

Atal Bihari Vajpayee: A politician and a gentleman

A poet, politician, **statesman** and a **sophomore** – remembering the **legacy** of Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his birth anniversary

Atal Bihari Vajpayee born on 25th December 1924, **firmed up** his **determination** to devote himself to a social and cultural **cause**, in free India. As a teenager, he was **comprehending** the national developments and had matured by 1947 to realise how tough a task it was for the nation to re-establish itself on the global stage, and simultaneously give its people what they needed to lead a **dignified** life. He understood the **pulse** of the people and was blessed with the gift of a **flawless oratory** that touched the hearts of the listener, both through his speeches, and also his poetry. He **endeared** himself to the **masses**, **stuck dexterously** to his **ideological moorings in thick and thin**.

Young Atal Bihari Vajpayee became a member of parliament in 1957 when he was only 33 years old. He was very young in the house of **veterans** of the freedom struggles. It was not only his **oratorical** skills that impressed everyone including the prime minister Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, but the content and intensity of analysis, understanding and inference that he presented before the people. He grew up as a talented young person liked and admired by all around him.

A reference is **often** made to his having compared Prime Minister India Gandhi to Durga, after her **admirably** courageous handling of the war resulting out of the **butchery** of Pakistan on its people, and the **unprecedented** rush of **refugees** to India. As the major leader of the Opposition, Vajpayee **unequivocally** gave all the **credit** to the Prime Minister and praised the defence forces! Whether he used the phrase Durga or not becomes **immaterial**. Let one also recall that **the entire opposition and the people** of India –negligible minor exceptions apart – **stood** firmly behind the leader of the nation.

We are a free country, but were we successful in **sustaining** the democratic values in the true sense, as new generations of politicians entered the **precincts** of the parliament? The decline could well be understood if one **recalls** the episode of April 17, 1999, when a **no-confidence motion** against the Vajpayee government was put to vote in the Lok Sabha! While some of the **constituents** of the NDA **played truant**, there was a real serious **lapse** that would go into history as a dark spot.

Girdhar Gomango had taken over as the Congress chief minister of Odisha but had not resigned from the Lok Sabha seat.

He was specifically asked to fly to New Delhi and vote against the Vajpayee government. He did **cast his vote!** **Had** he not, there would have been a tie, and the speaker could have saved the government.

The political **chaos** was so complex that the opposition could not offer any alternative, and the Lok Sabha had to be **dissolved**, and the TINA factor worked, and Vajpayee continued as the Prime Minister! Historians shall **incisively examine** whether this Giridhar Gomango vote **heralded** a new chapter on the decline of political ethics! To me, it was an **instance** of ethical **adherence** on the part of

Vajpayee, who could have asked for a **recount**, and would **certainly** have won! He did not **indulge** in any **maneuverings** which became a common practice in later years.

The **strength** of Indian democracy **was re-iterated** when Vajpayee submitted his resignation after a one-vote defeat! Vajpayee's **decision** to go ahead with Pokhran -II and the **manner** he **withstood** all pressures during the Kargil War **were** two of the most courageous instances of decision-making.

Prime Minister Vajpayee continued the policies of **liberalisation** and **globalisation** as accepted by India in the times of P.V. Narasimha Rao and his finance minister Dr. Man Mohan Singh. Additional economic reforms introduced during his tenure of 1998 to 2004, **resulted in** India maintaining a GDP growth rate of 8%, the inflation level came down to around 4% and foreign exchange reserves were **flourishing**. It was a **daring** step to end the **monopoly** of government telecom companies. It also led to competition and hence lowering of call **tariffs**. Vajpayee was held as the father of modern telecom in India. Mobile phone connectivity was very **heartening** not only in the life of common men but its availability also removed an **irksome** hurdle that was often a point of complaint by the foreign investors.

Vajpayee could take a long-term view of the developmental initiatives that could help India in **decades** ahead, not necessarily thinking in terms of the next election only. In his long parliamentary life, it would be impossible to find someone who did not like him as a person, ideological **orientations** being another matter.

