

Servant leadership

A **servant-leader**, who makes service a top priority, automatically **embodies** all the required qualities that we **look for** in a leader. In other words, service attitude is the **thread** that **runs through** all the effective and **virtuous** leadership qualities.

Of all the **essential traits**, the single most important leadership **characteristic** is to serve. To be an effective social, political, economic and spiritual leader, one must be a good servant first. One doesn't lose leadership qualities when one serves; **on the contrary**, one naturally becomes a leader. It's because **humanity** is always inspired by the ideals and the **empathy** that they see in the lives of servant-leaders, and wish to follow them. A **servant-leader**, who makes service a top priority, automatically **embodies** all the required qualities that we look for in a leader. In other words, service attitude is the thread that runs through all the effective and virtuous leadership qualities.



the speaking tree

Great leaders such as M K Gandhi, Abraham Lincoln, Nelson Mandela and others like them, always **endeavoured** to serve others, which **resulted in** their leading **humanity** successfully towards life, liberty and happiness. A servant-leader being aware that work is not **merely** a matter of achieving results, but also growing up, **facilitates** others' development and **encourages** their growth... A servant leader leads through example: We learn best when we observe the behaviours of others and are **driven** to act accordingly. A **servant leader**, **be it** of a team, company, or nation, **sets** a good example, inspiring others with **impeccable** thoughts, words and **deeds**. In short, while serving selflessly, one becomes the **torchbearer**, inspiring others toward **noble** goals. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Embody** (verb) – Represent, exemplify, manifest, personify, symbolize **समाए होना**
2. **Look for** (phrasal verb) – Seek, search for, try to find, pursue **तलाश करना**
3. **Thread** (noun) – Theme, element, strand, idea **धागा**
4. **Run through** (phrasal verb) – Pervade, permeate, spread through, extend through **समाहित होना**
5. **Virtuous** (adjective) – Ethical, moral, righteous, noble, good **सदाचारी/ गुणवान**
6. **Essential** (adjective) – Necessary, vital, crucial, indispensable **आवश्यक**
7. **Trait** (noun) – Quality, characteristic, attribute, feature **गुण**
8. **Characteristic** (noun) – Feature, trait, quality, attribute **विशेषता**
9. **On the contrary** (phrase) – Conversely, in contrast, oppositely **इसके विपरीत**
10. **Humanity** (noun) – Mankind, humankind, people, society **मानवता**
11. **Empathy** (noun) – Compassion, understanding, sympathy, insight **सहानुभूति**
12. **Endeavour** (verb) – Try, strive, attempt, aim **प्रयास करना**
13. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – Lead to, cause, bring about, produce **परिणामस्वरूप होना**
14. **Humanity** (noun) – Mankind, humankind, people, society **मानवता**
15. **Merely** (adverb) – Only, just, simply, solely **केवल**
16. **Facilitate** (verb) – Assist, help, aid, make easy **सुगम बनाना**
17. **Encourage** (verb) – Inspire, motivate, stimulate, support **प्रोत्साहित करना**
18. **Drive** (verb) – Propel, motivate, push, urge **प्रेरित करना**
19. **Be it** (phrase) – Whether it is, even if it is **चाहे वह हो**
20. **Impeccable** (adjective) – Flawless, perfect, faultless, unblemished **परिपूर्ण/ त्रुटिरहित**
21. **Deed** (noun) – Action, act, performance, behavior **काम**
22. **Torchbearer** (noun) – Leader, pioneer, trailblazer, guide **पथप्रदर्शक**
23. **Noble** (adjective) – Honorable, virtuous, righteous, good **महान**

