

Going to the Moon and beyond

ISRO has **accomplished remarkable** progress in space exploration and requires more funding to **sustain** its work-

India successfully landed the Chandrayaan 3 spacecraft on the Moon last week. It is the fourth country to do so. Congratulations to ISRO for this achievement, which fills every Indian with **pride**. Scientists worldwide are especially interested in the Moon's South Pole region.

The Chandrayaan 3 success has **boosted** India's **soft power prestige**, especially **considering** its failed attempt in 2019. The victory is sweeter since it happened shortly after Russia's unsuccessful attempt at a **lunar** landing.

The United States was the first to land humans on the Moon in 1969. NASA, the American space research organisation, achieved this extraordinary **accomplishment** through the Apollo Program over 50 years ago. With technological **advancements**, the **interest** in **exploring** the Moon and the other planets **is** growing in other countries also.

We **owe** this moment of success to our great scientists and **visionary** leaders, such as our first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. The **contributions** of his **successors**, including Prime Minister Modi, **have** been **instrumental** in maintaining this success.

The Moon always **fascinated** us as kids. Many children innocently attempted to touch it. Our mothers and grandmothers shared beautiful stories. They **struck** a relationship with the Moon and called it Chandamama (Moon Uncle). Indians have known **astronomy** for centuries. There were **renowned astronomers** such as Aryabhata, Varahamihira, and Brahmagupta. Our **ancestors** held a **profound** respect for celestial bodies. They believed in a four-tiered universe consisting of the Earth, the middle region, Indra's heaven, and the higher heaven of the **immortals**. According to the Rig Veda, the Sun is at the centre of the solar system, with all other planets revolving around it.

People used the Moon's phases for centuries to make the lunar calendar. It was an **essential** tool in their daily lives. It's still noticeable today, even though it's not widely used anymore. Air Force pilot Rakesh Sharma made history by becoming the first Indian to **embark** on a space mission to the Salyut 7 space station, an invitation **extended** by the Soviets. His mission in 1984 **lasted** for seven days, twenty-one hours, and forty minutes. This accomplishment opened the doors to outer space research, **thanks to** the ISRO.

Even politicians use the Moon to **bribe** their voters. In the 2021 Tamil Nadu Assembly election campaign, Thulam Saravanan, an independent candidate, made an exceptional **pledge** to his voters. He promised a trip to the Moon if he won, but his voters knew it was **an empty promise**. What inspires individuals to **venture** into outer space? It's a natural **curiosity** and **fascination** with the

unknown. **Throughout** history, people have explored and discovered new **frontiers**. Our **quest** for planets outside our solar system **has** grown significantly in recent years.

Space exploration inspires motivation and provides better communication on robotics and advanced science. It also **facilitates collaboration** in science, technology, and diplomacy. Additionally, it can **enhance** resource **extraction**, human **habitation**, and long-term space-living research. Scientists believe there is water ice on the Moon. It could be utilized for fuel and living spaces. The **objective** of the Chandrayan 3 **is** to locate these deposits and study them.

The **possibility** of **establishing** a base on the Moon **is** also being explored. Studying the Moon is crucial for investigating other planets, including Mars. Technological advancements and lower exploration expenses have increased the Moon research. Utilizing the Moon as a launching platform promotes space tourism.

The **demand** for satellite imaging, positioning, and navigation data **is** high, **leading to** significant growth in the space economy. The global space industry will reach USD 546 billion by the year-end of 2023. India's space industry is valued at \$8 billion, representing just a 2% share of the global space economy. Since 1999, the country has launched 381 foreign satellites for 34 countries, earning \$279 million. With the success of the Chandrayan 3 Mission, there is **potential** for a further boost to India's space economy.

Exploring the Moon and other planets **is** a significant investment for the US and Russia. In July 2023, India joined China and Russia in the race to build **infrastructure** on the Moon with the development of the International Lunar Research Station. This Moon base is under construction.

India's space programme received early support from the US, Russia, and France. It has experienced both achievements and obstacles over time. Since its creation in the 1960s, ISRO has made **noteworthy** advancements and **strengthened** its partnership with NASA. Thanks to its cost-effective programs, it has conducted missions to explore the Moon and Mars, including Chandrayan3.

