

## Net damage: On the fisheries dispute, India and Sri Lanka

India's fisherfolk must be **weaned away** from **bottom trawling**

The **resumption** of fishing **off** India's eastern coast including the Palk Bay, after the annual 61-day ban on fishing, **has led to** the death of a **sailor** from the Sri Lanka Navy. The Sri Lankan Navy had **carried out** an operation on June 25 morning to "**chase away a cluster of Indian poaching trawlers**" in Sri Lankan waters off Kankesanthurai, near Jaffna. A trawler-vessel was **impounded** and 10 fishermen **apprehended**, of whom eight were from Tamil Nadu and the rest from Andhra Pradesh. There have also been several cases of Indian (Tamil Nadu) fishermen dying too. **The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister**, M.K. Stalin, **sought** the **intervention** of the External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, in releasing the **vessel** and the men. In his reply sent to the Chief Minister on Thursday, Mr. Jaishankar said the Indian High Commission had been seeking the early release of 34 fishermen in judicial remand and six others who were serving **sentences**.

This is an opportunity for the two countries to **revive** the **negotiation** process, exclusively to **deal with** the fisheries dispute, which became **aggravated in the wake of** the 1974 and 1976 **bilateral** agreements to **demarcate** their **maritime** boundary lines. Mr. Stalin has done well to remind Mr. Jaishankar to **convene** a meeting of the Joint Working Group, last held (virtually) over two years ago. The **acts** of Indian fishermen crossing the international maritime boundary line **are** clearly illegal; **factors** relating to protection of **livelihood** opportunities **cannot** be **delinked** from the importance of the **preservation** of the **marine ecosystem**. A **gradual replacement** of bottom trawlers being used by the Tamil Nadu fishermen **is** a **must**, but the fisherfolk require time to prepare for **diversification** — deep sea fishing, **marine cage farming**, **seaweed** cultivation and processing, and **sea ranching**. The **experiences** of the deep sea fishing project, being **executed** by the Union and Tamil Nadu governments, **are** clear enough to **conclude** that it is a failure. After nearly seven years of implementation, only 61 deep sea fishing vessels have been **handed over** to **beneficiaries**, with 19 more under construction. It would be **thoughtful** if the Union government **clubs** the project with an all-India programme, where **the unit cost** of a deep sea fishing vessel **is** ₹40 lakh higher, at least to get a better response even at this stage. **The unit cost** of a deep sea fishing vessel under the Central-State project **is** ₹80 lakh. New Delhi and Colombo can **devise** additional schemes to help the Northern Province's fishermen even more. But what is more important is that **the two countries**, representatives of the fishing community and officials from Tamil Nadu and the Northern Province **should** meet soon to find a **way out** of the dispute. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Fisherfolk** (noun) – Fishermen, anglers, fishers, fishing community, seafaring workers मछुआरे
2. **Wean away** (phrasal verb) – to make someone gradually stop using something that is bad for them से रोकना
3. **Bottom trawling** (noun) – A method of fishing that involves dragging heavy nets across the sea floor, often damaging the ecosystem जाल द्वारा तल मछली पकड़ना
4. **Resumption** (noun) – Restart, recommencement, renewal, continuation, reestablishment पुनः आरंभ
5. **Off** (adverb) – Away from, at a distance from, not on, beyond, separate from से दूर
6. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, cause, bring about, produce, contribute to वजह बनना
7. **Sailor** (noun) – Seafarer, mariner, navigator, crew member, shipman नाविक
8. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) – Execute, perform, accomplish, conduct, implement करना
9. **Chase away** (phrasal verb) – Drive away, expel, force out, shoo away, banish भगाना/खदेड़ना
10. **Cluster** (noun) – Group, bunch, collection, assembly, aggregation समूह
11. **Poaching trawler** (noun) – A fishing vessel engaged in illegal fishing activities अवैध शिकार करने वाला ट्रॉलर
12. **Impound** (verb) – Confiscate, seize, take, retain, detain जब्त करना
13. **Apprehend** (verb) – Arrest, capture, detain, seize, take into custody गिरफ्तार करना
14. **Seek** (verb) – Ask for, solicit on, demand, call for मांगना
15. **Intervention** (noun) – Interference, involvement, mediation, intercession, arbitration हस्तक्षेप
16. **Vessel** (noun) – Ship, boat, craft, watercraft, barge जहाज
17. **Sentence** (noun) – Punishment, judgment, ruling, verdict, penalty सजा
18. **Revive** (verb) – Restore, renew, reinvigorate, resuscitate, rejuvenate पुनर्जीवित करना
19. **Negotiation** (noun) – Discussion, dialogue, talks, consultation, bargaining बातचीत
20. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – Address, handle, manage, tackle, attend to निपटना
21. **Aggravate** (verb) – Worsen, intensify, exacerbate, amplify, heighten बढ़ाना

