

On Myanmar, India needs a rethink

Last week, Myanmar's army claimed success in retaking Myawaddy, a **critical node** in the **bustling** trade route with its eastern neighbour, Thailand. The anti-government **coalition** of the **ethnic armed** groups and the **pro-democracy** fighters **had** created a **flutter** in the region by entering Myawaddy in mid-April and **ousting** the **troops** from the army base there. The real **winner** in the **see-saw battle** now **appears** to be the **notorious** Border Guard Force (BGF) in the region, formally **aligned** with the military government in Yangon, but with great **autonomy on the ground**. The BGF is **reportedly** playing both sides **in order to** expand its own regional **dominance**. It also **presides over** a massive regional criminal network that operates **gambling** casinos, drug trade, and illegal **trafficking** on the Thai border. The **battle** for Myawaddy **captures** the larger story of the **breakdown** of the **state** in Myanmar.

Since its independence, Myanmar never enjoyed **sustained** control over all its territory. The **conflict** between the majority Barmans and several **ethnic** minority groups **has** left the state's control over its frontiers **shaky**. But the situation has never been as **grim** as it is today. Since the unpopular and ineffective 2021 **coup**, the army has lost control over much of the troubled nation as the pro-democracy Bamar groups **joined hands with** the ethnic armed groups to end army rule. The country's **frontiers** have always **drawn trans-border** networks of illegal groups. That attraction has grown now. As the threat from the **collapsing** authority of the Myanmar state **envelops** the rest of the region, the intervention of external powers has become **acute**. While the main regional forum ASEAN has been unable to **deal with** the challenges, the great powers are **stepping in**. In the name of **stabilising** its frontier with Myanmar, China has **inserted** itself deeper into the nation's internal affairs. The US supports the country's pro-democracy movement and has given nearly \$500 million **assistance** under the Burma Act of 2021. Some of this includes **non-lethal** military support.

Despite its **profound** impact on India's internal and external security, there has been little **debate** in Delhi on how to deal with the Myanmar crisis. The time has come for the Indian government to rethink its earlier policy **bias** in favour of Myanmar's army which is no longer in a position to secure India's interests. Delhi must now begin a **dialogue** with Myanmar's National Unity Government comprising the democratic opposition and the ethnic armed groups. While it should engage with the Army, of course, New Delhi must also open channels of communication with the local forces in control of the regions across the 1,600-km long land border with Myanmar. **Playing defence** by **fencing** the border with Myanmar **is utterly** inadequate in **coping with** the challenge on India's eastern **frontier**. **[Practice Exerc.]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Rethink** (noun) – Reevaluation, reconsideration, review, reassessment, reexamination पुनर्विचार
2. **Critical** (adjective) – Crucial, essential, pivotal, vital, indispensable महत्वपूर्ण
3. **Node** (noun) – Hub, junction, focal point, center, nexus केंद्र बिंदु
4. **Bustling** (adjective) – Lively, busy, crowded, active, energetic चहल-पहल भरा
5. **Coalition** (noun) – Alliance, partnership, federation, confederation, association गठबंधन
6. **Ethnic** (adjective) – Cultural, national, traditional, racial, indigenous जातीय
7. **Armed** (adjective) – Equipped, weaponized, fortified, prepared, militarized सशस्त्र
8. **Pro-** (prefix) – Supporting, favoring, backing, advocating, aligned with समर्थक
9. **Flutter** (noun) – Agitation, disturbance, flurry, commotion, tumult हलचल
10. **Oust** (verb) – Expel, remove, displace, overthrow, eject बाहर/ बेदखल करना
11. **Troop** (noun) – Soldiers, forces, army, unit, squadron सेना
12. **See-saw battle** (phrase) – A contest that alternates between winning and losing
13. **Notorious** (adjective) – Infamous, disreputable, ill-famed, scandalous, dishonorable कुख्यात
14. **Aligned** (adjective) – Oriented, coordinated, integrated, united, coordinated संरेखित
15. **Autonomy** (noun) – Independence, self-rule, self-governance, sovereignty, freedom स्वायत्तता
16. **On the ground** (phrase) – In the field, at the scene, practically, in reality, in practice वास्तविक रूप से
17. **Reportedly** (adverb) – Allegedly, supposedly, ostensibly, purportedly, as claimed कथित तौर पर
18. **In order to do something** (phrase) – With the aim of, for the purpose of, intending to, to achieve the objective of ताकि
19. **Dominance** (noun) – Supremacy, control, command, authority, influence प्रभुत्व
20. **Preside over** (phrasal verb) – Govern, oversee, lead, direct, administer अध्यक्षता करना
21. **Gambling** (noun) – Betting, wagering, gaming, risking, staking जुआ
22. **Trafficking** (noun) – Smuggling, illicit trade, contraband, black-market trade, bootlegging तस्करी

