

Nipped in the bud: On baby trafficking

Both supply and demand sides of baby trafficking need to be stopped

Criminal activity is mostly **driven** by a combination of socio-economic factors — **poverty** on one end, wealth on the other, and **unmet** needs or desires. The recent **inter-State** baby **smuggling racket** that was **busted** by the Telangana police **should** be seen under this **lens**. While news of baby smuggling rackets **dominate headlines** from time to time, **blowing the lid off** of this network has revealed **chilling subterranean** levels of operation, **spanning** several States. An inter-State gang smuggled children from Delhi and Pune and sold them to **prospective** parents in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. As many as 11 people were arrested for the smuggling of as many as 50 babies in the past year. As per initial reports, the gang had been ‘purchasing’ babies from two persons in Delhi and one person in Pune, **traffic** them to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and sell to the highest **bidder** among **childless** couples in these southern States. It is learnt that the rate for a baby could be between ₹1.80 lakh and ₹5.50 lakh, **netting** the brokers between ₹50,000 and ₹1 lakh as commission. Three women in the gang had **apparently** been **booked** for the same offence earlier.

Further investigation will reveal how the babies were **procured**, but this is not the first time such rackets have been busted. There is no reason to believe that the reasons were any different: poverty of the biological parents in many cases, urging them to sell their newborns for a **paltry** sum, and smuggling of newborns from government hospitals where security is **lax**. On the other end of the **spectrum** are couples **eager** to have children, and **impatient** with the long waiting time to adopt a baby legally. The current waiting **time** to adopt a child under two years **can** be anywhere between two to four years. While the lengthy process is **put in place** to ensure that the best interests of the child are served, the non-availability of babies for **adoption** has **queered the pitch**, allowing the demand to **seek** supply **avenues by hook or by crook**. **Rounding up** a gang might at best be a short-term measure in this particular situation. Children are not commodities to purchase at a premium from the free market when supply is low. The government needs to do many things at once to ensure such incidents do not occur again: provide effective poverty **alleviation** schemes; employment opportunities for youth; generate awareness about adoption schemes for both biological and adoptive parents; remove unnecessary **bureaucratic** processes in adoption, and ensure effective policing to nip such **plots** in the bud. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Nip in the bud** (phrase) – Suppress or stop something at an early stage, especially a problem or misbehavior आरंभ में ही रोकना
2. **Trafficking** (noun) – The act of buying or selling something illegally, especially human beings तस्करी
3. **Drive** (verb) – Propel, motivate, compel, spur, impel प्रेरित करना
4. **Poverty** (noun) – Destitution, indigence, penury, impoverishment, neediness गरीबी
5. **Unmet** (adjective) – Unfulfilled, unsatisfied, unaccomplished, not realized पूरा न किया गया
6. **Inter-state** (adjective) – Existing or carried on between states अंतर्राज्यीय
7. **Smuggling** (noun) – The illegal movement of goods into or out of a country तस्करी
8. **Racket** (noun) – Illegal scheme, scam, fraud, swindle, con trick अवैध धंधा
9. **Bust** (verb) – Break, raid, smash, crack down, dismantle ध्वस्त करना
10. **Lens** (noun) – A way of looking at or analyzing something दृष्टिकोण
11. **Dominate** (verb) – Control, rule, overshadow, predominate, command हावी होना
12. **Headline** (noun) – An important or sensational piece of news. सुर्खियों
13. **Blow the lid off** (phrase) – Reveal, expose, uncover, disclose, unearth पर्दा उठाना
14. **Chilling** (adjective) – Frightening, alarming, terrifying, disturbing, blood-curdling भयावह
15. **Subterranean** (adjective) – Underground, hidden, secret, concealed, buried भूमिगत
16. **Span** (verb) – Extend, stretch, bridge, cover, reach फैलाना
17. **Prospective** (adjective) – Potential, future, possible, probable, likely संभावित
18. **Traffic** (verb) – Smuggle, transfer, trade, operate, market तस्करी करना
19. **Bidder** (noun) – Offerer, proposer, buyer, contestant, applicant बोली लगाने वाला
20. **Childless** (adjective) – Without children, infertile, barren, sterile, without offspring निःसंतान
21. **Net** (verb) – To get something good or to earn a lot of money from something आमदनी पाना
22. **Apparently** (adverb) – Seemingly, ostensibly, evidently, supposedly, outwardly जाहिर तौर पर

