Identity pangs: On Aadhaar and concerns

A report on global digital IDs **brings** Aadhaar's **limitations**, risks back **into focus**

In an **innocuously** titled report on "**Decentralized** Finance and Digital Assets" released last Saturday, global rating major Moody's Investors Service has **flagged** some uncomfortable **home truths** about India's **ambitious** digital identification (ID) programme for residents, Aadhaar. As the world's largest digital ID programme with biometric and **demographic** details of over a billion residents, Aadhaar **stands out** for its scale. But at a broader level, the agency has red-flagged security and privacy risks from "centralised" digital ID systems such as Aadhaar, where a single entity controls identifying **credentials**. **Moody's**, which has **mooted** decentralised ID systems that give users more control over their data, **has** also **lent weight** to worries about the **efficacy** of Aadhaar's biometric-based authentication systems to verify identities. "The system **often results in** service **denials**, and the **reliability** of biometric technologies, especially for manual labourers in hot, **humid** climates, **is questionable**," it said. While this observation is of **relevance amid** the government's **push** to switch all payments under the **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act** (MGNREGA) to an Aadhaar-based payment system, it **echoes** the concerns raised ever since its launch under the United Progressive Alliance **regime**.

The **vigorous pursuit** of Aadhaar, after some initial **hesitation**, under the present government **has manifested** in the 12-digit number becoming mandatory for almost all welfare benefits to weaker sections as well as activities such as opening bank or provident fund accounts, securing telephone connections and **remitting** taxes. **Its use**, **backed** by the expansion of access to **no-frills bank accounts** and mobile phone connections, **has indeed** enabled the direct transfer of benefits to millions in welfare schemes and **weeding out** ghosts and middlemen. Yet, there have also been **instances** of people being excluded from basic services for lack of an Aadhaar or labourers and senior citizens struggling to confirm their fingerprints and retina scans to prove they **exist**. An **audit** of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India released last year, **had** flagged **lapses** that **jeopardise** privacy and **compromise** data security, along with **flaws** in enrolment processes **leading to** duplication and faulty biometrics. India has **pushed for** digital public **infrastructure** like the one built around the **edifice** of Aadhaar, **as a means for** service delivery in G-20 nations and beyond. Having appointed a part-time chief to the UIDAI last month after four years, the government must **seek** an honest review of, and **course correction** in the Aadhaar programme, before expanding its **linkages** further, **be it** for **electoral rolls**, private entities or MGNREGA payments.

- **Regime** (noun) – government, administration, authority, leadership, establishment शासन
- Red/ blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.
- **No-frills bank accounts** (noun) – a type of bank account that requires an individual to maintain a negligible or no minimum balance along with following some simple KYC norms

Vocabulary

1. **Pang** (noun) – a sudden sharp pain or painful emotion. कष्ट

2. **Bring into focus** (phrase) – to make something clear and understandable.

3. **Concern** (noun) – worry, apprehension, anxiety, unease, issue चिंता

4. **Limitation** (noun) – imperfection, flaw, shortcoming; restriction, curb, restraint बाधा

5. **Decentralized** (adjective) – distributed, devolved, deconcentrated; local, non-centralized, dispersed विकेन्द्रीकृत

6. **Innocuously** (adverb) – harmlessly, safely, inoffensively; without harm, without danger, benignly बिना हानि पहुँचाए

7. **Flag** (verb) – signal, indicate, point out; draw attention to, highlight, underline सूचित करना

8. **Home truth** (phrase) – an unpleasant fact about oneself, especially as pointed out by another person.

