

Regional turmoil: On the West Asia situation

West Asia needs a new security **equilibrium** with the Palestine issue **at the centre**

The war on Gaza is no longer about Israel and Hamas. Israel has **carried out** targeted **strikes** in Lebanon and Syria, killing Hezbollah, Hamas and Iranian commanders. From southern Lebanon, Hezbollah is **exchanging fire** with Israeli troops. **Iran-backed militias** in Syria and Iraq **have** attacked U.S. forces in Syria and Iraq. The **Houthis**, the Iran-backed **rebels** of Yemen, **have** turned the Red Sea into a battlefield. The U.S.'s **air strikes** in Iraq, Syria and Yemen, **seek** to **retaliate** against Shia militias. As **chaos** and **instability** spread, Sunni Islamist militants attacked Iran, killing at least 100 people. In the latest **escalation**, Iran claims to have destroyed an Israeli intelligence **outpost** in Iraq's Kurdistan and training camps of Sunni Islamists in Syria and Pakistan, in air strikes. This is now a classic case of regional **anarchy** where countries are taking **unilateral** military measures to **address** their **perceived** security challenges, throwing international laws and the idea of **sovereignty**, the **bedrock** of the international system, **to the wind**, **thereby** risking a wider **all-out war**.

Just weeks before the October 7 attack, **Jake Sullivan**, the U.S. National Security Adviser, **had** said "the Middle East is quieter today than it has been in two **decades**". **The Abraham Accords** were **on a strong footing**, and Saudi Arabia and Israel were moving closer towards **normalisation**. Iraq had become quieter; Gulf Arabs and Iran had reached a **rapprochement**; and a ceasefire was holding in Yemen. Most of these changes, however, ignored the oldest crisis in the region — Israel's continuing **occupation** of the Palestinian territories. The October 7 Hamas attack and Israel's **subsequent vengeful** offensive in Gaza have not only brought Palestine back to the centre of West Asia but also **lit fires**, **triggering perhaps** the deepest security crisis in the region since 1967. The **involvement** of non-state **actors** and the **absence** of an **off ramp** **complicate** matters. After 100 days of war with Hamas, Israel has achieved little in Gaza. The **Houthis**, a militia that survived seven years of Saudi bombing, **are** unlikely to be **deterred** by America's strikes. Even though Iran wants to **showcase** strength and **boldness**, it cannot **mask** its **inherent** weakness, which also makes it unpredictable. The old **order**, **anchored** by America's domineering regional presence, **is in tatters**. What West Asia needs is a new security equilibrium. There has to be an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, and **peace** between Israel and Palestinians **could** be used as a **springboard** for further talks aimed at regional security between the main **stakeholders** — Israel, Arab nations, Iran, the U.S. and their respective **allies** and **proxies**.

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

[Practice Exercise]

Vocabulary

1. **Turmoil** (noun) – Unrest, Tumult, Disruption, Turbulence, Upheaval अशांति
2. **Equilibrium** (noun) – Balance, Stability, Symmetry, Poise, Steadiness संतुलन
3. **At the centre** (phrase) – Focal, Core, Central, Pivotal, Key केंद्र में
4. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) – Execute, Perform, Accomplish, Implement, Fulfill पूरा करना
5. **Strike** (noun) – Attack, Hit, Assault, Blow, Raid हमला
6. **Exchange fire** (phrase) – Engage in shooting, Trade shots, Crossfire, Firefight, Shootout गोलीबारी
7. **Iran-backed** (adjective) – Supported by Iran, Iran-endorsed, Iran-sponsored, Iran-financed, Iran-affiliated ईरान समर्थित
8. **Militia** (noun) – Paramilitary, Guerrillas, Armed forces, Fighters, Warriors सहायक सेना
9. **Rebel** (noun) – Insurgent, Mutineer, Revolutionary, Dissident, Revolver विद्रोही
10. **Seek** (verb) – Pursue, Search for, Aim for, Strive, Endeavor प्रयास करना
11. **Retaliate** (verb) – Avenge, Repay, Reprisal, Retribution, Counterattack बदला लेना
12. **Chaos** (noun) – Disorder, Disarray, Confusion, Mayhem, Anarchy अराजकता
13. **Instability** (noun) – Uncertainty, Unpredictability, Volatility, Inconsistency, Fluctuation अस्थिरता
14. **Escalation** (noun) – a situation in which something becomes greater or more serious वृद्धि
15. **Outpost** (noun) – Outstation, Border post, Fort, Garrison, Stronghold चौकी
16. **Anarchy** (noun) – Lawlessness, Disorder, Chaos, Disarray, Mayhem अराजकता
17. **Unilateral** (adjective) – One-sided, Unilateralist, Independent, Nonreciprocal, Solo एकतरफा
18. **Address** (verb) – Tackle, Deal with, Attend to, Confront, Handle सुलझाना, निपटाना
19. **Perceived** (adjective) – Recognized, Discerned, Noticed, Detected, Acknowledged माना गया
20. **Sovereignty** (noun) – Autonomy, Independence, Self-rule, Dominion, Supremacy संप्रभुता
21. **Bedrock** (noun) – Foundation, Basis, Cornerstone, Underpinning, Groundwork आधार

