

## At Asian Games, India fearlessly won medals against the might of superpowers

By winning 107 medals at the Hangzhou Asian Games, India for the first time entered the **elite** sporting club with a three-digit tally that has China, Japan and Korea as its regular members. Of course, with 200 golds, China is in a different league but India has made a start by clearing the **psychological** hurdle.

Helping to break the **barrier** were the **hard-fought** medals in **disciplines** where India is traditionally strong — shooting, hockey, wrestling and kabaddi. Shooting's **return** to **reckoning** with a catch of 22 medals including 7 golds — the most by any participating nation — **was** a **reassuring** sign of **regeneration**. At the range, India went **toe to toe** with China, displaying great depth of talent. The discipline was **outdone** only by athletics, which finished with 29 medals. Javelin star Neeraj Chopra's magical **consistency** offered **the wind beneath their wings** and provided a reminder that Olympics **podiums** were within reach.

Every medal, though, will be viewed from an Olympics **lens**. **Compound archery lorded** over the rest with complete **domination**, but is not yet an Olympics sport and hence sees **medal-digging** China ignore it. Rowing and boxing contributed five each, though, like wrestling, they have **fallen back** in **nauling down** golds and need to **pull up their socks** ahead of the Paris Games. The **churn** in wrestling for the greater good of women wrestlers' safety **was** necessary, and the missing gold medal **quality** of Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia **was** a moment to **reflect** on why the system is making it so difficult for its own athletes. Boxer Nikhat Zareen's missed gold was **a wakeup call** to not get **complacent** ahead of Paris. A gold missed — though silvers were **secured** — was also the **tale** in golf with Aditi Ashok and the men's team in badminton. However, Satwiksairaj Ranki Reddy and Chirag Shetty's **historic** first Asiad gold in men's doubles along with HS Prannoy's hard fought bronze saw India **strike back** a week later.

The most **heart-wrenching solo** silver belonged to Wushu's Roshibina Devi whose tears asked important questions — about why Manipur continues to burn and why her fellow Wushu players from Arunachal were denied a chance to compete by China's **stapled visa** policy. Cricket's two golds were a **farce**, raising questions over the suitability of the sport in multi-sport Games when rains could **bring it to a grinding halt**. But **perhaps** the most memorable bronze will be Ayhika and Sutirtha Mukherjee beating China in quarters of table tennis doubles. **Defending** their **strongholds** in hockey and kabaddi **was** important, but **the medals** in table tennis and badminton in world class fields **point to** real progress — fearlessly winning medals against the might of Asian superpowers. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Might** (noun) – Power, strength, force, dominance, potency शक्ति
2. **Elite** (adjective) – Superior, top, premier, foremost, select उत्कृष्ट
3. **Psychological** (adjective) – Mental, emotional, cerebral, cognitive, intellectual मानसिक
4. **Barrier** (noun) – Obstacle, blockade, hurdle, impediment, roadblock अवरोध
5. **Hard-fought** (adjective) – won, achieved, or contested with vigorous effort. कठिनाई से हासिल
6. **Discipline** (noun) – Field, area, subject, domain, specialty क्षेत्र
7. **Reckoning** (noun) – the action or process of calculating or estimating something. गणना
8. **Reassuring** (adjective) – Comforting, heartening, encouraging, soothing, calming धीरज देनेवाला
9. **Regeneration** (noun) – Renewal, revival, rebirth, rejuvenation, resurgence पुनरुत्पन्न
10. **Toe to toe** (phrase) – (of two people) standing directly in front of one another, especially in order to fight or argue. एक दूसरे के सामने होना
11. **Outdo** (verb) – Surpass, exceed, outshine, eclipse, transcend पार करना
12. **Consistency** (noun) – Steadiness, stability, regularity, uniformity, unchangingness स्थिरता
13. **The wind beneath their wings** (phrase) – A source of support and encouragement; the force that propels someone to greater heights समर्थन और प्रेरणा का स्रोत
14. **Podium** (noun) – Platform, stage, dais, stand, pedestal मंच
15. **Lens** (noun) – Perspective, viewpoint, focus, angle, approach दृष्टिकोण
16. **Compound archery** (noun) – A modern archery discipline using a bow with pulleys and levers. Definition provided as no synonyms are directly available.
17. **Lord** (verb) – Rule, dominate, govern, preside over, reign प्रभुत्व करना
18. **Domination** (noun) – Control, command, mastery, supremacy, ascendancy प्रधानता
19. **Medal-digging** (adjective) – Definition: The active pursuit of medals, especially in sports. पदक खोजने का आवेश
20. **Fall back** (phrasal verb) – Retreat, withdraw, pull back, recede, regress पीछे हटना

