

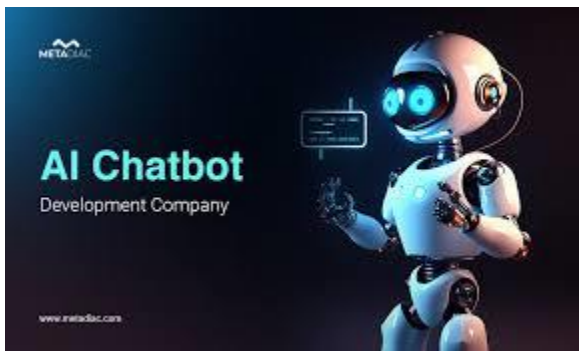
Why AI chatbot of your older self won't stop you from making stupid decisions

If I only knew then, what I know now..." It is a **lament** the young do not understand, for they do not know that they do not know. But as time passes — sometimes in days, sometimes in years — many people have wanted to go back and **counsel, scold** and guide themselves to better decisions. Some may wish to go back only a day, and caution their past **selves** against that fifth drink, or the late-night **binge eating**.

For others, regrets can **span** years and even a lifetime. It may be that, after **slaving away** at a job for **decades**, someone may want to go back and quit, when time and opportunity allowed them to. Now, AI is trying to allow people to talk to younger versions of themselves.

According to a report in The Guardian, **researchers** at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) **have** built an AI-powered chatbot that **simulates** a user's older self and **dishes out** advice. The profile picture is aged — **wrinkles**, grey hair and **perhaps** a bit of **wisdom** in the eyes — to make the **faux** time travel feel more authentic.

It gives career advice, tells people to **cherish** their parents, and shares any number of other pearls of wisdom. If the advice **sounds** a little **corny**, users have only themselves to blame — the chatbot is based on their behaviour and inputs. Unfortunately, though, it's **unlikely** to **alter** the **course** of lives.



The problem with the “I wish I'd known then what I know now” **aspiration is**, as Terry Pratchett **pointed out**, “when you got older you found out that you wasn't you then. You then was a **twerp**.” It takes a life filled with **regrets** and what-ifs to gain the wisdom to give advice. **Ignoring** the advice of elders **is** what being young is **often** about. A chatbot won't change that. If kids were so **keen** on **perspective**, they would just listen to their parents. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **One's old self** (phrase) – The person one used to be, earlier version of oneself, former self, past self अपने पुराने रूप
2. **Lament** (noun) – Expression of grief, mourning, sorrow, regret, complaint विलाप
3. **Counsel** (verb) – Advise, guide, mentor, recommend, direct सलाह देना
4. **Scold** (verb) – Rebuke, reprimand, admonish, chastise, berate डाँटना
5. **Selves** (noun) – Plural of self, individual identities, versions of oneself, personal identities स्वयं
6. **Binge eating** (noun) – Overeating, gluttony, excessive eating, compulsive eating, overeating spree अधिक भोजन करना
7. **Span** (verb) – Extend over, cover, bridge, stretch across, encompass फैलाना
8. **Slave away** (phrasal verb) – Work hard, toil, labor, grind, work tirelessly कठोर परिश्रम करना
9. **Decade** (noun) – period of ten years दशक
10. **Simulate** (verb) – Imitate, replicate, mimic, model, reproduce अनुकरण करना
11. **Dish out** (phrasal verb) – Distribute, give out, dispense, serve, hand out बाँटना
12. **Wrinkle** (noun) – Crease, line, fold, crinkle, furrow झुर्रियाँ
13. **Perhaps** (adverb) – Maybe, possibly, conceivably, potentially, likely शायद
14. **Wisdom** (noun) – Knowledge, insight, understanding, prudence, good judgment बुद्धिमत्ता
15. **Faux** (adjective) – Fake, false, imitation, artificial, synthetic नकली
16. **Cherish** (verb) – Treasure, value, appreciate, hold dear, care for संजोना
17. **Sound** (verb) – Seem, appear, look लगना
18. **Corny** (noun) – Cliché, overly sentimental, trite, banal, hackneyed सुनने में अजीब
19. **Unlikely** (adjective) – Improbable, doubtful, not likely, implausible, unexpected असंभावित
20. **Alter** (verb) – Change, modify, adjust, transform, revise बदलना
21. **Course** (noun) – Direction, path, route, trajectory, way दिशा
22. **Aspiration** (noun) – Ambition, goal, desire, hope, dream आकांक्षा
23. **Point out** (phrasal verb) – Indicate, highlight, mention, note, bring attention to इंगित करना

