Safeguarding the Himalayan ecosystem

Establishing 'snow reserves' can significantly contribute to the preservation of the Himalayan ecosystem

Snowfall brings **cheers** to people residing in the Himalayan states, as it brings money to its economy through tourism-related activity. But this year, many **regions** of the Himalayas that used to **harbour** snow from December to January **have** been **bereft of** any snow **so far**. Popular tourist **destinations** like Shimla, Manali, and Gulbarg **have** no active snowfall. This drastically declined the number of tourists visiting these places, affecting the local economy. The **temperatures** at Shimla and Manali **were** warmer than in the national capital region during January. Even though there are no official statements from the India Meteorological Department (IMD) regarding the decline in snowfall, even a **layman's** observation will reveal that something is wrong with our climatic patterns, scientists may come up with many theoretical explanations related to global climatic changes, but accurate scientific studies based on local climatic problems are lacking.

Snowfall occurs when moisture in the atmosphere freezes into ice crystals and falls to the ground. It's important to note that the **conditions** in the atmosphere, such as temperature and humidity, **play a crucial role** in determining whether **precipitation** falls as rain or snow. Warmer temperatures generally favour rain, while colder temperatures **lead to** snow formation.

Snow **spans** an area of almost 46 square kilometres each year and plays a **vital** part in the Earth's climate system. The presence of this entity has a role in controlling both the Earth's surface and atmosphere, **exerting** an impact on local weather patterns. Snow has significantly higher **reflectivity** than trees, reflecting more than 80% of incoming sunlight, while trees only **reflect** roughly 30%.

Considering these factors, it is not unexpected that changes in snowfall and **snowpack** can have **substantial** effects at both local and global levels. **Global warming** is the main element expected to cause changes in precipitation and snowpack. **Contrary to** common **intuition**, global warming does not necessarily **result in** a decrease in snow **accumulation**. The **amount** of snowfall in a certain area **depends** on the **orographic** conditions, particularly those present in the **adjacent** mountains.

Tourism and development **activities** in Himalayan hill stations like Manali and Gulmarg **have** significantly **altered** the **landscape**. The **influx** of vehicles, coupled with tunnel construction and hydroelectric projects, **raises** local temperatures and causes pollution. Irresponsible tourist behaviour, including **littering** in the snow, is **compounded** by similar actions from the local community. Even government agencies remain **passive** observers. Such trends **jeopardize** the **livelihoods** of locals dependent on tourism and agriculture. The **impact** on plants, like apple trees, crucial for the region's economy, **is** severe. Snow plays a vital role in their growth, acting as an **insulator** and contributing to soil moisture. The changing environment **poses** a long-term threat to the **delicate ecological** balance.

IMD scientists should **address** the local orographic factors affecting snowfall in our mountains. They must train local students **well versed** in that region's ecology and climatic conditions and recruit them into their scientific **fold**. Students have to **undergo** on-site training with scientists even during their coursework.

The government should also bring **stringent** regulatory measures to protect our snowfalling regions by declaring them as 'Snow Reserves" so that tourism and developmental activities can be regulated in these regions. If we don't take corrective measures now, it will affect the lives of the entire Himalayan **belt** and elsewhere. Mother Nature has already given us the warning symbol, it is for us to act.

- Red blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship where red denotes subject and blue denote verb. **[Practice Exercise]**

Vocabulary

1. **Safeguard** (verb) – Protect, defend, shield, preserve, secure सुरक्षित करना

2. **Ecosystem** (noun) – Environment, habitat, biosphere, ecology, biome पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र

3. **Cheer** (noun) – Joy, happiness, glee, delight, mirth खुशी

4. **Harbour** (verb) – Shelter, hold, entertain, foster, nurture आश्रय देना

5. (be) **Bereft** (of) (adjective) – Deprived of, lacking, without, devoid of, stripped of से वंचित होना

6. **So far** (phrase) – Until now, up to this point, hitherto, as yet, till now अब तक

7. **Layman** (noun) – Non-expert, novice, beginner, amateur, non-specialist अनभिज्ञ व्यक्ति

8. **Play a role in** (phrase) – Contribute to, be a factor in, be part of, involve, participate in भूमिका निभाना

9. **Precipitation** (noun) – Rainfall, snow, sleet, drizzle, downpour वर्षा

10. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Cause, result in, bring about, produce, engender वजह बनना

11. **Span** (verb) – Cover, extend over, stretch across, spread over, bridge फैलाव होना

12. **Vital** (adjective) – Essential, crucial, critical, important, necessary महत्वपूर्ण

13. **Exert** (verb) – Apply, use, exercise, wield, deploy प्रयोग करना

14. **Reflectivity** (noun) – Reflectance, shininess, brightness, gloss, sheen परावर्तन क्षमता

15. **Reflect** (verb) – Mirror, represent, show, exhibit, display दिखाना

16. **Considering** (preposition) – Taking into account, bearing in mind, given, in view of, in light of ध्यान में रखते हुए

