

Closer together: On the India-Bhutan talks and the plans ahead

India and Bhutan can change the development story of the region

The **decision** by India and Bhutan to focus on **infrastructure** and connectivity during talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bhutan's fifth King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck **is** an important **marker** towards more **bilaterally driven** regional initiatives. A joint statement speaks of completing surveys for the Kokrajhar-Gelephu rail link that connects Bhutan to Assam, and beginning discussions on another Bhutan to West Bengal rail link, while also **facilitating** Bhutan-Bangladesh trade, with yet another rail link, and upgrading checkpoints along the India-Bhutan border. These plans **foretell** a future that could well change the development story of the region, including West Bengal and the northeast, Bhutan's south and east dzongkhags (districts), as well as Northern Bangladesh. Bhutan's economy has been dependent on hydropower and tourism revenues, and has been particularly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic as well as worries over **global warming**. A lack of opportunities has also **led to emigration** by educated youth and professionals. **The new project proposed** by the king, to build a **Special Economic Zone** at Bhutan's southern border with Assam, and an **airport** at Gelephu, **are** expected to drive growth and investment to the kingdom. **In addition**, Bangladesh's **signing** of a **Preferential Trade Agreement** with Bhutan in 2020 **could** increase Bhutanese export of local produce and build more markets for Indian and Bangladeshi producers in the sub-region. India's "**energy exchange**", which is bringing more Bhutanese and Nepali hydropower suppliers online, while planning to distribute energy to Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, **will** drive **intra-regional** growth and revenues. This would also power New Delhi's attempt at **bridging** the economic **gap** with the northeast, while drawing development partners like the World Bank and donor countries like Japan into the creation of a "sub-regional hub".

Efficient and time-bound **execution** is, therefore, key to such **ambitious** plans. **Given** India's problems with Pakistan and **sanctions** on Myanmar for the 2021 **coup** blocking the path for trade and land connectivity to the East, working with other countries on India's **periphery** to build connectivity, markets and energy links is the most **sustainable way forward**. In the longer term, **geopolitical** conflicts and **anti-globalisation** trends are forcing regional groupings to be more **cohesive**, something South Asia has not been able to achieve as yet. As India worries about China's push into South Asian trade, infrastructure projects and **strategic** ties, including concerns over a Bhutan-China boundary agreement's **overhang** over Doklam and India's "Chicken Neck" (Siliguri Corridor) route, these are ideas which will offer more security and **prosperity** for the countries involved, with particular benefits for Bhutan, India's traditionally trusted partner in the region. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Infrastructure** (noun) – Basic facilities, Framework, Systems, Installations, Services
संरचना
2. **Marker** (noun) – Indicator, Benchmark, Signpost, Milestone, Beacon संकेतक
3. **Bilaterally** (adverb) – Mutually, Jointly, Reciprocally, Together, In conjunction
पारस्परिक रूप से
4. **Drive** (verb) – Propel, Spur, Push, Stimulate, Motivate प्रेरित करना
5. **Facilitate** (verb) – Ease, Assist, Enable, Simplify, Expedite सुगम बनाना
6. **Foretell** (verb) – Predict, Prognosticate, Forecast, Presage, Augur भविष्यवाणी करना
7. **Global warming** (noun) – A gradual increase in the overall temperature of the earth's atmosphere generally attributed to the greenhouse effect caused by increased levels of carbon dioxide, chlorofluorocarbons, and other pollutants.
8. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, Cause, Bring about, Produce, Give rise to वजह बनना
9. **Emigration** (noun) – Departure, Migration, Exodus, Relocation, Displacement प्रवास
10. **Propose** (verb) – Suggest, Recommend, Advocate, Advise, Put forward प्रस्तावित करना
11. **Special Economic Zone** (noun) – An area in which the business and trade laws are different from the rest of the country to encourage economic activity.
12. **In addition** (phrase) – Moreover, Furthermore, Also, Additionally, Besides
इसके अलावा
13. **Preferential Trade Agreement** (noun) – A trade pact between countries that provides for the reduction of tariffs for certain products to the countries who sign the agreement.
14. **Intra-** (adjective) – Within, Inside, Internal, Inward भीतरी
15. **Bridge the gap** (phrase) – Narrow the distance, Reduce differences, Unite, Connect, Close the gap अंतर को कम करना
16. **Execution** (noun) – Implementation, Enactment, Fulfillment, Realization, Performance क्रियान्वयन
17. **Ambitious** (adjective) – Driven, Aspiring, Determined, Enterprising, Ambition-filled
महत्वाकांक्षी
18. **Given** (preposition) – Considering, Taking into account, With regard to, On account of देखते हुए
19. **Sanction** (noun) – Penalty, Embargo, Prohibition, Restriction, Ban प्रतिबंध