24. **Twerp** (noun) – Fool, idiot, simpleton, dolt, nitwit मूर्ख
25. **Regret** (noun) – Remorse, sorrow, repentance, lament, dissatisfaction पछतावा
26. **Often** (adverb) – Frequently, regularly, repeatedly, commonly, usually अक्सर
27. **Keen** (on) (adjective) – Interested in, eager for, enthusiastic about, passionate about, intent on उत्सुक
28. **Perspective** (noun) – Viewpoint, outlook, angle, stance, understanding दृष्टिकोण

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Summary of the Editorial

1. **Regret and Reflection:** The piece begins by highlighting a common sentiment: wishing one could go back and give advice to their younger self to avoid mistakes.
2. **Desire for Retrospection:** Many people feel regret for decisions made, whether trivial like overindulging in food or drink, or significant like career choices.
3. **AI Chatbot Development:** Researchers at MIT have developed an AI-powered chatbot that simulates a user's older self to offer advice and guidance.
4. **Authentic Experience:** The chatbot uses an aged profile picture, complete with wrinkles and grey hair, to create a realistic and authentic interaction.
5. **Personalized Advice:** The chatbot provides career advice, emphasizes cherishing parents, and offers other wisdom based on the user's behavior and inputs.
6. **Limitations of AI Advice:** Despite its personalized nature, the chatbot is unlikely to significantly change users' life decisions.
7. **Youthful Ignorance:** The aspiration of "I wish I'd known then what I know now" is problematic because younger selves lack the wisdom and experience to appreciate such advice.
8. **Terry Pratchett's Insight:** The piece references Terry Pratchett, who pointed out that people change over time, and one's younger self may not have been capable of making wiser choices.
9. **Value of Experience:** Wisdom and the ability to give meaningful advice come from living through regrets and what-ifs, which a young person has not yet experienced.
10. **Ignoring Elderly Advice:** Young people often ignore the advice of their elders, which is a natural part of youth.
11. **Perspective and Youth:** If young people were interested in perspective and wisdom, they would already be listening to their parents and elders.
12. **Ineffectiveness of AI Chatbots:** The editorial suggests that an AI chatbot simulating an older self is unlikely to succeed in altering the decision-making patterns of young people.
13. **Corny Advice:** The advice given by the AI chatbot might seem corny to users, reflecting their own behaviors and inputs rather than providing profound insights.
14. **Human Nature:** The piece argues that human nature and the developmental stage of youth are resistant to external advice, whether from AI or real elders.
15. **Conclusion:** Ultimately, the editorial concludes that while the idea of advising one's younger self is appealing, it overlooks the inherent nature of youth to make mistakes and learn from them independently.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Based on the passage, which of the following can be inferred about the effectiveness of the AI-powered chatbot?** [Editorial page]
 - (i) The chatbot is effective because it provides advice based on the user’s own behavior and inputs.
 - (ii) The chatbot is unlikely to be effective because young people are naturally inclined to ignore advice from elders.
 - (iii) The chatbot’s advice may be considered corny by users because it mirrors their own past behaviors and decisions.
 - A. i only
 - B. ii only
 - C. i and iii only
 - D. ii and iii only
2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The inevitability of making poor decisions in youth
 - B. The advancements in AI technology
 - C. The importance of listening to parental advice
 - D. The limitations of AI in altering human behavior
3. **Based on the passage, which of the following statements is TRUE?**
 - A. The young understand the concept of “I wish I’d known then what I know now” because they frequently make the same mistakes.
 - B. Many people wish to advise their younger selves to avoid decisions like excessive drinking or binge eating.
 - C. The MIT AI-powered chatbot can only provide advice for decisions related to job changes.
 - D. The AI chatbot simulates a user's younger self to give more relevant advice.
4. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Nostalgic
 - B. Humorous
 - C. Cynical
 - D. Optimistic
5. **Based on the passage, which of the following statements is FALSE?**
 - A. Regrets people have can span short and long periods, such as days or a lifetime.
 - B. AI-powered chatbots by MIT are designed to simulate users’ older selves for providing advice.
 - C. The concept of going back in time to advise oneself is a lament only the old understand.
 - D. The AI-powered chatbot developed by MIT makes use of young-looking profile pictures to simulate authenticity.
6. **Choose the word that is closest in meaning to "lament" as used in the passage.**
 - A. Praise
 - B. Complaint
 - C. Contentment