17. **Snowpack** (noun) – Snow cover, snow layer, snow accumulation, snowfield बर्फ की चादर

18. **Substantial** (adjective) – Considerable, significant, sizable, large, ample महत्वपूर्ण

19. **Global warming** (noun) – the phenomenon of gradual increase in the average temperature of earth वैश्विक तापमान वृद्धि

20. **Contrary to** (phrase) – In contrast to, opposite to, against, counter to के विपरीत

21. **Intuition** (noun) – Instinct, insight, perception, sense, sixth sense अंतर्ज्ञान

22. **Result in** (phrase) – Lead to, cause, bring about, produce, provoke परिणाम होना

23. **Accumulation** (noun) – Gathering, amassing, buildup, collection, pileup संचय

24. **Orographic** (adjective) – Relating to mountains, mountain-caused, hilly पर्वत संबंधी

25. **Adjacent** (adjective) – Neighboring, adjoining, next to, close to, near सटा हुआ

26. **Alter** (verb) – Change, modify, adjust, amend, vary बदलना

27. **Landscape** (noun) – Scenery, terrain, topography, countryside, vista परिदृश्य

28. **Influx** (noun) – Inflow, arrival, entrance, incursion, surge आगमन

29. **Littering** (noun) – Dumping, discarding, scattering, strewing, trashing कचरा फैलाना

30. **Compound** (verb) – Intensify, exacerbate, worsen, add to, augment बढ़ाना

31. **Passive** (adjective) – Inactive, inert, non-reactive, dormant, unresponsive निष्क्रिय

32. **Jeopardize** (verb) – Endanger, risk, threaten, imperil, put at risk जोखिम में डालना

33. **Livelihood** (noun) – Means of support, subsistence, income, maintenance, sustenance जीविका

34. **Insulator** (noun) – Non-conductor, barrier, protector, shield, layer संवाहक

35. **Pose** (verb) – Present, create, cause, lead to, constitute खड़ा करना (ख़तरा)

36. **Delicate** (adjective) – Fragile, fine, dainty, subtle, refined नाज़ुक

37. **Ecological** (adjective) – Environmental, bioecological, concerning ecosystems, natural पारिस्थितिकीय

38. **Address** (verb) – Tackle, deal with, attend to, confront, handle सुलझाना, निपटाना

39. **Well-versed** (adjective) – Knowledgeable, experienced, skilled, proficient, adept निपुण

40. **Fold** (noun) – Group, circle, community, clique, cluster समूह

41. **Undergo** (verb) – Experience, endure, go through, bear, suffer गुज़रना

42. **Stringent** (adjective) – Strict, rigorous, severe, tight, tough कड़ाई से

43. **Belt** (noun) – Region, zone, area, band, strip क्षेत्र

Summary of the Editorial

1. Snowfall is crucial for the Himalayan region's economy, attracting tourists and benefiting the local economy.

2. This year, regions like Shimla, Manali, and Gulbarg, which usually have snow from December to January, are experiencing a lack of snowfall.

3. The absence of snow has led to a decrease in tourism, negatively impacting the local economy.

4. Unusually warm temperatures in the Himalayan regions, even warmer than in the national capital region, indicate a shift in climatic patterns.

5. The decline in snowfall has not been officially addressed by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), but it's evident even to casual observers.

6. Snowfall is affected by atmospheric conditions like temperature and humidity, with warmer temperatures generally reducing snow formation.

7. Snow cover, spanning 46 square kilometers annually, plays a crucial role in the Earth's climate system and influences local weather patterns.

8. Changes in snowfall and snowpack can significantly affect both local and global ecosystems.

9. Global warming impacts precipitation patterns and snowpack, but the effects vary based on local orographic conditions.

10. Development and tourism in Himalayan regions have altered the landscape, increasing local temperatures and pollution.

11. Irresponsible tourism and lack of action from government agencies threaten the livelihoods of locals and the region's ecological balance.

12. Snow is essential for the growth of local plants like apple trees, contributing to soil moisture and acting as an insulator.

13. IMD scientists need to study local orographic factors and train local students in the region's ecology and climatic conditions.

14. The government should establish 'Snow Reserves' to protect snowfall regions and regulate tourism and development activities.

