

## A slippery slope: On the Jim Corbett National Park case, tourism and conservation

**Tourism** in wildlife parks **should** not be **at odds with** conservation efforts

The Supreme Court of India has **come down heavily on** the Uttarakhand government for the **felling** of about 6,000 trees in the Jim Corbett National Park. **That** forest officials and a top politician in the State **connived** to **vastly** expand the scope of a tiger safari in the park **precincts was** a **travesty** of conservation practices, according to the Court. In the judgment by a three-judge **Bench**, Justice B.R. Gavai observed, “The presence of tigers in the forests is an indicator of the **well-being** of the **ecosystem**. Unless steps are taken for the protection of tigers, the **ecosystem** which revolves around tigers **cannot** be protected... **Events** like illegal construction and **illicit** felling of trees like the one in Corbett **cannot** be ignored.” The **link** between political corruption and environmental damage **is** especially relevant in this case as the Court’s judgment has **consequences** for the management of wildlife parks, particularly on the question of whether ‘tiger safaris’ in the buffer and **fringe zones** of wildlife parks **gel well with** conservation measures. The Court also **alluded to** various resorts in the **vicinity** of the park that often played loud music and **posed** a threat to animals.

Both the Central Zoo Authority and the National Tiger Conservation Authority are expert bodies **affiliated** to the Union Environment Ministry, and **tasked with** the conservation and protection of wild animals. These **organisations, in principle, have** no objection to the existence of tiger safaris, provided these are conducted within the ambit of an array of guidelines. Wildlife safaris in a **designated** spot **draw attention** away from the core zones of the forest and hence promote its **inviolable** nature as well as raise public awareness about conservation. This is the **underlying rationale** for safaris. Their **overarching** aim, thus, **ought to** be eco-tourism and not commercial tourism. However, in recent times, the **argument** that this could be a source of employment opportunities for locals, and that State governments should be promoting this, **has** been **gaining ground**. The recent **translocation** of cheetahs from Africa to Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh, also **aims** to **revive** the cat’s presence and promote tourism. This, however, is a slippery slope and can very easily **lead to** political capture, as the **proceedings** in the Corbett Park **demonstrate**. The Court has recommended that the Centre evolve guidelines on the conduct of safaris and the government would do well to deliver on this **at the earliest** and be extremely **circumspect on** its messaging regarding tourism and conservation.

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

[Practice Exercise]

## Vocabulary

1. **Slippery slope** (noun) – Gradual but unavoidable decline, Dangerous path, Downward spiral, Treacherous slope, Precarious path धीरे-धीरे होने वाली किन्तु अपरिहार्य गिरावट
2. **At odds with** (phrase) – In conflict with, Contrary to, Against, Opposed to, Divergent from के विरोध में
3. **Come down heavily on** (phrase) – Criticize strongly, Condemn, Denounce, Castigate, Rebuke फटकारना
4. **Felling** (noun) – The act of cutting down trees, Timbering, Logging, Deforestation, Clearcutting कटाई
5. **Connive** (verb) – To secretly allow (something considered immoral, illegal, wrong, or harmful) to occur, Conspire, Collude, Plot, Scheme साजिश करना
6. **Vastly** (adverb) – To a very great extent, Immensely, Significantly, Greatly, Considerably बहुत हद तक
7. **Precinct** (noun) – A district of a city or town as defined for police purposes, Area, Zone, Sector, Neighborhood क्षेत्र
8. **Travesty** (noun) – A false, absurd, or distorted representation of something, Mockery, Parody, Distortion, Misrepresentation विकृति
9. **Bench** (noun) – The judge or judges composing a court. न्यायपीठ
10. **Well-being** (noun) – The state of being comfortable, healthy, or happy, Welfare, Health, Prosperity, Contentment भलाई
11. **Ecosystem** (noun) – A biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment, Habitat, Biosphere, Environment, Ecology पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र
12. **Illicit** (adjective) – Forbidden by law, rules, or custom, Illegal, Unlawful, Prohibited, Unauthorized अवैध
13. **Consequence** (noun) – A result or effect of an action or condition, Outcome, Ramification, Aftermath, Result परिणाम
14. **Buffer zone** (noun) – An area of land designated to separate or protect बफर क्षेत्र
15. **Fringe zone** (noun) – A border or outer edge area, often of a city or an ecological habitat, सीमांत क्षेत्र
16. **Gel** (verb) – to work well together; to form a successful group साथ मिलकर अच्छा काम करना
17. **Allude** (to) (verb) – To refer to casually or indirectly, Hint at, Suggest, Imply, Indicate संकेत करना