D. Satisfaction

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

Gopal was waiting for his mausi's family to visit them. They will be coming the next day for their holidays. He was thinking about all the fun and nice food that he would have with his cousins. Just then his mother ____1____, "Gopal, before you sleep, remember to ____2____ two small bowls (katoris) of chana (gram)." She was going to his Bua's house and would return only in the morning. As he was soaking the chana, Gopal thought, "How will two small bowls of this be enough for eight persons?" So he soaked another two bowls of chana. When his mother returned the next morning, she saw that the chana were ____3____ from the vessel. "How much did you soak?" asked his mother. "How did that happen!" wondered Gopal. "You soaked too much! Anyway it is good, now I will cook half of them, and leave the other half to sprout. I can send ____4____ to your aunt. The doctor has told her to eat sprouts", mother said. She ____5____ half of the soaked chana in a wet cloth, and hung them up to sprout.

7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
 - A. Call up
 - B. Call out
 - C. Called out
 - D. Called for
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
 - A. Soak
 - B. Seek
 - C. Seak
 - D. Sock
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
 - A. Growing
 - B. Overflowing
 - C. Running
 - D. Overflow
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**
 - A. This
 - B. It
 - C. That
 - D. These
11. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5**
 - A. try
 - B. Tried
 - C. Tied
 - D. Fried
12. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the given group of words.**

A person who preaches religion and is considered to be a messenger of God

- A. Prophet
- B. Atheist
- C. Volunteer
- D. Scholar

13. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word.**

GROTESQUE

- A. Monstrous
- B. Attractive
- C. Distorted
- D. Ugly

14. **In the sentence identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.**

All employees of the National Sugar Factory differ from their boss on the medical and pension policy.

- A. on the medical and pension policy
- B. differ from their boss
- C. All employees
- D. of the National Sugar Factory

15. **Select the correctly spelt word.**

- A. Itinary
- B. Renaissance
- C. Greivance
- D. Sovereignty

16. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

Juvenile

- A. Mature
- B. Insane
- C. Wise
- D. Childish

17. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

Like a dying duck in a thunderstorm

- A. Daring
- B. Confident
- C. Dejected
- D. Comfortable

18. **In the sentence identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.**

She behaves in a such a cordial manner that everyone admires her.

- A. She behaves in a
- B. such a cordial manner
- C. that everyone
- D. admires her

19. Given below are four jumbled sentences. Out of the given options pick the one that gives their correct order.
- A. It was an honor as well as a relief to the family of the deceased.
B. The district collector announced a gallantry award and financial aid for his family.
C. A soldier died fighting in the battlefield.
D. The money was promptly disbursed from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund
- A. BACD
B. CBDA
C. BCAD
D. CDBA
20. Select the most appropriate **antonym** of the given word.
STRINGENT
- A. Lenient
B. Strict
C. Severe
D. Stern
21. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.
Repercussion
- A. Reaction
B. Rearrangement
C. Reminder
D. Recollection
22. Select the correct passive form of the given sentence.
Why do you spend so much money?
- A. Why has so much money been spent by you?
B. Why is so much money being spent by you?
C. Why was so much money spent by you?
D. Why is so much money spent by you?
23. Select the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.
The unruly behaviour of the students _____ their teacher.
- A. calmed
B. pleased
C. comforted
D. Irritated
24. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given **idiom**.
To paddle one's own canoe
- A. Depend on oneself
B. To take rest
C. To exercise hard
D. To act in a childish way
25. Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select No Improvement.

No soon the Chief Minister step in than the bomb exploded.

- A. No sooner did the Chief Minister
- B. No sooner does the Chief Minister
- C. No soon had the Chief Minister
- D. No Improvement

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. D) ii and iii only

ii is correct because the passage explicitly mentions that "Ignoring the advice of elders is what being young is often about," indicating that young people are naturally inclined to ignore such advice, which suggests the chatbot's ineffectiveness.

iii is correct as the passage states, "If the advice sounds a little corny, users have only themselves to blame," implying that users might find the advice corny because it reflects their own past behaviors.

i is incorrect because, although the chatbot provides advice based on the user's behavior and inputs, the passage suggests this does not necessarily make it effective in altering their decisions.

