

Not law, nor duty: On 'safe military jobs' and Indians in war zones

Indians are being **lured** into fighting another country's war

The **death** of a second Indian in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed, **is** proof of the **toll** the situation is **taking on** Indians who have been lured into working with the Russian military. The **story** of dozens of Indians **stuck at the frontlines** of the war — **it was broken** in a series of reports by The Hindu — **prompted** government agencies to **crack down on** recruiters in India this week, with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) **raiding** visa recruiters across India and filing cases against them for human **trafficking** and for **duping** people into travelling to Russia where they were **coerced** into dangerous jobs. Many of them were duped by online video advertisements that promised "safe jobs" with the military far from the frontlines, even indicating more **lucrative** jobs in the **neighbouring** European Schengen States. The MEA has now issued **advisories** and statements with appeals not to be "**swayed**" by such offers. After videos emerged of Indians **stationed** in areas seeing live action along the front between Russia and Ukraine in recently occupied territories, the government and India's Embassy in Moscow also said they are working with the Russian Army for early **discharges** to bring the Indians home.

The government's actions are much delayed and **cold comfort** to the families of the two men, from Surat and from Hyderabad, whose bodies are yet to be **repatriated**. Others have been seriously injured. What is most surprising is that the government has only spoken about the dangers of the Russian offers for military jobs now, when it is clear that the online ads and recruitments have been **taking place** for months. The government seems to have been made aware of the problem only after a Member of Parliament from Hyderabad wrote to the MEA in January, asking for **assistance** in bringing some of his **constituents** back. Since then, officials have given **vague** accounts of the numbers of those ("about 20") who may have already travelled to danger zones. Now, after the CBI raids, they have identified at least 35 men. **Accounts** from those in Russia **put** the number at well over 100. The government needs to explain why it has not been able to make the case to bring back all the men more forcefully with the Russian authorities, despite good relations with Moscow. It has also **dodged** questions on why it has simultaneously **green-lighted** a massive recruitment **drive** to Israel, another conflict zone. A more **structured, transparent** and **humane** approach will be required to make it clear, domestically, and to partners abroad, that Indian lives **matter**. The priority is to bring them home safely, but also to ensure that others are not put in harm's way, **driven** by the difficult economic situation **back home**.

[\[Audio Explanation\]](#)

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

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

Vocabulary

1. **Lure** (into) (verb) – Entice, attract, tempt, seduce, draw in आकर्षित करना/ लुभाना
2. **Take a toll on** (phrase) – Affect adversely, harm, damage, strain, wear down नुकसान पहुंचाना
3. **At the frontline** (phrase) – In the most advanced position, at the forefront, leading, in the vanguard सबसे आगे की स्थिति में
4. **Break the story** (phrase) – Reveal, disclose, uncover, expose, bring to light सामने लाना
5. **Prompt** (verb) – Incite, motivate, stimulate, provoke, trigger प्रेरित करना
6. **Crack down on** (phrase) – Take severe action against, clamp down on, suppress, put an end to सख्ती से निपटना
7. **Raid** (verb) – Attack, assault, invade, storm, strike छापा मारना
8. **Trafficking** (noun) – Illegal trade, smuggling, dealing, trading, commerce तस्करी
9. **Dupe** (verb) – Deceive, trick, fool, cheat, mislead धोखा देना
10. **Coerce** (into) (verb) – Force, compel, pressure, push, bully जबरदस्ती करना
11. **Lucrative** (adjective) – Profitable, gainful, remunerative, rewarding, worthwhile लाभदायक
12. **Neighbouring** (adjective) – Adjacent, nearby, adjoining, bordering, close पड़ोसी
13. **Advisory** (noun) – Guidance, recommendation, counsel, suggestion, advice सलाहकारी
14. **Sway** (verb) – Influence, persuade, convince, move, control प्रभावित करना
15. **Station** (verb) – Position, place, post, assign, locate तैनात करना
16. **Discharge** (noun) – the action of discharging someone from a hospital or from the armed forces or police. छुट्टी
17. **Cold comfort** (noun) – gives little or no comfort because situation is so difficult or unpleasant. झूठी तसल्ली
18. **Repatriate** (verb) – Send back, return, bring back, deport, extradite अपने देश को वापस भेजना
19. **Take place** (phrase) – Occur, happen, transpire, unfold, come about घटित होना
20. **Assistance** (noun) – Help, aid, support, assistance, backing सहायता
21. **Constituent** (noun) – Component, element, part, member, voter मतदाता