Vajpayee had the gift of Saraswati, the **tenderness** of heart, and this was his art of winning the hearts of people. He was **affectionate** and **empathetic**. **Adversities** could never **demoralise** him, rather these occasions gave him greater determination to succeed. He accepted challenges. For, party management was an art and not a craft as practised by the new generation of most politicians. His poetry indicates his concern for the nation and the people. Most of his time was spent in opposition, but I never found him **desolate**, or **withdrawn**.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Statesman** (noun) – Leader, diplomat, politician, elder statesman, figurehead
राजनेता
2. **Sophomore** (noun) – a second-year university or high-school student. द्वितीय वर्ष का छात्र
3. **Legacy** (noun) – Heritage, inheritance, tradition, bequest, endowment विरासत
4. **Firm up** (phrasal verb) – Strengthen, solidify, consolidate, fortify, stabilize मजबूत करना
5. **Determination** (noun) – Resolve, decision, firmness, conviction, perseverance दृढ़ संकल्प
6. **Cause** (noun) – Purpose, reason, motive, basis, rationale उद्देश्य
7. **Comprehend** (verb) – Understand, grasp, fathom, apprehend, perceive समझना
8. **Dignified** (adjective) – Honorable, respectable, noble, venerable, august शालीन
9. **Pulse** (noun) – Beat, rhythm, throb, pace, heartbeat नब्ज
10. **Flawless** (adjective) – Perfect, impeccable, faultless, unblemished, immaculate दोषरहित
11. **Oratory** (noun) – Eloquence, rhetoric, speechmaking, articulacy, expressiveness भाषणकला
12. **Endear** (verb) – Charm, captivate, win over, ingratiate, attract प्रिय बनाना
13. **Masses** (noun) – People, populace, public, crowd, multitude जनता
14. **Stick (to)** (verb) – Adhere, cling, abide by, hold to, persist in पर कायम रहना
15. **Dexterously** (adverb) – Skillfully, adeptly, deftly, artfully, nimbly कुशलतापूर्वक
16. **Ideological** (adjective) – Doctrinal, philosophical, dogmatic, theoretical, conceptual वैचारिक
17. **Mooring** (noun) – Beliefs or familiar ways of thinking that provide psychological stability or security. धारणा
18. **In thick and thin** (phrase) – In all circumstances, through good and bad, unconditionally, constantly, unwaveringly हर परिस्थिति में
19. **Veteran** (noun) – Expert, old hand, seasoned professional, master, connoisseur अनुभवी
20. **Oratorical** (adjective) – Rhetorical, eloquent, persuasive, expressive, articulate वक्तृत्व संबंधी

21. **Often** (adverb) – Frequently, regularly, commonly, habitually, repeatedly अक्सर
22. **Admirably** (adverb) – Commendably, excellently, wonderfully, magnificently, superbly प्रशंसनीय रूप से
23. **Butchery** (noun) – Slaughter, massacre, carnage, bloodshed, killing नरसंहार
24. **Unprecedented** (adjective) – Unmatched, unheard-of, novel, unparalleled, extraordinary अभूतपूर्व
25. **Refugee** (noun) – Exile, displaced person, evacuee, asylum seeker, migrant शरणार्थी
26. **Unequivocally** (adverb) – Clearly, unambiguously, unmistakably, categorically, definitely स्पष्ट रूप से
27. **Credit** (noun) – Recognition, acknowledgement, praise, honor, acclaim श्रेय
28. **Immaterial** (adjective) – Irrelevant, unimportant, inconsequential, negligible, trivial अप्रासंगिक
29. **Sustain** (verb) – Maintain, support, uphold, continue, perpetuate बनाए रखना
30. **Precinct** (noun) – Area, district, sector, zone, region क्षेत्र
31. **Recall** (verb) – Remember, recollect, reminisce, retrieve, bring to mind याद करना
32. **No-confidence motion** (noun) – a parliamentary process that allows the opposition to challenge the government's majority and ability to govern अविश्वास प्रस्ताव
33. **Constituent** (noun) – Member, representative
34. **Play truant** (phrase) – Skip, absent oneself, be AWOL, evade, shirk अनुपस्थित रहना
35. **Lapse** (noun) – Error, mistake, oversight, slip, blunder चूक
36. **Cast one's vote** (phrase) – Vote, ballot, elect, choose, participate in voting मतदान करना
37. **Had** (conditional) – If, supposing, assuming, in the event that, provided अगर
38. **Chaos** (noun) – Disorder, turmoil, disarray, confusion, bedlam अराजकता
39. **Dissolve** (verb) – Disband, terminate, end, conclude, close भंग करना
40. **Incisively** (adverb) – Sharply, keenly, acutely, piercingly, penetratingly तीव्रता से
41. **Examine** (verb) – Analyze, inspect, investigate, scrutinize, study जांच करना
42. **Herald** (verb) – Announce, proclaim, signal, indicate, foretell सूचित करना

