# Time to decide: On the Himalayan region, its carrying capacity

Infrastructure development in the hills cannot be the same as in the plains

The destruction wreaked by the floods in north India in August has evoked concern at the highest levels. Last month, a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud had suggested that an expert committee conduct a "complete and comprehensive" study on the carrying capacity of the Himalayan region. Following this, the Centre has proposed setting up a 13-member technical committee. "Carrying capacity" is a concept derived from population-biology and generally refers to the quantity of a species that can thrive sustainably in a defined ecosystem. Generally, population exceeding capacity will lead to a natural decline in numbers, as witnessed when grasslands or overgrazed or invasive species throttle existing biome. Applying these ideas in the context of hillstations and Himalayan States — the challenge is between balancing rising population, infrastructural needs and the **precarious** geography — is bound to be a challenging enterprise. Going by recent history, it is unlikely that a disinterested scientific opinion will be palatable to every stakeholder in the Himalayan States. Following the devastating floods in Uttarakhand in 2013, the Supreme Court had appointed a committee of experts to evaluate the role of hydropower projects in the State. While the committee's reports did influence a reduction in the proposed hydro projects, they failed to restrict road-widening projects and the carving up of mountainsides in ways that were deemed unsuitable for the topography.

The latest **proposal** by the Centre **is** not new; as far back as 2020, it had circulated, among the 13 Himalayan States, guidelines to **assess** the carrying capacity of their hill stations, cities and ecosensitive zones. The Environment Ministry had in May reminded all the States to **undertake** such a study and submit them "as early as possible". The **crisis** of **land subsidence** experienced in Joshimath, Uttarakhand, in January **had** also **sparked** a **debate** on the conflict between infrastructural development and **ecology**, but in **a matter of** months, Himachal Pradesh saw an unexpected **deluge washing away** roads and highways built on **denuding** mountains. More committees and reports will not change the reality that infrastructure development in the hills cannot be **executed** as in the plains. Either States must **bear** the higher cost that comes from building more **sustainably** and minimising the risk to **denizens**, or **designate** regions as no-go zones. **The latter** has for **decades** provided **fertile** ground for political **opportunism**. As **unequivocal** scientific evidence **concludes**, the **option** to **kick the proverbial can down the road** no longer **exists**.

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

# **Vocabulary**

- 1. Infrastructure (noun) Facilities, framework, structure, system, support ढांचा
- 2. **Destruction** (noun) demolition, ruin, devastation, annihilation विनाश
- Wreak (verb) cause (a large amount of damage or harm). बरपाना (कहर)
- 4. **Evoke** (verb) elicit, provoke, kindle, arouse, stir up पैदा करना
- 5. **Bench** (noun) The judge or judges composing a court. न्यायपीठ
- 6. **Comprehensive** (adjective) thorough, allinclusive, exhaustive, extensive, detailed व्यापक
- 7. **Propose** (verb) suggest, put forward, recommend, present, offer प्रस्तावित करना
- 8. **Set up** (phrasal verb) establish, institute, initiate, organize, found स्थापित करना
- 9. **Thrive** (verb) flourish, prosper, bloom, succeed, grow फलना-फूलना
- 10. **Sustainably** (adverb) renewable manner, environmentally friendly, in a balanced manner, durably स्थायी रूप से
- 11. **Ecosystem** (noun) environment, habitat, biosphere, community, system पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र

- 12. **Lead to** (verb) result in, cause, bring about, give rise to, वजह बनना
- 13. **Witness** (verb) observe, see, notice, watch, behold देखना
- 14. **Overgrazed** (adjective) excessively grazed, depleted, eroded, barren अधिक चराई गई
- 15. **Invasive** (adjective) encroaching, intrusive, trespassing, aggressive, meddlesome फैलाव
- 16. **Throttle** (noun) Suppress, inhibit, hold back, curb, subdue, stifle घोंटना/ दबाना
- 17. **Biome** (noun) large naturally occurring community of flora and fauna, ecosystem, habitat ਡੀਰਸੰਤਲ
- 18. **In the context of** (phrase) in relation to, in the matter of, regarding, concerning के संदर्भ में
- 19. **Precarious** (adjective) unstable, insecure, dangerous, risky, hazardous अनिश्चित
- 20. **Enterprise** (noun) Exercise, activity, pursuit, measure, task काम
- 21. **Disinterested** (adjective) impartial, unbiased, objective, neutral, uninvolved निष्पक्ष

