Mitigating risks in infrastructure development

With crores in damages and a tragic loss of lives, there is an urgent need for **sustainable** infrastructure strategies

India looks back at a year that presented challenges, particularly in **addressing** the infrastructural damages resulting from natural disasters. **Subsistence** in Joshimath **incurred** a cost of over Rs. 565 crores in damage. Subsequently, rivers **surged** beyond the danger mark, **wreaking havoc** on the infrastructure and properties of Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal and Delhi. The **toll** was **grim**, with 208 lives lost, 621 houses destroyed, and over 4,200 houses partially damaged across these states. Heavy rains further **exacerbated** the situation, causing an estimated 10,000 crores in damages, while under-construction bridge **collapses** in Gujarat, Mizoram and Bihar **claimed** **numerous** lives.

Much like the Silkyara-Barkot tunnel collapse, this incident **exemplifies** the **vulnerability** of infrastructure especially in eco-sensitive zones that **jeopardise** lives. The **devastation** of infrastructure, loss of lives, and drained resources serve as **stark** reminders, **emphasising** that prioritising sustainable infrastructure isn't **merely** a choice but an immediate **imperative**. Without this focus, our investments and dreams of advancement risk being **swept away** or collapsing **altogether**.

Tackling the Core Issue Crucial to **averting** such incidents **is** addressing the core factors that might **precipitate** them, such as **reconsidering** the **L1 tender bidding system**. Adopting more effective practices can contribute positively by promoting quality over **solely** opting for the lowest bidder. This **cost-centric** approach **often results in compromises** on the quality of materials and construction practices which may **lead to catastrophic** failures.

Conducting thorough geological and geotechnical surveys before construction, consulting experts in the field, and focusing on the use of high-quality are crucial steps. Active **adoption** of Geosynthetic materials and locally available materials in construction **can** be a **pivotal** step toward achieving sustainable infrastructure goals. Geosynthetic materials not only **meet rigorous** environmental standards but also enhance cost and time **efficiency** in project **execution**. The strategic **use** of Geosynthetic materials not only **aligns** with rigorous environmental standards but also **plays** a crucial role in improving the overall **durability** and **longevity** of infrastructure projects, ensuring a **resilient** and sustainable built environment.

A **shift** in the construction approach, prioritising quality and safety over cost-cutting, **is** essential. Opting for the Quality and Cost Based Selection System (QCBS), commonly utilised for consultancy contracts, would offer greater benefits. **Incorporating** advanced technologies and monitoring systems can also enhance the overall **integrity** of structures. These sustainable practices will not only contribute to long-term **resilience** but also align with global efforts to **combat** climate change.

In conclusion, the recent infrastructure incidents and challenges faced should serve as a **compelling** call to action, prompting the nation to **revisit** its construction practices. However, **policymakers** must

approach this issue with a **forward-looking** perspective. The evolving technological landscape and **heightened** awareness regarding the importance of quality infrastructure provide a **robust** foundation for improvement. A collaborative **effort** involving government initiatives, industry partnerships, and public awareness **holds** the potential to reshape India's infrastructure **paradigm**.

By **acknowledging** and addressing the root causes, prioritising safety measures, and **embracing** sustainable construction methods, India can **pave the way for** a future where infrastructure not only **withstands** the test of time but also contributes significantly to the nation's overall progress.

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

Vocabulary

1. **Mitigate** (verb) – Alleviate, Reduce, Diminish, Lessen, Relieve कम करना

2. **Sustainable** (adjective) – Durable, Eco-friendly, Renewable, Viable, Long-lasting टिकाऊ

3. **Address** (verb) – Tackle, Confront, Deal with, Attend to, Approach सुलझाना, निपटाना

4. **Subsistence** (noun) – the state of having what you need in order to stay alive, but no more जीविका

5. **Incur** (verb) – to experience something bad as a result of actions you have taken उठाना (क़ीमत)