22. **In the wake of** (phrase) – Following, as a result of, after, subsequent to, in the aftermath of के परिणामस्वरूप
23. **Bilateral** (adjective) – Mutual, reciprocal, two-sided, joint, collaborative द्विपक्षीय
24. **Demarcate** (verb) – Define, mark, delimit, set boundaries, delineate सीमांकन करना
25. **Maritime** (adjective) – Nautical, marine, seafaring, oceanic, naval समुद्री
26. **Convene** (verb) – Summon, assemble, gather, call together, meet बुलाना/  
आयोजित करना
27. **Livelihood** (noun) – Income, means of support, living, sustenance, employment आजीविका
28. **Delink** (verb) – Separate, disconnect, detach, dissociate, isolate अलग करना
29. **Preservation** (noun) – Conservation, protection, maintenance, safeguarding, upkeep संरक्षण
30. **Marine** (adjective) – Oceanic, maritime, sea-related, aquatic, naval समुद्री
31. **Ecosystem** (noun) – Environment, ecological system, biosphere, habitat, ecological community पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र
32. **Gradual** (adjective) – Slow, steady, progressive, incremental, step-by-step धीरे-धीरे
33. **Must** (noun) – Necessity, requirement, essential, imperative, prerequisite आवश्यक
34. **Diversification** (noun) – Variety, expansion, variation, broadening, multiplicity विविधता
35. **Marine cage farming** (noun) – A method of aquaculture where fish are raised in cages submerged in the sea समुद्री पिंजरा खेती
36. **Seaweed** (noun) – Marine algae, kelp, sea plants, ocean vegetation, aquatic plants समुद्री शैवाल
37. **Sea ranching** (noun) – The practice of raising marine organisms in the ocean, often releasing them to replenish stocks समुद्री पशुपालन
38. **Execute** (verb) – Implement, carry out, perform, accomplish, complete अमल करना
39. **Conclude** (verb) – End, finish, finalize, determine, deduce निष्कर्ष निकालना
40. **Hand over** (phrasal verb) – Transfer, deliver, give, pass, entrust सौंपना
41. **Beneficiary** (noun) – Recipient, heir, inheritor, grantee, legatee लाभार्थी
42. **Thoughtful** (adjective) – Considerate, reflective, contemplative, deliberate, attentive विचारशील
43. **Club** (verb) – Combine, merge, join, unify, consolidate मिलाना

44. **Devise** (verb) – Plan, invent, formulate,  
create, develop बनाना

45. **Way out** (phrasal verb) – Solution, escape,  
exit, means of avoiding, resolution समाधान