22. **Vague** (adjective) – Unclear, indefinite, indistinct, ambiguous, hazy अस्पष्ट
23. **Dodge** (verb) – Avoid, evade, elude, escape, sidestep टालना/ झाँसा देना
24. **Green-light** (verb) – Approve, authorize, permit, sanction, endorse अनुमति देना
25. **Drive** (noun) – Campaign, crusade, movement, effort, initiative अभियान
26. **Structured** (adjective) – Organized, arranged, systematic, ordered, planned संरचित
27. **Transparent** (adjective) – Clear, open, straightforward, candid, unambiguous पारदर्शी
28. **Humane** (adjective) – Compassionate, kind, considerate, sympathetic, benevolent मानवीय
29. **Matter** (verb) – Be important, be significant, count, mean something, have significance महत्वपूर्ण होना
30. **Drive** (verb) – Propel, push, force, impel, motivate प्रेरित करना
31. **Back home** (phrase) – In one's own country, domestically, in one's homeland, locally, nationally अपने देश में

Summary of the Editorial

- 1. Second Indian Death in Russia-Ukraine Conflict:** The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed the death of a second Indian in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, highlighting the dangers faced by Indians lured into working with the Russian military.
- 2. Government Crackdown on Recruiters:** Following reports of Indians stuck at the frontlines, government agencies, including the CBI, raided visa recruiters across India for human trafficking and duping people into dangerous jobs in Russia.
- 3. False Promises of "Safe Jobs":** Many Indians were duped by online advertisements promising "safe military jobs" far from the frontlines, with some ads even suggesting more lucrative jobs in European Schengen States.
- 4. MEA Advisories and Appeals:** The MEA issued advisories and appeals urging Indians not to be swayed by such offers, especially after videos emerged of Indians in live action areas between Russia and Ukraine.
- 5. Efforts for Early Discharges:** The government and India's Embassy in Moscow are working with the Russian Army to secure early discharges for the Indians involved.
- 6. Delayed Government Action:** The government's response is seen as delayed, providing little consolation to the families of the deceased whose bodies are yet to be repatriated, with others seriously injured.
- 7. Lack of Prior Warnings:** The government's warnings about the dangers of Russian military job offers came late, despite online ads and recruitments occurring for months.
- 8. Vague Official Accounts:** Officials have provided vague accounts of the numbers of Indians who may have traveled to danger zones, with estimates ranging from 20 to well over 100.
- 9. Questions on Government's Role:** There are questions about why the government has not been more forceful in bringing back all the men with the Russian authorities and why it has green-lighted a recruitment drive to Israel, another conflict zone.
- 10. Need for a Structured Approach:** A more structured, transparent, and humane approach is required to ensure the safety of Indian lives, both domestically and abroad.
- 11. Priority to Bring Them Home Safely:** The priority is to bring home Indians safely while ensuring that others are not put in harm's way due to economic situations back home.
- 12. International Relations and Safety:** The situation highlights the need for a balance between maintaining good international relations and ensuring the safety of citizens in conflict zones.
- 13. Economic Motivations:** The lure of better economic opportunities is driving Indians to take risky jobs in foreign conflict zones.
- 14. Government Responsibility:** The government is responsible for protecting its citizens abroad and providing clear warnings and assistance.
- 15. Humanitarian Concerns:** The situation underscores humanitarian concerns for Indian workers abroad and the need for international cooperation to ensure their safety.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the primary reason for the crackdown by government agencies on recruiters in India, as mentioned in the passage?** [Editorial page]
 - A. The recruiters were offering legitimate job opportunities in Russia, but the Indian government disagreed with their methods.
 - B. Many Indians were being lured into working with the Russian military under the guise of "safe jobs," leading to their involvement in the Russia-Ukraine conflict.
 - C. The Indian government is trying to strengthen its diplomatic ties with Russia by preventing Indians from working in the country.
 - D. Recruiters were providing accurate information about job opportunities in Russia, but the Indian government wanted to limit emigration.
2. **What steps has the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) taken in response to the situation of Indians being lured into fighting in the Russia-Ukraine conflict?**
 - A. The MEA has ignored the situation, leaving Indians in the conflict zone to fend for themselves.
 - B. The MEA has focused solely on diplomatic negotiations with Russia, without addressing the plight of the Indians involved.
 - C. The MEA has issued advisories and statements appealing to Indians not to be swayed by offers of "safe military jobs" in conflict zones.
 - D. The MEA has encouraged Indians to take up military jobs in Russia, stating that it is a good opportunity for career advancement.
3. **What can be inferred about the government's approach to dealing with the recruitment of Indians for military jobs in conflict zones?**
 - A. The government has a well-structured and transparent approach to dealing with such situations, ensuring the safety and well-being of its citizens.
 - B. The government has been proactive and forceful in its negotiations with foreign authorities to bring back Indian citizens from conflict zones.
 - C. The government's approach lacks transparency and urgency, as evidenced by its delayed response and vague accounts of the numbers involved.
 - D. The government is fully aware of the situation and has taken all necessary steps to prevent Indian citizens from being recruited for military jobs in conflict zones.
4. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Optimistic
 - B. Indifferent
 - C. Critical
 - D. Supportive
5. **What was the government's response to the dangers of the Russian offers for military jobs?**
 - A. The government immediately repatriated the bodies of the two men from Surat and Hyderabad and provided assistance to those injured.
 - B. The government spoke about the dangers of the Russian offers for military jobs only after a Member of Parliament from Hyderabad wrote to the MEA in January.
 - C. The government has been proactive in warning citizens about the online ads and recruitments for military jobs in Russia for several months.
 - D. The government has not acknowledged any issues related to the recruitment of Indians for military jobs in Russia.
6. **Select the correct conclusion based on the meaning of the underlined idiom:**