21. **Nail down** (phrasal verb) – Secure, finalize, pin down, establish, clinch प्राप्त करना
22. **Pull up one's socks** (phrase) – Improve oneself, get serious, take action, buckle down, make an effort अधिक प्रयास करना
23. **Churn** (noun) – Turbulence, agitation, stir, tumult, upheaval उथल-पुथल, खलबली
24. **Reflect** (verb) – Ponder, contemplate, think about, mull over, consider विचार करना
25. **A wakeup call** (noun) – Alert, warning, caution, reminder, alarm चेतावनी
26. **Complacent** (adjective) – Self-satisfied, smug, self-contented, unconcerned, indifferent आत्म-संतुष्ट
27. **Secure** (verb) – Obtain, acquire, get, attain, procure प्राप्त करना
28. **Tale** (noun) – Story, narration, account, yarn, chronicle कथा
29. **Historic** (adjective) – Significant, important, momentous, notable, renowned ऐतिहासिक
30. **Strike back** (phrase) – Retaliate, respond, hit back, counterattack, fight back बदला लेना
31. **Heart-wrenching** (adjective) – Heartbreaking, distressing, sorrowful, sad, grievous दिल दहला देने वाला
32. **Solo** (adjective) – Alone, individual, single, unaccompanied, by oneself अकेला
33. **Stapled visa** (noun) – A type of visa which is not stamped or affixed in the passport but is separately attached or stapled to it
34. **Farce** (noun) – Mockery, absurdity, buffoonery, travesty, joke तमाशा
35. **Bring it to a grinding halt** (phrase) – Stop completely, cease abruptly, bring to a standstill, stop dead, come to a screeching halt एकदम से रुकाव
36. **Perhaps** (adverb) – Maybe, possibly, conceivably, perchance, potentially शायद
37. **Stronghold** (noun) – Fortress, bastion, fortress, citadel, redoubt गढ़
38. **Point to** (phrasal verb) – Indicate, suggest, signal, denote, show towards इशारा करना

## Summary of the Editorial

1. India won 107 medals at the Hangzhou Asian Games, entering the three-digit medal tally club for the first time.
2. This achievement places India alongside sporting giants China, Japan, and Korea.
3. China, however, remains unparalleled with 200 gold medals.
4. India showcased strength in traditional disciplines like shooting, hockey, wrestling, and kabaddi.
5. In shooting, India secured 22 medals, including 7 golds, the highest by any nation.
6. Athletics was the top-performing discipline for India with 29 medals, bolstered by javelin star Neeraj Chopra.
7. Compound archery showed dominance, but it's not an Olympic sport, so powerhouse China doesn't focus on it.
8. Rowing and boxing contributed five medals each; however, both disciplines need improvement for the upcoming Paris Games.
9. There's a need for reflection on the challenges faced by top wrestlers like Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia.
10. Boxer Nikhat Zareen's missed gold and other missed opportunities indicate a need for more preparation ahead of the Paris Games.
11. Significant achievements include the historic Asiad gold in men's doubles badminton and HS Prannoy's bronze.
12. Wushu's Roshibina Devi's silver medal brought attention to political issues like China's visa policy and the situation in Manipur.
13. The inclusion of cricket raised questions due to its susceptibility to weather interruptions.
14. Notable victories against China came in table tennis doubles and the bronze won by Ayhika and Sutirtha Mukherjee.
15. India's medals in table tennis and badminton against top Asian competitors highlight genuine progress in the sports arena.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, what did the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decide regarding interest rates?** [Editorial Page]
  - A. Increased the interest rates
  - B. Decreased the interest rates
  - C. Left the interest rates unchanged
  - D. Didn't mention the interest rates
2. **Which of the following is NOT a measure or action the RBI is hoping would provide relief to price pressures, as mentioned in the passage?**
  - A. Reduction in domestic LPG prices
  - B. Lowering of vegetable prices
  - C. Open Market Operation sales of securities
  - D. Decrease in kharif sowing of crucial oilseeds and pulses
3. **Why is there hesitation from the RBI to raise interest rates, despite recognizing the risk of inflation?**
  - A. They believe inflation is a temporary issue that will resolve on its own
  - B. They are confident about the current growth momentum of the economy
  - C. Concerns exist that the growth momentum remains fragile and there's debate over the accuracy of economic growth estimates
  - D. They are awaiting international guidelines on the matter
4. **What tone does the passage primarily adopt?**
  - A. Jubilant
  - B. Critical
  - C. Neutral
  - D. Enthusiastic
5. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
  - A. The methodology behind economic growth estimates.
  - B. The uneven monsoon impact on GDP growth.
  - C. RBI's Monetary Policy Committee's stance on interest rates amidst inflation concerns.
  - D. The effect of vegetable prices on monetary policy.
6. **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. Denis Villeneuve's exquisite adaptation of Frank Herbert's science fiction classic, Dune, won the maximum awards. Of the 10 nominations, Dune: Part One (as it is titled onscreen), won six. The golden man went to Hans Zimmer's score, sound, editing, visual effects, cinematography and production design