43. **Instance** (noun) – Example, case, illustration, occurrence, specimen उदाहरण
44. **Adherence** (noun) – Compliance, observance, conformity, loyalty, devotion अनुपालन
45. **Recount** (noun) – Tally, count again, recheck, review, re-telling फिर से गिनती
46. **Certainly** (adverb) – Definitely, surely, undoubtedly, without a doubt, of course निश्चित रूप से
47. **Indulge** (verb) – Pamper, treat, spoil, gratify, cater to लिप्त होना
48. **Maneuvering** (noun) – Strategizing, plotting, scheming, navigating, manipulating चालबाजी
49. **Reiterate** (verb) – Repeat, restate, reaffirm, reemphasize, recapitulate पुनः कहना
50. **Withstand** (verb) – Resist, endure, bear, tolerate, sustain सहन करना
51. **Liberalisation** (noun) – Deregulation, relaxation, easing, freeing, liberalization उदारीकरण
52. **Globalisation** (noun) – Internationalization, worldwide integration, global integration, world economy integration, transnationalization वैश्वीकरण
53. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – Lead to, cause, bring about, produce, effect परिणाम होना
54. **Flourishing** (adjective) – Thriving, prospering, burgeoning, growing, booming फलता-फूलता
55. **Daring** (adjective) – Bold, courageous, adventurous, audacious, brave साहसी
56. **Monopoly** (noun) – (an organization or group that has) complete control of something, especially an area of business, so that others have no share एकाधिकार
57. **Tariff** (noun) – Duty, tax, charge, toll, fee शुल्क
58. **Heartening** (adjective) – Encouraging, uplifting, cheering, inspiring, reassuring उत्साहवर्धक
59. **Irksome** (adjective) – Annoying, irritating, bothersome, vexing, tedious कष्टप्रद
60. **Decade** (noun) – Period of ten years दशक
61. **Orientation** (noun) – the particular interests, activities, or aims of a person or an organization
62. **Tenderness** (noun) – Gentleness, softness, sensitivity, compassion, affection कोमलता
63. **Affectionate** (adjective) – Loving, caring, warm, tender, fond स्नेहशील

64. **Empathetic** (adjective) – Understanding, sympathetic, compassionate, sensitive, सहानुभूति

65. **Adversity** (noun) – Hardship, difficulty, danger, misfortune, harsh condition विपत्तियाँ

66. **Demoralise** (verb) – cause (someone) to lose confidence or hope. मनोबल गिराना

67. **Desolate** (adjective) – Deserted, isolated, bleak, abandoned; Depressing, gloomy, dismal अकेला, तनहा

68. **Withdrawn** (adjective) – Reserved, quiet, inhibited, remote, solitary, introvert गैर-मिलनसार