It should be one's avowed policy to keep the flatterers at arm's length.

Conclusion:

1. The farther a person stays from flatterers, the better it is.
 2. Having flatterers around boosts one's self-confidence.
 3. Flatterers are not true well-wishers and should be kept at bay.
 - A. Only 2 is correct
 - B. Both 1 and 3 are correct
 - C. Only 3 is correct
 - D. Both 2 and 3 are correct
7. Select the word that is closest in meaning (**SYNONYM**) to the word given below
Glib
- A. Lethargy
 - B. Implausible
 - C. Inarticulate
 - D. Easy
8. **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'.**
He had been led to his squad of commandos/ towards the target of a group of houses/ when he spotted enemy soldiers hiding in the houses.
- A. when he spotted enemy soldiers hiding in the houses.
 - B. towards the target of a group of houses
 - C. He had been led to his squad of commandos
 - D. No error
9. **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: It is also necessary to consider more meaningful aspects of literacy if we are to complete the transition we are in.
Literacy has traditionally been described as the ability to read and write.
____1____ UNESCO defines literacy as the ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate, compute and use printed and written materials associated with varying contexts. ____2____. Literacy involves enabling individuals to achieve their goals, to develop their knowledge and potential, and to participate fully in their community and wider society. ____3____. It is no longer sufficient to consider whether a student can 'read' and 'write'. ____4____.
1. Blank 1
 2. Blank 4
 3. Blank 2
 4. Blank 3
10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given proverb from the options**
People who live in glass houses should not throw stones
- A. Don't criticize someone if you're not perfect either; don't be a hypocrite
 - B. If someone whom I don't like doesn't like someone else whom I don't like, we can act like friends and unite against the other person (common in war)
 - C. People who wake up early or who get to places early have a better chance of success
 - D. The more you do something, the better you will become at it

11. 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 paragraph. Opening and Closing sentence indicate the start of the paragraph and end of the sentence paragraph.

Opening Sentence: Jane Goodall, a renowned primatologist and conservationist, was born on April 3, 1934, in London, England.

P. She spent several years living among chimpanzees, observing their behaviour and documenting social structures.

Q. Inspired by Goodall's work, many conservationists today continue to advocate for the protection of endangered species and their habitats.

R. Goodall's groundbreaking research on chimpanzees in Gombe Stream National Park, Tanzania, challenged existing scientific norms and expanded our understanding of primates.

S. In 1977, Goodall established the Jane Goodall Institute, dedicated to wildlife research, conservation, and community development.

Closing Sentence: Jane Goodall's contributions to primatology have left a lasting impact on the scientific community and conservation efforts worldwide.