- b. Everything from The Power of The Dog winning only one of its 12 nominations to the silent applause and standing ovation for Troy Kotsur’s Best Supporting Actor win in CODA was swept off the table in the face of Will Smith’s altercation with Chris Rock
- c. The neo-western, The Power of the Dog, based on Thomas Savage’s eponymous novel, apart from other things, deals with toxic masculinity, which is what the Smith-Rock confrontation was at one level. In other Oscar news, the heart-warming coming-of-age story, CODA directed by Siân Heder won all three awards it was nominated for
- d. Smith, who went on to win the Best Actor Award for his role as Richard Williams in King Richard, slapped Rock when the actor and comedian made a ‘joke’ about Smith’s wife, Jada Pinkett Smith’s hair loss

- A. abcd
- B. dcab
- C. bdca
- D. adbc

7. **For the four-sentence (S1 to S4) paragraph below, sentences S1 and S4 are given. From the options P, Q, R and S select the appropriate sentences for S2 and S3, respectively.**

**S1:** The latest string of official numbers, including almost-record GST collections, healthy direct tax inflows, strong manufacturing and exports, provide some confidence that the economy has lurched back from the danger zone for the second time in less than a year owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**S4:** If September’s activity reflects pre-festive stocking, the actual festive spending (October-November) may keep GST numbers propped up, but it would be critical to wait for the post-celebration trajectory.

- P. Consumer price index (CPI) based inflation is expected to ease below 4 per cent in fiscal 2024-25 if monsoon remains normal and there are no further policy shocks, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said.
- Q. But the healing is still too uneven. GST revenues in October, for transactions done in September, crossed ₹1.3-lakh crore.
- R. “For 2024-25, assuming a normal monsoon, and no further exogenous or policy shocks, structural model estimates indicate that inflation will average 4.5 per cent, in a range of 3.8-5.2 per cent,” the RBI said in its Monetary Policy Report for October 2023.
- S. The Finance Ministry believes this kitty would have been higher if sales of cars and products dependent on chips were not afflicted by shortages.