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Definition of Servant Leadership:** A servant-leader prioritizes service, embodying essential leadership qualities through a service attitude.
2. **Core Leadership Trait:** The most important leadership characteristic is the willingness to serve others.
3. **Foundation for Various Leaderships:** Effective social, political, economic, and spiritual leadership starts with being a good servant.
4. **Paradox of Service and Leadership:** Serving others enhances leadership qualities instead of diminishing them.
5. **Inspiration through Empathy:** Humanity is inspired by servant-leaders due to their ideals and empathy.
6. **Automatic Embodiment of Qualities:** By making service a top priority, a servant-leader naturally acquires necessary leadership traits.
7. **Service as a Common Thread:** Service attitude is the connecting factor among all effective and virtuous leadership qualities.
8. **Examples of Great Leaders:** Figures like M K Gandhi, Abraham Lincoln, and Nelson Mandela exemplified servant leadership.
9. **Successful Leadership through Service:** These leaders served others, leading humanity toward life, liberty, and happiness.
10. **Facilitating Others' Growth:** A servant-leader helps in the development and growth of others.
11. **Leading by Example:** A servant-leader inspires others by setting a good example through their thoughts, words, and deeds.
12. **Learning through Observation:** People learn best by observing the behaviors of servant-leaders and are motivated to act accordingly.
13. **Impact on Teams, Companies, and Nations:** Servant-leadership principles apply to leading teams, companies, or nations effectively.
14. **Selfless Service as Inspiration:** Selfless service makes a leader a torchbearer, inspiring others toward noble goals.
15. **Comprehensive Leadership:** Servant leadership encompasses being empathetic, inspirational, and growth-oriented, leading by example in all aspects.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which one of the following statements best summarizes the author's position on servant leadership?** Editorial Page
 - A. Servant leadership is primarily focused on enhancing one's own leadership qualities through self-service.
 - B. Servant leadership is an outdated concept that has little relevance in modern leadership contexts.
 - C. Servant leadership diminishes the authority and effectiveness of a leader by emphasizing service.
 - D. Servant leadership is the embodiment of all essential leadership traits through prioritizing service to others
2. **According to the passage, all of the following are true about servant leadership EXCEPT that:**
 - A. It inspires people through ideals and empathy.
 - B. It requires the leader to serve first to be effective.
 - C. It automatically embodies all required leadership qualities.
 - D. It is primarily focused on personal success and recognition.
3. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Cynical
 - B. Inspirational
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Melancholic
4. **What distinguishes a servant leader from other types of leaders according to the passage?**
 - A. A servant leader focuses primarily on achieving business results and profit margins.
 - B. A servant leader emphasizes personal growth and development for themselves.
 - C. A servant leader prioritizes the growth and development of others while setting an inspiring example.
 - D. A servant leader leads through authoritative commands and strict discipline.
5. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The importance of achieving personal goals.
 - B. The benefits of a competitive leadership style.
 - C. The significance of serving others in effective leadership.
 - D. The need for strict discipline in leadership.
6. **Why does a servant leader become a torchbearer according to the passage?**
 - A. Because they focus solely on their own success and achievements.
 - B. Because they inspire others with their selfless service and noble goals.
 - C. Because they implement strict rules and regulations for others to follow.
 - D. Because they are always aware of the importance of maintaining power and control

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.

The following Sunday Lencho came a bit earlier than usual to ask if there was a letter for him.

It was the postman himself who handed the letter to him while the postmaster, experiencing the _____1_____ of a man who has performed a good deed, looked on from his office. Lencho showed not the _____2_____ surprise on seeing the money; such was his confidence — but he became angry when he counted the money. God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested. Immediately, Lencho _____3_____ to the window to ask for paper and ink. On the public writing-table, he started to write, with much _____4_____ of his brow, caused by the effort he had to make to express his ideas. When he finished, he went to the window to buy a stamp which he licked and then _____5_____ to the envelope with a blow of his fist. The moment the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it. It said: “God: Of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don’t send it to me through the mail because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks. Lencho.”

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

- A. Commute
- B. Content
- C. Constituent
- D. Contentment

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

- A. Protest
- B. Slightest
- C. Substantial
- D. Slight

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

- A. Go up
- B. Went up
- C. Go in
- D. Went in

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

- A. wrinkle
- B. Wrinkling
- C. Wrinkles
- D. Creamy

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

- A. Affixed
- B. Affix
- C. Fixed
- D. Crux

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. Walking long distances and climbing many stairs has been a part of her work.
- Q. Satti was only a few months old when one of her legs was affected by polio.
- R. But she never let this come in the way of her work and her life.

