# Killer moonshine: On the hooch tragedy in Kallakurichi

The hooch tragedy in Tamil Nadu points to failures in policy and enforcement

Good governance is not only about keeping the routine going but also about anticipating obstacles and smoking out fault lines, preventing the loss of human life, at the very least. Over the last couple of days in Kallakurichi, in north Tamil Nadu, 39 people have died after consuming hooch laced with methanol. With others admitted in hospital in a critical condition, the toll might go up even further, rendering this one of the most devastating hooch tragedies in recent times. It is not as if the signs were not obvious, particularly after the hooch tragedy which claimed several lives in 2023 in Marakkanam and Madhuranthakam, also in north Tamil Nadu, where it was clear that industrial methanol was being diverted to the illicit brewing cottage industry. The relatives of those dead have spoken about the easy availability of cheap hooch in the region regularly, and that the cost of the local moonshine is much lower than the price of alcohol in the Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation Limited (TASMAC) shops. With irregular incomes as daily wage, fuelled by an aggressive price rise in liquor and fleecing at the TASMAC shops, regular drinkers gravitated towards the local brew. This trend is something that the Prohibition Enforcement Wing of the Tamil Nadu police is mandated to pick up, and act on. The State government has now taken action against district officials and instituted a one-man committee to inquire into the tragedy. The Chief Minister has also announced a solatium of ₹10 lakh each for the families of those who died, and a sum of ₹50,000 for those in hospital. The CB-CID has **commenced** investigation into the case.

Whatever is being done **post-facto**, is **ultimately** too little, too late. **Methanol**, also a form of alcohol, is added to moonshine to increase its strength. It is a potent poison, and even in very small quantities, can cause liver failure, blindness, and death. While various governments have shifted the State's position on allowing or banning the brewing of arrack, one measure that seemed to have controlled deaths due to hooch after its introduction was selling low-cost liquor through TASMAC in 2002. That year, methanol was brought under the ambit of the Tamil Nadu Prohibition Act, and rules were amended to control methanol supply. However, in the light of Kallakurichi, it seems methanol flows freely. There can be no complacence about bringing the culprits to book. The government needs to shut down the small-scale industry of illicit brewing in the State, and should also expressly work towards increasing public health awareness on the **inherent** dangers of drinking hooch. [Practice Exer.]

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

Page 1

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# **Vocabulary**

- 1. **Moonshine** (noun) Illegally produced alcohol, homebrew, bootleg liquor, homemade spirits সবৈধ থায়েৰ
- 2. **Hooch** (noun) Illegally distilled liquor, moonshine, bootleg, illicit alcohol अवैध शराब
- 3. **Point to** (phrasal verb) Indicate, suggest, imply, denote, show संकेत करना
- 4. **Enforcement** (noun) Implementation, execution, application, imposition, administration प्रवर्तन
- 5. **Governance** (noun) Administration, management, control, regulation, supervision शासन
- Anticipate (verb) Expect, foresee, predict, prepare for, look forward to पूर्वानुमान करना
- 7. **Obstacle** (noun) Hindrance, barrier, impediment, obstruction, challenge ৱাधা
- 8. **Smoke out** (phrasal verb) Expose, uncover, reveal, detect, discover उजागर करना
- 9. **Fault line** (noun) Weakness, division, fault, crack, rift कमजोरी
- 10. **Lace** (with) (verb) Infuse, mix, adulterate, spike, taint मिलाना

- 11. **Toll** (noun) The number of deaths, casualties, or injuries arising from particular circumstances, such as a natural disaster, conflict, or accident. (घायलों की) संख्या
- 12. **Render** (verb) Cause to be, make, leave, result in, produce बनाना
- 13. **Devastating** (adjective) Destructive, catastrophic, overwhelming, severe, ruinous विनाशकारी
- 14. **Claim** (verb) Cause the death of, take, kill, result in the death of जान लेना
- 15. **Divert** (to) (verb) Redirect, shift, turn aside, rechannel, switch मोइना
- 16. **Illicit** (adjective) Illegal, unlawful, unauthorized, forbidden, contraband ਤਰੰध
- 17. **Brewing** (noun) Production, making, preparation, distillation, concoction খাবাৰ बनाना
- 18. **Fuel** (verb) Incite, provoke, stimulate, kindle, intensify बढ़ावा देना
- 19. **Fleece** (verb) Overcharge, swindle, cheat, rob, defraud ਠगना
- 20. **Gravitate** (verb) Move towards, be attracted to, incline to, drift towards, be drawn to आकर्षित होना

