

Express View on attack on foreign students in Gujarat: Mob on campus

As the world is becoming increasingly interconnected,” says the National Education Policy (2020), it is the responsibility of institutes of higher education to “become active **promoters** of more peaceful, **tolerant**, inclusive, secure, and **sustainable** societies”.

The **attack** on five foreign students on Saturday night at Gujarat University in Ahmedabad by a mob, **reportedly** for offering namaz during Ramzan, flies in the face of that **commitment** and promise. In videos of the incident, about 25 young men can be seen **assaulting** the students, two of whom were hospitalised.

The **response** from the authorities **has** been **two-toned**. First, **dealing with** the crime itself, the **breach** of law and order on campus. Two people have been arrested and the Ministry of External Affairs has issued a statement saying it is in touch with the Gujarat government on the matter. The second response, unfortunately, appears to **lay blame on** the **victims**.

In the immediate aftermath of the attack, Vice-Chancellor Neerja Gupta has **assured** the foreign students — from Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan and African nations — that they will be moved to a different hostel. **That** this has become necessary for their safety **is** disturbing. But the VC’s words also appear to **rule out** the possibility of an **introspection** on how and why the students were attacked: “They are foreign students and when they go to foreign countries there is a need to be culturally sensitive.

From this incident it has emerged that there is still a need for **cultural orientation**.” The **onus** of being “culturally sensitive”, especially **in terms of** religious and cultural practices, **has** been put on the foreign students. It would seem, in this framing, that the **mob** that attacked them **has** been **let off** far too lightly.

The best universities in the world are spaces that, first and foremost, **foster** freedom. The **quality** of education they offer **depends** crucially on the **liberty** of thought and freedom of debate that they **play host to**. The mob and its violence **bring an end to** the free exchange of ideas and, **by extension**, the idea of the university. Gujarat University would do well to **heed** the advice of NEP 2020: To ensure “scientific **temper**, liberty, responsibility, **pluralism**, equality, and justice”, it is necessary to **nurture** a campus that has “full **equity** and inclusion as the **cornerstone** of all educational decisions”.

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where ‘red’ denotes ‘subject’ and ‘blue’ denotes ‘verb’. [\[Audio Explanation\]](#) [\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Vocabulary

1. **Mob** (noun) – Gang, crowd, horde, throng, mass भीड़
2. **Promoter** (noun) – Supporter, advocate, proponent, champion, backer समर्थक
3. **Tolerant** (adjective) – Open-minded, patient, forbearing, indulgent, lenient सहिष्णु
4. **Sustainable** (adjective) – Renewable, maintainable, supportable, viable, eco-friendly टिकाऊ
5. **Reportedly** (adverb) – Allegedly, supposedly, purportedly, rumoured, according to reports कथित तौर पर
6. **Fly in the face of** (phrase) – To go against or oppose a generally accepted idea or principle आमतौर पर स्वीकृत विचार या सिद्धांत के खिलाफ जाना
7. **Commitment** (noun) – Dedication, devotion, allegiance, loyalty, obligation प्रतिबद्धता
8. **Assault** (verb) – Attack, strike, assail, batter, aggress हमला करना
9. **Two-toned** (adjective) – Having two different shades or colors
10. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – Handle, manage, tackle, address, cope with निपटना
11. **Breach** (noun) – Violation, infringement, infraction, transgression, breach of contract उल्लंघन
12. **Lay blame on** (phrase) – To attribute fault or responsibility to someone or something दोषारोपण करना
13. **Victim** (noun) – Sufferer, casualty, injured party, loser, prey पीड़ित
14. **In the aftermath of** (phrase) – Following an event, especially a negative or significant one किसी घटना के बाद, विशेष रूप से एक नकारात्मक या महत्वपूर्ण घटना
15. **Assure** (verb) – Guarantee, promise, certify, ensure, confirm आश्वासन देना
16. **Introspection** (noun) – Self-examination, reflection, contemplation, soul-searching, self-analysis आत्मनिरीक्षण
17. **Cultural orientation** (noun) – The process of learning and adapting to a new culture सांस्कृतिक दिशानिर्देशन
18. **Onus** (noun) – Responsibility, obligation, duty, burden, liability दायित्व
19. **In terms of** (phrase) – With regard to, regarding, concerning, in relation to के संदर्भ में
20. **Let off** (phrasal verb) – Excuse, pardon, acquit, absolve, exonerate माफ करना