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Birth and Early Influence:** Atal Bihari Vajpayee, born on 25th December 1924, resolved early in life to devote himself to social and cultural causes in a free India.
2. **Oratory Skills and Poetry:** Vajpayee was known for his exceptional oratory and poetic skills, which resonated deeply with the Indian populace.
3. **Entry into Parliament:** He became a Member of Parliament at the young age of 33 in 1957, impressing many with his speeches and analytical capabilities.
4. **Praise for Indira Gandhi:** Notable was his commendation of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's handling of the 1971 war, where he allegedly compared her to Goddess Durga, showcasing his bipartisan spirit.
5. **Democratic Values and Political Ethics:** The editorial questions whether democratic values and political ethics were upheld in Indian politics, citing the no-confidence motion against Vajpayee's government in 1999.
6. **Controversial Vote in Parliament:** The piece recounts the controversial vote of Congress leader Giridhar Gomango, which led to Vajpayee's government's fall by a single vote.
7. **Ethical Adherence by Vajpayee:** The author admires Vajpayee's ethical adherence, as he chose not to seek a recount during the no-confidence motion, which was a departure from later political maneuverings.
8. **Pokhran-II and Kargil War:** Vajpayee's decisions during Pokhran-II nuclear tests and the Kargil War are highlighted as courageous and impactful.
9. **Economic Reforms:** His tenure (1998-2004) saw significant economic reforms, maintaining a high GDP growth rate, reducing inflation, and boosting foreign exchange reserves.
10. **Telecommunications Revolution:** Vajpayee is credited with modernizing India's telecom sector, ending government monopolies, and introducing competition that led to lower call tariffs.
11. **Long-term Developmental Vision:** He is praised for his long-term developmental vision for India, not just focusing on immediate electoral gains.
12. **Personal Likability:** Vajpayee was widely liked and respected across political lines for his personality, irrespective of ideological differences.
13. **Resilience in Adversity:** His ability to remain undemoralized and more determined in the face of adversity is noted as a significant strength.
14. **Poetic Expression of National Concern:** Vajpayee's poetry reflected his deep concern for the nation and its people.
15. **Legacy of Affection and Empathy:** Finally, his legacy is marked by his affection, empathy, and the art of winning hearts, which set him apart from many of his contemporaries.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following best describes the political and social contributions of Atal Bihari Vajpayee as depicted in the passage?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. Vajpayee primarily focused on international diplomacy and had minimal involvement in domestic politics.
 - B. He was a key figure in India's economic liberalization and played a pivotal role in modernizing the telecom sector.
 - C. His contributions were limited to his poetry and cultural influence, with little impact on political developments.
 - D. Vajpayee was a marginal political figure who occasionally supported government policies.
2. **In the context of the passage, which statement accurately reflects Atal Bihari Vajpayee's approach to governance and political ethics?**
 - A. Vajpayee was known for his political maneuverings and often indulged in practices that compromised ethical standards.
 - B. He focused solely on economic reforms, disregarding the ethical dimensions of political decision-making.
 - C. Vajpayee's governance was marked by ethical adherence and a refusal to engage in unethical political practices.
 - D. His political ethics were inconsistent, often fluctuating between adherence and compromise.
3. **What is the tone of the passage in discussing Atal Bihari Vajpayee's legacy?**
 - A. Critical and disapproving
 - B. Neutral and factual
 - C. Admiring and respectful
 - D. Indifferent and uninterested
4. **Which one of the following statements best summarizes Atal Bihari Vajpayee's approach to politics and governance?**
 - A. He was primarily known for his economic reforms and liberalization policies.
 - B. Vajpayee focused exclusively on short-term political gains and immediate electoral success.
 - C. He was appreciated for his ability to balance ideological commitments with pragmatic decision-making.
 - D. His political career was marked by frequent ideological shifts and inconsistency in policy decisions.
5. **According to the passage, all of the following are true about Atal Bihari Vajpayee EXCEPT that:**
 - A. He became a member of parliament at the age of 33.
 - B. He was widely admired for his oratory skills and the content of his speeches.
 - C. He was criticized for frequently changing his political stance and party affiliations.
 - D. He played a significant role in economic reforms and the growth of telecom sector in India.
6. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined **idiom** in the given sentence.
A mountaineer has to walk the tight rope as a small slip can prove to be fatal