## Summary of the Editorial

1. **Fishing Ban Resumption:** The annual 61-day fishing ban on India's eastern coast has ended, leading to renewed fishing activities.
2. **Sailor's Death:** A Sri Lankan Navy sailor died during an operation to chase away Indian poaching trawlers near Jaffna.
3. **Indian Fishermen Arrested:** The Sri Lankan Navy impounded a trawler and apprehended 10 Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.
4. **Casualties Among Fishermen:** Several Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu have also died in similar incidents.
5. **Political Intervention:** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin requested the intervention of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to release the arrested fishermen and vessel.
6. **Diplomatic Efforts:** Mr. Jaishankar confirmed that the Indian High Commission is working on the early release of 34 fishermen in judicial remand and six others serving sentences.
7. **Need for Negotiation:** The fisheries dispute needs renewed negotiation efforts, especially after the 1974 and 1976 agreements demarcating maritime boundaries.
8. **Joint Working Group:** Mr. Stalin emphasized the need to reconvene the Joint Working Group, which last met over two years ago.
9. **Illegal Fishing:** Indian fishermen crossing the international maritime boundary line is illegal and affects the marine ecosystem.
10. **Gradual Replacement:** A gradual replacement of bottom trawlers used by Tamil Nadu fishermen is necessary.
11. **Diversification Needed:** Fisherfolk need time to transition to alternative livelihoods like deep sea fishing, marine cage farming, seaweed cultivation, and sea ranching.
12. **Project Failure:** The deep sea fishing project by the Union and Tamil Nadu governments has not met expectations, with only 61 vessels handed over in seven years.
13. **Increased Costs:** The unit cost of a deep sea fishing vessel under the Central-State project is ₹80 lakh, while an all-India program could have higher costs but better responses.
14. **Additional Schemes:** India and Sri Lanka can create more schemes to support fishermen in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka.
15. **Urgent Meeting:** Representatives from both countries, fishing communities, and officials from Tamil Nadu and the Northern Province should meet soon to resolve the dispute.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the primary cause of conflict between the Indian and Sri Lankan fishermen as mentioned in the passage?** [Editorial page]
  - A. The annual 61-day ban on fishing off India's eastern coast
  - B. The intervention of the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister in fishing disputes
  - C. The operation by the Sri Lankan Navy to chase away Indian poaching trawlers
  - D. The Indian High Commission's efforts to release detained fishermen
2. **What was the response of the Indian High Commission regarding the detained fishermen?**
  - A. They sought the intervention of the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister
  - B. They were indifferent to the situation
  - C. They initiated a 61-day fishing ban
  - D. They sought the early release of the fishermen in judicial remand and those serving sentences
3. **What is the primary purpose of reviving the negotiation process between India and Sri Lanka regarding their fisheries dispute?**
  - A. To address the issues stemming from the maritime boundary agreements of 1974 and 1976.
  - B. To discuss the economic impacts of fishing on both countries' economies.
  - C. To enhance the diplomatic relations between India and Sri Lanka by engaging in talks.
  - D. To convene a meeting of the Joint Working Group to reassess the project costs of deep sea fishing vessels.
4. **Why is the gradual replacement of bottom trawlers by Tamil Nadu fishermen considered necessary according to the passage?**
  - A. Bottom trawlers contribute significantly to marine pollution and thus affect bilateral relations.
  - B. Bottom trawlers are economically inefficient and lead to financial losses for the fishermen.
  - C. Bottom trawlers threaten the marine ecosystem, necessitating sustainable fishing practices.
  - D. Bottom trawlers are involved in illegal activities that violate international laws.
5. **According to the passage, which of the following statement is true?**
  - A. The Indian High Commission has requested the release of 64 fishermen currently in judicial remand.
  - B. The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister sought the intervention of the External Affairs Minister to continue the use of bottom trawlers by Tamil Nadu fishermen.
  - C. A sailor from the Sri Lanka Navy died during an operation to chase away Indian poaching trawlers.
  - D. The Joint Working Group has consistently met each year to address the fisheries dispute between India and Sri Lanka.

#### 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.

India's Northeastern region \_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_ for long experienced insurgency, internal conflict and unrest and the challenges have \_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_ been \_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_ by its complex history, geographical isolation and perceived neglect by the Central Government. One of the \_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_ prominent \_\_\_\_5\_\_\_\_ of the restive Northeast is the internecine wars within its borders, fuelled by a variety of factors ranging from ethnic tensions to resource disputes, leading to cycles of violence and displacement.

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

- A. Has
- B. Have
- C. Is
- D. Has been

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

- A. Early
- B. Often
- C. Still
- D. Yet

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

- A. Eased
- B. Concentrated
- C. Separated
- D. Exacerbated

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

- A. Most
- B. More
- C. Mostest
- D. Biggest

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

- A. Observes
- B. Derives
- C. Facets
- D. Facts

11. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined **idiom**.

Coming from the movie around midnight, the boys hit the sack.