20. **Coup** (noun) – Overthrow, Takeover, Insurrection, Rebellion, Uprising तख्तापलट
21. **Periphery** (noun) – Boundary, Outskirts, Edge, Border, Margin परिधि
22. **Sustainable** (adjective) – Viable, Feasible, Eco-friendly, Enduring, Renewable टिकाऊ
23. **Way forward** (phrase) – Progress, Direction ahead, Course of action, Path to take, Next steps आगे का रास्ता
24. **Geopolitical** (adjective) – Strategic, Political geography, Geostrategic, Geopolitics-related भू-राजनीतिक
25. **Anti-globalisation** (noun) – Opposition to the increase of the global power and influence of businesses, especially multinational corporations, and the decrease in power and influence of individual states. वैश्वीकरण-विरोधी
26. **Cohesive** (adjective) – United, Connected, Coherent, Integrated, Bonded जोड़नेवाला
27. **Strategic** (adjective) – Tactical, Planned, Calculated, Deliberate, Scheming रणनीतिक
28. **Overhang** (noun) – something that has a negative effect on a situation
29. **Prosperity** (noun) – Wealth, Success, Affluence, Richness, Boom समृद्धि

Summary of the editorial

1. India and Bhutan's focus on infrastructure and connectivity during talks is a significant step towards regional development.
2. The joint statement mentions the Kokrajhar-Gelephu rail link and discussions on a Bhutan-West Bengal rail link, enhancing Bhutan-Bangladesh trade, and upgrading India-Bhutan border checkpoints.
3. These plans have the potential to reshape the development landscape in the region, benefiting West Bengal, the northeast, Bhutan, and northern Bangladesh.
4. Bhutan's economy heavily relies on hydropower and tourism, which suffered due to the COVID-19 pandemic and global warming concerns.
5. Lack of opportunities has led to emigration of educated youth and professionals from Bhutan.
6. King's proposed projects, including a Special Economic Zone at the southern border with Assam and an airport at Gelephu, aim to boost growth and investment.
7. Bhutan's Preferential Trade Agreement with Bangladesh can increase Bhutanese exports and create more markets in the sub-region.
8. India's energy exchange, involving Bhutanese and Nepali hydropower suppliers, will stimulate intra-regional growth and revenue.
9. This aligns with India's efforts to bridge the economic gap in the northeast and attract development partners like the World Bank and Japan.
10. Timely and efficient execution is crucial for these ambitious plans to succeed.
11. Given issues with Pakistan and Myanmar sanctions, working with neighboring countries on connectivity and energy links is the sustainable way forward.
12. Geopolitical conflicts and anti-globalization trends are pushing regional groupings to be more cohesive, which South Asia has struggled with.
13. As India concerns about China's influence in South Asia, these initiatives offer security and prosperity for all involved.
14. Bhutan remains a trusted partner for India in the region.
15. Overall, the focus on connectivity, trade, and energy cooperation has the potential to transform the region's development and strengthen regional ties.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which infrastructure initiative is mentioned in the talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck as not yet begun?** [Editorial]
 - A. The Kokrajhar-Gelephu rail link
 - B. The Bhutan to West Bengal rail link
 - C. The rail link facilitating Bhutan-Bangladesh trade
 - D. The upgrading of checkpoints along the India-Bhutan border
2. **What is the likely impact of the various connectivity and infrastructure projects discussed between India and Bhutan on the region?**
 - A. These projects will isolate the region due to increased focus on internal infrastructure.
 - B. The initiatives will primarily benefit India, with little impact on Bhutan or Bangladesh.
 - C. The connectivity projects will lead to increased emigration from Bhutan due to the development of other regions.
 - D. The projects are expected to drive growth, investment, and intra-regional trade, benefiting multiple regions.