- 21. **Brew** (noun) Beverage, drink, concoction, potion, mixture খাবাৰ
- 22. **Mandate** (to) (verb) Command, order, decree, require, direct आदेश देना
- 23. **Institute** (verb) Establish, initiate, set up, start, launch स्थापित करना
- 24. **Solatium** (noun) Compensation, reparation, restitution, payment, indemnity मुआवजा
- 25. **Commence** (verb) Begin, start, initiate, launch, undertake शुरू करना
- 26. **Post-facto** (adjective) After the fact, retrospective, subsequent, delayed, afterward बाद का
- 27. **Ultimately** (adjective) Finally, eventually, in the end, at last, conclusively 3ਂਜਰ:
- 28. **Add to** (phrasal verb) Increase, augment, enhance, intensify, amplify बढाना
- 29. **Potent** (adjective) Powerful, strong, effective, forceful, intense शक्तिशाली
- 30. **Blindness** (noun) Loss of sight, vision impairment, lack of vision, sightlessness, visual impairment अंधापन

- 31. **Arrack** (noun) A type of distilled alcoholic drink, spirit, liquor, booze, alcoholic beverage अरक (एक प्रकार की शराब)
- 32. **Ambit** (noun) Scope, range, extent, bounds, limits दायरे
- 33. **Amend** (verb) Revise, alter, modify, adjust, change संशोधन करना
- 34. **In light of** (phrase) Considering, taking into account, in view of, because of, due to को देखते ह्ए
- 35. **Complacence** (noun) Self-satisfaction, smugness, contentment, self-satisfaction, unconcern आत्मसंतोष
- 36. **Bring someone to book** (phrase) Hold accountable, punish, call to account, reprimand, discipline जिम्मेदार ठहराना
- 37. **Culprit** (noun) Offender, wrongdoer, criminal, perpetrator, guilty party अपराधी
- 38. **Shut down** (phrasal verb) Close, cease, stop, terminate, halt बंद करना
- 39. **Inherent** (adjective) Intrinsic, innate, fundamental, essential, built-in निहित

# Summary of the Editorial

- 1. Governance Responsibility: Effective governance includes anticipating problems and preventing tragedies.
- 2. Tragic Incident: 39 people in Kallakurichi, Tamil Nadu, died from consuming methanollaced hooch.
- 3. Potential Toll Increase: The death toll may rise as more victims remain critically ill.
- 4. Previous Warnings: Earlier hooch tragedies in 2023 indicated a trend of using industrial methanol in illicit brewing.
- 5. **Availability of Hooch**: Cheap, easily accessible hooch in the region is a significant issue.
- 6. Economic Factors: Daily wage earners prefer local moonshine due to the high prices and exploitative practices at TASMAC shops.
- 7. Police Responsibility: The Prohibition Enforcement Wing should have addressed this trend proactively.
- 8. Government Response: Actions include dismissing district officials and forming a committee to investigate.
- 9. Financial Aid: The Chief Minister announced financial assistance for the victims' families.
- 10. CB-CID Investigation: The Crime Branch Criminal Investigation Department has started probing the incident.
- 11. Methanol as Poison: Methanol, added to strengthen moonshine, is extremely toxic, leading to severe health issues and death.
- 12. Historical Measures: Selling low-cost liquor through TASMAC in 2002 helped control hooch-related deaths.
- 13. Methanol Regulation: Methanol was regulated under the Tamil Nadu Prohibition Act in 2002, but recent events suggest lapses in control.
- 14. Accountability: It's crucial to prosecute those responsible for the methanol diversion.
- 15. Public Health Awareness: The government must shut down illicit brewing and raise awareness about the dangers of consuming hooch.

#### **Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based**

- 1. What was one of the measures introduced in 2002 that helped control deaths due to hooch?
  - A. The complete ban on the brewing of arrack by the government.

