

Budgets that guided India's rise as an economic power

Last week, the Indian stock market **surpassed** the Hong Kong stock market to become the fourth largest in the world in terms of **market capitalisation**. This is one of the many **feathers in India's cap** over the last **decade** in which India has **witnessed unprecedented** economic growth and international **prominence**. In September 2022, a confident Bharat surpassed the United Kingdom to become the fifth largest economy. We are soon **poised** to become the world's third largest economy and a \$35 trillion economy by 2047. **Contrast** this to a decade ago when **India** along with a few other countries **was dubbed** the "Fragile 5" **owing to runaway inflation**. In fact, in 2013, India had dropped one place to become the 11th largest economy showing that while the global economy was recovering and growing from earlier **economic headwinds**, the Indian economy was continuing to face challenges. This decade-long journey since then has not been easy and a key **decisive** factor has been the quality of leadership at the very top.

The digital economy, comprising information technology (about six million jobs), electronics manufacturing (about three million jobs), and telecom (about a million jobs) **employs** more than 10 million people in India today. **In addition**, three times as much indirect employment is generated by the digital economy.

One key **differentiator** has been the **visionary** budgets implemented over the last decade that have **meticulously laid the foundation for a robust** economic **bulwark**, poised to **withstand** challenges and **propel** India towards **sustained** growth and **prosperity**. The **emphasis** on **capex-driven** growth, coupled with a new policy framework that made infrastructure development central to the growth roadmap, **has** ensured that the resources we have are being **deployed** to maximise social and economic welfare. Increasing the **outlay** for the health sector by a **whopping** 137%, new **schemes** in the agriculture sector and a National Education Policy with financial commitments **have** been guided by this thinking.

The Gross Domestic Product growth rate has recorded an impressive 7.2% in 2022-23, and the nation is set to surpass **pre-pandemic** levels by a remarkable 17.2%. **In the realm of** international trade, there is growing interest from countries across the globe in signing free trade agreements with India. One reason for this is the effort taken to make Indian goods and services competitive by bringing down the cost of business – lower **logistics costs**, dedicated **freight corridors** and a digital economy have further made ease of doing business a reality.

India's digital **pro prowess** is **exemplified** by the **astounding** success of the digital economy with UPI transactions crossing the 100 billion mark in the 2023 calendar year, closing at 118 billion, and **marking** a 60% growth compared to 2022. With daily UPI transactions reaching a **staggering** 387 million in December, the platform is expected to surpass the transaction volume of dedicated payment technology corporations, **underscoring** India's rapid **transition** towards a cashless economy.

The government has also **deployed** the Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) more **strategically**. This has played a **pivotal** role in this economic **surge**, with one out of every three PSE stocks in the stock market delivering over 100% returns in 2023. The push for infrastructure capex, defence indigenisation, and the Make in India initiative, have propelled PSE entities to remarkable growth.

Foreign investments, both in equities and bonds, surged in 2023, **reflecting** confidence in India's **robust** economic fundamentals. Leaders of India Inc. have expressed **optimism** and **credit** the political leadership for **instilling** hope and confidence. International organisations predict a glowing future for India's economy. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) expects India to become a \$5 trillion economy by 2028, while JP Morgan **envisions** India becoming the third-largest global economy by 2027, hitting \$7 trillion by 2030. Domestically, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has upgraded growth forecasts to 7% for 2024, further **substantiating** the positive **momentum**. **In the face of** global economic challenges, **India**, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, **has** not only **weathered the storm** but also emerged as a **beacon** of economic **resilience** and growth.

