

Student suicides — a cry for help that must be heeded

The **alleged death** by suicide of at least seven students, six of them girls, in different parts of Telangana after the declaration of intermediate (equivalent of Classes XI and XII) results **is** another **grim reminder** that despite several **progressive** interventions in recent years, much work needs to be done to **alleviate** the **anxieties** of the country's youth. The Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education had arranged for counsellors for students in junior colleges to **deal with** exam-related stress. State government representatives had also asked students to not be **dejected** by **adverse** results and make use of the supplementary examinations. However, **the loss** of young lives **speaks of** serious **systemic shortcomings** that cannot be **mitigated** by **reaching out** to students just before the examinations.

Year after year NCRB data has provided significant **pointers** about the stress faced by students. In 2022 according to the Bureau, over 13,044 Indian students ended their lives — 7.6 per cent of the total suicide **fatalities** in that year. The data shows a 70 per cent increase in the number of students who took their lives in the last **decade**. Suicidal behaviour is, of course, the **culmination** of several factors. It's no secret, however, that competition pressures and burdens of parental expectations **take a toll on** the **well-being** of students — this is especially so because today, more than ever before, **diverse** sections of people see academic excellence as a ticket to a better life. Schools, too, are **harbingers** of the competitive mentality and teachers push their **wards** to higher levels of performance. This routine **disincentivises** a child from searching for meaning in what is taught, encourages **rote learning** and pushes the young to coaching centres where the demands are even more punishing. Instead of being **empathetic** tests of the student's aptitude, examinations continue to be **purveyors** of a **ruthless elimination** system that **dehumanises** the learners and **drives** many of those who fail to **make the cut** to **despondency**. Designing flexible **evaluation mechanisms** for school goers, **one** of the objectives of NEP, 2020, **is** at an early stage. The **endeavour** requires greater urgency.

Emotional well-being is a key part of the NEP's **thrust on** creating an **enabling** atmosphere for students. However, most schools today aren't **equipped** to recognise a cry for help. **Round-the-year** support **systems** that enhance the **resilience** and **coping** skills of students — especially those from **marginalised** communities — **are** extremely rare in the Indian school-education **landscape**. Educationists have also emphasised the importance of counseling parents and teachers. For long, it has been clear that the **grueling** system does not prepare the student for the country's economic realities. At the same time, the **expansion** of the economic **pie hasn't kept pace with** the rise in aspirations. The **manifestos** of most political parties in the ongoing elections **seem** to be **cognisant** of this **deficit**. The urgent task after June 4 will be to translate words into action and make sure that the system doesn't fail its young.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Cry for** (phrasal verb) – Call for, plead for, demand, request, beg for गुहार लगाना
2. **Heed** (verb) – Pay attention to, consider, take notice of, observe, listen to ध्यान देना
3. **Alleged** (adjective) – Supposed, claimed, purported, asserted, presumed कथित
4. **Grim** (adjective) – Bleak, harsh, severe, stern, forbidding निराशाजनक
5. **Reminder** (noun) – Prompt, notice, warning, memorandum, cue अनुस्मारक
6. **Progressive** (adjective) – Forward-thinking, liberal, advanced, modern, progressive प्रगतिशील
7. **Alleviate** (verb) – Reduce, ease, relieve, lessen, diminish कम करना
8. **Anxiety** (noun) – Worry, nervousness, unease, apprehension, tension चिंता
9. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – Manage, handle, cope with, tackle, address से निपटना
10. **Deject** (verb) – Discourage, dishearten, depress, demoralize, dispirit निराश करना
11. **Adverse** (adjective) – Unfavorable, negative, detrimental, harmful, hostile प्रतिकूल
12. **Systemic** (adjective) – relating to or involving a whole system प्रणालीगत
13. **Shortcoming** (noun) – Flaw, defect, weakness, limitation, fault कमियों
14. **Mitigate** (verb) – Lessen, alleviate, reduce, diminish, soften कम करना
15. **Reach out** (phrasal verb) – Extend, offer help, make contact, communicate, approach संपर्क करना
16. **Pointer** (noun) – Indication, hint, clue, suggestion, sign संकेत
17. **Fatality** (noun) – Death, casualty, mortality, lethal outcome, loss of life मृत्यु
18. **Decade** (noun) – Period of ten year दशक
19. **Culmination** (noun) – Climax, peak, pinnacle, apex, culmination चरम सीमा
20. **Take a toll on** (phrase) – Affect adversely, cause suffering, damage, wear out, burden नुकसान पहुंचाना
21. **Well-being** (noun) – Health, welfare, happiness, good health, prosperity कल्याण
22. **Diverse** (adjective) – Varied, various, different, diverse, assorted विविध
23. **Harbinger** (noun) – Forerunner, precursor, herald, sign, indicator अग्रदूत/ सूचक
24. **Ward** (noun) – a person, especially a child, who is legally put under the protection of a