[Editorial Page]

- B. The establishment of public health awareness programs on methanol poisoning
- C. The deregulation of methanol under the Tamil Nadu Prohibition Act.
- D. The introduction of low-cost liquor through TASMAC.
- 2. What is suggested as a necessary government action to tackle the issue of methanol poisoning from illicit brewing?
  - A. Increasing the availability of legal brewing licenses.
  - B. Enhancing the punishment for methanol suppliers.
  - C. Shutting down the small-scale industry of illicit brewing and increasing public health awareness.
  - D. Allowing the free flow of methanol under strict regulation.
- 3. Which of the following factors primarily contributed to the recurring hooch tragedies in northern Tamil Nadu, as discussed in the passage?
  - A. The lack of immediate medical facilities for treating methanol poisoning
  - B. The diversion of industrial methanol to the illicit brewing industry
  - C. The failure of TASMAC shops to provide alcohol at competitive prices
  - D. The insufficient action taken by the Prohibition Enforcement Wing of the Tamil Nadu police
- 4. What does the passage suggest about the effectiveness of the Prohibition Enforcement Wing in preventing hooch tragedies?
  - A. They have been effective in reducing the availability of illegal hooch in northern Tamil Nadu.
  - B. They have failed to detect and act on trends leading to hooch tragedies.
  - C. They have conducted numerous successful raids on illicit brewing operations.
  - D. They have worked closely with TASMAC to lower alcohol prices.
- 5. What is the tone of the passage?
  - A. Alarmed
  - B. Indifferent
  - C. Optimistic
  - D. Sarcastic
- 6. Select the antonym for the word "complacence" as used in the passage.
  - A. Satisfaction
  - B. Indifference
  - C. Vigilance
  - D. Negligence

#### 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 moon was coming up in the east, behind me, and stars were shining in the clear sky above me. There wasn't a cloud in the sky. I was happy to be alone high up above the sleeping

	countryside. I was flying my old Dakota aeroplane over France back to England. I was
	1 of my holiday and looking forward to being with my family. I looked at my watch: one thirty in the morning. 'I should call Paris Control soon,' I thought. As I looked down
	past the nose of the aeroplane, I saw the lights of a big city in front of me. I switched on the
	radio and said, "Paris Control, Dakota DS 088 here. Can you hear me? I'm on my way to
	England. Over." The voice from the radio answered me immediately: "DS 088, I can hear you.
	You2turn twelve degrees west now, DS 088. Over." I checked the map and the
	compass, switched3 to my second and last fuel tank, and turned the Dakota
	twelve degrees west towards England. 'I'll be in time for breakfast,' I thought. A good big
	English breakfast! Everything was going well — it was an easy flight. Paris was about 150 kilometres behind me when I saw the clouds. Storm clouds. They were4 They
	looked like black mountains standing in front of me across the sky. I knew I could not fly up
	and over them, and I did not have enough fuel to fly around them to the north or south.
7.	Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.
	A. Approach
	B. Alarming
	C. Dreaming
	D. Forming
8.	Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.
	A. relate to B. ought to
	C. attend to
	D. used to
9.	Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.
	A. off
	B. of
	C. above
	D. over
10	. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4
	A. Huge B. Minuscule
	C. Petite
	D. Infinitesimal
11	. Select the most appropriate <b>ANTONYM</b> of the given word.
	Sumptuous
	A. Unremitting
	B. Lucrative
	C. Inexpensive
	D. Delectable
12	. Select the meaningful and correctly spelt word from the given options to fill in the blank.
	The chief guest is to arrive at the venue within half an hour.
	A. accepted

- B. expieted
- C. expected
- D. Espected
- 13. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.

Peter was brought in the penalty area.

- A. was brought down of the
- B. was brought of the
- C. was brought on the
- D. was brought down in the
- 14. Identify the error in the use of preposition in the given sentence and select the correct option.

Radhika is not capable on participating in a national level competition.

- A. about
- B. of
- C. on
- D. At
- 15. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.

They cancelled the meeting due to bad weather.

- A. The meeting is cancelled by them because of bad weather.
- B. The meeting was cancelled due to bad weather.
- C. They cancelled the meeting and bad weather was the cause.
- D. The bad weather is the reason they cancelled the meeting.
- 16. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.

The work will be finished by the mason within a short time.

- A. The mason will be finishing the work within a short time.
- B. The mason would have finish the work within a short time.
- C. The mason would finish the work within a short time.
- D. The mason will finish the work within a short time.
- 17. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given **idiom**.

Memory like sieve

- A. Being healthy
- B. Poor memory
- C. Feeling ill
- D. Remembering everything
- 18. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the following sentence.