- S. Now Satti is married. Some people tell her not to have any children.
- A. RSPQ
 - B. PRSQ
 - C. QRPS
 - D. RQPS
13. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that gives their correct logical sequence.
- A. Ashima's parents were sorting out vegetables in the kitchen. Her mother said, "She sneezes just like you do.
 - B. If you were not here, I would have thought it was your sneeze."
 - C. Suddenly Ashima sneezed loudly—aaa chhee!
 - D. Ashima was sitting near the window and reading.
 - E. It was windy and there was a lot of dust in the air.
- A. DECAB
 - B. CBDEA
 - C. CABED
 - D. ECDAB
14. The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.
- The availability of funds will be / ensured if they all tried to /submit the proposals on time.
- A. The availability of funds will be
 - B. No error
 - C. submit the proposals on time
 - D. ensured if they all tried to
15. Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.
- A person who does not believe that God or Gods exist.
- A. Irreverent
 - B. Atheist
 - C. Profane
 - D. Blasphemous
16. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.
- Sharp practice
- A. Dishonesty
 - B. Frequently
 - C. Briefly
 - D. Nearby
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.
- A. But the question that perturbs Ruskin's mind is what social pressure can be exercised against a dishonest person.
 - B. The merchant, for instance, must supply perfect and pure things to the people.

- C. Ruskin believes that in every civilised society there exist five intellectual professions, namely the soldier, the pastor, the physician, the lawyer and the merchant.
- D. Persons belonging to these professions are expected to perform their duty honestly.
- A. BACD
B. DABC
C. CDBA
D. ABDC
18. 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. But she has no idea an aunt and uncle are waiting for her.
B. 'The Strange Child' is the story of a young girl who believes she is the only one on the planet.
C. Her parents simply vanished into thin air one day.
D. She travels the world in search of Nevada because she aspires to reside in the Mojave Desert.
- A. DABC
B. BDAC
C. BACD
D. BCDA
19. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.
- Did you not buy the return tickets to Dehradun?
- A. Was the return tickets to Dehradun not bought by you?
B. Were the return tickets to Dehradun not being bought by you?
C. Had the return tickets to Dehradun not bought by you?
D. Were the return tickets to Dehradun not bought by you?
20. In the following sentence, four words are underlined, out of which one word is incorrectly spelt. Identify the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word.
- Seema was a timid girl. She did not talk to people who were not familiar to her. She was an introvert since adolosense.
- A. introvert
B. timid
C. adolosense
D. familiar
21. Select the most appropriate idiom/phrase that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.
- Vennela made a big fuss about a small Problem
- A. Get a taste of your own medicine
B. Barking up the wrong tree
C. Add insult to injury
D. A storm in a teacup
22. Describe how you will tell your parents that Mahesh and his team were helping the fire and rescue team in passive voice.
- A. The fire and rescue team helped by Mahesh and his team.

- B. The fire and rescue team was being helped by Mahesh and his team.
C. The fire and rescue team being help by Mahesh and his team.
D. Mahesh and his team were been helping the fire and rescue team.
23. **Select the grammatically correct statement from among the given options.**
A. It is a nice party. I am enjoying the party.
B. It is a party. I am enjoying an party.
C. It is party. I am enjoying a party.
D. It is the party. I am enjoying an party.
- A. D
B. C
C. B
D. A
24. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A book or set of books giving information about all areas of knowledge
A. Encyclopedia
B. Dictionary
C. Volume
D. Anthology
25. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Peruse
A. Check
B. Draw
C. Pursue
D. Narrate

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. **D) Servant leadership is the embodiment of all essential leadership traits through prioritizing service to others**

The author argues that servant leadership, by prioritizing service to others, inherently encompasses all the necessary qualities of effective leadership. This position is clear from statements such as "service attitude is the thread that runs through all the effective and virtuous leadership qualities" and "one naturally becomes a leader" through service.

2. **D) It is primarily focused on personal success and recognition.**

The passage emphasizes that servant leadership is about prioritizing service to others, which in turn leads to the embodiment of effective leadership qualities and inspires people through empathy and ideals. The statement that servant leadership is primarily focused on personal success and recognition contradicts the core message of the passage.