21. **Foster** (verb) – Encourage, promote, nurture, cultivate, develop प्रोत्साहित करना
22. **Liberty** (noun) – Freedom, independence, autonomy, rights, free will स्वतंत्रता
23. **Play host to** (phrase) – To accommodate, entertain, welcome, receive, provide for अतिथियों या आयोजनों को आवास या मनोरंजन प्रदान करना
24. **Bring an end to** (phrase) – Terminate, conclude, finish, cease, halt समाप्त करना
25. **By extension** (phrase) – Consequently, as a result, therefore, thus, hence परिणामस्वरूप ; अतिरिक्त रूप से
26. **Heed** (verb) – Pay attention to, take notice of, listen to, consider, regard ध्यान देना
27. **Scientific temper** (noun) – The attitude of logical and rational thinking वैज्ञानिक मानसिकता
28. **Pluralism** (noun) – Diversity, multiplicity, variety, coexistence, inclusiveness बहुलवाद
29. **Nurture** (verb) – Cultivate, cherish, encourage, foster, develop, विकसित करना
30. **Equity** (noun) – Fairness, justice, impartiality, evenhandedness, equality समानता
31. **Cornerstone** (noun) – Foundation, basis, keystone, bedrock, underpinning आधार

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Global Responsibility:** The National Education Policy (2020) emphasizes the role of higher education institutes in promoting peaceful, tolerant, inclusive, secure, and sustainable societies.
2. **Incident in Gujarat:** Five foreign students were attacked by a mob at Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, for reportedly offering namaz during Ramzan.
3. **Mob Assault:** Videos show around 25 young men assaulting the students, two of whom were hospitalized.
4. **Authorities' Response:** Two arrests were made, and the Ministry of External Affairs is in contact with the Gujarat government regarding the incident.
5. **Victim Blaming:** The response from authorities seems to lay some blame on the victims, suggesting they should have been culturally sensitive.
6. **Safety Measures:** Foreign students from various countries will be moved to a different hostel for their safety.
7. **Lack of Introspection:** There seems to be no introspection on how and why the attack occurred, with the focus on the foreign students' need for cultural orientation.
8. **Cultural Sensitivity:** The onus of being culturally sensitive has been placed on the foreign students, seemingly absolving the mob.
9. **Freedom in Universities:** The best universities foster freedom of thought and debate, crucial for quality education.
10. **Impact of Mob Violence:** The mob's violence undermines the free exchange of ideas and the core idea of the university.
11. **NEP 2020 Advice:** Gujarat University is advised to ensure scientific temper, liberty, responsibility, pluralism, equality, and justice by nurturing an inclusive campus.
12. **Equity and Inclusion:** The university should make all educational decisions with equity and inclusion as the cornerstone.
13. **Contradiction to Commitment:** The attack contradicts the commitment to creating tolerant and inclusive societies as stated in NEP 2020.
14. **Global Perspective:** The incident highlights the need for a global perspective in handling cultural diversity and sensitivities.
15. **Call for Action:** There is a need for concrete actions to prevent such incidents and promote a safe and inclusive environment for all students.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage regarding the attack on foreign students at Gujarat University?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. Indignant
 - B. Sympathetic
 - C. Neutral
 - D. Optimistic
2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The importance of cultural sensitivity in educational institutions
 - B. The role of higher education institutes in promoting peaceful and inclusive societies
 - C. The challenge of ensuring freedom and safety on university campuses
 - D. The impact of mob violence on the quality of education
3. **From the passage, it can be inferred that all of the following are true about the response of the authorities to the attack on foreign students at Gujarat University EXCEPT that:**
 - A. The authorities have arrested two individuals in connection with the breach of law and order on campus.
 - B. The response from the authorities appears to lay blame on the victims for not being culturally sensitive.
 - C. The Vice-Chancellor has assured the foreign students that they will be moved to a different hostel for their safety.
 - D. The Ministry of External Affairs has remained silent on the issue and has not issued any statements regarding the attack.
4. **Which one of the following statements best summarizes the author's position on the attack on foreign students at Gujarat University?**
 - A. The author believes that the attack is a result of the foreign students' lack of cultural sensitivity and the authorities' response has been appropriate.
 - B. The author is critical of the attack and the authorities' response, highlighting the need for educational institutions to promote more peaceful, tolerant, and inclusive societies.
 - C. The author suggests that the attack is an isolated incident and does not reflect the general attitude of the society or the educational institution.
 - D. The author focuses on the legal aspects of the attack, emphasizing the importance of law and order on campus and the effectiveness of the authorities' actions.
5. **Identify whether the given statements are true or false based on the passage.**
 - (i) The National Education Policy (2020) emphasizes the need for cultural orientation for foreign students to ensure their safety and integration.
 - (ii) The passage suggests that the responsibility for preventing such attacks lies solely with the foreign students, who must be more culturally sensitive.
 - A. i is true and ii is false.
 - B. i is false and ii is true.
 - C. Neither i nor ii is true.
 - D. Both i and ii are true.

6. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**
Ishita will playing Tennis for her favourite team
A. will playing
B. Tennis for
C. her favourite team
D. Ishita
7. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
He apologised in her silently before he pushed deeper into her thoughts.
A. apologise in her
B. apologised with her
C. apologised of her
D. apologised to her
8. **Select the correctly spelt word.**
A. Behavior
B. Behavier
C. Behaviour
D. Behaveor
9. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.
Obvious
A. Clear
B. Murky
C. Ambiguous
D. Opaque
10. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given **idiom**.
As phony as a three-dollar bill
A. Something that is attractive
B. Something that is genuine
C. Something that is disgusting
D. Something that is fake
11. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
They are going to give me a lovely present, but I cannot _____ what it will be.
A. give
B. gist
C. guess
D. Guest
12. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word
A. Important
B. Maintanance
C. Friend
D. Rhythm

13. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.
Determined
A. Flexible
B. Famous
C. Decisive
D. Elevated
14. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the underlined word.
Ray was cynical about love.
A. prolific
B. obese
C. trusting
D. Pessimistic
15. **Select the option that rectifies the spelling of the underlined word in the given sentence.**
The company sent out a questionaire to its employees to gather feedback on their work environment.
A. questioneire
B. questionnaire
C. questionnire
D. Questionaiare
16. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.
A person who feeds on human flesh
A. Cannibal
B. Carnivore
C. Nudge
D. Omnivore
17. **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'.**
Larger emissions of greenhouse gases lead to higher concentrations in the atmosphere.
A. led to higher concentrations
B. have led to higher concentrations
C. is lead to higher concentrations
D. No substitution required
18. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined **idiom**.
Ramesh always blows his own trumpet
A. praises himself
B. criticises himself
C. does his own work
D. depends on others
19. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined **idiom**.
He was on cloud nine when he got admission in Cambridge University
A. involved in useless journey
B. very happy

- C. unsettled
 - D. available to be called to go to work
20. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.
An examination of a body after death
- A. Post room
 - B. Post death
 - C. Post partum
 - D. Post mortem

Comprehension:

In the following passage some words have been deleted. Fill in the blanks with the help of the alternatives given. Select the most appropriate option for each number.

One of the (1) _____ tragedies is seeing someone with incredible talent get (2) _____ because he or she lacks some basic skills. This book (3) _____ the number one reason executives derail, and it provides extremely helpful tools to operate in a fast-paced, result oriented environment. I am impressed by how insightful, (4) _____, well organised and focused it is. It will surely help one (5) _____ several difficult situations

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
- A. more great
 - B. great
 - C. greater
 - D. Greatest
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
- A. uplifted
 - B. damaged
 - C. derailed
 - D. Channelized
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
- A. demeans
 - B. devours
 - C. addresses
 - D. Neglects
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
- A. sophisticated
 - B. pessimistic
 - C. cumbersome
 - D. Readable
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5**
- A. condemn
 - B. salvage
 - C. reject
 - D. discourage

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. A) Indignant

The tone of the passage is indignant, which is evident from the criticism of the attack on foreign students and the authorities' response. The author expresses strong disapproval of the mob's actions and the lack of adequate response from the university and government authorities. The use of phrases like "flies in the face of that commitment," "disturbing," and "let off far too lightly" conveys a tone of anger and disapproval

2. C) The challenge of ensuring freedom and safety on university campuses

The main theme of the passage is the challenge of ensuring freedom and safety on university campuses. The passage discusses the attack on foreign students at Gujarat University and the response of the authorities, highlighting the importance of providing a safe and inclusive environment for all students. The author emphasizes that the quality of education depends on the liberty of thought and freedom of debate, which are compromised by incidents of violence.