22. **To the wind** (phrase) – Disregard, Ignore, Dismiss, Brush aside, Flout अनदेखी
23. **Thereby** (adverb) – Thus, Therefore, Consequently, Hence, Accordingly इस प्रकार
24. **All-out war** (noun) – Total war, Full-scale war, Unrestricted war, Comprehensive war, Complete war पूर्ण युद्ध
25. **Decade** (noun) – Period of ten years दशक
26. **The Abraham Accord** (noun) – It is bilateral agreements on Arab–Israeli normalization signed between Israel and the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain on September 15, 2020.
27. **On a strong footing** (phrase) – Solid foundation, Firm basis, Stable position, Secure status, Strong position मजबूत आधार पर
28. **Normalisation** (noun) – Standardization, Regularization, Stabilization, Adjustment, Alignment सामान्यीकरण
29. **Rapprochement** (noun) – Reconciliation, Detente, Harmonization, Accord, Amity सुलह
30. **Occupation** (noun) – Invasion, Conquest, Annexation, Takeover, Subjugation कब्जा
31. **Subsequent** (adjective) – Following, Later, Ensuing, Succeeding, Consecutive बाद का
32. **Vengeful** (adjective) – Revengeful, Retaliatory, Vindictive, Spiteful, Grudge-bearing प्रतिशोधी
33. **Lit fire** (phrase) – Ignited conflict, Sparked confrontation, Set ablaze, Kindled, Flared up संघर्ष भड़काना
34. **Trigger** (verb) – Activate, Initiate, Spark, Set off, Provoke शुरू करना
35. **Perhaps** (adverb) – Maybe, Possibly, Potentially, Conceivably, It's possible शायद
36. **Actor** (noun) – Participants
37. **Off ramp** (noun) – a solution to a problem; way out समाधान; बाहर जाने का मार्ग
38. **Deter** (verb) – Discourage, Dissuade, Prevent, Hinder, Thwart रोकना
39. **Showcase** (verb) – Display, Exhibit, Present, Demonstrate, Highlight प्रदर्शित करना
40. **Boldness** (noun) – Courage, Bravery, Daring, Audacity, Fearlessness साहस
41. **Mask** (verb) – Conceal, Hide, Disguise, Camouflage, Cover छिपाना
42. **Inherent** (adjective) – Intrinsic, Natural, Innate, Fundamental, Built-in निहित
43. **Anchor** (verb) – Secure, Fasten, Mooring, Stabilize, Fix स्थिर करना

44. **In tatters** (phrase) – badly damaged or completely spoiled बुरी तरह क्षतिग्रस्त होना
45. **Springboard** (noun) – a thing that lends impetus or assistance to a particular action, enterprise, or development.
46. **Stakeholder** (noun) – Contributor, Shareholder, Participant, Investor, Interested party हितधारक
47. **Ally** (noun) – Partner, Associate, Confidant, Supporter, Collaborator सहयोगी
48. **Proxy** (noun) – Representative, Substitute, Delegate, Agent, Stand-in प्रतिनिधि