23. **Breakdown** (noun) – Collapse, failure, disintegration, disruption, malfunction
विघटन
24. **State** (noun) – Condition, situation, position, circumstance स्थिति
25. **Sustained** (adjective) – Continuous, uninterrupted, unbroken, constant, prolonged निरंतर
26. **Ethnic** (adjective) – Cultural, traditional, racial, indigenous, folk जातीय
27. **Shaky** (adjective) – Unstable, precarious, insecure, fragile, wobbly अस्थिर
28. **Grim** (adjective) – Gloomy, dire, bleak, dismal, serious गंभीर
29. **Coup** (noun) – Overthrow, revolution, rebellion, insurrection, mutiny तख्तापलट
30. **Join hands with** (phrase) – Collaborate with, team up with, cooperate with, partner with, work with हाथ मिलाना
31. **Draw** (verb) – Attract, pull, lure, entice, appeal आकर्षित करना
32. **Trans-border** (adjective) – Cross-border, international, intercountry, global, transnational सीमा-पार
33. **Collapsing** (adjective) – failing, in trouble, in danger ढह रहा
34. **Envelop** (verb) – Surround, encircle, enclose, engulf, wrap घेरना
35. **Acute** (adjective) – Severe, intense, critical, urgent, dire गंभीर
36. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – Handle, manage, tackle, address, cope with निपटना
37. **Step in** (phrasal verb) – Intervene, involve oneself, get involved, come forward, enter हस्तक्षेप करना
38. **Stabilize** (verb) – Secure, steady, strengthen, balance, make firm स्थिर करना
39. **Insert** (verb) – Introduce, include, put in, place in, incorporate सम्मिलित होना
40. **Assistance** (noun) – Help, aid, support, backing, cooperation सहायता
41. **Non-lethal** (adjective) – Non-fatal, non-deadly, non-toxic, harmless, safe गैर-घातक
42. **Profound** (adjective) – Deep, intense, significant, impactful, serious गहरा
43. **Debate** (noun) – Discussion, argument, deliberation, dialogue, contention बहस
44. **Bias** (noun) – Prejudice, inclination, preference, favoritism, predisposition पक्षपात
45. **Dialogue** (noun) – Conversation, discussion, communication, discourse, negotiation संवाद

46. **Fence** (verb) – Enclose, secure, wall in, fortify, protect घेरना

47. **Utterly** (adverb) – Completely, totally, thoroughly, entirely, fully पूरी तरह से

48. **Cope with** (phrasal verb) – Manage, handle, deal with, endure, overcome निपटना