15. Immediate action is necessary to prevent long-term damage to the Himalayan ecosystem and the livelihoods of those dependent on it.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the main theme of the passage**?
   A. The economic benefits of tourism in the Himalayas
   B. The role of snow in Earth's climate system
   C. The impact of climatic changes on Himalayan regions
   D. The process of snow formation

2. **Which of the following statements are correct based on the passage**?
   (i) The lack of snowfall has not affected the number of tourists visiting places like Shimla, Manali, and Gulbarg.
   (ii) Warmer temperatures generally lead to rain rather than snow formation.
   (iii) The presence of snow plays a significant role in controlling the Earth's surface and atmosphere.
   (iv) The government has already taken significant steps to protect snowfall regions by declaring them as 'Snow Reserves'.
      A. (i), (ii)
      B. (ii), (iii)
      C. (i), (iii)
      D. (i), (ii), (iii)

3. **What is the tone of the sentence "Snowfall brings cheers to people residing in the Himalayan states, as it brings money to its economy through tourism-related activity"?**
   A. Pessimistic
   B. Joyful
   C. Sarcastic
   D. Indifferent

4. **What can be inferred about the local economy of the Himalayan regions mentioned in the passage**?
   A. It is largely dependent on industries unrelated to weather conditions.
   B. It is significantly influenced by climatic changes, especially snowfall.
   C. It is thriving due to the recent increase in snowfall.
   D. It remains unaffected by the tourist activities in the region.

5. **Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the role of the government and scientific community regarding the climatic issues in the Himalayan regions**?
   A. They are actively involved and have taken significant steps to address the climatic issues.
   B. They are aware but indifferent to the climatic issues and their impact on the regions.
   C. They lack sufficient local scientific studies to fully understand and address the climatic issues.
   D. They are focused solely on promoting tourism, ignoring the climatic issues altogether.

6. **Select the correct indirect form of the given sentence.**

   The guard said to the visitors, "Do not take photographs inside the museum."

   A. The guard forbade the visitors to take photographs inside the museum.
   B. The guard warned the visitors not to be taking photographs inside the museum.
   C. The guard told the visitors that do not take photographs inside the museum.
   D. The guard requested the visitors to not took photographs inside the museum

   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.

   There are certain spheres of one's life in which one should go by one's own (1)_____ rather than follow another's counsel. The choice (2)_____ one's subject of study is one such sphere.

   (3)_____ one is genuinely interested in a subject, one (4)_____ never opt for it. India is already full of (5)_____ pegs in round holes, who are unfit for their roles and are doing more harm than good.

7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number (1).**
   A. choice
   B. option
   C. possibility
   D. alternative

8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number (2).**
   A. at
   B. between
   C. of
   D. among

9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number (3).**
   A. Even if
   B. Unless
   C. Although
   D. Since

10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number (4).**
    A. should
    B. could
    C. ought
    D. would

11. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number (5).**
    A. large
    B. square
    C. small
    D. Circular

12. **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.**

    He was greatly disappointed **to be failed** again.

    A. on failing
    B. to failed
    C. No improvement
    D. by being failed

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

    Accurate

    A. Capable
    B. Compact
    C. Precise
    D. Erroneous

14. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word.**

    There is a _____ growth of flowers in tropical countries.

    A. powerful
    B. plenty
    C. luxuriant
    D. Pious

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

    Affluent

    A. Hostile
    B. Authentic
    C. Impoverished
    D. Prosperous

16. **Select the correct passive form of the given sentence.**

    He incurred heavy losses in business.

    A. Heavy losses are incurred in business by him.
    B. Heavy losses was incurred in business by him.
    C. Heavy losses were incurred in business by him.
    D. Heavy losses are being incurred in business by him.

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

    He went to work but returned back immediately.

    A. He went
    B. to work
    C. but returned back
    D. immediately

18. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**

    A place where plants are grown for sale

    A. Nursery
    B. Garden
    C. Aviary

D. Yard

19. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word.**

There are _____ errors in your assignment.

A. numerous
B. multifold
C. sufficient
D. Abundant

20. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word

A. Persuit
B. Parallel
C. Actually
D. Opinion

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

Industrious

A. Lethargic
B. Durable
C. Diligent
D. Cautious

22. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word.

A. Annihilate
B. Affiliate
C. Exclaimation
D. Aesthetic

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

The present what I buy for you yesterday was very expensive.

A. was very expensive
B. The present
C. for you yesterday
D. what I buy

24. Select the word which means the **same** as the group of words given.

Putting to death painlessly to end suffering

A. Euthanasia
B. Genocide
C. Blaspheme
D. Altruism

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

Give a piece of one's mind

A. To rebuke someone strongly
B. To donate something valuable
C. To share one's ideas
D. To advise someone

Answers

1. C   2. B   3. B   4. B   5. C   6. A   7. A   8.C   9.B   10. A   11.B   12.A

13. C   14.C   15.D   16.C   17.C   18.A   19.A   20.A   21.A   22.C   23.D   24.A

25. A   **[Practice Exercise]**

Explanation

1. C) The main theme of the passage is the impact of climatic changes on Himalayan regions. It discusses how the lack of snowfall is affecting the local economy and environment, the possible reasons behind the change in snowfall patterns, the local and global consequences of these changes, and the need for appropriate measures to address the situation.

2. B) (ii), (iii)
   - **Statement** (i) is incorrect because the passage specifically states that the lack of snowfall has drastically declined the number of tourists visiting these places.
   - **Statement** (ii) is correct as the passage mentions that warmer temperatures generally favor rain, while colder temperatures lead to snow formation.
   - **Statement** (iii) is correct as the passage highlights the role of snow in controlling both the Earth's surface and atmosphere and its impact on local weather patterns.
   - **Statement** (iv) is incorrect because, although the passage advocates for the government to take measures like declaring regions as 'Snow Reserves,' it does not state that such steps have already been taken.