- law court or a guardian संरक्षण में रहनेवाला नाबालिग
25. **Disincentivise** (verb) – Discourage, deter, dissuade, put off, demotivate प्रोत्साहन कम करना
26. **Rote learning** (noun) – Memorization, repetition, drill, mechanical learning, learning by heart रटने की विधि
27. **Empathetic** (adjective) – Understanding, compassionate, sympathetic, sensitive, perceptive सहानुभूतिपूर्ण
28. **Purveyor** (noun) – Supplier, provider, seller, distributor, dealer आपूर्तिकर्ता
29. **Ruthless** (adjective) – Merciless, cruel, heartless, harsh, severe निर्दयी/ क्रूर
30. **Elimination** (noun) – Removal, exclusion, expulsion, eradication, dismissal उन्मूलन
31. **Dehumanise** (verb) – Degrade, depersonalize, brutalize, debase, demean अमानवीकृत करना
32. **Drive** (verb) – Propel, push, force, impel, motivate प्रेरित करना
33. **Make the cut** (phrase) – To succeed at something or meet a requirement मानक पूरा करना
34. **Despondency** (noun) – Depression, despair, hopelessness, gloom, melancholy निराशा
35. **Evaluation** (noun) – Assessment, appraisal, analysis, examination, review मूल्यांकन
36. **Mechanism** (noun) – Procedure, system, process, method, means तंत्र
37. **Endeavour** (noun) – Effort, attempt, try, venture, undertaking प्रयास
38. **Thrust** (on) (noun) – Emphasis, focus, priority, importance, force जोर
39. **Enabling** (adjective) – Empowering, facilitating, permitting, allowing, authorizing सक्षम करना
40. **Equip** (to) (verb) – Prepare, furnish, provide, supply, arm तैयार करना
41. **Round-the-year** (adjective) – All year round, throughout the year, continuously, perennially वर्षभर
42. **Resilience** (noun) – Toughness, strength, flexibility, adaptability, hardiness लचीलापन
43. **Cope** (verb) – Manage, survive, handle, deal with, contend सामना करना
44. **Marginalised** (adjective) – Disadvantaged, oppressed, peripheral, neglected, sidelined दरकिनार कर दिया गया

45. **Landscape** (noun) – Environment, scenario, context, setting, backdrop
परिदृश्य

46. **Gruelling** (adjective) – Exhausting, demanding, arduous, tough, strenuous
कठिन

47. **Expansion** (noun) – Growth, enlargement, extension, development, increase
विस्तार

48. **Pie** (noun) – Share, portion, part, allocation, piece
हिस्सा

49. **Keep pace with** (phrase) – Match, keep up with, stay abreast, maintain speed with
के साथ तालमेल रखना

50. **Manifesto** (noun) – Platform, declaration, proclamation, announcement, statement
घोषणापत्र

51. (be) **cognisant** (of) (adjective) – Aware, conscious, knowing, informed, mindful
जानकार