6. **Surge** (verb) – Soar, Increase, Escalate, Swell, Rise तेजी से बढ़ना

7. **Wreak havoc** (phrase) – Cause destruction, Devastate, Ruin, Destroy, Damage तबाही मचाना

8. **Toll** (noun) – Number of deaths, fatality count, casualty number मृत्यु संख्या

9. **Grim** (adjective) – Bleak, Harsh, Severe, Stern, Dismal भयानक

10. **Exacerbate** (verb) – Aggravate, Worsen, Intensify, Increase, Heighten बिगाड़ना

11. **Collapse** (noun) – Failure, Breakdown, Fall, Demise, Crumble ढहना

12. **Claim** (verb) – Take the lives लेना (ज़िंदगियाँ)

13. **Numerous** (adjective) – Many, Countless, Several, Abundant, Various अनेक

14. **Exemplify** (verb) – Illustrate, Demonstrate, Show, Represent, Manifest उदाहरण प्रस्तुत करना

15. **Vulnerability** (noun) – Susceptibility, Weakness, Fragility, Risk, Exposure कमजोरी

16. **Jeopardise** (verb) – Endanger, Threaten, Risk, Compromise, Imperil खतरे में डालना

17. **Devastation** (noun) – Destruction, Ruin, Damage, Desolation, Havoc विनाश

18. **Stark** (adjective) – Harsh, Bleak, Severe, Sharp, Clear स्पष्ट

19. **Emphasise** (verb) – Highlight, Stress, Accentuate, Underline, Point out जोर देना

20. **Merely** (adverb) – Just, Only, Simply, Solely, Purely केवल

21. **Imperative** (noun) – Necessity, Requirement, Obligation, Command, Essentiality आवश्यकता

22. **Sweep away** (phrasal verb) – Eliminate, Remove, Erase, Destroy, Wipe out सफाया करना

23. **Altogether** (adverb) – Completely, Entirely, Totally, Wholly, Absolutely पूरी तरह से

24. **Avert** (verb) – Prevent, Avoid, Stop, Ward off, Forestall टालना

25. **Precipitate** (verb) – Hasten, Accelerate, Bring about, Cause, Trigger जल्दबाजी करना

26. **Reconsider** (verb) – Re-evaluate, Review, Reassess, Rethink, Re-examine पुनर्विचार करना

27. **L1 tender bidding system** (noun) – A procurement process where the contract is awarded to the lowest bidder. सबसे कम बोली लगाने वाले को ठेका देने की प्रक्रिया

28. **Solely** (adverb) – Only, Exclusively, Merely, Simply, Purely केवल

29. **Cost-centric** (adjective) – Focused on cost above other factors, Price-driven, Economically focused लागत केंद्रित

30. **Often** (adverb) – Frequently, Regularly, Commonly, Usually, Typically अक्सर

31. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – Lead to, Cause, Produce, Bring about, Generate परिणामस्वरूप

32. **Compromise** (noun) – a situation in which the people or groups involved in an argument reduce their demands in order to reach an agreement समझौता करना

33. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, Cause, Bring on, Conduce to, Culminate in का कारण बनना

34. **Catastrophic** (adjective) – Disastrous, Destructive, Devastating, Calamitous, Dire विनाशकारी

35. **Adoption** (noun) – Acceptance, Use, Taking up, Implementation, Incorporation अपनाना

36. **Pivotal** (adjective) – Crucial, Central, Key, Vital, Essential महत्वपूर्ण

37. **Meet** (verb) – Fulfill, Satisfy, Match, Comply with, Adhere to पूरा करना

38. **Rigorous** (adjective) – Strict, Severe, Rigorous, Stringent, Harsh कठोर

39. **Efficiency** (noun) – Effectiveness, Proficiency, Productivity, Competence, Skill कुशलता

40. **Execution** (noun) – Implementation, Performance, Carrying out, Realization, Fulfillment क्रियान्वयन