- A. Q and S
- B. P and R
- C. Q and P
- D. R and S

8. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph**

- P. In her ruling, judge Vanessa Baraitser said “the mental condition of Mr. Assange is such that it would be oppressive to extradite him to the U.S.” While it is a small victory for his lawyers and supporters, their fight to prevent his extradition and secure his freedom is far from over
- Q. She also observed that his conduct “took him outside the role of investigative journalism”, agreeing with the U.S. authorities’ assertion on WikiLeaks. Mr. Assange, who is wanted in the U.S. on multiple charges of breaking espionage laws and conspiring to hack a military computer, has repeatedly defended his organisation’s operations, terming them public interest journalism
- R. The decision by a British district judge to block the extradition of Julian Assange to the U.S. on the grounds of his mental health is a temporary setback to America’s efforts to try the WikiLeaks founder under its law on spying charges
- S. Judge Baraitser has blocked his extradition only on medical grounds because she thought his possible detention in isolation in the U.S. would likely result in a suicide attempt. She rejected the defence lawyers’ arguments that Mr. Assange’s prosecution was politically motivated and violated his rights to free expression
- A. RPSQ  
B. SPRQ  
C. RQPS  
D. QRPS
9. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that gives their correct logical sequence.**
- A. Since its onset in 2017, the GST regime to subsume multiple State and Central levies was criticised for far too many tax rates that were amenable to creating complications instead of simplifying taxation
- B. The Government had hinted that rates could be reviewed once the system stabilised. Now, with GST in its fifth year, the Government has assessed it is about time to consider a reboot, partly because revenues are falling short of expectations, despite healthy monthly collections
- C. Next month, a Group of Ministers set up by the GST Council is expected to propose changes, including merging slabs, with a road map for immediate, short- and medium-term changes
- D. This mandate marked an expansion of its initially stated task of rationalising tax rates to bolster revenues. To recap, there are eight effective GST rates, including zero on essential goods, standard rates of 5%, 12% and 18% for most goods and services, and a 28% tax plus GST Compensation Cess on sin or demerit goods
- A. DACB  
B. ABCD  
C. CABD  
D. BDAC
10. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**  
Place where grains are stored.
- A. Tannery

- B. Pantry  
C. Mint  
D. Granary
11. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**  
A big clumsy often slow-witted person  
A. Slouch  
B. Chump  
C. Oaf  
D. Ape
12. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**  
One who cannot hear  
A. Illegible  
B. Inaudible  
C. Dumb  
D. Deaf
13. **Select the most appropriate synonym to substitute the underlined word.**  
My mother said to me that she had gone through a very strict and traditional education.  
A. analogy  
B. demagoguery  
C. pedagogy  
D. Mythology
14. **Correct the sentence with the appropriate form of the underline verb.**  
Parents should tell their children to exercise great care when crossed busy roads.  
A. has crossed  
B. crossing  
C. cross  
D. has been crossing
15. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given word.**  
Termagant  
A. One who speaks many languages  
B. Overscrupulous about minute details  
C. A magnet with strong polarity  
D. A violent, overbearing, turbulent, brawling, quarrelsome woman
16. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**  
Hit the jackpot  
A. Found a piece of gold  
B. Harm the opportunity  
C. Receiving a reward  
D. Gaining a big success
17. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**  
This compartment is reserved for military person.



- A. military personal
- B. military personality
- C. military members
- D. military personnel

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

Lament

- A. Deplore
- B. Decry
- C. Celebrate
- D. Regret

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

One should not Yell at children.

- A. Notify
- B. Indemnify
- C. Whisper
- D. Terrorise

20. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.

Misanthropic

- A. Humanitarian
- B. Sociable
- C. Antisocial
- D. Philanthropic

**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.**

Money does not come from trees, as my grandmother used to say; But seeing it (1) \_\_\_\_\_ from machines would shock her! Slip a card into a machine, press a couple of buttons and find new and fresh notes carrying out of a space this is a standard undertaking today.

Today, ATMs, or automated teller machines, can be found in most towns and cities. You are able to withdraw cash at any time, day or night, because they typically (2) \_\_\_\_\_ around the clock. In 1968, Don Wetzel, along with Tom Barnes and George Chastan, developed the first modern and successful ATM in the United States. Although the ATM concept was first (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in 1968, a functional prototype was constructed in 1969, and Docutel was granted a patent in 1973. A 'data terminal' is all an ATM is. A point where data can be entered or retrieved via a link to the 'Boss-in-Charge', a large computer known as a host processor, is referred to as a 'data terminal'. Many of these terminals are connected to this host processor, which is spread out (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the city or country. Usually, the host processor belongs to the bank. If it is a dial-up device, it connects to the various terminals via a modem and telephone line. Alternately, the host processor may establish a 'leased line connection' with all ATMs. This indicates that a modem is not required to dial into a single telephone line that is solely dedicated to the host processor. This line can only be used by you. It is always accessible

to the boss-in-charge for his or her exclusive use. These exclusive lines are expensive, but they are useful in areas where daily transactions are extremely high. The host processor connects to the ATMs via either a dial-up or leased line connection, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ on the bank and the number of customers it serves.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 1.**