There is a debate about whether we should invest more money into space exploration or concentrate on solving problems here on Earth. Some people think that space research deserves more financial support, while others believe that we should **deal with** issues on our planet before anything else. **Nonetheless**, it's clear that ISRO has accomplished remarkable progress in space exploration and requires more funding to sustain its work. The present success will also enhance ISRO's **standing** in the global space industry. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Accomplish** (verb) – Fulfill, achieve, attain, manage, succeed in पूरा करना
2. **Remarkable** (adjective) – Noteworthy, extraordinary, outstanding, impressive, significant अद्भुत
3. **Pride** (noun) – Self-respect, dignity, self-esteem, honor, satisfaction गर्व
4. **Boost** (verb) – Elevate, enhance, uplift, increase, promote बढ़ावा देना
5. **Soft power** (noun) – The ability of a country to persuade others without force or coercion, mainly through cultural or ideological means.
6. **Prestige** (noun) – Status, reputation, renown, standing, distinction प्रतिष्ठा
7. **Considering** (preposition) – Given that, seeing as, taking into account, bearing in mind ध्यान में रखते हुए
8. **Lunar** (adjective) – Relating to the moon, चंद्र
9. **Accomplishment** (noun) – Achievement, feat, triumph, success, realization उपलब्धि
10. **Advancement** (noun) – Progress, development, improvement, growth, progress उन्नति
11. **Explore** (verb) – Discover, investigate, examine, traverse, journey अन्वेषण करना
12. **Owe** (verb) – Be indebted, be under obligation, be beholden, be bound ऋणी होना
13. **Visionary** (adjective) – Imaginative, creative, inventive, futuristic कल्पनाशील
14. **Successor** (noun) – Heir, next in line, inheritor, replacement उत्तराधिकारी
15. **Instrumental** (in) (adjective) – Contributing, helpful, influential, significant मददगार, सहायक
16. **Fascinate** (verb) – Enchant, captivate, mesmerize, bewitch, charm मोहित करना
17. **Strike** (verb) – cause (someone) to have a particular impression; Seem to, appear to,
18. **Astronomy** (noun) – The study of celestial bodies, space science खगोलशास्त्र
19. **Renowned** (adjective) – Famous, celebrated, distinguished, eminent प्रसिद्ध
20. **Astronomer** (noun) – A scientist who studies celestial bodies खगोलशास्त्री
21. **Ancestor** (noun) – Forefather, progenitor, precursor, forebear पूर्वज
22. **Profound** (adjective) – Deep, intense, far-reaching, thoughtful गहरा
23. **Immortal** (noun) – Someone/something that lives forever, undying अमर

24. **Essential** (adjective) – Necessary, vital, crucial, fundamental अनिवार्य
25. **Embark** (verb) – Start, commence, initiate, undertake प्रारंभ करना
26. **Extend** (verb) – Offer, present, present प्रस्ताव करना
27. **Last** (verb) – Continue, endure, persist, remain चलना
28. **Thanks to** (phrase) – Because of, due to, owing to की वजह से
29. **Bribe** (verb) – Induce, corrupt, entice, persuade, win over रिश्वत देना
30. **Pledge** (noun) – Promise, vow, oath प्रतिज्ञा
31. **Empty promise** (noun) – False assurance, deceitful guarantee झूठा वादा
32. **Venture** (verb) – Dare, embark, undertake, attempt, risk जोखिम उठाना
33. **Curiosity** (noun) – Interest, inquisitiveness, wonder, eagerness to know, fascination जिज्ञासा
34. **Fascination** (noun) – Allurement, attraction, charm, intrigue, enchantment आकर्षण
35. **Throughout** (adverb) – Everywhere in, all over, all through, from start to finish सर्वत्र, के दौरान में
36. **Frontier** (noun) – Border, boundary, edge, limit, boundary line सीमा
37. **Quest** (noun) – Search, pursuit, hunt, journey, expedition खोज
38. **Facilitate** (verb) – Enable, assist, simplify, make easier, aid सुगम बनाना
39. **Collaboration** (noun) – Cooperation, alliance, partnership, teamwork, joint effort सहयोग
40. **Enhance** (verb) – Improve, augment, boost, uplift, increase बढ़ाना
41. **Extraction** (noun) – Derivation, drawing out, removal, uprooting, mining निकासन
42. **Habitation** (noun) – Residence, dwelling, living space, occupancy निवास
43. **Establish** (verb) – Set up, inaugurate, found, create, form स्थापित करना
44. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, cause, bring about, contribute to, give rise to वजह बनना
45. **Potential** (noun) – Capability, possibility, promise, potentiality, prospects क्षमता
46. **Infrastructure** (noun) – Structure, foundation, framework, base, facilities आधारिक संरचना

