

Express View on the memory of chimps: The tyranny of retention

From almonds and walnuts, to fish, milk and health drinks — there's many an old wives' **tale** on **sharpening** that most essential **trait** of human intelligence. **Those** who have never **heeded** these suggestions on memory improvement, **need** not worry. Because neither have chimpanzees and **bonobos**, humanity's closest living **evolutionary** cousins. In a study published this week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, it was found that the **apes possess** long-term memories that allow them to recognise faces from **decades** ago. Whether with family and friends or **distant acquaintance**, their memory doesn't fail them.

This is not the first study that proves the **cognitive competence** of chimpanzees and bonobos. But what it does **demonstrate** is that these apes may have the longest nonhuman memory — being able to recall faces even from 26 years ago. Before this, dolphins were considered to be supreme **recollectors**. Their memory was accurate for up to 20 years. Elephants can keep records for up to 12 years while **octopi** long-term memory **lasts** for months. And they live for just one-five years.

It is difficult to know, of course, how proud chimpanzees and bonobos are of their cognitive **feat**. It is certain, however, that they have provided more **ammunition** to demanding Indian parents. It is only a matter of time before kids have to hear things like “even chimpanzees remember where they kept their keys”. But as much as memory, so **prized** in Indian learning traditions, it is important also, **at times**, to forget. People drink to do so. Memory, and remembering may serve to protect humans from unpleasant and dangerous situations. Yet, it can also force them to **confront** things they would rather not. The holiday **season** at the end of the year **is**, in a sense, a chance to forgive and forget — and **rejoice** in the moment. No **reflection** on months past or relationships lost, deadlines missed or **resolutions** broken. And **perhaps** people — also the apes — are best served this way.



[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Tyranny** (noun) – Oppression, Despotism, Dictatorship, Autocracy, Authoritarianism
अत्याचार
2. **Retention** (noun) – Preservation, Holding, Maintenance, Keeping, Sustenance
अवधारण
3. **Tale** (noun) – Story, Anecdote, Narrative, Fable, Account कहानी
4. **Sharpen** (verb) – Hone, Intensify, Enhance, Refine, Improve तेज करना
5. **Trait** (noun) – Characteristic, Feature, Attribute, Quality, Property विशेषता
6. **Heed** (verb) – Pay attention to, Consider, Observe, Take notice of, Be mindful of
ध्यान देना
7. **Bonobo** (noun) – This is a specific term referring to a species of great ape
8. **Evolutionary** (adjective) – Developmental, Progressive, Evolving, Transformative, Adaptational विकास संबंधी
9. **Ape** (noun) – Primate, Chimpanzee, Gorilla, Orangutan, Simian वानर
10. **Possess** (verb) – Own, Have, Hold, Command, Retain रखना
11. **Decade** (noun) – Period of ten years दशक
12. **Distant** (adjective) – Far, Remote, Far-off, Separated, Removed दूर
13. **Acquaintance** (noun) – Friend, Associate, Contact, Connection, Ally परिचित
14. **Cognitive** (adjective) – Mental, Intellectual, Thinking, Reasoning, Perceptual बौद्धिक
15. **Competence** (noun) – Ability, Skill, Capability, Proficiency, Expertise क्षमता
16. **Demonstrate** (verb) – Show, Exhibit, Illustrate, Display, Prove प्रदर्शित करना
17. **Recollector** (noun) – Rememberer, Memorizer, Retentive person याद करने वाला
18. **Octopi** (noun) – This is a specific term referring to the plural of octopus.
19. **Last** (verb) – Endure, Persist, Continue, Remain, Survive टिकना
20. **Feat** (noun) – Achievement, Accomplishment, Act, Exploit, Deed
उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि
21. **Ammunition** (noun) – facts or information that can be used against somebody/something ऐसे तथ्य या सूचना जो किसी के विरोध में प्रयुक्त किए जा सकते हैं
22. **Prize** (verb) – Value, Cherish, Esteem, Treasure, Hold dear प्रशंसा करना

