping and changing of outfits are essential to maintain competitive balance
- R. This is perhaps because the show is largely controlled by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), which believes that periodic auctions
- S. The Indian Premier League (IPL), by design, doesn't quite lend itself to European football-like sports fandom

A. RPQS B.RSPQ C.SRQP D.SPRQ

14. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.

- P. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate had stumbled upon irregularities in recruitment by municipalities while investigating the alleged scam in school jobs in the State.
- Q. Matters pertaining to the West Bengal recruitment scam are keeping the Calcutta High Court busy even during summer vacation.
- R. Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay, who has been hearing the school recruitment case, had directed an investigation by the central agencies into recruitments to municipalities on April 21.
- S. On May 22, a Vacation Bench of the court declined to issue an interim stay on an investigation by central agencies into the alleged scam in the recruitment of employees to seven municipalities.

A. QSPR B.PSRQ C.QSRP D.PQSR

15. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.

- P. In quantum computing, it needs to catch up in the area of graphene
- Q. What Artificial Intelligence (AI) is to software and quantum computing is to computers, graphene is to materials
- R. While India is among the leaders in AI and a potential challenger
- S. These three emerging technologies will disrupt the existing human-machine interface in the next couple of decades

A. SPRQ B.PSRQ C.QSRP D.PQSR

16. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.

- P. But it is rare for individuals, or the tribe, or even Nepal to feature in a congregation of Buddhists such as the Global Buddhist Summit, which took place in New Delhi in April.
- Q. Every Shakya is engaged in a different path today, yet is bound by one phenomenon.
- R. Realisations like these prompt a closer look at why growing superpowers, India and China, are defining their own versions of the future of Buddhism and using it as a tool of soft power.
- S. I am a Shakya from Nepal, a supposed descendant of Siddhartha Shakya, who went on to be known as the Buddha.
- A. SQPR B.PSRQ C.QSRP D.QPSR

Comprehension

After facing prior charges relating to hush money paid to cover up an affair and the illegal _____1_____ of top-secret documents, former U.S. President Donald Trump has been indicted for the third time. The most recent _____2_____ charges stem from allegations that he sought to block the peaceful transfer of power by seeking to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election, which current President Joe Biden won. The four charges at this _____3_____ include conspiracy to defraud, witness tampering, conspiracy against the rights of citizens, and obstruction of and attempt to obstruct an official proceeding. The obstruction charges relate to the actions of Mr. Trump on January 6, 2021, when he is alleged to have _____4_____ a violent mob to march on the Capitol buildings in Washington even as lawmakers were meeting there to certify the election results, as required by law.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

17. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1.**
- A. Demolition
B. Retention
C. Apprehension
D. Inspection
18. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.**
- A. Scrutiny
B. Felony
C. Transparency
D. Obscurity
19. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.**
- A. Structure
B. Closure
C. Divergence
D. Juncture
20. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.**
- A. Involved
B. Incited
C. Unsettled
D. Fenced