18. **Vicinity** (noun) – The area near or surrounding a particular place, Neighborhood, Proximity, Surroundings, Locale निकटता
19. **Pose** (verb) – Present, Constitute, Represent, Amount to खड़ा करना (समस्या)
20. **Affiliated** (adjective) – Associated, Linked, Connected, Allied संबद्ध
21. **Task** (with) (verb) – Assign, Charge, Entrust, Commission सौंपना
22. **In principle** (phrase) – Theoretically, Essentially, In essence, In theory सिद्धांततः
23. **Designated** (adjective) – Appointed, Assigned, Named, Specified निर्दिष्ट
24. **Draw attention** (phrase) – Captivate, Engage, Interest, Attract ध्यान आकर्षित करना
25. **Inviolate** (adjective) – Free from change or violation, Unviolated, Untouched, Sacred, Unblemished अछूता
26. **Underlying** (adjective) – Basic or fundamental, Foundational, Basic, Primary, Essential मूलभूत
27. **Rationale** (noun) – The fundamental reason or justification, Basis, Reasoning, Logic, Justification तर्क
28. **Overarching** (adjective) – Comprehensive or all-embracing, Encompassing, All-inclusive, Broad, Sweeping सर्वव्यापी
29. **Ought to** (modal verb) – Should, Must, Is expected to चाहिए
30. **Gain ground** (phrase) – To become more popular or accepted
31. **Translocation** (noun) – The process of moving something from one place to another, Relocation, Transfer, Movement, Resettlement स्थानांतरण
32. **Revive** (verb) – To restore to life or consciousness, Rejuvenate, Renew, Restore, Revitalize पुनर्जीवित करना
33. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, Cause, Bring about, Produce कारण बनना
34. **Proceedings** (noun) – Actions, Activities, Events, Happenings कार्यवाही
35. **Demonstrate** (verb) – To show clearly, Prove, Exhibit, Display, Illustrate प्रदर्शित करना
36. **At the earliest** (phrase) – As soon as possible, Without delay, Promptly, Immediately जल्द से जल्द
37. **Circumspect** (on) (adjective) – Wary and unwilling to take risks, Cautious, Careful, Prudent, Watchful सावधान

## Summary of the Editorial

1. The Supreme Court of India criticized the Uttarakhand government for cutting down approximately 6,000 trees in Jim Corbett National Park.
2. The felling of trees was part of an unauthorized expansion of a tiger safari, involving forest officials and a prominent state politician, violating conservation norms.
3. The Court highlighted that the existence of tigers indicates a healthy ecosystem, emphasizing the need for their protection.
4. Justice B.R. Gavai, in the judgment, linked the illegal activities in Corbett Park to broader issues of political corruption and environmental damage.
5. The judgment questioned the compatibility of tiger safaris with conservation efforts, especially when located in the buffer and fringe zones of wildlife parks.
6. It was noted that certain resorts near the park disrupted animal life by playing loud music.
7. The Central Zoo Authority and the National Tiger Conservation Authority, under the Union Environment Ministry, support tiger safaris that follow strict guidelines.
8. Wildlife safaris are seen as a means to divert attention from forest core zones, promoting conservation awareness and protecting the ecosystem.
9. The primary goal of safaris should be eco-tourism, not commercial gains, aligning with conservation principles.
10. There's a growing debate on the role of safaris in providing local employment and being promoted by state governments.
11. The relocation of cheetahs to Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh is aimed at boosting tourism while attempting to conserve the species.
12. The editorial warns of the dangers of allowing tourism developments, like those in Corbett Park, to be influenced by political interests.
13. The Supreme Court suggested the central government develop strict guidelines for conducting safaris.
14. Immediate action on these guidelines is urged to prevent further harm to wildlife conservation efforts.
15. The case underscores the delicate balance between promoting tourism and ensuring the conservation of wildlife and their habitats.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage regarding the Jim Corbett National Park case?** Editorial Pag.]
  - A. Optimistic
  - B. Indifferent
  - C. Critical
  - D. Enthusiastic
2. **What is the main theme of the passage regarding the Jim Corbett National Park case?**
  - A. The economic benefits of wildlife tourism
  - B. The challenge of balancing tourism and conservation
  - C. The importance of political leadership in environmental protection
  - D. The role of the judiciary in safeguarding wildlife
3. **What was the primary concern of the Supreme Court of India in the Jim Corbett National Park case?**
  - A. The expansion of tourism facilities in the park.
  - B. The connivance between forest officials and a top politician to expand a tiger safari.
  - C. The impact of loud music from nearby resorts on wildlife.
  - D. The introduction of new species into the ecosystem.
4. **According to Justice B.R. Gavai's observation in the judgment, what is an indicator of the well-being of the ecosystem in forests?**
  - A. The presence of a diverse range of flora and fauna.
  - B. The number of tourists visiting the wildlife parks.
  - C. The presence of tigers in the forests.
  - D. The absence of illegal construction and illicit felling of trees.
5. **Evaluate the statements based on the passage about "A slippery slope: On the Jim Corbett National Park case, tourism and conservation."**
  - A. The Central Zoo Authority and the National Tiger Conservation Authority are under the Union Environment Ministry and support tiger safaris if they adhere to certain guidelines.
  - B. The primary goal of wildlife safaris should be commercial tourism rather than eco-tourism.
  - A. A is true and B is false.
  - B. A is false and B is true.
  - C. Neither A nor B is true.
  - D. Both A and B are true.
6. **Select the correct conclusion based on the meaning of the underlined idiom:**