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- 22. **Palatable** (adjective) agreeable, acceptable, pleasing, appetizing सुखद, रिचेकर
- 23. **Stakeholder** (noun) interested party, participant, involved party, shareholder हितधारक
- 24. **Following** (preposition) after, subsequently, ensuing, succeeding के बाद
- 25. **Devastating** (adjective) destructive, ruinous, disastrous, catastrophic विनाशक
- 26. **Evaluate** (verb) assess, appraise, judge, analyze, examine मूल्यांकन करना
- 27. **Proposed** (adjective) suggested, recommended, planned, intended, advocated प्रस्तावित
- 28. **Carving up** (noun) The cutting of material such as stone or wood to form a figure or design. नक्काशी
- 29. **Deem** (verb) consider, regard, view, judge, believe मानना
- 30. **Topography** (noun) terrain, landscape, geography, relief, contour ततरूप
- 31. **Assess** (verb) evaluate, gauge, judge, appraise मूल्यांकन करना
- 32. **Undertake** (verb) to do or begin to do something, करना
- 33. Land subsidence (noun) The sinking or settling of land to a lower level in response

- to various natural and human-caused factors.
- 34. **Spark** (verb) ignite, trigger, instigate, stimulate पैदा करना
- 35. **Debate** (noun) discussion, argument, discourse, deliberation वाद-विवाद
- 36. **Ecology** (noun) environmental science, conservation, bionomics पारिस्थितिकी
- 37. **In a matter of months** (phrase) something can be done in a very short space of time कुछ ही महीनों में
- 38. **Deluge** (noun) flood, inundation, torrent, overflow ৰা*ढ*
- 39. **Wash away** (phrase) remove, erode, sweep away, flush out बहाना
- 40. **Denude** (verb) to destroy all plant and animal life in (an area) से रहित होना
- 41. **Execute** (verb) implement, carry out, accomplish, perform अमल करना
- 42. **Bear** (verb) endure, withstand, tolerate, sustain (लागत) वहन करना
- 43. **Denizen** (noun) inhabitant, resident, occupant, dweller निवासी
- 44. **Designate** (verb) classify, class, pronounce, label, tag नामोद्दिष्ट करना
- 45. **The latter** (noun) Here it refers to 'Regions'

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- 46. **Decade** (noun) ten years, ten-year period বংশক
- 47. **Fertile** (adjective) fruitful, productive, fecund, rich फलप्रद
- 48. **Opportunism** (noun) expediency, advantage-seeking, self-interest अवसरवादिता

- 49. **Unequivocal** (adjective) unambiguous, clear, direct, straightforward स्पष्ट
- 50. **Conclude** (verb) Decide by reasoning; draw or come to a conclusion परिणाम निकालना
- 51. **Kick the can down the road** (phrase) To delay or postpone a difficult decision or action. मुश्किल निर्णय या कार्रवाई को टालना

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# **Summary of the Editorial**

- 1. Floods in north India in August caused significant destruction, leading to widespread concern.
- 2. Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud recommended an expert committee study on the Himalayan region's carrying capacity.
- 3. The Centre proposed a 13-member technical committee in response.
- 4. Carrying capacity refers to the number of a species that can sustainably exist in a specific ecosystem.
- 5. In the context of the Himalayas, the challenge is balancing population growth, infrastructure needs, and the region's delicate geography.
- 6. There's skepticism over whether scientific opinions on the Himalayas' carrying capacity will be universally accepted.
- 7. After the 2013 Uttarakhand floods, a committee assessed the impact of hydropower projects. Its findings led to some reductions but didn't limit road-widening and other damaging projects.
- 8. In 2020, the Centre had already suggested that Himalayan states evaluate the carrying capacity of their regions.
- 9. By May, the Environment Ministry urged these states to conduct and submit such studies promptly.
- 10. Land subsidence in Joshimath, Uttarakhand, in January reignited debates about balancing infrastructure development with ecological considerations.
- 11. However, more infrastructural problems arose, with Himachal Pradesh experiencing severe damages from unexpected flooding.
- 12. The editorial emphasizes that hill infrastructure can't be developed the same way as in plains.
- 13. The options are to either invest in sustainable infrastructure, even if costly, or declare certain areas off-limits for development.
- 14. Historically, the "no-go zones" approach has been a source of political opportunism.
- 15. Delaying decisions on sustainable development in the Himalayas is no longer a viable option, given the clear scientific evidence on its ecological importance and vulnerabilities.

