Smaller citizens: On the gaps in India's education system

Despite rising **enrolment**, **gaps** in India's education system **are** not closing quickly

The pandemic was difficult for India's youngest citizens, the children, but the true **import** of its impact is **coming to light** now. In the Annual Status of Education **Report**, titled 'ASER 2023: Beyond Basics' and released on Wednesday, a survey by civil society organisation Pratham among rural students aged 14 to 18, **found** that more than half struggled with basic mathematics, a skill they should have mastered in Classes 3 and 4. The household **survey**, the first field-based one in four years, **was** conducted in 28 districts across 26 States and **assessed** the foundational reading and arithmetic abilities of 34,745 students. In other **findings**, about 25% of this age group cannot read a Class 2 level text in their mother tongue; boys are, however, better in arithmetic and English reading skills than girls. Overall, **86.8%** in the 14-18 year age group **are** enrolled in an educational institution, but there are gaps as they grow older — while 3.9% of 14-year-olds are not in school, the figure climbs to 32.6% for 18-year-olds. Also, for Class 11 and higher, most students **opt** for Humanities; while girls are less likely to be enrolled in the science stream (28.1%) compared with boys (36.3%), only 5.6% have opted for **vocational** training or other related courses.

The **proportion** of children opting for private tuition **nationwide** went up from 25% in 2018 to 30% in 2022. Close to 90% of the youngsters surveyed have a smartphone and know how to use it, though many are unaware of online safety settings. The **trends**, especially the **lag** in reading and solving simple arithmetic, **give** an **inkling** of what **ails** the education system, and the **corrective measures** required. The National Education Policy 2020 says the top priority is to "achieve **universal** foundational **literacy** and **numeracy** in primary school by 2025". The report says all States have made a major **push** in foundational literacy and numeracy under the NIPUN Bharat Mission, but the numbers show that in a **diverse** and **vast** country such as India, there is a lot of **catching up to do.** While rising enrolment is a good thing, what awaits the students after they finish the compulsory school cycle (Class 8) is not all that **rosy**, sometimes because they are simply not able to **cope with** the **ambitious curriculum** set for the higher secondary level. The Right to Education Act, 2009 may have ensured universal access to education, but there is many a gap to fill before it touches every child in the **true spirit of the law**. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Enrollment** (noun) – Registration, admission, entry, signing up, induction पंजीकरण

2. **Import** (noun) – Significance, meaning, importance, consequence, implication महत्व

3. **Come to light** (phrase) – Become known, be revealed, emerge, come out, surface सामने आना

4. **Assess** (verb) – Evaluate, judge, appraise, analyze, rate आंकना

5. **Finding** (noun) – Discovery, conclusion, result, outcome, determination निष्कर्ष

6. **Opt** (verb) – Choose, select, decide, pick, elect चुनना

7. **Vocational** (adjective) – Professional, technical, skill-based, career, occupational व्यावसायिक

8. **Nationwide** (adjective) – Countrywide, national, coast-to-coast, state-wide, extensive राष्ट्रव्यापी

9. **Go up** (phrasal verb) – Increase, rise, climb, escalate, grow बढ़ना

10. **Lag** (noun) – Delay, gap, interval, time lag, slowness पिछड़ना

11. **Inkling** (noun) – Hint, indication, clue, idea, suggestion संकेत

12. **Ail** (verb) – Trouble, afflict, bother, distress, pain परेशान करना

13. **Corrective measure** (noun) – Remediation, rectification, reform, amendment, correction सुधारात्मक उपाय

14. **Universal** (adjective) – General, widespread, common, global, ubiquitous सार्वभौमिक

15. **Literacy** (noun) – The ability to read and write, education, learning, knowledge साक्षरता

16. **Numeracy** (noun) – The ability to understand and work with numbers, arithmetic, calculation skills, mathematical ability अंकगणितीय कौशल

17. **Push** (noun) – Effort, drive, initiative, campaign, movement प्रयास

18. **Diverse** (adjective) – Varied, different, diverse, assorted, heterogeneous विविध

19. **Vast** (adjective) – Huge, enormous, immense, extensive, massive विशाल

20. **Catch up to do** (phrase) – To reach the same standard or level, make up for lost time, close the gap पकड़ना होगा

21. **Rosy** (adjective) – Optimistic, hopeful, bright, positive, promising आशावादी

22. **Cope with** (phrasal verb) – Deal with, manage, handle, face, confront सामना करना

23. **Ambitious** (adjective) – Aspiring, driven, determined, enterprising, bold महत्वाकांक्षी

24. **Curriculum** (noun) – Course of study, educational program, syllabus, curriculum vitae, program पाठ्यक्रम

25. **Spirit of the law** (noun) – The intention or objective of a law, essence, underlying purpose, principle

Click here to join the Telegram channel

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER 2023) reveals over half of rural students aged 14-18 struggle with basic mathematics, a skill expected to be mastered in Classes 3 and 4.