9. **Ambitious** (adjective) – aspiring, ambitious, eager; desirous, avid, zealous महत्वाकांक्षी

10. **Demographic** (adjective) – relating to the structure of populations. It deals with the statistical study of populations, including the structure, distribution, and trends in a population. जनसांख्यिकीय

11. **Stand out** (phrasal verb) – to be easily seen or noticed विशिष्ट होना

12. **Credential** (noun) – the qualities, experience, etc. that make somebody suitable for something साख

13. **Moot** (verb) – suggest, propose, put forward; raise, bring up, broach प्रस्तुत करना

14. **Lend weight to** (phrase) – support, corroborate, confirm; substantiate, validate, verify मजबूती देना

15. **Efficacy** (noun) – effectiveness, efficiency, power; capability, capacity, potency प्रभावोत्पादकता

16. **Often** (adverb) – frequently, regularly, habitually; repeatedly, again and again अक्सर

17. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – cause, lead to, bring about; produce, create, generate परिणाम होना

18. **Denial** (noun) – refusal, rejection, dismissal; contradiction, repudiation, rebuttal इनकार

19. **Humid** (adjective) – Moist, damp, muggy, wet नम

20. **Questionable** (adjective) – doubtful, dubious, uncertain; suspicious, suspect, untrustworthy संदिग्ध

21. **Relevance** (noun) – pertinence, applicability, appropriateness; connection, relation, correlation प्रासंगिकता

22. **Amid** (preposition) – in the middle of, surrounded by, among; between, amongst, amidst के बीच

23. **Push** (noun) – effort, endeavour, try; campaign, movement, drive प्रयास

24. **MGNREGA** (noun) – Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is an Indian labour law and social security measure that aims to guarantee the 'right to work' and ensure livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work

25. **Echoes** (verb) – Mirror, reflect, resonate, repeat गूँजना

26. **Vigorous** (adjective) – energetic, dynamic, spirited; intense, strong, powerful जोरदार

27. **Pursuit** (noun) – chase, quest, search; endeavor, effort, aspiration प्रयास

28. **Hesitation** (noun) – reluctance, uncertainty, indecision; pause, delay संकोच

29. **Manifest** (verb) – display, exhibit, demonstrate; reveal, make known प्रकट करना

30. **Remit** (verb) – send, transfer, dispatch; pay, hand over भेजना

31. **Back** (verb) – support, endorse, uphold; advocate, champion समर्थन करना

32. **No-frills** (adjective) – (used about a service or product) offering or including only the basic features without any unnecessary or added things, in order to keep the price low

33. **Indeed** (adverb) – certainly, truly, actually; really, undeniably वास्तव में

34. **Weed out** (phrasal verb) – eliminate, remove, get rid of; expel, exclude निकाल देना

35. **Instance** (noun) – example, case, occurrence; illustration उदाहरण

36. **Exist** (verb) – live, survive, be; have existence, be alive होना

37. **Audit** (noun) – examination, inspection, review; assessment, appraisal जांच

38. **Lapse** (noun) – mistake, error, fault; oversight, slip चूक

39. **Jeopardise** (verb) – endanger, risk, threaten; put at risk, imperil खतरे में डालना

40. **Compromise** (verb) – weaken, undermine, impair; jeopardize, endanger कमजोर करना

41. **Flaw** (noun) – defect, fault, imperfection; error, mistake दोष

42. **Lead to** (verb) – result in, cause, bring about; give rise to वजह बनना

43. **Push for** (phrasal verb) – advocate for, campaign for, work towards प्रचार करना

44. **Infrastructure** (noun) – structure, framework, base; facilities and systems संरचना

45. **Edifice** (noun) – building, structure, construction; complex, establishment संस्थान

46. **As a means of** (phrase) – a method, way, or manner to achieve something के माध्यम से

47. **Seek** (verb) – to search for or try to obtain something मांगना

48. **Course correction** (phrase) – making adjustments or alterations to the direction or methods initially decided upon to reach a goal or destination मार्ग सुधार

49. **Linkage** (noun) – connection, link, association; relationship जोड़

50. **Be it** (phrase) – Whether चाहे यह हो

51. **Electoral roll** (noun) – a list of persons who are eligible to vote in a particular electoral district मतदाता सूची