41. **Align** (with) (verb) – Match, Coordinate, Integrate, Synchronize, Conform संरेखित करना

42. **Durability** (noun) – Strength, Sturdiness, Robustness, Toughness, Endurance टिकाऊपन

43. **Longevity** (noun) – Lifespan, Duration, Endurance, Existence, Long life दीर्घायु

44. **Resilient** (adjective) – robust, strong, hardy, tough मजबूत

45. **Incorporate** (verb) – Integrate, Include, Embody, Combine, Merge शामिल करना

46. **Integrity** (noun) – Honesty, Uprightness, Wholeness, Moral uprightness, Cohesion अखंडता

47. **Combat** (verb) – Fight against, Battle, Oppose, Contend with, Challenge मुकाबला करना

48. **In conclusion** (phrase) – Finally, In summary, To sum up, Ultimately, In closing अंत में

49. **Compelling** (adjective) – Convincing, Persuasive, Forceful, Powerful, Effective प्रभावशाली

50. **Revisit** (verb) – Re-examine, Review, Reconsider, Return to, Re-evaluate पुनः विचार करना

51. **Policymaker** (noun) – Decision-maker, Legislator, Regulator, Official, Authority नीति निर्माता

52. **Approach** (verb) – Tackle, handle, attempt, manage निपटाना

53. **Forward-looking** (adjective) – Progressive, Innovative, Proactive, Visionary, Forward-thinking आगे की सोच वाला

54. **Heightened** (adjective) – Increased, Intensified, Amplified, Elevated, Enhanced बढ़ा हुआ

55. **Robust** (adjective) – Strong, Sturdy, Resilient, Durable, Tough मजबूत

56. **Paradigm** (noun) – Model, Pattern, Example, Standard, Prototype पैटर्न

57. **Acknowledge** (verb) – Recognize, Admit, Accept, Concede, Affirm स्वीकार करना

58. **Embrace** (verb) – Accept, Adopt, Welcome, Incorporate, Take up अपनाना

59. **Pave the way for** (phrase) – Facilitate, Prepare, Open up, Enable, Lay the groundwork for रास्ता प्रशस्त करना

60. **Withstand** (verb) – Resist, Endure, Bear, Stand up to, Survive सामना करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Urgent Need for Sustainable Infrastructure:** The editorial underscores the critical necessity for sustainable infrastructure development strategies in the wake of substantial damages and loss of lives.

2. **Damages from Natural Disasters:** India faced significant infrastructural damages due to natural disasters last year, with a notable incident in Joshimath causing over Rs. 565 crores in damages.

3. **Widespread Impact:** Flooding affected several states including Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal, and Delhi, leading to 208 fatalities, destruction of 621 houses, and partial damage to over 4,200 houses.

4. **Economic Losses:** Heavy rains and other disasters have caused an estimated 10,000 crores in damages, highlighting the economic impact of failing to prioritize sustainable infrastructure.

5. **Infrastructure Vulnerabilities:** The collapse of under-construction bridges in Gujarat, Mizoram, and Bihar, along with the Silkyara-Barkot tunnel collapse, illustrates the vulnerability of infrastructure, particularly in eco-sensitive zones.

6. **Prioritization of Sustainable Infrastructure:** The devastation serves as a reminder of the importance of focusing on sustainable infrastructure to avoid further losses.

7. **Addressing Core Factors:** A critical approach involves reconsidering the L1 tender bidding system to prioritize quality over the lowest bid, which often leads to compromised material and construction quality.

8. **Importance of Geological Surveys:** Conducting comprehensive geological and geotechnical surveys and consulting with experts is essential before construction begins.

9. **Use of Geosynthetic Materials:** The adoption of Geosynthetic materials can lead to more durable and environmentally friendly infrastructure, aligning with sustainable development goals.

10. **Quality Over Cost:** A shift towards prioritizing quality and safety over cost-cutting, including the adoption of the Quality and Cost Based Selection System (QCBS), is crucial for sustainable construction.