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. C) The successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 showed that ISRO learned from the failure of Chandrayaan-2.
The passage emphasizes the significance of Chandrayaan-3's successful landing as a testament to ISRO's learning from the previous mission's failure. After losing contact with Chandrayaan-2 just 2.1 km above the lunar surface, ISRO investigated the reasons and then made necessary changes in 21 subsystems. This resulted in the creation of the upgraded Chandrayaan-3 lander, which has built-in redundancies to ensure successful operation. This demonstrates that the Chandrayaan-3 mission's success was a product of lessons learned from the prior mission's failure, making option (iii) the best choice.
2. **C) ISRO made no modifications to the subsystems of Chandrayaan-3 after the failure of Chandrayaan-2.**
The passage mentions that the Chandrayaan-2 lander faced failure and based on the data and information from that mission, ISRO made modifications to 21 subsystems to create the upgraded Chandrayaan-3 lander. Hence, the statement in option C is not true according to the passage
3. **C. Leading other Artemis countries in maximizing space sector contributions to their economies.**
The passage states: "Given the firsts that India has now achieved, it has an opportunity to lead the other Artemis countries interested in maximising the contributions of the space sector to their economies, alongside the U.S."
4. **B. Planning and implementing scientific missions.**
The passage mentions: "The Chandrayaan-3 rover is rudimentary, and speaks to an important focus area for the Indian space programme: the planning and implementation of scientific missions." This indicates that India's primary focus in terms of its space program is on the scientific aspects and objectives of their missions.
5. **B) Jubilant and proud**
The passage presents a tone of jubilation and pride as it recounts the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 by India, emphasizing the historical significance of the achievement, the learning curve from the previous mission's failure, and India's growing presence in space exploration.
6. B) **Motivating**
In the passage, "**galvanising**" is used in the context of space missions having the power to excite and stimulate people's interest. "**Motivating**" means providing a reason or incentive for someone to act in a certain way, making it a synonym for "galvanising".

7. B) **Wrap my head around it** (phrase) – To understand or fully comprehend a difficult or complex concept, idea, or situation.
- **Bark up the wrong tree** (phrase) – To pursue a mistaken or misguided course of action; to make a false assumption or accusation. गलत विचार रखना
 - **Cry my eyes out** (phrase) – To weep or cry uncontrollably or excessively, usually due to extreme sadness or emotional distress.
 - **Run out of steam** (phrase) – To lose energy, enthusiasm, or momentum, often resulting in the inability to continue or complete a task or project. उत्साह खत्म होना
8. D) Coastal roads should not be taken during monsoons.
9. A) "likely," is the most appropriate option to fill in the blank because it conveys a sense of probability without being too certain. The given sentence, "The sky is quite overcast," provides evidence that rain may occur but doesn't guarantee it. "Likely" captures this nuance well by indicating that there is a high chance of rain, but it's not absolutely certain
Option D, "probably," is similar to "likely" in conveying a sense of probability. However, "likely" is a more suitable choice because it is more commonly used in the context of weather predictions and is less casual in tone.
10. B) **Take up the gauntlet** (phrase) – To accept a challenge: चुनौती स्वीकार करना
11. C) **1ACB2**
- 1:** Sentence 1 introduces the "₹2,000 note" and its withdrawal. Sentence A continues the topic by discussing the presence of this ₹2,000 note in circulation.
- A:** Sentence A builds on Sentence 1 by describing what the ₹2,000 note represented when it was in circulation. The phrase "constant reminder" indicates the significance of the ₹2,000 note's continued existence and its associations.
- C:** This sentence continues the theme of the negative aspects associated with the ₹2,000 note. The word "also" in Sentence C is a clue that it builds upon the previous negative sentiment expressed in Sentence A.
- B:** Sentence B logically follows Sentence C as it provides a conclusion regarding the government's standpoint on the ₹2,000 note. The use of "had to be closed" gives the sense that after all the negative associations and ridicule, there was no other choice but to end the circulation of this note.
- 2:** This sentence provides a factual and logical conclusion to the sequence. It justifies why the move from the RBI was predictable.
12. B) **PSRQ**
- P - S:** P mentions the periodic debate about whether "manufacturing or services" is the best path for India's economy. S provides a specific historical context to the debate, pointing out a time "in the early part of this century" when there was a suggestion for the services sector to surpass manufacturing. Hence, S logically follows P to give a specific instance of the broader debate mentioned in P.
- S - R:** S ends with the idea of India's services sector leapfrogging over manufacturing.

R begins with "This proposal," which is referring back to the proposal mentioned in S (i.e., the idea of the services sector leapfrogging manufacturing).

Additionally, R provides a challenge to this proposal by indicating that it went against the typical economic development model. Therefore, R logically follows S because it provides a response to the proposal raised in S.