Summary of the Editorial

1. Moody's Investors Service released a report on global digital IDs, highlighting concerns with India's Aadhaar system.
2. Aadhaar is the world's largest digital ID programme, containing biometric and demographic details of over a billion residents.
3. Moody's flagged security and privacy risks associated with Aadhaar, citing it as a "centralised" digital ID system.
4. In centralized systems, a single entity controls identifying credentials, raising concerns about data privacy and security.
5. The report supports decentralized ID systems, giving users more control over their personal data.
6. There are concerns about Aadhaar's biometric-based authentication systems, especially in verifying the identities of manual labourers in hot, humid climates.
7. The government's push to switch all MGNREGA payments to Aadhaar-based systems is concerning given the ID's verification issues.
8. Aadhaar has become mandatory for welfare benefits, opening bank accounts, securing telephone connections, and paying taxes.
9. While Aadhaar has enabled direct transfer of benefits and reduced middlemen, there have been instances of exclusion due to lack of Aadhaar.
10. Labourers and senior citizens have faced challenges confirming their fingerprints and retina scans.
11. An audit of UIDAI revealed lapses jeopardizing privacy, compromising data security, and flaws in enrolment processes.
12. Issues of duplication and faulty biometrics were identified, indicating the need for improvements in Aadhaar's implementation.
13. India has promoted digital public infrastructure like Aadhaar for service delivery in G-20 nations and beyond.
14. The government appointed a part-time chief to UIDAI and is urged to review and correct the Aadhaar programme before expanding its use.
15. Moody's highlights the need for a thorough review and possible course correction to address the limitations and risks associated with Aadhaar.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the title of the passage**?
   A. The Success of Aadhaar
   B. Aadhaar's Impact on Welfare
   C. The Challenges and Concerns of Aadhaar
   D. Digital Transformation in India

2. **What is the main theme of the passage**?
   A. The benefits of the Aadhaar programme to the Indian population
   B. The technological advancement of India's digital identification system
   C. The issues and concerns associated with the Aadhaar programme
   D. The role of Moody's Investors Service in digital identification

3. **What is the tone of the given below statement**?
   "Having appointed a part-time chief to the UIDAI last month after four years, the government must seek an honest review of, and course correction in the Aadhaar programme, before expanding its linkages further, be it for electoral rolls, private entities or MGNREGA payments."
   A. Optimistic
   B. Celebratory
   C. Indifferent
   D. Prescriptive and Cautionary

4. **Which of the following statements is NOT correct based on the passage**?
   A. The Indian government is planning to switch all MGNREGA payments to an Aadhaar-based payment system.
   B. Aadhaar has eliminated the need for middlemen in the disbursement of welfare benefits.
   C. Moody's Investors Service has fully endorsed the security and privacy of Aadhaar.
   D. UIDAI has always had a full-time chief since its inception.

5. **Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage**?
   A. Aadhaar's biometric authentication is flawless.
   B. The Aadhaar program has faced criticism regarding privacy and data security.
   C. All residents of India have enrolled in the Aadhaar program.
   D. The Indian government has already addressed all concerns raised about Aadhaar.

6. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
   P. The Joshimath crisis has laid bare another equally serious challenge — the slow subsidence of Indian scientific research councils and academic institutions
   Q. The crisis in our scientific research organisations has been in the making for some time
   R. Like Joshimath town, which has been experiencing a gradual subsidence,
   S. Their foundational ground of rational and independent thinking, new ideas and scientific discourse is slowly sinking

A. PRSQ   B.PSRQ   C.SRQP   D. SPRQ

7. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
   P. When I would visit Makhu as a child travelling with my family during school holidays
   Q. Located on the railway line between Jalandhar and Ferozepur,
   R. Makhu must be a significant town now, but it was a small dot of a village
   S. Makhu is my Dadi's parental home

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

8. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
   P. I read a lot about food, but rarely write about it.
   Q. Today, I want to change that.
   R. I'm being dramatic, but, yes, sometimes tears are involved.
   S. My food stories are strange, hilarious, and somewhat tragic.