**He will be looking** as if he has not slept.

- A. He looks
- B. He has look
- C. He was looking

- D. He will be look
- 19. Identity the correct spelling of the underlined word.

Medical **termnalogy** is difficult to understand.

- A. tarmnalogy
- B. tarminology
- C. terminology
- D. Terminiology
- 20. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.

A person who loves and collects books

- A. Bibliophile
- B. Philanthropist
- C. Geologist
- D. Sommelier
- 21. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the given word.

Amateur

- A. Hobbyist
- B. Devotee
- C. Layman
- D. Professional
- 22. Select the most appropriate **idiom** for the underlined words in the given sentence.

The candidate blamed the persistent traffic jam as reason of his being late and the interviewer

# believed him though he was not convinced.

- A. gave the benefit of doubt
- B. changed his tune
- C. thought err is human and to forgive is divine
- D. did not judge the book by its cover
- 23. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the underlined word.

Caves like Ajanta lie in **perpetual** darkness.

- A. Permanent
- B. Extreme
- C. Brief
- D. Huge
- 24. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the given word.

Comply

- A. Deny
- B. Engage
- C. Assist
- D. Expect
- 25. The following sentence has been divided into four parts. One of them contains an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options.

The sun / revolves / around / a earth.

- A. The sun
- B. revolves
- C. a earth
- D. Around

#### Answers

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

# **Explanations**

#### 1. D) The introduction of low-cost liquor through TASMAC.

- A. This option is incorrect because the passage mentions that the government has shifted its position on allowing or banning the brewing of arrack, but it does not state a complete ban as a measure introduced in 2002.
- D. The passage specifically states that the introduction of low-cost liquor through TASMAC in 2002 seemed to have controlled deaths due to hooch.
- C. This option is incorrect because the passage mentions that methanol was brought under the ambit of the Tamil Nadu Prohibition Act, implying regulation, not deregulation.
- B. This option is incorrect as the passage suggests the need for public health awareness, but does not mention it as a measure already introduced in 2002.

# 2. C) Shutting down the small-scale industry of illicit brewing and increasing public health awareness.

- A. This option is incorrect because the passage does not suggest that increasing legal brewing licenses would tackle methanol poisoning; it focuses on controlling illicit brewing.
- B. While this might be implied as part of bringing culprits to book, the passage emphasizes shutting down illicit brewing and public health awareness as the primary actions.
- C. The passage explicitly states that the government needs to shut down the illicit brewing industry and work towards increasing public health awareness about the dangers of drinking hooch.
- D. This option is incorrect because the passage implies that methanol flows freely currently and is a problem, so the solution would not involve allowing its free flow even under regulation.

#### 3. B) The diversion of industrial methanol to the illicit brewing industry

- A: While the lack of immediate medical facilities could exacerbate the situation, the passage emphasizes the primary issue as the use of methanol in hooch.
- B: Correct. The passage clearly states that the tragedies were due to industrial methanol being diverted to illicit brewing.
- C: The passage mentions the high prices at TASMAC shops but focuses on methanol use as the direct cause of the deaths.
- D: This is a contributing factor, but the primary cause is the diversion of methanol, as noted in the passage.

#### 4. B) They have failed to detect and act on trends leading to hooch tragedies.

- A: The passage indicates that illegal hooch is still widely available, implying ineffectiveness.
- B: Correct. The passage states that the Prohibition Enforcement Wing is mandated to detect and act on these trends, which they have failed to do.
- C: There is no mention in the passage of successful raids by the Prohibition Enforcement Wing.

D: The passage does not mention any collaboration between the Prohibition Enforcement Wing and TASMAC to address alcohol prices.

#### 5. A) Alarmed

The tone of the passage is alarmed as it highlights the severity of the hooch tragedy in Kallakurichi, emphasizing the failures in policy and enforcement that led to multiple deaths. Indifferent: Incorrect, as the passage clearly shows concern and urgency regarding the situation.

Optimistic: Incorrect, as the passage does not show any positive outlook but rather highlights failures and tragic outcomes.

Sarcastic: Incorrect, as there is no element of sarcasm in the passage; the language is serious and straightforward about the dangers and failures.

#### 6. C) Vigilance

Satisfaction: This means fulfillment of one's wishes, expectations, or needs, which is not an opposite of "complacence."

Indifference: This means lack of interest, concern, or sympathy, which is somewhat similar to "complacence."