- A. be very nervous
B. be very cautious
C. be well trained
D. be an expert
7. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct order.**
A. Then, they spread as the unmined coal starts burning with oxygen drawn from pores and mine shafts.
B. An entire township- Jharia is to be relocated because of the uncontrollable underground fires.
C. These fires start mostly from burning trash close to coal pits.
D. This is a grave threat as poisonous fumes of carbon monoxide rise up from underground fires.
A. BCAD
B. CDAB
C. DCAB
D. BDAC
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
The ship sailed smoothly owing to _____ winds.
A. turbulent
B. tempestuous
C. favourable
D. Boisterous
9. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select No improvement.**
The big farmers with deepest tubewells still have water, but many others face a water crisis.
A. in deep tubewells
B. through deepest tubewells
C. No improvement
D. with deeper tubewells
10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the given sentence.**
The boss is going to blow his top when he discovers the blatant mistake in the balance sheet
A. dismiss from job
B. be very embarrassed
C. be very angry
D. attack fiercely
11. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
MAMMOTH
A. gigantic
B. miniscule
C. perilous
D. magnificent

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

Some agitating miners allegation that there is no emergency measures inside the mines

- A. miners alleged that there were
B. No improvement
C. miner's allegation that there are
D. miners' allege that there is
13. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**
A place for storing guns and military equipment
A. archive
B. arsenal
C. apiary
D. Aviary
14. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct order.**
A. But the rest of the students were rushing past her for a break, like she didn't exist.
B. She slowly pushed open the library door and took a seat at one of the tables in the corner.
C. And today, Jessica really felt like maybe she didn't exist.
D. When the bell rang for lunch, Jessica took her lunch box and started moving towards the library.
A. DACB
B. BDCA
C. DBCA
D. CADB
15. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
A _____ speech is certainly more effective than one which is verbose
A. laconic
B. sullen
C. lengthy
D. Surly
16. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**
A place where fruit trees are grown
A. orchard
B. farm
C. plantation
D. Garden
17. **In the sentence identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.**
The length of a male swallow's tail reveal his attractiveness for a female swallow
A. The length of
B. a male swallow's tail reveal
C. a female swallow
D. his attractiveness for
18. **In the sentence identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.**

My father dissuaded me to try for a job as he wanted me to pursue higher studies

- A. as he wanted me
- B. My father dissuaded me
- C. to pursue higher studies
- D. to try for a job

19. Select the **correctly** spelt word

- A. exhibition
- B. affliction
- C. voilation
- D. Tution

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

CRUCIAL

- A. trivial
- B. imperative
- C. pivotal
- D. Critical

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.

Ironically, the dams that were constructed to (1) _____ floods have triggered floods due to sedimentation in the reservoir. The (2) _____ of water from dams during heavy rains aggravated- the flood situation (3) _____ Maharashtra and Gujarat in 2006. The floods (4) _____ not only life and property but also caused soil erosion. Sedimentation (5) _____ the plains of silt, a natural fertilizer.

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

- A. dominate
- B. control
- C. reduce
- D. Resist

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

- A. restraint
- B. collection
- C. release
- D. Liberation

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

- A. through
- B. among
- C. in
- D. Along

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

- A. devastated
- B. devoured

- C. smashed
- D. Plundered

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

- A. deprived
- B. distributed
- C. destroyed
- D. disabled

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. **B) He was a key figure in India's economic liberalization and played a pivotal role in modernizing the telecom sector.**

The passage highlights Vajpayee's substantial contributions to India's economic liberalization and the transformation of the telecom sector, describing him as the "father of modern telecom in India." It emphasizes his role in maintaining a robust GDP growth rate, reducing inflation, and increasing foreign exchange reserves during his tenure.

2. **C) Vajpayee's governance was marked by ethical adherence and a refusal to engage in unethical political practices.**

The passage points out Vajpayee's ethical stance in politics, especially highlighting the incident where he could have asked for a recount but chose not to, demonstrating his commitment to ethical practices. It portrays him as a leader who did not indulge in common political maneuverings.

3. **C) Admiring and respectful**

The tone of the passage is admiring and respectful towards Vajpayee. It highlights his accomplishments, ethical standards, and positive impact in various areas, showing a high regard for his contributions and character.

4. **C) He was appreciated for his ability to balance ideological commitments with pragmatic decision-making.**

The passage highlights Vajpayee's strong ideological moorings, his talent in oratory, his ability to take long-term views on development, and his adherence to ethics in politics, all of which indicate a balance between ideological commitments and pragmatic decision-making. This is in contrast to options A, B, and D, which focus on only one aspect of his career or incorrectly characterize his approach.