47. **Noteworthy** (adverb) – Notable, remarkable, significant, outstanding, exceptional ध्यान देने योग्य

48. **Strengthen** (verb) – Reinforce, fortify, bolster, enhance, empower मजबूत करना

49. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – Handle, address, tackle, manage, confront से निपटना

50. **Nonetheless** (adverb) – Nevertheless, however, but, still, notwithstanding फिर भी

51. **Standing** (noun) – Status, reputation, position, rank, prestige प्रतिष्ठा

Summary of the Editorial

1. ISRO successfully landed the Chandrayaan 3 on the Moon, making India the fourth country to achieve this feat.
2. The success of Chandrayaan 3 enhances India's global soft power and is especially notable after the failed attempt in 2019 and Russia's recent unsuccessful try.
3. Historical context: The US was the first country to land on the Moon in 1969 through NASA's Apollo Program.
4. India's long-standing interest in astronomy dates back to ancient times with renowned astronomers like Aryabhatta and Brahmagupta.
5. The lunar calendar, based on the Moon's phases, was an essential tool historically.
6. Rakesh Sharma's 1984 space mission, thanks to ISRO, marked a pivotal step for India in space research.
7. Politicians have sometimes used the idea of space exploration, like the Moon, for political gains, as seen in the 2021 Tamil Nadu Assembly election campaign.
8. Space exploration provides numerous benefits, from advancing science and technology to fostering international collaboration.
9. Chandrayan 3 aims to locate water ice deposits on the Moon, which could be vital for future space exploration and habitation.
10. Studying the Moon provides insights for exploring other planets and potentially using it as a launch platform for space tourism.
11. The global space industry is growing rapidly, and India holds a small but significant share, with potential growth after Chandrayan 3's success.
12. India, China, and Russia are actively working on building infrastructure on the Moon, like the International Lunar Research Station.
13. ISRO's journey, from its inception in the 1960s with help from countries like the US and Russia, has been marked with notable successes.
14. There's an ongoing debate about prioritizing space exploration funding versus addressing Earth's problems.
15. The conclusion is that ISRO has made commendable progress in space exploration and needs more resources to further its mission and enhance its global standing.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern based

1. **Which of the following statements best captures the sentiment expressed in the given passage about India's relationship with space exploration?** [Editorial page]
 - A. India has always looked at space exploration as a strategic move to compete with other nations.
 - B. Space exploration is a new venture for India, and its success is unprecedented.
 - C. The legacy of space exploration and celestial fascination has deep roots in Indian history, culture, and achievements.
 - D. India's focus on space is primarily because of its competition with Russia.
2. **Based on the passage, which of the following can be inferred about the trajectory of India's space exploration journey?**
 - A. India's interest in space exploration began with Rakesh Sharma's mission in 1984.
 - B. ISRO's current success can solely be attributed to modern political leaders.
 - C. The Chandrayaan 3 success was more notable for India because of its previous failed attempt and the recent failure of another major country.
 - D. India's interest in space exploration only pertains to the Moon, and there is no mention of interest in other planets.
3. **Based on the passage, evaluate the following statements:**
 - A. The objective of the Chandrayan 3 is to study water ice deposits on the Moon.
 - B. The International Lunar Research Station is a joint venture of the US, Russia, and India.
 - A. Both A and B are true.
 - B. Only A is true and B is false.
 - C. Only B is true and A is false.
 - D. Both A and B are false.
4. **Which of the following best captures the main argument presented in the debate about space exploration funding as mentioned in the passage?**
 - A. More funding should be allocated to space exploration since its potential benefits are tremendous.
 - B. Space research should be prioritized only after resolving terrestrial challenges.
 - C. ISRO's significant advancements warrant increased financial backing.
 - D. The global space industry's growth signifies a need for more space exploration funding.
5. **What is the tone of the passage regarding ISRO's achievements in space exploration?**
 - A. Critical
 - B. Indifferent
 - C. Pessimistic
 - D. Appreciative
6. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. A history of India's relationship with celestial bodies.
 - B. The debate on whether space exploration is worth the investment.
 - C. The growth and potential of India's space exploration endeavors, especially in context with ISRO's achievements.