23. **At times** (phrase) – Occasionally, Sometimes, Now and then, From time to time, Once in a while कभी-कभी

24. **Confront** (verb) – Face, Encounter, Meet, Challenge, Oppose सामना करना

25. **Rejoice** (verb) – Celebrate, Delight, Be happy, Exult, Be glad खुश होना

26. **Reflection** (noun) – Consideration, Thought, Meditation, Deliberation, Contemplation चिंतन

27. **Resolution** (noun) – Determination, Decision, Resolve, Intention, Firmness संकल्प

28. **Perhaps** (adverb) – Maybe, Possibly, Potentially, Conceivably, It could be शायद

Summary of the Editorial

1. The editorial discusses the old wives' tales about foods like almonds, walnuts, fish, and milk enhancing human intelligence.
2. It addresses the common suggestions regarding memory improvement.
3. The editorial mentions that not following these memory improvement tips is not a concern, as evidenced by the memory capabilities of chimpanzees and bonobos.
4. A study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences reveals that these apes possess strong long-term memory abilities.
5. The study found that chimpanzees and bonobos can recognize faces they haven't seen for decades.
6. This memory capability applies to both close and distant acquaintances in these apes.
7. The cognitive competencies of chimpanzees and bonobos have been documented before.
8. This particular study highlights that these apes may have the longest nonhuman memory, recalling faces from up to 26 years ago.
9. Previously, dolphins were known for their superior memory, holding recollections for up to 20 years.
10. Elephants and octopi are also mentioned for their long-term memory capabilities, lasting up to 12 years and several months, respectively.
11. The article humorously suggests that the study's findings could influence Indian parenting, with comparisons to apes' memory being made.
12. It emphasizes the importance of memory in Indian learning traditions but also the significance of forgetting.
13. The editorial suggests that forgetting can be as crucial as remembering, especially in dealing with unpleasant or dangerous situations.
14. The end of the year holiday season is portrayed as a time for forgiveness and forgetting, focusing on the present.
15. The article concludes by suggesting that both humans and apes might benefit from this approach of living in the moment, without dwelling on the past.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, all of the following are true about chimpanzees and bonobos EXCEPT that:** [Editorial page]
 - A. They have the longest nonhuman memory, being able to recall faces even from 26 years ago.
 - B. They have been proven to possess cognitive competence in previous studies.
 - C. Their memory capabilities have surpassed those of dolphins and elephants.
 - D. They require special diets like almonds and walnuts to enhance their memory.
2. **Based on the passage, we can infer that the author would be most supportive of:**
 - A. Encouraging children to improve their memory by looking at the example of chimpanzees and bonobos.
 - B. Using the cognitive abilities of chimpanzees and bonobos to demand more from children.
 - C. Acknowledging the natural memory abilities of animals but also valuing the importance of forgetting.
 - D. Focusing solely on memory improvement in humans and disregarding the cognitive abilities of animals.
3. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Critical
 - B. Humorous
 - C. Melancholic
 - D. Aggressive
4. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The comparison of human and animal intelligence
 - B. The limitations of human memory
 - C. The benefits of dietary improvements on memory
 - D. The significance of forgetting and forgiving
5. **Which of the following statements is INCORRECT based on the passage about the memory capabilities of different animals?**
 - A. Chimpanzees and bonobos can recognize faces from up to 26 years ago, demonstrating a significant long-term memory ability.
 - B. Prior to this study, dolphins were known to have the longest memory among nonhuman species, accurately recalling information for up to 20 years.
 - C. Elephants have been documented to retain memories for up to 12 years, while octopi can remember for months.
 - D. The study mentioned indicates that chimpanzees and bonobos have never followed traditional advice on memory improvement, such as consuming certain foods.
6. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select No improvement.**

The world's agricultural land are in pressure to raising more and more crops.