49. **Frontier** (noun) – Border, boundary, limit, edge, periphery सीमा

Summary of the Editorial

1. Myanmar's army recently claimed to have regained control of Myawaddy, a vital trade hub on the border with Thailand, from anti-government forces.
2. In mid-April, a coalition of ethnic armed groups and pro-democracy fighters had temporarily ousted army troops from Myawaddy.
3. The Border Guard Force (BGF), aligned with the military government but operationally autonomous, appears to be the main beneficiary of the conflict, manipulating both sides for regional dominance.
4. The BGF also controls a large criminal network in the region, involved in gambling, drug trafficking, and other illegal activities along the Thai border.
5. The ongoing conflict in Myawaddy highlights the broader issue of state breakdown in Myanmar.
6. Since independence, Myanmar has struggled to maintain control over its territory, particularly its frontiers, due to ethnic conflicts.
7. The 2021 military coup, which was widely unpopular and ineffective, exacerbated the loss of control, as pro-democracy and ethnic groups united against military rule.
8. Myanmar's instability has attracted and intensified trans-border criminal activities.
9. The weakening state authority in Myanmar poses a threat to regional stability, prompting intervention by external powers.
10. ASEAN has been ineffective in addressing the situation, leading to greater involvement by major powers like China and the US.
11. China has increased its influence in Myanmar, ostensibly to stabilize its border, while the US supports the pro-democracy movement with significant financial aid.
12. Despite the significant implications for India's security, there has been limited debate in New Delhi on how to approach the Myanmar crisis.
13. India needs to reassess its prior supportive stance towards Myanmar's military, which is now seen as incapable of protecting Indian interests.
14. India should initiate dialogue with Myanmar's National Unity Government, which includes the democratic opposition and ethnic armed groups.
15. While maintaining engagement with the Myanmar Army, India should also establish communication with local forces controlling areas along the 1,600-km border, as mere defensive measures like border fencing are insufficient.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the relationship between the Border Guard Force (BGF) and the military government in Yangon?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. The BGF is a puppet of the military government, with no autonomy.
 - B. The BGF has formal alignment with the military government but operates independently.
 - C. The BGF is in direct conflict with the military government.
 - D. The BGF and the military government are completely separate entities.
2. **What can be inferred about the impact of the 2021 coup on Myanmar's control over its territory?**
 - A. The coup has strengthened the central control over Myanmar's territory.
 - B. The coup had no significant impact on Myanmar's territorial control.
 - C. The coup has led to a loss of control over much of the country.
 - D. The coup has unified the ethnic groups and the army.
3. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Indifferent
 - B. Celebratory
 - C. Concerned
 - D. Optimistic
4. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The ongoing ethnic conflict within Myanmar and its consequences for internal stability.
 - B. The strategic impact of Myanmar's political instability on India's security.
 - C. The need for ASEAN to rebuild Myanmar's state collapse.
 - D. The failure of the Myanmar military regime to control trans-border networks.
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 - D. The BGF and the military government are completely separate entities.
7. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
 - P. One has to face it, plan and manage it effectively so that the post-retirement life can remain meaningful, purposeful and enjoyable.
 - Q. Understandably, it comes with uncertainties and anxieties as it changes the status quo and takes one out of the comfort zone.

- R. If there is anything permanent in this world, it is “change”. Retirement from work is such an inevitability and one of the most important transitions in the life of all employees.
- S. With the average life expectancy in India going beyond 70, management of retirement life has become much more important now.
- A. RSPQ
B. QPRS
C. QRPS
D. RQPS
8. **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. My father lifted me on his shoulders so that I could have a clear view. I could see him in a slow-moving open car standing and waving to the crowds.
- B. My father took me to Sector 19, off Madhya Marg, as our first Prime Minister was visiting Chandigarh, a city still in its adolescence, if not infancy.
- C. The handle bar in his car was full of marigold garlands which he was throwing gradually one after another towards the crowd gathered along the Marg.
- D. I was hardly three years old. As the pilot car passed by, the crowd got excited and started chanting and shouting slogans.
- A. BDAC
B. CABD
C. BCAD
D. ABCD
9. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Devil’s advocate
- A. One who takes an opposing position for the sake of argument
B. One who
C. presents very logical arguments
D. One who is very precise and accurate
E. One who never argues
10. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the underlined word in the following sentence.
The doctor assured the patient that the tumour was benign and could be easily removed
- A. Favourable
B. Malignant
C. Sterile
D. Kind
11. **Select the most appropriate option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
The director hired the new employee after the interview.
- A. The new employee will be hired by the director after the interview.
B. The new employee was hired by the director after the interview.
C. The new employee is being hired by the director after the interview.
D. The new employee hired by the director after the interview

12. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that arranges the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**
- A. That the only true individual
 - B. Is the holy man
 - C. It has frequently been claimed
 - D. Which the traditional society of India tolerates
- A. D, C, A, B
B. C, A, D, B
C. A, B, D, C
D. C, D, A, B
13. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word from the given sentence.**
Drunkenness, riot and brawling were the order, there, every night
- A. Riot
 - B. Drunkenness
 - C. Order
 - D. Brawling
14. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the following sentence.**
Can you please make sure that all the guest are gathered on the stage before the performance begins?
- A. guest is gathered on
 - B. guests are gathered in
 - C. guests are gathered on
 - D. guests is gathered by
15. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Spill the beans
- A. Open the flow of the stopped water
 - B. Liberate the controlled emotions
 - C. Distribute food grains freely
 - D. Disclose the secrets accidentally
16. **Select the most appropriate option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the underlined segment in the following sentence.**
The king's coronation ceremony was a grand affair, with all the nobles and dignitaries dressed in their finest insignia of royalty.
- A. ornaments
 - B. regalia
 - C. regals
 - D. Spectres
17. **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. labour contractors will give them jobs at construction sites
 - Q. On some days, some of them get work, but mostly they go back home disappointed

R. Rekha Sivanna Gaur, a migrant worker from Karnataka, stands at a naka (crossroad) in Sanpada, Navi Mumbai every morning along with hundreds of others in the hope that

S. The post-pandemic migration to Mumbai has not been easy for migrant workers from different states who had no option but to move back to the metro city in search of work as there were no opportunities back home

- A. SRQP
- B. SPRQ
- C. RPSQ
- D. RPQS

18. Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.

She was completely baffled by his strange behaviour.

- A. confused
- B. unfazed
- C. relieved
- D. Angered

19. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.

The speech of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam influences young minds.

- A. Young minds get influenced by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam
- B. Young minds were influenced by the speech of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
- C. Young minds are influenced by the speech of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
- D. The speech of Dr. APJ Adul Kalam is very influencing.

20. Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.

One who possesses outstanding technical ability in a particular art or field

- A. Virtuous
- B. Virtuoso
- C. Gourmand
- D. Amateur

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.

Following in the footsteps of France, Italy has _____ 1 _____ a new tax to be _____ 2 _____ on large tech companies, a move that is likely to put more strain on the country's relations with the USA. The Italian parliament has approved a 3% digital tax on some digital revenue of technology companies that make over \$831 million in global revenue, including at least \$6 million in Italy. The tax _____ 3 _____ similar to the one France implemented earlier this year, which has attracted _____ 4 _____ criticism from the USA. According to a report in The Epoch Times, dozens of countries are working on proposals to change corporate tax schemes to _____ 5 _____ money from tech firms that have users across the world, such as Facebook and Google's parent company alphabet.

21. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.

- A. accepted
- B. declined

C. approved

D. Favoured

22. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.

A. crossed

B. levied

C. placed

D. Exercised

23. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.

A. are

B. is

C. were

D. Have

24. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.