3. **What is the implied significance of India working with countries on its periphery to build connectivity, markets, and energy links?**
 - A. It is a strategy to mitigate trade issues due to geopolitical conflicts and enhance regional prosperity.
 - B. It is mainly to exert political dominance over neighboring countries and counter China's influence.
 - C. It is a response to internal economic demands for increased trade and energy independence.
 - D. It is a cultural initiative to strengthen ties with neighboring countries for historical preservation.
4. **The structure of the passage primarily serves to:**
 - A. Outline a sequence of challenges and potential solutions for India in the context of regional connectivity.
 - B. Provide a detailed historical account of India's trade relations with its neighboring countries.
 - C. Argue for the need for India to disengage from regional alliances due to emerging geopolitical conflicts.
 - D. Present a critique of India's current foreign policy and suggest a complete overhaul.
5. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Pessimistic
 - B. Critical
 - C. Optimistic
 - D. Indifferent
6. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. Environmental concerns in South Asia
 - B. Economic challenges faced by Bhutan
 - C. Bilateral initiatives to enhance regional development and connectivity

- D. Political tensions between India and its neighbors
7. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. Hefty fines have been recommended. The action taken report would be keenly awaited.
- Q. Feeding a black market fuelled by the booming construction industry, sand is a lucrative commodity and hence, its mining from the riverbed — unregulated and rampant in most cases — is both pushed and protected by the powerful.
- R. The NGT, in its latest order, has directed the Himachal Pradesh government to hold to account officials in light of the illegal mining in Swan river in Una district, and brainstorm at the highest levels to check the activity.
- S. No wonder then that the terror and reach of the sand mafia run deep, and despite stringent strictures passed regularly by the National Green Tribunal and the courts, law enforcement continues to be missing or is lax on the ground.
- A. QRSP B.QSRP C.PSQR D.PRQS
8. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. The Army Chief's assertion that there can be no de-escalation without complete disengagement at all friction points gives a broad view of India's approach.
- Q. A year after the deadly clashes between the Indian and Chinese armies in the Galwan valley in eastern Ladakh, tension in the region continues and the trust deficit reigns supreme.
- R. However, 11 rounds of discussions between the two sides later, China, it is amply clear, has no intention of taking any further step back after the Pangong Tso troop withdrawal. The road ahead appears conflict-ridden.
- S. Galwan may have crystallised New Delhi's military, diplomatic and economic strategy towards Beijing, as well as recalibrated the short-term and long-term goals, but the challenges are only mounting
- A. QSPR B.RPSQ C.QPRS D.RQSP
9. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the bracketed word in the following sentence to fill in the blank.
- The athlete's perseverance and mental toughness _____ (facilitate) her to overcome adversity and achieve her goals
- A. restricted
- B. enabled
- C. limited
- D. hindered
10. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
- Throughout my career as a journalist, / I covered many important stories and / interviewed numerous individuals, which allow me / to share important information and insights with my readers.
- A. to share important information and insights with my readers
- B. I covered many important stories and
- C. Throughout my career as a journalist,
- D. interviewed numerous individuals, which allow me

11. The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.

Harish says / that his sister / loves to play / harmonium.