- A. RQSP
B. RSPQ
C. SPQR
D. PRSQ
12. **Select the correct conclusion based on the meaning of the underlined word:**
Statement: The shopkeeper's gambit was to ask double the price.
Conclusion:
i. The shopkeeper was fined for selling inferior quality goods at half the price.
ii. Giving discounts on elevated prices is a clever plan intended to increase sales.
iii. Consumers complained against the shopkeeper for selling adulterated foodstuff at exorbitant prices.
iv. The announcement of an assured prize in the lucky draw was a risky action plan to gain advantage.
A. Only ii is correct
B. Both ii and iv are correct
C. Only iii is correct
D. Both i and iv are correct
13. **Select the correct conclusion based on the meaning of the underlined word:**
Statement: His false accusations caused indignation all around.
i. The indigenous population has suffered profound injustice.
ii. It has become a common practice to level allegations against the opposition parties.
iii. The unjust treatment meted out to soldiers caused shock and anger.
iv. He has fallen into the debt trap and is going through a phase of depression.
A. Both i and iv are correct
B. Only ii is correct
C. Both i and iii are correct
D. Only iii is correct
14. **Match the following groups of words with the correct one-word substitutions.**

| phrase | one-word substitution |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. to pay money to use a product or service regularly | a. ascribe |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| 2. to order treatment for someone | b. subscribe |
| 3. to put thoughts into written or printed form | c. prescribe |
| 4. to attribute a cause or characteristic to something | d. transcribe |

- A. 1-d, 2-a, 3-b, 4-c
 B. 1-b, 2-c, 3-d, 4-a
 C. 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d
 D. 1-c, 2-d, 3-a, 4-b
15. **Arrange the given sentences (1-6) in the correct order to form a coherent paragraph.**
1. And, since there were no enemies, it nested on the ground in complete safety.
 2. The goats ate the undergrowth which provided the dodo with cover; dogs and cats hunted and troubled the old bird.
 3. Dodo, the size of a goose, securely inhabited the island of Mauritius.
 4. The pigs and rats were not far behind who devoured the eggs and young ones, finishing off the feast.
 5. This bird had lost its power of flight since there were no enemies in the island to fly from.
 6. Then man discovered the dodos' paradise in around 1507 and with him came his familiars- dogs, cats, pigs, goats and rats.
- A. 351624
 B. 356241
 C. 312564
 D. 362451
16. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom**
- Make no bones about
- A. Someone who is unpredictable and can cause damage if not kept in check
 - B. Eventually, after a long period of time
 - C. To state a fact so there are no doubts or objections
 - D. Not willing to accept the ideas of others
17. **Select the word that is closest in meaning (SYNONYM) to the word given below**
- Malign**
- A. Evil
 - B. Radical
 - C. Nihilistic
 - D. Insurgent
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'.**
- A graduate of the University of Cincinnati, Stewart holds/ a bachelor's degree in German studies and/ a MBA in finance and international business.
- A. No error
 - B. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati, Stewart holds
 - C. a MBA in finance and international business.
 - D. a bachelor's degree in German studies and
19. **Which of the following statements correctly uses the idiom 'kicked up a row' by substituting the underlined words?**
- A. Even if we are not able to help our friends, we should not treat them coldly and formally.

- B. The machine operator created a big fuss when he was admonished for not following the instructions correctly.
- C. Success is important but not by resorting to unfair means.
- D. The brothers have been running around ever since they had a dispute over their land.
- A. Statement C
- B. Statement D
- C. Statement B
- D. Statement A
20. Select the word that is opposite in meaning (**ANTONYM**) to the word given below.
Incantation
- A. Reality
- B. Succession
- C. Liberal
- D. Abundant
21. **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'.**
She decided to take a break/ from work, while she needed/ some time to recharge and rejuvenate.
- A. No error
- B. She decided to take a break
- C. some time to recharge and rejuvenate.
- D. from work, while she needed
22. **In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. Select the correct option to fill in the blanks.**
Like all other good things in this world, leisure too can be used properly or ___1___ thoroughly. Most people do not know how to use their leisure simply because they get it so ___2___. Some people keep wondering what to do, but by the time they ___3___ to do something, it has already vanished. Others ___4___ around smoking, gossiping, backbiting and tearing reputations to the tiniest bits possible. Still others engage in ___5___ activities as window-shopping, watching senseless movies, playing computer games or chatting on mobile phones.
- A. 1-withered, 2-barely, 3-determine, 4-saunter, 5-noxious
- B. 1-famished, 2-seldom, 3-propose, 4-dawdle, 5-baleful
- C. 1-wasted, 2-readily, 3-decide, 4-loiter, 5-harmful
- D. 1-abused, 2-rarely, 3-resolve, 4-lounge, 5-baneful
23. **Match the following groups of words with the correct one-word substitutions.**

| phrase | one-word substitution |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. a person who deliberately sets fire to a building | A. Altrnist |
| 2. one who devotes one's life to the welfare of other people | B. bigot |
| 3. one who does not believe in the existence of God | C. arsonist |
| 4. one who has narrow and pre judiced religious views | D. atheist |

