

Drug war: On use of antibiotics and antimicrobial resistance

Antimicrobial resistance is a health issue that will **negate advances** in medicine

Prevention is better than cure, but **taking this adage** to the extreme in the practice of medicine **might obnubilate** the very purpose of treating patients to recovery, and even **turn out to be counter-productive**. In the case of **prophylactic** use of antibiotics, the **resultant** antimicrobial resistance (AMR) will be deadly. The 'First Multicentric Point Prevalence Survey of Antibiotic **Use** at 20 NAC-NET Sites India 2021-22' conducted by the National Centre for Disease Control under the Health Ministry **has thrown up startling statistics**, but more importantly, **examining the minutiae italicises** key issues that have been **flagged** by experts for years now. **Over 70%** of the patients in **tertiary-care** hospitals across 15 States and two Union Territories **were** prescribed antibiotics; over 50% of antibiotics prescribed have the **potential** to cause AMR. But the most crucial reveal was that **55% of the patients** surveyed **were** prescribed antibiotics as **prophylaxis**, or as a preventive; only 45% **were** prescribed antibiotics to actually treat infections; of this, only 6% were prescribed the drugs after identifying the specific bacteria.

AMR occurs when **pathogens** evolve, **fortifying** themselves against drugs, and stop responding to antimicrobial drugs. While it is the nature of pathogens to evolve, this ever-increasing crisis is constantly being **exacerbated** by **unsound** medical, and **animal husbandry** practices. It is **precisely the sort of** misuse and overuse of antimicrobials, as revealed by the survey, which cause the development of drug-resistant pathogens that in turn **pose** great risk to life and exacerbate **morbidity**. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that bacterial AMR was directly responsible for 1.27 million global deaths in 2019 and contributed to 4.95 million deaths. AMR **invalidates** the multiple gains that modern medicine has achieved over years, makes infections harder to treat, but also **renders** other medical procedures and treatments such as surgery, **caesarean** sections and cancer **chemotherapy**, much more risky, WHO warns. Infectious diseases specialists and critical-care experts have for long been **waving the red flag** over AMR, **calling for rational** prescription of antibiotics, and **curbs** on the use of drugs to promote growth in animals and plants. It is also clear that there is an antibiotic research and development pipeline crisis, and urgent measures are required to develop new drug candidates, and more **equitable** access to them. **The role** of doctors and the government in regulating use of drugs **is** crucial in this battle, but more so **the latter**. Patients too are **impatient** with the medical process, expecting immediate relief to **ailments**; but medical science offers no magical **remedy**. Ultimately, it is the agency with the **heft** to do both, establish systems that strictly regulate the use of antimicrobials and promote and fund research on newer antibiotics that will **draw the line** — between life and death.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Drug** (noun) – Medicine, Medication, Pharmaceutical, Medicament, Remedy दवा
2. **Antimicrobial resistance** (AMR) (noun) – Resistance to drugs that kill or slow the growth of microbes.
3. **Negate** (verb) – Invalidate, nullify, annul, void, cancel नकारना
4. **Advance** (noun) – Progress, development, improvement, advancement, breakthrough प्रगति
5. **Adage** (noun) – Proverb, saying, maxim, aphorism, axiom कहावत
6. **Obnubilate** (verb) – To make something less clear and more difficult to understand, especially intentionally. अस्पष्ट करना
7. **Turn out to be** (phrase) – Prove to be, end up being, emerge as, result in, wind up as साबित होना
8. **Counter-productive** (adjective) – Ineffective, unproductive, detrimental, adverse, harmful प्रतिकूल
9. **Prophylactic** (adjective) – Preventive, protective, precautionary, preventative, guarding रोगनिरोधी
10. **Resultant** (adjective) – Consequent, ensuing, resulting, stemming, following परिणामी
11. **Throw up** (phrasal verb) – Reveal, produce, generate, yield, bring to light सामने लाना
12. **Startling** (adjective) – Surprising, astonishing, shocking, amazing, astounding चौंकाने वाला
13. **Statistics** (noun) – Data, figures, numerical data, statistical data, numerical information आंकड़े
14. **Examine** (verb) – Inspect, analyze, scrutinize, investigate, assess जांचना
15. **Minutiae** (noun) – Details, particulars, specifics, finer points, niceties बारीकियाँ
16. **Italicise** (verb) – To print in italics to emphasize a word or phrase. शब्दों पर जोर देने के लिए या विभिन्नता प्रकट करने के लिए इटैलिक या तिरछे अक्षरों की छपाई करना
17. **Flag** (verb) – Signal, indicate, mark, highlight, denote संकेत करना
18. **Tertiary-care** (adjective) – Advanced, specialized, high-level, complex, sophisticated उच्चतर देखभाल
19. **Potential** (noun) – Possibility, capability, capacity, potentiality, power संभावना
20. **Prophylaxis** (noun) – Prevention, preventative treatment, preventive measures, protective treatment, safeguarding निवारण