11. **Incorporating Advanced Technologies:** Utilizing advanced technologies and monitoring systems can improve the integrity and durability of infrastructure projects.

12. **Call to Action:** The recent challenges should motivate a reassessment of construction practices and the adoption of more sustainable methods.

13. **Forward-Looking Policies:** Policymakers need to adopt a forward-looking perspective, leveraging evolving technologies and increased awareness of the importance of quality infrastructure.

14. **Collaborative Effort for Improvement:** A combined effort from government initiatives, industry partnerships, and public awareness is key to transforming India's infrastructure paradigm.

15. **Sustainable Future:** By addressing root causes, prioritizing safety, and adopting sustainable construction methods, India can ensure its infrastructure withstands the test of time and contributes to national progress.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**   **[Editorial Page]**
   A. Optimistic
   B. Indifferent
   C. Cautionary
   D. Dismissive

2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
   A. The economic impact of natural disasters
   B. The importance of technological advancements in construction
   C. The need for sustainable infrastructure development
   D. The role of government in disaster management

3. **What was the primary cause of the infrastructural damages mentioned in the passage?**
   A. A focus on rapid urbanization without considering the environmental impact, leading to unsustainable infrastructure development and increased vulnerability to natural disasters.
   B. The adoption of the L1 tender bidding system, which prioritizes the lowest bidder over quality, resulting in substandard construction materials and practices that are prone to failure.
   C. The lack of coordination among various government departments and agencies, leading to inefficiencies in disaster management and response mechanisms.
   D. The failure to implement adequate safety measures and regulations for under-construction projects, leading to frequent collapses and accidents.

4. **What is emphasized as an immediate imperative in the passage to prevent future infrastructural damages?**
   A. The establishment of a centralized disaster management authority to oversee and coordinate all efforts related to infrastructure safety and disaster response.
   B. The implementation of stricter regulations and standards for construction practices, especially in eco-sensitive zones, to ensure the durability and resilience of infrastructure.
   C. The prioritization of sustainable infrastructure development that takes into account environmental considerations and long-term resilience against natural disasters.
   D. The allocation of additional funds for the maintenance and regular inspection of existing infrastructure to identify and rectify potential weaknesses before they lead to disasters.

5. **Based on the passage, which of the following statements best represents the primary recommendation for improving infrastructure development?**
   A. The primary recommendation is to continue prioritizing cost-cutting measures in construction, as this approach has proven to be effective in reducing expenses and accelerating project completion timelines, thereby enabling a faster response to infrastructure needs.
   B. The focus should be on adopting the Quality and Cost Based Selection System (QCBS) for all construction contracts, not just consultancy contracts, as this system has been universally recognized as the most efficient approach to ensure quality and safety in infrastructure projects.

C. It is suggested that a shift in the construction approach is needed, with a greater emphasis on quality and safety over cost-cutting, and the adoption of advanced technologies and monitoring systems to enhance the integrity of structures and contribute to long-term resilience.

D. The passage recommends that infrastructure development should solely rely on traditional construction methods, as these have historically proven to be reliable and cost-effective, thereby ensuring the stability and longevity of structures without the need for modern interventions

6. **Select the most appropriate one-word substitution of the given group of words**.
    Irreverent behaviour toward anything held sacred or concerning God.
    A. Agnosticism
    B. Pantheism
    C. Theism
    D. Blasphemy

7. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
    A. Many countries throughout the world have achieved full digitalisation.
    B. Initially, the entire world transitioned to digitalisation.
    C. This type of internet is known as a metaverse.
    D. This existing kind of internet technology, which gives us access to various aspects, is about to change into a better and newer version.
    E. The Metaverse is an intriguing technology that has been described as the 'newer version of the internet'.
    A. BCEDA
    B. DCEBA
    C. ABCDE
    D. EADCB

8. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words**.
    Huge fire for celebration
    A. Firepower
    B. Festivity
    C. Firefight
    D. Bonfire

9. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required'.**
    It is reported that **she has win** a prize money of ten lakhs at a reality show.
    A. she will won
    B. she had win
    C. No substitution required
    D. she has won

10. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice**.
    Joseph opened the Bible.