52. **Deficit** (noun) – Shortfall, deficiency, lack, shortage, inadequacy
कमी

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Summary of the Editorial

1. **Disturbing Trend:** The recent suicides of seven students in Telangana following intermediate exam results highlight ongoing mental health crises among youth.
2. **Gender Disparity:** Notably, six of the seven students who died by suicide were girls, indicating a possible gender-related aspect in the stress experienced by students.
3. **Institutional Support:** Despite the Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education providing counselors and the government urging students not to despair over poor results, systemic issues remain unaddressed.
4. **National Crisis:** Data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for 2022 shows a 70% increase in student suicides over the past decade, with 13,044 students taking their lives, representing 7.6% of all suicides.
5. **Competitive Pressure:** Intense competition and high parental expectations are major factors contributing to student distress, pushing many towards desperation.
6. **Educational Environment:** Schools often promote competition rather than meaningful learning, leading to disinterest and excessive reliance on rote learning and coaching centers.
7. **Examination System:** The current examination approach emphasizes elimination over education, worsening the mental strain on students who struggle to meet academic standards.
8. **NEP Initiatives:** The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 aims to overhaul evaluation methods to be more flexible and student-friendly, but these changes are still in the preliminary stages.
9. **Emotional Well-being Focus:** The NEP also emphasizes enhancing students' emotional well-being, but effective support systems are largely absent in schools, particularly for marginalized students.
10. **Role of Educators:** There's a significant need for continuous education and counseling for both parents and teachers to better support students' mental health.
11. **Economic Discrepancies:** The educational system's failure to align with economic realities and the insufficient expansion of economic opportunities contribute to the pressure felt by students.
12. **Political Acknowledgment:** Current political manifestos recognize the need to address these educational and economic challenges, suggesting potential policy focus.
13. **Post-Election Challenges:** The imperative after the elections is to turn promises into practical actions to reform the educational system and prevent further tragedies.
14. **Systemic Shortcomings:** The consistent loss of young lives signals deep-rooted systemic flaws that need urgent and comprehensive reform beyond immediate pre-exam interventions.
15. **Call for Action:** The editorial emphasizes the critical need for systemic changes to support student mental health and adapt the educational framework to current societal needs.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based**1. What is the tone of the passage?****[Editorial Page]**

- A. Optimistic
- B. Indifferent
- C. Critical
- D. Humorous

2. What is the main theme of the passage?

- A. The importance of political stability in education reform
- B. The challenges in the educational system leading to student distress
- C. The role of economic growth in improving education standards
- D. The benefits of competitive academic environments

3. What could be inferred as a primary cause of student suicides mentioned in the passage?

- A. The presence of counselors in junior colleges effectively reduces student anxieties.
- B. The shift towards online education platforms that students find difficult to adapt to.
- C. The intense competition and high expectations from parents and educational institutions.
- D. The lack of available mental health resources during the school year except before exams.

4. According to the passage, what measures have been implemented by the Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education to address exam-related stress among students?

- A. The Board has introduced a mandatory curriculum focused solely on mental health awareness and stress management for all junior college students.
- B. Junior colleges were required to hire permanent psychologists to provide ongoing support and counseling services throughout the academic year.
- C. Counsellors were arranged for students in junior colleges to help manage exam-related stress, as part of the government's effort to prevent student suicides.
- D. The state has abolished all exams to remove academic pressure, ensuring that students are evaluated based on year-round performance instead.

5. What can be inferred about the role of examinations within the current educational system as discussed in the passage?

- (i) Examinations are designed to assess students' understanding and encourage meaningful learning.
 - (ii) Examinations act as harsh eliminators that contribute to student despondency and stress.
 - (iii) The redesign of examinations to be more flexible is well underway and showing positive results.
- A. i only
 - B. ii only
 - C. iii only
 - D. i and iii

6. Based on the passage, which of the following inferences about the emotional well-being of students is most supported?

- (i) The increase in student suicides is mainly attributed to the ineffective national economic policies.

- (ii) Emotional distress in students is largely unnoticed by schools, resulting in insufficient support structures.
- (iii) Parental and teacher guidance has successfully mitigated the pressures faced by students due to academic competition.
- A. i only
B. ii only
C. iii only
D. i and iii

Comprehension:

In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Read the passage carefully and select the most appropriate option to fill in each blank.

Close on the heels of the successful conduct of the Women's Premier League (WPL), the Indian Premier League (IPL) looms into view. The 17th edition will _____1_____ with the fixture between defending champion Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) at Chennai on Friday. The WPL's second edition that crowned RCB as champions will also put additional pressure _____2_____ the Bengaluru outfit's male unit as it is one squad that has often promised much but has never won the IPL. Meanwhile CSK, a blue chip team in the league, would ride on M.S. Dhoni's astute leadership and his ability to stay relevant as an athlete even after clocking 42 summers. Dhoni in T20s and England's James Anderson, who is _____3_____ his wares in Tests while being 41, _____4_____ the progress in modern-day fitness and sports medicine. As with the two cricketers, the IPL has found a way to march ahead, be it general elections or the COVID-19 pandemic. The league's management was quick to shift roots to South Africa or the United Arab Emirates, and with another general election _____5_____ in, it remains to be seen how the authorities would cope. Matches have been listed till April 7 even as the remaining league stretches deep into May.