- A. harmonium
 - B. loves to play
 - C. Harish says
 - D. that his sister
12. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the following sentence.

Selling, purchasing, and using an illegally copied product is a criminal offence.

- A. an obsolete
 - B. a pirated
 - C. an outlawed
 - D. a crooked
13. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.
- The hiring manager has already offered you the job; now, _____ to accept or decline the offer.
- A. a penny for your thoughts
 - B. the ball is in your court
 - C. pull your leg
 - D. get your act together

14. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.

Oberon doesn't like the way Demetrius _____ to Helena. (Credit: A Midsummer Night's Dream)

- A. talked
 - B. talks
 - C. talking
 - D. to talk
15. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Let sleeping dogs lie

- A. To let somebody sleep
 - B. To fall sick intentionally
 - C. Leave an existing situation as it is
 - D. To care for the pet
16. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.

A cage made for birds.

OR

A place for keeping the birds in a confined space.

- A. Aquarium
- B. Apiary
- C. Aviary
- D. Arena

17. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.
Repulsive
A. Attractive
B. Reliable
C. Disgusting
D. Uniform
18. **Select the option that rectifies the spelling of the underlined word in the given sentence.**
The sergent brought in a lot of changes as soon as he was given charge.
A. seargeant
B. sergeannt
C. sergant
D. sergeant
19. **The given sentence contains an error. Select the option that correctly rectifies the error.**
The boy told his mother that he saw the most tall giraffe at the zoo.
A. The boy told his mother that he saw the tallest giraffe at the zoo.
B. The boy told his mother that he saw the most taller giraffe at the zoo.
C. The boy told his mother that he saw the most tallest giraffe at the zoo.
D. The boy told his mother that he saw the more taller giraffe at the zoo.
20. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Call the shots
A. To be a follower that makes less important decision
B. To be in a position to make decisions that influences a situation
C. To be in a powerless position that follows orders
D. To be in a neutral position

Comprehension:

In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Fill in the blanks with the help of the alternatives given. Select the most appropriate option for each blank.

That evening we sat in the courtyard of the hotel once more, _____1_____ the sun sink below the western isles. I told Alexi what had happened that day. I _____2_____ I could glimpse the grey stone wall of Lismore House _____3_____ its island hilltop, the red light of the setting sun glinting from the windows, and from there the wasted frame of Jonathan Blake gazing out across the sea, on nothing, his boy waiting for him to die. But it was my _____4_____, simply the image on my mind, like the image burned on to your eyes when you have _____5_____ too long at the sun, the passing footprint of a creature long gone.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 1.**
A. watching
B. wallowing
C. risking
D. Practicing
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 2.**
A. fancied

- B. groped
 - C. imbibed
 - D. Translated
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 3**
- A. off
 - B. on
 - C. aside
 - D. For
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 4.**
- A. dribble
 - B. straw
 - C. fantasy
 - D. Habitat
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 5.**
- A. resumed
 - B. rusted
 - C. blocked
 - D. stared

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. B) The Bhutan to West Bengal rail link

According to the passage, discussions on the Bhutan to West Bengal rail link are set to begin, indicating that this initiative has not yet commenced. The passage mentions that surveys for the Kokrajhar-Gelephu rail link are being completed, a rail link to facilitate Bhutan-Bangladesh trade is mentioned, and upgrading checkpoints along the India-Bhutan border are in the plans, suggesting that these initiatives have already been started or are in progress.

2. D) The projects are expected to drive growth, investment, and intra-regional trade, benefiting multiple regions.

The passage outlines that the discussed projects like the rail links, the Special Economic Zone, and the energy exchange will change the development story of the region by driving growth and investment, facilitating trade, and involving development partners. It is inferred that these initiatives will have a comprehensive and positive impact on the region, including on Bhutan, West Bengal, Northeast India, and Northern Bangladesh, rather than isolating it or benefiting only India.