2. The survey, first in four years, was conducted across 28 districts in 26 states, assessing reading and arithmetic abilities of 34,745 students.

3. It found that 25% of students in this age group can't read Class 2 level text in their mother tongue; boys outperform girls in arithmetic and English reading skills.

4. Enrollment is high at 86.8% for the 14-18 year age group, but there's a significant dropout rate, increasing from 3.9% at age 14 to 32.6% at age 18.

5. Most students choose Humanities in Class 11 and higher; fewer girls (28.1%) enroll in science compared to boys (36.3%), and only 5.6% pursue vocational training.

6. The proportion of children receiving private tuition rose from 25% in 2018 to 30% in 2022.

7. Nearly 90% of surveyed youngsters own a smartphone and know how to use it, though many lack awareness of online safety settings.

8. The lag in foundational reading and arithmetic skills indicates systemic issues in the education system.

9. The National Education Policy 2020 aims for universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary school by 2025.

10. All states have actively pursued foundational literacy and numeracy under the NIPUN Bharat Mission, yet there's still significant progress to be made.

11. Despite rising enrollment, the quality of education post-Class 8 is concerning, with students struggling to cope with the demanding curriculum.

12. The Right to Education Act, 2009 ensures universal access to education, but numerous gaps persist that need addressing to fulfill the law's true intent.

13. The report underlines the urgent need for corrective measures in the education system to address these foundational skill gaps.

14. There's a discrepancy between policy goals and ground reality, indicating the need for more effective implementation strategies.

15. The findings of the report shed light on the profound impact of the pandemic on India's education system, especially among the rural youth.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the line "Overall, 86.8% in the 14-18 year age group are enrolled in an educational institution"?**   **[Editorial Page]**
   A. Optimistic
   B. Critical
   C. Indifferent
   D. Pessimistic

2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
   A. The success of India's education policies
   B. The technological advancements in education
   C. The challenges and gaps in India's education system
   D. The gender disparities in education

3. **According to the 'ASER 2023: Beyond Basics' report, which statement best describes the current state of foundational mathematics and reading skills among rural students aged 14 to 18 in India?**
   A. The majority of students have shown proficiency in foundational mathematics and reading skills.
   B. More than half of the students struggle with basic mathematics skills that should be mastered by Classes 3 and 4.
   C. The report indicates that all rural students aged 14 to 18 have mastered foundational mathematics and reading skills.
   D. Rural students aged 14 to 18 are more proficient in mathematics than reading skills.

4. **What trend is observed in the educational choices of students as they advance to Class 11 and higher, according to the passage?**
   A. The majority of students opt for vocational training and related courses.
   B. There is an equal distribution of students across Humanities, Science, and vocational training streams.
   C. Most students prefer Humanities, with fewer girls enrolled in the Science stream compared to boys.
   D. Nearly all students choose the Science stream, disregarding Humanities and vocational training.

5. **According to the passage, all of the following are true about the gaps in India's education system EXCEPT that:**
   A. The pandemic significantly impacted India's youngest citizens, with over half of rural students aged 14 to 18 struggling with basic mathematics, a skill expected to be mastered by Classes 3 and 4.
   B. The National Education Policy 2020 prioritizes achieving universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary school by 2025, and while all States are pushing towards this goal under the NIPUN Bharat Mission, the diverse and vast nature of the country requires more effort to catch up.

C. Despite the Right to Education Act, 2009, ensuring universal access to education, the ambitious curriculum set for the higher secondary level often becomes a hurdle for students who have just finished the compulsory school cycle.

D. Nearly 90% of the youngsters surveyed lack access to smartphones and are therefore unable to benefit from the digital resources that could enhance their learning and understanding of the curriculum.

6. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the given group of words.**
   A person who attracts attention with a flashy style
   A. Jockey
   B. Glutton
   C. Flamboyant
   D. Vagabond

   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.
   Environmental pollution is a global problem and (1)_____ threat to human survival. The causes of pollution are quite (2)_____, such as contamination of water, cutting of trees and forests, emission of toxic gases etc. Due to (3)_____ factors, the flora and fauna are adversely affected. An awareness to protect the environment is everybody's (4)_____ duty and we should collectively come forward for this noble campaign. Government is taking strong (5)_____ to check the menace of pollution.

7. **Select the most appropriate option for blank No.1**
   A. some
   B. the
   C. a
   D. An

8. **Select the most appropriate option for blank No.2**
   A. enough
   B. plenty
   C. many
   D. numerous

9. **Select the most appropriate option for blank No.3**
   A. that
   B. those
   C. this
   D. These

10. **Select the most appropriate option for blank No.4**
    A. pious
    B. urgent
    C. moral
    D. dubious

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

    A. programmes

    B. attempts

    C. enticements

    D. Measures

12. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the given group of words.**

A person who preaches religion and is considered to be a messenger of God

    A. Prophet

    B. Atheist

    C. Volunteer

    D. Scholar

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

GROTESQUE

    A. Monstrous

    B. Attractive

    C. Distorted

    D. Ugly

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

All employees of the National Sugar Factory differ from their boss on the medical and pension policy.

    A. on the medical and pension policy

    B. differ from their boss

    C. All employees

    D. of the National Sugar Factory

15. **Select the correctly spelt word**.

    A. Itinarary

    B. Rennaissance

    C. Greivance

    D. Sovereignty

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

Juvenile

    A. Mature

    B. Insane

    C. Wise

    D. Childish

17. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom**.

Like a dying duck in a thunderstorm

    A. Daring

    B. Confident

    C. Dejected

    D. Comfortable

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

She behaves in a such a cordial manner that everyone admires her.

A. She behaves in a
B. such a cordial manner
C. that everyone
D. admires her

19. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Out of the given options pick the one that gives their correct order.**

A. It was an honor as well as a relief to the family of the deceased.
B. The district collector announced a gallantry award and financial aid for his family.
C. A soldier died fighting in the battlefield.
D. The money was promptly disbursed from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund

   A. BACD
   B. CBDA
   C. BCAD
   D. CDBA

20. Select the most appropriate **antonym** of the given word.
    STRINGENT
    A. Lenient
    B. Strict
    C. Severe
    D. Stern

21. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.
    Repercussion
    A. Reaction
    B. Rearrangement
    C. Reminder
    D. Recollection

22. **Select the correct passive form of the given sentence.**
    Why do you spend so much money?
    A. Why has so much money been spent by you?
    B. Why is so much money being spent by you?
    C. Why was so much money spent by you?
    D. Why is so much money spent by you?

23. **Select the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.**
    The unruly behaviour of the students _____ their teacher.
    A. calmed
    B. pleased
    C. comforted
    D. Irritated

24. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given **idiom**.
    To paddle one's own canoe
    A. Depend on oneself
    B. To take rest

C. To exercise hard
D. To act in a childish way

25. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select No Improvement.**
No soon the Chief Minister step in than the bomb exploded.
A. No sooner did the Chief Minister
B. No sooner does the Chief Minister
C. No soon had the Chief Minister
D. No Improvement

Answers

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

Explanations

1. **A) Optimistic**

   The line "Overall, 86.8% in the 14-18 year age group are enrolled in an educational institution" carries an optimistic tone. It highlights a positive aspect of the education system, emphasizing that a significant majority of children in the specified age group are actively participating in formal education. This presents a hopeful scenario amidst the various challenges outlined in the passage, suggesting a degree of success in enrollment efforts.

2. **C) The challenges and gaps in India's education system**

   The main theme of the passage revolves around the "challenges and gaps in India's education system." It discusses various issues such as the struggle of rural students with basic mathematics, the inability of a significant portion of students to read at an appropriate level, the discrepancies in enrollment as students grow older, and the preference for certain streams of education over others. Additionally, the passage touches on the increase in private tuition, the use of smartphones among students, and the lag in reading and solving arithmetic problems. It highlights the efforts made under the National Education Policy 2020 and the NIPUN Bharat Mission but also emphasizes that there is much progress to be made.