5. **C) He was criticized for frequently changing his political stance and party affiliations.**

The passage does not mention Vajpayee changing his political stance or party affiliations frequently. Instead, it portrays him as ideologically committed and consistent. Options A, B, and D are supported by the passage, which mentions his early start in parliament, his oratorical skills, and his role in economic reforms and the telecom sector.

6. **B) Walk the tight rope (idiom) - To be in a situation in which one must be very cautious or balanced in one's actions. सतर्क रहना**

7. **A) BCAD**

An entire township- Jharia is to be relocated because of the uncontrollable underground fires. These fires start mostly from burning trash close to coal pits These fires start mostly from burning trash close to coal pits

8. C) **favourable**' का use होगा क्योंकि "favourable" का अर्थ होता है अनुकूल या सहायक। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि जहाज़ सहजता से चला, इसका मतलब है कि हवाएँ उसके पक्ष में थीं, इसलिए 'favourable' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'turbulent' का अर्थ है अशांत या अस्थिर, 'tempestuous' का अर्थ है तूफानी, और 'Boisterous' का अर्थ है उधमी या शोरशराबा, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **favourable**' should be used because it means supportive or beneficial. The sentence indicates that the ship sailed smoothly, implying that the winds were aiding its journey, making 'favourable' the right choice here. On the other hand, 'turbulent' means chaotic or unstable, 'tempestuous' means stormy, and 'Boisterous' implies loud or rowdy, which don't fit in this context.
9. D) **with deepest tubewells**' के बदले 'with deeper tubewells' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ comparison किया जा रहा है बड़े किसानों और अन्य किसानों के बीच में; जैसे— Ram is taller than Shyam.
- 'with deeper tubewells' will be used instead of 'with deepest tubewells' because there is a comparison being made between the big farmers and other farmers; Like— Ram is taller than Shyam.
10. C) **blow his top** (idiom) - Be very angry **बहुत गुस्सा होना**
11. A) **MAMMOTH** (noun/adjective) – Huge, enormous, colossal, gigantic. **विशाल**
Synonym: **Gigantic** (adjective) – Extremely large, massive, enormous. **विशाल**
- **Miniscule** (adjective) – Very small, tiny, minute. **सूक्ष्म**
 - **Perilous** (adjective) – Dangerous, risky, hazardous. **खतरनाक**
 - **Magnificent** (adjective) – Impressively beautiful, grand, splendid. **शानदार**
12. A) '**miners allegation that there is**' के बदले 'miners alleged that there were' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'allegation' एक noun है जबकि verb की आवश्यकता है; साथ ही 'mines' plural है इसलिए 'were' का प्रयोग होगा; जैसे— Some people claimed that there were some mistakes in the document.
- 'miners alleged that there were' will be used instead of 'miners allegation that there is' because 'allegation' is a noun and we need a verb; also 'mines' is plural so 'were' will be used; Like— Some people claimed that there were some mistakes in the document.
13. B) **Arsenal** (noun) – A place for storing guns and military equipment **सस्त्रागार**
- **Archive** (noun) – a place or collection containing records, documents, or other materials of historical interest. **अभिलेखागार**

- **Apiary** (noun) – a place where bees are kept; a collection of beehives. **मधुमक्खी पालन स्थल**
- **Aviary** (noun) – a large cage or enclosure for keeping birds. **पक्षीशाला**

14. A) **DACB**

When the bell rang for lunch, Jessica took her lunch box and started moving towards the library. But the rest of the students were rushing past her for a break, like she didn't exist. And today, Jessica really felt like maybe she didn't exist. She slowly pushed open the library door and took a seat at one of the tables in the corner.

15. A) **'Laconic'** का use होगा क्योंकि "laconic" का अर्थ होता है संक्षेप में या अल्प शब्दों में।

Sentence में कहा गया है कि एक संक्षेप में भाषण वाकिफ भाषण से अधिक प्रभावशाली होता है, इसलिए 'laconic' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Sullen' का अर्थ है उदास या चिढ़ी हुई, 'Lengthy' का अर्थ है लंबा, और 'Surly' का अर्थ है असंतोषजनक या रुखा, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Laconic'** should be used because it means concise or using few words. The sentence states that a concise speech is more effective than a verbose one, making 'laconic' the right choice here. Whereas, 'Sullen' implies being moody or gloomy, 'Lengthy' means long, and 'Surly' denotes being bad-tempered or rude, which don't fit in this context.