### **Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based**

- 1. What does the concept of "carrying capacity" primarily refer to?
- [Editorial page]
- A. The ability of hills to support infrastructure development.
- B. The quantity of a species that can sustainably live in a particular ecosystem.
- C. The amount of infrastructural projects a region can handle.
- D. The intensity of floods in the Himalayan region.
- 2. How did the committee of experts, appointed by the Supreme Court after the Uttarakhand floods in 2013, impact infrastructural projects in the region?
  - A. They immediately halted all road-widening projects in Uttarakhand.
  - B. Their reports led to a significant increase in hydropower projects.
  - C. They successfully restricted the carving up of mountainsides.
  - D. Their reports influenced a reduction in the proposed hydro projects.
- 3. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the response of Himalayan States to the Centre's proposal in 2020?
  - A. They swiftly implemented the guidelines provided by the Centre.
  - B. They actively rejected the proposal due to its infeasibility.
  - C. They have been slow in conducting and submitting the necessary studies.
  - D. They promptly submitted detailed assessments for all their hill stations and eco-sensitive zones.
- 4. Which of the following statements can be inferred regarding the development of infrastructure in the Himalayan region?
  - A. Infrastructure in the Himalayan region is less susceptible to environmental hazards than in the plains.
  - B. Infrastructure development in the Himalayan region and the plains can follow identical models.
  - C. Infrastructure in the hills requires higher costs for sustainable development compared to the plains.
  - D. Himalayan States have always had unanimous opinions regarding infrastructure development.
- 5. Which of the following statements is/are CORRECT based on the given passage?
  - A) The Centre had given guidelines to assess the carrying capacity of hill stations for the first time in 2023.
  - B) There was a crisis of land subsidence in Joshimath, Uttarakhand in January.
  - **C)** Infrastructure development in the hills is exactly the same as in the plains.
  - **D)** The option to postpone addressing the issue indefinitely is still viable according to scientific evidence.
  - A. Only B
  - B. B and C
  - C. A and C
  - D. B and D
- 6. What is the main theme of the passage?

- A. The history of the Himalayan region.
- B. The pros and cons of hydropower projects in the State of Uttarakhand.
- C. The carrying capacity of the Himalayan region and the challenges of infrastructure development in hilly terrains.
- D. The political landscape of Himachal Pradesh.
- 7. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the following sentence.

I just went to Bali on a backpacking trip and did everything by the ear without any itinerary.

- A. by spreading rumors
- B. by improvisation
- C. while criticising
- D. by asking
- 8. Select the option that is **OPPOSITE** in meaning to the given word.

Jubilant

- A. Proud
- B. Thoughtful
- C. Gay
- D. Melancholic
- 9. Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.

Changing secret and coded messages in a readable form

- A. Decoupling
- B. Encoding
- C. Decoding
- D. Encrypting
- 10. Identify and correct the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word in the given sentence.

Successful people often have a role modal who inspired them to greatness.

- A. gratenes
- B. succesful
- C. inspaired
- D. model
- 11. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom

After losing the lead, the second runner was *close on the heels of* the first one.

- A. Right behind
- B. Far away
- C. To take a long time
- D. To start over
- 12. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.
  - P. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is attracting the attention of entrepreneurs, political leaders, and policymakers the world over.
  - Q. For instance, AI tools can assist parliamentarians in preparing responses for legislators, enhancing research quality, obtaining information about any Bill, preparing briefs, providing information on particular House rules, legislative drafting, amendments, interventions, etc.

- R. Most mature democracies are now using Al tools for better pieces of legislation and parliamentary procedures.
- S. They can also empower legislators to make informed decisions by having access to insights into citizen grievances, media opinions, and voices of citizen-centric associations.
- A. PSQR
- B.PSRQ
- C.SRQP
- D.PRQS

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

- P. When Delhi was subjected to the second phase of the odd-even rule in May 2016, a BJP MP from Assam trotted on horseback to the Parliament.
- Q. R.P. Sharma managed to turn a few heads by way of his unique protest.
- R. Delhi has been shrouded by smog once again! Experts and the layman alike are scouting for a solution
- S. Though the point was meant to be taken as an opposition to the traffic policy, he set me thinking by displaying a placard saying "Pollution Free Vehicle".
  - A. RPQS
- B.RSPQ
- C. PSRQ
- D.PRQS