3. **B) Inspirational**

The passage describes the virtues of servant leadership in a positive and motivational manner, highlighting how great leaders like Gandhi, Lincoln, and Mandela led by example and inspired others.

A. Cynical: This implies a distrustful or negative view, which is not present in the passage.

C. Indifferent: This means a lack of interest or concern, which contrasts with the passionate advocacy for servant leadership seen in the passage.

D. Melancholic: This indicates a sad or gloomy tone, which is not appropriate given the positive and uplifting content of the passage.

4. **C) C is correct because the passage states that a servant leader facilitates others' development, encourages their growth, and leads by setting a good example.**

A is incorrect because the passage mentions that work is not merely a matter of achieving results.

B is incorrect because the emphasis is on facilitating others' development, not personal growth alone.

D is incorrect because the passage describes a servant leader as one who leads through example, not through authoritative commands and strict discipline.

5. **C) The significance of serving others in effective leadership**

The passage repeatedly emphasizes that the most important trait in effective leadership is the ability to serve others, and that true leaders inspire through their service and selflessness.

A. The importance of achieving personal goals: This option is incorrect because the passage focuses on serving others rather than personal achievements.

B. The benefits of a competitive leadership style: This is not mentioned in the passage, which advocates for a servant leadership style rather than a competitive one.

D. The need for strict discipline in leadership: While discipline may be a trait of leaders, it is not the central theme of the passage, which centers around service and inspiration.

6. **B) B is correct because the passage explains that by serving selflessly, a servant leader becomes the torchbearer, inspiring others toward noble goals.**

A is incorrect because the passage highlights selfless service, not a focus on personal success.

C is incorrect because the passage does not mention implementing strict rules as a characteristic of a servant leader.

D is incorrect because the passage emphasizes serving others and setting an example, not maintaining power and control.

7. D) 'Contentment' का use होगा क्योंकि "contentment" का अर्थ होता है संतोष की भावना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि पोस्टमास्टर ने एक अच्छा काम किया है और संतोष की भावना के साथ देख रहा है, इसलिए 'contentment' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Commute' का अर्थ है यात्रा करना, 'Content' का अर्थ है सामग्री या संतुष्टि, और 'Constituent' का अर्थ है घटक या हिस्सा, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Contentment' will be used because it means a feeling of satisfaction. The sentence mentions that the postmaster, having performed a good deed, looked on with a sense of satisfaction, making 'contentment' fitting here. Whereas, 'Commute' means to travel, 'Content' means the subject matter or satisfaction, and 'Constituent' means a component or part, which don't fit in this context.

8. B) 'Slightest' का use होगा क्योंकि "slightest" का अर्थ होता है सबसे हल्का या नाजुक। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Lencho को पैसे देखकर सबसे हल्का surprise भी नहीं हुआ, इसलिए 'slightest' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Protest' का अर्थ है विरोध करना, 'Substantial' का अर्थ है महत्वपूर्ण या बड़ा, और 'Slight' का अर्थ भी हल्का होता है लेकिन यहां सबसे हल्का का भाव नहीं लाता, इसलिए ये context में सही नहीं हैं। 'Slight' एक तुलनात्मक विशेषण है जिसका अर्थ है हल्का या मामूली, लेकिन कम से कम आश्चर्य के विचार को व्यक्त करने के लिए अतिशयोक्तिपूर्ण रूप में 'slightest' की आवश्यकता होती है।

'Slightest' will be used because it means the smallest or minimal. The sentence mentions that Lencho did not show even the smallest surprise upon seeing the money, making 'slightest' fitting here. Whereas, 'Protest' means to object or express disagreement, 'Substantial' means significant or large, and 'Slight' also means light but does not convey the minimal sense needed in this context, so they don't fit. 'Slight' is a comparative adjective meaning light or minor, but 'slightest' in superlative form is needed to convey the idea of the least amount of surprise.