 - A. land is under pressure so raising
 - B. land is under pressure to raise

- C. No Improvement
D. land is at pressure to raise
7. **Select the correctly spelt word**
A. accommodation
B. accomodation
C. acomodation
D. acommodation
8. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word.**
PRUDENT
A. indiscreet
B. judicious
C. practical
D. Tactful
9. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**
Sole right to make and sell some invention
A. patent
B. heirloom
C. copyright
D. Inheritance
10. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct order.**
A. Soon, flames ignited the wooden beams of the grand palace built by Xerxes.
B. Men and women holding aloft flaming torches, raced up and down the palace terraces.
C. When the fire died out, all that remained of the magnificent palace were the stone columns.
D. Looters fought off the heat of the inferno to drag out gold and silver vessels.
A. BADC
B. BCAD
C. CDBA
D. ADBD
11. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the given sentence.**
The ambitious project to impart free books to all students ended in smoke.
A. exceeded the budget
B. was delayed
C. yielded no result
D. was successfully completed
12. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
The owner of the house was _____ at the watchman for letting in a stranger.
A. indulgent
B. impatient
C. indifferent
D. Indignant
13. **Select the correct passive form of the given sentence.**
Have they announced the world cup cricket team?

- A. Has the world cup cricket team been announced?
- B. Have the world cup cricket team been announced?
- C. Have the world cup cricket team announced?
- D. Has the world cup cricket team being announced?

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

REPUDIATE

- A. renounce
- B. sanction
- C. regret
- D. Enforce

15. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select No improvement.**

It is convey to all the residents by now that they are required to apply for parking stickers.

- A. No improvement
- B. It is conveyed to all the residents
- C. It will be conveyed to all the residents
- D. It has been conveyed to all the residents

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.

Portia claims that even if she (1) _____ to live as long as Sibylla, she would die as (2) _____ as Diana because she can only be claimed (3) _____ the manner specified by her father's will. She (4) _____ that nobody would be able to crack (5) _____ casket test and so she was bound to remain unmarried

16. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.1.**

- A. is
- B. were
- C. was
- D. Has

17. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.2.**

- A. real
- B. clear
- C. plain
- D. Pure

18. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.3.**

- A. from
- B. through
- C. at
- D. In

19. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.4.**

- A. will worry
- B. has worry

C. worries

D. Worry

20. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.5.**

A. one

B. a

C. the

D. An

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

LAMENT

A. distress

B. torment

C. afflict

D. Mourn

22. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word.**

SEVERE

A. morose

B. mild

C. mediocre

D. Meticulous

23. **Select the correctly spelt word.**

A. particular

B. perticuler

C. particuler

D. Particular

24. **In the sentence identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.**

On the way he was bited on his toe by a poisonous snake

A. On the way

B. he was bited

C. on his toe

D. by a poisonous snake

25. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct order.**

A. It was very unusual as boys were not supposed to be out of school at this late hour.

B. He moved closer to the boy in anger so that he could recognise the miscreant and punish him.

C. He felt angry as teachers ought to be about school rules being broken.

D. Mr Oliver, the school teacher saw a lonely boy sitting on a rock, weeping soundlessly.

A. DBAC

B. DACB

C. ABCD

D. ACBD

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

- D) They require special diets like almonds and walnuts to enhance their memory.**
The passage does not mention that chimpanzees and bonobos require special diets like almonds and walnuts to enhance their memory. Instead, it contrasts the old wives' tales about memory improvement in humans with the natural memory abilities of these apes, suggesting that such dietary enhancements are not necessary for their impressive memory.
- C) Acknowledging the natural memory abilities of animals but also valuing the importance of forgetting.**
The passage acknowledges the impressive memory abilities of chimpanzees and bonobos and humorously suggests that this could lead to increased expectations from children. However, the author also emphasizes the importance of forgetting, especially in the context of the holiday season, suggesting a balance between remembering and forgetting. This implies support for valuing both the natural cognitive abilities and the importance of occasionally letting go of memories.
- B) Humorous**
The tone of the passage is humorous. This is evident in the light-hearted references to "demanding Indian parents" and the whimsical suggestion that even chimpanzees remember where they kept their keys. The overall language and presentation of ideas are more in line with humor rather than being critical, melancholic, or aggressive.
- A) The comparison of human and animal intelligence**
The main theme of the passage is the comparison of human and animal intelligence, particularly focusing on memory capabilities. The passage discusses the memory abilities of chimpanzees, bonobos, dolphins, elephants, and octopi, comparing them to human memory. While it touches on aspects like the benefits of forgetting and dietary impacts on memory, these are not the central themes. The primary focus remains on the cognitive competencies of different species, especially in relation to memory.
- D) The study mentioned indicates that chimpanzees and bonobos have never followed traditional advice on memory improvement, such as consuming certain foods.**
The passage discusses the memory capabilities of various animals, including chimpanzees, bonobos, dolphins, elephants, and octopi. It highlights the long-term memory abilities of these animals, especially chimpanzees and bonobos. However, there is no mention or indication in the passage that these animals have actively followed or not followed traditional advice on memory improvement, such as dietary choices. This makes Statement D incorrect. Statements A, B, and C are correct and accurately reflect the information in passage.