21. **Pathogen** (noun) – Microbe, germ, virus, bacterium, infectious agent रोगाणु
22. **Fortify** (verb) – Strengthen, reinforce, bolster, shore up, consolidate मजबूत करना
23. **Exacerbate** (verb) – Worsen, aggravate, intensify, heighten, amplify बिगाड़ना
24. **Unsound** (adjective) – Flawed, defective, faulty, unsatisfactory, unreliable अनुचित
25. **Animal husbandry** (noun) – Livestock farming, stock breeding, dairy farming, sheep farming, cattle rearing पशुपालन
26. **Precisely** (adverb) – Exactly, accurately, precisely, specifically, just सटीक रूप से
27. **The sort of** (phrase) – The type of, the kind of, the variety of, the class of, the category of तरह का
28. **Pose** (verb) – Present, create, cause, produce, lead to उत्पन्न करना
29. **Morbidity** (noun) – Illness, sickness, unhealthiness, disease, ailment बीमारी
30. **Invalidate** (verb) – Nullify, void, annul, cancel, make invalid अमान्य करना
31. **Render** (verb) – Make, cause to be, leave, turn into, translate बनाना
32. **Caesarean section** (noun) – Surgical delivery, C-section, operative delivery, abdominal delivery, surgical childbirth शल्य चिकित्सा द्वारा प्रसव
33. **Chemotherapy** (noun) – the treatment of diseases, esp. cancer, using chemicals
34. **Wave the red flag** (phrase) – Warn, alert, caution, signal danger, raise an alarm चेतावनी देना
35. **Call for** (phrasal verb) – Require, demand, necessitate, need, ask for मांग करना
36. **Rational** (adjective) – Logical, reasonable, sensible, sound, coherent तर्कसंगत
37. **Curb** (noun) – Restraint, control, check, limit, restriction नियंत्रण
38. **Equitable** (adjective) – Fair, just, impartial, unbiased, egalitarian समान
39. **The latter** (noun) – Here it refers to the government
40. **Impatient** (adjective) – Restless, eager, anxious, intolerant, impatient अधीर
41. **Ailment** (noun) – Illness, disease, disorder, condition, sickness बीमारी
42. **Remedy** (noun) – Cure, treatment, medicine, solution, antidote उपचार
43. **Heft** (noun) – ability or influence. प्रभाव, शक्ति
44. **Draw the line** (phrase) – Set a limit, establish a boundary, limit, define boundaries, demarcate सीमा निर्धारित करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Prevalence of Antibiotics in Healthcare:** Over 70% of patients in tertiary-care hospitals across 15 Indian States and Union Territories were prescribed antibiotics.
2. **Prophylactic Use and AMR:** 55% of these prescriptions were for preventive purposes, contributing to antimicrobial resistance (AMR).
3. **AMR Impact:** AMR occurs when pathogens evolve to resist drugs, making infections harder to treat and increasing risks in medical procedures like surgery and chemotherapy.
4. **Global Death Toll:** The WHO reported that bacterial AMR caused approximately 1.27 million deaths globally in 2019 and contributed to 4.95 million deaths.
5. **Misuse in Medical and Veterinary Fields:** The crisis of AMR is exacerbated by the misuse and overuse of antimicrobials in both human medicine and animal husbandry.
6. **Inadequate Antibiotic Research and Development:** There is a crisis in the research and development pipeline for new antibiotics.
7. **Rational Prescription Needed:** Experts emphasize the need for rational prescription of antibiotics.
8. **Regulatory Role of Government:** The government plays a crucial role in regulating drug use and promoting research for new antibiotics.