- A. 1-c, 2-a, 3-d, 4-b
- B. 1-d, 2-b, 3-c, 4-a

- C. 1-a, 2-c, 3-b, 4-d
D. 1-b, 2-d, 3-a, 4-c
24. **Four sentences are given below. Find the odd sentence out.**
A. The webs of spiders provide the most vivid examples of animal structures built entirely in tension.
B. Man has long used suspension bridges made of ropes of steel and concrete, which bear loads in tension.
C. Animals and birds are great builders, using simple materials but employing sound engineering principles.
D. Beavers are natural engineers that use tree branches to construct dams, the divided end being pressed into the walls.
A. sentence D
B. sentence A
C. sentence C
D. sentence B
25. **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'.**
He will have been being disheartened/ by the telephone opinion/ poll published yesterday.
A. He will have been being disheartened
B. No error
C. by the telephone opinion
D. poll published yesterday.

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. **B) Many Indians were being lured into working with the Russian military under the guise of "safe jobs," leading to their involvement in the Russia-Ukraine conflict.**

The passage clearly states that Indians were lured into working with the Russian military under false pretenses, leading to their involvement in the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Government agencies, including the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), have cracked down on recruiters for human trafficking and duping people into dangerous jobs. This indicates that the primary reason for the crackdown is to protect Indian citizens from being misled into risky situations.

2. **C) The MEA has issued advisories and statements appealing to Indians not to be swayed by offers of "safe military jobs" in conflict zones.**

According to the passage, the MEA has responded to the situation by issuing advisories and statements urging Indians not to be swayed by deceptive offers. This shows that the MEA is actively working to prevent further Indians from being misled into dangerous situations in conflict zones.

3. **C) The government's approach lacks transparency and urgency, as evidenced by its delayed response and vague accounts of the numbers involved.**

The passage suggests that the government's response to the issue has been delayed and that officials have given vague accounts of the numbers of Indians who may have already traveled to danger zones. This implies that the government's approach lacks transparency and urgency.

4. **C) Critical**

The tone of the passage is critical, as it criticizes the delayed response and lack of transparency of the government in addressing the situation of Indians being lured into fighting in another country's war.

5. **B) The government spoke about the dangers of the Russian offers for military jobs only after a Member of Parliament from Hyderabad wrote to the MEA in January.**

The passage states that the government's actions were delayed and that it only spoke about the dangers of the Russian offers for military jobs after a Member of Parliament from Hyderabad wrote to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in January, asking for assistance in bringing some of his constituents back.

6. **B) Both 1 and 3 are correct**

Keep (someone or something) at arm's length (idiom) – to avoid being very close to or friendly with someone or something किसी व्यक्ति या वस्तु के बहुत करीब या मित्रतापूर्ण होने से बचना
 It implies maintaining a cautious distance from flatterers to avoid negative influence or deceit.

7. **D) Glib** (adjective) – Fluent and voluble but insincere and shallow. चिकनी-चुपड़ी बातें करने वाला

Synonym: Easy (adjective) – Achieved without great effort; presenting few difficulties. आसान

- **Lethargy** (noun) – A lack of energy and enthusiasm. सुस्ती
- **Implausible** (adjective) – (Of an argument or statement) not seeming reasonable or probable; failing to convince. अविश्वसनीय
- **Inarticulate** (adjective) – Unable to speak distinctly or express oneself clearly. अस्पष्ट