- D. The global space economy and its key players.
7. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word.
- A. Hoarse
 - B. Imprint
 - C. Precious
 - D. Visious
8. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
To move or travel back and forth frequently
- A. Grapple
 - B. Shuttle
 - C. Rupture
 - D. Foster
9. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**
My complaint is that the gardener dozes off during work.
- A. Challenge
 - B. Carp
 - C. Praise
 - D. Demur
10. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom
The talented dancer received a huge round of applause from the audience after her mesmerizing performance.
- A. To get severely criticized
 - B. To be thoroughly ignored
 - C. To receive enthusiastic appreciation
 - D. To become extremely confused
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. As part of the initial drill of the Indian Forest Service, I was made officer in-charge of a forest range for three months and posted to the Wayanad Forest Division in Kerala.
 - A. A team of 30 forest staff including range officers from neighbouring ranges, foresters and forest guards was constituted for the job and a date was fixed for the operation.
 - B. After discussion, it was decided to organise a raid to locate and destroy the plants.
 - C. There was some information that ganja (Cannabis sativa) was being cultivated deep inside the forest in my range.
 - D. I had barely completed 15 days in my range when one day I was called by the Divisional Forest Officer to the headquarters 50 kilometres away.
 - 2. An officer one year senior to me was made the team in-charge.
- A. ABCD B. BCDA C. DCBA D. DBCA
12. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**

- P. India's year-long presidency of the G-20, and leadership of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), should not blind us to the persisting challenges the nation faces, due to a concatenation of circumstances.
- Q. Instead, everything points to a further deterioration in the geo-political climate, and to a distinct possibility of impending conflict.
- R. Priorities listed by India as signifying its presidency, viz., climate change, clean energy, sustainable developmental programmes and reform of multilateral institutions, are likely to take a back seat, given the deteriorating global situation. Consequently, hopes of reaping a rich dividend from the summitry may be misplaced.
- S. It must, hence, tone down the high expectations that are being generated of reaping a rich dividend from helming the two summits.
- A. RSPQ B.PSQR C.SRQP D.PRQS
13. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. In 2015, the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO for short) observed this phenomenon for the first time, expanding our understanding of the universe around us.
- Q. Now, the United States National Science Foundation is partnering with top U.S. universities and India's Raja Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology, or RRCAT (a unit of Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India) to launch LIGO-India, a ground-breaking collaboration, fuelled by a \$320 million investment from India, that will accelerate discovery and innovation in India and around the world.
- R. In the distant universe, black holes merge, supernovae explode, neutron stars collide.
- S. Colossal events such as these create cosmic ripples in space-time called gravitational waves.
- A. RPQS B.RSPQ C.SRQP D.SPRQ
14. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. Most, if not all, of the journalists doing podcasts today would have received no formal training in it.
- Q. Podcast journalism is a recent phenomenon.
- R. As one of the hosts of InFocus, The Hindu's flagship podcast series on current affairs, I've had people frequently ask me how I go about doing things.
- S. When I try to explain, often the first thing I hear is, 'Oh, so you basically do audio interviews.' Well, not exactly.
- A. QPRS B.PRQS C.QSRP D.PSRQ
15. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. The OPS, therefore they argue, is a case of elite workers gaining at the cost of their brethren lower on the income ladder.
- Q. Most economists have frowned upon this arguing that this is bad economics on at least two grounds. Firstly, since the State has to bear full burden of pensions, it will become fiscally unsustainable in the medium to long run.
- R. With multiple State governments announcing reversion to the old pension scheme (OPS) and some more speculating to do the same, the debate on pensions is hotting up

S. Second, such an unsustainable rise in pension allocation in the Budget can only come at the cost of other more pressing welfare expenditures allocated to the poor and marginalised sections.

