

What's in a name: Elephants are people too

There's a lot in a name, as **psychologists**, **sociologists** and **philosophers** will **attest**. How do you know, for example, that it is “you” being **addressed** when someone **calls out** the **appellation** attached to a being? There may be thousands of Rameshs in any Indian city, but the Ramesh being called out to in a crowd **often** knows it. What makes a name an **enduring** identity through time? After all, **the baby** that is “given” a name on a birth certificate **is barely** a person, and **certainly** one **vastly** different from the **corpse** at the end of things — but the words on the death certificate are the same. The **complexity** of naming, then, **is** tied up with other **malleable notions** — the self, identity, **consciousness** and even ethics — all of which were thought of as **intrinsically**, exclusively human. Until now.

A **study** published in Nature Ecology & Evolution **shows** how elephants — their rich social and emotional lives, as well as complex communication capacity has long been known — call each other by specific names. Using a combination of machine learning and field experiments, researchers are able to **conclude** that, while **other animals** such as dolphins and parrots **mimic** sounds of their fellows that can act as names, elephants are the first non-human species to use names that do not involve imitation — **in essence**, proper nouns.



Much has been made about **so-called** “alien life” in fiction and popular culture. Yet, there is **mounting** evidence to show that human beings need not look to the **heavens** for emotional, intelligent, sensitive beings capable of communication and **empathy**. The **act** of naming — **in addition to traits** like **grief**, memory and social **ties** — strongly **indicates** that elephants are people too. **Perhaps** it's time they were treated as such. But then, it's not like humans treat their own kind all that well. **[Practice Exercise]**

- **In essence** (phrase) – Basically, Fundamentally, Essentially, At heart, In substance, मूल रूप से
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where ‘red’ denotes ‘subject’ and ‘blue’ denotes ‘verb’.

Vocabulary

1. **Psychologist** (noun) – someone who studies the human mind and human emotions and behaviour, and how different situations have an effect on people मनोविज्ञानी
2. **Sociologist** (noun) – an expert in or student of the development, structure, and functioning of human society. समाजशास्त्री
3. **Philosopher** (noun) – a person engaged or learned in philosophy, especially as an academic discipline. विचारक
4. **Attest** (verb) – Confirm, verify, certify, authenticate, corroborate पुष्टि करना
5. **Address** (verb) – Speak to, direct to, refer to, focus on, talk to संबोधित करना
6. **Call out** (phrasal verb) – Shout out, summon, beckon, hail, cry out पुकारना
7. **Appellation** (noun) – Name, title, designation, moniker, epithet नाम
8. **Often** (adverb) – Frequently, regularly, commonly, repeatedly, habitually अक्सर
9. **Enduring** (adjective) – Lasting, permanent, persistent, perpetual, abiding स्थायी
10. **Barely** (adverb) – Hardly, scarcely, just, only, narrowly मुश्किल से
11. **Certainly** (adverb) – Definitely, surely, undoubtedly, unquestionably, assuredly निश्चित रूप से
12. **Vastly** (adverb) – Greatly, immensely, enormously, significantly, extensively अत्यधिक
13. **Corpse** (noun) – Dead body, cadaver, remains, carcass, deceased मृत शरीर
14. **Complexity** (noun) – Intricacy, complication, sophistication, elaborateness, entanglement जटिलता
15. **Malleable** (adjective) – easily influenced, trained, or controlled
16. **Notion** (noun) – Idea, concept, belief, perception, thought धारणा
17. **Consciousness** (noun) – Awareness, perception, cognizance, mindfulness, sentience चेतना
18. **Intrinsically** (adverb) – Essentially, inherently, fundamentally, innately, naturally मौलिक रूप से
19. **Conclude** (verb) – Decide, determine, infer, deduce, resolve निष्कर्ष निकालना
20. **Mimic** (adjective) – Imitative, copying, echoing, emulative, resembling अनुकरण करना