Vigilance: This means the action or state of keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties, which is the opposite of "complacence."

Negligence: This means failure to take proper care over something, which is not the opposite of "complacence."

- 7. C) 'Dreaming' का use होगा क्योंकि "dreaming" का अर्थ है कुछ स्खद की कल्पना करना या विचार करना। sentence में बताया गया है कि वह अपने छुट्टियों के बारे में सोच रहा है और अपने परिवार के साथ समय बिताने के लिए उत्स्क है, इसलिए 'dreaming' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Approach' का अर्थ है किसी जगह या व्यक्ति के निकट आना, 'Alarming' का अर्थ है चिंताजनक, और 'Forming' का अर्थ है बनाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Dreaming' will be used because it means to imagine or think about something pleasant. The sentence mentions that he is thinking about his holiday and looking forward to being with his family, making 'dreaming' fitting here. Whereas, 'Approach' means coming near to a place or person, 'Alarming' means worrying, and 'Forming' means creating, which don't fit in this
- 8. B) 'Ought to' का use होगा क्योंकि "ought to" का अर्थ है कि क्छ किया जाना चाहिए। sentence में Paris Control उसे सलाह दे रहा है कि वह पश्चिम की ओर बारह डिग्री मुड़े, इसलिए 'ought to' यहाँ सही है। जबिक 'relate to' का अर्थ है संबंधित होना, 'attend to' का अर्थ है ध्यान देना, और 'used to' का अर्थ है किसी आदत का होना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Ought to' will be used because it means something should be done. The sentence has Paris Control advising him to turn twelve degrees west, making 'ought to' fitting here. Whereas, 'relate to' means to be connected to, 'attend to' means to pay attention to, and 'used to' means having a habit, which don't fit in this context.

- 9. D) 'Over' का use होगा क्योंकि "over" का अर्थ है एक स्थिति से दूसरी में स्विच करना।
  sentence में यह बताया गया है कि उसने अपने दूसरे और आखिरी ईंधन टैंक को स्विच किया,
  इसलिए 'over' यहाँ सही है। जबिक 'off' का अर्थ है बंद करना, 'of' का अर्थ है का, और 'above'
  का अर्थ है ऊपर, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
  - 'Over' will be used because it means switching from one state to another. The sentence mentions that he switched to his second and last fuel tank, making 'over' fitting here. Whereas, 'off' means to switch off, 'of' means belonging to, and 'above' means over, which don't fit in this context.
- 10. A) 'Huge' का use होगा क्योंकि "huge" का अर्थ है बहुत बड़ा। sentence में यह बताया गया है कि तूफानी बादल काले पहाड़ों जैसे दिख रहे थे, इसलिए 'huge' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Minuscule' का अर्थ है बहुत छोटा, 'Petite' का अर्थ है छोटा और नाजुक, और 'Infinitesimal' का अर्थ है अति सूक्ष्म, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
  - 'Huge' will be used because it means very large. The sentence mentions that storm clouds looked like black mountains, making 'huge' fitting here. Whereas, 'Minuscule' means very small, 'Petite' means small and delicate, and 'Infinitesimal' means extremely tiny, which don't fit in this context
- 11. C) **Sumptuous** (adjective) Lavish, luxurious, opulent, grand, splendid. आलीशान Antonym: **Inexpensive** (adjective) — Not costly or expensive, cheap, affordable. **सस्ता** 
  - Unremitting (adjective) Never relaxing or slackening, incessant, unending. निरंतर
  - Lucrative (adjective) Producing a great deal of profit, profitable, gainful. लाभकारी
  - **Delectable** (adjective) Extremely pleasant to taste or eat, delicious, tasty. स्वादिष्ट
- 12. C) 'Expected' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ वाक्य में मुख्य अतिथि के आगमन की संभावना की चर्चा की जा रही है। "Expected" शब्द इस संदर्भ में सही मायने में और सही वर्तनी में आने वाला विकल्प है। इसलिए, "expected" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
  - **'Expected'** should be used because the sentence is talking about the anticipated arrival of the chief guest. "Expected" is the word that is in the right context and has the correct spelling among the given options. Thus, "expected" would be the most appropriate choice.
- 13. D) 'was brought in the' के बदले 'was brought down in the' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरी अर्थ के हिसाब से जब किसी फुटबॉल खिलाड़ी को पेनल्टी एरिया में गिराया जाता है तो "brought down" का उपयोग होता है।

Bring down (phrasal verb) — (in sports) to make someone fall down उदाहरण— The player was brought down in the penalty area by the opponent.