3. B) The tone of the sentence is joyful. The use of the word "cheers" indicates a positive and happy response from the people residing in the Himalayan states towards snowfall. The sentence also highlights the economic benefit of snowfall through tourism-related activity, contributing to a positive and optimistic tone. There is no indication of negativity, sarcasm, or indifference, making "joyful" the most appropriate choice to describe the tone.

4. B) The passage discusses how the lack of snowfall has led to a decline in the number of tourists visiting places like Shimla, Manali, and Gulbarg, thereby affecting the local economy. This indicates that the local economy is sensitive to and influenced by climatic changes, especially snowfall, due to its reliance on tourism-related activities. There is no mention of an increase in snowfall or industries unrelated to weather, and the text clearly states the impact of tourist activities on the economy, making B the correct inference.

5. C) The passage indicates that while there are theoretical explanations related to global climatic changes, there is a lack of accurate scientific studies based on local climatic problems. It suggests a need for IMD scientists to address local factors affecting snowfall and for the government to implement regulatory measures. This points to a recognition of the problem but a lack of sufficient local scientific research to understand and effectively address the issues, making C the correct inference. There's no indication of complete indifference or a sole focus on tourism promotion, and the text criticizes the level of active involvement, which rules out A, B, and D.

6. A) The guard forbade the visitors to take photographs inside the museum.

7. A) **Choice'** को use किया जाएगा क्योंकि जब भी हम बात करते हैं अपने जीवन के किसी विशेष क्षेत्र की जहाँ हमें अपना निर्णय लेना है, 'Choice' शब्द सबसे उपयुक्त होता है। 'Option' और 'Alternative' का अर्थ होता है विकल्प जो इस context में fit नहीं होते। 'Possibility' का अर्थ होता है संभावना, जो यहाँ सही नहीं है।

    - **Choice'** should be used because whenever we talk about a specific area of one's life where one has to make a decision, the word 'choice' is most fitting. 'Option' and 'Alternative' mean variations or other possible selections, which don't quite fit in this context. 'Possibility' means a chance or likelihood, which isn't appropriate here.

8. C) **of'** का use होगा क्योंकि "of" इस context में संबंध दिखाने के लिए उपयुक्त है। यह व्यक्ति के विषय के चयन को दर्शाता है, इसलिए 'of' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'at' का अर्थ है किसी स्थल पर, 'between' दो चीज़ों के बीच का संबंध बताता है, और 'among' तीन या उससे अधिक चीज़ों के बीच का संबंध बताता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

    - **of'** should be used because it is appropriate to show relation in this context. It reflects the choice related to the person's subject, making 'of' fitting here. Whereas, 'at' refers to a place, 'between' indicates relation between two things, and 'among' indicates relation among three or more things, which don't fit in this context.

9. B) **Unless'** का use होगा क्योंकि इस sentence में बताया जा रहा है कि अगर किसी विषय में सच में रुचि नहीं है, तो उसे चुनना नहीं चाहिए। 'Unless' यहाँ पर ऐसा condition रखता है जिसमें कहा जा रहा है कि 'अगर नहीं', जो context के अनुसार सही है। 'Even if', 'Although', और 'Since' इस context में सही नहीं होते क्योंकि वे ऐसा condition नहीं बनाते जो इस sentence के मूल संदेश के साथ मेल खाता हो।

    - **Unless'** should be used because the sentence is indicating that one shouldn't opt for a subject if they aren't genuinely interested in it. 'Unless' sets a condition that means 'if not', which fits the context here. 'Even if', 'Although', and 'Since' don't establish the needed condition to match the core message of the sentence.

10. A) **'Should'** का use होगा क्योंकि इस context में एक recommendation या सुझाव दिया जा रहा है कि अगर किसी विषय में सच में रूचि नहीं है, तो उसका चयन नहीं करना चाहिए। 'Could' का अर्थ होता है किसी कार्य को कर सकना, 'Ought' का अर्थ होता है करना चाहिए, और 'Would' का अर्थ होता है किसी स्थिति में हो सकता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

    - **'Should'** should be used because it is providing a recommendation in this context that if one is not genuinely interested in a subject, then one shouldn't opt for it. 'Could' means the ability to do something, 'Ought' is similar to should but not as definitive in this context, and 'Would' implies a conditional scenario which doesn't fit here.