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

9. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
   A secret plan, made to do something (usually wrong)
   A. Strategy
   B. Planning
   C. Conditioning
   D. Conspiracy

10. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
    A. After a few months, the two countries engaged in the Kargil war.
    B. Furthermore, a number of violent wars were fought between India and Pakistan.
    C. ln February 1999, during the winter invasion, India and Pakistan signed the Lahore Declaration, which was predicated on peace.
    D. The engagements were extremely challenging for the Indian army since they had to fight on rough rocky terrain.
    A. DCAB
    B. CABD
    C. CDBA
    D. DABC

11. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
    By the skin of your teeth
    A. Confident of victory
    B. Kind towards the weak
    C. Determined to strike
    D. Just barely

12. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**
    I can't talk right now. / I am being really busy. / I'll call you later.

A. I can't talk right now
B. I am being really busy
C. No error
D. I'll call you later

13. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**

    To put off doing something, especially out of habitual carelessness or laziness

    A. Accelerate
    B. Lacerate
    C. Procrastinate
    D. Recuperate

14. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**

    Seldom had he been so joyous in other's happiness.

    A. Hardly
    B. Rarely
    C. Frequently
    D. Occasionally

15. **Describe how you will tell your friends that Rohit helps Reghu in passive voice.**

    A. Reghu will been helped by Rohit.
    B. Reghu is helped by Rohit.
    C. Rohit help Reghu.
    D. Reghu is being help by Rohit.

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

    They are playing songs so _____ that the entire neighbourhood is disturbed.

    A. lord
    B. loved
    C. laud
    D. loud

17. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice**

    The cards were being distributed by her to her friends.

    A. She was distributing the cards to her friends.
    B. Her friends were distributing the cards for her.
    C. The cards were been distributed to her friends.
    D. Her cards were distributed by her friends.

18. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**

    He brought **disgrace** to his family by being involved in illegal activities.

    A. Suspicion
    B. Shame
    C. Discord
    D. Honour

19. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**

    Divergence

    A. Convergence

B. Existence
C. Resilience
D. Transience

20. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A person who gives help and sympathy to people who need it.
A. Preacher
B. Moralist
C. Samaritan
D. Pardoner

Comprehension:

In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Read the passage carefully and select the most appropriate option to fill in each blank.

The Maasais live in (1)_____very beautiful part of Africa. They live on the wide plains in southern and northern Kenya and northern Tanzania. The area (2) ___ of miles of rolling grass land, on which you can find thorny bushes and rocky hills. The people move from one place to another according to the seasons, looking for grasses and other plants (3) _____ which their cattle can graze. They have no permanent home. When they want to settle in a place for some time, they build a kind of camp called a 'Manyatta', where a few families live for a (4) _____weeks or months. Then they move on again, taking their few (5) _____with them, and burning the old 'Manyatta' to the ground.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
A. a
B. that
C. their
D. Some

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
A. surrounds
B. measures
C. considers
D. Consists

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
A. on
B. by
C. with
D. at

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
A. little
B. significant
C. least
D. few

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

A. inhibitions
B. experiences
C. antiques
D. belongings

Answers

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

Explanation

1. C) Though the actual title of the passage isn't provided, option C would be a fitting title given the content of the passage. It discusses both the scale and ambition of the Aadhaar programme and the concerns raised about privacy, security, and efficacy, making "The Challenges and Concerns of Aadhaar" a suitable encapsulation.

2. C) The main theme of the passage is the issues and concerns associated with the Aadhaar programme. While it does mention the scale and reach of the programme, the focus is primarily on the challenges and risks it poses, including privacy and security risks, the reliability of biometric technologies, and instances of people being excluded from services due to lack of Aadhaar. These are raised by both Moody's Investors Service and an audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

3. D) The tone of the statement is prescriptive because it outlines a course of action that the government should follow, emphasizing the need for an "honest review" and "course correction" in the Aadhaar programme. It is cautionary because it warns of the potential risks of expanding the programme without first addressing existing issues, implying that caution should be exercised to avoid future problems.

4. C) Moody's Investors Service has fully endorsed the security and privacy of Aadhaar.
   - Option A: This is correct as the passage states, "the government's push to switch all payments under the MGNREGA to an Aadhaar-based payment system."
   - Option B: This is also correct. The passage mentions, "has indeed enabled the direct transfer of benefits to millions in welfare schemes and weeding out ghosts and middlemen."
   - Option C: This is not correct. Moody's red-flagged security and privacy risks from centralised digital ID systems like Aadhaar.
   - Option D: This option is correct because the passage mentions that the government appointed a part-time chief to the UIDAI last month after four years.