R - Q: After presenting the challenge in R, Q sheds light on the dilemma or frustration of the Indian economic policy maker. This frustration likely stems from the challenges and debates surrounding the right path for India's economic development (as mentioned in the previous sentences). Hence, Q logically follows R as it provides an emotional or situational context to the debate.

13. D) **SPRQ**

S: Sentence S introduces the Indian Premier League (IPL) and its design, which makes it a good introductory sentence. It sets the context for the whole paragraph.

S-P: Sentence P expands upon the statement in S by explaining why the emotional connections in IPL are not as strong. This suggests a logical flow from the introductory context (IPL's design) to its impact (fluid allegiances). The phrase "even after 16 long years of the tournament" suggests a time sequence as well, elaborating on the issues introduced in S.

P-R: Sentence R provides a reason for the fluid allegiances mentioned in P. The word "This" in R is a pronoun that refers back to the subject in P, indicating a noun-pronoun relationship. Additionally, R mentions BCCI, an acronym that is related to the IPL, helping to explain why the IPL is designed the way it is (i.e., lacking strong fandom).

R-Q: Sentence Q elaborates on the "periodic auctions" mentioned in R by explaining their purpose. The phrase "that lead to the chopping and changing of outfits" logically continues the thought from R about periodic auctions. The word "That" serves as a relative pronoun linking back to "periodic auctions," thus forming a coherent flow.

14. A) **QSPR**

Q: This sentence introduces the topic (West Bengal recruitment scam) and mentions the Calcutta High Court's involvement.

S: The use of "the court" in this sentence is a pronoun reference that implies a noun-antecedent relationship with the Calcutta High Court mentioned in sentence Q. This is a reason to place S after Q. The word "Vacation Bench" also gives a hint related to the time sequence; it indicates an event that took place during the court's summer vacation (which was mentioned in Q).

P: The usage of "had stumbled upon" indicates a past perfect tense, suggesting that the event occurred before another past event, which in this case is the more recent investigation mentioned in sentence S. Hence, P should follow S.

R: The phrase "had directed an investigation" indicates an event that took place before the event mentioned in sentence S (which occurred on May 22). This suggests a time sequence placing R after P.

15. C) QSRP

Q: Q mentions "Artificial Intelligence (AI)" and introduces the acronym "AI". R uses the acronym "AI" indicating that Q should come before R for the acronym to make sense.

S: S mentions "the next couple of decades", which implies a future context. This could serve as a conclusion or a forward-looking statement after introducing a topic.

R: R talks specifically about India's position in AI and implies a comparison in another area, which is specified in P (quantum computing and graphene). So, R should precede P.

P: Sentence P "it" as a pronoun. "It" refers to "India" which is mentioned in R. This indicates R should come before P, because P mentions what "it" (India) needs to do.

16. A) SQPR

S: This sentence introduces the author's identity and connection to Buddha. It forms the foundation for the paragraph, making it an appropriate starting point.

Q: Building on the introduction, this sentence expands on the current state of the Shakyas. There's a natural progression from the history and lineage mentioned in sentence S to the current condition of the Shakyas, as described in sentence Q.

P: Sentence P talks about the rarity of the Shakya or Nepal being highlighted in global Buddhist events. The connective "But" in sentence P links back to the statements in S and Q, presenting a contrast.

R: This sentence follows P since it's a reflection on the current situation of Buddhism in global geopolitics, after the author mentions the situation of the Shakyas in global Buddhist events.