- 7. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
- A. Conceive
B. Essence
C. Commence
D. Endurance
- 8. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
- A. In
B. Of
C. by
D. On
- 9. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
- A. Plying
B. Painstaking
C. Guiding
D. Folding
- 10. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**

- A. Wrestles
- B. Gestures
- C. Deposit
- D. Highlight

11. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5

- A. Progressing
- B. Chugging
- C. Disparaging
- D. Aging

12. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.

- P. The serious complaint of human rights violation recently against an IPS officer in Ambasamudram in south Tamil Nadu should greatly embarrass the State government and the police hierarchy.
- Q. The officer has been suspended from service and his alleged misconduct is being probed.
- R. This should send a strong message to the police force in the State that no illegal physical treatment of crime suspects will be tolerated and that such behaviour will be subjected to a clinical and credible enquiry by an independent authority.
- S. The Chief Minister must be complimented for his swift action against the offending official.
 - A. PQSR
 - B. QPRS
 - C. QPSR
 - D. RSQP

13. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that gives their correct logical sequence.

- A. The second is negotiating bilateral and multilateral trade agreements that protect the interests of India's farmers and workers, for which coordination is required amongst the Ministries of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture.
- B. The third one is linked with the other two: it has become a principal cause of social tensions and political conflicts in the country.
- C. The third problem that is affecting all citizens is secure employment with adequate incomes, which involves all Ministries and all State governments.
- D. The Indian government is grappling with three economic challenges at the same time.
- E. One is management of inflation, interest rates, and exchange rates, for which the Reserve Bank of India is expected to find a solution.
 - A. DECAB
 - B. DEABC
 - C. DCBAE
 - D. DECBA

14. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.

- a. The seemingly innocuous act of consuming salt can have dangerous repercussions when taken in excess.
- b. The dangers often lurk undetected, warranting urgent attention and a reevaluation of our dietary choices.
- c. Excessive sodium intake contributes to the rise of hypertension, heart disease, and stroke.
- d. An average Indian's sodium consumption is more than double the physiological need and dramatically exceeds the World Health Organization's (WHO) recommended daily intake of <5 g of salt for adults.
- A. d, b, a, c
- B. d, a, b, c
- C. a, b, c, d
- D. a, c, b, d
15. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the underlined word in the given sentence.
The event, in a cramped space, was totally **bizarre** in my view.
- A. Usual
- B. Customary
- C. Odd
- D. Normal
16. Select the sentence that has the correct use of spellings from the given options.
- A. While the negotiation process was complex and at times contentious, the two sides ultimately reached a mutually beneficial agreement.
- B. While the negotiation process was complex and at times contentious, the two sides ultimately reached a mutually beneficial agreement.
- C. While the nagotiation process was complex and at times contencious, the two sides ultimately reached a mutually beneficial agreement.
- D. While the negotiation process was complex and at times contencious, the two sides ultimately reached a mutually beneficial agreement.
17. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the given word.
Frugality
- A. Parsimony
- B. Extravagance
- C. Providence
- D. Economy
18. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.
Moti has thrown the balls.
- A. The balls were thrown by Moti.
- B. The balls have been thrown by Moti.
- C. The balls were being thrown by Moti.
- D. The balls had been thrown by Moti.
19. 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'.

Since the storm knocked in the power, we've been using candles to light our home.

- A. No substitution required
- B. the storm knocked out the power
- C. the storm knocked over the power
- D. the storm knocked away the power

20. Select the most appropriate **idiom** for the given situation.

Geetika spoke a lot about her new movie. However, it came to nothing in the theatres.

- A. To give the devil his dues
- B. To get into hot water
- C. To dig the grave
- D. To end in smoke

21. Select the most appropriate **idiom** for the underlined segment in the following sentence.

Raima takes her classes very attentively.