Summary of the Editorial

1. West Asia's security dynamics are intensifying, with the Palestinian issue as the central concern.
2. The conflict has escalated beyond Israel and Hamas, involving multiple regional players and affecting various countries.
3. Israel has conducted targeted strikes in Lebanon and Syria, impacting Hezbollah, Hamas, and Iranian forces.
4. Hezbollah and Israeli troops are engaged in hostilities in southern Lebanon.
5. Iran-supported militias in Syria and Iraq have attacked U.S. forces.
6. The Houthis in Yemen, backed by Iran, have intensified the conflict in the Red Sea area.
7. The U.S. has retaliated with airstrikes against Shia militias in Iraq, Syria, and Yemen.
8. Sunni Islamist militants have launched deadly attacks in Iran.
9. Iran claims to have struck Israeli and Sunni Islamist targets in Iraq, Syria, and Pakistan.
10. The situation represents a breakdown in regional order, with nations taking unilateral actions, undermining international laws and sovereignty.
11. The U.S. National Security Adviser's recent comments about relative calm in the Middle East contrast sharply with the current turmoil.
12. The Abraham Accords and other regional reconciliations have overlooked the unresolved Palestinian issue.
13. The conflict in Gaza, fueled by the October 7 Hamas attack, has repositioned the Palestinian situation as a central regional issue.
14. The conflict involves non-state actors and lacks clear paths to de-escalation, complicating the security crisis.
15. A new regional security equilibrium is essential, starting with an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and using Israel-Palestinian peace as a basis for broader regional security discussions.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Based on the passage about the situation in West Asia, which statement best illustrates the current security dynamics in the region?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. The conflict is primarily between Israel and Hamas, with other parties playing only minor roles.
 - B. Regional powers are engaging in unilateral military actions, undermining international laws and risking a broader conflict.
 - C. The situation is stable and well-managed due to the effective intervention of international organizations.
 - D. The conflict is restricted to the borders of Israel and Palestine, with no external parties involved.
2. **What can be inferred about the role of the Palestine issue in the current West Asia turmoil based on the passage?**
 - A. It is the sole cause of the conflict, with all other issues being insignificant.
 - B. It is central to the conflict, but the turmoil has expanded to include other regional power dynamics and conflicts.
 - C. It has been resolved, leading to the current focus on other regional disputes.
 - D. It is irrelevant to the current military engagements and regional anarchy.
3. **What was the primary sentiment expressed by Jake Sullivan, the U.S. National Security Adviser, about the Middle East just weeks before the October 7 attack, and how did subsequent events contrast with his statement?**
 - A. Jake Sullivan expressed concern about the escalating tension in the Middle East, which was confirmed by the subsequent events, including the October 7 Hamas attack.
 - B. Jake Sullivan claimed that the Middle East was quieter than it had been in two decades, a statement contradicted by the October 7 Hamas attack and its aftermath.
 - C. Jake Sullivan predicted the normalization of relationships between Saudi Arabia and Israel, which was undermined by the increased tension following the October 7 attack.
 - D. Jake Sullivan emphasized the stability in the region due to the Abraham Accords, but the October 7 attack indicated a shift towards regional insecurity and the need for a new security equilibrium.
4. **Considering the passage's context and the developments in West Asia, what is the most accurate depiction of the region's security situation following the events of October 7?**
 - A. The security situation remained stable due to the strong foundation of the Abraham Accords and the ongoing efforts towards normalization between Saudi Arabia and Israel.
 - B. The region witnessed a significant deterioration in security, marked by the resurgence of the Palestinian issue and a complex crisis involving various state and non-state actors.
 - C. The ceasefire in Yemen and the rapprochement between Gulf Arabs and Iran indicated a shift towards lasting peace and stability in the region.
 - D. Despite the October 7 attack, the U.S.'s domineering presence in the region continued to anchor the old order and prevent any major security crises.
5. **What is the tone of the passage regarding the current situation in West Asia?**

- A. Optimistic
 - B. Indifferent
 - C. Critical
 - D. Sympathetic
6. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Out of the given options pick the one that gives their correct order.**
- A. These lotteries organised by State Governments sell dreams.
 - B. Lured by this, millions of poor people waste their hard-earned money.
 - C. Crores of rupees and gold are offered as prizes.
 - D. People buy lotteries hoping to become rich overnight
- A. CABD
 - B. DACB
 - C. DBCA
 - D. CBAD

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.