- A. QSPR B.RQSP C.QSRP D.SRQP

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

- P. The IAF's press release is an understatement of the stupendous task done on the night of April 27-28, but is a subtle shabash to the personnel involved.
- Q. And let us not forget the steed they flew, the C-130J, and the foresight of the IAF and national leadership in the beginning of the century which, considering the growing stature and responsibilities of the nation, had planned the purchase of this aircraft, an outstanding capability enabler.
- R. One also needs to acknowledge the acquisition of the other aircraft for the IAF, the C-17 Globemaster heavy lift aircraft.
- S. The evacuation of 121 Indians from Wadi Seidna, north of Khartoum in Sudan, in the dead of night, using an Indian Air Force (IAF) C-130J Super Hercules, has been lauded all round.

- A. SPQR B.PSRQ C.QPSR D.PQSR

Comprehension

There was something very, very unusual about the group stage finale of the Asian Champions Trophy. India was playing Pakistan, in India. This has become _____1_____ as official relations between the two countries have grown hostile. But on Wednesday, the _____2_____ crowd in the Chennai stadium was there to watch the hockey, not practise geopolitics. Sure, it supported the Indian team during the match itself. But it was welcoming to the visitors too, coming up in a huge round of applause after their national anthem. Athletes are _____3_____ to various geopolitical _____4_____, but the Chennai crowd reminded everybody that this is not sporting at all.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

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

- A. A lost sight
B. Space-faring
C. Space-born
D. A Narrow-minded

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

- A. Blinkered
B. Packed
C. Unchecked
D. Organized

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

- A. Immense
B. Constant
C. Unsympathetic
D. Pawns

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

- A. Faceoffs
- B. Intermittent
- C. Supremacy
- D. Disbelief

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. **C) The legacy of space exploration and celestial fascination has deep roots in Indian history, culture, and achievements**

Option c is the most accurate representation of the sentiment expressed in the passage. The passage covers not only India's recent accomplishments in space but also its historical connections to celestial observations, ancient astronomers, and cultural significance.

2. **C) The Chandrayaan 3 success was more notable for India because of its previous failed attempt and the recent failure of another major country**

Option c is the most accurate inference. The passage mentions how the Chandrayaan 3 success was significant, especially considering its failed attempt in 2019 and Russia's recent unsuccessful attempt.

3. **B) Only A is true and B is false.**

From the passage, it is evident that the Chandrayan 3's objective is to locate and study water ice deposits on the Moon, which makes Statement A true. As for Statement B, the International Lunar Research Station is a venture of India, China, and Russia, not the US, Russia, and India. Hence, Statement B is false.

4. **C) ISRO's significant advancements warrant increased financial backing.**

While the passage does present various opinions on space research funding, it specifically points out the remarkable progress made by ISRO and hints at the need for more funding to sustain its work. This makes option C the most directly supported argument in the passage. Options A, B, and C are broader generalizations or represent other perspectives but are not the main argument of the debate as presented in the passage.

5. **D) Appreciative**

Throughout the passage, ISRO's accomplishments and advancements in space exploration are highlighted and praised. The author speaks positively about ISRO's efforts and its achievements, showcasing an appreciative tone towards its contributions.

6. **C) The growth and potential of India's space exploration endeavors, especially in context with ISRO's achievements.**

The passage extensively details India's achievements in space exploration, with a particular focus on ISRO's endeavors and successes. While the history of India's relationship with celestial bodies and the global space economy is mentioned, the overarching theme pertains to the growth and potential of India's contributions to space exploration.