3. A) A is correct because the passage suggests that due to trade blockages with Pakistan and sanctions on Myanmar, building regional connectivity is a sustainable way forward amidst geopolitical conflicts and anti-globalization trends. This indicates a strategy to overcome regional challenges and improve economic prosperity. Option B is incorrect as there is no direct implication of political dominance; rather, it is about security and prosperity. Option C is incorrect because the passage doesn't mention internal economic demands. Option D is incorrect as there is no mention of cultural initiatives or historical preservation.

4. A) A is correct because the passage is structured to first present challenges (trade blockages with Pakistan, sanctions on Myanmar, China's influence) and then suggest working with other countries as a solution. Option B is incorrect because the passage does not delve into historical accounts. Option C is incorrect as the passage talks about building connectivity, not disengaging from alliances. Option D is incorrect as there is no critique of current policies or suggestion for an overhaul; instead, it suggests building on existing partnerships, especially with Bhutan

5. C) Optimistic

The tone of the passage is optimistic. It discusses future plans and projects that have the potential to positively change the development narrative of the region, highlighting the benefits of increased connectivity, trade, and energy exchange. Words like "ambitious plans," "drive growth," "investment," and "more security and prosperity" convey a hopeful and positive outlook towards the India-Bhutan bilateral initiatives.

6. C) Bilateral initiatives to enhance regional development and connectivity

The main theme of the passage is the bilateral initiatives between India and Bhutan aimed at enhancing regional development and connectivity. The passage details various infrastructure projects such as rail links and economic zones, as well as energy exchanges, which are indicative of a strategic approach to regional integration. It touches on the broader implications for regional growth, trade, and geopolitical security, emphasizing the role of these initiatives in advancing development and connectivity in South Asia.

7. **B) QSRP**

Q: The paragraph starts with an introduction to the problem of illegal sand mining (Q).

S: It then describes the depth of the problem and the ineffectiveness of law enforcement (S)

R: The next sentence (R) provides an example of an intervention by the National Green Tribunal directing the government to hold officials accountable.

P: Finally, it ends with the expected outcomes and future anticipation for the situation (P), including hefty fines and the awaited action taken report.

8. **C) QPRS**

Q: This sentence sets the context for the paragraph by introducing the subject matter of the deadly clashes between the Indian and Chinese armies in the Galwan valley in eastern Ladakh, along with the continued tension and mistrust. This statement naturally comes first as it sets the stage for the rest of the paragraph.

P: This sentence builds upon the first one by adding a specific detail about India's approach to the situation, as expressed by the Army Chief. The statement in this sentence is dependent on the reader understanding the context, which is provided by the first sentence

R: This sentence advances the narrative by discussing the outcome of the discussions between the two sides, implying that despite India's approach (mentioned in P), China isn't backing down. This sentence naturally follows P because it illustrates how China's behavior contrasts with India's approach.

S: This sentence serves as a conclusion or summary, as it sums up the implications of the entire situation on India's strategy towards China and the mounting challenges. This sentence encapsulates the narrative developed in Q, P, and R, making it an appropriate final statement.

9. B) **Facilitate** (verb) – Make an action or process easy or easier, promote, help, aid. सहयोग देना

Synonym: **Enabled** (verb) – Give the authority or means to do something, allow, permit. सक्षम

करना

- **Restricted** (verb) – Put a limit on, curtail, limit. सीमित
- **Limited** (verb) – Confine, restrict, circumscribe. सीमित
- **Hindered** (verb) – Create difficulties for, hamper, obstruct, impede. बाधित करना.