2. D) The limitations of AI in altering human behavior

D) The passage focuses on the idea that an AI chatbot simulating an older self is unlikely to change the course of someone's life, highlighting the inherent limitations of such technology.

A) While this idea is mentioned, it serves more as a supporting point rather than the central theme.

B) The passage mentions AI advancements but primarily to critique their limitations rather than to celebrate them.

C) Although the passage touches on this, it is not the main focus but rather an example of the general resistance young people have to advice.

3. B) B is correct because the passage mentions that many people want to go back and counsel themselves to avoid decisions like excessive drinking or binge eating.

A is incorrect because the passage explicitly states that the young do not understand the lament "I wish I'd known then what I know now" because they do not know that they do not know.

C is incorrect because the passage mentions that people might want to advise themselves about a variety of decisions, not just job changes.

D is incorrect because the AI chatbot simulates an older version of the user, not a younger one.

4. C) Cynical

Cynical (Correct): The passage has a skeptical and somewhat dismissive tone towards the effectiveness of an AI chatbot simulating an older self to give advice. The author doubts its impact, referencing the inevitability of making poor decisions in youth.

Nostalgic: The passage does not reflect a longing for the past but rather critiques the idea of revisiting it to change decisions.

Humorous: Although there are humorous elements, such as the quote from Terry Pratchett, the overall tone is more critical and skeptical than purely funny.

Optimistic: The passage does not express hopefulness about the potential of AI chatbots; it questions their effectiveness.

5. **D) D is incorrect because the passage states that the profile picture used by the AI chatbot is aged with wrinkles and grey hair to make the time travel feel more authentic, not young-looking.**

A is correct because the passage states that regrets can span short periods (days) or long periods (years or a lifetime).

B is correct because the passage mentions that MIT has developed AI-powered chatbots that simulate users' older selves.

C is correct because the passage indicates that the young do not understand the lament "I wish I'd known then what I know now."

6. **B) Complaint**

This is correct because "lament" means to express sorrow or regret, which is similar to a complaint.

7. **C) 'Called out' का use होगा क्योंकि "called out" का अर्थ है किसी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना या किसी को आवाज देना। इस वाक्य में, गोपाल की माँ ने उसे कुछ करने के लिए याद दिलाया, इसलिए 'called out' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Call up' का अर्थ है फोन करना, 'Called on' का अर्थ है किसी से मिलना, और 'Called for' का अर्थ है कुछ मांगना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।**

'Called out' will be used because it means to draw someone's attention or to shout out. In this sentence, Gopal's mother is reminding him to do something, making 'called out' fitting here.

Whereas, 'Call up' means to phone, 'Called on' means to visit someone, and 'Called for' means to demand, which don't fit in this context.

8. **A) 'Soak' का use होगा क्योंकि "soak" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को पानी में भिगोना।**

Sentence में mention किया गया है कि उसकी माँ ने उसे दो छोटी कटोरियाँ चने भिगोने के लिए कहा, इसलिए 'soak' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Seek' का अर्थ होता है तलाश करना, 'Seak' एक गलत spelling है, और 'Sock' का अर्थ होता है मोजा, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

'Soak' will be used because it means to immerse something in water. The sentence mentions that his mother asked him to soak two small bowls of chana, making 'soak' fitting here.

Whereas, 'Seek' means to search for, 'Seak' is a misspelling, and 'Sock' means a piece of clothing for the foot, which don't fit in this context.

9. **B) Overflowing' का use होगा क्योंकि "overflowing" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ का कंटेनर से बाहर निकलना, जब वह जरूरत से ज्यादा भर जाती है। इस sentence में, जब गोकल की माँ ने देखा कि चना बर्तन से बाहर निकल रहा है, तो 'overflowing' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Growing' का**

अर्थ है बढ़ना, 'Running' का अर्थ है दौड़ना या बहना, और 'Overflow' सिर्फ एक क्रिया है जो बिना सही tense और grammar के है, इसलिए ये context में सही नहीं हैं।

'Overflowing' will be used because it means something spilling out of its container when it is overfilled. In this sentence, when Gopal's mother saw that the chana were spilling out of the vessel, 'overflowing' fits correctly. Whereas, 'Growing' means to increase in size, 'Running' means to flow or move swiftly, and 'Overflow' is just a verb that lacks proper tense and grammar, which don't fit in this context.