21. **So-called** (adjective) – Supposed, alleged, purported, presumed, ostensible
तथाकथित
22. **Alien** (adjective) – Foreign, extraterrestrial, unfamiliar, strange, non-native विदेशी
23. **Mounting** (adjective) – Increasing, growing, escalating, accumulating, rising
बढ़ता हुआ
24. **Heaven** (noun) – Paradise, afterlife, utopia, celestial realm, Eden स्वर्ग
25. **Empathy** (noun) – Understanding, compassion, sympathy, sensitivity, fellow feeling सहानुभूति
26. **In addition to** (phrase) – Besides, along with, as well as, plus, furthermore के अतिरिक्त
27. **Trait** (noun) – Characteristic, feature, attribute, quality, aspect विशेषता
28. **Grief** (noun) – Sorrow, sadness, anguish, heartbreak, mourning दुःख
29. **Ties** (noun) – Connections, bonds, relationships, links, associations संबंध
30. **Perhaps** (adverb) – Maybe, possibly, probably, conceivably, perchance शायद

Summary of the Editorial

1. Names hold significant importance in identifying individuals, as highlighted by psychologists, sociologists, and philosophers.
2. Despite common names like "Ramesh" being shared by many, individuals can recognize when they are being specifically addressed.
3. The concept of a name remains constant throughout a person's life, from birth to death, despite the individual's evolution over time.
4. Naming is intricately linked to broader concepts such as self, identity, consciousness, and ethics, traditionally viewed as human-exclusive traits.
5. A recent study in Nature Ecology & Evolution reveals that elephants use specific names to address each other.
6. Unlike dolphins and parrots, which mimic sounds, elephants use proper nouns without imitation, marking them as unique in the animal kingdom.
7. Fiction and popular culture often explore the idea of "alien life," but evidence shows humans can find intelligent, emotional beings on Earth, like elephants.
8. Elephants exhibit traits such as grief, memory, and social bonds, indicating their complexity and emotional depth.
9. The act of naming among elephants suggests they possess qualities traditionally attributed to humans, challenging the notion of human exclusivity in these traits.
10. Recognizing elephants as emotionally and socially complex beings implies the need for better treatment, though humans often struggle to treat their own kind well.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based**[Editorial Page]**

1. **What is the primary purpose of the passage?**
 - A. To discuss the philosophical implications of naming in human society.
 - B. To present new research on how elephants use names in their communication.
 - C. To compare the naming abilities of elephants and other animals like dolphins and parrots.
 - D. To advocate for the ethical treatment of animals based on their cognitive abilities.
2. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Reverent
 - B. Indifferent
 - C. Critical
 - D. Sympathetic
3. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The complexity of naming in human societies
 - B. The emotional and social lives of elephants
 - C. The need for better treatment of animals
 - D. The scientific study of animal behavior
4. **What conclusion can be drawn about the similarities between humans and elephants based on the passage?**
 - A. Both humans and elephants use imitation as a primary means of communication.
 - B. Elephants' use of names suggests they possess a level of self-awareness similar to humans.
 - C. The emotional complexity of elephants is still less understood compared to other animals.
 - D. Elephants have been known to use names much longer than humans have.
5. **What is the primary argument presented in the passage?**
 - A. Elephants' use of names proves they are more intelligent than other animals.
 - B. Fiction and popular culture often exaggerate the uniqueness of human emotional and social traits.
 - C. Elephants possess emotional and social characteristics similar to humans, indicating they should be treated with similar respect.
 - D. Scientific studies on animal behavior have limited applications to real-world animal treatment.

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.

Suryanani's father could no longer support the family on the small land. He moved to the town in search of work. But things did not improve. Sometimes there would be no food in the house. At times Maniya Chacha (uncle) would send ___1___ grain from his small shop to Suryamani's house. Chacha tried hard and got admission for Suryamani in the school in Bishanpur. Here they ___2___ to pay for the fees, uniforms and books. Suryamani would have to stay there and study. Suryamani didn't want to leave her village and forest. But Maniya Chacha was ___3___. "If you do not study, what will you do? Go hungry?" Suryamani would

argue, “Why should I go hungry? The jungle is there to help!” Chacha tried to explain, “But we are being moved away from our forests. Even the forests are disappearing – in their place mines are being _____ 4 _____, dams are being built. Believe me, it is important for you to study, to understand about the laws. Maybe then you can help to save our forests”. Young Suryamani listened, and tried to understand some of what he said.

6. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
 - A. Some
 - B. Few
 - C. A few
 - D. Little
7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
 - A. Would
 - B. Have
 - C. Will not have
 - D. would not have
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
 - A. Confirm
 - B. Reaffirm
 - C. Firm
 - D. Charm
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**
 - A. Dry
 - B. Curb
 - C. Drought
 - D. Dug

Direction: Each of the following items in this section consists of a sentence, parts of which have been jumbled. These parts have been labelled as P, Q, R and S. Given below each sentence has four sequences, namely (A), (B), (C) and (D). You are required to re-arrange the Jumbled parts of the sentence and mark your response accordingly.

10. the European Council directed the European Union (EU) countries in October 2022 (P)/ with the aim of reducing electronic waste, (Q)/ such devices be equipped with a single connector, the standard USB-C (R)/ to introduce legislation within two years mandating that all brands of smartphones, laptops, tablets, cameras and other (S)

- A. PQRS
- B. PSRQ
- C. QPSR
- D. QRPS

11. India’s decision to procure 12 Sukhoi 30-MKI (P)/ fighter jets from Russia sends out (Q)/ a clear signal that catering to pressing strategic (R)/ needs is at the core of the country’s defence acquisition policy(S)

- A. PQRS
- B. RQPS

C. QPSR

D. QRPS

12. Select the most appropriate homophone to fill in the blank.

The shareholders are planning to _____ control of the company from the current directors.

A. roost

B. roast

C. wrest

D. Rest

13. Identify the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the following sentence.

Research has proved that meteors have largely destructed and impacckted earth

A. impacckted

B. Research

C. proved

D. Destructed

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

No less than eight pedestrians were killed in the accident.

A. No few than

B. None less than

C. No fewer than

D. No lesser than

15. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word from the following sentence.

Leisure

He was relaxing and enjoying last week in Spain but now he is working hard for the firm.

A. enjoying

B. working

C. relaxing

D. Hard

16. Select the option that expresses the following sentence in active voice.

A remarkable discovery was made by the scientist.

A. The scientist made a remarkable discovery.

B. The discovery made by the scientist was remarkable.

C. The remarkable scientist made a discovery.

D. A remarkable discovery is made by the scientist

17. 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.

He speaks pleasantly / with her yesterday / evening but not today.

A. He speaks pleasantly

B. with her yesterday

C. No error

D. evening but not today.

18. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct logical sequence.**

A) The young lion tore through the formation and decimated the enemy lines.

B) The enemy soldiers panicked and started killing each other.

C) It is said that he used a weapon with a hallucinating agent that created a chimera of hundreds of Abhimanyus.

D) Seeing the rout they were facing, young Abhimanyu led a powerful counterattack.

A. CDAB

B. DACB

C. ACBD

D. ABCD

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

A person who does not believe in the existence of God

A. Atheist

B. Priest

C. Theist

D. Satan

20. **Select the most appropriate active form of the given sentence.**

The movie was directed by the famous filmmaker and produced by the studio

A. The famous filmmaker directed the movie and the studio produced it.

B. The movie was being directed by the famous filmmaker and produced by the studio.

C. The movie was directed and produced by the famous filmmaker and the studio.

D. The famous filmmaker and the studio collaborated to make the movie.

21. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

Though Ravi is silent and reserved, he has got a finger in every pie.

A. special interest in certain things

B. involved in many things

C. an opinion of his own

D. a cold attitude toward everything

22. **Select the option with the correct spellings to replace the underlined words in the given sentence.**

He exhibitad his senseles behaviour at that conference

A. exhibited; sansesless

B. exhibited; senseless

C. exibited; senseless

D. exhebitad; senseless

23. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the given sentence.**

She became frantic as she lost her purse on the busy streets of the markets.

A. Hectic

B. Composed

- C. Audacious
- D. Agitated

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

How do you think the internet has influenced how we utilise news and media?