10. D) 'which allow' के बदले 'which allowed' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे वाक्य में Past Tense का प्रयोग किया गया है, इसलिए Relative Clause में भी Verb Past Tense में होगा; जैसे—
Throughout my career as a journalist, I covered many important stories.
- 'which allowed' will be used instead of 'which allow' because the whole sentence is in Past Tense, so in Relative Clause also Verb will be in Past Tense; Like— Throughout my career as a journalist, I covered many important stories.
11. A) 'The harmonium' का प्रयोग 'harmonium' के स्थान पर होगा क्योंकि यहां हम एक विशेष संगीत वाद्य का उल्लेख कर रहे हैं, जिसे विशेषता से पहचानना जरूरी है। 'The' का प्रयोग noun को विशेष बनाता है।
- 'The harmonium' will be used instead of 'harmonium' because we are referring to a specific musical instrument, which needs to be identified specifically. The use of 'the' makes the noun specific.
12. B) **a pirated** (noun) – Refers to a product that has been copied illegally, typically software, digital files, or media. पायरेटेड
- **An obsolete** (adjective) – No longer in use or no longer useful. पुराना
 - **An outlawed** (adjective) – Banned or prohibited by law. गैरकानूनी
 - **A crooked** (adjective) – Dishonest or illegal. कुटिल
13. B) **The ball is in your court** (idiom) – The responsibility for taking action is yours. कार्य का जिम्मा आपके ऊपर है
- **A penny for your thoughts** (idiom) – Used to ask someone what they are thinking about. आपके विचार जानने के लिए
 - **Pull your leg** (idiom) – To joke or tease someone. मजाक करना
 - **Get your act together** (idiom) – To start behaving more responsibly or effectively. जिम्मेदारी से काम करना
14. B) 'Talks' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence present tense में है, और यह बताता है कि Oberon को Demetrius के तरीके से Helena से बातचीत करना पसंद नहीं है। 'Talks' यहाँ present simple tense के अनुसार सही है। जबकि 'Talked' पारंपरिक अतीत में है, 'Talking' वर्तमान continuous tense का रूप है, और 'To talk' infinitive form है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **Talks'** should be used because the sentence is in present tense, and it's stating Oberon's dislike for the way Demetrius currently speaks to Helena. 'Talks' fits here in accordance with the present simple tense. On the other hand, 'Talked' is in the simple past, 'Talking' is the present continuous form, and 'To talk' is the infinitive form, which don't fit in this context.
15. C) **Let sleeping dogs lie** (idiom) – Leave an existing situation as it is जैसा है वैसा ही रहने दो.

16. C) **Aviary** (noun) – A large cage or a house or enclosure in which birds are kept. पक्षियों के लिए पिंजरा

- **Aquarium** (noun) – A transparent tank of water in which fish and other water creatures and plants are kept. जलज प्राणियों के लिए पानी का टंक
- **Apiary** (noun) – A place where bees are kept; a collection of beehives. मधुमक्खियों का घर
- **Arena** (noun) – A level area surrounded by seating, in which sports, entertainments, and other public events are held. रंगभूमि

17. C) **Repulsive** (adjective) – Eliciting intense distaste or disgust, revolting, repugnant. प्रतिकूल
Synonym: **Disgusting** (adjective) – Arousing revulsion or strong indignation, revolting, repugnant. घृणित

- **Attractive** (adjective) – Pleasing or appealing to the senses, charming, alluring. आकर्षक
- **Reliable** (adjective) – Dependable, trustworthy, consistent. विश्वसनीय
- **Uniform** (adjective) – Not changing in form or character; remaining the same in all cases and at all times, consistent, even. समान

18. D) The correct spelling for the underlined word "sergent" is "sergeant." सेना का एक पद,

19. A) The boy told his mother that he saw the tallest giraffe at the zoo

20. B) **Call the shots** (idiom) – To be in a position to make decisions that influences a situation
स्थिति पर प्रभाव डालने के निर्णय बनाने के लिए स्थिति में होना

21. A) '**Watching**' का use होगा क्योंकि "watching" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को ध्यान से देखना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि वे सूर्य को पश्चिमी द्वीपों के नीचे डूबते हुए देख रहे थे, इसलिए 'watching' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Wallowing' का अर्थ है खुद को किसी चीज़ में डूबना, 'Risking' का अर्थ है जोखिम लेना, और 'Practicing' का अर्थ है अभ्यास करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- '**Watching**' should be used because it means to observe something carefully. The sentence mentions that they were observing the sun sinking below the western isles, making 'watching' the appropriate choice here. Whereas, 'Wallowing' means to indulge in or to become absorbed in, 'Risking' means taking a chance or exposing oneself to danger, and 'Practicing' means engaging in an activity repeatedly, which don't fit in this context.