8. **C) 'He had been led to his squad of commandos'** के बदले 'He had led his squad of commandos' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि क्रिया 'had been led' passive voice है जो सुझाव देती है कि वह नेतृत्व किए जा रहे थे, न कि वह नेतृत्व कर रहे थे, जो कि संदर्भ के अनुसार अनुपयुक्त है; जैसे— The general led his troops to victory.
- 'He had led his squad of commandos' will be used instead of 'He had been led to his squad of commandos' because the verb 'had been led' is in passive voice, suggesting that he was being led, not leading, which is inappropriate according to the context; Like— The general led his troops to victory.
9. **B) Blank 4** इस sentence के लिए सही है क्योंकि यहाँ लिटरेसी के आधुनिक आयामों की चर्चा के बाद, ट्रांजिशन की बात करना सार्थक लगता है। यह इंगित करता है कि सिर्फ पढ़ना और लिखना ही नहीं, बल्कि अधिक गहन पहलुओं को भी समझना जरूरी है।
- Blank 4 the most appropriate, as it smoothly transitions from discussing outdated views ("It is no longer sufficient to consider whether a student can 'read' and 'write'") to emphasizing the need for a broader perspective on literacy.
10. **A) Don't criticize someone if you're not perfect either; don't be a hypocrite**
This proverb means that one should not criticize others for faults that one also has. It highlights the importance of self-awareness and caution in judgment, emphasizing the hypocrisy in criticizing others when one is similarly flawed.
11. **D) PRSQ**
Option D (PRSQ) correctly sequences the information from detailing Goodall's hands-on research (P), highlighting the significance of her findings (R), expanding her influence through the establishment of an institute (S), to the broader impact of her work (Q). This sequence indeed creates a coherent narrative that flows logically from specific research activities to broader implications and contributions, aligning well with the opening and closing sentences provided.
12. **B) Both ii and iv are correct.**
Gambit (noun) – refers to a device, action, or opening remark, typically one entailing a degree of risk, that is calculated to gain an advantage.
- This conclusion suggests the shopkeeper was fined for selling inferior quality goods at half the price, which doesn't directly relate to the concept of a "gambit" as it implies a penalty for a different reason, not a strategic action for gain.
 - This matches the definition of a gambit well. The idea of asking for double the price could be seen as part of a larger strategy to offer discounts later, making it appear as though customers are receiving a better deal, thereby potentially increasing sales.
 - This conclusion involves complaints about selling adulterated foodstuff at exorbitant prices, which, while possibly unethical, doesn't directly relate to the strategic or risky nature of a gambit aimed at gaining advantage through pricing strategy alone.
 - Announcing an assured prize in a lucky draw as a risky action plan to gain advantage aligns with the concept of a gambit since it involves risk (the cost of the prize and the possibility it might not increase sales as intended) with the aim of gaining an advantage (attracting more customers).
13. **D) Only iii is correct**
Indignation (noun) – anger because something seems unfair or unreasonable रोष

Option i: This statement talks about injustice but does not directly relate to the feeling of "indignation" as described in the statement.

Option ii: This option talks about a practice of making allegations but does not directly relate to the feeling of "indignation."

Option iii: This directly correlates with the definition of "indignation," as it describes a reaction of shock and anger due to perceived unfair treatment.

Option iv: This option describes a situation of financial difficulty and depression, which is not directly related to "indignation."

14. **B) 1-b, 2-c, 3-d, 4-a**

- **Subscribe (verb)** – to pay money to use a product or service regularly. सदस्यता लेना
- **Ascribe (verb)** – to attribute a cause or characteristic to something. किसी चीज का कारण या विशेषता किसी को देना।
- **Prescribe (verb)** – to order treatment for someone. किसी के इलाज के लिए निर्देश देना।
- **Transcribe (verb)** – to put thoughts into written or printed form. विचारों को लिखित या मुद्रित रूप में डालना।

15. **A) 351624**

Sentence 3 introduces the dodo and its habitat.

Sentence 5 explains why the dodo lost its power of flight, which is a key characteristic related to its environment.

Sentence 1 builds on this by stating the dodo nested on the ground due to the absence of predators.

Sentence 6 introduces the arrival of humans and their animals, changing the dodo's environment.

Sentence 2 lists the consequences of these new arrivals on the dodo's habitat and survival.

Sentence 4 concludes with the impact on the dodo's eggs and young by the animals brought by humans.