9. **Patient Expectations and Medical Reality:** Patients often expect quick relief, not understanding that medical science does not offer instant cures.
10. **Infection Treatment:** Only 45% of antibiotic prescriptions were for treating actual infections, and only 6% were prescribed after identifying the specific bacteria.
11. **Impact on Modern Medicine:** AMR negates the advances in modern medicine, making common treatments and surgeries riskier.
12. **Use in Animal and Plant Growth:** The use of drugs to promote growth in animals and plants also contributes to AMR.
13. **Need for Equitable Drug Access:** Urgent measures are required for the development of new drug candidates and to ensure equitable access.
14. **Critical Role of Infectious Disease Specialists:** These specialists have long warned about AMR and the need for cautious antibiotic use.
15. **Challenge and Responsibility:** Addressing AMR is a major challenge that requires concerted efforts from doctors, the government, and patients for effective management and prevention.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, what percentage of patients in tertiary-care hospitals across 15 States and two Union Territories were prescribed antibiotics, and what is the significance of this statistic?** Editorial Page
 - A. Less than 50%, indicating a cautious approach to antibiotic prescription.
 - B. Approximately 70%, highlighting a potential overuse of antibiotics.
 - C. Over 80%, showing a strict adherence to medical protocols.
 - D. About 60%, reflecting a balanced approach to antibiotic use.
2. **What is the primary concern raised by the author regarding the prophylactic use of antibiotics?**
 - A. It increases the cost of healthcare significantly.
 - B. It can lead to an immediate allergic reaction in patients.
 - C. It contributes to the development of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).
 - D. It reduces the effectiveness of other non-antibiotic medications.
3. **From the passage, it can be inferred that all of the following are true about antimicrobial resistance (AMR) EXCEPT that**
 - A. AMR is exacerbated by the misuse and overuse of antimicrobials in medical and animal husbandry practices.
 - B. AMR can make infections harder to treat and increase the risk associated with medical procedures.
 - C. AMR is solely a result of patients demanding immediate relief from ailments.
 - D. The World Health Organization (WHO) has provided statistics on deaths caused directly and indirectly by bacterial AMR.
4. **According to the passage, all of the following are true about the usage of antibiotics in India EXCEPT that:**
 - A. Over 70% of patients in tertiary-care hospitals were prescribed antibiotics.
 - B. Only a minority of patients were prescribed antibiotics for actual treatment of infections.
 - C. Most antibiotics prescribed were proven to be effective without causing AMR.
 - D. A significant proportion of antibiotics were prescribed as prophylaxis.
5. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Optimistic
 - B. Cautionary
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Celebratory
6. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**
A large, deep, metal pot used for cooking over open fire
 - A. barrel
 - B. kettle
 - C. skillet
 - D. Cauldron
7. **Select the correct active form of the given sentence.**
One of the passengers was being thoroughly checked by the custom officers.