9. B) 'Went up' का use होगा क्योंकि "went up" का अर्थ होता है किसी स्थान की ओर बढ़ना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Lencho ने पेपर और इंक के लिए window की तरफ जाने की बात की है, इसलिए 'went up' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Go up' का अर्थ है ऊपर जाना जो present tense में है, 'Go in' का अर्थ है अंदर जाना, और 'Went in' का अर्थ है अंदर गया जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Went up' will be used because it means to move towards a place. The sentence mentions that Lencho went to the window to ask for paper and ink, making 'went up' fitting here. Whereas, 'Go up' means to go up in the present tense, 'Go in' means to go inside, and 'Went in' means went inside, which don't fit in this context.

10. B) 'Wrinkling' का use होगा क्योंकि "wrinkling" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को झुर्रियों या सिलवटों में बदलना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Lencho अपनी भावनाओं को व्यक्त करने के प्रयास से माथे पर सिलवटों के साथ लिख रहा था, इसलिए 'wrinkling' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'wrinkle' का अर्थ है झुर्री जो noun है, 'wrinkles' का अर्थ है झुर्रियाँ जो plural noun है, और 'creamy' का अर्थ क्रीम जैसा होता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Wrinkling' will be used because it means the process of forming wrinkles or creases. The sentence mentions that Lencho was writing with much effort, causing wrinkles on his brow, making 'wrinkling'

fitting here. Whereas, 'wrinkle' means a wrinkle, which is a noun, 'wrinkles' means wrinkles, which is a plural noun, and 'creamy' means like cream, which don't fit in this context.

11. A) 'Affixed' का use होगा क्योंकि "affixed" का अर्थ होता है कुछ जोड़ना या चिपकाना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Lencho ने मुहर चिपकाई थी, इसलिए 'affixed' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'affix' का अर्थ भी जोड़ना है, लेकिन यह base form है, 'fixed' का अर्थ है ठीक किया या स्थिर किया, और 'crux' का अर्थ है महत्वपूर्ण बिंदु, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Affixed' will be used because it means to attach or stick something. The sentence mentions that Lencho stuck the stamp to the envelope, making 'affixed' fitting here. Whereas, 'affix' also means to attach, but it is in the base form, 'fixed' means fixed or set, and 'crux' means the crucial point, which don't fit in this context.

12. C) **QRPS**

Q: This sentence introduces Satti and provides important background information about her early life and the challenge she faced.

R: "She" (subject) refers back to Satti. "Never let this come in the way" (verb phrase) explains her attitude towards her condition.

P: This sentence provides specific details about the nature of Satti's work, demonstrating her physical activity and endurance.

S: This sentence provides information about Satti's current life situation and the societal pressures she faces.

13. A) **DECAB**

D: This sentence sets the scene, introducing Ashima and her activity. "Ashima" (subject) and "was sitting" (verb phrase) establish the setting and main character.

E: This sentence provides context to the environment, explaining the windy and dusty conditions.

C: This sentence describes the action resulting from the conditions mentioned in E.

A: This sentence shifts the focus to Ashima's parents, introducing their reaction to Ashima's sneeze. The dialogue "She sneezes just like you do" provides a reaction to the sneeze.

B: This sentence completes the mother's statement, providing a humorous comparison.

14. D) 'tried' के बदले 'try' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'will be' Future Tense में है, अतः 'if' Clause में Verb Present Tense में होगा; जैसे— If you try hard, you will succeed.

- 'try' will be used instead of 'tried' because in the main clause, the verb 'will be' is in Future Tense, so in the 'if' Clause, the Verb should be in Present Tense; Like— If you try hard, you will succeed.

15. B) **Atheist** (noun) – A person who does not believe that God or Gods exist. नास्तिक

- **Irreverent** (adjective) – Showing a lack of respect for people or things that are generally taken seriously. असम्मानी
- **Profane** (adjective) – Showing disrespect or contempt for sacred things, especially religious beliefs or practices. अपवित्र
- **Blasphemous** (adjective) – Speaking or behaving in a way that shows a lack of respect for God or religion. ईश्वरनिंदा करनेवाला

16. A) **Sharp practice** (idiom) – Dishonesty धोखाधड़ी

17. C) **CDBA**

Ruskin believes that in every civilised society there exist five intellectual professions, namely the soldier, the pastor, the physician, the lawyer and the merchant. Persons belonging to these professions are expected to perform their duty honestly. The merchant, for instance, must supply perfect and pure things to the people. But the question that perturbs Ruskin's mind is what social pressure can be exercised against a dishonest person.