The whole agitation against the new regulations was a storm in a tea cup.

  - (i) The agitation was so profound that it spread to all parts of the country.
  - (ii) The disagreement over the crucial policy garnered universal support.
  - (iii) The protest died down quickly as it was an unnecessary fuss over a trivial matter.
  - (iv) The agitation was joined by thousands of people despite the adverse weather conditions.
  - A. Both i and iv are correct
  - B. Only iii is correct
  - C. Both ii and iv are correct

D. Only ii is correct

7. **The sentence below has been divided into three parts. Select the part of the sentence that has an error. If the sentence has no error, select the option 'No Error'.**

I wrote to Giordano this morning,/ and when we return to Paris/ all will have been being arranged.

- A. and when we return to Paris  
 B. I wrote to Giordano this morning,  
 C. No error  
 D. all will have been being arranged.

8. **Match the following groups of words with the correct one-word substitutions**

One-word substitution	Phrase
A. Turncoat	1. One who is unable to pay debts
B. insolvent	2. to increase the importance, position or wealth
C. abnegate	3. one who switches to an opposing party
D. aggrandize	4. to refuse or deny oneself

- A. A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1  
 B. A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2  
 C. A-1, B-4, C-3, D-2  
 D. A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

9. **In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. Select the correct option to fill in the blanks.**

The seemingly \_\_\_1\_\_\_ hummingbird is one of the toughest beasts in the animal kingdom. Some 330 species \_\_\_2\_\_\_ in diverse and often brutal environments.

Mysteriously, the birds are found only in North and South America. 'They're living \_\_\_3\_\_\_ the edge of what's possible for vertebrates, and they're mastering it,' says Karl Schuchmann, a German \_\_\_4\_\_\_, who studied a captive hummer that lived 17 years. 'Imagine the \_\_\_5\_\_\_ of an organism of only five or six grams to live that long,' he says.

- A. 1-vulnerable, 2- endure, 3- on, 4- ophthalmologist, 5- durability  
 B. 1-robust, 2- sustain, 3- by, 4- antiquarian, 5- stamina  
 C. 1-fragile, 2- thrive, 3- at, 4- ornithologist, 5- endurance  
 D. 1-delicate, 2- survive, 3- in, 4- geologist, 5- persistence

10. **Select the correct conclusion based on the meaning of the underlined word:**

**Statement:** She is a philatelist who can boast of a rare collection.

**Conclusion:**

- i. She has a huge collection of stamps from all over the world.  
 ii. She is a lover of books and possesses a fine collection.  
 iii. It is her hobby to collect and study coins and medals.  
 iv. Her collection of antiques is unique and very valuable.  
 A. Both i and iv are correct  
 B. Only i is correct