- A. The custom officers have been thoroughly checking one of the passengers.
B. The custom officers thoroughly checked one of the passengers.
C. One of the passengers was thoroughly checking the custom officers.
D. The custom officers were thoroughly checking one of the passengers.
8. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select No improvement.**
He came late, wasn't it?
A. didn't he
B. did he
C. No improvement
D. isn't it
9. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select No improvement.**
Each dancer performed very well that it was difficult to judge who the best was
A. such well that
B. so well that
C. No improvement
D. such very well that
10. **In the sentence identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.**
She forgot lock the door when she went out in a hurry
A. in a hurry
B. She forgot lock
C. the door when
D. she went out
11. **Select the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.**
In the wake of the recent cross-border tensions, forces have been _____ at strategic locations for immediate action, if required
A. departed
B. deployed
C. deposited
D. Deported
12. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
In the pink
A. in pink dress
B. in the limelight
C. in a happy mood
D. in good health
13. **Select the synonym of the given word.**
LETHAL
A. harmless
B. healthy
C. fatal

- D. Strong
14. **Select the correct passive form of the given sentence.**
Please take these students round the biscuit factory
- A. These students should be taking round the biscuit factory.
 - B. You are requested to take these students round the biscuit factory.
 - C. Let these students to be taken round the biscuit factory.
 - D. You must take these students round the biscuit factory.
15. **Select the synonym of the given word.**
PREVALENT
- A. unusual
 - B. common
 - C. rare
 - D. Different
16. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct order.**
- A. However, new research shows that taking the dog for a walk can have its downsides for seniors.
 - B. Dogs are great companions and provide a healthy excuse to go for a walk and get a bit of exercise.
 - C. It once seemed common sense to believe that having and walking a dog was good for older people.
 - D. A report published in an American medical journal says injuries among seniors related to dog-walking are becoming increasingly prevalent
- A. ABCD
 - B. CBAD
 - C. CABD
 - D. ADCB
17. **Select the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.**
Talgo, a Spanish company is one of the major _____ of intercity, standard, and high speed passenger trains.
- A. manufacturers
 - B. creators
 - C. builders
 - D. Constructors
18. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Lock, stock and barrel
- A. immediately
 - B. partly
 - C. rarely
 - D. Completely

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.

The political condition of India in the eighteenth century was one of extreme disunity.

(1)_____ the decline of the Mughal empire, no (2)_____ Indian power emerged to take its (3)_____ in strength and prestige and to unite the (4)_____ under a central authority. The Marathas who rose (5)_____ the position of pre-eminence among the new Indian states did not prove capable of fulfilling that task

19. **Select the most appropriate option for blank No. 1.**

- A. With
- B. In
- C. When
- D. On

20. **Select the most appropriate option for blank No. 2**

- A. one
- B. another
- C. other
- D. More

21. **Select the most appropriate option for blank No. 3.**

- A. niche
- B. place
- C. role
- D. Seat

22. **Select the most appropriate option for blank No. 4.**

- A. region
- B. territory
- C. country
- D. State

23. **Select the most appropriate option for blank No. 5.**

- A. to
- B. at
- C. on
- D. Over

24. **Select the wrongly spelt word.**

- A. notification
- B. necessity
- C. negotiation
- D. Negligence

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

Lodi Colony in Delhi is very different from other places in the city that is crowded and noisy.

- A. is very different
- B. from other places
- C. in the city
- D. that is crowded and noisy

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

- B) Approximately 70%, highlighting a potential overuse of antibiotics.**
 The passage states that over 70% of patients in tertiary-care hospitals were prescribed antibiotics. This high percentage is significant as it indicates a potential overuse of antibiotics, which can lead to antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The passage emphasizes the dangers of AMR and how it can negate advances in medicine.
- C) It contributes to the development of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).**
 The passage specifically discusses the issue of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in the context of the prophylactic use of antibiotics. It points out that the overuse and misuse of antibiotics, particularly for preventive purposes, can lead to the development of drug-resistant pathogens. This concern is central to the passage's argument that such practices can be counter-productive and pose great risks to public health.
- C) AMR is solely a result of patients demanding immediate relief from ailments.**
 The passage highlights various factors contributing to AMR, including misuse and overuse of antibiotics in medical and veterinary practices, and the natural evolution of pathogens. It does mention patients' impatience with the medical process, but it does not state that AMR is solely a result of this. Therefore, option C is not true according to the passage.
- C) Most antibiotics prescribed were proven to be effective without causing AMR.**
 The passage indicates that over 70% of patients in tertiary-care hospitals were prescribed antibiotics and a substantial portion of these prescriptions were for prophylaxis rather than treating infections. It also states that over 50% of these antibiotics have the potential to cause AMR, contradicting option C, which claims most antibiotics prescribed were effective without causing AMR. Hence, option C is the correct answer as it is not supported by the passage.
- B) Cautionary**
 The tone of the passage is cautionary. It highlights the serious health issue of antimicrobial resistance, exacerbated by the misuse and overuse of antibiotics. The tone is one of warning and concern, emphasizing the need for careful management of antibiotic use and development of new drugs
- D) Cauldron (noun) – A large, deep, metal pot used for cooking over open fire कढ़ाई**