3. **B) More than half of the students struggle with basic mathematics skills that should be mastered by Classes 3 and 4.**

   The passage highlights the findings from the 'ASER 2023: Beyond Basics' report which states that more than half of the rural students aged 14 to 18 struggle with basic mathematics, a skill expected to be mastered by Classes 3 and 4. This points out a significant gap in the foundational education of these students, particularly in mathematics. The other options are incorrect as they either overstate the proficiency (A and C) or do not accurately reflect the findings regarding reading skills (D).

4. **C) Most students prefer Humanities, with fewer girls enrolled in the Science stream compared to boys.**

   The passage mentions that for Class 11 and higher, most students choose Humanities, highlighting a trend in subject preference. Additionally, it points out a gender disparity in the choice of stream, with fewer girls (28.1%) enrolling in the Science stream compared to boys (36.3%), and only a small percentage (5.6%) opting for vocational training or related courses. This indicates a significant preference for Humanities over other streams, and a notable gender gap in Science stream enrollment.

5. **D) Nearly 90% of the youngsters surveyed lack access to smartphones and are therefore unable to benefit from the digital resources that could enhance their learning and understanding of the curriculum.**

    Option D is the correct answer as it is not supported by the passage. The passage actually states that close to 90% of the youngsters surveyed have a smartphone and know how to use it, which contradicts the statement in option D. Options A, B, and C are all supported by the passage. They highlight the impact of the pandemic on the younger population's grasp of basic mathematics, the efforts and challenges associated with the National Education Policy 2020 and the NIPUN Bharat Mission, and the hurdles posed by the ambitious curriculum at the higher secondary level in the context of the Right to Education Act, 2009, respectively.

6. C) **Flamboyant** (adjective) – A term used to describe someone who is strikingly bold or brilliant; showy, or stylish in a way that is meant to attract attention. **भव्य**

    *   **Jockey** (noun) – A professional rider in horse racing. **घुड़सवार**
    *   **Glutton** (noun) – A person who eats and drinks excessively; someone with a great capacity for something. **पेटू**
    *   **Vagabond** (noun) – A person who wanders from place to place and has no home or job. **अवरा**

7. C) **a'** का use होगा क्योंकि "a threat" का अर्थ होता है किसी खतरे की संभावना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि पारिस्थितिकी प्रदूषण एक वैश्विक समस्या है और यह मानव जीवन के लिए खतरा है, इसलिए 'a' यहाँ सही है। 'some' और 'the' का use इस context में सही नहीं होगा क्योंकि यह specific खतरे को point out नहीं करते। 'An' सिर्फ तब use होता है जब अगला शब्द vowel sound से start होता है, जो यहाँ पर नहीं है।

    *   **a'** should be used because the phrase "a threat" implies a possibility of danger. The sentence mentions that environmental pollution is a global problem and poses a danger to human survival, making 'a' fitting here. 'some' and 'the' aren't suitable in this context because they don't point out a specific threat. 'An' is used only when the next word starts with a vowel sound, which isn't the case here.

8. D) **Numerous'** का use होगा क्योंकि "numerous" का अर्थ होता है बहुत अधिक या बहुत सारे। Sentence में कहा गया है कि प्रदूषण के कारण बहुत सारे हैं, जैसे कि पानी का संक्रमण, पेड़-वृक्ष काटना, जहरीले गैस का उत्सर्जन आदि, इसलिए 'numerous' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Enough' का अर्थ है पर्याप्त, 'Plenty' का अर्थ है प्रचुर मात्रा में, और 'Many' जबकि सही हो सकता है, यह वाक्य में उत्तम तरीके से बैठता नहीं है क्योंकि इससे वाक्य अधूरा लगता है।

- **Numerous'** should be used because it means many or a large number. The sentence talks about the various causes of pollution like contamination of water, cutting of trees and forests, emission of toxic gases, etc., making 'numerous' fitting here. Whereas, 'Enough' implies sufficiency, 'Plenty' indicates abundance, and while 'Many' could be correct, it doesn't fit optimally in the sentence as it would make the sentence feel incomplete.