- C. Both iii and iv are correct  
D. Only iii is correct

11. Match the following groups of words with the correct one-word substitutions

phrase	one-word substitution
A. A short, pithy statement expressing a general truth or rule of conduct	1. Gibberish
B. Outrageous and disgraceful	2. Ensemble
C. Unintelligible speech	3. Maxim
D. A group of dancers, actors or performers	4. Egregious

- A. A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2  
B. A-1, B-4, C-2, D-3  
C. A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2  
D. A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

12. Select the word that is closest in meaning (**SYNONYM**) to the word given below

**Exemplary**

- A. Deplorable  
B. Substandard  
C. Unworthy  
D. Impeccable

13. Select the correct conclusion based on the meaning of the underlined word:

**Statement:** These days he is working on a monograph which is very important for him.

**Conclusion:**

- i. He is writing a memoir of his father who was a successful poet.  
ii. His work on a specialized subject is an important resource for scholars.  
iii. He is rehearsing his lines for the play to be performed at the annual function.  
iv. He is creating an architectural masterpiece out of a single piece of stone.

- A. Only i is correct  
B. Only iii is correct  
C. Only ii is correct  
D. Only iv is correct

14. Select the word that is opposite in meaning (**ANTONYM**) to the word given below.

**Sardonic**

- A. Gracious  
B. Lengthy  
C. Podgy  
D. Eternal

15. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom

It's a small world

- A. Make all possible efforts  
B. You frequently see the same people in different places

- C. An aggressive and bold confrontation  
D. A competition where the outcome is difficult to judge or predict
16. **Some parts of a sentence have been jumbled up, and labelled P, Q, R and S. Select the option that gives the correct sequence in which these parts can be rearranged to form a meaningful and grammatically correct sentence. Opening and Closing sentence indicate the start of the paragraph and end of the sentence paragraph.**  
**Opening Sentence:** The immediate context of the Dunkirk evacuation was Germany's invasion of the Low Countries and northern France in May 1940.  
**P.** The Dutch defenders fell back westward, and by noon on May 12 German tanks were on the outskirts of Rotterdam.  
**Q.** The Dutch Queen Wilhelmina and her government left the country for England on May 13, and the next day the Dutch army surrendered to the Germans.  
**R.** On May 10 the German blitzkrieg attack on the Netherlands began with the capture by parachutists of key bridges deep within the country, with the aim of opening the way for mobile ground forces.  
**S.** The invasion of Belgium also began on May 10, when German airborne troops landed on the fortress of Eben Emael, immediately opposite Maastricht, and on bridges over the Albert Canal.  
**Closing Sentence:** On May 11 the Belgian front was broken, and German tanks ran on westward while Belgian, French, and British divisions fell back to a line between Antwerp and Namur.
- A. QPRS  
B. PSRQ  
C. RPQS  
D. RPSQ
17. **Four sentences are given below. Find the odd sentence out.**
- A. Subsequent generations of kings hid their tombs in the Valley of the Kings in an attempt to elude the robbers.  
B. The most imposing tombs are the famous pyramids, shaped like the sacred mound where the gods first appeared in the creation story.  
C. The ongoing deciphering of hieroglyphic writings and research on the life of the peasants is answering several questions on Egyptian culture.  
D. The gigantic pyramids were conspicuous targets for tomb robbers, whose plundering jeopardizes the hope for eternal life.
- A. Sentence D  
B. Sentence B  
C. Sentence C  
D. Sentence A
18. **The sentence below has been divided into three parts. Select the part of the sentence that has an error. If the sentence has no error, select the option 'No Error'.**  
Start to relax a hour/ before bedtime with a/ hot bath or your favourite music.
- A. Start to relax a hour