16. **C) Make no bones about (idiom)** – To state a fact so there are no doubts or objections (किसी चीज़ के बारे में) बहुत आश्वस्त और निश्चित होना

17. **A) Malign (adjective)** – Harmful, malevolent, evil in nature or effect, showing ill will or hatred. दुर्भावनापूर्ण

Synonym: Evil (adjective) – Profoundly immoral and wicked, malevolent, harmful, or intending harm. बुराई

- **Radical (adjective)** – Relating to or affecting the fundamental nature of something; far-reaching or thorough. क्रांतिकारी
- **Nihilistic (adjective)** – Rejecting all religious and moral principles in the belief that life is meaningless. निराशावादी
- **Insurgent (noun/adjective)** – A rebel or revolutionary, someone who rises in opposition to an established government or authority. विद्रोही

18. **C) 'a MBA'** के बदले 'an MBA' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'MBA' एक vowel sound से शुरू होता है और English Grammar के अनुसार, यदि कोई शब्द vowel sound से शुरू होता है, तो उससे पहले 'an' का प्रयोग किया जाता है; जैसे— An MBA, An hour, An honor आदि।
- 'an MBA' will be used instead of 'a MBA' because 'MBA' begins with a vowel sound and according to English Grammar, if a word starts with a vowel sound, 'an' is used before it; Like— An MBA, An hour, An honor, etc.
19. **C) Statement B** - The machine operator created a big fuss when he was admonished for not following the instructions correctly.
- Kicked up a row** (idiom) - Created a big fuss बड़ा बवाल मचाया
20. **A) Incantation** (noun) – A series of words said as a magic spell or charm, meant to invoke supernatural effects. जादू का मंत्र
- Antonym: Reality** (noun) – The world or the state of things as they actually exist, as opposed to an idealistic or notional idea of them. वास्तविकता
- **Succession** (noun) – A number of people or things sharing a specified characteristic and following one after the other. उत्तराधिकार
 - **Liberal** (adjective) – Open to new behavior or opinions and willing to discard traditional values. उदार
 - **Abundant** (adjective) – Existing or available in large quantities; plentiful. प्रचुर
21. **D) 'while'** के बदले 'because' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर कारण बताया जा रहा है, न कि समय या परिस्थिति में विरोधाभास; जैसे— She decided to take a break from work, because she needed some time to recharge and rejuvenate.
- 'because' will be used instead of 'while' because the sentence is indicating a reason for taking a break, not a contrast or a specific time condition; Like— She decided to take a break from work, because she needed some time to recharge and rejuvenate.
22. **D) 1-abused, 2-rarely, 3-resolve, 4-lounge, 5-baneful**
- "Abused" का use होगा क्योंकि "abused" का अर्थ होता है गलत तरीके से या हानिकारक ढंग से उपयोग करना। passage में बताया गया है कि leisure का गलत उपयोग किया जा सकता है, इसलिए 'abused' यहाँ सही है। 'Withered', 'famished', और 'wasted' इस context में सही नहीं हैं क्योंकि वे respectively सूख जाना, भूखा होना, और बर्बाद करना का अर्थ रखते हैं।
- "Abused" should be used because it means to use something in a harmful or wrongful way. The passage implies that leisure can be misused, making 'abused' fitting here. 'Withered', 'famished', and 'wasted' don't fit the context as they mean shriveled, very hungry, and squandered, respectively.
- "Rarely" का use होगा क्योंकि "rarely" का अर्थ होता है दुर्लभ रूप से या शायद ही कभी। पैसेज कहता है कि लोगों को leisure मिलता ही इतना कम है कि वे इसका सही उपयोग करना नहीं जानते, इसलिए 'rarely' यहाँ उपयुक्त है। 'Barely', 'seldom', और 'readily' इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

• "Rarely" should be used because it means not often or seldom. The passage suggests that people get leisure so infrequently that they don't know how to use it properly, making 'rarely' appropriate here. 'Barely', 'seldom', and 'readily' are not correct in this context.

"Resolve" का use होगा क्योंकि "resolve" का अर्थ होता है दृढ़ निश्चय करना। पैसेज में कहा गया है कि लोग कुछ करने का निश्चय करते हैं, लेकिन समय निकल जाता है, इसलिए 'resolve' यहाँ उपयुक्त है। 'Determine', 'propose', और 'decide' इस context में उतने सटीक नहीं हैं।

• "Resolve" should be used because it means to decide firmly. The passage mentions that people take time to make a decision, but by then it's too late, making 'resolve' appropriate here. 'Determine', 'propose', and 'decide' are not as precise in this context.