 - Barrel (noun) – A cylindrical container bulging out in the middle, traditionally made of wooden staves. बैरल**
 - Kettle (noun) – A container for boiling water, with a lid, spout, and handle. केतली**
 - Skillet (noun) – A frying pan. तवा**
- D) The custom officers were thoroughly checking one of the passengers.**

8. A) **wasn't it** के बदले 'didn't he' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि प्रश्न की मुख्य वाक्य में verb 'came' Present Past Tense में है, अतः Question Tag में भी Verb Present Past Tense में होगा; जैसे— He worked hard, didn't he?
- 'didn't he' will be used instead of 'wasn't it' because in the main sentence the verb 'came' is in Past Tense, so in Question Tag also Verb will be in Past Tense; Like— He worked hard, didn't he?
9. B) **very well that** के बदले 'so well that' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहां 'that' के साथ 'so' का सही प्रयोग होता है, ताकि सही अर्थ प्रकट हो; जैसे— He worked so hard that he completed the project in one day.
- so well that' will be used instead of very well that' because 'so' correctly associates with 'that' to convey the right meaning; Like— He worked so hard that he completed the project in one day.
10. B) **'forgot lock** के बदले 'forgot to lock' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि जब हम किसी कार्य को भूल जाते हैं तो 'to + verb' का संरचना का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— She forgot to take her keys.
- forgot to lock' will be used instead of 'forgot lock' because when we forget to do an action, we use the 'to + verb' structure; Like— She forgot to take her keys.
11. B) **Deployed** का use होगा क्योंकि "deployed" का अर्थ होता है विशेष स्थल पर तैनात करना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि हाल की cross-border tensions के चलते, बलों को तुरंत कार्रवाई के लिए strategic locations पर तैनात किया गया है, इसलिए 'deployed' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Departed' का अर्थ है प्रस्थान करना, 'Deposited' का अर्थ है जमा करना, और 'Deported' का अर्थ है देश निकाला जाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **Deployed** should be used because it means to position or arrange for a particular purpose, especially military. The sentence mentions that due to recent cross-border tensions, forces have been positioned at strategic locations for immediate action. This makes 'deployed' the correct choice here. Whereas, 'Departed' means to leave, 'Deposited' means to put down or store, and 'Deported' means to be expelled from a country, which don't fit in this context.
12. **D) In the pink** (idiom) – Being in good health or physical condition; hale. **स्वस्थ**
13. C) **LETHAL** (adjective) – Deadly, fatal, mortal, causing death. अत्यंत हानिकारक
Synonym: **Fatal** (adjective) – Causing death, lethal, deadly, life-threatening. **अनिष्टकर**
- **Harmless** (adjective) – Safe, non-dangerous, not harmful. **अहानिकारक**
 - **Healthy** (adjective) – In good health, well, fit, robust. **स्वस्थ**
 - **Strong** (adjective) – Having power or strength, forceful, solid. **मजबूत**
14. B) You are requested to take these students round the biscuit factory.
15. B) **PREVALENT** (adjective) – Widespread, in general use, popular, accepted, in vogue. **प्रचलित**

Synonym: **Common** (adjective) – Occurring often, frequent, usual, ordinary. सामान्य

- **Unusual** (adjective) – Not commonly occurring, rare, uncommon, out of the ordinary. असामान्य
- **Rare** (adjective) – Not occurring very often, infrequent, uncommon. दुर्लभ
- **Different** (adjective) – Not the same as another, distinct, diverse, other. विभिन्न

16. B) CBAD

It once seemed common sense to believe that having and walking a dog was good for older people. Dogs are great companions and provide a healthy excuse to go for a walk and get a bit of exercise. . However, new research shows that taking the dog for a walk can have its downsides for seniors. A report published in an American medical journal says injuries among seniors related to dog-walking are becoming increasingly prevalent.