Our vision is set on emerging as a responsible global leader while prioritising sustainable industry, infrastructure, and manufacturing. From strategic geopolitical **alignments** to robust economic indicators, Bharat stands **on the cusp of** a new **era**, **solidifying** its position as a global economic powerhouse. With the interim budget announcement for the upcoming financial year due soon, the nation is moving forward.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Surpass** (verb) – Exceed, outdo, outstrip, outperform, eclipse पार करना
2. **Market capitalization** (noun) – The total value of a company's shares of stock
3. **Feather in one's cap** (phrase) – A great achievement or special honor; an object of pride गौरव का प्रतीक
4. **Decade** (noun) – A period of ten years दशक
5. **Witness** (verb) – Observe, see, note, experience, undergo देखना
6. **Unprecedented** (adjective) – Never done or known before; without previous example अभूतपूर्व
7. **Prominence** (noun) – Importance, eminence, significance, notability प्रमुखता
8. **Poise** (to) (verb) – Balance, stabilize, steady, prepare, position के लिए तैयार होना
9. **Contrast** (to) (noun) – Difference, disparity, distinction, dissimilarity विपरीतता
10. **Dub** (verb) – Name, designate, label, call नाम देना
11. **Owing to** (phrase) – Because of, due to, on account of के कारण
12. **Runaway inflation** (noun) – Rapidly increasing inflation that is difficult to control अनियंत्रित मुद्रास्फीति
13. **Economic headwind** (noun) – A situation in economics where conditions make growth more difficult आर्थिक प्रतिकूलता
14. **Decisive** (adjective) – Conclusive, definitive, resolute, determined निर्णायक
15. **Employ** (verb) – Use, utilize, apply, engage, hire प्रयोग करना
16. **In addition** (phrase) – Moreover, furthermore, also, besides इसके अतिरिक्त
17. **Differentiator** (noun) – A feature that makes something more attractive or valuable अंतर
18. **Visionary** (adjective) – Imaginative, creative, innovative, prophetic दूरदर्शी
19. **Meticulously** (adverb) – Very carefully and precisely सावधानीपूर्वक
20. **Lay the foundation for** (phrase) – Establish the basis for, prepare the ground for, set the stage for नींव रखना
21. **Robust** (adjective) – Strong, sturdy, resilient, durable मजबूत
22. **Bulwark** (noun) – A defensive wall; something serving as a principal defense सुरक्षा कवच
23. **Withstand** (verb) – Resist, stand up to, endure, survive सामना करना

24. **Propel** (verb) – Drive, push, thrust, propel forward आगे बढ़ाना
25. **Sustained** (adjective) – Continuous, constant, prolonged, enduring निरंतर
26. **Prosperity** (noun) – Wealth, success, profitability, affluence समृद्धि
27. **Emphasis** (on) (noun) – Importance, priority, stress, accent जोर
28. **Capex-driven** (adjective) – Pertaining to or characterized by capital expenditure पूंजीगत व्यय प्रेरित
29. **Deploy** (verb) – Position, station, organize, utilize उपयोग करना
30. **Outlay** (noun) – Expenditure, spending, disbursement, expenses खर्च
31. **Whopping** (adjective) – Extremely large, enormous, immense, colossal विशाल
32. **Pre-** (prefix) – Before, prior to, in advance of पूर्व
33. **In the realm of** (phrase) – In the area of, in the field of, with regard to के क्षेत्र में
34. **Logistics cost** (noun) – The expenses involved in transporting, warehousing, and distributing goods
35. **Freight corridor** (noun) – A dedicated route for the transportation of goods. माल ढुलाई गलियारा
36. **Prowess** (noun) – Skill, expertise, mastery, ability, competence. कौशल
37. **Exemplify** (verb) – Illustrate, demonstrate, represent, embody, epitomize. उदाहरण प्रस्तुत करना
38. **Astounding** (adjective) – Astonishing, amazing, stunning, incredible, unbelievable. चकित कर देने वाला
39. **Mark** (verb) – Indicate, signify, denote, represent, characterize. चिन्हित करना
40. **Staggering** (adjective) – Astonishing, overwhelming, stunning, astounding, breathtaking. चौंका देने वाला
41. **Underscore** (verb) – Emphasize, highlight, underline, stress, accentuate. जोर देना
42. **Transition** (noun) – Change, shift, transformation, conversion, evolution. परिवर्तन
43. **Strategically** (adverb) – Tactically, deliberately, thoughtfully, calculatedly, with planning. रणनीतिक रूप से
44. **Pivotal** (adjective) – Central, crucial, vital, critical, key. केंद्रीय
45. **Surge** (noun) – Increase, rise, growth, upsurge, upturn. वृद्धि
46. **Reflect** (verb) – Indicate, show, demonstrate, manifest, express. दिखाना