- A. In accordance with
- B. By blazing a trail
- C. By losing in a cloud
- D. Be all ears

22. Select the sentence that has the correct use of spellings from the given options.

- A. Although the book was difficult to read, I persisted and eventually understood the complex ideas.
- B. Although the book was difficult to read, I persisted and eventually understood the complex ideas.
- C. Although the book was difficult to read, I persisted and eventually understood the complex ideas.
- D. Although the book was difficult to read, I persted and eventually understood the complex ideas.

23. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.

The heavy medications and strong drugs at the sanatorium will surely turn a patient completely lifeless and unresponsive.

- A. tombic
- B. cadaverous
- C. zonic
- D. wasted

24. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the following sentence.

I really don't want to pour cold water on your theory but it cannot be applied to real life situations.

- A. To destroy someone's written piece of work
- B. To take revenge on someone by destroying their lives' work under the pretext of bad quality
- C. To be critical or doubtful of a plan that someone is excited about
- D. To give goosebumps by showing a prospect

25. Select the most appropriate synonym of the **italicised** word in the given sentence.
In most organisations there are *predators* who take advantage over the meek ones.
- A. supporters
 - B. philanthropists
 - C. benefactors
 - D. exploiters

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)**Explanations****1. C) Critical**

The passage employs a critical tone to highlight systemic shortcomings in addressing the emotional and academic pressures faced by students. It emphasizes the serious consequences of these pressures, such as increased student suicides, and criticizes the existing measures as inadequate.

A. Incorrect because the passage does not convey a hopeful or positive outlook; rather, it focuses on serious issues and the need for urgent improvements.

B. Incorrect as the passage clearly shows concern for the plight of students and calls for systemic changes, indicating a deep engagement with the topic rather than indifference.

D. Incorrect because the subject matter of student suicides and systemic educational failures is handled with gravity and concern, not humor.

2. B) The challenges in the educational system leading to student distress

The main theme of the passage revolves around the various challenges within the educational system, such as intense competition, parental expectations, and inadequate support systems, that contribute to student distress and suicides. It discusses the need for systemic reforms to alleviate these pressures.

A. Incorrect because the passage does not primarily focus on political stability but rather on the systemic issues within the educational sector.

C. Incorrect as the passage mentions economic realities only in passing and focuses more on the educational pressures and their consequences on students.

D. Incorrect because the passage actually criticizes the competitive academic environments as part of the problem, not a benefit.

3. C) The passage highlights that competition pressures and burdens of parental expectations significantly impact the mental well-being of students. This has been identified as a primary cause contributing to student suicides. The mention of academic excellence being viewed as a ticket to a better life underscores the stress and expectations placed on students.

A) Incorrect because the passage indicates that the presence of counselors has not been effective enough to prevent suicides, suggesting systemic shortcomings.

B) Incorrect as there is no mention of online education platforms or their impact on students in the passage.

D) Incorrect because, while it states that there are shortcomings in the system, the focus is on the pressures of competition and expectations rather than solely the timing of mental health support.

4. C) The correct answer is C because it accurately reflects the measures taken by the Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education, as mentioned in the passage, which includes arranging for counsellors to help students cope with exam-related stress.

A is incorrect as the passage does not mention a mandatory curriculum focused on mental health awareness.

B is incorrect because there is no mention of hiring permanent psychologists; the passage specifically states that counsellors were arranged.

D is incorrect as the passage does not mention the abolition of exams, only the provision of supplementary examinations and counseling services.

5. **B) ii only**

The passage describes examinations as tools that perpetuate a "ruthless elimination system" and have a dehumanizing effect on students, driving many into despondency. This strongly supports option ii, emphasizing the negative impact of current examination practices on student well-being.

Option A: The passage actually criticizes current examinations for discouraging meaningful learning and promoting rote memorization, thus i is incorrect.

Option C: While it mentions the National Education Policy's objective to create more flexible evaluation mechanisms, it also states that this is still at an early stage and requires greater urgency, implying that significant positive results are not yet evident, making iii incorrect.

Option D: Since i and iii are both contradicted by the passage.