5. B) The Aadhaar program has faced criticism regarding privacy and data security.
   - Option A: This cannot be inferred as the passage talks about the unreliability of Aadhaar's biometric authentication, especially in certain climatic conditions and for manual laborers.
   - Option B: This can be inferred. The passage mentions Moody's concerns about security and privacy risks and an audit that flagged lapses in privacy and data security.
   - Option C: This cannot be inferred. While Aadhaar has a large number of enrollees, the passage does not state that every single resident of India is enrolled.

- Option D: This is incorrect as the passage highlights ongoing concerns about security, privacy, and efficacy that have not been fully addressed.

6. **B) PSRQ**

   P: It introduces the 'Joshimath crisis' and the problem in Indian scientific councils and institutions

   S: P introduces the problems with the councils and institutions, and S further explains the problems with them, providing more details about their foundational ground sinking

   R: R draws a comparison with Joshimath town experiencing gradual subsidence and serves as a metaphorical illustration for what is described in S

   Q: Q provides a general statement about the crisis in scientific research organizations, serving as a conclusion, and it doesn't introduce any new concept or noun that is referred to in other sentences. In option B, Q does come last.

7. **A) RPQS**

   Option Elimination Method

   Option B (RQSP): This could be a probable sequence as it starts with R, but placing Q immediately after R doesn't logically connect the general view with the specific geographical location. Also, the personal experience mentioned in P should precede the family connection in S.

   Option C (SRQP): Starting with S would not be appropriate as it directly gives a familial connection without introducing or describing Makhu.

   Option D (SPRQ): This sequence is incorrect as it starts with a familial connection and then shifts to personal experience, and then to geographical location.

   Option A (RPQS): This sequence is coherent and logical as it starts with a general overview, proceeds to a personal experience, provides a geographical description, and concludes with a familial connection, making it the correct sequence.

8. **D) PQSR**

   P: Sentence P introduces the subject, "I," who reads about food but rarely writes about it

   Q: Sentence Q indicates a change ("Today, I want to change that") in what was stated in sentence P. So, Q logically follows P

   S: Sentence S, referring to the food stories being "strange, hilarious, and somewhat tragic," fits logically after Q, which states a desire to change the usual behavior and presumably share these food stories

   R: Sentence R makes more sense to follow S, as R adds dramatic emphasis to the characteristics of the food stories mentioned in S.

9. D) **Conspiracy** (noun) – A secret plan by a group to do something unlawful or harmful. षड्यंत्र

   - **Strategy** (noun) – A plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall aim. रणनीति

   - **Planning** (noun) – The process of making plans for something. योजना

- **Conditioning** (noun) – The process of training or accustoming a person or animal to behave in a certain way or to accept certain circumstances. शर्तीकरण

10. B) **CABD**

In February 1999, during the winter invasion, India and Pakistan signed the Lahore Declaration, which was predicated on peace. After a few months, the two countries engaged in the Kargil war. . Furthermore, a number of violent wars were fought between India and Pakistan The engagements were extremely challenging for the Indian army since they had to fight on rough rocky terrain.

11. D**) By the skin of your teeth** (idiom) – Just barely बिलकुल थोड़े से

12. B) **'am being'** के बदले 'am' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि 'busy' एक Adjective है और इसे describe करने के लिए 'being' का प्रयोग नहीं होता; जैसे— I am really busy, I'll call you later.

- 'am' will be used instead of 'am being', because 'busy' is an adjective and 'being' is not used to describe it; Like— I am really busy, I'll call you later.