Agra's marble-marvel has such an overwhelming presence (1) _____ other monuments in the town have been relegated (2) _____ oblivion. Amongst such 60 odd monuments in (3) _____ town, the Red Taj is the most (4) _____ and relatively well-preserved. The tomb in red sandstone was (5) _____ by Ann Hensing, widow of a Dutch officer, after his death in 1803.

7. **Select the correct option to fill in blank 1.**
- A. but
 - B. than
 - C. that
 - D. If
8. **Select the correct option to fill in blank 2.**
- A. with
 - B. on
 - C. to
 - D. By
9. **Select the correct option to fill in blank 3.**
- A. the
 - B. an
 - C. their
 - D. A
10. **Select the correct option to fill in blank 4.**
- A. efficient
 - B. adequate
 - C. active
 - D. elegant
11. **Select the correct option to fill in blank 5.**

- A. built
B. build
C. to build
D. Building
12. Select the most appropriate **one word substitution** for the given group of words.
To increase the speed
A. Activate
B. Assimilate
C. Accelerate
D. Exhilarate
13. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word
A. Opportunity
B. Obscure
C. Omision
D. Obsolete
14. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Out of the given options pick the one that gives their correct order.**
A. These are generated by a violent undersea disturbance or ocean activity.
B. Once generated, they travel outward on the ocean surface in all directions.
C. A tsunami is made up of a series of very long waves.
D. Spreading thus, they look like ripples caused by throwing a rock in a pond
A. BADC
B. CBDA
C. CABD
D. BDCA
15. **Select the most appropriate one word substitution for the given group of words.**
Pertaining to an individual from birth
A. Chronic
B. Habitual
C. Congenital
D. Anomaly
16. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
See eye to eye
A. Stare at someone
B. See clearly
C. Agree with someone
D. Be suspicious
17. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select No improvement.**
If they will get married, they will probably settle in Mumbai.
A. If they will be getting married
B. If they had got married

- C. If they get married
D. No improvement
18. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
Have you _____ for a job in this company?
A. approved
B. supplied
C. applied
D. Appointed
19. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
CORDIAL
A. cold
B. rude
C. warm
D. Hard
20. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
DISHEARTENED
A. disgusted
B. disgraced
C. disliked
D. Depressed
21. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word.**
HASTE
A. Delay
B. Dash
C. Rush
D. Lose
22. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word**
A. Edible
B. Monarch
C. Delegait
D. Rebel
23. **Select the correct indirect form of the given sentence.**
Mahesh said to Rita, "Don't play in the sun."
A. Mahesh ordered Rita that not play in the sun.
B. Mahesh requested Rita that don't play in the sun.
C. Mahesh told to Rita to not play in the sun.
D. Mahesh advised Rita not to play in the sun.
24. **In the sentence identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.**
The both children go to the same school.
A. same school
B. children go
C. to the

D. The both

25. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select No improvement.**

They stopped to laugh as soon as the teacher entered the classroom.

- A. stopped laugh
- B. stopped laughing
- C. No improvement
- D. stop laughing

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. **B) Regional powers are engaging in unilateral military actions, undermining international laws and risking a broader conflict.**

The passage describes a complex and chaotic situation in West Asia, where various countries and groups are taking unilateral military measures, often disregarding international laws and the concept of sovereignty. This has led to a classic case of regional anarchy, with the potential risk of escalating into a wider, all-out war. The other options do not accurately reflect the multi-faceted and escalating nature of the conflict as described in the passage.

2. **B) It is central to the conflict, but the turmoil has expanded to include other regional power dynamics and conflicts.**

The passage starts by stating that "West Asia needs a new security equilibrium with the Palestine issue at the centre," indicating the importance of the Palestine issue. However, it goes on to describe various other conflicts and unilateral military actions involving different groups and countries, showing that while the Palestine issue is central, the regional turmoil involves a broader set of conflicts and dynamics.