10. D) 'These' का use होगा क्योंकि "these" का अर्थ होता है 'ये' और यह plural noun के लिए use किया जाता है। sentence में mention किया गया है कि माँ ने अंकल को अंकुरित चना भेजने का विचार किया, और यह मात्रा में अधिक होने के कारण plural noun 'these' का प्रयोग सही होगा। जबकि 'This' का अर्थ है 'यह', जो singular के लिए use होता है, 'It' का अर्थ है 'यह' जो singular के लिए use होता है, और 'That' का अर्थ है 'वह' जो दूर के singular के लिए use होता है। इसलिए ये context में सही नहीं है।

'These' will be used because it means 'these' and is used for plural nouns. The sentence mentions that the mother thought of sending sprouted chana to the aunt, and since it refers to a larger quantity, the plural noun 'these' is appropriate. Whereas, 'This' means 'this' used for singular, 'It' means 'it' used for singular, and 'That' means 'that' used for distant singular, which don't fit in this context.

11. C) 'Tied' का use होगा क्योंकि "tied" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को बांधना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि मां ने आधे भीगे हुए चने को एक गीले कपड़े में बांधकर लटका दिया ताकि वह अंकुरित हो सकें, इसलिए 'tied' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Try' का अर्थ है प्रयास करना, 'Tried' का अर्थ है कोशिश किया, और 'Fried' का अर्थ है तलना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Tied' will be used because it means to bind or fasten something. The sentence mentions that the mother tied half of the soaked chana in a wet cloth and hung them up to sprout, making 'tied' fitting here. Whereas, 'Try' means to attempt, 'Tried' means attempted, and 'Fried' means to cook in oil, which don't fit in this context.

12. A) **Prophet** (noun) – A person who preaches religion and is considered to be a messenger of God. नबी

- **Atheist** (noun) – A person who disbelieves or lacks belief in the existence of God or gods. नास्तिक
- **Volunteer** (noun) – A person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task without being paid. स्वैच्छिक
- **Scholar** (noun) – A person who is highly knowledgeable in a particular subject. विद्वान

13. B) **Grotesque** (adjective) – Odd or unnatural in shape, appearance, or character; fantastically ugly or absurd; bizarre. **विचित्र**
 Antonym: **Attractive** (adjective) – Pleasing to the eye or mind; charming; having the power to draw attention. **आकर्षक**
- **Monstrous** (adjective) – Shockingly cruel or unjust; extremely large. **राक्षसी/ दैत्याकार**
 - **Distorted** (adjective) – Twisted out of shape; misrepresented. **विकृत**
 - **Ugly** (adjective) – Unpleasant or repulsive in appearance; unsightly. **भद्दा**
14. B) 'differ from' के बदले 'differ with' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि जब व्यक्ति के मत में अंतर होता है, तो 'differ with' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— I differ with you on this matter.
- 'differ with' will be used instead of 'differ from' because when there is a difference in opinion between people, we use 'differ with'; Like— I differ with you on this matter.
15. D) The correct spelling among the given options is '**Sovereignty**'. **सर्वोच्च शक्ति या प्राधिकृत.**
16. D) **Juvenile** (adjective) – Relating to young people, youthful, young. **युवा**
 Synonym: **Childish** (adjective) – Like a child, immature, infantile. **बालकीय**
- **Mature** (adjective) – Fully developed, grown-up, adult, seasoned. **परिपक्व**
 - **Insane** (adjective) – Mad, deranged, lunatic, mentally ill. **पागल**
 - **Wise** (adjective) – Having or showing experience, knowledge, and good judgment, sagacious, intelligent. **बुद्धिमान**
17. C) **Like a dying duck in a thunderstorm** (phrase) – Dejected **उदास**
18. A) **She behaves in a** के बदले 'She behaves in' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'such a' के पहले "a" का प्रयोग superfluous है।
- 'She behaves in' will be used instead of 'She behaves in a' because the "a" before 'such a' is redundant.
19. B) **CBDA**
 A soldier died fighting in the battlefield The district collector announced a gallantry award and financial aid for his family. The money was promptly disbursed from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund It was an honor as well as a relief to the family of the deceased.
20. A) **STRINGENT** (adjective) – Rigorous, strict, stern, severe, tight. **बहुत कठोर**
 Antonym: **Lenient** (adjective) – Indulgent, mild, tolerant, forgiving, merciful. **उदार**
- **Strict** (adjective) – Adhering closely to specified rules, standards, or procedures. **सख्त**
 - **Severe** (adjective) – Harsh, strict, stern, tough. **कठोर**