- A. grow
- B. discover
- C. emerge
- D. Create

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 2.**

- A. conduct
- B. employ
- C. operate
- D. Control

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 3.**

- A. proposed
- B. preferred
- C. filed
- D. Ordered

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 4.**

- A. behind
- B. for
- C. beside
- D. across

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 5.**

- A. depending
- B. drooping
- C. turning
- D. resting

## Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

## Explanation

1. C) The passage states that the "RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) [decided] to leave interest rates unchanged."
2. D) The passage mentions that "the MPC is hoping that the recent reduction in domestic LPG prices combined with a lowering of vegetable prices would provide some near-term respite to price pressures." The Open Market Operation sales of securities is mentioned as a measure to suck out excess funds, not to provide relief to price pressures. The decrease in kharif sowing is listed as a risk, not as a relief measure.
3. C) The passage indicates that "The RBI's unwillingness to walk the talk and raise interest rates further... reflects an unstated concern that the growth momentum still remains rather tenuous. The recent debate on the integrity of the NSO's data on economic growth estimates... have to be seen in tandem with economic forecasters' increased caution over India's GDP growth outlook for the current fiscal year." This suggests concerns over the fragility of the growth momentum and doubts about the accuracy of growth estimates are reasons for the RBI's hesitation.
4. B) The passage exhibits a critical tone as it scrutinizes the decisions of the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee, points out the misjudgment of inflationary trends, and emphasizes the RBI's unwillingness to adjust interest rates even in light of certain economic indicators.
5. C) The central focus of the passage revolves around the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee and its decisions pertaining to interest rates, particularly in light of rising inflation. While other themes are discussed, they are contextual and support the primary theme of the MPC's stance on interest rates.
6. C) **bdca**
  - **Sentence b** talks about the main events of the day, giving an overview of different awards and ending with a mention of the confrontation between Will Smith and Chris Rock. This makes it a likely starting sentence, as it sets the scene and the main topic (Will Smith's altercation with Chris Rock).
  - **Sentence d** provides further details on the Smith-Rock confrontation, specifically the reason why Smith slapped Rock. It's logical that details of an event would follow an introductory mention of the same event. Thus, after sentence b, sentence d is the most logical choice.
  - **Sentence c** starts by discussing another movie, "The Power of the Dog," but interestingly, it connects the theme of this movie to the Smith-Rock confrontation, making it a continuation from sentence d. Moreover, it introduces the film "CODA" and its achievement.

- **Sentence a** moves away from the Smith-Rock altercation and delves into the awards that "Dune" received, acting as a conclusion to the paragraph that summarizes the overall Oscar achievements.
7. A) **Q and S**
- **S1:** ... owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - **Q.** But the healing is still too uneven. GST revenues in October, for transactions done in September, crossed ₹1.3-lakh crore.
  - **S:** The Finance Ministry believes this kitty would have been higher if sales of cars and products dependent on chips were not afflicted by shortages.
  - **S4:** ... wait for the post-celebration trajectory.
8. A) **RPSQ**
- **Sentence R** sets the context of the paragraph, discussing a decision by a British judge about Julian Assange's extradition to the U.S. This sentence introduces the main topic, so it is a good starting point.
  - **Sentence P** delves deeper into the reason given by the judge for her decision, naming her as "judge Vanessa Baraitser." This clearly follows Sentence R since it explains the decision in detail.
  - **Sentence S** offers further insight into Judge Baraitser's reasoning and also provides a counter-argument to her decision. This sentence expands upon the "medical grounds" aspect mentioned in Sentence P.
  - **Sentence Q** introduces another aspect of the judge's observation about Assange's actions and brings up his defense of WikiLeaks' operations. This comes after discussing the medical reasons, giving a broader perspective on the entire case.
9. B) **ABCD**
- A speaks about the criticism faced by the GST regime since its onset in 2017.
  - B tells us what the government had hinted regarding the review of rates and states that it is the fifth year of GST.
  - C talks about an upcoming proposal by a Group of Ministers.
  - D provides specifics about the current GST rates
10. D) **Granary** (noun) – Place where grains are stored. **अन्नागार**
- **Tannery** (noun) – A place where animal hides are tanned to produce leather. **चमड़ा बनाने की जगह**
  - **Pantry** (noun) – A small room or closet in which food, dishes, and utensils are kept. **रसोईघर का एक छोटा कमरा**
  - **Mint** (noun) – A place where coins are made. **सिक्का बनाने की जगह**
11. C) **Oaf** (noun) – A big clumsy often slow-witted person **गँवार आदमी**