6. B) 'land are in pressure to raising' के बदले 'land is under pressure to raise' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'land' Singular है इसलिए Singular verb 'is' का उपयोग होगा और 'to raise' सही verb form है।
- 'land is under pressure to raise' will be used instead of 'land are in pressure to raising' because 'land' is Singular, so we will use the Singular verb 'is' and 'to raise' is the correct verb form.
7. A) The correct spelling is '**accommodation** आवास, ठहराव.
8. A) **PRUDENT** (adjective) – Showing care and thought for the future, wise, cautious, careful. **सतर्क**
- Antonym: **Indiscreet** (adjective) – Lacking discretion, tactless, incautious, unwise. **असतर्क**
- **Judicious** (adjective) – Having, showing, or done with good judgment or sense, wise, thoughtful. **समझदार**
 - **Practical** (adjective) – Of or concerned with the actual doing or use of something rather than with theory and ideas, pragmatic. **व्यावसिक**
 - **Tactful** (adjective) – Having or showing tact, considerate, diplomatic, sensitive. **सूक्ष्म बुद्धि**
9. A) **Patent** (noun) – Sole right to make and sell some **invention** **पेटेंट**
- **Heirloom** (noun) – a valuable object that has belonged to a family for several generations. **वारसिक संपत्ति**
 - **Copyright** (noun) – the exclusive legal right given to an originator or assignee to print, publish, perform, film, or record literary, artistic, or musical material, and to authorize others to do the same. **कॉपीराइट**
 - **Inheritance** (noun) – something that is or may be inherited; property passed down from previous generations. **विरासत**
10. A) **BADC**
Men and women holding aloft flaming torches, raced up and down the palace terraces Soon, flames ignited the wooden beams of the grand palace built by Xerxes. Looters fought off the heat of the inferno to drag out gold and silver vessels. When the fire died out, all that remained of the magnificent palace were the stone columns.
11. C) "**Ended in smoke**" (idiom) – yielded no result. **फलहीन परिणाम**
12. D) **Indignant**' का use होगा क्योंकि "indignant" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ के प्रति आक्रोशित होना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि घर के मालिक को चौकीदार पर गुस्सा आया

क्योंकि उसने अजनबी को अंदर आने दिया, इसलिए 'indignant' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Indulgent' का अर्थ है उदार या मास्करानेवाला, 'Impatient' का अर्थ है अधीर होना, और 'Indifferent' का अर्थ है उदासीन या बेपरवाह होना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **Indignant'** should be used because it means feeling or showing anger or annoyance at what is perceived as unfair treatment. The sentence mentions that the owner of the house was angry at the watchman for letting in a stranger, making 'indignant' fitting here. Whereas, 'Indulgent' implies being lenient or permissive, 'Impatient' means showing a lack of patience or tolerance, and 'Indifferent' implies a lack of interest or concern, which don't fit in this context.

13. A) Has the world cup cricket team been announced?

14. A) **REPUDIATE** (verb) – To reject or disown; to refuse to accept or be associated with. **अस्वीकार करना**

Synonym: **Renounce** (verb) – To formally declare one's abandonment of; to reject, disown.