- **Stern** (adjective) – Serious, unrelenting, strict, severe. कड़ा

21. A) **Repercussion** (noun) – A consequence or aftereffect of an action or event, especially an indirect or unwelcome one. प्रतिप्रभाव

Synonym: **Reaction** (noun) – A response to some treatment, situation, or stimulus. प्रतिक्रिया

- **Rearrangement** (noun) – The action of arranging again or differently. पुनर्व्यवस्था
- **Reminder** (noun) – Something that causes someone to remember something. स्मारक
- **Recollection** (noun) – The action or faculty of remembering something; a memory or remembrance. स्मृति

22. D) Why is so much money spent by you?

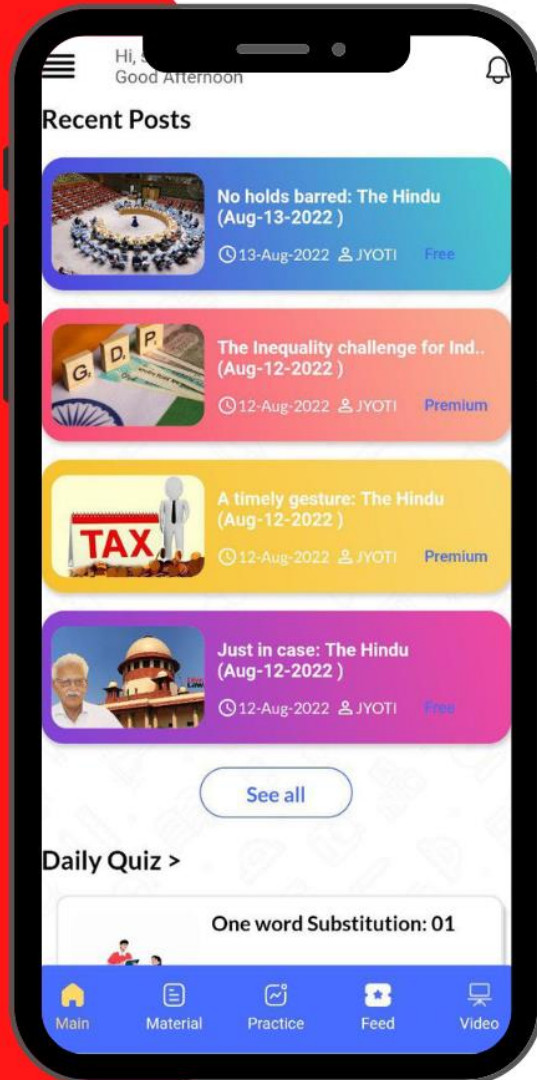
23. D) '**Irritated**' का use होगा क्योंकि "irritated" का अर्थ होता है परेशान या चिढ़ा हुआ। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि students का अनियमित व्यवहार था, इसलिए 'irritated' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Calmed' का अर्थ है शांत करना, 'Pleased' का अर्थ है खुश करना, और 'Comforted' का अर्थ है सांत्वना देना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- '**Irritated**' should be used because it means annoyed or vexed. The sentence mentions the unruly behavior of the students, making 'irritated' fitting here. Whereas, 'Calmed' means to make peaceful, 'Pleased' means to make happy, and 'Comforted' implies providing solace or assurance, which don't fit in this context.

24. A) **To paddle one's own canoe** (idiom) – Depend on oneself स्वयं पर निर्भर रहना

25. A) 'No soon the Chief Minister step in' के बदले 'No sooner did the Chief Minister step in' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'No sooner' के साथ 'did' का प्रयोग आमतौर पर पारंपरिक ढंग से Past Tense के लिए होता है; जैसे— No sooner did I arrive than the train left.

- '**No sooner did the Chief Minister step in**' will be used instead of 'No soon the Chief Minister step in' because with 'No sooner', 'did' is traditionally used for the Past Tense; Like— No sooner did I arrive than the train left.



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