16. A) **Orchard'** का use होगा क्योंकि "orchard" का अर्थ होता है वह जगह जहाँ फलों के पेड़ लगाए जाते हैं।

इसका सीधा मेल बैठता है group of words के साथ जो कि पूछा गया है। जबकि 'Farm' का अर्थ है कृषि योग्य भूमि, 'Plantation' का अर्थ है बड़े पैमाने पर पेड़-पौधे लगाने की जगह, और 'Garden' का अर्थ है बाग जहाँ फूल, पौधे आदि लगाए जाते हैं, जो इस context में सही नहीं है

- **Orchard'** should be used because it refers to a place where fruit trees are grown. It directly corresponds with the group of words that has been provided. Whereas, 'Farm' refers to agricultural land, 'Plantation' means a large area where trees or crops are grown, and 'Garden' refers to a plot where flowers, plants, etc. are cultivated, which don't fit in this context.

17. B) **'reveal'** के बदले 'reveals' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'The length' singular subject है और singular subject के साथ singular verb का प्रयोग होता है।

- 'reveals' will be used instead of 'reveal' because 'The length of a male swallow's tail' is a singular subject and with a singular subject, a singular verb is used.

18. D) **to try for a job'** के बदले 'from trying for a job' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि धातु 'dissuade' के साथ 'from + gerund' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— He dissuaded me from smoking.

- 'from trying for a job' will be used instead of 'to try for a job' because with the verb 'dissuade' we use 'from + gerund'; Like— He dissuaded me from smoking.

19. A) The correct spelling among the given options is 'exhibition'. प्रदर्शनी, प्रदर्शन.

20. A) **CRUCIAL** (adjective) – Of great importance, critical, pivotal, essential. महत्वपूर्ण

Antonym: **Trivial** (adjective) – Of little value or importance, minor, insignificant, petty. तुच्छ

- **Imperative** (adjective) – Of vital importance, crucial, critical, essential. अत्यंत आवश्यक
- **Pivotal** (adjective) – Of crucial importance in relation to the development or success of something else, central, crucial. केंद्रीय
- **Critical** (adjective) – Of great significance or value, crucial, vital, essential.

आलोचनात्मक

21. B) '**Control**' का use होगा क्योंकि डैम का मुख्य उद्देश्य floods को नियंत्रित करना होता है।

Sentence में यह जिक्र किया गया है कि डैमों का निर्माण floods को नियंत्रित करने के लिए किया गया था, लेकिन उन्होंने सेडिमेंटेशन के कारण floods को ट्रिगर किया। इसलिए, '**Control**' यहाँ सही है। '**Dominate**' का अर्थ है प्रधानता पाना या प्रभावित करना, '**Reduce**' का अर्थ है घटाना, और '**Resist**' का अर्थ है विरोध करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