6. **B) ii only**

The passage clearly mentions that schools today are generally not equipped to recognize when students are in distress and lack adequate support systems for emotional well-being. It highlights the lack of round-the-year support systems and coping mechanisms, particularly for students from marginalized communities.

Option A: There is no mention in the passage that ties the increase in student suicides directly to national economic policies, making option i unsupported.

Option C: The passage actually critiques the role of parental and teacher pressures in exacerbating student stress rather than mitigating it, thus iii is incorrect.

Option D: Both i and iii are unsupported by the passage.

7. **C) 'Commence' का use होगा क्योंकि "commence" का अर्थ होता है शुरू करना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि IPL का 17वां संस्करण शुरू होगा एक match के साथ, जिसमें चेन्नई सुपर किंग्स और रॉयल चैलेंजर्स बेंगलुरु के बीच होगा, इसलिए 'commence' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Conceive' का अर्थ है किसी योजना या विचार का जन्म लेना, 'Essence' का अर्थ है मुख्य गुण या स्वभाव, और 'Endurance' का अर्थ है सहनशीलता, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।**

'Commence' will be used because it means to begin. The sentence mentions that the 17th edition of the IPL will begin with a match between Chennai Super Kings and Royal Challengers Bengaluru, making 'commence' the appropriate choice. Whereas, 'Conceive' means to come up with a plan or idea, 'Essence' refers to the core attribute or nature, and 'Endurance' means stamina, which don't fit in this context.

8. D) 'On' का use होगा क्योंकि "on" यहाँ पर एक दबाव या जिम्मेदारी को दर्शाने के लिए प्रयोग होता है, जैसे कि "pressure on the team". Sentence में बताया गया है कि RCB की महिला टीम की जीत से पुरुष टीम पर अधिक दबाव पड़ेगा, इसलिए 'on' यहाँ सही है। 'In' का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ में होना, 'of' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ का हिस्सा होना, और 'by' का अर्थ है किसी द्वारा किया गया, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

'On' will be used because it indicates a pressure or responsibility, as in "pressure on the team". The sentence explains that the success of RCB's women's team will put additional pressure on the men's team, making 'on' appropriate here. 'In' means to be inside something, 'of' means belonging to something, and 'by' implies done by someone, which do not fit in this context

9. A) 'Plying' का use होगा क्योंकि "plying" का अर्थ होता है निरंतर और सक्रिय रूप से किसी काम को करना। Sentence में James Anderson के Test cricket में अपने करियर को जारी रखने की बात कही गई है, इसलिए 'plying' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Painstaking' का अर्थ है बहुत सावधानी और मेहनत से किया गया काम, 'Guiding' का अर्थ है दिशा देना या नेतृत्व करना, और 'Folding' का अर्थ है झुकना या समेटना, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

'Plying' will be used because it means to continuously and actively engage in an activity. The sentence describes James Anderson continuing his career in Test cricket, making 'plying' the most suitable choice here. Whereas, 'Painstaking' implies something done with great care and effort, 'Guiding' means to direct or lead, and 'Folding' suggests bending or collapsing, which do not fit in this context.

10. D) 'Highlight' का use होगा क्योंकि "highlight" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ की महत्वपूर्ण विशेषताओं को प्रदर्शित करना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि दोनों खिलाड़ी, जिनकी उम्र अधिक है, वे मॉडर्न डे फिटनेस और स्पोर्ट्स मेडिसिन की प्रगति को highlight करते हैं, इसलिए 'highlight' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Wrestles' का अर्थ है संघर्ष करना, 'Gestures' का अर्थ है इशारा करना, और 'Deposit' का अर्थ है जमा करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Highlight' will be used because it means to show the important features of something clearly. The sentence mentions that both players, who are older, highlight the advancements in modern-day fitness and sports medicine, making 'highlight' fitting here. Whereas, 'Wrestles' means to struggle, 'Gestures' means to make a gesture, and 'Deposit' means to place or store, which don't fit in this context.