"Lounge" का use होगा क्योंकि "lounge" का अर्थ होता है आराम से समय बिताना या बेफिक्री से घूमना। passage में लोगों के बेकार घूमने का जिक्र है, इसलिए 'lounge' सही विकल्प है। 'Saunter', 'dawdle', और 'loiter' भी समान अर्थ रखते हैं लेकिन 'lounge' इस context में अधिक उपयुक्त है।

• "Lounge" should be used because it means to spend time in a relaxed, leisurely manner. The passage describes people idly wandering, making 'lounge' the right choice. 'Saunter', 'dawdle', and 'loiter' also mean similar things, but 'lounge' is more fitting in this context.

"Baneful" का use होगा क्योंकि "baneful" का अर्थ होता है हानिकारक या विनाशकारी। passage में बताया गया है कि लोग हानिकारक गतिविधियों में समय बिताते हैं, इसलिए 'baneful' यहाँ सही विकल्प है। 'Noxious', 'baleful', और 'harmful' भी समान अर्थ रखते हैं लेकिन 'baneful' इस context में ज्यादा सटीक है।

• "Baneful" should be used because it means destructive or harmful. The passage indicates that people engage in harmful activities, making 'baneful' the correct choice. 'Noxious', 'baleful', and 'harmful' also carry similar meanings, but 'baneful' is more accurate in this context.

23. A) 1-c, 2-a, 3-d, 4-b

- **Arsonist** (noun) – a person who deliberately sets fire to a building or other property. आगजनी करने वाला
- **Altruist** (noun) – one who devotes their life to the welfare of other people, showing a selfless concern for the well-being of others. परोपकारी
- **Atheist** (noun) – one who does not believe in the existence of God. नास्तिक
- **Bigot** (noun) – a person who has narrow, prejudiced religious views, and who is intolerant toward those holding different opinions. कट्टरपंथी

24. D) Sentence B.

A. The webs of spiders provide the most vivid examples of animal structures built entirely in tension.

C. Animals and birds are great builders, using simple materials but employing sound engineering principles.

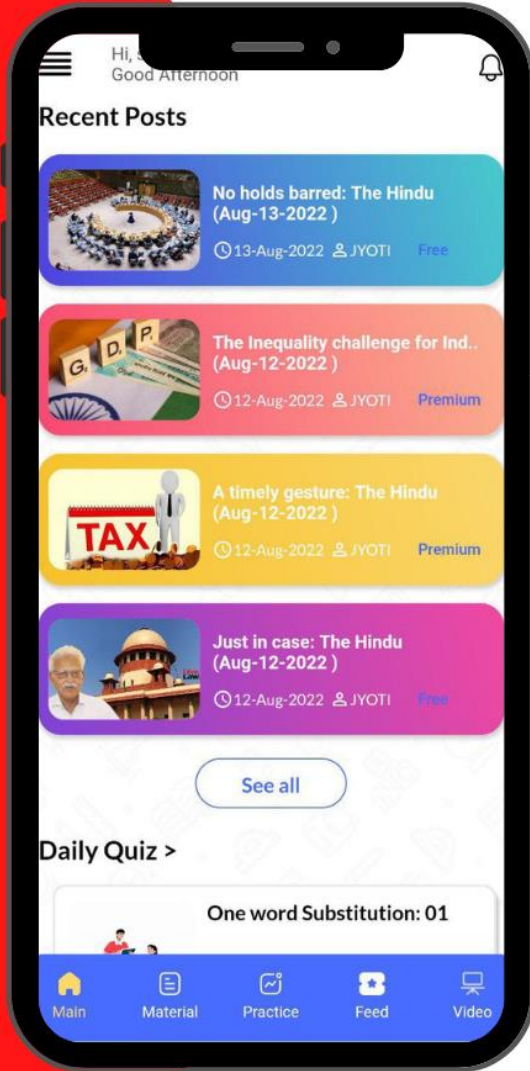
D. Beavers are natural engineers that use tree branches to construct dams, the divided end being pressed into the walls.

These sentences all describe how animals use engineering principles to construct structures.

B. Man has long used suspension bridges made of ropes of steel and concrete, which bear loads in tension.

This sentence is about human engineering, not animal engineering, making it the odd one out.

25. A) 'will have been being disheartened' के बदले 'will have been disheartened' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Future Perfect Continuous Tense में 'being' का प्रयोग नहीं होता; जैसे— He will have been disheartened by the telephone opinion poll published yesterday.
- 'will have been disheartened' will be used instead of 'will have been being disheartened' because 'being' is not used in the Future Perfect Continuous Tense; Like— He will have been disheartened by the telephone opinion poll published yesterday.



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