3. **B) Jake Sullivan claimed that the Middle East was quieter than it had been in two decades, a statement contradicted by the October 7 Hamas attack and its aftermath.**

Jake Sullivan remarked that "the Middle East is quieter today than it has been in two decades," reflecting a sense of relative calm or stability in the region. However, the subsequent October 7 Hamas attack and Israel's retaliatory actions starkly contrasted with this sentiment, highlighting the volatile and unpredictable nature of the region's peace and security dynamics. The events following Sullivan's statement, including the resurgence of the Palestinian issue and the broader regional security crisis, clearly contradicted the initial assessment of tranquility.

4. **B) The region witnessed a significant deterioration in security, marked by the resurgence of the Palestinian issue and a complex crisis involving various state and non-state actors.**

The passage describes a deepening security crisis in the region, particularly highlighting the October 7 Hamas attack and Israel's response in Gaza. The resurgence of the Palestinian issue, the involvement of non-state actors, and the absence of clear strategies for de-escalation (an off ramp) point to a significant deterioration in the region's security situation. The old order, previously anchored by America's strong presence, is described as being in tatters, indicating a shift away from previous stability and towards a more complex and unpredictable security environment.

5. **C) Critical**

The passage adopts a critical tone towards the situation in West Asia. It highlights the chaotic and unstable state of affairs, describing a "classic case of regional anarchy" and the breakdown

of international laws and sovereignty. It further criticizes the lack of progress and the old order being "in tatters," indicating a tone of disapproval and concern rather than neutrality, sympathy, or optimism.

6. B) **DACB**

People buy lotteries hoping to become rich overnight These lotteries organised by State Governments sell dreams. Crores of rupees and gold are offered as prizes. Lured by this, millions of poor people waste their hard-earned money

7. B) 'than' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि 'Agra's marble-marvel has such an overwhelming presence' के बाद 'than' का उपयोग करके तुलना की जा रही है। 'Than' का उपयोग तुलनात्मक डिग्री के साथ किया जाता है, और यहाँ 'such an overwhelming presence' के साथ तुलना की जा रही है कि अन्य स्मारक उपेक्षित हो गए हैं।

'than' should be used because after 'Agra's marble-marvel has such an overwhelming presence', 'than' is used to compare. 'Than' is used with comparative degrees, and here it is being used to compare that other monuments have been relegated compared to the overwhelming presence of the marble-marvel.

8. C) **To'** का use होगा क्योंकि इस context में "relegated to oblivion" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज को भुलाना या नजरअंदाज कर देना। इस sentence में कहा गया है कि अग्रा की अन्य स्मारकों को मर्मर के आश्चर्य की उपस्थिति के कारण भुला दिया गया है, इसलिए 'to' यहाँ सही है। 'With', 'on', और 'by' इस context में सही नहीं होंगे क्योंकि ये prepositions इस particular expression के साथ ठीक से फिट नहीं होती हैं।

- **To'** should be used because in this context, "relegated to oblivion" means to forget or ignore something. The sentence says that other monuments in Agra have been forgotten due to the overwhelming presence of the marble marvel, making 'to' the correct choice here. 'With', 'on', and 'by' are not appropriate in this context because these prepositions do not fit well with this particular expression.

9. A) **The'** का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर specific town की बात हो रही है, जिसमें Agra की बात की गयी है। 'The' definite article होता है जिसका use specific person, place, or thing को refer करते समय होता है। 'An' indefinite article है और इसका use non-specific things के लिए होता है। 'Their' possessive adjective है और यहाँ पर fit नहीं होता। 'A' भी indefinite article है और specific town की बात करते हुए इसका use नहीं होगा।

- **The'** should be used because we are talking about a specific town, that is Agra. 'The' is a definite article used to refer to a specific person, place, or thing. 'An' is an indefinite article and is used for non-specific things. 'Their' is a possessive adjective and does not

fit here. 'A' is also an indefinite article and will not be used while referring to a specific town.