- 'was brought down in the' will be used instead of 'was brought in the' because based on the complete meaning, when a football player is taken down in the penalty area, the term "brought down" is used.
- Example— The player was brought down in the penalty area by the opponent.
- 14. B) on' के बदले 'of' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'capable' के साथ सही preposition 'of' है। जैसे— She is capable of completing the task.
  - 'of' will be used instead of 'on' because the correct preposition to use with 'capable' is 'of'. Like— She is capable of completing the task.
- 15. B) The meeting was cancelled due to bad weather.
- 16. D) The mason will finish the work within a short time
- 17. B) Memory like sieve (idiom) Poor memory खराब याददाश्त
- 18. A) 'He will be looking' के बदले 'He looks' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'as if' के बाद present situation को describe करते समय simple present tense का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— He looks as if he has not slept.
  - 'He looks' will be used instead of '(He will be looking)' because after 'as if' to describe a present situation, we use simple present tense; Like— He looks as if he has not slept.
- The correct spelling of the underlined word 'termnalogy' is 'terminology'. 'Terminology' means "the system of terms belonging or peculiar to a science, art, or specialized subject" विज्ञान, कला, या विशेष विषय के लिए विशिष्ट पदों का प्रणाली।
- 20. A) Bibliophile (noun) A person who loves and collects books प्रस्तक प्रेमी
  - Philanthropist (noun) A person who seeks to promote the welfare of others, especially by the generous donation of money to good causes. परोपकारी
  - Geologist (noun) A scientist who studies the solid, liquid, and gaseous matter that constitutes the Earth and other terrestrial planets. भूविज्ञानी
  - **Sommelier** (noun) A wine steward; a trained and knowledgeable wine professional who specialises in all facets of wine service. शराब विशेषज्ञ
- 21. D) Amateur (noun) A person who engages in a pursuit, especially a sport, on an unpaid basis; someone who is not professional in a particular field. शौकीन
  - **Antonym**: **Professional** (noun/adjective) Relating to or belonging to a profession; a person engaged or qualified in a profession, especially when regarded in terms of their competence. पेशेवर
    - Hobbyist (noun) A person who pursues a particular hobby, especially out of interest rather than as a profession. शौक़ीन
    - **Devotee** (noun) A person who is very interested in and enthusiastic about someone or something; a strong follower or admirer. भक्त

- **Layman** (noun) A non-professional; someone who is not expert in or does not have detailed knowledge of a particular subject. आम आदमी
- 22. A) Give the benefit of doubt (phrase) to believe someone's statement, despite suspicions that it may be untrue. संदेह का लाभ दिया
  - Change his tune (idiom) to change one's opinion or attitude suddenly. अपनी राय बदलना
  - Think err is human and to forgive is divine (idiom) It means it is human nature to make mistakes and it is godly to forgive. However, this idiom doesn't fit the context perfectly.
  - Not judge the book by its cover (idiom) to not judge someone or something based solely on appearance.
- 23. A) **Perpetual** (adjective) Never ending or changing, continuous, unceasing. निरंतर Synonym: Permanent (adjective) – Lasting or intended to last or remain unchanged indefinitely. स्थायी
  - Extreme (adjective) Reaching a high or the highest degree, very severe or serious. अत्यधिक
  - Brief (adjective) Lasting only for a short period of time. संक्षिप्त
  - Huge (adjective) Extremely large, enormous, vast. विशाल
- 24. A) **Comply** (verb) To act in accordance with a wish, command, law, guideline, etc. का पालन करना

Antonym: Deny (verb) – To refuse to accept or admit; to declare untrue. नकारना

- Engage (verb) To participate or become involved in; to occupy or attract. भाग लेना
- Assist (verb) To help or aid. सहायता करना
- Expect (verb) To regard as likely or due to happen. उम्मीद करना
- 25. C) 'a earth' के बदले 'the earth' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'earth' विशिष्ट प्रथ्वी को सूचित करता है और 'a' का प्रयोग 'earth' के साथ अश्द्ध है।
  - 'the earth' will be used instead of 'a earth' because 'earth' specifies the particular planet and the use of 'a' with 'earth' is incorrect.



# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

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