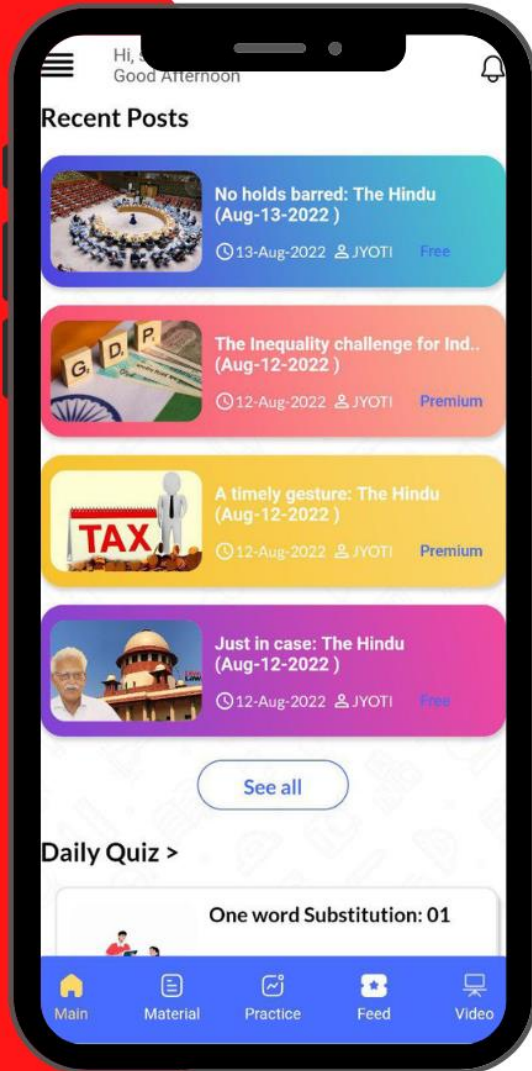
17. B) 'Retention' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "retention" का अर्थ होता है रख रखाव या संजीवनी। जबकि "demolition" का अर्थ है नष्ट करना, "apprehension" का अर्थ है समझ या डर, और "inspection" का अर्थ है जाँच, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- 'Retention' should be used because it means the act of retaining or keeping. Whereas, 'Demolition' means destruction, 'Apprehension' means understanding or fear, and 'Inspection' implies examination, which don't fit in this context.

18. 'B. Felony' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "felony" का अर्थ होता है एक गंभीर अपराध जो अधिकतम दंड के लिए पात्र है। संदर्भ में, पूर्व राष्ट्रपति पर आरोप लगाया गया है, जिससे यह स्पष्ट है कि यह एक अपराध संबंधित मामला है। 'Scrutiny' का अर्थ है ध्यान से देखना या मूल्यांकन करना, 'Transparency' का अर्थ है पारदर्शिता, और 'Obscurity' का अर्थ है अस्पष्टता या अज्ञातता, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- 'Felony' should be used because it means a serious crime that's punishable by severe penalties. In the context, former President is being accused, making it evident that it's a matter related to a crime. 'Scrutiny' means close observation or assessment, 'Transparency' means clarity, and 'Obscurity' means being unclear or unknown, which do not fit in this context.

19. D) 'Juncture' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "juncture" का अर्थ होता है विशेष बिंदु या समय। जबकि 'Structure' का अर्थ है धांचा, 'Closure' का अर्थ है समाप्ति, और 'Divergence' का अर्थ है विचलन, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- 'Juncture' should be used because it means a particular point in events or time. Whereas, 'Structure' means a framework or arrangement, 'Closure' means the act of closing, and 'Divergence' implies deviation or moving apart, which don't fit in this context.
20. B) 'Incited' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "incited" का अर्थ होता है प्रेरित करना या उत्तेजित करना। इस संदर्भ में, Trump ने एक हिंसक भीड़ को प्रेरित किया था Capitol पर प्रस्थान करने के लिए। 'Involved' का अर्थ होता है शामिल होना, 'Unsettled' का अर्थ होता है अस्थिर या परेशान करना, और 'Fenced' का अर्थ है बाड़ लगाना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- 'Incited' should be used because it means to provoke or stir up. In this context, Trump is said to have provoked a violent mob to march on the Capitol. Whereas, 'Involved' implies participation, 'Unsettled' means to disturb or make uneasy, and 'Fenced' means to enclose with a barrier, which don't fit in this context



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