10. D) **elegant'** का use होगा क्योंकि "elegant" का अर्थ होता है सुंदर और सोफिस्टिकेटेड। Sentence में बताया गया है कि Red Taj शहर में मौजूद अन्य स्मारकों में सबसे अधिक _____ है, इसलिए 'elegant' यहाँ सही है क्योंकि यह उसकी सुंदरता और सोफिस्टिकेशन को व्यक्त करता है। 'Efficient' का अर्थ है कुशल, 'Adequate' का अर्थ है पर्याप्त, और 'Active' का अर्थ है सक्रिय, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **elegant'** should be used because it means beautiful and sophisticated. The sentence describes that the Red Taj is the most _____ among other monuments in the town, making 'elegant' fitting here as it expresses its beauty and sophistication. Whereas, 'A. efficient' means skillful, 'B. adequate' means sufficient, and 'C. active' means energetic or lively, which don't fit in this context.

11. A) **Built'** का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर sentence की बात कर रही है किसी चीज को बनाने की जो पहले ही हो चुकी है। 'Built' एक past participle है और यह इस context में सही है क्योंकि tomb पहले ही बन चुकी है। 'Build' present form है, 'to build' infinitive है और 'Building' एक gerund है, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

- **Built'** should be used because the sentence is talking about something that has already been constructed. 'Built' is a past participle and is correct in this context because the tomb has already been constructed. 'Build' is in the present form, 'to build' is an infinitive, and 'Building' is a gerund, none of which are correct in this context.

12. C) **Accelerate** (verb) – To increase in speed or rate. गति बढ़ाना

- **Activate** (verb) – To make something active or operative. सक्रिय करना
- **Assimilate** (verb) – To take in, understand, or absorb information, values, or culture. सम्मिलित करना
- **Exhilarate** (verb) – To make someone feel very happy or animated. उत्साहित करना

13. C) The INCORRECTLY spelt word among the given options is C. "Omission". The correct spelling is "Omission छोड़ दिया गया, नजरअंदाज किया गया.

14. C) **CABD**

A tsunami is made up of a series of very long waves These are generated by a violent undersea disturbance or ocean activity. Once generated, they travel outward on the ocean surface in all directions. Spreading thus, they look like ripples caused by throwing a rock in a pond

15. C) **Congenital** (adjective) – Pertaining to a condition present at birth, whether inherited or caused by the environment, particularly the uterine environment. **जन्मजात**

- **Chronic** (adjective) – (of an illness) persisting for a long time or constantly recurring. **दीर्घकालिक**
- **Habitual** (adjective) – done or doing constantly or as a habit. **अभ्यस्त**
- **Anomaly** (noun) – something that deviates from what is standard, normal, or expected. **विपरीतता**

16. C) **See eye to eye** (idiom) – Agree with someone **सहमत होना**

17. C) '**will get married**' के बदले 'get married' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Conditional Sentences Type 1 में, if clause में Future Tense का प्रयोग नहीं होता है; जैसे— If it rains, we will not go out.

- 'get married' will be used instead of 'will get married' because in Conditional Sentences Type 1, the use of Future Tense is not appropriate in the if clause; Like— If it rains, we will not go out.

18. C) **applied**' का use होगा क्योंकि "applied" का अर्थ होता है किसी नौकरी या पद के लिए आवेदन करना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि क्या आपने इस कंपनी में नौकरी के लिए आवेदन किया है, इसलिए 'applied' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'approved' का अर्थ है मंजूरी देना, 'supplied' का अर्थ है प्रदान करना और 'appointed' का अर्थ है नियुक्त करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **applied**' should be used because it means to make a formal application or request for a job or position. The sentence is asking if you have made an application for a job in this company, making 'applied' fitting here. Whereas, 'approved' means to consent, 'supplied' means to provide, and 'appointed' means to assign a job or role, which don't fit in this context.