- A. has managed the patterns we ingest
- B. has revoked the way we interact
- C. has maintained how we receive
- D. has impacted the way we consume

25. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**

(P) and the challenges faced in its

(Q) the report discusses

(R) the state of renewable energy

(S) implementation along with potential solutions

- A. QSRP
- B. QRPS
- C. RQPS
- D. PQRS

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]**Explanations****1. B) To present new research on how elephants use names in their communication.**

The passage primarily aims to present the new research findings that show elephants use specific names for each other, a behavior previously thought to be exclusive to humans.

A. While the passage touches upon human naming, its main focus is on elephants.

C. Although the passage mentions other animals, the primary focus is on the unique naming abilities of elephants.

D. The passage hints at this idea, but it is not the main purpose.

2. D) Sympathetic

The author expresses a deep understanding and appreciation for the complexity and emotional depth of elephants, suggesting that they deserve to be treated with the same respect as humans.

A: While the passage shows respect towards elephants, it is more about understanding and sympathy rather than reverence or deep admiration.

B: The passage is far from indifferent; it shows a clear interest and concern for the recognition of elephants as emotionally and socially complex beings.

C: The passage does not criticize but rather emphasizes the positive aspects of elephants and their similarities to humans.

3. B) The emotional and social lives of elephants

The main theme of the passage is to highlight the emotional and social lives of elephants, particularly focusing on their ability to use specific names for each other, which parallels human naming conventions.

4. B) Elephants' use of names suggests they possess a level of self-awareness similar to humans.

The passage indicates that elephants using specific names for each other suggests a level of self-awareness and social complexity that parallels human behavior.

A. The passage specifically states that elephants do not use imitation for naming, unlike some other animals.

C. The passage suggests that elephants' emotional and social complexities are well understood and comparable to humans.

D. The passage does not have any information about the historical timeline of naming behaviors in elephants versus humans.

5. C) Elephants possess emotional and social characteristics similar to humans, indicating they should be treated with similar respect.

The main argument of the passage is that elephants share many emotional and social traits with humans, which implies they should be treated with similar respect and empathy.

A. The passage mentions elephants using names but does not make a claim about them being more intelligent than other animals.

B. This is a background context mentioned in the passage but not the main argument.

D. The passage suggests that scientific findings about elephants have real-world implications for how they should be treated.

6. A) 'Some' का use होगा क्योंकि "some" का अर्थ होता है कुछ मात्रा में, जो यहां अनाज की थोड़ी मात्रा को व्यक्त करने के लिए सही है। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Maniya Chacha ने Suryamani के घर थोड़ी अनाज भेजा, इसलिए 'some' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Few' का अर्थ है बहुत कम, 'A few' का अर्थ है कुछ लेकिन संतोषजनक मात्रा में, और 'Little' का अर्थ है बहुत कम मात्रा में, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Some' will be used because it means a certain amount, which is appropriate here to express a small quantity of grain. The sentence mentions that Maniya Chacha sent a small quantity of grain to Suryamani's house, making 'some' fitting here. Whereas, 'Few' means very little, 'A few' means a satisfactory small amount, and 'Little' means very small quantity, which don't fit in this context.

7. D) 'Would not have' का use होगा क्योंकि "would not have" का अर्थ है कि भविष्य में उनके पास कुछ नहीं होगा, जो यहां फीस, यूनिफॉर्म और किताबों के भुगतान के संदर्भ में सही है। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Suryamani को वहां रहकर पढ़ाई करनी होगी, और उनके पास फीस, यूनिफॉर्म और किताबों के भुगतान के लिए पैसे नहीं होंगे, इसलिए 'would not have' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Would' का अर्थ है भविष्य में कुछ करने की संभावना, 'Have' का अर्थ है वर्तमान में कुछ होना, और 'Will not have' का अर्थ है भविष्य में कुछ नहीं होना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Would not have' will be used because it means that they would not possess something in the future, which is appropriate here in the context of paying for the fees, uniforms, and books. The sentence mentions that Suryamani would have to stay there and study, and they would not have the money to pay for these things, making 'would not have' fitting here. Whereas, 'Would' means the likelihood of doing something in the future, 'Have' means to possess something in the present, and 'Will not have' means not possessing something in the future, which don't fit in this context.