   A. The Bible is being opened by Joseph.

   B. Joseph is opening the Bible .

   C. The Bible was opened by Joseph.

   D. Joseph opens the Bible

11. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**

   He promised them / that he would sure repay / the loan urgently.

   A. No error

   B. He promised them

   C. the loan urgently

   D. that he would sure repay

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

   Gullible

   A. Credulous

   B. Pliant

   C. Cynical

   D. Simple

13. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice**.

   The ball of yarn was being nudged by the kitten.

   A. The kitten was nudged by the ball of yarn.

   B. The kitten is nudging the ball of yarn.

   C. The kitten was nudging the ball of yarn.

   D. The kitten has been nudging the ball of yarn.

14. **Select the most appropriate homonym of the underlined word to fill in the blank**.

   He was **complimented** for his appearance. His shirt _____his trousers perfectly.

   A. competed

   B. complement

   C. commented

   D. complemented

15. **Select the correctly spelt option that can substitute the underlined word in the given sentence**.

   Patrrol is very costly these days.

   A. Petrole

   B. Petrul

   C. Patrole

   D. Petrol

16. **Select the correctly spelt option that can substitute the underlined word in the given sentence**.

   The goods were taken on a public **career**.

   A. carier

   B. carryer

    C. carrier

    D. courier

17. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the underlined word.

    Is there any portal to **redeem** these coupons that I have collected from the store?

    A. Use

    B. deplore

    C. forfeit

    D. embezzle

18. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom/phrase in the given sentence**.

    Today, the country's nationalists **rule the roost** and hand out the jobs.

    A. To be in charge

    B. To be prejudiced

    C. To save a criminal

    D. To exploit someone

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

    Keep someone at arm's length

    A. Avoid becoming friendly with someone

    B. Avoid playing with someone

    C. Being someone's enemy

    D. Avoid becoming bitter with someone

20. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the bracketed word given in the sentence**.

    The efforts will be _____ (vain) if we do not submit the project report on Time

    A. useless

    B. careless

    C. delightful

    D. sensible

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank**.

    The patient looked _____ and tired.

    A. pail

    B. pale

    C. Pall

    D. Peel

Comprehension

The United States said earlier this week that it was rejoining the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In 2017, the Trump administration _____1_____ from the organisation after the Obama administration ceased funding, in 2011. The reason for the U.S'.s return is _____2_____ 'China', with senior U.S. administration officials _____3_____ that the U.S.'s absence had helped China gain "more influence" in setting the rules around artificial intelligence and the ensuing technological shifts. For a change, this is the first time that 'China' has been _____4_____ as a reason for the U.S.'s re-entry into, rather than its exit of, a multi-lateral treaty.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1**.
    A. Withdrew
    B. Withdraw
    C. Withdrawl
    D. Withdrawn

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2**.
    A. Faithfully
    B. Ostensibly
    C. Potentially
    D. Promptly

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3**.
    A. Stating
    B. State
    C. Stated
    D. States

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4**.
    A. Buffer
    B. Proffered
    C. Overpowered
    D. Rendered

Answers

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

Explanations

1. C) **Cautionary**
   The tone of the passage is cautionary, as it highlights the urgent need for sustainable infrastructure strategies in the wake of infrastructural damages and loss of lives due to natural disasters. The passage emphasizes the importance of addressing the core issues, prioritizing safety and quality, and adopting sustainable practices to prevent future catastrophes.

2. **C) The need for sustainable infrastructure development**
   The main theme of the passage is the need for sustainable infrastructure development. It discusses the challenges posed by natural disasters, the vulnerabilities of current infrastructure, and the imperative of prioritizing sustainable practices to ensure the resilience and longevity of infrastructure projects. The passage advocates for a shift in construction approach, emphasizing quality, safety, and environmental standards.