- **Slouch** (noun) – A person with a drooping posture, or an act of drooping or a lazy person. **ढीला आदमी**
  - **Chump** (noun) – A foolish or easily deceived person **मूर्ख**
  - **Ape** (noun) – a large primate that lacks a tail, including the gorilla, chimpanzees, orangutan, and gibbons.
12. D) **Deaf** (noun) - Lacking the power of hearing or having impaired hearing. **बहरा**
- **Illegible** (adjective) - Not clear enough to be read. **अपठनीय**
  - **Inaudible** (adjective) - Unable to be heard. **अश्रव्य**
  - **Dumb** (adjective) - Lacking the power of speech, often used to describe someone who cannot speak due to a physical or developmental condition. **मूक**
13. C) **Education** (Noun) - the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university. **शिक्षा**
- Pedagogy** (noun) – The method and practice of teaching, especially as an academic subject or theoretical concept. **शिक्षाशास्त्र**
- **Analogy** (noun) – A comparison between two things for the purpose of explanation or clarification. **समानता**
  - **Demagogy** (noun) – Political activity or practices that seek support by appealing to the desires and prejudices of ordinary people rather than by using rational argument. **जनसमर्थन प्राप्ति**
  - **Mythology** (noun) – A collection of myths, especially one belonging to a particular religious or cultural tradition. **पुराण**
14. B) 'crossed' के बदले 'crossing' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ एक simultaneous action को दर्शाने के लिए present participle का उपयोग होगा।
- **crossing** will be used instead of 'crossed' because a present participle is used to indicate a simultaneous action.
15. D) 'Termagant' का सबसे उपयुक्त अर्थ है एक हिंसक, जोरदार, उत्तेजित, बवालू, झगड़ालू महिला।  
The most appropriate meaning of 'Termagant' is a violent, overbearing, turbulent, brawling, quarrelsome woman.
16. D) **Hit the jackpot** (idiom) – Gaining a big success **बड़ी सफलता पाना**
17. D) '**military person**' के बदले '**military personnel**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि '**personnel**' सैन्य कर्मियों को संदर्भित करता है जबकि '**person**' एक व्यक्ति को संदर्भित करता है। जैसे— The office has hired new personnel.
- '**military personnel**' will be used instead of '**military person**' because '**personnel**' refers to military staff or workers, while '**person**' refers to an individual. Like— The office has hired new personnel.

18. C) **Lament** (verb) – To express sorrow, mourning, or regret for, often demonstratively; to mourn. शोक

Antonym: **Celebrate** (verb) – To observe a notable occasion with festivities, to praise or to mark something with some kind of ceremony or festive event. जश्न

- **Deplore** (verb) – To feel or express strong disapproval of something; to regret deeply. निंदा करना
- **Decry** (verb) – To publicly denounce or criticize; to express strong disapproval of. आलोचना करना
- **Regret** (verb) – To feel sorry or distressed about something one has done or failed to do. पछताना

19. C) **Yell** (verb) – To shout loudly, scream, bellow. चिल्लाना

Antonym: **Whisper** (verb) – To speak very softly or quietly, murmur, mumble. कानाफूसी करना

- **Notify** (verb) – To inform, tell, advise, alert. सूचित करना
- **Indemnify** (verb) – To compensate for harm or loss, reimburse, pay back. हानि भरपाई करना
- **Terrorise** (verb) – To cause extreme fear, intimidate, threaten. आतंकित करना

20. C) **Misanthropic** (adjective) – Disliking humankind and avoiding human society, cynical, distrustful of human nature. मानव द्वेषी

Synonym: **Antisocial** (adjective) – Unwilling or unable to associate in a normal or friendly way with other people, asocial, unsociable. समाज विरोधी