11. B) **square'** चुनना चाहिए क्योंकि "square pegs in round holes" एक प्रसिद्ध मुहावरा है जिसका अर्थ होता है व्यक्ति या वस्तु जो उसकी निर्धारित स्थिति या भूमिका के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। paragraph में उल्लेख किया गया है कि भारत में पहले से ही ऐसे व्यक्ति हैं जो उनकी भूमिकाओं के लिए अनुपयुक्त हैं और अधिक क्षति पहुंचा रहे हैं। इसलिए 'square' यहाँ सही है। 'Large', 'Small', और 'Circular' इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

   - **square'** should be chosen because the phrase "square pegs in round holes" is a popular idiom meaning someone or something that doesn't fit into a particular role or function. The paragraph mentions how India already has individuals who are unfit for their roles, causing more harm than good. Hence, 'square' is appropriate here. 'Large', 'Small', and 'Circular' do not fit in this context.

12. A) to be failed' के बदले 'on failing' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि disappointed के साथ 'on' preposition का प्रयोग अधिक सही होता है; जैसे— He was disappointed on losing the match.

   - 'on failing' will be used instead of 'to be failed' because the correct preposition to use with 'disappointed' is 'on'; Like— He was disappointed on losing the match.

13. C) **Accurate** (adjective) – Correct in all details, exact, right, true, error-free. सटीक

   Synonym: **Precise** (adjective) – Marked by exactness and accuracy of expression or detail, accurate, exact. **सटीक**

   - **Capable** (adjective) – Having the ability, fitness, or quality necessary to achieve a specified thing. **सक्षम**

   - **Compact** (adjective) – Closely and neatly packed together, dense, tight. **संघटित**

   - **Erroneous** (adjective) – Wrong, incorrect, mistaken. **गलत**

14. C) **luxuriant'** का use होगा क्योंकि "luxuriant" का अर्थ होता है घना और प्रचुर। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि उष्णकटिबंधीय देशों में फूलों की वृद्धि है, इसलिए 'luxuriant' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'powerful' का अर्थ है प्रबल, 'plenty' का अर्थ है बहुतायत में, और 'Pious' का अर्थ है धार्मिक, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

   - **luxuriant'** should be used because it means abundant and lush. The sentence mentions the growth of flowers in tropical countries, making 'luxuriant' the most fitting description here. Whereas, 'powerful' means strong, 'plenty' implies in abundance, and 'Pious' means religious or devout, which don't fit in this context.

15. D) **Affluent** (adjective) – Wealthy, rich, prosperous, well-off. **धनी**

   Synonym: **Prosperous** (adjective) – Successful, thriving, booming, flourishing. **समृद्ध**

   - **Hostile** (adjective) – Unfriendly, antagonistic, aggressive, confrontational. **शत्रुता**

   - **Authentic** (adjective) – Genuine, real, bona fide, true. **असली**

- **Impoverished** (adjective) – Poor, destitute, indigent, needy. **गरीब**

16. C) Heavy losses were incurred in business by him

17. C) **'returned back'** के बदले 'returned' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'return' का अर्थ ही 'वापस आना' है, इसलिए 'back' का प्रयोग superfluous है; जैसे— He went to work but returned immediately.

   - returned' will be used instead of 'returned back' because the meaning of 'return' itself is 'to come back', so using 'back' is superflous; Like— He went to work but returned immediately.

18. A) **Nursery** (noun) – A place where plants are grown for sale **नर्सरी**

   - **Garden** (noun) – a piece of ground, often near a house, used for growing flowers, fruit, or vegetables. **बाग**

   - **Aviary** (noun) – a large cage or a house or enclosure in which birds are kept. **पक्षीशाला**

   - **Yard** (noun) – an area of land, often bounded by buildings or walls. **अंगन**

19. A) **Numerous'** का use होगा क्योंकि "numerous" का अर्थ होता है कई। Sentence में बताया गया है कि assignment में कई त्रुटियाँ हैं, इसलिए 'numerous' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Multifold' का अर्थ है अनेक गुणा, 'Sufficient' का अर्थ है पर्याप्त, और 'Abundant' का अर्थ है प्रचुर मात्रा में, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

   - **Numerous'** should be used because it means 'many'. The sentence indicates that there are many errors in the assignment, making 'numerous' the fitting choice. Whereas, 'Multifold' means many times, 'Sufficient' means adequate, and 'Abundant' means in large quantities, which don't fit in this context.

20. A) The incorrectly spelt word is 'Persuit'. The correct spelling is '**Pursuit'** खोज, पीछा.

21. A) **Industrious** (adjective) – Hard-working, diligent, active, assiduous. **मेहनती**

   Antonym: **Lethargic** (adjective) – Sluggish, inactive, slow, lazy. **सुस्त**

   - **Durable** (adjective) – Able to withstand wear, pressure, or damage; hard-wearing, long-lasting, sturdy. **मजबूत**

   - **Diligent** (adjective) – Having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties, industrious, hard-working. **परिश्रमी**

   - **Cautious** (adjective) – Careful to avoid potential problems or dangers, wary, careful, circumspect. **सतर्क**

22. C) Exclaimation (incorrectly spelt) – Correct spelling: **Exclamation विस्मयादिबोधक.**

23. D) **what I buy'** में error है क्योंकि यहाँ past tense का use होना चाहिए, जैसे "what I bought". Sentence में "yesterday" का mention है, इसलिए past tense का use करना सही होगा। 'Was very expensive', 'The present', और 'for you yesterday' में कोई error नहीं है।

- 'what I buy' has the error because it should be in the past tense, as in "what I bought". The sentence mentions "yesterday," indicating the need for the past tense. 'Was very expensive', 'The present', and 'for you yesterday' are correct in the sentence.