3. **B) The adoption of the L1 tender bidding system, which prioritizes the lowest bidder over quality, resulting in substandard construction materials and practices that are prone to failure.**
   The passage highlights the need to address the core issue of the L1 tender bidding system, which often leads to compromises on quality due to its cost-centric approach. This has been identified as a contributing factor to infrastructural damages and catastrophic failures, particularly in the context of the under-construction bridge collapses mentioned.

4. **C) The prioritization of sustainable infrastructure development that takes into account environmental considerations and long-term resilience against natural disasters.**
   The passage underscores the urgent need for sustainable infrastructure strategies as a response to the tragic loss of lives and extensive damages caused by natural disasters. It stresses that prioritizing sustainable infrastructure is not just a choice but an immediate imperative to prevent further devastation and ensure the safety and resilience of future projects.

5. **C) It is suggested that a shift in the construction approach is needed, with a greater emphasis on quality and safety over cost-cutting, and the adoption of advanced technologies and monitoring systems to enhance the integrity of structures and contribute to long-term resilience.**
   The passage emphasizes the importance of prioritizing quality and safety over cost-cutting in infrastructure development. It suggests adopting the Quality and Cost Based Selection System (QCBS) and incorporating advanced technologies and monitoring systems to enhance the overall integrity of structures. This approach aligns with sustainable practices and contributes

to long-term resilience, which is essential for combating climate change and ensuring the nation's overall progress.

6. D) **Blasphemy** (noun) – Irreverent behaviour toward anything held sacred or concerning God. ईश्वरनिन्दा

   - **Agnosticism** (noun) – The view that the existence of God or the supernatural is unknown or unknowable. अज्ञेयवाद

   - **Pantheism** (noun) – A belief or doctrine that identifies God with the universe, or regards the universe as a manifestation of God. सर्ववाद

   - **Theism** (noun) – Belief in the existence of a god or gods, especially belief in a personal God as creator and ruler of the world. ईश्वरवाद

7. B) **DCEBA**

   This existing kind of internet technology, which gives us access to various aspects, is about to change into a better and newer version. . This type of internet is known as a metaverse. The Metaverse is an intriguing technology that has been described as the 'newer version of the internet'. Initially, the entire world transitioned to digitalisation. Many countries throughout the world have achieved full digitalisation.

8. D) **Bonfire** (noun) – A large open-air fire used for burning waste or as part of a celebration. जश्न के लिए विशाल आग

   - **Firepower** (noun) – The capability of a military force to deliver a volume of fire. शक्ति

   - **Festivity** (noun) – The celebration of something in a joyful and exuberant way. उत्सव

   - **Firefight** (noun) – A battle involving the exchange of gunfire. मुठभेड़

9. D) **'has won'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'has' के साथ verb की third form का प्रयोग होता है, जैसे— She has won a prize.

   - **'has won'** will be used instead of 'has win' because with 'has', the third form of the verb is used; Like— She has won a prize.

10. C) The Bible was opened by Joseph.

11. D) 'sure' के स्थान पर 'surely' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि यहाँ 'surely' एक adverb है जो verb 'repay' को modify करता है; जैसे— He would surely repay the loan urgently.

    - 'surely' will be used instead of 'sure' because 'surely' is an adverb that modifies the verb 'repay'; Like— He would surely repay the loan urgently.