3. D) The passage states that the Ministry of External Affairs has issued a statement saying it is in touch with the Gujarat government on the matter, which contradicts option D. The other options are supported by the passage: the authorities have arrested two individuals (A), the Vice-Chancellor has assured the students of their safety (C), and the response appears to blame the victims (B).

4. B) The author is critical of the attack and the authorities' response, highlighting the need for educational institutions to promote more peaceful, tolerant, and inclusive societies.

The author's position is critical of both the attack and the authorities' response. The passage emphasizes the importance of educational institutions promoting peaceful, tolerant, and inclusive societies, which is reflected in option B. The author does not suggest that the attack is due to the students' lack of cultural sensitivity (A), nor do they suggest it is an isolated incident (C). The focus is not solely on the legal aspects (D), but on the broader implications for educational institutions and society.

5. A) i is true and ii is false.

Statement i is true as the passage mentions the National Education Policy (2020) and highlights the need for cultural orientation following the attack on foreign students, implying that such orientation is necessary for their safety and integration. Statement ii is false because, while the passage does mention the need for foreign students to be culturally sensitive, it also criticizes the framing that puts the onus solely on the students and suggests that the attackers have been let off too lightly. Therefore, it does not suggest that the responsibility for preventing attacks lies solely with the foreign students.

6. A) **'will play'** का प्रयोग होगा 'will playing' के बदले क्योंकि 'will' के साथ base form of the verb आता है।
- **'will play'** will be used instead of 'will playing' because with 'will' we use the base form of the verb.
7. D) **'apologised in her'** के बदले 'apologised to her' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि जब हम किसी के प्रति माफी मांगते हैं तो 'to' का उपयोग होता है।
- **'apologised to her'** will be used instead of 'apologised in her' because when we apologize to someone, we use 'to'.
8. C) The correct spelling of the word is **'Behaviour'**. व्यवहार
9. A) **Obvious** (adjective) – Easily perceived or understood, clear, self-evident, unmistakable. स्पष्ट
Synonym: **Clear** (adjective) – Easy to perceive, understand, or interpret, unambiguous, transparent. स्पष्ट
- **Murky** (adjective) – Dark and dirty or difficult to see through, unclear, cloudy. अस्पष्ट
 - **Ambiguous** (adjective) – Open to more than one interpretation, not clear, vague, uncertain. अस्पष्ट
 - **Opaque** (adjective) – Not able to be seen through, not transparent, unclear, non-transparent. अपारदर्शी
10. D) **As phony as a three-dollar bill** (idiom) – Something that is fake नकली
11. C) **'guess'** का use होगा क्योंकि "guess" का अर्थ होता है अनुमान लगाना या प्रश्न का जवाब देने की कोशिश करना बिना पूरी जानकारी हो। sentence में mention किया गया है कि वह मुझे एक सुंदर उपहार देंगे, पर मैं अनुमान नहीं लगा सकता कि यह क्या होगा, इसलिए 'guess' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'give' का अर्थ है देना, 'gist' का अर्थ होता है सार, और 'Guest' का अर्थ होता है मेहमान, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'guess'** should be used because it means to estimate or try to answer a question without having all the information. The sentence mentions that they are going to give a present, but the receiver doesn't know what it will be, making 'guess' fitting here. Whereas, 'give' means to provide, 'gist' means the main idea or essence, and 'Guest' means a visitor, which don't fit in this context.
12. B) The INCORRECTLY spelt word among the given options is **'Maintanance'**. The correct spelling is 'Maintenance' रखरखाव,
13. C) **Determined** (adjective) – Having made a firm decision and being resolved not to change it, resolute, unwavering. ठान लिया हुआ

Synonym: **Decisive** (adjective) – Settling an issue or producing a definite result, resolute, conclusive. निर्णायक

- **Flexible** (adjective) – Capable of bending easily without breaking, adaptable, pliable. लचीला
- **Famous** (adjective) – Known about by many people, renowned, celebrated, well-known. प्रसिद्ध
- **Elevated** (adjective) – Raised up, especially above the ground or above a normal position, heightened, lifted. उन्नत

14. D) **Cynical** (adjective) – Believing that people are motivated purely by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity. निंदक

Synonym: **Pessimistic** (adjective) – Expecting the worst possible outcome; negative, bleak. निराशावादी