13. C) **Procrastinate** (verb) – To put off doing something, especially out of habitual carelessness or laziness. टाल-मटोल करना

- **Accelerate** (verb) – to increase the speed or rate of something; to move faster. गति बढ़ाना

- **Lacerate** (verb) – to tear or deeply cut something, especially the flesh or skin. फाड़ देना

- **Recuperate** (verb) – to recover or regain health or strength; to get back something lost. स्वस्थ होना

14. C) **Seldom** (adverb) – Rarely, infrequently, hardly ever, not often. कभी कभी

Antonym: **Frequently** (adverb) – Often, regularly, repeatedly, many times. बार-बार

- **Hardly** (adverb) – Barely, scarcely, only just, almost not. मुश्किल से

- **Rarely** (adverb) – Infrequently, not often, seldom, hardly ever. कभी कभी

- **Occasionally** (adverb) – Now and then, from time to time, sometimes, every so often. कभी-कभी

15. B) Reghu is helped by Rohit

16. D) **'Loud'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence पूरे पड़ोस को परेशान करने वाली ध्वनि की चर्चा कर रहा है। विकल्प 'D. loud' ध्वनि की उच्चता को दर्शाता है, जो गाने को पूरे पड़ोस में सुनाई दे रहा है। इसलिए, "loud" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- **Loud'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the sound that is disturbing the entire neighbourhood. Option 'D. loud' indicates the high volume of the songs that can be heard throughout the neighbourhood. Thus, "loud" would be the most appropriate choice.

17. A) She was distributing the cards to her friends.

18. **Disgrace** (noun) – Loss of reputation or respect, dishonor, shame, ignominy. अपमान

    Antonym**: Honour** (noun) – High respect, great esteem, integrity, reputation, prestige. सम्मान

    - **Suspicion** (noun) – Doubt, mistrust, skepticism, disbelief. संदेह
    - **Shame** (noun) – A painful feeling of humiliation, disgrace, dishonor, ignominy. शर्म
    - **Discord** (noun) – Disagreement, strife, conflict, disharmony. मतभेद

19. A) **Divergence** (noun) – The act of moving, lying, or extending in different directions from a common point; separation, difference, discrepancy. विचलन

    Antonym: **Convergence** (noun) – The act of moving toward one point or another converging point; coming together, meeting, junction. समाहार

    - **Existence** (noun) – Being, living, survival, presence. अस्तित्व
    - **Resilience** (noun) – Ability to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness, robustness, strength. लचीलापन
    - **Transience** (noun) – The state of lasting only for a short time; temporariness, fleetingness, ephemerality. अल्पकालिकता

20. C) **Samarbitan** (noun) – A person who gives help and sympathy to people who need it. सहायक

    - **Preacher** (noun) – A person who delivers sermons or gives religious speeches. धर्मोपदेशक
    - **Moralist** (noun) – A person who teaches or promotes morals and ethical principles. नैतिक शिक्षक
    - **Pardoner** (noun) – A person who forgives or pardons, often referring to sins or offenses. क्षमादानी

21. A) '**A**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "a" का अर्थ होता है "एक" जो इस संदर्भ में सबसे अधिक उपयुक्त है। जबकि 'That' का अर्थ होता है "वह", 'Their' का अर्थ होता है "उनका", और 'Some' का अर्थ होता है "कुछ", जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

    Note: In the given blanks, we require 'Article' so the only available options 'A' where article is available.

    - **'A'** should be used because it means "one" which is most appropriate in this context. Whereas, 'That' means "that specific", 'Their' means "belonging to them", and 'Some' implies "a certain unspecified amount", which don't fit in this context.

22. D) '**Consists**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "consists" का अर्थ होता है किसी विशेष चीज़ का होना या मिलना। इस संदर्भ में, वह क्षेत्र मीलों की बेलनी घास की भूमि से मिलता है, जिस पर काँटेदार झाड़ियाँ और चट्टानी पहाड़ियाँ होती हैं। 'Surrounds' का अर्थ होता है चारों ओर से घेरना,

'Measures' का अर्थ होता है नापना, और 'Considers' का अर्थ होता है विचार करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

Note: From the given preposition 'of' after blank, we can infer that we require a verb which takes preposition 'of' after it. So the only available option is D. consist, because 'consist' takes preposition 'of' after it.