24. A) **Euthanasia** (noun) – The act of putting to death painlessly or allowing to die, as by withholding medical measures from a person or animal suffering from an incurable, especially a painful, disease or condition. **इच्छामृत्यु**

    - **Genocide** (noun) – The deliberate killing of a large number of people from a particular nation or ethnic group with the aim of destroying that nation or group. **नरसंहार**

    - **Blaspheme** (verb) – To speak irreverently about God or sacred things; to curse or profane. **ईश्वरनिंदा**

    - **Altruism** (noun) – The belief in or practice of selfless concern for the well-being of others. **परोपकारिता**

25. A) **Give a piece of one's mind** (idiom) – To rebuke someone strongly **किसी को जोरदार डांटना/फटकारना**

Answers

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

Explanation

26. C) The main theme of the passage is the impact of climatic changes on Himalayan regions. It discusses how the lack of snowfall is affecting the local economy and environment, the possible reasons behind the change in snowfall patterns, the local and global consequences of these changes, and the need for appropriate measures to address the situation.

27. B) (ii), (iii)

    - **Statement** (i) is incorrect because the passage specifically states that the lack of snowfall has drastically declined the number of tourists visiting these places.
    - **Statement** (ii) is correct as the passage mentions that warmer temperatures generally favor rain, while colder temperatures lead to snow formation.
    - **Statement** (iii) is correct as the passage highlights the role of snow in controlling both the Earth's surface and atmosphere and its impact on local weather patterns.
    - **Statement** (iv) is incorrect because, although the passage advocates for the government to take measures like declaring regions as 'Snow Reserves,' it does not state that such steps have already been taken.

28. B) The tone of the sentence is joyful. The use of the word "cheers" indicates a positive and happy response from the people residing in the Himalayan states towards snowfall. The sentence also highlights the economic benefit of snowfall through tourism-related activity, contributing to a positive and optimistic tone. There is no indication of negativity, sarcasm, or indifference, making "joyful" the most appropriate choice to describe the tone.

29. B) The passage discusses how the lack of snowfall has led to a decline in the number of tourists visiting places like Shimla, Manali, and Gulbarg, thereby affecting the local economy. This indicates that the local economy is sensitive to and influenced by climatic changes, especially snowfall, due to its reliance on tourism-related activities. There is no mention of an increase in snowfall or industries unrelated to weather, and the text clearly states the impact of tourist activities on the economy, making B the correct inference.

30. C) The passage indicates that while there are theoretical explanations related to global climatic changes, there is a lack of accurate scientific studies based on local climatic problems. It suggests a need for IMD scientists to address local factors affecting snowfall and for the government to implement regulatory measures. This points to a recognition of the problem but a lack of sufficient local scientific research to understand and effectively address the issues, making C the correct inference. There's no indication of complete indifference or a sole focus on tourism promotion, and the text criticizes the level of active involvement, which rules out A, B, and D.

31. A) The guard forbade the visitors to take photographs inside the museum.

32. A) **Choice'** को use किया जाएगा क्योंकि जब भी हम बात करते हैं अपने जीवन के किसी विशेष क्षेत्र की जहाँ हमें अपना निर्णय लेना है, 'Choice' शब्द सबसे उपयुक्त होता है। 'Option' और 'Alternative' का अर्थ होता है विकल्प जो इस context में fit नहीं होते। 'Possibility' का अर्थ होता है संभावना, जो यहाँ सही नहीं है।

   - **Choice'** should be used because whenever we talk about a specific area of one's life where one has to make a decision, the word 'choice' is most fitting. 'Option' and 'Alternative' mean variations or other possible selections, which don't quite fit in this context. 'Possibility' means a chance or likelihood, which isn't appropriate here.

33. C) **of'** का use होगा क्योंकि "of" इस context में संबंध दिखाने के लिए उपयुक्त है। यह व्यक्ति के विषय के चयन को दर्शाता है, इसलिए 'of' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'at' का अर्थ है किसी स्थल पर, 'between' दो चीज़ों के बीच का संबंध बताता है, और 'among' तीन या उससे अधिक चीज़ों के बीच का संबंध बताता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

   - **of'** should be used because it is appropriate to show relation in this context. It reflects the choice related to the person's subject, making 'of' fitting here. Whereas, 'at' refers to a place, 'between' indicates relation between two things, and 'among' indicates relation among three or more things, which don't fit in this context.