23. **Book** (verb) – to officially accuse someone of a crime मामला दर्ज करना
24. **Procure** (verb) – Obtain, acquire, secure, get, buy प्राप्त करना
25. **Paltry** (adjective) – Meager, insignificant, trivial, scanty, negligible मामूली
26. **Lax** (adjective) – Negligent, careless, lenient, slack, loose ढीला/ लापरवाह
27. **Spectrum** (noun) – Range, gamut, scope, extent, variety श्रृंखला
28. **Eager** (to) (adjective) – Keen, enthusiastic, anxious, impatient, avid उत्सुक
29. **Impatient** (with) (adjective) – Restless, eager, hasty, intolerant, agitated आतुर
30. **Put in place** (phrase) – Establish, set up, implement, institute, install स्थापित करना
31. **Adoption** (noun) – The act of legally taking another's child and bringing it up as one's own गोद लेना
32. **Queer the pitch** (phrase) – Complicate matters, disrupt plans, spoil, thwart, interfere बाधा डालना
33. **Seek** (verb) – Search, look for, pursue, quest, hunt for तलाशना
34. **Avenue** (noun) – Path, route, way, method, means मार्ग
35. **By hook or by crook** (phrase) – By any means necessary, one way or another, by fair means or foul किसी भी तरह से
36. **Round up** (phrasal verb) – Gather, collect, arrest, apprehend, corral हिरासत में लेना
37. **Alleviation** (noun) – Relief, mitigation, reduction, easing, lessening उन्मूलन
38. **Bureaucratic** (adjective) – Administrative, governmental, official, procedural, red-tape नौकरशाही
39. **Plot** (noun) – Scheme, plan, conspiracy, intrigue, design साजिश

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Dual Causes of Baby Trafficking:** Baby trafficking is driven by a combination of poverty and wealth, addressing both supply and demand.
2. **Recent Racket Bust:** Telangana police recently busted an inter-State baby smuggling racket.
3. **Operation Scale:** The operation spanned several states, with children smuggled from Delhi and Pune to Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
4. **Arrests Made:** 11 people were arrested for smuggling around 50 babies in the past year.
5. **Transactional Details:** Babies were bought from contacts in Delhi and Pune and sold to childless couples in southern states.
6. **High Prices:** The cost of a baby ranged between ₹1.80 lakh and ₹5.50 lakh, with brokers earning ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh as commission.
7. **Repeat Offenders:** Three women in the gang had previous records for similar offences.
8. **Underlying Reasons:** Poverty leads biological parents to sell their newborns, and lax hospital security aids smuggling.
9. **Adoption Delays:** Long waiting times for legal adoption, between two to four years, push desperate couples toward illegal means.
10. **Legal Process:** The lengthy adoption process ensures child welfare but also drives demand for illegal adoption.
11. **Short-term Measures:** Arresting a gang is a temporary solution; comprehensive measures are needed.
12. **Children as Commodities:** Children should not be treated as market commodities due to low supply.
13. **Government Actions Needed:** Effective poverty alleviation schemes and employment opportunities for youth are essential.
14. **Awareness and Education:** Generating awareness about legal adoption schemes for both biological and adoptive parents is crucial.
15. **Streamlining Adoption:** Removing unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles in the adoption process and ensuring effective policing can prevent such incidents.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What can be inferred about the socio-economic factors driving baby trafficking as per the passage?** [Editorial page]
 - A. Baby trafficking is solely driven by the high demand for children among wealthy families.
 - B. The criminal activity of baby trafficking is influenced by a combination of poverty, wealth, and unmet desires.
 - C. Only wealthy individuals are involved in the demand side of baby trafficking, with no contribution from other socio-economic groups.
 - D. The inter-State baby smuggling racket was exclusively motivated by the high financial gains from the sale of babies.
2. **What is the main factor contributing to the demand side of baby trafficking as discussed in the passage?**
 - A. The impatience of couples with the lengthy legal adoption process, leading them to seek illegal means to adopt a child.
 - B. The non-availability of babies for adoption, causing couples to look for illegal alternatives.
 - C. The poverty of biological parents, pushing them to sell their newborns.
 - D. Lax security measures in government hospitals, making it easy to smuggle newborns.
3. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Optimistic
 - B. Humorous
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Cautionary
4. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The effectiveness of the Telangana police in busting criminal rackets
 - B. The socio-economic factors driving criminal activity
 - C. The need for better adoption processes and poverty alleviation
 - D. The profitability of baby smuggling operations
5. **Which of the following is a fact based on the passage?**
 - A. The baby trafficking racket operated solely within the State of Telangana, with no involvement from other states.
 - B. The gang involved in the baby trafficking racket had smuggled children from Delhi and Pune and sold them in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
 - C. The Telangana police had previously caught the same gang for baby trafficking, leading to their eventual arrest this year.
 - D. The price for a trafficked baby was fixed at ₹1.80 lakh regardless of the circumstances or buyer.