47. **Robust** (adjective) – Strong, sturdy, resilient, durable, tough. मजबूत
48. **Optimism** (noun) – Hopefulness, positivity, confidence, buoyancy, sanguineness. आशावाद
49. **Credit** (verb) – Attribute, ascribe, assign, accredit, recognize. श्रेय देना
50. **Instill** (verb) – Infuse, imbue, inculcate, implant, instigate. का बीज बोना
51. **Envision** (noun) – Foresee, predict, anticipate, imagine, conceive. परिकल्पना
52. **Substantiate** (verb) – Confirm, verify, validate, corroborate, authenticate. सत्यापित करना
53. **Momentum** (noun) – Impetus, drive, force, energy, strength. गति
54. **In the face of** (phrase) – Despite, notwithstanding, in the presence of, in the light of. के बावजूद
55. **Weather the storm** (phrase) – Survive difficulties, endure hardship, withstand challenges, brave adversity. मुश्किलों का सामना करना
56. **Beacon** (noun) – Guide, signal, indicator, lighthouse, beacon light. प्रकाश स्तम्भ
57. **Resilience** (noun) – Toughness, strength, robustness, adaptability, flexibility. मजबूती
58. **Geopolitical** (adjective) – Related to politics, especially international relations, as influenced by geographical factors. भू-राजनीतिक
59. **Alignment** (noun) – Arrangement, configuration, alignment, lineup, sequence. संरेखण
60. **On the cusp of** (phrase) – On the brink of, on the verge of, at the point of, close to. के कगार पर
61. **Era** (noun) – Period, epoch, age, time, eon. युग
62. **Solidify** (verb) – Harden, strengthen, fortify, consolidate, cement. मजबूत करना
63. **Interim** (adjective) – Temporary, provisional, interim, transitional, stopgap. अंतरिम

Summary of the Editorial

1. India's stock market recently surpassed Hong Kong's, becoming the world's fourth-largest in market capitalization, highlighting India's remarkable economic growth and global prominence over the last decade.
2. India overtook the United Kingdom in September 2022, becoming the fifth-largest economy, and is on track to become the third-largest economy and a \$35 trillion economy by 2047, a significant improvement from being labeled one of the "Fragile 5" a decade ago.
3. The decade-long economic transformation is attributed to strong leadership and visionary policies, moving from facing economic challenges to achieving robust growth.
4. The digital economy in India, including information technology, electronics manufacturing, and telecom, employs over 10 million people and generates three times more indirect employment.
5. Visionary budgets focusing on capex-driven growth and infrastructure development have been crucial in maximizing social and economic welfare, with significant increases in health sector outlay, new agricultural schemes, and a financially backed National Education Policy.
6. India's GDP growth rate reached 7.2% in 2022-23, set to exceed pre-pandemic levels by 17.2%, and is attracting international interest in free trade agreements due to competitive goods and services and improved ease of doing business.
7. The digital economy's success is marked by the rapid growth of UPI transactions, reaching 118 billion in 2023, a 60% increase from 2022, indicating a swift transition towards a cashless economy.
8. Strategic deployment of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) has contributed to the economic surge, with significant stock market returns and growth driven by infrastructure capex, defense indigenization, and the Make in India initiative.
9. Foreign investments in equities and bonds surged in 2023, reflecting global confidence in India's economic fundamentals, with optimistic growth forecasts from international organizations and the Reserve Bank of India.
10. India, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, has demonstrated resilience and growth in the face of global economic challenges, supported by optimistic projections from the IMF and JP Morgan.
11. India's vision includes becoming a responsible global leader with a focus on sustainable industry, infrastructure, and manufacturing.
12. The nation's strategic geopolitical alignments and robust economic indicators position it on the brink of a new era, solidifying its status as a global economic powerhouse.
13. The upcoming interim budget announcement is anticipated to further propel the nation's economic progress.
14. The country's economic rise is a testament to its strategic policy implementations, strong leadership, and the resilience of its industries and sectors.
15. India's journey from economic fragility to a global economic force illustrates a remarkable transformation, setting the stage for continued growth and international prominence.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial Page]

1. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The role of public sector enterprises in the Indian economy
 - B. The impact of global economic challenges on India
 - C. The growth and development of the Indian economy in the last decade
 - D. The role of digital transactions in India's economic growth
2. **Which of the following statements is INCORRECT based on the passage?**
 - A. India's market capitalization led it to surpass the Hong Kong stock market, becoming the fourth largest in the world.
 - B. The digital economy in India is primarily driven by the information technology sector, employing around 10 million people directly.
 - C. The Indian economy is expected to become the third-largest global economy by 2027, according to JP Morgan.
 - D. The push for infrastructure capex, defence indigenisation, and the Make in India initiative have hindered the growth of PSE entities.
3. **Why is there a growing interest from countries across the globe in signing free trade agreements with India?**
 - A. Because of the high tax rates in India
 - B. Due to the efforts made to make Indian goods and services competitive
 - C. Owing to the decline in the digital economy in India
 - D. Because of the decrease in UPI transactions in the recent year
4. **Which word best describes the tone of the passage regarding India's economic progress?**
 - A. Pessimistic
 - B. Neutral
 - C. Critical
 - D. Optimistic
5. **In the passage, the term 'robust economic bulwark' (paragraph 3) most closely means:**
 - A. Weak economic structure
 - B. Fragile economic shield
 - C. Strong economic defense
 - D. Unstable economic barrier
6. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.
Relief
 - A. Stress
 - B. Aid
 - C. Anger
 - D. Emotion

Comprehension:

In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Select the most appropriate option to fill each blank.

When you enter a restaurant, you take your (1) _____ and you are served a glass of water. You take your (2) _____ to decide what you should order. When a (3) _____ appears, you ask him the routine question, "(4) _____ do you have?" The waiter will begin to recite (5) _____ day's menus, generally with nothing new in it, but you like to hear it all over again

7. **Select the most appropriate option for the blank numbered 1.**

- A. plate
- B. stage
- C. seat
- D. counter

8. **Select the most appropriate option for the blank numbered 2.**

- A. pen
- B. place
- C. time
- D. wallet

9. **Select the most appropriate option for the blank numbered 3.**

- A. manager
- B. friend
- C. cleaner
- D. waiter

10. **Select the most appropriate option for the blank numbered 4.**

- A. What
- B. Why
- C. How
- D. When

11. **Select the most appropriate option for the blank numbered 5.**

- A. this
- B. a
- C. an
- D. the

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

Johnny's mother said, "Johnny, run down to the grocer's and get a loaf of French bread and a pound of cheddar cheese."

- A. Johnny commanded his mother to go down to the grocer and buy a loaf of French bread and a pound of cheddar cheese.
- B. Johnny's mother asked him to run down to the grocer's and get a loaf of French bread and a pound of cheddar cheese.
- C. Johnny asked his mother to run down to the grocer's and get a loaf of French bread and a pound of cheddar cheese.
- D. Johnny's mother pleaded with John to run down to the grocer's and get her a loaf of French bread and a pound of cheddar cheese.

13. Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.

You must go to the book fair if you are liking it or not.

- A. whether you like it
- B. although you are liking it
- C. if you like it
- D. whether you have liked

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

The big ship sank and everyone abroad drowned.