- A. jumped with joy
- B. went to sleep
- C. hit a wall
- D. shouted at parents

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

One who always expects the worst possible outcome

- A. Pessimist

- B. Optimist  
C. Preacher  
D. Serial killer
13. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.  
One who is bad in spellings  
A. Cartographer  
B. Cacographer  
C. Chauffer  
D. Calligrapher
14. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.  
Diminutive  
A. Miniature  
B. Enormous  
C. Propaganda  
D. Distinguish
15. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the underlined word.  
The teacher was accused of brazen favouritism in assigning the grades.  
A. Modest  
B. Shy  
C. Unashamed  
D. Ashamed
16. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**  
Lewis can handle many of the European languages with its dialectical varieties fluently.  
A. on its dialectical varieties  
B. with their dialectical varieties  
C. with a dialectical varieties  
D. with they dialectical varieties
17. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the underlined word in the given sentence.  
The ruins of this building do tell us the story of a defunct organisation.  
A. obsolete  
B. ancient  
C. contemporary  
D. Prominent
18. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**  
Despite having a broken leg, Sarah managed to finish the marathon on record time.  
A. finish the marathon in record time  
B. finish a marathon on record time  
C. finish the marathon to record time  
D. finish the marathon at record time



19. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.

His wife was killed by him.

- A. Him kills his wife.
- B. He has killed his wife.
- C. He killed his wife.
- D. He kills his wife.

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

One's relatives or family, related

- A. Kilt
- B. Kindle
- C. Kin
- D. Kine

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

She is not as cleverest as John.

- A. as clever as
- B. clever
- C. cleverest
- D. cleverer by

22. Identify the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word in the following sentence and select its correct spelling from the given options.

The preview version will give you a glimpse of the entaire book.

- A. glimse
- B. preveiw
- C. varsion
- D. Entire

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

Camouflage

- A. Sabotage
- B. Execute
- C. Gigantic
- D. Disguise

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

Conspicuous

- A. Opaque
- B. Unnoticeable
- C. Obvious
- D. Effective

25. Select the option that expresses the following sentence in passive voice.

The storm uprooted a large number of trees yesterday.

- A. Large number of trees were uprooted by the storm yesterday.

- B. A large number of trees was uprooted by the storm yesterday.
- C. Trees was uprooted yesterday in a large number by the storm.
- D. A large number of trees were uprooted by the storm yesterday.

## Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

## Explanations

- C) The operation by the Sri Lankan Navy to chase away Indian poaching trawlers**

A: This option is incorrect because the annual ban on fishing is a measure taken to preserve marine life and is not the cause of the conflict.

B: This option is incorrect because the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's intervention is a response to the conflict, not its cause.

C: This option is correct because the passage explicitly mentions that the conflict arose from the Sri Lankan Navy's operation to chase away Indian poaching trawlers.

D: This option is incorrect because the Indian High Commission's efforts to release detained fishermen are a consequence of the conflict, not its cause.
- D) They sought the early release of the fishermen in judicial remand and those serving sentences**

A: This option is incorrect because it was the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister who sought the intervention of the External Affairs Minister, not the Indian High Commission.

B: This option is incorrect because the passage clearly indicates that the Indian High Commission was actively seeking the release of the detained fishermen.

D: This option is correct as the passage explicitly states that the Indian High Commission had been seeking the early release of 34 fishermen in judicial remand and six others who were serving sentences.

C: This option is incorrect because the 61-day fishing ban is an annual measure and not initiated by the Indian High Commission in response to the detainment of fishermen.
- A) To address the issues stemming from the maritime boundary agreements of 1974 and 1976.**

A: The passage highlights that the revival of the negotiation process is specifically to address the fisheries dispute which has become aggravated since the maritime boundaries were demarcated in 1974 and 1976.

B: Although the economic impacts might be implicit, the passage specifically focuses on the dispute arising from boundary demarcation and illegal fishing practices, not broadly on economic impacts.

C: While enhancing diplomatic relations may be a byproduct, the primary focus is on resolving the specific dispute over fisheries, not general diplomatic engagement.

D: The passage mentions the Joint Working Group in the context of reminding parties to convene, but it is not specifically to reassess project costs; it is to address the overarching fisheries dispute.
- C) Bottom trawlers threaten the marine ecosystem, necessitating sustainable fishing practices**

C: The passage points out that the actions of Indian fishermen, specifically the use of bottom trawlers, cannot be separated from the need to preserve the marine ecosystem. This indicates that their usage needs to be phased out in favor of more sustainable methods.