8. C) 'Firm' का use होगा क्योंकि "firm" का अर्थ है दृढ़, जो यहां Maniya Chacha के निश्चय को व्यक्त करने के लिए सही है। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Maniya Chacha दृढ़ थे कि Suryamani को पढ़ाई करनी चाहिए, इसलिए 'firm' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Confirm' का अर्थ है पुष्टि करना, 'Reaffirm' का अर्थ है पुनः पुष्टि करना, और 'Charm' का अर्थ है आकर्षित करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Firm' will be used because it means strong or resolute, which is appropriate here to express Maniya Chacha's determination. The sentence mentions that Maniya Chacha was firm that Suryamani should study, making 'firm' fitting here. Whereas, 'Confirm' means to verify, 'Reaffirm' means to verify again, and 'Charm' means to attract, which don't fit in this context.

9. D) 'Dug' का use होगा क्योंकि "dug" का अर्थ है खुदाई करना, जो यहां खदानों की स्थापना के संदर्भ में सही है। sentence में mention किया गया है कि जंगलों की जगह खदानों की खुदाई की जा रही है, इसलिए 'dug' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Dry' का अर्थ है सूखा, 'Curb' का अर्थ है रोकना, और 'Drought' का अर्थ है सूखा पड़ना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Dug' will be used because it means to excavate, which is appropriate here in the context of establishing mines. The sentence mentions that in place of forests, mines are being dug, making 'dug' fitting here. Whereas, 'Dry' means lacking moisture, 'Curb' means to restrain, and 'Drought' means a prolonged period of dryness, which don't fit in this context.

10. C) QPSR

Q: This part sets the context and purpose of the action described in the sentence.

P: This part introduces the authority (the European Council) and the action (directive) along with the time frame.

S: This part describes the action that the European Council directed the EU countries to undertake.

R: This part specifies the requirement that the legislation should mandate.

11. A) PQRS

P: This sentence fragment introduces the main subject "India's decision."

Q: "from Russia" provides additional information about the source of the procurement. "sends out" continues the action related to the decision mentioned in P.

R: "a clear signal" acts as the object of the action from Q ("sends out a clear signal"). "that catering to pressing strategic" provides further explanation about the signal.

S: This completes the thought by specifying what the strategic needs pertain to, finalizing the explanation of the signal's importance.

12. C) 'wrest' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence अधिकारियों से कंपनी का नियंत्रण प्राप्त करने की चर्चा कर रहा है। "wrest" का अर्थ है किसी से बलपूर्वक या प्रयास से कुछ प्राप्त करना। यहाँ shareholders अधिकारियों से कंपनी का नियंत्रण प्राप्त करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं, इसलिए 'wrest' सबसे appropriate विकल्प होगा।

- 'wrest' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing taking control of the company from the directors. The meaning of "wrest" is to take away from someone with force or effort. Here, shareholders are attempting to take control of the company from the directors, thus 'wrest' would be the most appropriate choice.

13. A) The INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence is 'impacted'. The correct spelling is 'impacted' प्रभावित हुआ

14. C) 'No less than' के बदले 'No fewer than' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'pedestrians' countable noun है और 'No fewer than' सही विकल्प है countable noun के लिए; जैसे— No fewer than ten students passed the exam.

- 'No fewer than' will be used instead of 'No less than' because 'pedestrians' is a countable noun and 'No fewer than' is the correct option for countable numbers; Like— No fewer than ten students passed the exam.