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.

Jhumpa _____1_____ the kitchen and caught hold of her mother saying, "Ma, I am not going to eat this bitter karela (bittergourd). Give me gur (jaggery) and roti." Ma smiled and said, "You

ate roti and sugar in the morning.” Jhoolan ____2____ Jhumpa, “Don’t you get bored of only one kind of taste?” Jhumpa replied quickly, “Do you get bored with lickingimli (tamarind)? I bet your mouth is watering just by hearing the word imli.” “Sure I love the sour imli. But I eat sweet and salty things too. I even eat karela,” said Jhoolan and looked at her mother. They both laughed ____3____. Jhoolan said to Jhumpa, “Let’s play a game. You close your eyes and open your mouth. I will put something to eat in your mouth. You have to tell what it is.” Jhoolan took a few drops of lemon juice in a spoon and put them in Jhumpa’s mouth. “Sour lemon,” Jhumpa replied quickly. Jhoolan then picked up a small piece of jaggery. Her mother suggested, “Crush it, otherwise she will know what it is?” Jhoolan crushed the jaggery but Jhumpa easily guessed it. They played the game with different food items. Jhumpa could tell the fried fish even before tasting it. Jhoolan said, “Now close your nose, and tell me what this is?” Jhumpa was confused, “It is a bit ____4____, a little salty and somewhat sour. Give me one more spoonful.” Jhoolan took another spoonful of the cooked karela, ____5____ Jhumpa’s eyes, and said, “Here it is, eat!” Jhumpa laughed, “Yes, give me more.”

6. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
 - A. ran into
 - B. run into
 - C. ran in
 - D. run in
7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
 - A. Bruised
 - B. Disposed
 - C. Asserted
 - D. Teased
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
 - A. Steadily
 - B. Unswervingly
 - C. Heartily
 - D. Expressly
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**
 - A. Somber
 - B. Hamper
 - C. Batter
 - D. Bitter
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5**
 - A. Uncovered
 - B. Ensnared
 - C. Entangled
 - D. Covered
11. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

Pull a fast one

 - A. Progress fast

- B. Take quick action
C. Trick someone
D. Believe someone easily
12. Select the most appropriate **one word substitution** for the given group of words.
To increase the speed
A. Activate
B. Assimilate
C. Accelerate
D. Exhilarate
13. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word
A. Opportunity
B. Obscure
C. Omision
D. Obsolete
14. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Out of the given options pick the one that gives their correct order.**
A. These are generated by a violent undersea disturbance or ocean activity.
B. Once generated, they travel outward on the ocean surface in all directions.
C. A tsunami is made up of a series of very long waves.
D. Spreading thus, they look like ripples caused by throwing a rock in a pond
A. BADC
B. CBDA
C. CABD
D. BDCA
15. **Select the most appropriate one word substitution for the given group of words.**
Pertaining to an individual from birth
A. Chronic
B. Habitual
C. Congenital
D. Anomaly
16. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
See eye to eye
A. Stare at someone
B. See clearly
C. Agree with someone
D. Be suspicious
17. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select No improvement.**
If they will get married, they will probably settle in Mumbai.
A. If they will be getting married
B. If they had got married
C. If they get married

- D. No improvement
18. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
Have you _____ for a job in this company?
- A. approved
 - B. supplied
 - C. applied
 - D. Appointed
19. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
CORDIAL
- A. cold
 - B. rude
 - C. warm
 - D. Hard
20. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
DISHEARTENED
- A. disgusted
 - B. disgraced
 - C. disliked
 - D. Depressed
21. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word.**
HASTE
- A. Delay
 - B. Dash
 - C. Rush
 - D. Lose
22. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word**
- A. Edible
 - B. Monarch
 - C. Delegait
 - D. Rebel
23. **Select the correct indirect form of the given sentence.**
Mahesh said to Rita, "Don't play in the sun."
- A. Mahesh ordered Rita that not play in the sun.
 - B. Mahesh requested Rita that don't play in the sun.
 - C. Mahesh told to Rita to not play in the sun.
 - D. Mahesh advised Rita not to play in the sun.
24. **In the sentence identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.**
The both children go to the same school.
- A. same school
 - B. children go
 - C. to the
 - D. The both

25. Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select No improvement.

They stopped to laugh as soon as the teacher entered the classroom.

- A. stopped laugh
- B. stopped laughing
- C. No improvement
- D. stop laughing

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

- B) This accurately captures the socio-economic factors mentioned in the passage: poverty, wealth, and unmet desires.**

A: The passage mentions both poverty and wealth as drivers, not just high demand among wealthy families.

C: The passage implies a broader socio-economic involvement, not limited to wealthy individuals.

D: While financial gains are a motive, the passage emphasizes a combination of factors including socio-economic conditions
- A) The impatience of couples with the lengthy legal adoption process, leading them to seek illegal means to adopt a child.**

A: The passage mentions that the lengthy waiting time to adopt a child legally, which can be between two to four years, drives couples to seek illegal means to adopt a child.

B: While non-availability of babies for adoption is a contributing factor, it is not highlighted as the main factor driving the demand for baby trafficking. The impatience due to the lengthy process is emphasized more.

C: This option refers to the supply side of baby trafficking rather than the demand side.

D: Lax security measures in government hospitals contribute to the procurement of babies, not directly to the demand side.
- D) Cautionary**

A. The passage does not express hopefulness or a positive outlook; instead, it addresses serious concerns about baby trafficking.

B. The passage deals with a grave and serious topic, which is not presented in a light or amusing manner.

C. The tone is not detached or unconcerned; it shows a clear concern for the issues discussed.

D. The passage warns about the severe issues and consequences of baby trafficking and emphasizes the need for systemic changes to prevent such incidents.
- C) The need for better adoption processes and poverty alleviation**

A. While the passage mentions the police action, it is not the central focus.

B. This is a significant point discussed, but it serves more to explain the underlying issues rather than being the primary theme.

C. The passage emphasizes the necessity of improving adoption procedures and implementing poverty alleviation measures to prevent baby trafficking.

D. The passage mentions the financial aspects of the racket, but it is not the central theme.
- B) This is a direct fact mentioned in the passage, specifying the origin and destination of the trafficked children.**

A: The passage clearly states that the racket operated across multiple states including Delhi, Pune, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh.

C: While three women in the gang had been previously booked for the same offence, the passage does not state that the entire gang had been caught earlier.

D: The passage mentions that the price for a baby could vary between ₹1.80 lakh and ₹5.50 lakh, not a fixed price.