12. C) **Gullible** (adjective) – Easily persuaded to believe something, naïve, trusting, credulous. विश्वासप्रवण

    Antonym: **Cynical** (adjective) – Doubtful as to whether something will happen or whether it is worthwhile, skeptical, doubtful, distrustful. संदेहपूर्ण

- **Credulous** (adjective) – Having or showing too great a readiness to believe things, gullible. विश्वासी

- **Pliant** (adjective) – Easily bent; flexible, supple, adaptable. लचीला

- **Simple** (adjective) – Easily understood or done, plain, unadorned. सरल

13. C) The kitten was nudging the ball of yarn.

14. D) complemented' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence व्यक्ति के वस्त्र की सहमति और मेल करने की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "His shirt _____ his trousers perfectly" के माध्यम से वह संबंध दर्शाया जा रहा है जो व्यक्ति की शर्ट और पतलून के बीच है, और जो एक दूसरे को पूरी तरह से मेल करते हैं। इसलिए, "complemented" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
'complemented' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the harmony and match between the person's clothing. Here, through "His shirt _____ his trousers perfectly," it portrays the relationship between the person's shirt and trousers, and how they perfectly match each other. Thus, "complemented" would be the most appropriate choice.

15. D) The correct spelling of '(Patrrol)' is 'Petrol', which means "a light fuel oil that is obtained from crude petroleum and used especially in motor vehicle engines" or "जलवायु, मोटर वाहन इंजन में विशेष रूप से उपयोग किए जाने वाले कच्चे तेल से प्राप्त एक हल्का ईंधन तेल".

16. C) The correct spelling of the underlined word in the sentence "The goods were taken on a public (career)" is 'carrier.
    - "**carrier**" means "a person or company that undertakes the professional conveyance of goods or people." In Hindi, it can be translated as "वाहक" or "परिवहन करने वाला."

17. C) **Redeem** (verb) – To exchange, to recover, to cash in, to retrieve, to convert into something of value. वसूल करना
    Antonym: **Forfeit** (verb) – To lose, to give up, to surrender, to be deprived of something because of a breach of obligation or penalty. खोना
    - **Use** (verb) – To employ, to utilize, to consume, to make use of. उपयोग करना
    - **Deplore** (verb) – To feel or express strong disapproval, to regret, to lament. खेद प्रकट करना
    - **Embezzle** (verb) – To steal or misappropriate money, especially that which has been entrusted to one's care. गबन करना

18. A) **Rule the roost** (idiom) – To be in charge शासन करना, राज्य करना

19. A) **Keep someone at arm's length** (idiom) – Avoid becoming friendly with someone किसी से मित्रता न करना

20. A) **Vain** (adjective) – Having no real value or significance; unproductive, fruitless, useless. व्यर्थ

Synonym: **Useless** (adjective) – Serving no purpose; not producing any effect, unproductive. बेकार

- **Careless** (adjective) – Not paying enough attention to something, negligent, thoughtless. लापरवाह
- **Delightful** (adjective) – Causing delight, very pleasant, enjoyable. सुखद
- **Sensible** (adjective) – Reasonable, practical, wise. समझदार

21. B) **Pale'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence मरीज की थकान और बीमारी की चर्चा कर रहा है। "Pale" का तात्पर्य रंग से बहुत अधिक फीका हो जाना है, जो किसी की थकान या बीमारी को दर्शाने के लिए आम रूप से प्रयोग होता है। इसलिए, "pale" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- **'Pale'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the patient's fatigue and illness. The term "pale" refers to being unusually light in color, often used to depict someone's exhaustion or sickness. Thus, "pale" would be the most appropriate choice.

22. A) Withdrew' का इस्तेमाल होगा क्योंकि यह past tense है और sentence के context में फिट बैठता है, जो कि 2017 में घटना को दर्शाता है। 'Withdraw' present tense है, 'Withdrawl' गलत शब्द है, और 'Withdrawn' past participle है, जो यहाँ ग्रामैटिकली सही नहीं है।