22. A) '**Fancied**' का अर्थ होता है कल्पना करना या सोचना। Sentence में जिस तरह से व्यक्ति Lismore House को देखने की बात कर रहा है, वह वास्तव में उसे देख नहीं रहा, बल्कि अपनी कल्पना में उसे देख रहा है। इसलिए 'fancied' यहाँ पर सही है। 'Groped' का अर्थ है ढूँढना,

'Imbided' का अर्थ है पी लेना या सीख लेना, और 'Translated' का अर्थ है अनुवाद करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Fancied'** should be used because it means to imagine or think. In the sentence, the way the person is talking about seeing Lismore House suggests that he is not actually seeing it but rather imagining it in his mind. Thus, 'fancied' fits here. Whereas, 'Groped' means to search blindly or uncertainly, 'Imbided' means to drink or absorb knowledge, and 'Translated' refers to interpreting from one language to another, which don't fit in this context.

23. B) 'On' का use होगा क्योंकि "on" का अर्थ होता है किसी सतह या ऊंचाई पर होना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि वह Lismore House की grey stone wall को देख सकता है, जो एक island hilltop पर स्थित है। इस context में, जब कुछ किसी ऊंचाई पर होता है, हम 'on' का use करते हैं। इसलिए 'on' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Off' का अर्थ होता है अलग, 'Aside' का अर्थ होता है एक तरफ, और 'For' यहाँ context में सही नहीं है

- **'On'** should be used because it refers to something being situated on a surface or height. The sentence mentions that he could see the grey stone wall of Lismore House situated on an island hilltop. In this context, when something is located at a height, we use 'on'. Hence, 'on' is appropriate here. Whereas, 'Off' implies being separate, 'Aside' means to one side, and 'For' does not fit in this context.

24. C) 'Fantasy' का use होगा क्योंकि "fantasy" का अर्थ होता है किसी कल्पित चीज या स्थिति को मानना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि जो चीज वह देख रहे थे, वह सिर्फ उसके मन में की गई कल्पना थी, इसलिए 'fantasy' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Dribble' का अर्थ है धीरे-धीरे टपकना, 'Straw' का अर्थ है एक प्रकार का सूखा पौधा, और 'Habitat' का अर्थ है प्राणियों का आवास, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **Fantasy** should be used because it means imagining something that is not real. The sentence mentions that what he was seeing was just an image in his mind, making it a figment of his imagination, hence 'fantasy' is the right word here. Whereas, 'Dribble' means to trickle down slowly, 'Straw' refers to a type of dried plant, and 'Habitat' refers to a place where animals live, which don't fit in this context.

25. D) 'Stared' का use होगा क्योंकि "stared" का अर्थ होता है एकटक से देखना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि आँखों पर एक image burn हो जाता है जब आप बहुत लंबे समय तक सूरज को देखते हैं, इसलिए 'stared' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Resumed' का अर्थ है पुनः आरंभ करना, 'Rusted' का अर्थ है जंग लगना, और 'Blocked' का अर्थ है अवरुद्ध करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **Stared** should be used because it means to look at something for a long time. The sentence mentions an image being burned onto the eyes when one looks too long at

the sun, making 'stared' the fitting choice here. Whereas, 'Resumed' means to begin again, 'Rusted' implies oxidizing or corroding, and 'Blocked' means to obstruct or stop, which don't fit in this context.