- B. before bedtime with a  
C. hot bath or your favourite music.  
D. No error
19. **The sentence below has been divided into three parts. Select the part of the sentence that has an error. If the sentence has no error, select the option 'No Error'.**  
If he had been entered a fatstock/ competition, I am sure his story would/ have been one of unrivalled success.
- A. If he had been entered a fatstock  
B. have been one of unrivalled success.  
C. competition, I am sure his story would  
D. No error
20. **Arrange the given sentences (A-F) in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph.**
- A. Nature writing encompasses a wide variety of works.  
B. Nature writing often draws heavily on scientific information and facts about the natural world.  
C. At the same time, it is frequently written in the first person and incorporates personal observations and philosophical reflections upon nature.  
D. Nature writing is nonfiction or fiction prose or poetry about the natural environment.  
E. These include natural history essays, poetry, essays of solitude or escape, as well as travel and adventure writing.  
F. These works range from those that place primary emphasis on natural history facts to those in which philosophical interpretation predominates.
- A. BFECAD  
B. ACFDBE  
C. DAFEBC  
D. DBFAEC
21. **Which of the following statements correctly uses the idiom 'red rag to a bull' by substituting the underlined words?**
- A. The poor subordinates are made scapegoats for the misdeeds of their superiors.  
B. For me, a person playing a double game is someone who specially provokes me.  
C. Since your boss is well disposed towards you, you must act promptly and ask for a promotion.  
D. The huge loss to our factory due to the floods was a totally unexpected disaster.
- A. Statement D  
B. Statement A  
C. Statement C  
D. Statement B
22. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given proverb from the options**  
**Knowledge is power**
- A. Said when a son is similar to his father; also, "Like mother, like daughter"  
B. No one is truly capable of living alone. We need human connection to be healthy

- C. When you're in a difficult situation, laughing can make it easier to get through that situation
- D. The more you know, the more powerful you can be in different areas of your life
23. **There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide in which blank (1, 2, 3, or 4) the following sentence would best fit.**
- Sentence: As a result, they held a trial and sentenced Socrates to death.
- Socrates had many disciples and the greatest of these was Plato. Plato wrote several books which have come down to us. \_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_ It is through these books that we know a great deal of his teacher, Socrates. The Athenian government-just after the time of Pericles- did not like the methods of Socrates. \_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_ They told him that if he promised to give up his discussions with common people and changed his ways, they would pardon him and let him off. \_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_ But Socrates refused to do so and preferred to drink the cup of poison which brought about his death, to giving up what he considered to be his duty. \_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_
- A. Blank 2
- B. Blank 1
- C. Blank 3
- D. Blank 4
24. **The sentence below has been divided into three parts. Select the part of the sentence that has an error. If the sentence has no error, select the option 'No Error'.**
- Chasing the white stag through the/ forests, never catching it, of/ course, for it is a creature of legend.
- A. No error
- B. Chasing the white stag through the
- C. course, for it is a creature of legend.
- D. forests, never catching it, of
25. Select the word that is closest in meaning (**SYNONYM**) to the word given below
- Inertia**
- A. Ardour
- B. Zeal
- C. Idleness
- D. Stamina

## Answers

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

## Explanations

### 1. C) Critical

The passage adopts a critical tone towards the actions of the Uttarakhand government and the involvement of forest officials and politicians in the illegal felling of trees and the expansion of a tiger safari in the Jim Corbett National Park. The Supreme Court's condemnation of these actions and the emphasis on the importance of protecting the ecosystem and wildlife underscore the disapproval and criticism present in the tone of the passage.

### 2. B) The challenge of balancing tourism and conservation

The main theme of the passage revolves around the challenge of balancing tourism and conservation efforts in wildlife parks, specifically in the context of the Jim Corbett National Park. The passage highlights the conflict between the desire to promote tourism, such as tiger safaris, and the need to preserve the natural habitat and protect wildlife. The criticism of illegal activities and the emphasis on conservation measures underscore the central theme of finding a sustainable balance between tourism and environmental conservation.

### 3. B) The connivance between forest officials and a top politician to expand a tiger safari.

The Supreme Court of India expressed concern over the felling of about 6,000 trees in the Jim Corbett National Park, which was a result of the collusion between forest officials and a top politician in the state to expand the scope of a tiger safari in the park precincts. This action was seen as a violation of conservation practices and a threat to the ecosystem.

### 4. C) The presence of tigers in the forests.

Justice B.R. Gavai observed that the presence of tigers in the forests is an indicator of the well-being of the ecosystem. He emphasized that unless steps are taken for the protection of tigers, the ecosystem, which revolves around tigers, cannot be protected. This highlights the importance of tiger conservation in maintaining the health of the forest ecosystem.