A: There is no specific mention of marine pollution affecting bilateral relations directly linked to bottom trawlers in the passage.

B: The passage does not discuss the economic efficiency of bottom trawlers or their financial impact on fishermen.

D: While illegal crossing of maritime boundaries is mentioned, the use of bottom trawlers specifically for illegal activities is not the focus; rather, their impact on the ecosystem is emphasized.
- C) A sailor from the Sri Lanka Navy died during an operation to chase away Indian poaching trawlers.**

The passage explicitly states that the operation carried out by the Sri Lankan Navy to chase away Indian poaching trawlers resulted in the death of a sailor, making option C correct.

A: Incorrect because the passage mentions the early release of 34 fishermen in judicial remand and six others serving sentences, not 64.

B: Incorrect as there is no mention of the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister advocating for the continuation of bottom trawler use; instead, the passage discusses the need for a gradual replacement of these trawlers.

D: Incorrect because it states that the Joint Working Group last met over two years ago, indicating it does not meet annually.

6. A) 'Has' का use होगा क्योंकि "has" का अर्थ होता है कि कोई क्रिया पूर्व में आरम्भ होकर वर्तमान तक जारी है, जो कि "India's Northeastern region" के साथ singular subject के रूप में मेल खाता है। Sentence में कहा गया है कि इस क्षेत्र में लंबे समय से विद्रोह और संघर्ष जारी है, जिससे 'has' यहाँ सही फिट बैठता है। 'Have' plural subjects के लिए प्रयोग किया जाता है, 'Is' present continuous के लिए होता है जो यहाँ नहीं बैठता, और 'Being' भी continuous tense के लिए होता है जो कि इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Has' will be used because it indicates an action that started in the past and continues to the present, aligning with the singular subject "India's Northeastern region". The sentence mentions that this region has long experienced insurgency, making 'has' appropriate here. On the other hand, 'Have' is used for plural subjects, 'Is' indicates present continuous which is not fitting here, and 'Being' also denotes a continuous state, which isn't correct in this context.

7. B) 'Often' का use होगा क्योंकि "often" का अर्थ होता है बार-बार या आमतौर पर। sentence में बताया गया है कि भारत का पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र लंबे समय से विद्रोह और आंतरिक संघर्ष से गुजर रहा है और यह समस्या अक्सर बढ़ी है। इसलिए 'often' यहाँ सटीक है। जबकि 'Early' का अर्थ है जल्दी में, 'Still' का अर्थ है अभी भी, और 'Yet' का अर्थ है अभी तक, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

'Often' will be used because it means repeatedly or generally. The sentence describes that India's Northeastern region has long been experiencing insurgency and internal conflicts, and these challenges have often been exacerbated. Thus, 'often' is appropriate here. Whereas, 'Early' implies premature, 'Still' means continuing until now, and 'Yet' suggests up to now, which don't align well with this context.

8. D) 'Exacerbated' का use होगा क्योंकि 'exacerbated' का अर्थ होता है स्थिति को और खराब करना या बिगाड़ना। Passage में बताया गया है कि चुनौतियाँ इस क्षेत्र की जटिलताओं से बढ़ी हैं, इसलिए 'exacerbated' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Eased' का अर्थ होता है आसान बनाना या कम करना, 'Concentrated' का अर्थ है केंद्रित करना, और 'Separated' का अर्थ है अलग करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

'Exacerbated' will be used because it means to make a situation worse or aggravate it. The passage mentions that the challenges have been amplified due to the region's complexities, making 'exacerbated' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Eased' means to alleviate or reduce, 'Concentrated' means to focus, and 'Separated' means to divide, which do not fit in this context.