- A. The big ship
- B. abroad drowned
- C. sank
- D. and everyone

15. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.

Today's graduates should _____ their skills constantly to be able to excel in their career and life

- A. upgrade
- B. active
- C. encourage
- D. Dilute

16. Select the most appropriate meaning of the following idiom.

To take a back seat

- A. To become less important or to give up control over things
- B. To be less successful in one's efforts
- C. To go through a short but unpleasant period of time
- D. To lecture or criticise the person who is actually in control of something

17. Select the correct passive form of the given sentence.

Conduct all the exams in a fair and proper manner

- A. The exams were all conducted in a fair and proper manner.
- B. All the exams are conducted in a fair and proper manner.
- C. Let all the exams be conducted in a fair and proper manner.
- D. Let all exams should be conducted in fair and proper manner

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

Extol

- A. Exposure
- B. Boorish
- C. Realistic
- D. Censure

19. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word.

- A. Definite
- B. Labarotary
- C. Presence

- D. Absence
20. Select the most appropriate meaning of the following **idiom**.
To bark up the wrong tree
- A. To make a sound like that of a dog
 - B. To cover oneself with the outer covering of a wrong tree
 - C. To sound or appear ferocious but not actually so
 - D. To do something that will not get the result you want
21. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.
Inclement
- A. Dignified
 - B. Stormy
 - C. Wonderful
 - D. Pleasant
22. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word.
- A. Fasineting
 - B. Professional
 - C. Grammatical
 - D. Occurrence
23. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Out of the given options pick the one that gives their correct order.**
- A. They were all very bright and eager to learn, and the sage was proud of them.
 - B. One day he realized that he had imparted sufficient knowledge to his disciples.
 - C. Once upon a time, a great sage had a group of obedient disciples.
 - D. There was only one thing that he had not taught them – a special mantra that could bring the dead back to life.
- A. ADBC
 - B. ACBD
 - C. DBAC
 - D. CABD
24. Select the word which means the **same** as the group of words given.
Working very hard and very carefully
- A. Dilatory
 - B. Indigent
 - C. Diligent
 - D. Indulgent
25. **In the sentence identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.**
It's raining heavily, so you should take an umbrella, but you will get wet
- A. should take an umbrella
 - B. but you will get wet.
 - C. so you
 - D. It's raining heavily

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanation

1. C) The passage predominantly discusses India's economic growth and development over the last decade, touching on various factors such as market capitalization, digital economy, visionary budgets, GDP growth, international trade, digital transactions, public sector enterprises, and foreign investments. While it mentions the roles of PSEs, global challenges, and digital transactions, these are presented as part of the broader narrative of India's economic growth rather than the central theme.
2. D) The passage clearly states that the push for infrastructure capex, defence indigenisation, and the Make in India initiative have propelled PSE entities to remarkable growth, not hindered them. The other statements are in line with the information provided in the passage.
3. B) The passage mentions that there is growing interest in signing free trade agreements with India because of the efforts taken to make Indian goods and services competitive, by bringing down the cost of business, lowering logistics costs, establishing dedicated freight corridors, and enhancing the ease of doing business through a digital economy. The other options are either incorrect or not mentioned in the context of the passage.
4. D) The tone of the passage is overwhelmingly positive and optimistic. It highlights India's significant achievements and growth in various sectors, such as the stock market, digital economy, international trade, and public sector enterprises. The passage also underscores the country's resilience and potential for future growth, reflected in the optimistic projections from institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and JP Morgan. There's a clear emphasis on the positive aspects and future prospects of India's economy.
5. C) The term 'robust' implies strength and resilience, while 'bulwark' refers to a defensive wall or means of protection. Together, 'robust economic bulwark' suggests a strong and protective economic structure. This aligns with 'Strong economic defense,' which indicates an economy capable of withstanding challenges and maintaining stability. The other options either contradict the meaning of 'robust' (weak, fragile, unstable) or don't fully capture the protective aspect implied by 'bulwark'.
6. B) **Relief** (noun) – Alleviation, ease, or release from pain, distress, or discomfort. राहत
 Synonym: **Aid** (noun) – Help, assistance, support, or relief. सहायता
 - **Stress** (noun) – Mental or emotional strain or tension. तनाव
 - **Anger** (noun) – A strong feeling of annoyance, displeasure, or hostility. क्रोध
 - **Emotion** (noun) – A strong feeling deriving from one's circumstances, mood, or relationships with others. भावना