### 5. A) A is true and B is false.

The passage states that both the Central Zoo Authority and the National Tiger Conservation Authority are expert bodies affiliated with the Union Environment Ministry, and they have no objection to tiger safaris as long as they are conducted within the ambit of an array of guidelines. This supports statement A. However, the passage also mentions that the overarching aim of safaris should be eco-tourism and not commercial tourism, which contradicts statement B. Therefore, A is true, and B is false.

### 6. B) Only iii is correct

**A storm in a tea cup** (idiom) – An unnecessary fuss over a trivial matter बात का बतंगड़ (तुच्छ मामले पर अनावश्यक हो-हल्ला)

7. D) 'all will have been being arranged' के बदले 'all will have been arranged' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ Future Perfect Continuous Tense का गलत प्रयोग किया गया है। Future Perfect Tense का सही प्रयोग होना चाहिए था जो कि 'will have + Past Participle' के रूप में होता है; जैसे— By the time you arrive, everything will have been arranged.

- 'all will have been arranged' will be used instead of 'all will have been being arranged' because the incorrect use of Future Perfect Continuous Tense is made here. The correct use should be Future Perfect Tense, which is in the form of 'will have + Past Participle'; Like— By the time you arrive, everything will have been arranged.

8. B) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2.

- **Turncoat** (noun) - A person who switches to an opposing party or group, typically used in a political context. दल-बदलू
- **Insolvent** (noun) - A person who is unable to pay their debts, often leading to legal or financial consequences. दिवालिया
- **Abnegate** (verb) - To refuse or deny oneself some rights, conveniences, etc.; a form of self-denial. आत्म-त्याग
- **Aggrandize** (verb) - To increase the power, status, or wealth of someone or something. समृद्धि बढ़ाना

9. C) 1-fragile, 2- thrive, 3- at, 4- ornithologist, 5- endurance.

'Fragile' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि 'fragile' का अर्थ होता है नाजुक या आसानी से टूटने वाला। Sentence में hummingbird के छोटे और नाजुक होने का जिक्र है, इसलिए 'fragile' यहाँ सही है। 'Thrive' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि 'thrive' का अर्थ होता है फलना-फूलना। Sentence में बताया गया है कि hummingbirds विभिन्न परिस्थितियों में अच्छी तरह से जीवित रहते हैं, इसलिए 'thrive' यहाँ उपयुक्त है। 'At' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ 'living at the edge' का अर्थ है किसी सीमा पर जीवन बिताना। 'Ornithologist' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि 'ornithologist' का अर्थ होता है पक्षी विज्ञानी। Karl Schuchmann का उल्लेख किया गया है कि उन्होंने hummingbird का अध्ययन किया है, इसलिए 'ornithologist' यहाँ सही है। 'Endurance' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि 'endurance' का अर्थ होता है सहनशक्ति या दीर्घकालिक शक्ति। Sentence में बताया गया है कि hummingbird का लंबे समय तक जीवित रहना अद्भुत है, इसलिए 'endurance' यहाँ सही है।

- 'Fragile' should be used because it contrasts with the toughness mentioned, highlighting the surprising resilience of hummingbirds despite their delicate appearance. 'Thrive' fits as it implies not just survival but flourishing, even in brutal environments. The phrase 'living at the edge' is a common expression denoting a state of extreme or limiting conditions,

aligning well with the description of hummingbirds' habitats. An 'ornithologist' is a scientist specializing in birds, making it the appropriate term in this context. 'Endurance' relates to the ability to withstand hardship over time, matching the idea of a small organism like a hummingbird having a surprisingly long lifespan. Other options like 'ophthalmologist' (eye specialist), 'antiquarian' (specialist in ancient artifacts), or 'geologist' (earth scientist) don't logically fit the context of studying birds.

10. **B) Only i is correct.**

**Philatelist** (noun) – A philatelist is someone who collects and studies postage stamps. टिकट-सम्ग्रहकर्ता

- i. This conclusion is likely correct because it directly relates to the definition of a philatelist.
- ii. This conclusion is incorrect because being a philatelist does not necessarily relate to collecting books.
- iii. This conclusion is incorrect because collecting and studying coins and medals is the hobby of a numismatist, not a philatelist.
- iv. This conclusion is incorrect because there is no direct link between being a philatelist and collecting antiques; a philatelist specifically collects stamps.