A. severe

B. mild

C. critical

D. Firm

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

A. take

B. remove

C. seize

D. capture

Answers

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

Practice Exercise

Explanations

1. B) The passage states that the BGF is "formally aligned with the military government in Yangon, but with great autonomy on the ground." This indicates that while there is a formal relationship, the BGF maintains significant independence in its operations, making option B correct. Option A is incorrect because it denies the autonomy that BGF possesses. Option C is incorrect as there is no indication of direct conflict between the BGF and the military government in the passage. Option D is incorrect because it suggests a total separation, which contradicts the formal alignment mentioned.
2. C) The passage explicitly mentions that "since the unpopular and ineffective 2021 coup, the army has lost control over much of the troubled nation as the pro-democracy Bamar groups joined hands with the ethnic armed groups to end army rule." This indicates a significant deterioration in control over the territory, making option C correct. Option A is incorrect because the control has weakened, not strengthened. Option B is incorrect as the impact of the coup has been significant. Option D is incorrect because the coup has not unified the ethnic groups and the army; instead, it has intensified the conflict.
3. C) **Concerned**
 The passage has a concerned tone as it emphasizes the current challenges in Myanmar and their broader implications for the region. The author worries about Myanmar's unstable situation, the growing involvement of external forces, and the potential security risks posed to neighboring India. The call for India to rethink its approach reflects a deep concern about India's current strategy.
 A. Indifferent: Incorrect, as the author explicitly expresses worry and calls for a policy change, showing a strong emotional involvement.
 B. Celebratory: Incorrect, as the passage does not celebrate the current events. Instead, it describes the dire state of Myanmar and its instability.
 D. Optimistic: Incorrect, because the passage does not express hope for the current situation. Rather, it indicates the critical state of the region and advocates for changes to existing policies.
4. B) **The strategic impact of Myanmar's political instability on India's security.**
 B. This is the correct option because the passage revolves around how Myanmar's current state of instability could affect India's security. The author suggests that India should reevaluate its current policies toward Myanmar to protect its own interests.
 A. This option is incorrect because although ethnic conflict is mentioned, the passage prioritizes its strategic impact on India.
 C. This option is incorrect, the main theme concerns India's security interests.
 D. Though this is part of the content, it serves as a supporting point rather than the main theme, which remains focused on India's strategic response.
5. D) The passage explicitly mentions that "since the unpopular and ineffective 2021 coup, the army has lost control over much of the troubled nation as the pro-democracy Bamar groups joined hands with the ethnic armed groups to end army rule." This indicates a significant deterioration in control over the territory, making option D correct. Option A is incorrect because the control has weakened, not strengthened. Option B is incorrect as the impact of the coup has been significant. Option D is incorrect because the coup has not unified the ethnic groups and the army; instead, it has intensified the conflict.

6. A) The passage states that the BGF is "formally aligned with the military government in Yangon, but with great autonomy on the ground." This indicates that while there is a formal relationship, the BGF maintains significant independence in its operations, making option A correct. Option B is incorrect because it denies the autonomy that BGF possesses. Option C is incorrect as there is no indication of direct conflict between the BGF and the military government in the passage. Option D is incorrect because it suggests a total separation, which contradicts the formal alignment mentioned.
7. **D) RQPS**
R: This sentence introduces the main topic: change, specifically focusing on retirement as a significant change. It sets the stage for further discussion about retirement, making it a suitable opening sentence.
Q: This sentence naturally follows R, as it elaborates on the "change" mentioned in R, discussing the uncertainties and anxieties associated with retirement. The pronoun "it" in Q refers back to the concept of retirement introduced in R, creating a clear noun-pronoun relationship
P: After establishing the concept of retirement and its associated challenges in R and Q, P presents a solution or a way to deal with these challenges.
S: S provides additional information that emphasizes the importance of the discussion in the previous sentences. It introduces a new aspect (life expectancy) that supports the need for effective retirement planning mentioned in P.
8. **A) BDAC**
B: This sentence introduces the scenario and setting. It explains why the narrator (a child) and their father were at a particular place. There's no reference to prior events or situations, making it a good starting point.
D: This sentence provides additional context about the narrator's age and describes the immediate reaction of the crowd as the event starts, which logically follows the introduction of the event in sentence B.
A: After the initial excitement described in sentence D, sentence A details a specific action taken by the narrator's father (lifting the child for a better view), which is a natural progression in the sequence of events. The reference to "him" (presumably the Prime Minister) ties back to the event introduced in B and further described in D.
C: Finally, sentence C gives a specific detail about the Prime Minister's actions during the event. It builds upon the visual established in sentence A (the narrator seeing the Prime Minister) and adds more detail to the scene.
9. A) **Devil's advocate** (idiom) – One who takes an opposing position for the sake of argument विवाद के लिए विपरीत स्थिति लेने वाला
10. B) **Benign** (adjective) – Gentle, kind, not harmful, mild, non-threatening. सजीव
 Antonym: **Malignant** (adjective) – Harmful, dangerous, aggressive, typically relating to a cancer that is likely to spread. दुष्ट
- **Favourable** (adjective) – Supporting, approving, beneficial, positive. अनुकूल
 - **Sterile** (adjective) – Free from bacteria or other living microorganisms; barren, not fertile. बाँझ
 - **Kind** (adjective) – Considerate, generous, gentle, caring. दयालु

11. B) The new employee was hired by the director after the interview.

12. B) **C, A, D, B**

It has frequently been claimed That the only true individual Which the traditional society of India tolerates Is the holy man

13. B) '**Drunkenness**' को '**Drunkeness**' में बदलना होगा क्योंकि सही spelling '**Drunkeness**' है।

- '**Drunkenness**' will be changed to '**Drunkeness**' because the correct spelling is '**Drunkeness**'.