17. A) '**Manufacturers**' का use होगा क्योंकि "manufacturers" का अर्थ होता है वह संगठन जो वस्त्र, उपकरण, मशीनरी आदि बनाता है। Talgo जैसी एक स्पैनिश कंपनी जो इंटरसिटी, स्टैंडर्ड, और हाई स्पीड पैसेंजर ट्रेन्स बनाती है, उसके लिए 'manufacturers' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Creators' का अर्थ है रचनाकार, 'Builders' और 'Constructors' भी बनाने वाले का अर्थ होता है लेकिन ट्रेन जैसे जटिल उपकरण के context में 'manufacturers' सबसे अधिक उपयुक्त है।

- **Manufacturers** should be used because it refers to organizations that produce goods, equipment, machinery, etc. For a Spanish company like Talgo, which makes intercity, standard, and high-speed passenger trains, 'manufacturers' is the most fitting choice here. Whereas, 'Creators' means originators, 'Builders' and 'Constructors' also mean those who make, but in the context of complex equipment like trains, 'manufacturers' is the most appropriate.

18. D) **Lock, stock and barrel** (idiom) – Entirely, completely सम्पूर्ण रूप से

19. A) '**With**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'with' का अर्थ होता है "साथ" या "के बावजूद". Sentence में इसका प्रयोग एक कारण या परिस्थिति को दर्शाने के लिए किया गया है, जैसे कि Mughal empire के पतन के साथ ही भारत में राजनीतिक असंगठनता आई। इस context में 'With' सही है क्योंकि यह उस समय को दर्शाता है जब Mughal empire का पतन हुआ और इसके बावजूद कोई भारतीय ताकत उसकी जगह नहीं ले पा रही थी।

- '**With**' should be used as it can mean "alongside" or "despite". In the sentence, it is used to indicate a condition or scenario, suggesting that with the decline of the Mughal empire, political disunity prevailed in India. In this context, 'With' correctly depicts the scenario where the Mughal empire declined and, despite this, no Indian power could take its place.

20. C) **Other**' का use होगा क्योंकि जब हम एक specific category या group में से एक alternate चीज या entity की बात करते हैं तो 'other' शब्द का use होता है। यहाँ पर Mughal empire के

decline के बाद किसी और Indian power की चर्चा हो रही है, जिसे 'other Indian power' के रूप में सही तरीके से प्रकट किया जा सकता है।

- **'Other'** should be used because when referring to an alternate entity within a specific category or group, we use 'other'. Here, the discussion is about another Indian power after the decline of the Mughal empire, which can be rightly expressed as 'other Indian power'

21. B) **'Place'** का use होगा क्योंकि "place" का अर्थ होता है किसी विशेष स्थान या पद का प्रतिस्थान। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि मुघल साम्राज्य की पतन के बाद, कोई भी भारतीय शक्ति उसकी स्थान पर नहीं आ पाई जो उसकी ताकत और प्रतिष्ठा में समान हो और एक केंद्रीय प्राधिकृतता के तहत सभी को एकजुट कर सके। इसलिए 'place' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Niche' का अर्थ है एक विशेष जगह या स्थिति, 'Role' का अर्थ है भूमिका और 'Seat' का अर्थ है आसन या स्थान, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Place'** should be used because it signifies a particular position or status. The sentence mentions that after the decline of the Mughal empire, no Indian power emerged to take its place in terms of strength and prestige and to unify everyone under a central authority. Therefore, 'place' is appropriate here. Whereas, 'Niche' implies a specialized position, 'Role' denotes a function or part, and 'Seat' means a location or base, which don't fit in this context.