19. C) **Cordial** (adjective) – Warm and friendly, amiable, hospitable, affable. **सौहार्दपूर्ण**

Synonym: **Warm** (adjective) – Having or showing enthusiasm, affection, or kindness. **गरमा गरम**

- **Cold** (adjective) – Lacking affection or warmth, unfriendly, frigid, aloof. **ठंडा**
- **Rude** (adjective) – Offensively impolite or ill-mannered, discourteous, insolent, impudent. **अभद्र**
- **Hard** (adjective) – Solid, firm, and resistant to pressure, tough, rigid. **कठिन**

20. D) **Disheartened** (adjective) – Feeling a loss of spirit or morale, dejected, downhearted, discouraged, dismayed. निराश

Synonym: **Depressed** (adjective) – In a state of general unhappiness or despondency, downhearted, sad, unhappy. उदास

- **Disgusted** (adjective) – Feeling revulsion or strong disapproval, sickened, nauseated, repelled. घृणित
- **Disgraced** (adjective) – Having lost one's reputation, dishonored, shamed, discredited. अपमानित
- **Disliked** (adjective) – Regarded with distaste or hostility, unpopular, unwelcome, objectionable. प्रतिकूल

21. A) **Haste** (noun) – Quickness, speed, rapidity, urgency, hurry. जल्दी

Antonym: **Delay** (noun) – The act of postponing, hindering, or causing something to occur slowly or at a later time. देरी

- **Dash** (noun) – A small quantity thrown or mixed into something; a sprint or quick movement. तेज़ी
- **Rush** (noun) – A sudden quick movement towards something, haste, hurry. जल्दी
- **Lose** (verb) – Cease to have, either physically or in an abstract sense; be deprived of. खो देना

22. C) The incorrectly spelled word among the options is 'Delegait'. The correct spelling is 'Delegate', प्रतिनिधि, प्रतिनिधित्व करने वाला.

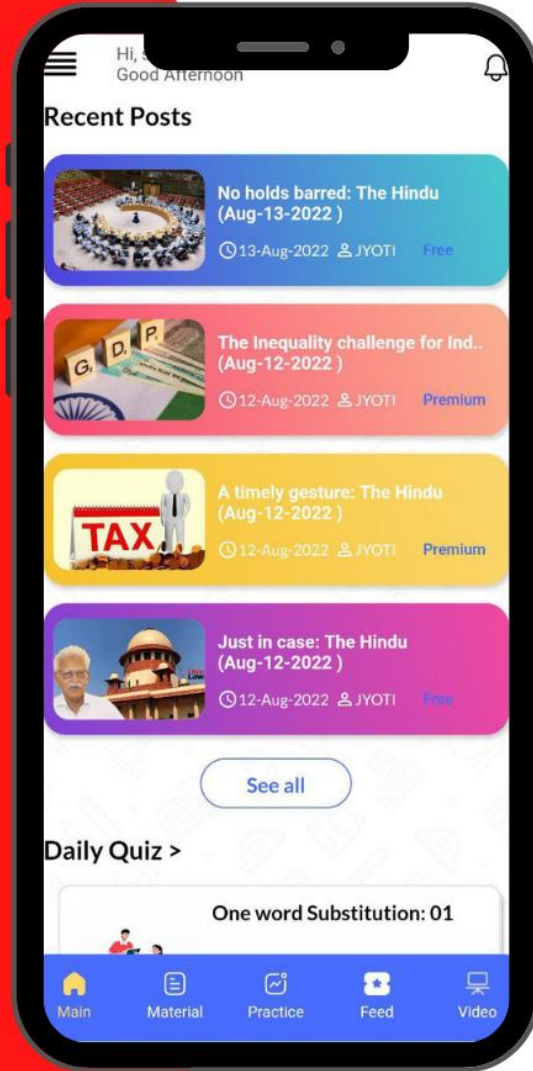
23. D) Mahesh advised Rita not to play in the sun.

24. D) **'The both'** के बदले **'Both the'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि **'both'** एक Quantifier है और इसका सही प्रयोग ऐसा होता है— Both the children. इसलिए, वाक्य में त्रुटि **'The both'** में है।

- **'Both the'** will be used instead of **'The both'** because **'both'** is a quantifier and it is correctly used as— Both the children. Hence, the error in the sentence is in **'The both'**.

25. B) **'stopped to laugh'** के बदले **'stopped laughing'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इस संदर्भ में हम एक क्रिया को रोकने के लिए gerund (-ing form) का प्रयोग करते हैं; जैसे— He stopped talking when the meeting began.

- **'stopped laughing'** will be used instead of **'stopped to laugh'** because in this context we use a gerund (-ing form) to indicate stopping an action; Like— He stopped talking when the meeting began.



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