34. B) **Unless'** का use होगा क्योंकि इस sentence में बताया जा रहा है कि अगर किसी विषय में सच में रूचि नहीं है, तो उसे चुनना नहीं चाहिए। 'Unless' यहाँ पर ऐसा condition रखता है जिसमें कहा जा रहा है कि 'अगर नहीं', जो context के अनुसार सही है। 'Even if', 'Although', और 'Since' इस context में सही नहीं होते क्योंकि वे ऐसा condition नहीं बनाते जो इस sentence के मूल संदेश के साथ मेल खाता हो।

   - **Unless'** should be used because the sentence is indicating that one shouldn't opt for a subject if they aren't genuinely interested in it. 'Unless' sets a condition that means 'if not', which fits the context here. 'Even if', 'Although', and 'Since' don't establish the needed condition to match the core message of the sentence.

35. A) **'Should'** का use होगा क्योंकि इस context में एक recommendation या सुझाव दिया जा रहा है कि अगर किसी विषय में सच में रूचि नहीं है, तो उसका चयन नहीं करना चाहिए। 'Could' का अर्थ होता है किसी कार्य को कर सकना, 'Ought' का अर्थ होता है करना चाहिए, और 'Would' का अर्थ होता है किसी स्थिति में हो सकता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

   - **'Should'** should be used because it is providing a recommendation in this context that if one is not genuinely interested in a subject, then one shouldn't opt for it. 'Could' means the ability to do something, 'Ought' is similar to should but not as definitive in this context, and 'Would' implies a conditional scenario which doesn't fit here.

36. B) **square'** चुनना चाहिए क्योंकि "square pegs in round holes" एक प्रसिद्ध मुहावरा है जिसका अर्थ होता है व्यक्ति या वस्तु जो उसकी निर्धारित स्थिति या भूमिका के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। paragraph में उल्लेख किया गया है कि भारत में पहले से ही ऐसे व्यक्ति हैं जो उनकी भूमिकाओं के लिए अनुपयुक्त हैं और अधिक क्षति पहुंचा रहे हैं। इसलिए 'square' यहाँ सही है। 'Large', 'Small', और 'Circular' इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

   - **square'** should be chosen because the phrase "square pegs in round holes" is a popular idiom meaning someone or something that doesn't fit into a particular role or function. The paragraph mentions how India already has individuals who are unfit for their roles, causing more harm than good. Hence, 'square' is appropriate here. 'Large', 'Small', and 'Circular' do not fit in this context.

37. A) to be failed' के बदले 'on failing' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि disappointed के साथ 'on' preposition का प्रयोग अधिक सही होता है; जैसे— He was disappointed on losing the match.

   - 'on failing' will be used instead of 'to be failed' because the correct preposition to use with 'disappointed' is 'on'; Like— He was disappointed on losing the match.

38. C) **Accurate** (adjective) – Correct in all details, exact, right, true, error-free. सटीक

   Synonym: **Precise** (adjective) – Marked by exactness and accuracy of expression or detail, accurate, exact. **सटीक**

   - **Capable** (adjective) – Having the ability, fitness, or quality necessary to achieve a specified thing. **सक्षम**

   - **Compact** (adjective) – Closely and neatly packed together, dense, tight. **संघटित**

   - **Erroneous** (adjective) – Wrong, incorrect, mistaken. **गलत**

39. C) **luxuriant'** का use होगा क्योंकि "luxuriant" का अर्थ होता है घना और प्रचुर। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि उष्णकटिबंधीय देशों में फूलों की वृद्धि है, इसलिए 'luxuriant' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'powerful' का अर्थ है प्रबल, 'plenty' का अर्थ है बहुतायत में, और 'Pious' का अर्थ है धार्मिक, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

   - **luxuriant'** should be used because it means abundant and lush. The sentence mentions the growth of flowers in tropical countries, making 'luxuriant' the most fitting description here. Whereas, 'powerful' means strong, 'plenty' implies in abundance, and 'Pious' means religious or devout, which don't fit in this context.
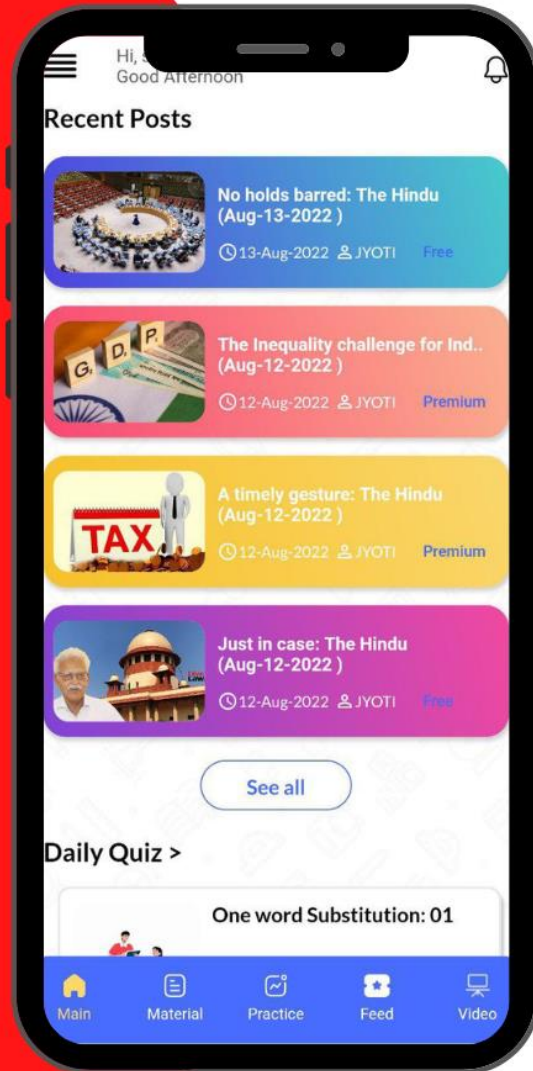
40. D) **Affluent** (adjective) – Wealthy, rich, prosperous, well-off. **धनी**