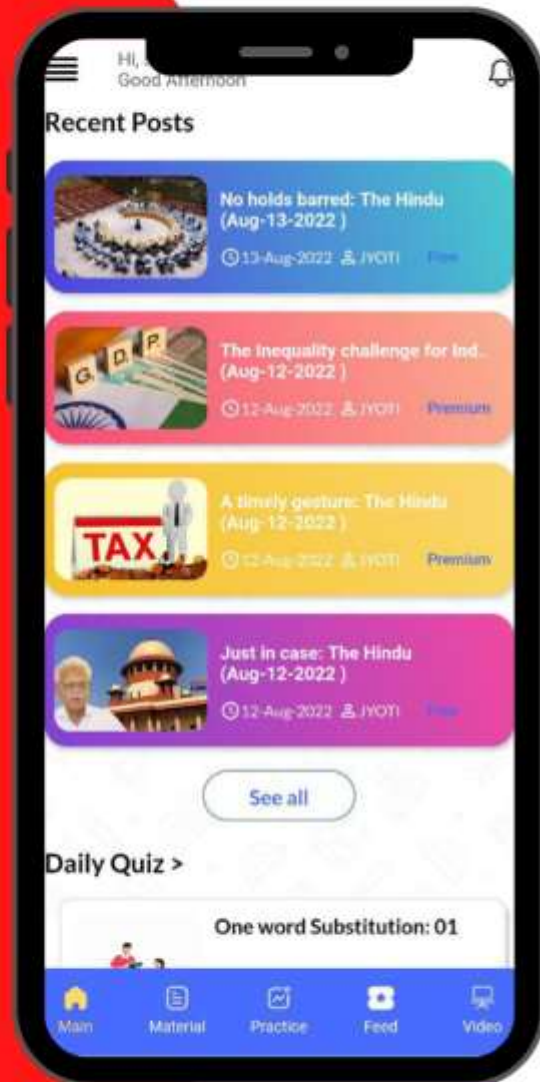
15. B) **Leisure** (noun) – Free time when one is not working or occupied; free time, relaxation, downtime, spare time. फुरसत

Antonym: Working (noun/verb) – The activity of doing work, employment, labor, toil. काम करना

- **Enjoying** (verb) – Taking delight or pleasure in an activity or moment; relish, like, appreciate. आनंद लेना
- **Relaxing** (verb) – To make or become less tense or anxious, to rest, to unwind. आराम करना
- **Hard** (adjective) – With a great deal of effort, firmly, intensely. कठिन

16. A) The scientist made a remarkable discovery

17. A) इस sentence में 'speaks' के बदले 'spoke' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'yesterday' का उल्लेख Past Tense की तरफ संकेत करता है।
- 'spoke' will be used instead of 'speaks' because the mention of 'yesterday' indicates towards Past Tense.
18. B) **DACB**
Seeing the rout they were facing, young Abhimanyu led a powerful counterattack. The young lion tore through the formation and decimated the enemy lines. It is said that he used a weapon with a hallucinating agent that created a chimera of hundreds of Abhimanyus. The enemy soldiers panicked and started killing each other.
19. A) **Atheist** (noun) – A person who does not believe in the existence of God **नास्तिक**
- **Priest** (noun) – A religious leader authorized to perform the sacred rituals of a religion, especially as a mediatory agent between humans and God **पुजारी**
 - **Theist** (noun) – A person who believes in the existence of God **ईश्वरवादी**
 - **Satan** (noun) – A figure in Abrahamic religions, often personified as evil or the enemy of humanity **शैतान**
20. A) The famous filmmaker directed the movie and the studio produced it.
21. B) a finger in every pie (phrase) – involved in many things **सभी कार्यों में शामिल होना**
involved in many things. कई चीजों में शामिल.
22. B) The correct spelling of 'exhibitad' is 'exhibited' and 'senseles' is 'senseless'.
23. D) **Frantic** (adjective) – Desperate, wild, frenzied, panicked. **उत्तेजित**
Synonym: Agitated (adjective) – Disturbed, upset, shaken, perturbed. **उत्तेजित**
- **Hectic** (adjective) – Full of incessant or frantic activity, busy, frenzied. **व्यस्त**
 - **Composed** (adjective) – Calm, collected, self-possessed, unflappable. **संतुलित**
 - **Audacious** (adjective) – Bold, daring, fearless, intrepid. **साहसी**
24. D) **'has influenced'** के बदले 'has impacted the way we consume' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इस विकल्प में इंटरनेट के प्रभाव को और समाचार और मीडिया को कैसे उपयोग किया जाता है, इस पर सही तरह से प्रकाश डाला गया है।
- 'has impacted the way we consume' will be used instead of 'has influenced' because this option correctly illuminates the influence of the internet on how we use news and media.
25. B) **QRPS**
The report discusses the state of renewable energy and the challenges faced in its implementation along with potential solutions



Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam