

Pay farmers not to farm... paddy

Paying farmers in Punjab and Haryana an **explicit** subsidy not to grow paddy, as suggested by an ICRIER policy brief released this month, **makes ample** sense. It's an **efficient** alternative to MSP **earmarked** for grain, **legislated increments** of which have become the cause of farmer **agitation** in the region. The MSP programme itself has been **called into question** over farmers' ability to sell crops at prices that will support farming paddy and other covered crops. To access the intended price support offered through MSP, the farmer has to **go through** the expenses of an entire **harvest** so that Gol can **procure** grain to be stored for food security. A **subsidy** not to farm paddy **addresses** waste in the grain storage **mechanism**, but, more importantly, it frees up government resources to offer support prices for a larger variety of crops that the country is **deficient** in.

Paying farmers not to farm **may sound odd**, till the **ecological** impact of farming is **priced in**. That includes irrigation, fertiliser and power costs, some of which Gol **bears**. In the case of paddy in Punjab and Haryana, these costs are **considerable**, making cultivation **unviable** without **input subsidies alongside** price supports. Then there's the matter of ecological damage of **unsustainable** agriculture. All of these **add up to** the explicit subsidy the ICRIER paper is suggesting for **weaning** farmers in northwest India **off** growing paddy - which can be grown with less damage to the environment in **rainfed** parts of the country. A green revolution **awaits** pulses and **edible** oils that would benefit from both input subsidies and price support. It would also reduce India's import dependence for these crops.



Other countries have found it **expedient** to pay farmers not to grow selective crops, instead of making them go through with the expense of doing so to claim support prices, and for governments to store such crops in warehouses where they **rot** or are eaten by rats. India can consider this agri **intervention** for nutritional security, **sustainable farming** and an **evergreen revolution**. **[Practice]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Explicit** (adjective) – Clearly stated or shown; forthright in expression स्पष्ट
2. **Ample** (adjective) – More than enough, plentiful, abundant पर्याप्त
3. **Efficient** (adjective) – Being effective without wasting time or effort; competent कुशल
4. **Earmark** (verb) – Allocate, assign, allot, reserve, save; Designate for a specific purpose विशेष उद्देश्य के लिए निर्धारित करना
5. **Legislate** (verb) – Make or enact laws कानून बनाना
6. **Increment** (noun) – An increase or addition, especially one of a series on a fixed scale वृद्धि
7. **Agitation** (noun) – Campaigning, activism, demonstration, protest; A state of anxiety or nervous excitement; public protest आंदोलन
8. **Call into question** (phrase) – To doubt; to challenge the validity or truth of something सवाल उठाना
9. **Go through** (phrasal verb) – use up or spend available money or other resources. का खर्च उठाना
10. **Harvest** (noun) – The process or period of gathering in crops फसल काटना
11. **Procure** (verb) – Obtain (something), especially with care or effort प्राप्त करना
12. **Address** (verb) – Deal with or discuss a problem or issue निपटाना
13. **Mechanism** (noun) – A system of parts working together in a machine; a piece of machinery तंत्र
14. **Deficient** (in) (adjective) – Lacking, scarce, underprovided, short; Lacking in some necessary quality or element कमी
15. **Sound** (verb) – Appear to be; seem लगना
16. **Odd** (adjective) – Strange or unusual अजीब
17. **Ecological** (adjective) – Relating to or concerned with the relation of living organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings पारिस्थितिकीय
18. **Price in** (phrasal verb) – Include something in a pricing decision मूल्य में शामिल करना
19. **Bear** (verb) – Carry, support, shoulder, uphold, sustain, वहन करना
20. **Considerable** (adjective) – Notably large in size, amount, or extent महत्वपूर्ण