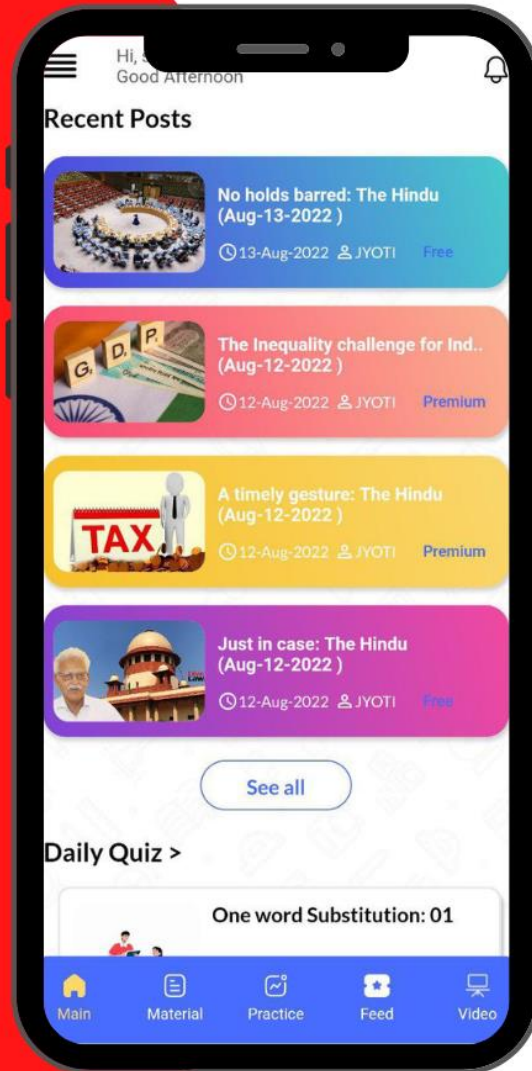
- '**Control**' should be used because the primary purpose of dams is to manage or control floods. The sentence states that dams were constructed to control floods but ironically led to floods due to sedimentation. Hence, '**Control**' fits best here. On the other hand, '**Dominate**' means to prevail or have influence over, '**Reduce**' means to lessen, and '**Resist**' means to oppose, which don't fit in this context.

22. C) '**Release**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'release' का अर्थ होता है पानी को डैम से बाहर जाने देना।

sentence में mention किया गया है कि heavy rains के दौरान डैम से पानी का (2) _____ बढ़ा देना flood situation को और भी बुरा बना देता है। इसलिए 'release' यहाँ सही है। जबकि '**restraint**' का अर्थ होता है रोक लगाना, '**collection**' का अर्थ है इकट्ठा करना और '**Liberation**' का अर्थ है मुक्ति प्राप्त करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- '**Release**' should be used because it means letting water out from the dam. The sentence mentions that the (2) _____ of water from dams during heavy rains worsened the flood situation. This makes 'release' the correct choice here. Whereas, '**restraint**' means to hold back, '**collection**' implies gathering, and '**Liberation**' means freedom, which don't fit in this context.

23. C) 'In' का use होगा क्योंकि Maharashtra और Gujarat दो अलग राज्य हैं और जब हम किसी स्थान का उल्लेख करते हैं, तो 'in' का use करते हैं। sentence में बारिश के चलते उन दोनों राज्यों में बाढ़ की स्थिति के बारे में बताया गया है, इसलिए 'in' यहाँ सही है।
- 'In' should be used because Maharashtra and Gujarat are two separate states and when referencing a location, 'in' is used. The sentence talks about the flood situation due to rains in both these states, making 'in' fitting here.
24. A) **Devastated** का use होगा क्योंकि "devastated" का अर्थ होता है बहुत अधिक क्षति पहुँचाना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि floods ने life और property को क्षति पहुँचाई, इसलिए 'devastated' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Devoured' का अर्थ है खा जाना या अधिकतर जीवन संबंधित है, 'Smashed' का अर्थ है तोड़ देना, और 'Plundered' का अर्थ है लूट लेना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **Devastated** should be used because it means to cause a lot of damage. The sentence mentions that the floods caused harm to both life and property, making 'devastated' the most fitting word here. Whereas, 'Devoured' typically means consumed or eaten, more related to life, 'Smashed' means to break apart, and 'Plundered' means to rob or loot, which don't fit in this context.
25. A) **Deprived** का use होगा क्योंकि "deprived" का अर्थ होता है वंचित करना। Sentence में बताया जा रहा है कि सेडिमेंटेशन ने मैदानों को सिल्ट से वंचित किया, जो एक प्राकृतिक उर्वरक है। इसलिए 'deprived' यहाँ सही है। 'Distributed' का अर्थ है वितरित करना, 'Destroyed' का अर्थ है नष्ट करना, और 'Disabled' का अर्थ है असक्षम बनाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **Deprived** should be used because it means to deny or withhold something from someone. The sentence indicates that sedimentation has kept the plains devoid of silt, which is a natural fertilizer. Thus, 'deprived' fits appropriately here. 'Distributed' means to give out, 'Destroyed' means to ruin or eliminate, and 'Disabled' means to render ineffective, which don't fit in this context.



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