6. A) 'ran into' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि यह एक phrasal verb है जिसका अर्थ है तेजी से या अचानक किसी स्थान में प्रवेश करना। यहाँ झुम्पा के रसोई में तेजी से जाने का वर्णन किया गया है, इसलिए 'ran into' सही है। 'run into' वर्तमान काल में है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है। 'ran in' का अर्थ स्पष्ट रूप से प्रवेश करना नहीं है, और 'run in' भी वर्तमान काल में है, जो सही नहीं है।
'ran into' will be used because it is a phrasal verb meaning to enter a place quickly or suddenly. The sentence describes Jhumpa quickly entering the kitchen, making 'ran into' appropriate. 'run into' is in the present tense, which is not suitable here. 'ran in' does not fully convey the action of entering quickly, and 'run in' is also in the present tense, which do not fit in this context.
7. D) 'Teased' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि 'teased' का अर्थ है मजाक करना या चिढ़ाना। झूलन झुम्पा को मजाक कर रही थी, इसलिए 'teased' यहाँ सही है। 'Bruised' का अर्थ है चोट पहुंचाना, 'Disposed' का अर्थ है इच्छुक होना, और 'Asserted' का अर्थ है जोर देना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
'Teased' will be used because it means to make fun of or mock. Jhoolan was making fun of Jhumpa, so 'teased' is fitting here. 'Bruised' means to injure, 'Disposed' means to be inclined, and 'Asserted' means to insist, which don't fit in this context.
8. C) 'Heartily' का use होगा क्योंकि 'heartily' का अर्थ है पूरे दिल से या जोर से हंसना। यहाँ दोनों का हंसना mention है, इसलिए 'heartily' सही है। 'Steadily' का अर्थ है स्थिरता से, 'Unswervingly' का अर्थ है बिना झुके या विचलित हुए, और 'Expressly' का अर्थ है स्पष्ट रूप से, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
'Heartily' will be used because it means to laugh with full heart or vigorously. The passage describes both of them laughing, so 'heartily' is appropriate here. 'Steadily' means steadily, 'Unswervingly' means without deviation, and 'Expressly' means explicitly, which don't fit in this context.
9. D) Bitter' का use होगा क्योंकि "bitter" का अर्थ होता है कड़वा। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Jhumpa ने taste को describe किया है जिसमें एक स्वाद कड़वा भी था, इसलिए 'bitter' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Somber' का अर्थ होता है उदासीन या गंभीर, 'Hamper' का अर्थ है बाधा डालना, और 'Batter' का अर्थ होता है घोल, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
'Bitter' will be used because it means having a sharp, pungent taste or smell; not sweet. The sentence mentions Jhumpa describing the taste, which included a bitter flavor, making 'bitter' fitting here. Whereas, 'Somber' means serious or grave, 'Hamper' means to hinder or impede, and 'Batter' means a mixture used for cooking, which don't fit in this context.
10. A) 'Uncovered' का use होगा क्योंकि "uncovered" का अर्थ होता है किसी वस्तु को ढकना हटाना या उजागर करना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Jhoolan ने Jhumpa की आँखें खोल दीं, इसलिए 'uncovered' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Ensnared' का अर्थ होता है फँसाना, 'Entangled' का अर्थ होता है उलझना, और 'Covered' का अर्थ होता है ढकना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
'Uncovered' will be used because it means to remove a cover from something or reveal. The sentence mentions Jhoolan opening Jhumpa's eyes, making 'uncovered' fitting here. Whereas, 'Ensnared' means to trap, 'Entangled' means to tangle up, and 'Covered' means to put something over, which don't fit in this context.
11. C) Pull a fast one (idiom) – Trick someone धोखा देना
12. C) **Accelerate** (verb) – To increase in speed or rate. गति बढ़ाना

- **Activate** (verb) – To make something active or operative. सक्रिय करना
 - **Assimilate** (verb) – To take in, understand, or absorb information, values, or culture. सम्मिलित करना
 - **Exhilarate** (verb) – To make someone feel very happy or animated. उत्साहित करना
13. C) The INCORRECTLY spelt word among the given options is C. "Omission". The correct spelling is "Omission छोड़ दिया गया, नजरअंदाज किया गया.
14. C) **CABD**
A tsunami is made up of a series of very long waves These are generated by a violent undersea disturbance or ocean activity. Once generated, they travel outward on the ocean surface in all directions. Spreading thus, they look like ripples caused by throwing a rock in a pond
15. C) **Congenital** (adjective) – Pertaining to a condition present at birth, whether inherited or caused by the environment, particularly the uterine environment. जन्मजात
- **Chronic** (adjective) – (of an illness) persisting for a long time or constantly recurring. दीर्घकालिक
 - **Habitual** (adjective) – done or doing constantly or as a habit. अभ्यस्त
 - **Anomaly** (noun) – something that deviates from what is standard, normal, or expected. विपरीतता
16. C) **See eye to eye** (idiom) – Agree with someone सहमत होना
17. C) **'will get married'** के बदले 'get married' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Conditional Sentences Type 1 में, if clause में Future Tense का प्रयोग नहीं होता है; जैसे— If it rains, we will not go out.
- 'get married' will be used instead of 'will get married' because in Conditional Sentences Type 1, the use of Future Tense is not appropriate in the if clause; Like— If it rains, we will not go out.
18. C) **applied'** का use होगा क्योंकि "applied" का अर्थ होता है किसी नौकरी या पद के लिए आवेदन करना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि क्या आपने इस कंपनी में नौकरी के लिए आवेदन किया है, इसलिए 'applied' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'approved' का अर्थ है मंजूरी देना, 'supplied' का अर्थ है प्रदान करना और 'appointed' का अर्थ है नियुक्त करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **applied'** should be used because it means to make a formal application or request for a job or position. The sentence is asking if you have made an application for a job in this company, making 'applied' fitting here. Whereas, 'approved' means to consent, 'supplied' means to provide, and 'appointed' means to assign a job or role, which don't fit in this context.
19. C) **Cordial** (adjective) – Warm and friendly, amiable, hospitable, affable. सौहार्दपूर्ण
- Synonym: **Warm** (adjective) – Having or showing enthusiasm, affection, or kindness. गरमा गरम
- **Cold** (adjective) – Lacking affection or warmth, unfriendly, frigid, aloof. ठंडा
 - **Rude** (adjective) – Offensively impolite or ill-mannered, discourteous, insolent, impudent. अभद्र
 - **Hard** (adjective) – Solid, firm, and resistant to pressure, tough, rigid. कठिन
20. D) **Disheartened** (adjective) – Feeling a loss of spirit or morale, dejected, downhearted, discouraged, dismayed. निराश

Synonym: **Depressed** (adjective) – In a state of general unhappiness or despondency, downhearted, sad, unhappy. उदास

- **Disgusted** (adjective) – Feeling revulsion or strong disapproval, sickened, nauseated, repelled. घृणित
- **Disgraced** (adjective) – Having lost one's reputation, dishonored, shamed, discredited. अपमानित
- **Disliked** (adjective) – Regarded with distaste or hostility, unpopular, unwelcome, objectionable. प्रतिकूल

21. A) **Haste** (noun) – Quickness, speed, rapidity, urgency, hurry. जल्दी

Antonym: **Delay** (noun) – The act of postponing, hindering, or causing something to occur slowly or at a later time. देरी

- **Dash** (noun) – A small quantity thrown or mixed into something; a sprint or quick movement. तेज़ी
- **Rush** (noun) – A sudden quick movement towards something, haste, hurry. जल्दी
- **Lose** (verb) – Cease to have, either physically or in an abstract sense; be deprived of. खो देना

22. C) The incorrectly spelled word among the options is 'Delegait'. The correct spelling is 'Delegate', प्रतिनिधि, प्रतिनिधित्व करने वाला.

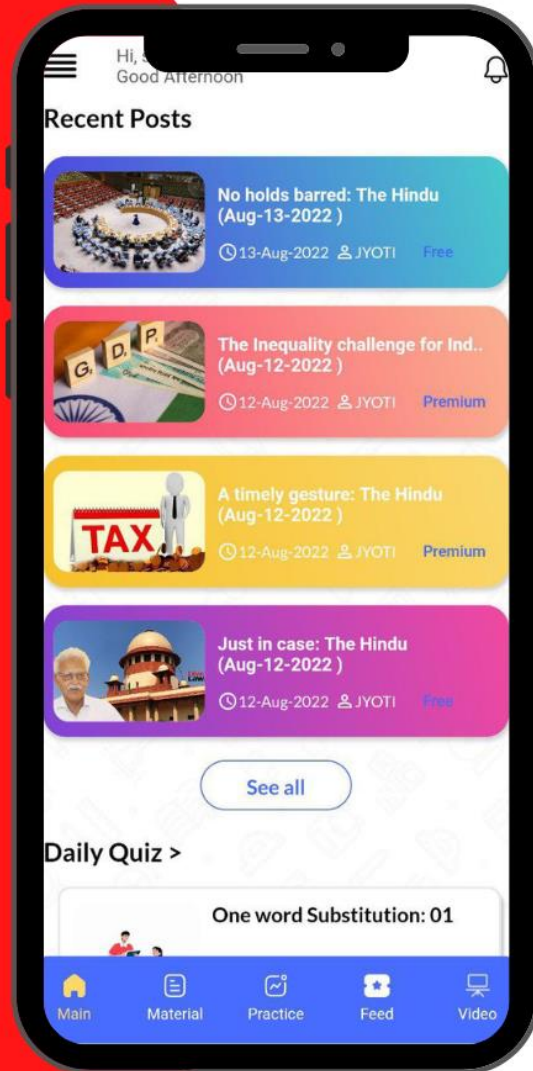
23. D) Mahesh advised Rita not to play in the sun.

24. D) '**The both**' के बदले 'Both the' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'both' एक Quantifier है और इसका सही प्रयोग ऐसा होता है— Both the children. इसलिए, वाक्य में त्रुटि 'The both' में है।

- 'Both the' will be used instead of 'The both' because 'both' is a quantifier and it is correctly used as— Both the children. Hence, the error in the sentence is in 'The both'.

25. B) '**stopped to laugh**' के बदले 'stopped laughing' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इस संदर्भ में हम एक क्रिया को रोकने के लिए gerund (-ing form) का प्रयोग करते हैं; जैसे— He stopped talking when the meeting began.

- 'stopped laughing' will be used instead of 'stopped to laugh' because in this context we use a gerund (-ing form) to indicate stopping an action; Like— He stopped talking when the meeting began.



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