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

- P. It was the late evening of my early research scholar life.
- Q. My mother called me enquiring about the day and warned that if I skipped lunch again, she won't talk to me. Mothers and mosquitoes never stop bugging.
- R. Packing my charger and earphones, I was about to leave the cabin.
- S. After mailing my supervisor about my completion of tasks, I was dismissed for the day.
  - A. RSPQ
- B.PSRQ
- C.RPSQ
- D.ROSP

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

- P. In the two mornings before the train reached Delhi, I used to buy The Hindu from newspaper vendors and devour it fully.
- Q. In 2000, as a student in Delhi, I had to undertake three-day journeys on Kerala Express travelling between home and university.
- R. I used to carry books to while away time.
- S. The train trip used to be so monotonous that time seemed to stand still.
  - A. QSPR
- B.PSQR
- C.QSRP
- D.PSRQ

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

- P. The company's Trent XWB-84 engines will power the Airbus A350-900s.
- Q. In February 2023, Tata Group's Air India placed an order for 840 aircraft, including 40 A350-900/1000 aircraft from Airbus.
- R. In an interview, India & South Asia president Kishore Jayaraman gives more details.
- S. With this Rolls-Royce bagged its biggest-ever order for Trent XWB-97 engines which will power A350-1000 aircraft.
  - A. QSPR
- B.PSRQ
- C.PRQS
- D.PQSR

### Comprehension

The scientific community is now confident that the material known as LK-99 is not a roomtemperature and ambient-pressure superconductor, bringing to a swift close an exciting episode launched by a group of South Korean researchers. There has been no formal conclusion to match the formal announcement that this material could transport an electric

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	ind pap ins The mis ma	rent with no resistance in1 conditions. But the South Koreans and the lependent scientists who worked to verify the claim published their findings as preprint pers that were free to read. LK-99's2 simple composition and availability of tructions to synthesise it prompted scientists outside academia to test the material as well. e pace of developments was3, but there was soon hype and sinformation. While some reports indicated that the South Korean group had submitted inuscripts explaining their claim to a journal, concerns that the preprint papers were not with reacting to until the journal had responded missed the point: efforts to validate the	
		im constituted a better, more organic peer-review process together with attempts by	
		cientists across the world (including India) to replicate the claim in their laboratories. It soon	
		ecame clear that there were two reasons why the material was no superconductor. First, as	
		onventional superconductors inside a weak magnetic field4cooled to induce a	
		uperconducting state, they expel the field from their bulk at and under the transition	
	ter	nperature.	
	Fill	in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words	
17. Select the most		ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1.	
	A.	Consistent	
	В.	Ambient	
	C.	Dissent	
		Argument	
18.		ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.	
		Seemingly	
		Exceedingly	
		Disappointingly	
		Simultaneously	
19.		ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.	
		Swing	
		Exhilarating	
		Understanding	
		Undertaking	
20. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.			
		Were	
		Was	
	C.		
	υ.	Are	

### **Answers**

1. B 2.D 3.C 4. C 5. A 6. C 7. B 8.D 9.C 10.D 11.A

12. D 13.A 14.B 15.C 16.A 17.B 18.A 19.B 20.D

[Practice Exercise]

# **Explanations**

1. B. The quantity of a species that can sustainably live in a particular ecosystem.

The passage defines "carrying capacity" as a concept derived from population-biology that generally refers to the quantity of a species that can thrive sustainably in a defined ecosystem. When this capacity is exceeded, there is a natural decline in numbers.

2. D) Their reports influenced a reduction in the proposed hydro projects.

The passage mentions that after the devastating floods in Uttarakhand in 2013, the Supreme Court had appointed a committee of experts to evaluate the role of hydropower projects in the State. The reports from this committee influenced a decrease in the number of proposed hydro projects, but they did not manage to restrict road-widening projects and the carving up of mountainsides.

3. C) They have been slow in conducting and submitting the necessary studies.

The passage mentions that "as far back as 2020, it had circulated, among the 13 Himalayan States, guidelines to assess the carrying capacity of their hill stations, cities and eco-sensitive zones." Later, it's stated that "The Environment Ministry had in May reminded all the States to undertake such a study and submit them 'as early as possible'." This indicates that the states had not yet submitted the studies by May, implying that they were slow in response.

4. C) Infrastructure in the hills requires higher costs for sustainable development compared to the plains.

The passage states, "More committees and reports will not change the reality that infrastructure development in the hills cannot be executed as in the plains. Either States must bear the higher cost that comes from building more sustainably and minimising the risk to denizens, or designate regions as no-go zones." This indicates that sustainable development in the hills is associated with higher costs compared to the plains.