21. **Unviable** (adjective) – Impracticable, useless, unrealistic, Not capable of working successfully; not feasible
अव्यावहारिक
22. **Input subsidy** (noun) – Financial support provided by governments to help reduce the cost of inputs for production
23. **Alongside** (adverb) – beside, next to, alongside of, adjacent to, parallel to के साथ-साथ
24. **Unsustainable** (adjective) – Not able to be maintained at the current rate or level; not sustainable अस्थिर
25. **Add up to** (phrase) – To result in a particular total or amount कुल बनना
26. **Wean off** (phrasal verb) – Gradually reduce dependence on something धीरे-धीरे निर्भरता कम करना
27. **Rainfed** (adjective) – Relating to land or crops that rely on rainfall for water वर्षा पर निर्भर
28. **Await** (verb) – Wait for, expect, anticipate प्रतीक्षा करना
29. **Edible** (adjective) – Fit to be eaten (not poisonous or harmful) खाद्य
30. **Expedient** (adjective) – (of an action) convenient and practical although possibly improper or immoral; suitable for achieving a particular end; Convenient, practical, useful, beneficial, उपयोगी
31. **Rot** (verb) – Decompose, decay, deteriorate सड़ना
32. **Intervention** (noun) – The action or process of intervening हस्तक्षेप
33. **Sustainable farming** (noun) – Farming using methods that do not deplete natural resources or harm the environment
34. **Evergreen revolution** (noun) – An ongoing improvement in agricultural practices that continually enhances environmental quality and the resource base

Summary of the Editorial

1. An ICRIER policy brief suggests paying farmers in Punjab and Haryana a subsidy not to grow paddy.
2. This proposal is seen as a more efficient alternative to the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for grains.
3. Legislated increments in MSP have led to farmer agitations in the region.
4. The MSP program has been questioned due to farmers' challenges in selling crops at supportive prices.
5. Farmers must bear the expenses of an entire harvest to access MSP, leading to inefficiencies in grain storage.
6. A subsidy not to farm paddy could reduce waste in the grain storage system.
7. It would also free up government resources to support prices for a larger variety of crops.
8. Paying farmers not to farm addresses the ecological impact of farming, including irrigation, fertilizer, and power costs.
9. Paddy farming in Punjab and Haryana is costly and unsustainable without input subsidies and price supports.
10. Unsustainable agriculture causes significant ecological damage.
11. The proposed subsidy aims to wean farmers off paddy, which can be grown with less environmental damage in rainfed regions.
12. A shift to other crops could trigger a green revolution for pulses and edible oils.
13. Such a shift would reduce India's dependence on imports for these crops.
14. Other countries have successfully paid farmers not to grow certain crops, avoiding the expense and waste of growing and storing them.
15. This agricultural intervention could enhance nutritional security, promote sustainable farming, and support an evergreen revolution in India.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the primary reason for proposing a subsidy for farmers not to grow paddy, as discussed in the ICRIER policy brief?** [Editorial page]
 - A. To reduce the ecological impact of paddy farming.
 - B. To simplify the government's administrative processes.
 - C. To alleviate the grain storage problem and diversify crop support.
 - D. To eliminate the Minimum Support Price (MSP) programme.
2. **Why does the passage imply that paying farmers not to farm paddy might be a sensible measure despite seeming odd?**
 - A. It can enhance food security by focusing on other essential crops.
 - B. It reduces the expenses associated with the current MSP programme.
 - C. It allows for better allocation of resources like irrigation and fertilizers.
 - D. It accounts for the ecological costs associated with paddy farming
3. **What is the main purpose of the ICRIER paper's suggestion to pay farmers in northwest India not to grow paddy?**
 - A. To reduce ecological damage and shift cultivation to more suitable regions
 - B. To promote the growth of pulses and edible oils
 - C. To increase the cultivation of paddy in other regions
 - D. To enhance government storage facilities
4. **According to the passage, what could be a consequence of reducing paddy cultivation in Punjab and Haryana?**
 - A. Decrease in the overall agricultural output of India
 - B. Increase in import dependence for paddy
 - C. Reduction in India's import dependence for pulses and edible oils
 - D. Improved efficiency of government storage facilities
5. **The passage suggests that other countries have successfully implemented policies paying farmers not to grow certain crops to avoid storage and spoilage issues.**
 - A. True
 - B. False
 - C. Not mentioned in the passage
 - D. Irrelevant to the context

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.