11. B) 'Chugging' का use होगा क्योंकि 'chugging' का अर्थ होता है धीरे-धीरे और स्थिरता से आगे बढ़ना। passage में, mention है कि एक और सामान्य चुनाव आ रहा है और देखा जाएगा कि अधिकारी इसे कैसे संभालते हैं। यहाँ 'chugging' का प्रयोग स्थिति की निरंतरता और संघर्ष को दर्शाता है। जबकि 'Progressing' का अर्थ होता है विकसित होना या आगे बढ़ना, 'Disparaging' का

अर्थ होता है निंदा करना, और 'Aging' का अर्थ होता है बुढ़ापा या उम्र बढ़ना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

'Chugging' will be used because it means to move slowly and steadily. In the passage, it is mentioned that another general election is coming in and it will be seen how the authorities will manage it. Here, 'chugging' aptly describes the ongoing and challenging progression of the situation. Whereas, 'Progressing' means developing or advancing, 'Disparaging' means criticizing or belittling, and 'Aging' refers to becoming old or aging, which do not fit in this context.

12. A) PQSR

P: This sentence introduces an incident of human rights violation against an IPS officer. It is an introductory sentence that sets the context for the rest of the paragraph. Hence, P should come first

Q: In Q, we see a reference to the "The officer," which clearly refers to the IPS officer mentioned in P. The sequence of events also makes sense, as after the complaint is made (as mentioned in P), the officer's suspension and investigation would naturally follow. Hence, Q comes after P.

S: This sentence mentions the "swift action against the offending official." Given that the previous sentence (Q) talked about the officer's suspension and investigation, it's logical to infer that the "swift action" referred to in S is the suspension of the officer. So, S should follow Q, suggesting the commendation of the Chief Minister for acting promptly based on the details provided in Q.

R: R talks about the broader implications of the actions taken, which is a typical way to conclude a topic or paragraph. It builds on the previous sentences and provides a conclusive thought on the matter. Hence, R logically follows after S.

13. B) DEABC

D: This sentence introduces the topic: "three economic challenges" faced by the Indian government.

E: The use of the term "One" in sentence E signifies that it is discussing the first of the three challenges mentioned in sentence D. Hence, E follows D

A: The use of the term "The second" clearly indicates that this sentence is describing the second challenge, following the first challenge mentioned in E.

B: Though this sentence starts with "The third one," it is not directly describing the third challenge. Instead, it tells us that the third one is causing social tensions and conflicts. So, it gives the effect of the third problem rather than its definition.

C: This sentence describes what the third challenge is. Thus, C provides more detail about the challenge before B elaborates on its impact.

14. D) a, c, b, d

a: This sentence introduces the topic which is about the dangers of consuming too much salt.

c: This sentence elaborates on the dangerous repercussions mentioned in sentence a. It provides specific details on how excessive salt (sodium) intake can be harmful.

b: c should come before b because after elaborating on the specifics of how salt is dangerous (in c), b talks about how these dangers often go unnoticed and need attention.

d: d is specific to Indians' consumption of salt and how it compares to the WHO's recommendation. It makes sense to introduce this after discussing the dangers in general (in a, c, and b) as it provides a specific context or case study.

15. C) **Bizarre** (adjective) – Strange, unusual, weird, outlandish, peculiar. अजीब

Synonym: Odd (adjective) – Different from what is usual or expected, strange, unusual. अजीब

- **Usual** (adjective) – Habitual, customary, traditional, typical. सामान्य
- **Customary** (adjective) – Typical of a particular person, place, or thing, traditional. परंपरागत
- **Normal** (adjective) – Conforming to a standard, typical, usual, regular. सामान्य

16. B) While the negotiation process was complex and at times contentious, the two sides ultimately reached a mutually beneficial agreement.

- Sentence B में 'negotiation', 'contentious' और 'agreement' शब्दों की सही spelling है। इसलिए, Sentence B सही है।

17. B) **Frugality** (noun) – The quality of being economical with money or food; thriftiness. कमखर्ची

Antonym: Extravagance (noun) – Lack of restraint in spending money or using resources; wastefulness in expenditure. फिजूलखर्ची

- **Parsimony** (noun) – Extreme unwillingness to spend money or use resources; stinginess. कंजूसी
- **Providence** (noun) – God, or a force that some people believe controls our lives and the things that happen to us, usually in a way that protects us परमात्मा
- **Economy** (noun) – The careful management of available resources; thrift. अर्थशास्त्र

18. B) The balls have been thrown by Moti.

19. B) '**knocked in the power**' के बदले '**knocked out the power**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि जब तूफान किसी चीज़ को बाधित करता है जैसे की बिजली, तो '**knocked out**' का प्रयोग सही होता है।

❖ **Knock out** (phrasal verb) – destroy, damage, or disable a machine or piece of equipment.