18. D) **BCDA**

'The Strange Child' is the story of a young girl who believes she is the only one on the planet. Her parents simply vanished into thin air one day. She travels the world in search of Nevada because she aspires to reside in the Mojave Desert. But she has no idea an aunt and uncle are waiting for her.

19. D) Were the return tickets to Dehradun not bought by you?

20. C) The incorrect spelling in the given sentence is 'adolosense.' The correct spelling is 'adolescence' which means "the period following the onset of puberty during which a young person develops from a child into an adult" किशोरावस्था

21. D) **Made a big fuss about a small problem** – A storm in a teacup एक छोटी सी समस्या पर बहुत बड़ा तूफान

22. B) The fire and rescue team was being helped by Mahesh and his team.

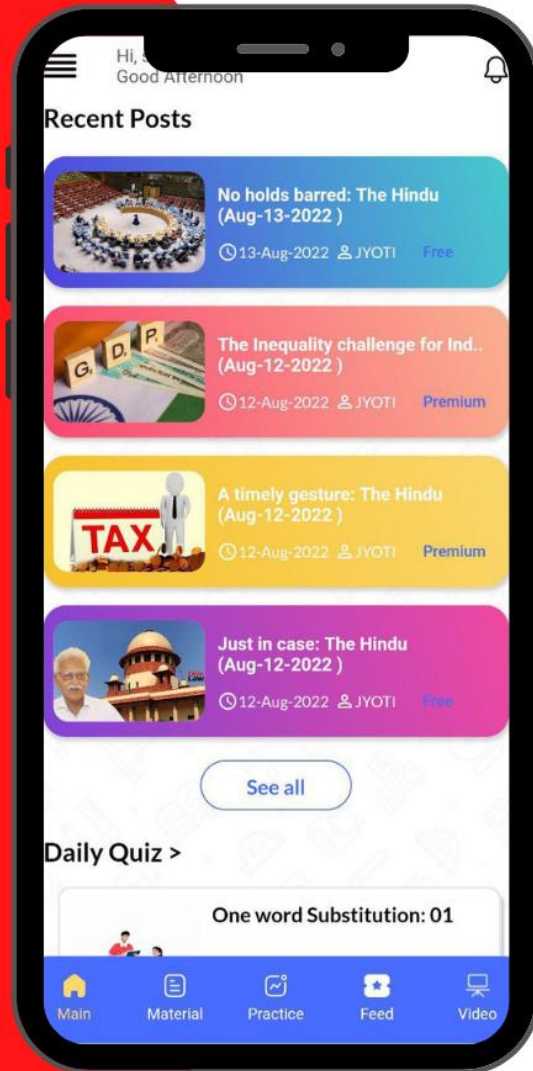
23. D) Sentence 'It is a nice party. I am enjoying the party.' grammatically correct है। 'a' का प्रयोग noun से पहले होता है जो स्वर ध्वनि से नहीं शुरू होती है, और यहाँ 'party' ऐसी noun है।

- The sentence 'It is a nice party. I am enjoying the party.' is grammatically correct. The article 'a' is used before a noun that does not start with a vowel sound, and here 'party' is such a noun.

24. A) **Encyclopedia** - a book or set of books giving information on many subjects or on many aspects of one subject and typically arranged alphabetically. विश्वकोश

25. A) **Peruse** (verb) – To read or examine something, especially carefully or attentively.

- **Check** (verb) – To examine, inspect, or verify. समीक्षा करना
- **Draw** (verb) – To produce a picture or diagram by making lines and marks on paper. चित्र बनाना
- **Pursue** (verb) – To follow or chase, often in order to catch or achieve something. पालन करना
- **Narrate** (verb) – To tell a story or describe a series of events. कहानी सुनाना



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