- **Prolific** (adjective) – Producing many works, results, or crops; fruitful, productive. उत्पादक
- **Obese** (adjective) – Overweight in a way that is unhealthy; fat, corpulent. मोटा
- **Trusting** (adjective) – Ready to trust, often without basis or evidence; believing, confident. विश्वासपात्र

15. B) The correct spelling of 'questionaire' is 'questionnaire' प्रश्नावली।

16. A) **Cannibal** (noun) – A person who feeds on human flesh मांसभक्षी

- **Carnivore** (noun) – An animal that feeds on flesh मांसाहारी प्राणी
- **Nudge** (noun) – A gentle push or prod, usually with the elbow, to get someone's attention or to prompt action. संकेत
- **Omnivore** (noun) – An animal or person that eats both plant and animal food सर्वाहारी

17. D) No correction required

18. A) **Blows his own trumpet** (idiom) – praises himself अपनी तारीफ़ करना

19. B) **on cloud nine** (idiom) – very happy बहुत खुश

20. D) **Post mortem** (noun) – An examination of a body after death मृत्यु परीक्षण

- **Post room** (noun) – A room in a large organization where mail is received and sorted for distribution. पोस्ट कक्ष
- **Post death** (phrase) – Referring to the period or events after death. मृत्यु पश्चात
- **Post partum** (adjective) – Relating to the period following childbirth. प्रसवोत्तर