7. C) **'Seat'** का use होगा क्योंकि जब आप किसी रेस्तरां में प्रवेश करते हैं, तो आप अपनी सीट पर बैठते हैं और आपको पानी का गिलास सर्व किया जाता है। 'Plate' का अर्थ है थाली, 'Stage' का अर्थ है मंच, और 'Counter' का अर्थ है काउंटर जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Seat'** should be used because when you enter a restaurant, you take your seat and you are served a glass of water. 'Plate' means dish, 'Stage' means platform or phase, and 'Counter' means a tabletop or surface, which don't fit in this context.
8. C) **'Time'** का use होगा क्योंकि जब किसी रेस्तरां में प्रवेश किया जाता है, आपको अपने आदान प्रदान के लिए 'समय' चाहिए होता है ताकि आप तय कर सकें कि आपको क्या आर्डर करना है। sentence में इस context में 'time' का उल्लेख है, इसलिए 'time' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Pen' का अर्थ है लिखने का उपकरण, 'Place' का अर्थ है स्थान, और 'Wallet' का अर्थ है पर्स या बटुआ, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **Time** should be used because when you enter a restaurant, you need some 'time' to decide what you want to order. The sentence indicates this context, making 'time' the correct choice here. Whereas, 'Pen' means a writing instrument, 'Place' means a location, and 'Wallet' means a purse or pocketbook, which are not appropriate in this context.
9. D) **'Waiter'** का use होगा क्योंकि जब आप एक रेस्टोरेंट में प्रवेश करते हैं, तो आप अपना order देते हैं और waiter से मेन्यू के बारे में पूछते हैं। इस context में, waiter ही सही विकल्प होता है जो आपको मेन्यू के बारे में बताता है। 'Manager' से संचालन की जाती है, 'Friend' एक साथी होता है, और 'Cleaner' सफाई करने वाला होता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Waiter'** should be used because when you enter a restaurant, you place your order and ask the waiter about the menu. In this context, it's the waiter who would tell you about the menu. 'Manager' manages, 'Friend' is a companion, and 'Cleaner' is someone who cleans, which don't fit in this context.
10. A) **'What'** का use होगा क्योंकि जब आप वेटर से पूछते हैं कि आज का मेन्यू क्या है, तो आप 'What' use करते हैं। Sentence में वेटर से मेन्यू के बारे में पूछा जा रहा है, इसलिए 'What' यहाँ सही है। 'Why' का अर्थ होता है 'क्यों', 'How' का अर्थ होता है 'कैसे', और 'When' का अर्थ होता है 'कब', जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'What'** should be used because when you ask the waiter about today's menu, you use 'What'. The sentence is inquiring about the menu from the waiter, making 'What' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Why' means 'why', 'How' means 'how', and 'When' means 'when', which don't fit in this context.
11. 'D) **the**' चुना जाना चाहिए क्योंकि वेटर मेन्यू के बारे में बता रहा है जिसे पहले से ही पता होता है। "the day's menus" उस विशेष दिन के मेन्यू को संदर्भित करता है, जिसका उल्लेख पहले ही किया गया

है। इसलिए 'the' यहाँ सही है। 'this' और 'an' context में सही नहीं हैं और 'a' general sense को denote करता है जो यहाँ पर उपयुक्त नहीं है।

- **'the'** should be used because the waiter is referring to a menu that is already known. "the day's menus" refers to that specific day's menu, which has been previously alluded to, making 'the' fitting here. 'this' and 'an' don't fit in this context, and 'a' denotes a general sense which is not apt here.