14. C) 'all the guest' के बदले 'guests are gathered on' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'guest' संख्या में plural होना चाहिए और 'on the stage' सही preposition है।

- 'guests are gathered on' will be used instead of 'all the guest' because 'guest' should be in plural form and 'on the stage' is the correct preposition.

15. D) **Spill the beans** (idiom) – Disclose the secrets accidentally रहस्य अनजाने में प्रकट कर देना।

16. B) **insignia of royalty** के बदले 'regalia' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'regalia' राजसी मुद्रा या प्रतीक के विशेष संकेतों के लिए एक शब्द है जिसे राजा या रानी द्वारा पहने जाने वाले विशेष वस्त्र या आभूषण के रूप में उपयोग किया जाता है।

- 'regalia' will be used instead of 'insignia of royalty' because 'regalia' is a term for the emblems or symbols of royalty, particularly the clothes or ornaments worn by a king or queen

17. D) RPQS

Rekha Sivanna Gaur, a migrant worker from Karnataka, stands at a naka (crossroad) in Sanpada, Navi Mumbai every morning along with hundreds of others in the hope that labour contractors will give them jobs at construction sites. On some days, some of them get work, but mostly they go back home disappointed. The post-pandemic migration to Mumbai has not been easy for migrant workers from different states who had no option but to move back to the metro city in search of work as there were no opportunities back home.

18. A) **Baffled** (adjective) – Perplexed, confused, bewildered, puzzled. **समझ में न आनेवाला**

Synonym: Confused (adjective) – Unable to think clearly, bewildered, disoriented, muddled. **भ्रमित**

- **Unfazed** (adjective) – Not disconcerted or perturbed, calm, unruffled. **अचल**
- **Relieved** (adjective) – Feeling happy because something unpleasant has stopped or has not happened, reassured, thankful. **राहत**
- **Angered** (verb, past tense) – Make someone angry; provoke. **गुस्सा**

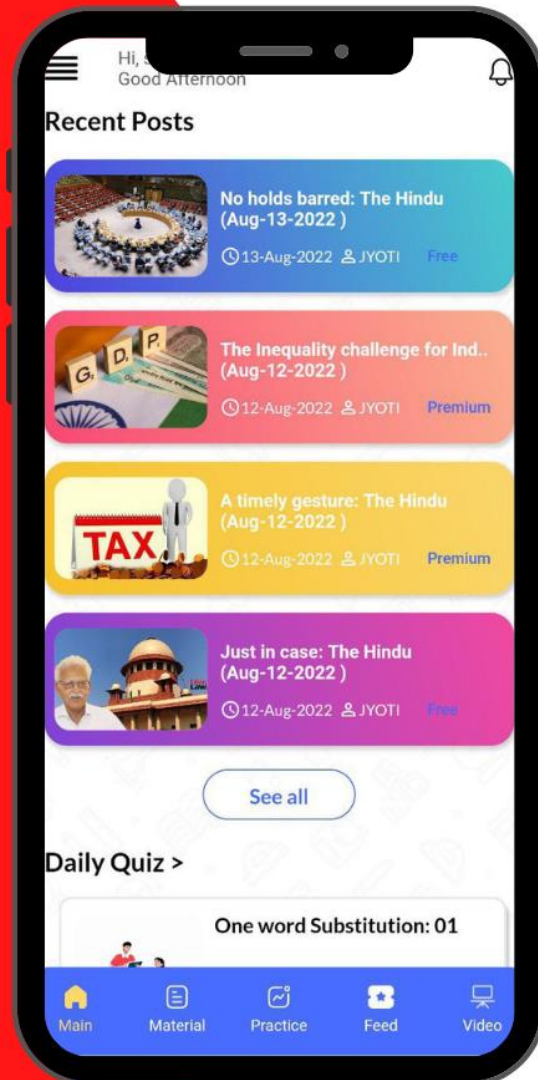
19. C) Young minds are influenced by the speech of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.