9. D) **These'** का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर कई कारणों की बात की जा रही है जो पहले बताए गए हैं, जैसे कि पानी का प्रदूषण, पेड़ों की कटाई, जहरीले गैस का उत्सर्जन आदि। इसलिए, 'These' (ये सभी कारण) यहाँ पर सही है। 'That' और 'this' singular form में use होते हैं और 'those' दूरस्थ प्लुरल form होता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

   - **These'** should be used because we are referring to multiple reasons that have been previously mentioned, such as contamination of water, cutting of trees, and emission of toxic gases. Hence, 'These' (referring to all these reasons) is appropriate here. 'That' and 'this' are used in singular form, and 'those' is a distant plural form, which isn't fitting in this context.

10. C) **moral'** का use होगा क्योंकि "moral" का अर्थ होता है सदाचार संबंधित या धार्मिक रूप से सही। Sentence में कहा गया है कि पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा सभी की 'दायित्व' है, इसलिए 'moral' duty यहाँ पर सही है। 'Pious' का अर्थ है धार्मिक, 'Urgent' का अर्थ है तत्परता युक्त, और 'Dubious' का अर्थ है संदिग्ध, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

    - **moral'** should be used because it relates to the principles of right and wrong. The sentence says that protecting the environment is everyone's 'responsibility', so a 'moral' duty is fitting here. 'Pious' implies devout or religious, 'Urgent' suggests immediacy, and 'Dubious' means doubtful, which don't fit in this context.

11. D) **Measures'** को use किया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि "measures" का अर्थ होता है कदम या उपाय। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि सरकार प्रदूषण की समस्या को रोकने के लिए मजबूत कदम उठा रही है, इसलिए 'measures' यहाँ सही है। 'Programmes' का अर्थ होता है कार्यक्रम, 'Attempts' का अर्थ है प्रयास, और 'Enticements' का अर्थ है प्रलोभन, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

    - . **Measures'** should be used because it means steps or actions taken. The sentence mentions that the government is taking strong actions to curb the problem of pollution, making 'measures' the most fitting word here. Whereas, 'Programmes' imply organized events or activities, 'Attempts' imply efforts, and 'Enticements' mean attractions or allurements, which don't fit in this context.

12. A) **Prophet** (noun) – A person who preaches religion and is considered to be a messenger of God. नबी

   - **Atheist** (noun) – A person who disbelieves or lacks belief in the existence of God or gods. **नास्तिक**

   - **Volunteer** (noun) – A person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task without being paid. **स्वैच्छिक**

   - **Scholar** (noun) – A person who is highly knowledgeable in a particular subject. **विद्वान**

13. B) **Grotesque** (adjective) – Odd or unnatural in shape, appearance, or character; fantastically ugly or absurd; bizarre. **विचित्र**

   Antonym: **Attractive** (adjective) – Pleasing to the eye or mind; charming; having the power to draw attention. **आकर्षक**

   - **Monstrous** (adjective) – Shockingly cruel or unjust; extremely large. राक्षसी/ दैत्याकार

   - **Distorted** (adjective) – Twisted out of shape; misrepresented. **विकृत**

   - **Ugly** (adjective) – Unpleasant or repulsive in appearance; unsightly. **भद्दा**

14. B) **'differ from'** के बदले 'differ with' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि जब व्यक्ति के मत में अंतर होता है, तो 'differ with' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— I differ with you on this matter.

   - 'differ with' will be used instead of 'differ from' because when there is a difference in opinion between people, we use 'differ with'; Like— I differ with you on this matter.

15. D) The correct spelling among the given options is '**Sovereignty**'. **सर्वोच्च शक्ति या प्राधिकृत.**

16. D) **Juvenile** (adjective) – Relating to young people, youthful, young. **युवा**

   Synonym: **Childish** (adjective) – Like a child, immature, infantile. **बालकीय**

   - **Mature** (adjective) – Fully developed, grown-up, adult, seasoned. **परिपक्व**

   - **Insane** (adjective) – Mad, deranged, lunatic, mentally ill. **पागल**

   - **Wise** (adjective) – Having or showing experience, knowledge, and good judgment, sagacious, intelligent. **बुद्धिमान**

17. C) **Like a dying duck in a thunderstorm** (phrase) – Dejected **उदास**

18. A) **She behaves in a'** के बदले 'She behaves in' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'such a' के पहले "a" का प्रयोग superflous है।

   - She behaves in' will be used instead of 'She behaves in a' because the "a" before 'such a' is redundant.

19. B) **CBDA**

A soldier died fighting in the battlefield The district collector announced a gallantry award and financial aid for his family. The money was promptly disbursed from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund It was an honor as well as a relief to the family of the deceased.