- **'Consists'** should be used because it means to be made up of a particular thing or feature. In this context, the area is composed of miles of rolling grassland, on which you can find thorny bushes and rocky hills. Whereas, 'Surrounds' means to encircle, 'Measures' means to gauge, and 'Considers' means to think about, which don't fit in this context. Therefore, the correct option to fill in blank number 2 is D. 'Consists'.

23. A) **'On'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "on" का अर्थ होता है किसी विशेष चीज़ पर निर्भर करना। जो मासाई लोग अपनी मवेशियों को चराने के लिए घास और अन्य पौधों की तलाश में जाते हैं। जबकि 'By' का अर्थ है द्वारा, 'With' का अर्थ है साथ में, और 'At' का अर्थ है किसी विशेष स्थान पर, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
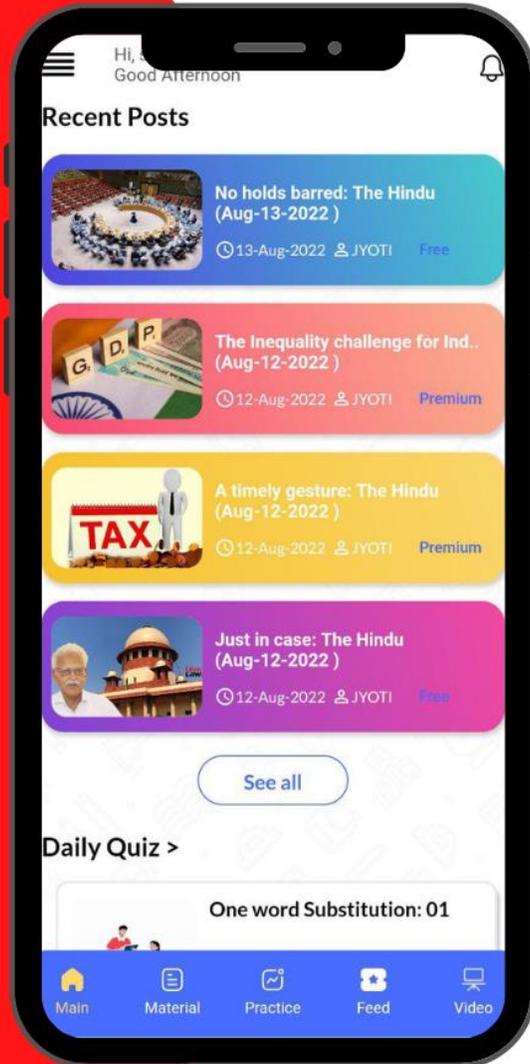
- 'On' should be used because it means to rely upon something specific. It refers to the Maasais seeking out grasses and other plants upon which their cattle can graze. Whereas, 'By' means through, 'With' means along with, and 'At' means at a particular place, which don't fit in this context.

24. D) **'few'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "few" का अर्थ होता है कुछ या थोड़ी संख्या में, जो इस संदर्भ में समय की अवधि को व्याप्त करता है। जबकि 'little' का अर्थ होता है थोड़ी मात्रा में, 'significant' का अर्थ होता है महत्वपूर्ण या बहुत अधिक, और 'least' का अर्थ होता है सबसे कम, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- 'few' should be used because it means a small number, encompassing the duration of time in this context. Whereas, 'little' means a small amount, 'significant' means important or very much, and 'least' means the smallest amount, which don't fit in this context.

25. D) 'Belongings' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "belongings" का अर्थ होता है व्यक्ति की व्यक्तिगत संपत्ति या वस्त्रादि, जो उसे अपने साथ ले जाना होता है। जबकि 'Inhibitions' का अर्थ होता है संकोच, 'Experiences' का अर्थ होता है अनुभव, और 'Antiques' का अर्थ होता है प्राचीन वस्त्रादि, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- 'Belongings' should be used because it refers to a person's personal possessions or items that they would take with them. Whereas, 'Inhibitions' means hesitations, 'Experiences' means occurrences, and 'Antiques' refers to ancient objects, which don't fit in this context.

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