9. A) 'Most' का use होगा क्योंकि 'most' यहाँ एक superlative adjective के रूप में काम कर रहा है, जो यह बताने के लिए सही है कि कौन सा पहलू सबसे अधिक प्रमुख है। Passage में 'prominent' के साथ

'most' का use सबसे उपयुक्त है। 'More' एक comparative adjective होता है जो इस context में सही नहीं बैठता, 'Mostest' incorrect है, और 'Biggest' भौतिक आकार या मात्रा को दर्शाने के लिए इस्तेमाल होता है, न कि प्रमुखता को।

'Most' will be used because it functions as a superlative adjective here, which is helpful to indicate which aspect is the most significant. The use of 'most' with 'prominent' in the passage is the most suitable. 'More' is a comparative adjective which doesn't fit in this context, 'Mostest' is incorrect English, and 'Biggest' refers to physical size or volume, not prominence

10. C) Facets' का use होगा क्योंकि 'facets' का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ के विभिन्न पहलू या आयाम। Passage में 'prominent facets' का use उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र की विभिन्न जटिलताओं को दर्शाने के लिए सबसे उपयुक्त है। 'Observes' देखने या निरीक्षण करने का कार्य होता है, 'Derives' का अर्थ होता है किसी से प्राप्त करना या निकालना, और 'Facts' का अर्थ होता है तथ्य, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं। Facets' will be used because 'facets' means different aspects or dimensions of something. The use of 'prominent facets' in the passage is most suitable to describe the various complexities of the Northeastern region. 'Observes' pertains to watching or inspecting, 'Derives' means to obtain or extract from, and 'Facts' means truths or realities, which do not fit in this context.
11. C) **Hit the sack** (idiom) – Went to sleep सोने जाना
12. A) **Pessimist** (noun) – A person who tends to see the worst aspect of things or believe that the worst will happen. निराशावादी
- **Optimist** (noun) – A person who is hopeful and confident about the future or the outcome of something. आशावादी
  - **Preacher** (noun) – A person who proclaims or announces a religious or moral message. धर्मोपदेशक
  - **Serial killer** (noun) – A person who commits a series of murders, often with no apparent motive and typically following a characteristic, predictable behavior pattern. श्रृंखला हत्याारा
13. B) **Cacographer** (noun) – A person who is bad in spellings. खराब वर्तनी लेखक
- **Cartographer** (noun) – A person who draws or produces maps. मानचित्रकार
  - **Chauffer** (noun) – A person employed to drive a private or rented automobile. ड्राइवर
  - **Calligrapher** (noun) – A person who practices or is skilled in calligraphy, the art of beautiful handwriting. सुलेखक
14. A) **Diminutive** (adjective) – Small, little, tiny, undersized. छोटा
- Synonym: **Miniature** (adjective) – Very small of its kind, tiny, minute. लघु
- **Enormous** (adjective) – Very large in size, extent, or amount, massive, gigantic. विशाल
  - **Propaganda** (noun) – Information, ideas, or rumors deliberately spread to help or harm a person, group, movement, etc. प्रचार
  - **Distinguish** (verb) – Recognize or treat as different, differentiate, discern. पहचानना
15. C) **Brazen** (adjective) – Bold and without shame, shameless, unabashed, unembarrassed. निर्लज्ज

**Synonym: Unashamed** (adjective) – Not feeling shame about one's actions, not embarrassed or guilty.

बेशरम

- **Modest** (adjective) – Unassuming or moderate in the estimation of one's abilities or achievements, not showy. विनीत
- **Shy** (adjective) – Being reserved or having or showing nervousness or timidity in the company of other people, bashful. शरमीला
- **Ashamed** (adjective) – Embarrassed or feeling guilt because of something one did or didn't do. शर्मिदा

16. B) 'with its dialectical varieties' के बदले 'with their dialectical varieties' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि

'languages' plural है, अतः related pronoun भी plural में होगा; जैसे— He reads books with their interesting covers.

- 'with their dialectical varieties' will be used instead of 'with its dialectical varieties' because 'languages' is plural, so the related pronoun will also be in plural; Like— He reads books with their interesting covers.

17. A) **Defunct** (adjective) – No longer existing or functioning, ceased, extinct. बंद; अप्रचलित

**Synonym: Obsolete** (adjective) – Out of date, outdated, old-fashioned, no longer in use. पुराना; अप्रचलित

- **Ancient** (adjective) – Belonging to the very distant past, old, historical. प्राचीन
- **Contemporary** (adjective) – Living or occurring at the same time, current, modern. समकालीन
- **Prominent** (adjective) – Standing out so as to be easily seen or noticed, leading, distinguished. प्रमुख

18. A) **on record time** के बदले 'in record time' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'in record time' एक सही phrase है जिसका अर्थ है किसी कार्य को अत्यधिक तेजी से पूरा करना।

- 'in record time' will be used instead of 'on record time' because 'in record time' is the correct phrase meaning to complete a task very quickly.