12. B) Johnny's mother asked him to run down to the grocer's and get a loaf of French bread and a pound of cheddar cheese.

13. A) 'if you are liking it' के बदले 'whether you like it' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर 'whether...or not' का संरचना स्थिति की संभावनाओं को दर्शाता है, यानी चाहे आपको यह पसंद हो या नहीं। 'Like' का साधारण वर्तमान काल (Simple Present Tense) का प्रयोग भी अधिक उपयुक्त है क्योंकि यह एक सामान्य पसंद या नापसंद की भावना को व्यक्त करता है, जो कि 'are liking' के निरंतरता के भाव (Present Continuous Tense) से बेहतर है; जैसे— You must go to the book fair whether you like it or not.

- 'whether you like it' will be used instead of 'if you are liking it' because 'whether...or not' structure indicates the possibilities of the situation, meaning regardless of whether you like it or not. Also, the use of 'like' in the Simple Present Tense is more appropriate here as it expresses a general preference or aversion, which is better than the continuous aspect 'are liking'; Like— You must go to the book fair whether you like it or not.

14. B) **'abroad'** के बदले 'aboard' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'aboard' का अर्थ होता है किसी जहाज पर या उसमें, जबकि 'abroad' का अर्थ होता है विदेश में। इसलिए, सही शब्द 'aboard' होगा; जैसे— He is aboard the ship.

- **'aboard'** will be used instead of 'abroad' because 'aboard' means on or in a ship, whereas 'abroad' means in a foreign country. Hence, the correct word is 'aboard'; Like— He is aboard the ship.

15. A) 'Upgrade' का use होगा क्योंकि "upgrade" का अर्थ होता है अपनी क्षमताओं या योग्यताओं को बेहतर बनाना या उन्हें नवीनतम स्थिति में लाना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि आज के graduates को अपने career और life में excel करने के लिए अपनी skills को constantly upgrade करना चाहिए, इसलिए 'upgrade' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Active' का अर्थ है सक्रिय होना, 'Encourage' का अर्थ है प्रोत्साहित करना, और 'Dilute' का अर्थ है कमजोर करना या पतला करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- 'Upgrade' should be used because it means to improve or bring something up to the latest standard or level. The sentence mentions that today's graduates should

constantly upgrade their skills to excel in their career and life, making 'upgrade' fitting here. Whereas, 'Active' means to be active, 'Encourage' means to motivate, and 'Dilute' implies making something weaker or thinner, which don't fit in this context.

16. A) **To take a back seat** (idiom) – To become less important or to give up control over things

प्रमुखता से हट जाना

17. C) Let all the exams be conducted in a fair and proper manner.

18. D) **Extol** (verb) – Praise enthusiastically, laud, acclaim, applaud. प्रशंसा करना

Antonym: **Censure** (verb) – Express severe disapproval of, criticize, rebuke, reprimand.
आलोचना करना

- **Exposure** (noun) – The revelation of something, uncovering, unveiling. प्रकटीकरण
- **Boorish** (adjective) – Rude, unmannered, crude, uncouth. असभ्य
- **Realistic** (adjective) – Representing familiar things in a way that is accurate, lifelike.
यथार्थवादी

19. B) The incorrectly spelt word among the given options is 'Labarotary'. The correct spelling is '**Laboratory** प्रयोगशाला.