5. A) Only B

**Statement A is incorrect** as the passage mentions that as far back as 2020, the Centre had circulated guidelines among the 13 Himalayan States.

**Statement B is correct** as the passage states that there was a crisis of land subsidence experienced in Joshimath in January.

**Statement C is incorrect** as the passage clearly says that "infrastructure development in the hills cannot be executed as in the plains."

**Statement D is incorrect** as the passage mentions "the option to kick the proverbial can down the road no longer exists," indicating that postponing the issue is not viable.

6. C. The carrying capacity of the Himalayan region and the challenges of infrastructure development in hilly terrains.

The primary focus of the passage is on the carrying capacity of the Himalayan region and the ongoing challenges and concerns related to infrastructure development. This is evident from discussions on the need for studies on the carrying capacity, the challenges of balancing population with infrastructural needs, the consequences of over-development, and the differences between infrastructure in the hills and plains.

- 7. B) 'by the ear' के बदले 'by improvisation' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इस संदर्भ में वाक्य का तात्पर्य है कि कोई योजना बिना किसी निर्धारित योजना के कुछ भी कर रहा है।
  - 'by improvisation' will be used instead of 'by the ear' because in this context the sentence means doing something without any set plan; the correct option is B. 'by improvisation'.
- 8. D) **Jubilant** (adjective) Feeling or expressing great happiness and triumph, joyful, exultant, rejoicing. उत्साहित

Antonym: **Melancholic** (adjective) — Feeling or expressing pensive sadness, sorrowful, mournful, gloomy. उदास, विषादपूर्ण

- **Indifferent** (adjective) Having no particular interest or sympathy; unconcerned, uninterested, apathetic.
- Thoughtful (adjective) Engaged in or given to thinking, reflective, contemplative, meditative. सोचने वाला
- Gay (adjective) Happy, cheerful, carefree, joyful. ড্ৰুগ
- 9. C) **Decoding** (noun) The process of converting encoded or secret messages into a readable form. गूढ़ संदेशों को पठनीय रूप में बदलने की प्रक्रिया
  - **Decoupling** (noun) The act of detaching or disassociating two or more connected things. वियोजन
  - **Encoding** (noun) The process of converting information into a coded or symbolic form. संकेतिकरण
  - Encrypting (noun) The process of converting data into a code, especially to prevent unauthorized access. एन्क्रिप्शन
- 10. D)The correct spelling of 'modal' is '**model**' which means "a standard or example for imitation or comparison" मानक या तुलना के लिए एक उदाहरण।
- 11. A) Close on the heels of (phrase) right behind: बिल्क्ल साथ में
- 12. **D) PRQS**

**P:** Sentence P introduces a topic (AI) which hasn't been mentioned before in the other sentences. Introducing a new topic is a key indicator of a starting sentence in such exercises.

**R:** Sentence R gives a specific application or usage of AI, specifically in the domain of "mature democracies" and legislation. It expands upon the general idea introduced in sentence P. The term "AI tools" in R refers back to the "Artificial Intelligence (AI)" introduced in P.

- **Q:** The phrase "For instance" at the beginning of Q indicates that this sentence provides a specific example or elaboration of the previous statement. Given that R talks about AI tools in the context of legislation and parliamentary procedures, Q seems to be giving a detailed list of those applications, hence it logically follows R
- **S:** The pronoun "They" at the beginning of S clearly refers to the "AI tools" mentioned in the previous sentences. Since Q is providing specific instances of how AI tools can be useful, S further expands on that list, making it logical for S to follow Q.

### 13. **A) RPQS**

- **R:** This sentence provides an introduction to the topic by discussing the problem of smog in Delhi.
- **P:** After introducing the issue of smog in Delhi (from R), it makes sense to move to a significant event or reaction related to it. Sentence P tells us about a specific incident that happened in response to a policy (the odd-even rule) meant to combat the issue introduced in R.
- **Q:** It specifies the name of the BJP MP (R.P. Sharma) and describes the impact of his action (turning heads). We often introduce a general statement and then provide specific details, so it's logical for Q to follow P.
- **S**: Sentence S provides further analysis or interpretation of the event and its significance. It gives insight into the intention behind R.P. Sharma's action and even offers a personal reflection from the author's perspective ("he set me thinking").