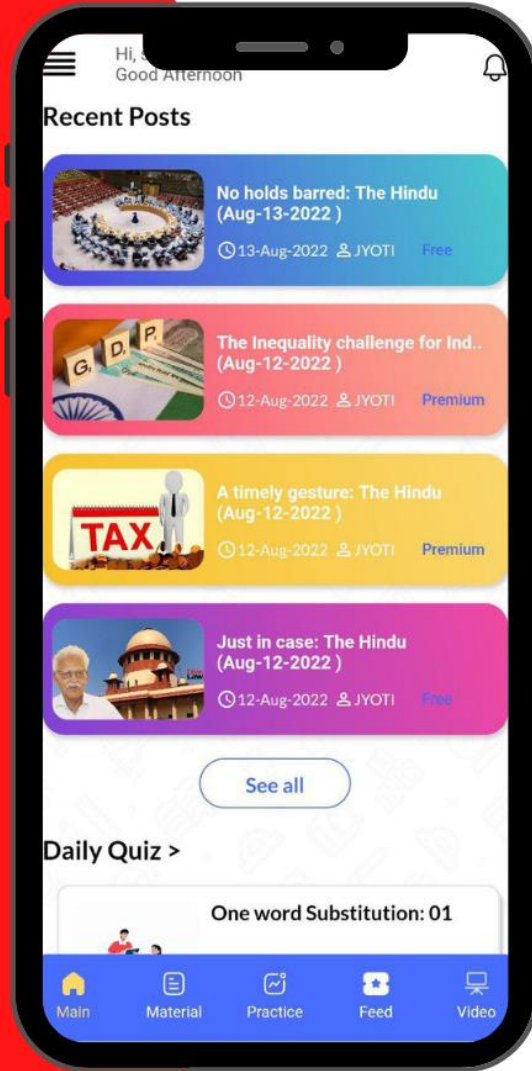- 'Withdrew' is used because it is in the past tense and fits the context of the sentence, which refers to an event in 2017. 'Withdraw' is present tense, 'Withdrawl' is a misspelled word, and 'Withdrawn' is a past participle, which is not grammatically correct here.

23. B)'Ostensibly' का इस्तेमाल होगा क्योंकि यह ऐसा लगता है लेकिन जरूरी नहीं कि सच हो, जो कि sentence के context में फिट बैठता है। 'Faithfully' का अर्थ है वफादारी से, 'Potentially' का अर्थ है संभावित रूप से, और 'Promptly' का अर्थ है तुरंत, जो यहाँ सही नहीं है।

- 'Ostensibly' is used because it means appearing to be true but not necessarily so, which fits the context of the sentence. 'Faithfully' means with loyalty, 'Potentially' means possibly, and 'Promptly' means immediately, which are not correct here.

24. A) 'Stating' (option A) का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ past continuous tense की आवश्यकता है, जिसमें 'were' के साथ verb का '-ing' form आता है। Sentence में senior U.S. administration officials की बातचीत का वर्णन किया गया है, इसलिए 'stating' यहाँ सही है। 'State' (option B) present tense में है, 'Stated' (option C) past simple tense में है, और 'States' (option D) present tense का third person singular form है, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

- 'Stating' should be used because the sentence requires the past continuous tense, which uses the '-ing' form of the verb with 'were'. The sentence describes the ongoing discussion by senior U.S. administration officials, making 'stating' the correct choice. 'State' is in the present tense, 'Stated' is in the past simple tense, and 'States' is the third person singular form of the present tense, which are not correct in this context.

25. B) Proffered' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है प्रस्ताव देना या पेश करना। Sentence में कहा गया है कि पहली बार 'China' को U.S. के पुनः प्रवेश के कारण के रूप में पेश किया गया है, इसलिए 'proffered' यहाँ सही है। 'Buffer' (option A) का अर्थ होता है बचाव करना, 'Overpowered' (option C) का अर्थ होता है दबाना, और 'Rendered' (option D) का अर्थ होता है प्रस्तुत करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

- 'Proffered' should be used because it means to offer or present. The sentence states that this is the first time 'China' has been presented as a reason for the U.S.'s re-entry, making 'proffered' the correct choice. 'Buffer' means to protect, 'Overpowered' means to overpower, and 'Rendered' means to provide or present, which are not correct in this context.