20. D) To bark up the wrong tree (idiom) – To do something that will not get the result you want
गलत दिशा में प्रयास करना

21. A) **Inclement** (adjective) – Harsh, severe, especially (of weather) unpleasantly cold or wet.
कठिन

Synonym: **Stormy** (adjective) – Characterized by strong winds, rain, thunder, etc.;
tempestuous, turbulent. तूफानी

- **Dignified** (adjective) – Showing self-respect, serious, and honorable. गरिमापूर्ण
- **Wonderful** (adjective) – Inspiring delight, pleasure, or admiration; very good;
marvelous. अद्भुत
- **Pleasant** (adjective) – Giving a sense of happy satisfaction or enjoyment; nice, pleasing.
सुखमय

22. A) The incorrectly spelt word among the given options is 'Fasineting'. The correct spelling is '**Fascinating**' सम्मोहक, आकर्षक।

23. D) **CABD**

Once upon a time, a great sage had a group of obedient disciples They were all very bright and eager to learn, and the sage was proud of them One day he realized that he had imparted sufficient knowledge to his disciples There was only one thing that he had not taught them – a special mantra that could bring the dead back to life.

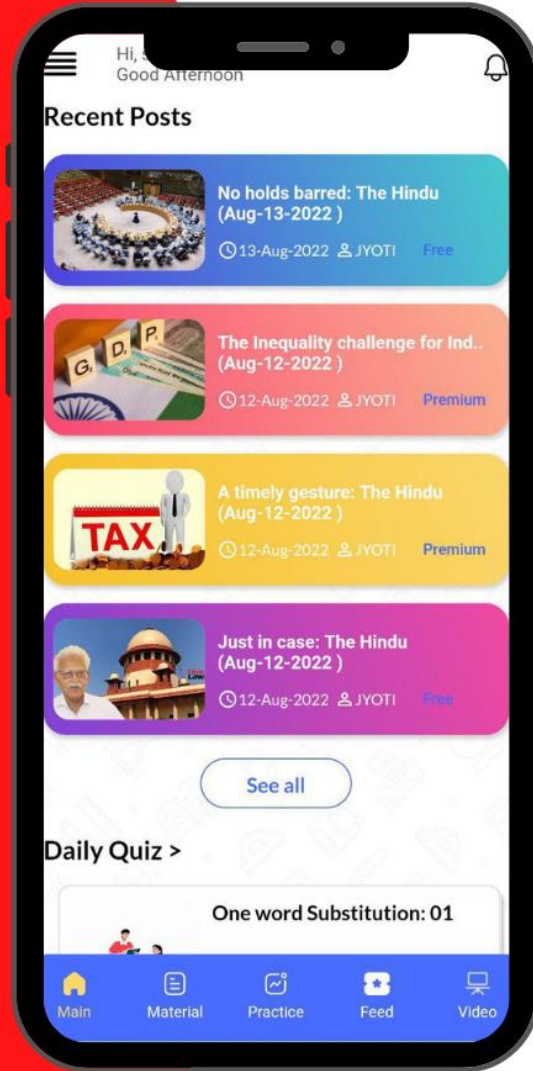
24. C) **Diligent** (noun) – Working very hard and very carefully. परिश्रमशील

- **Dilatory** (adjective) – tending to delay or procrastinate; slow; tardy. विलंब करनेवाला

- **Indigent** (adjective) – poor; needy. दरिद्र
- **Indulgent** (adjective) – being overly generous to or lenient with someone. उदार

25. B) 'but you will get wet' के बदले 'otherwise you will get wet' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ 'but' का प्रयोग सही नहीं है। 'But' का प्रयोग विरोधाभास (contrast) को दर्शाने के लिए किया जाता है, जबकि यहाँ परिस्थितियों के बीच एक कारण और परिणाम का संबंध है। 'Otherwise' का प्रयोग एक शर्त या चेतावनी को व्यक्त करने के लिए उपयुक्त है; जैसे— It's raining heavily, so you should take an umbrella, otherwise you will get wet.

- 'otherwise you will get wet' will be used instead of 'but you will get wet' because 'but' is not appropriate here. 'But' is used to show contrast, whereas here there is a cause and effect relationship between the situations. 'Otherwise' is appropriate to express a condition or warning; Like— It's raining heavily, so you should take an umbrella, otherwise you will get wet.



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