20. A) **STRINGENT** (adjective) – Rigorous, strict, stern, severe, tight. बहुत कठोर

    Antonym: **Lenient** (adjective) – Indulgent, mild, tolerant, forgiving, merciful. उदार

    - **Strict** (adjective) – Adhering closely to specified rules, standards, or procedures. सख्त
    - **Severe** (adjective) – Harsh, strict, stern, tough. **कठोर**
    - **Stern** (adjective) – Serious, unrelenting, strict, severe. **कड़ा**

21. A) **Repercussion** (noun) – A consequence or aftereffect of an action or event, especially an indirect or unwelcome one. प्रतिप्रभाव

    Synonym: **Reaction** (noun) – A response to some treatment, situation, or stimulus. **प्रतिक्रिया**

    - **Rearrangement** (noun) – The action of arranging again or differently. **पुनर्व्यवस्था**
    - **Reminder** (noun) – Something that causes someone to remember something. **स्मारक**
    - **Recollection** (noun) – The action or faculty of remembering something; a memory or remembrance. **स्मृति**
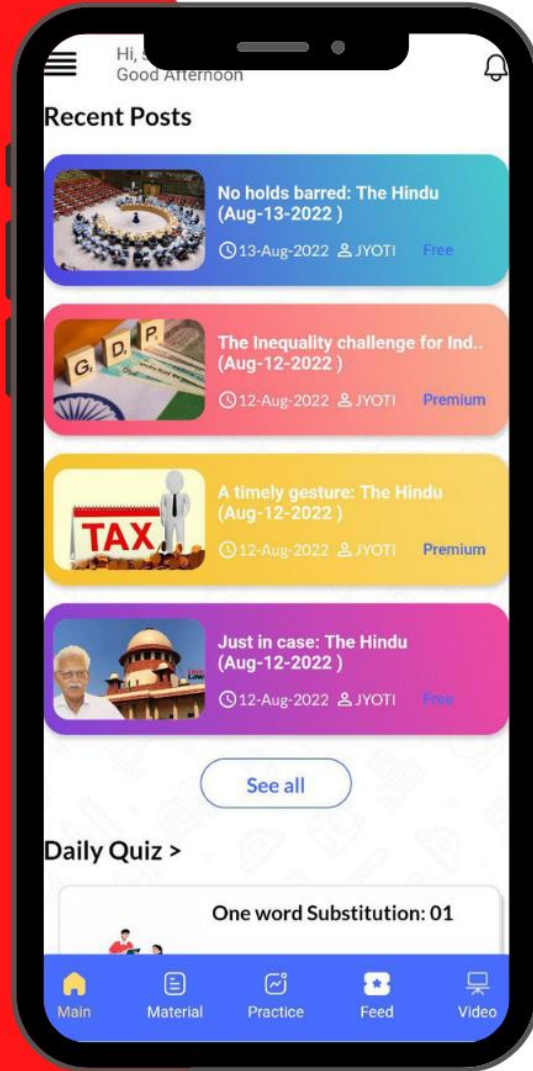
22. D) Why is so much money spent by you?

23. D) **'Irritated** का use होगा क्योंकि "irritated" का अर्थ होता है परेशान या चिढ़ा हुआ। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि students का अनियमित व्यवहार था, इसलिए 'irritated' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Calmed' का अर्थ है शांत करना, 'Pleased' का अर्थ है खुश करना, और 'Comforted' का अर्थ है सांत्वना देना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

    - **'Irritated'** should be used because it means annoyed or vexed. The sentence mentions the unruly behavior of the students, making 'irritated' fitting here. Whereas, 'Calmed' means to make peaceful, 'Pleased' means to make happy, and 'Comforted' implies providing solace or assurance, which don't fit in this context.

24. A) **To paddle one's own canoe** (idiom) – Depend on oneself स्वयं पर निर्भर रहना

25. A) 'No soon the Chief Minister step in' के बदले 'No sooner did the Chief Minister step in' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'No sooner' के साथ 'did' का प्रयोग आमतौर पर पारंपरिक ढंग से Past Tense के लिए होता है; जैसे— No sooner did I arrive than the train left.

    - **'No sooner did the Chief Minister step in'** will be used instead of 'No soon the Chief Minister step in' because with 'No sooner', 'did' is traditionally used for the Past Tense; Like— No sooner did I arrive than the train left.