7. D) The incorrect spelling among the given options is 'Visious'. The correct spelling is 'Vicious'.

The word 'Vicious' means "deliberately cruel or violent" **ज़ालिम, प्रचंड.**

8. B) Shuttle (noun) – A vehicle or mode of transport that moves or travels back and forth frequently **आवाजाव**

- **Grapple** (verb) – Engage in a close fight or struggle without weapons; wrestle. संघर्ष करना
 - **Rupture** (noun) – A break or tear in an organ or tissue. दरार
 - **Foster** (verb) – Encourage the development of something (especially something desirable). पालना
9. C) **Complaint** (noun) – An expression of dissatisfaction, grievance, unhappiness. शिकायत
Antonym: Praise (noun) – Expression of approval, admiration, or compliment. प्रशंसा
- **Challenge** (noun) – A task or situation that tests someone's abilities. चुनौती
 - **Carp** (verb) – To constantly criticize or find fault. निंदा करना
 - **Demur** (verb/noun) – Raise objections or show reluctance. आपत्ति
10. C) **Huge round of applause** (phrase) – to receive enthusiastic appreciation: उत्साहपूर्वक प्रशंसा पाना
11. C) **DCBA**
1: sentence 1 establishes the initial context and It provides the introductory details about the speaker's role and location
D: The sentence 1 gives us a context of a three-month time frame for the assignment, and D mentions "15 days" which is within that three-month time frame, indicating a progression of time.
C: "my range" in C continues to refer to the forest range mentioned in sentence D
B: The cultivation of ganja (C) would naturally lead to a reaction or decision about it. B is the logical next step, where a decision (organising a raid) is made in response to the problem (ganja cultivation) identified in C. The word "After" in B indicates a sequence of events that followed the revelation in C.
A: After deciding on a raid (in B), it's natural that the next step would involve organizing a team for the task (as mentioned in A).
12. B) **PSQR**
P: This sentence introduces the main theme which is India's presidency of two organizations.
S: The pronoun "It" in S refers to "India" mentioned in P. Hence, S logically follows P. "Helming the two summits" indicates a leadership role, which has been introduced in P
Q: "Instead" suggests a contrast to the previous sentence. Since S talks about high expectations, Q contrasts this by saying things are not as positive as they seem.
R: R provides specific details about the priorities that India has set. It also says these may take a "back seat", due to the "deteriorating global situation" mentioned in Q. The phrase "hopes of reaping a rich dividend" in R links back to the similar phrase in S. Thus, Q sets the negative context for why the hopes in S might be misplaced, and R elaborates on it.
13. B) **RSPQ**

R: This seems like a generic introduction to a topic about cosmic events.

S: Sentence S logically follows R because it refers to the events mentioned in R with the phrase "such as these"

P: Refers to the "phenomenon" of gravitational waves, suggesting that it follows S.

Q: This mentions "LIGO-India," suggesting it follows the sentence about LIGO, hence P.

Sentences that start with words like 'Now', 'However,' 'Furthermore,' 'Moreover,' or 'Then,' usually come in the middle or at the end, not at the beginning.

14. **A) QPRS**

Q: This statement provides an introduction or a general statement about the topic "Podcast journalism"

P: "it" here refers to 'Podcast journalism' introduced in Q. This is a Noun-Pronoun Relationship.

R: This sentence introduces a new element (the speaker and their association with a podcast) while maintaining a connection with the general topic of podcast journalism.

S: This sentence naturally follows R because it describes the reaction of people when the author tries to explain his job.

15. **B) RQSP**

R: This sentence introduces the topic of discussion: the debate about the old pension scheme (OPS). Thus, it serves as an introductory sentence.

Q: The pronoun "this" in the beginning of the sentence refers to the reversion to OPS mentioned in sentence R. The sentence also sets up the argument by mentioning there are at least two grounds, making it an ideal follow-up to the introduction.

S: This sentence gives the second reason, as mentioned in sentence Q. It specifically follows the word "Firstly" from sentence Q, maintaining the sequence of arguments. The use of "Second" indicates it should follow Q.

P: The phrase "therefore they argue" implies that the sentence is concluding or elaborating on the views of the economists mentioned earlier. Hence, this statement is best placed after the reasons given by the economists.