त्यागना

- **Sanction** (verb) – To give official permission or approval for; to authorize. **मंजूरी देना**
- **Regret** (noun/verb) – A feeling of sadness or disappointment over an occurrence or something one has done or failed to do; to feel sorrow or remorse. **पछताना/खेद**
- **Enforce** (verb) – To compel observance of or obedience to; to implement. **लागू करना**

15. 'D) **It is convey**' के बदले 'It has been conveyed' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर 'by now' का उपयोग हुआ है जिससे समझा जाता है कि कोई कार्य पहले हो चुका है। इसलिए Present Perfect Passive Voice का प्रयोग होगा।

- 'It has been conveyed' will be used instead of 'It is convey' because 'by now' indicates that an action has already taken place in the past. Therefore, Present Perfect Passive Voice should be used.

16. B) **Were**' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ conditional sentence का structure है, और हम अक्सर unreal conditions में 'were' का use करते हैं, भले ही subject singular हो। Sentence में Portia का दावा है कि अगर वह Sibylla की तरह जीती रही, तब भी वह Diana की तरह मरेगी। इसलिए 'were' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'is' और 'has' present tense में होते हैं और 'was' past tense में है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Were'** should be used because this is a structure of a conditional sentence, and we often use 'were' for unreal conditions, even if the subject is singular. In the sentence, Portia claims that even if she lived as long as Sibylla, she would still die like Diana.

Hence, 'were' is appropriate here. Whereas 'is' and 'has' are in the present tense and 'was' is in the past tense, which aren't fitting in this context.

17. D) 'Pure' को use किया जाएगा क्योंकि "pure" का अर्थ होता है अदूषित या शुद्ध। Sentence में Portia यह कह रही है कि वह Diana की तरह अदूषित या शुद्ध मरेगी, इसलिए 'pure' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Real' का अर्थ होता है असली, 'Clear' का अर्थ होता है स्पष्ट, और 'Plain' का अर्थ होता है साधारण या स्पष्ट, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **Pure'** should be used because it means unadulterated or untainted. In the sentence, Portia is stating that she would die as untainted or virtuous as Diana, making 'pure' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Real' means genuine, 'Clear' means evident or transparent, and 'Plain' can mean simple or evident, which don't fit in this context.

18. 'D) In' का use होगा क्योंकि "in the manner" एक common phrase है जिसका अर्थ है "एक विशेष तरीके से". यहाँ पर Portia की पिता की इच्छा के अनुसार वह किसी विशेष तरीके से claim किया जा सकता है, इसलिए 'In' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'from', 'through', और 'at' इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **In'** should be used because "in the manner" is a common phrase which means "in a specific way". Here, Portia can be claimed in a specific way as specified by her father's will, making 'In' fitting here. Whereas, 'from', 'through', and 'at' don't fit in this context.

19. C) 'Worries' का use होगा क्योंकि "worries" present tense में एक regular action या एक general truth को express करता है। Sentence के context से पता चलता है कि Portia इस belief में है कि कोई भी casket test को crack नहीं कर पाएगा, इसलिए 'worries' यहाँ सही है। 'Will worry' future tense का use है, 'Has worry' grammatically incorrect है, और 'Worry' subject 'She' के साथ match नहीं करता है।

- **'Worries'** should be used because it expresses a regular action or a general truth in the present tense. The context of the sentence indicates that Portia has this ongoing belief that no one would be able to crack the casket test, making 'worries' appropriate here. 'Will worry' is used for the future tense, 'Has worry' is grammatically incorrect, and 'Worry' does not match with the subject 'She'.

20. C) 'the' का use होगा क्योंकि 'casket test' के context में वह विशेष टेस्ट की चर्चा हो रही है जो पहले से ही पाठक को पता है या जिसे पहले से परिभाषित किया गया है। "crack the casket test" इसे सही तरह से दर्शाता है कि किसी विशेष परीक्षण की चर्चा हो रही है। 'one', 'a', और 'An' इस context में सही fit नहीं होते।

- 'the' should be used because in the context of the 'casket test', it is referring to a specific test that the reader is already aware of or has been previously defined. "crack the casket test" correctly indicates it's referring to a particular test. 'one', 'a', and 'An' don't fit in this context.