19. C) He killed his wife

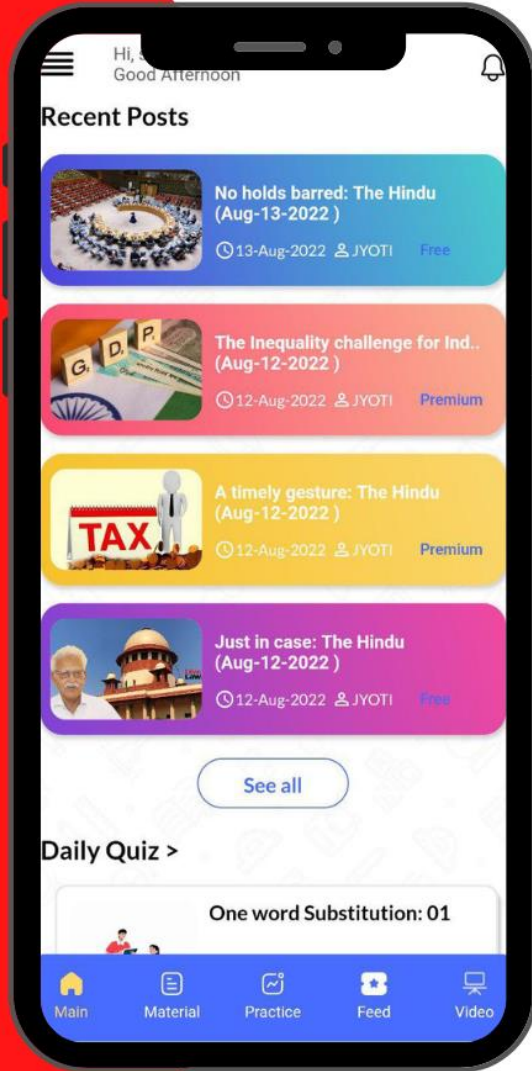
20. C) **Kin** (noun) – One's relatives or family, related परिवार/संबंधी

- **Kilt** (noun) – a type of skirt traditionally worn by men in Scotland. स्कॉटिश स्कर्ट
- **Kindle** (verb) – to light or set on fire; to arouse or inspire (an emotion or feeling). आग लगाना/ प्रेरित करना
- **Kine** (noun) – archaic term for cows collectively. गायों का समूह

21. A) **'cleverest'** के बदले 'as clever as' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि positive degree में comparative degree का सही रूप 'as + Positive degree + as' होता है; जैसे— She is not as tall as John.

- 'as clever as' will be used instead of 'cleverest' because the correct form for comparative degree is 'as + Positive degree + as'; Like— She is not as tall as John.

22. D) The incorrectly spelt word in the given sentence is 'entaire'. The correct spelling is 'Entire' from option D. संपूर्ण,
23. D) **Camouflage** (noun) – The use of any combination of materials, coloration, or illumination for concealment, either by making animals or objects hard to see, or by disguising them as something else. छद्मावरण  
Synonym: **Disguise** (noun) – give (someone or oneself) a different appearance in order to conceal one's identity. वेश बदलना, भेस बदलना
- **Sabotage** (noun) – The act of destroying or damaging something deliberately so that it does not work correctly. तोड़-फोड़
  - **Execute** (verb) – To carry out or put into effect; to make or produce something, especially by following a plan or design. कार्यवाही करना
  - **Gigantic** (adjective) – Very large; huge. विशाल
24. C) **Conspicuous** (adjective) – Easily seen or noticed, clearly visible, evident, prominent. स्पष्ट  
Synonym: **Obvious** (adjective) – Easily perceived or understood, clear, self-evident, noticeable. प्रत्यक्ष
- **Opaque** (adjective) – Not able to be seen through, not transparent, unclear. अपारदर्शी
  - **Unnoticeable** (adjective) – Not easily seen or noticed, not conspicuous. अदृश्य
  - **Effective** (adjective) – Successful in producing a desired or intended result, efficacious. प्रभावी
25. D) A large number of trees were uprooted by the storm yesterday.



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