16. **A) SPQR**

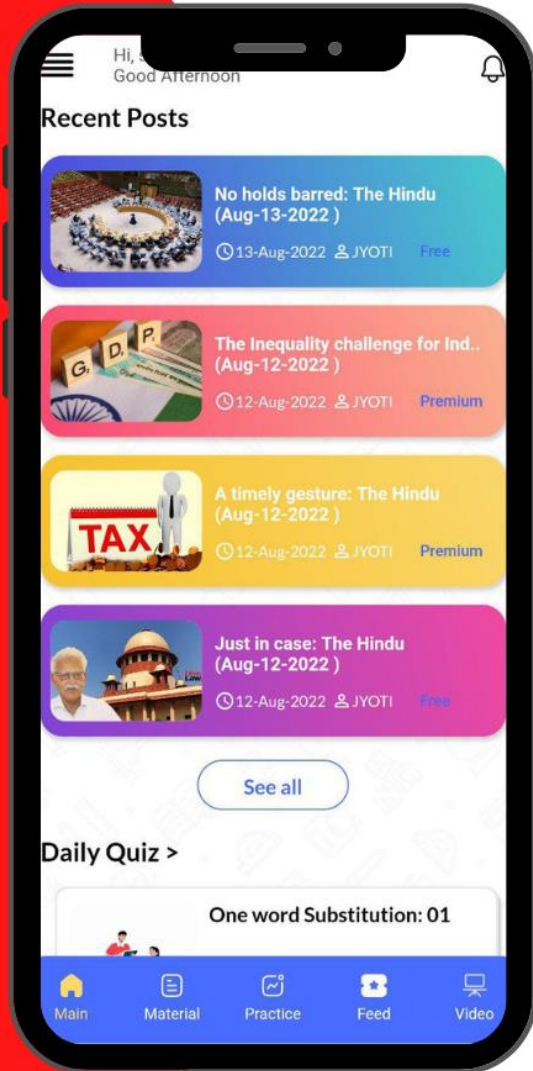
S: S introduces the full form "Indian Air Force (IAF)" which is then referred to as "IAF" in P.

P: P mentions the "night of April 27-28", which is the specific date of the event in S, which further confirms the order.

Q: The full form of the aircraft is given in S "C-130J Super Hercules" which is then abbreviated to "C-130J" in Q. Hence, S should come before Q. So here two options can be eliminated option C and option D. And S should come before P so only option A is fit here.

17. **A) A lost sight का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह वाक्य में दर्शाता है कि कुछ ऐसा हो रहा है जो पहले होता था, लेकिन अब आम नहीं है। जबकि 'Space-faring' और 'Space-born' अंतरिक्ष संबंधित होते हैं, और 'A Narrow-minded' का अर्थ है संकीर्ण सोच वाला, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।**

- 'A lost sight' should be used because it suggests something that used to happen but is now uncommon. In contrast, 'Space-faring' and 'Space-born' relate to space, and 'A Narrow-minded' means having limited perspective or views, which aren't appropriate in this context.
18. B) 'Packed' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "packed" का अर्थ होता है कि स्थान या जगह पूरी तरह से भरी हुई है। जबकि 'Blinkered' का अर्थ है संकीर्ण दृष्टिकोण वाला, 'Unchecked' का अर्थ है नियंत्रित नहीं, और 'Organized' का अर्थ है संगठित किया हुआ, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- 'Packed' should be used because it signifies that the place or venue is completely filled. Whereas, 'Blinkered' implies a narrow or limited view, 'Unchecked' means uncontrolled, and 'Organized' implies arranged, which don't fit in this context.
19. D) 'Pawns' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "pawns" का अर्थ होता है किसी बड़े खेल या राजनीतिक संघर्ष में उपयोग होने वाला साधारण व्यक्ति या अभिनेता। जब देशों के बीच संबंध दुश्मन होते हैं, तो अक्सर खिलाड़ी इन राजनीतिक तनावों का प्रभाव पाते हैं, जैसे कि वे केवल एक खेल में होते हैं जिसमें उन्हें उपयोग किया जाता है। 'Immense' का अर्थ होता है बहुत बड़ा, 'Constant' का अर्थ होता है स्थिर या लगातार, और 'Unsympathetic' का अर्थ है असहमत, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- 'Pawns' should be used because it signifies individuals or actors used in a larger game or political struggle. When relations between countries are hostile, athletes often feel the effects of these political tensions, as if they are merely pieces in a game being played. 'Immense' means very large, 'Constant' signifies steady or unchanging, and 'Unsympathetic' means not in agreement, which don't fit in this context.
20. A) 'Faceoffs' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "faceoffs" का अर्थ होता है मुकाबला या सामना। जबकि 'Intermittent' का अर्थ है अनियमित, 'Supremacy' का अर्थ है सर्वोत्तमता या प्रधानता, और 'Disbelief' का अर्थ है अविश्वास, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- 'Faceoffs' should be used because it means confrontation or standoff. Whereas, 'Intermittent' means irregular, 'Supremacy' refers to dominance or superiority, and 'Disbelief' implies skepticism or doubt, which don't fit in this context.



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