22. 'C) **'Country'** का use होगा क्योंकि "country" का अर्थ होता है एक विशेष भूगोलिक क्षेत्र या प्रदेश जिसमें स्थायी निवासी रहते हैं। Sentence में बताया गया है कि एक केंद्रीय प्राधिकृत के अधीन वहाँ के लोगों को एकत्रित करने के लिए कोई भी शक्तिशाली भारतीय सामर्थ्य नहीं उभरा, इसलिए 'country' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Region' का अर्थ होता है किसी विशेष भौगोलिक क्षेत्र का, 'Territory' का अर्थ है प्रदेश या इलाका, और 'State' का अर्थ है राज्य, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Country'** should be used because it refers to a specific geographic area or region inhabited by permanent residents. The sentence mentions that no powerful Indian capability emerged to unite the people of that region under a central authority, making 'country' fitting here. Whereas, 'Region' implies a specific geographic zone, 'Territory' means an area or district, and 'State' refers to a political entity or province, which don't fit in this context.

23. A) **'to'** का use होगा क्योंकि "to" का अर्थ होता है किसी निश्चित स्थिति या स्थल तक पहुंचना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि Marathas नई भारतीय राष्ट्रों में प्रमुख स्थिति तक पहुंचे, इसलिए 'to' यहाँ सही है। 'at', 'on', और 'over' इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

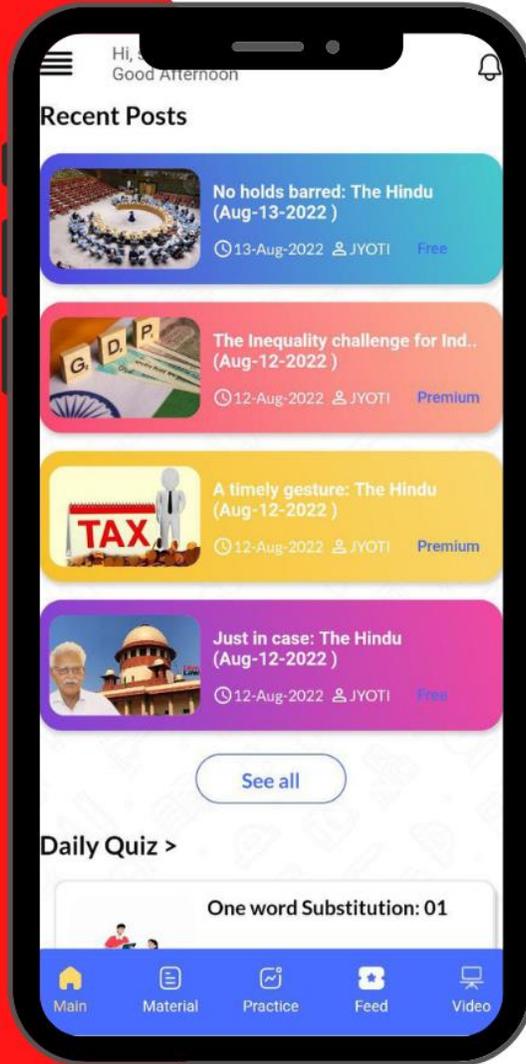
- **'to'** should be used because it indicates reaching a specific position or place. The sentence mentions that the Marathas rose to a position of pre-eminence among the

new Indian states, making 'to' the right choice here. On the other hand, 'at', 'on', and 'over' don't fit in this context.

24. C) the incorrectly spelled word is 'negociation'. The correct spelling is '**negotiation**'. **समझौता करने की प्रक्रिया।**

25. D) '**that are**' के बदले 'that is' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'places' बहुवचन है और इसलिए verb भी बहुवचन में होगा; जैसे— There are many places that are beautiful.

- 'that are' will be used instead of 'that is' because 'places' is plural and hence the verb should also be in plural; Like— There are many places that are beautiful.



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