20. B) **Virtuoso** (noun) – One who possesses outstanding technical ability in a particular art or field कला या किसी विशेष क्षेत्र में प्रमुख तकनीकी क्षमता वाला व्यक्ति

- **Virtuous** (adjective) – Having or showing high moral standards **सदाचारी**
- **Gourmand** (noun) – A person who is fond of good eating, often indiscriminately and to excess **भोजन प्रेमी**

- **Amateur** (noun) – A person who engages in a pursuit, especially a sport, on an unpaid basis; not a professional **शौकिया**
21. C) '**Approved**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि उस पाराग्राफ में बताया गया है कि "The Italian parliament has approved a 3% digital tax...", जिससे स्पष्ट होता है कि इटली ने नई टैक्स को स्वीकृति दी है। 'Accepted' का अर्थ होता है स्वीकार करना, 'Declined' का अर्थ होता है अस्वीकार करना, और 'Favoured' का अर्थ होता है पसंद करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Approved**' should be used because the passage mentions "The Italian parliament has approved a 3% digital tax...", indicating that Italy has given approval for the new tax. 'Accepted' means to agree to, 'Declined' means to refuse, and 'Favoured' means to prefer, which don't fit in this context.
22. B) '**Levied**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "levied" का अर्थ होता है किसी पर कर लगाना। जबकि 'Crossed' का अर्थ है पारित करना, 'Placed' का अर्थ है रखना, और 'Exercised' का अर्थ है प्रयास या अभ्यास करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Levied**' should be used because it means to impose a tax or fee on something or someone. Whereas, 'Crossed' means to pass or move over, 'Placed' means to put in a particular position, and 'Exercised' implies effort or practice, which don't fit in this context.
23. B) '**Is**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "is" यहाँ पर सिंगुलर प्रतिस्थान (Italy's digital tax) के संदर्भ में है, जो फ्रांस द्वारा पहले लागू किए गए कर के समान है। 'Are' प्लुरल संदर्भ में होता है, 'Were' भूतकाल में प्रयुक्त होता है, और 'Have' इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Is**' should be used because it refers to the singular subject (Italy's digital tax) that is similar to the tax implemented by France. 'Are' is used in plural context, 'Were' is used in the past tense, and 'Have' doesn't fit in this context.
24. A) '**Severe**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "severe" का अर्थ होता है गंभीर या कठोर, जो यहाँ अमेरिका की आलोचना के प्रति उपयुक्त है। 'Mild' का अर्थ है मामूली, 'Critical' का अर्थ है आलोचनात्मक, और 'Firm' का अर्थ है दृढ़, जो इस संदर्भ में पूरी तरह से उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।
- '**Severe**' should be used because it means serious or harsh, which is appropriate here to describe the criticism from the USA. Whereas, 'Mild' means moderate, 'Critical' means analytical, and 'Firm' means steadfast, which are not entirely appropriate in this context.
25. D) '**Capture**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "capture" का अर्थ होता है किसी स्थिति या राशि को पूरी तरह से अपने अधिकार में लेना। इस संदर्भ में, कॉर्पोरेट टैक्स स्कीम को बदल कर टेक कंपनियों से पैसे 'capture' करना है। 'Take' का अर्थ है लेना, 'Remove' का अर्थ है हटाना, और 'Seize' का अर्थ है ज़बती करना, जो इस संदर्भ में पूरी तरह से उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।
- '**Capture**' should be used because it means to fully secure a situation or amount under one's control. In this context, the idea is to change corporate tax schemes to 'capture' money from

tech firms. 'Take' means to acquire, 'Remove' means to eliminate, and 'Seize' implies confiscation, which don't fully fit in this context



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