- '**knocked out the power**' will be used instead of '**knocked in the power**' because when a storm disrupts something like electricity, the correct phrase to use is '**knocked out**'.

20. D) **To end in smoke** (idiom) – To come to no practical result or effect, to fail. असफल होना

- **To give the devil his dues** (idiom) – To acknowledge the good qualities of someone, even if they have many bad qualities. बुरे में भी अच्छाई देखना
- **To get into hot water** (idiom) – To get into trouble or a difficult situation. मुश्किल में पड़ना

- **To dig the grave** (idiom) – To create serious trouble for oneself in the future. अपनी ही कब्र खोदना

21. D) **Be all ears** (phrase) – to listen very carefully and attentively बहुत ध्यान से सुनना.

- **In accordance with** – in agreement or harmony with something के अनुसार
- **By blazing a trail** – to pioneer or lead the way in something new

22. B) 'Althogh' को 'Although' में और 'eventually' को 'eventually' में बदला जाएगा, जिससे वाक्य सही होगा। इसलिए, सही वाक्य है: B) Although the book was difficult to read, I persisted and eventually understood the complex ideas.

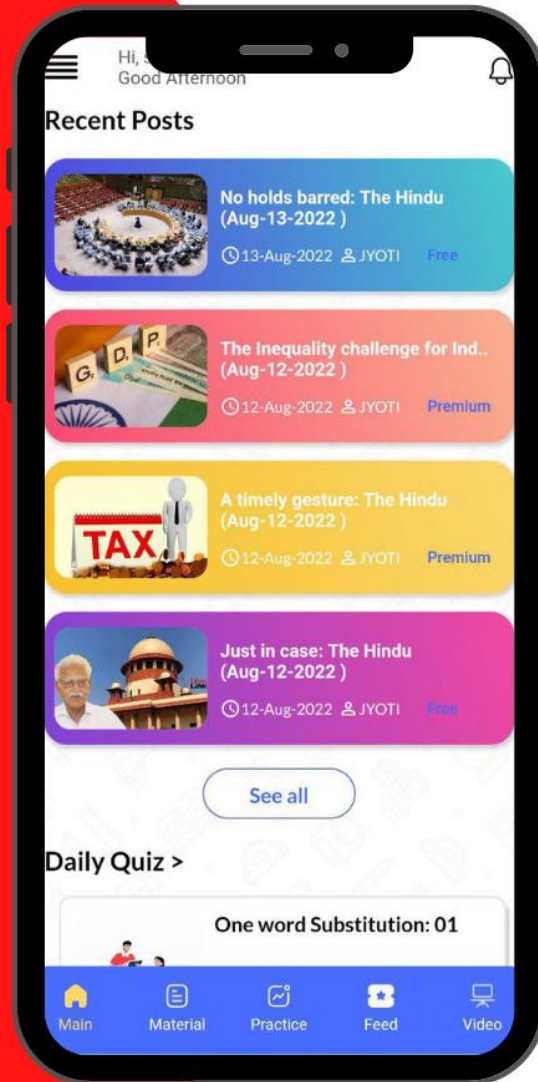
23. B) **Cadaverous** (adjective) – completely lifeless and unresponsive शव का, मुर्दे-सा

24. C) **Pour cold water on** (phrase) – To be critical or doubtful of a plan that someone is excited about पर पानी फेर देना

25. D) **Predators** (noun) – Organisms or individuals that hunt, exploit, or take advantage of others, particularly the weak or vulnerable. शोषक/ परभक्षी

Synonym: Exploiters (noun) – Those who make use of something, especially unethically or unjustly, for one's own advantage. शोषक

- **Supporters** (noun) – Those who give approval, comfort, or encouragement. समर्थक
- **Philanthropists** (noun) – Individuals who seek to promote the welfare of others, often through generous donations of money or time. परोपकारी
- **Benefactors** (noun) – Those who give money or other help to a person or cause. उपकारी



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