11. **A) A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2**

- **Maxim** (noun) – A short, pithy statement expressing a general truth or rule of conduct. सूक्ति
- **Egregious** (adjective) – Outrageous and disgraceful; conspicuously bad or shocking. घोर
- **Gibberish** (noun) – Unintelligible or nonsensical talk or writing. बड़बड़
- **Ensemble** (noun) – A group of items viewed as a whole rather than individually; in this context, a group of dancers, actors, or performers. समूह

12. **D) Exemplary** (adjective) – Serving as a desirable model; representing the best of its kind. It implies something that is so good that it is an example for others to follow आदर्श

**SYNONYM – Impeccable** (adjective) – In accordance with the highest standards; faultless. This word also suggests something of extremely high quality, without any flaws, akin to being exemplary. निर्दोष, परिपूर्ण

- **Deplorable** (adjective) – Deserving strong condemnation; completely unacceptable. This implies something very bad or unacceptable, which is quite the opposite of 'exemplary'. खेदजनक
- **Substandard** (adjective) – Below the usual or required standard. This term indicates something not meeting the expected level of quality, which contrasts with the exemplary nature of something outstanding. घटिया

- **Unworthy** (adjective) – Not deserving respect or attention. This term suggests a lack of deserving qualities or merit, which is contrary to what 'exemplary' implies. अयोग्य

13. **C) Only ii is correct**

**Monograph** (Noun) – A monograph is a detailed written study of a single specialized subject or an aspect of it.

'Only ii is correct' because a 'monograph' is a detailed written study of a single specialized subject or an aspect of it, often by a single scholar. This implies that his work is indeed a significant contribution to a specific field and could be an important resource for scholars. Conclusion i is incorrect because a 'memoire' is a different type of writing, typically a personal account or biography, not implied by the term 'monograph.' Conclusion iii is unrelated to the term 'monograph' as it discusses rehearsing for a play, which has no direct connection to writing a scholarly work. Similarly, conclusion iv, mentioning the creation of an architectural masterpiece, does not align with the definition of a 'monograph,' which is a detailed written work, not a physical creation or sculpture.

14. **A) Sardonic** (adjective) – Characterized by bitter or scornful derision; mocking, cynical, sneering. तिरस्कारपूर्ण

**Antonym: Gracious** (adjective) – Courteous, kind, and pleasant, especially towards someone of lower social status. विनम्र

- **Lengthy** (adjective) – Of considerable or unusual length, especially in time; long-drawn-out. लंबा
- **Podgy** (adjective) – Slightly fat. मोटा
- **Eternal** (adjective) – Lasting or existing forever; without end. अनंत

15. **B) It's a small world** (idiom) – You frequently see the same people in different places आप अक्सर विभिन्न स्थानों पर समान लोगों को देखते हैं

16. **C) RPQS**

**R** describes the initial German attack on the Netherlands, marking the start of the invasion with a blitzkrieg on May 10.

**P** continues with the German tanks reaching the outskirts of Rotterdam by May 12, indicating the progression of the invasion into the Netherlands.

**Q** details the Dutch surrender on May 14 and the retreat of the Dutch Queen and government to England, showing the outcome of the German invasion of the Netherlands.

**S** shifts the focus to the invasion of Belgium, also starting on May 10, which is part of the broader strategy of the German offensive.

17. **C) Sentence C** is the odd one out because it does not specifically address the topic of tombs or burial practices but rather speaks about Egyptian culture in a broader sense, including aspects beyond tomb architecture and security.