21. D) **LAMENT** (verb) – Express sorrow, grief, or regret. **विलाप**

Synonym: **Mourn** (verb) – Feel or show deep sorrow or regret for someone deceased, grieve.
शोक करना

- **Distress** (noun) – Extreme anxiety, sorrow, or pain. **परेशानी**
- **Torment** (noun/verb) – Severe physical or mental suffering; to cause suffering.
यातना/परेशान करना
- **Afflict** (verb) – Cause pain or suffering to; affect or trouble. **पीड़ा देना**

22. B) **SEVERE** (adjective) – Harsh, stern, strict, rigorous, intense. **कठोर**

Antonym: **Mild** (adjective) – Gentle, soft, moderate, lenient, not severe. **सौम्य**

- **Morose** (adjective) – Sullen, moody, gloomy, sulky, ill-tempered. **उदास**
- **Mediocre** (adjective) – Of only moderate quality, not very good, ordinary, average.
माध्यमिक
- **Meticulous** (adjective) – Showing great attention to detail, very careful and precise.
सूक्ष्म

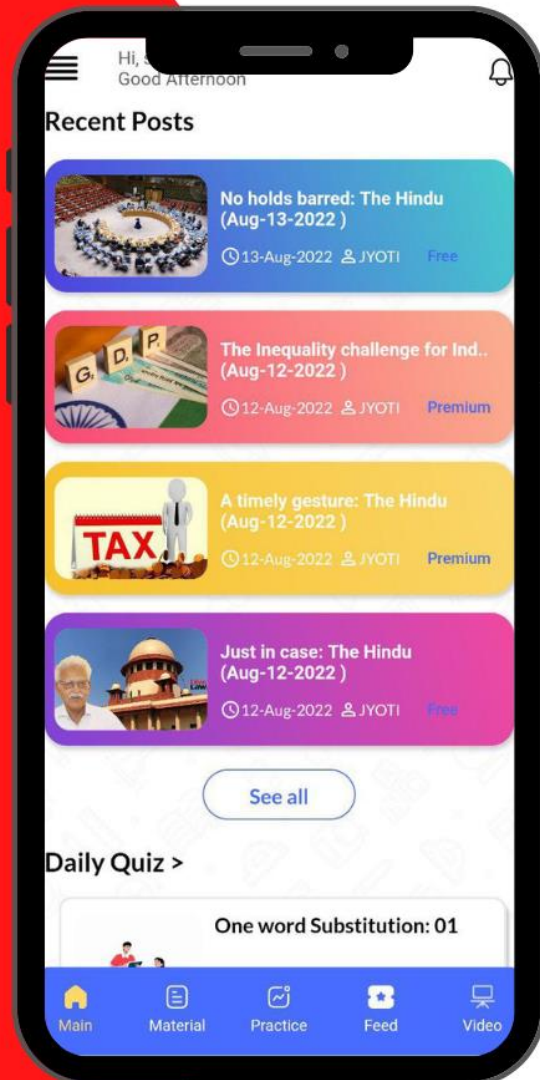
23. A) The correct spelling is '**Particular**' **विशेष, निर्दिष्ट**.

24. B) '**bited**' के बदले '**bitten**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ '**was**' के साथ तीसरे फार्म का प्रयोग होना चाहिए; जैसे— He was bitten by the dog.

- '**bitten**' will be used instead of '**bited**' because with '**was**', the third form of the verb should be used; Like— He was bitten by the dog.

25. B) **DACB**

Mr Oliver, the school teacher saw a lonely boy sitting on a rock, weeping soundlessly It was very unusual as boys were not supposed to be out of school at this late hour. He felt angry as teachers ought to be about school rules being broken. He moved closer to the boy in anger so that he could recognise the miscreant and punish him



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