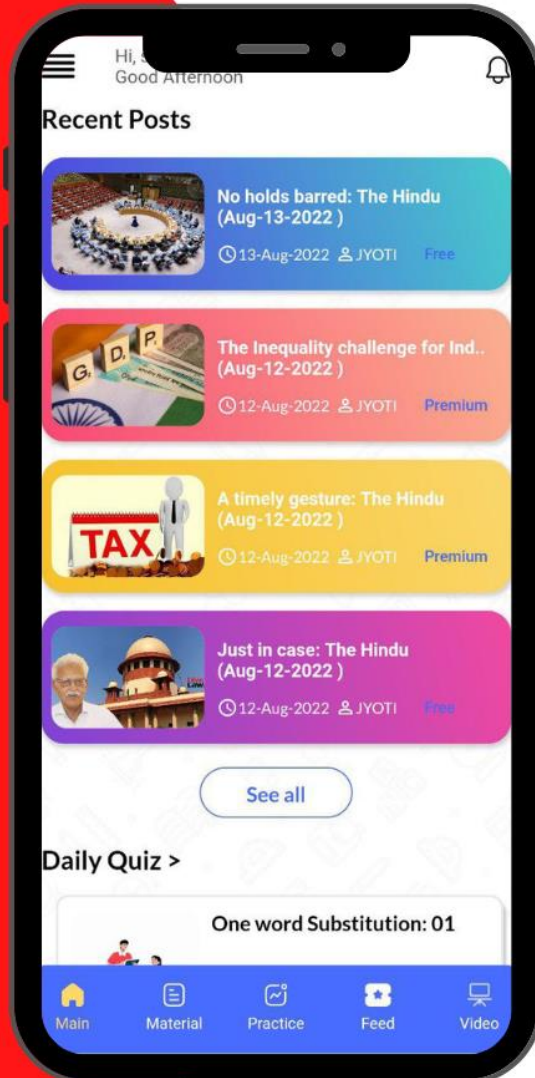
- **Humanitarian** (adjective/noun) – Concerned with or seeking to promote human welfare, compassionate, benevolent. मानवता वादी
- **Sociable** (adjective) – Willing to talk and engage in activities with other people, friendly, outgoing. मैलजोलपसंद
- **Philanthropic** (adjective) – Seeking to promote the welfare of others, especially by donating money to good causes, charitable, benevolent. परोपकारी

21. C) 'Emerge' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "emerge" का अर्थ होता है प्रकट होना या दिखाई देना।

जबकि 'Grow' का अर्थ है बढ़ना, 'Discover' का अर्थ है पता चलना या खोजना, और 'Create' का अर्थ है बनाना या रचना करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- 'Emerge' should be used because it means to come out or become visible. Whereas, 'Grow' implies increase or development, 'Discover' means to find out or unearth, and 'Create' means to produce or bring into existence, which don't fit in this context.

22. C) '**Operate**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "operate" का अर्थ होता है कार्य करना या संचालित होना। जबकि 'Conduct' का अर्थ है प्रवृत्ति या व्यवहार, 'Employ' का अर्थ है रोजगार में रखना, और 'Control' का अर्थ है नियंत्रण में रखना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Operate**' should be used because it means to function or work. Whereas, 'Conduct' means behavior or action, 'Employ' means to put to use or hire, and 'Control' means to direct or regulate, which don't fit in this context.
23. A) '**Proposed**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "proposed" का अर्थ होता है प्रस्तावित करना। जबकि 'Preferred' का अर्थ है पसंद करना, 'Filed' का अर्थ है फाइल में रखना या नामांकन करना, और 'Ordered' का अर्थ है आज्ञा देना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Proposed**' should be used because it means to put forward for consideration or discussion. Whereas, 'Preferred' means to like better or value more highly, 'Filed' means to place on record or to submit officially, and 'Ordered' means to give an authoritative direction or instruction, which don't fit in this context.
24. D) '**Across**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "across" का अर्थ होता है किसी विस्तार या क्षेत्र में फैला होना। जबकि 'Behind' का अर्थ होता है पीछे, 'For' का अर्थ होता है किसी उद्देश्य के लिए, और 'Beside' का अर्थ होता है किसी के बगल में, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Across**' should be used because it implies spread over an area or region. Whereas, 'Behind' means at the back of, 'For' denotes purpose, and 'Beside' means next to, which don't fit in this context.
25. A) '**Depending**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "depending" का अर्थ होता है निर्भर करना। जबकि 'Drooping' का अर्थ है झुकना, 'Turning' का अर्थ है मोड़ना, और 'Resting' का अर्थ है आराम करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Depending**' should be used because it means to rely upon or be contingent on something. Whereas, 'Drooping' means to sag down, 'Turning' means to change direction, and 'Resting' implies relaxation or a halt, which don't fit in this context.



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