18. **A) 'a hour'** के बदले 'an hour' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'hour' शब्द की ध्वनि व्यंजन (Consonant) के बजाय स्वर (Vowel) से आरंभ होती है और जब कोई शब्द स्वर ध्वनि से शुरू होता है, तो 'a' के बजाय 'an' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— It is an honor to meet you.
- 'an hour' will be used instead of 'a hour' because the word 'hour' begins with a vowel sound, not a consonant sound, and when a word starts with a vowel sound, 'an' is used instead of 'a'; Like— It is an honor to meet you.
19. **A) 'had been entered'** के बदले 'had entered' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ Passive Voice की आवश्यकता नहीं है; जैसे— He had entered the competition.
- 'had entered' will be used instead of 'had been entered' because there is no need for Passive Voice here; Like— He had entered the competition.
20. **C) DAFBC**
- D.** Nature writing is nonfiction or fiction prose or poetry about the natural environment.
- A.** Nature writing encompasses a wide variety of works.
- F.** These works range from those that place primary emphasis on natural history facts to those in which philosophical interpretation predominates.
- E.** These include natural history essays, poetry, essays of solitude or escape, as well as travel and adventure writing.
- B.** Nature writing often draws heavily on scientific information and facts about the natural world.
- C.** At the same time, it is frequently written in the first person and incorporates personal observations and philosophical reflections upon nature.
21. **D) Red rag to a bull** (idiom) – is used to describe something that is sure to provoke or anger someone.
- In the Statement B, "For me, a person playing a double game is someone who specially provokes me," correctly applies this idiom by indicating that deceitful behavior acts as a direct provocation, similar to how a red rag incites a bull.
22. **D) Knowledge is Power** (proverb) – which means Knowledge has the ability to conquer the world
- The more you know, the more powerful you can be in different areas of your life.
23. **A) 'Blank 2'** सही जगह है क्योंकि यह वाक्य Athenian सरकार द्वारा Socrates के प्रति नाराजगी के बारे में बताता है और उसके बाद उन्होंने जो कार्रवाई की, उसका सीधा संबंध है। यह वाक्य बताता है कि Socrates को मृत्युदंड क्यों दिया गया, जो कि Athenian सरकार की नापसंदगी का परिणाम है।
- 'Blank 2' is the correct place because it directly follows the mention of the Athenian government's dislike for Socrates' methods, logically leading to the action they took against

him. This sentence explains why Socrates was sentenced to death, which is a direct consequence of the government's disapproval.

24. **A) No error**

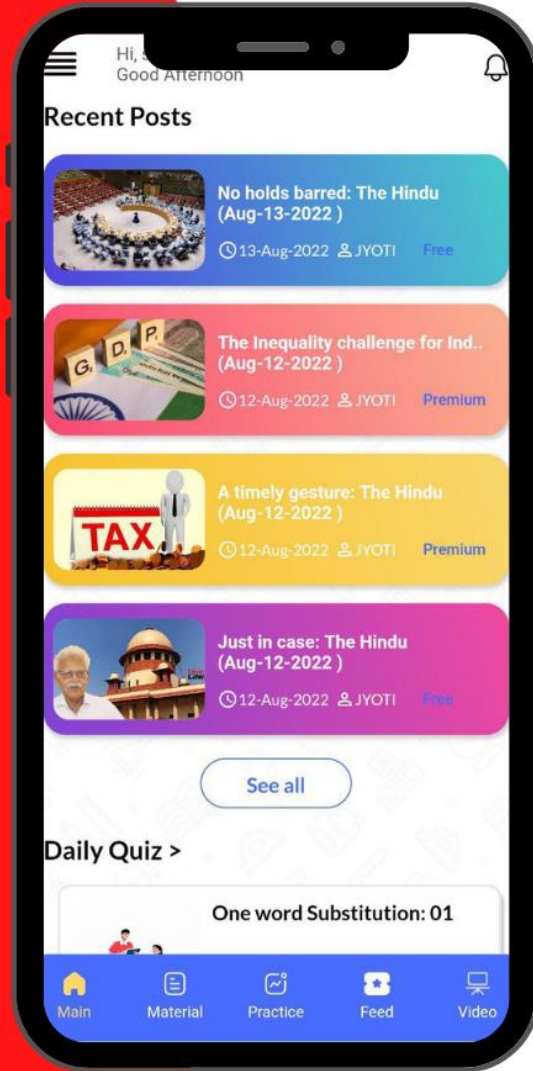
25. **C) Inertia** (noun) – The tendency to remain unchanged or to do nothing or to remain inactive.

It is a state of inactivity or lethargy, often in a physical or metaphorical sense. निष्क्रियता

**Synonym: Idleness** (noun) – The state of being idle; not being active or in use, laziness, inactivity. आलस्य

- **Ardour** (noun) – Great enthusiasm or passion. उत्साह
- **Zeal** (noun) – Great energy or enthusiasm in pursuit of a cause or an objective. जोश
- **Stamina** (noun) – The ability to sustain prolonged physical or mental effort. सहनशक्ति





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