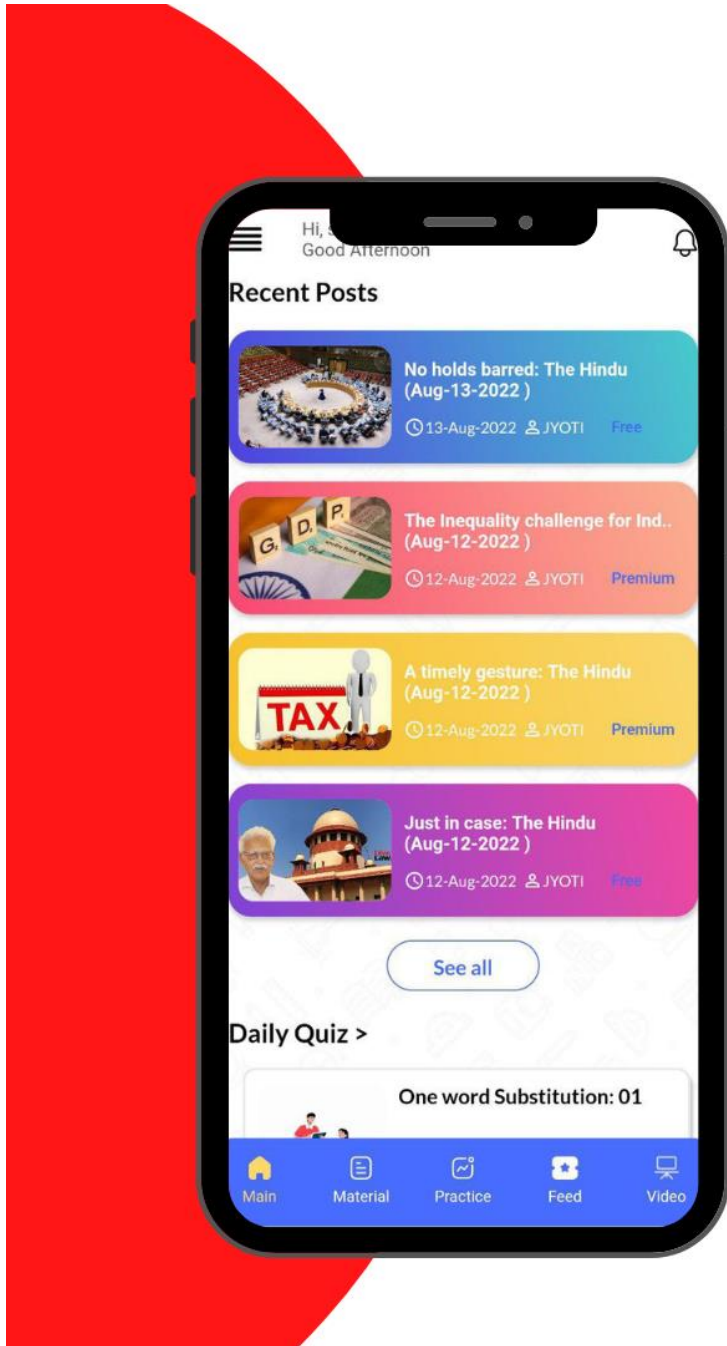
21. D) **Greatest**' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर बात हो रही है किसी विशेष प्रकार की दुखद घटना की जो किसी के अद्वितीय प्रतिभा को देखते हुए होती है। इस context में 'Greatest' सबसे उपयुक्त है क्योंकि यह एक विशेष घटना को highlight कर रहा है। 'more great' और 'greater' का use तुलना में होता है और 'great' यहाँ उत्तम नहीं है क्योंकि हम एक विशेष प्रकार की सबसे अधिक दुखद घटना की बात कर रहे हैं।
- **'Greatest'** should be used because the context talks about a particular kind of sad event seeing someone with unique talent. In this context, 'Greatest' is the most appropriate as it highlights a particular event. 'more great' and 'greater' are used in comparisons, and 'great' isn't optimal here since we are talking about a particularly most tragic event.
22. C) **'Derailed'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'derailed' का अर्थ होता है रास्ता से भटक जाना या विफल हो जाना। Sentence में जिस प्रकार से यह बताया गया है कि किसी के पास प्रतिभा होते हुए भी वह अगर कुछ basic skills में कमी पाता है तो वह विफल हो सकता है, इसलिए 'derailed' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Uplifted' का अर्थ है उत्थान, 'Damaged' का अर्थ है नुकसान पहुँचाना, और 'Channelized' का अर्थ है निर्देशित करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Derailed'** should be used because it means to go off track or fail. The way it's described in the sentence that even with talent, if someone lacks certain basic skills, they can fail, makes 'derailed' fitting here. Whereas, 'Uplifted' means to elevate, 'Damaged' means to harm, and 'Channelized' means to direct or guide, which don't fit in this context.
23. C) **Addresses**' का use होगा क्योंकि "addresses" का अर्थ होता है किसी समस्या या मुद्दे को स्पष्टता से उल्लेख करना या समाधान की दिशा में काम करना। इस book की बारे में बताया जा रहा है कि यह executives के derail होने के प्रमुख कारण को address करता है, इसलिए 'addresses' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Demeans' का अर्थ है अपमान करना, 'Devours' का अर्थ है तेजी से खाना या समाप्त कर देना, और 'Neglects' का अर्थ है उपेक्षा करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **Addresses**' should be used because it means to deal with or discuss a particular topic or issue. The passage is talking about a book that addresses the primary reason executives fail, making 'addresses' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Demeans' means to degrade or belittle, 'Devours' means to consume rapidly or greedily, and 'Neglects' means to ignore or pay no attention to, which don't fit in this context.
24. D) **Readable**' का use होगा क्योंकि "readable" का अर्थ होता है आसानी से पढ़ा जा सकने वाला या समझने में सुलभ। Sentence में किताब की प्रशंसा की जा रही है और उसकी समझ में आने वाली गुणवत्ता को हाइलाइट किया जा रहा है, इसलिए 'readable' यहाँ सही है। जबकि

'Sophisticated' का अर्थ है जटिल या 'Sophisticated', 'Pessimistic' का अर्थ है नकारात्मक सोच वाला, और 'Cumbersome' का अर्थ है भारी या कठिन, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Readable'** should be used because it means easy to read or understand. The sentence is praising the book and highlighting its comprehensible quality, making 'readable' fitting here. Whereas, 'Sophisticated' implies complex or refined, 'Pessimistic' means having a negative outlook, and 'Cumbersome' means unwieldy or difficult, which don't fit in this context.

25. B) **'Salvage'** का use होगा क्योंकि "salvage" का अर्थ होता है मुश्किल स्थितियों में किसी चीज को बचाना या सुधारना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि यह किताब किसी को मदद करेगी, इसलिए 'salvage' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Condemn' का अर्थ है आलोचना करना, 'Reject' का अर्थ है अस्वीकार करना, और 'Discourage' का अर्थ है हिम्मत हारना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Salvage'** should be used because it means to save or repair something in a difficult situation. The sentence suggests that the book will assist someone, making 'salvage' the correct choice here. Whereas, 'Condemn' means to criticize, 'Reject' means to decline, and 'Discourage' implies a lack of encouragement or hope, which don't fit in this context.



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