   Synonym: **Prosperous** (adjective) – Successful, thriving, booming, flourishing. **समृद्ध**

   - **Hostile** (adjective) – Unfriendly, antagonistic, aggressive, confrontational. **शत्रुता**

   - **Authentic** (adjective) – Genuine, real, bona fide, true. **असली**

- **Impoverished** (adjective) – Poor, destitute, indigent, needy. **गरीब**

41. C) Heavy losses were incurred in business by him

42. C) **'returned back'** के बदले 'returned' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'return' का अर्थ ही 'वापस आना' है, इसलिए 'back' का प्रयोग superfluous है; जैसे— He went to work but returned immediately.

- returned' will be used instead of 'returned back' because the meaning of 'return' itself is 'to come back', so using 'back' is superflous; Like— He went to work but returned immediately.

43. A) **Nursery** (noun) – A place where plants are grown for sale **नर्सरी**

- **Garden** (noun) – a piece of ground, often near a house, used for growing flowers, fruit, or vegetables. **बाग**

- **Aviary** (noun) – a large cage or a house or enclosure in which birds are kept. **पक्षीशाला**

- **Yard** (noun) – an area of land, often bounded by buildings or walls. **अंगन**

44. A) **Numerous'** का use होगा क्योंकि "numerous" का अर्थ होता है कई। Sentence में बताया गया है कि assignment में कई त्रुटियाँ हैं, इसलिए 'numerous' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Multifold' का अर्थ है अनेक गुणा, 'Sufficient' का अर्थ है पर्याप्त, और 'Abundant' का अर्थ है प्रचुर मात्रा में, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **Numerous'** should be used because it means 'many'. The sentence indicates that there are many errors in the assignment, making 'numerous' the fitting choice. Whereas, 'Multifold' means many times, 'Sufficient' means adequate, and 'Abundant' means in large quantities, which don't fit in this context.

45. A) The incorrectly spelt word is 'Persuit'. The correct spelling is '**Pursuit**' खोज, पीछा.

46. A) **Industrious** (adjective) – Hard-working, diligent, active, assiduous. **मेहनती**

Antonym: **Lethargic** (adjective) – Sluggish, inactive, slow, lazy. **सुस्त**

- **Durable** (adjective) – Able to withstand wear, pressure, or damage; hard-wearing, long-lasting, sturdy. **मजबूत**

- **Diligent** (adjective) – Having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties, industrious, hard-working. **परिश्रमी**

- **Cautious** (adjective) – Careful to avoid potential problems or dangers, wary, careful, circumspect. **सतर्क**

47. C) Exclaimation (incorrectly spelt) – Correct spelling: **Exclamation विस्मयादिभोधक.**

48. D) **what I buy'** में error है क्योंकि यहाँ past tense का use होना चाहिए, जैसे "what I bought". Sentence में "yesterday" का mention है, इसलिए past tense का use करना सही होगा। 'Was very expensive', 'The present', और 'for you yesterday' में कोई error नहीं है।

- 'what I buy' has the error because it should be in the past tense, as in "what I bought". The sentence mentions "yesterday," indicating the need for the past tense. 'Was very expensive', 'The present', and 'for you yesterday' are correct in the sentence.

49. A) **Euthanasia** (noun) – The act of putting to death painlessly or allowing to die, as by withholding medical measures from a person or animal suffering from an incurable, especially a painful, disease or condition. **इच्छामृत्यु**

    - **Genocide** (noun) – The deliberate killing of a large number of people from a particular nation or ethnic group with the aim of destroying that nation or group. **नरसंहार**

    - **Blaspheme** (verb) – To speak irreverently about God or sacred things; to curse or profane. **ईश्वरनिंदा**

    - **Altruism** (noun) – The belief in or practice of selfless concern for the well-being of others. **परोपकारिता**

50. A) **Give a piece of one's mind** (idiom) – To rebuke someone strongly **किसी को जोरदार डांटना/फटकारना**