### 14. **B) PSRQ**

- P: It gives us a temporal setting and introduces a narrative, making it an ideal starting point. The "early research scholar life" also provides a contextual background.
- **S:** The connector "After" provides a clue about the sequence. This sentence logically follows P, since the action of mailing the supervisor and getting dismissed typically occurs during the end of a workday or in the late evening, as mentioned in P.
- **R:** This sentence clearly follows S. After being dismissed for the day (as mentioned in S), the next logical step would be packing up and preparing to leave, which is what this sentence depicts.
- **Q:** It could be inferred that the mother called just as the speaker was about to leave, making it fit perfectly after R

### 15. C) QSRP

- Q: Sentence Q gives a time indication "In 2000". This places it first as it sets the context and timeframe for the entire story.
- S: For instance, "the train trip" in S refers to the journey mentioned in Q.
- R-P: Also, "I used to" in R and P also fits as a continuation of the activities the narrator undertook during these train trips mentioned in Q.

### 16. A) QSPR

- A. QSPR Q provides the order's introduction, S introduces a new piece of information related to the A350-1000 order, P then clarifies which engines power the A350-900s, and R concludes by offering more details. This sequence is coherent.
- B. PSRQ Starting with P makes the sequence confusing because the Trent XWB-84 engines powering the Airbus A350-900s is mentioned without first introducing the order. The flow isn't logical.
- C. PRQS This option is confusing too. Mentioning the interview (R) immediately after the engines (P) for A350-900s doesn't introduce the larger context which is the order placed by Air India.
- D. PQSR This sequence first mentions the engines for A350-900s and then introduces the order by Air India. This sequence is also not logical as the main event, which is the order by Air India, should be presented first for clarity.
- 17. B) वाक्य में 'ambient' यहाँ सही है क्योंकि यह सामान्य तापमान और वायुमंडलीय दबाव को दर्शाता है। 'Consistent' का अर्थ है स्थिर, 'Dissent' का अर्थ है असहमति और 'Argument' का अर्थ है बहस, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
  - In the context, 'ambient' is apt as it signifies the conditions under which LK-99 was said to transport electricity without resistance. On the other hand, 'Consistent' implies steady or unchanged, 'Dissent' means disagreement, and 'Argument' signifies a debate or discussion, which don't fit in this context
- 18. A) यहां 'seemingly' शब्द का अर्थ है 'आभासित' या 'प्रतित होने वाला', और वाक्य में बताया गया है कि LK-99 की संयंत्रण की विधि और सामग्री को देखते हुए, यह आभासित होता था कि यह सहजता से उपलब्ध हो सकता है। अन्य विकल्पों का अर्थ इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Exceedingly' का अर्थ होता है 'अत्यधिक', 'Disappointingly' का अर्थ है 'निराशाजनक रूप में', और 'Simultaneously' का अर्थ है 'समान रूप में', जो यहाँ सही नहीं है।
  - 'Seemingly' should be used because it indicates an apparent quality or condition. In the
    context of the sentence, LK-99's composition and synthesis instructions made it appear to
    be easily accessible. Whereas, 'Exceedingly' means to a great extent, 'Disappointingly'
    means in a way that causes disappointment, and 'Simultaneously' means at the same time,
    which don't fit in this context.
- 19. B) Exhilarating' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "exhilarating" का अर्थ होता है बहुत ही उत्तरोत्तर या रोमांचक। वाक्य में विकासों की गति को दर्शाया गया है, और जिस तरह से उस गति का वर्णन किया गया है, 'Exhilarating' इस संदर्भ में सही है। 'Swing' का अर्थ होता है झूला, 'Understanding' का अर्थ है समझ, और 'Undertaking' का अर्थ है कार्य, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
  - 'Exhilarating' should be used because it means extremely exciting or thrilling. The pace of the developments in the passage is described in a way that suggests it was thrilling, making 'exhilarating' fitting. Whereas, 'Swing' means to move to and fro, 'Understanding' means

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- comprehension, and 'Undertaking' means a task or venture, which aren't suitable in this context.
- 20. D) Conventional superconductors' एक plural है, जिसका अर्थ है कि इसे एक से अधिक संख्या में होता है। जब हम plural subject के साथ कार्य करते हैं, हमें plural verb उपयोग करनी चाहिए। 'Are' एक plural verb, है, इसलिए यह सही है।
  - 'Conventional superconductors' is plural, meaning it refers to more than one in number. When we deal with a plural subject, we should use a plural verb. 'Are' is a plural verb, so it is correct.
  - A. 'Were' This is a past tense verb, but the sentence is in present tense.
  - B. 'Was' This is a singular verb, and we need a plural verb.
  - C. 'Is' This too is a singular verb, and we need a plural verb.



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