A common question people ask me wherever i travel is: How can we improve relationships with family, loved ones, friends, co-workers, or neighbours? If we analyse the core issues behind relationship problems we find they focus on the inability to handle anger and stay calm, or it's our ego. Most problems arise when people disagree with _____1____. Each one feels he is right and the other is wrong. Anger _____2_____. If we are unable to stay calm, we _____3_____ saying or doing something hurtful to the other. This escalation leads to

_____4_____. Soon, what began as a disagreement becomes a fight; it may even become a long-term _____5_____. The relationship suffers.

6. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.
 - A. each other
 - B. other
 - C. all of us
 - D. another
7. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.
 - A. getting up
 - B. shore up
 - C. swells up
 - D. catch up
8. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.
 - A. cheer up
 - B. dry up
 - C. prop up
 - D. end up
9. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.
 - A. Retaliation
 - B. Humiliation
 - C. Fascination
 - D. Initiation
10. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.
 - A. Deprived
 - B. Censored
 - C. Feud
 - D. Heed
11. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the underlined word.
This novelist is known for his verbosity.
 - A. Vengeance
 - B. Succinctness
 - C. Humility
 - D. Candour
12. **Select the most appropriate homophones to fill in the blanks.**
I got _____ while replacing the _____.
 - A. tyre; tire
 - B. tired; tire
 - C. tired; tier
 - D. tired; tyre
13. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** for 'refuse' in the given sentence.
Shama was allowed to visit the accommodation places for the devotees of the shrine.
 - A. Allowed

- B. Visit
C. Accommodation
D. Shrine
14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
The CEO's _____ disregard for his employees' well-being led to high turnover and low morale in the company
A. calous
B. callus
C. callous
D. Calus
15. **Select the sentence that has a grammatical error.**
A. Rama can bowl fastly.
B. Go back to your room.
C. Don't talk so loudly.
D. Run quickly
16. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the given word.
Raciness
A. Filth
B. Perfection
C. Lewdness
D. Obscenity
17. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that arranges the sentences in the correct logical sequence to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
A. I once met a gentleman who told me about a game he plays with his grandchildren.
B. He shares a titbit or two and it starts off a conversation.
C. He then asks his teenage grandchildren if they know who those people are.
D. He picks some names of politicians, rock stars or even criminals from his generation.
A. A, B, C, D
B. A, C, B, D
C. B, A, C, D
D. A, D, C, B
18. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a spelling error.**
You cannot / compensate for the / wrongdoings you have / comitted in the past.
A. You cannot
B. comitted in the past.
C. wrongdoings you have
D. compensate for the
19. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.**
The snake was killed by Shyam.
A. Shyam killed the snake.

- B. Shyam kills the snake.
C. Shyam has killed the snake.
D. Shyam had killed the snake
20. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
I brought / an apple from / a place you recommended / me earlier.
A. I brought
B. me earlier
C. a place you recommended
D. an apple from
21. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**
P. and allows them to come out of their imaginary world
Q. which helps in illuminating and enlightening the dark world
R. of two blind or visually impaired persons
S. eye donation is a very generous act towards society
A. SQPR
B. SRQP
C. SPQR
D. SQRP
22. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.**
Let the door be shut.
A. You are requested to shut the door.
B. The door should be shut.
C. Let you shut the door.
D. Shut the door.
23. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the given sentence.**
The loyal nature of the princess was one of the reasons that the king trusted her very much.
A. infamous
B. treacherous
C. livid
D. Unyielding
24. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
Amar is very good in mathematics.
A. good at
B. good about
C. good on
D. good with
25. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.**
The company is planning to cut back few employees

- A. reduce some
- B. lay off some
- C. refuse some
- D. lay down some

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

- 1. C) To alleviate the grain storage problem and diversify crop support.**

A) Incorrect because the passage suggests the ecological impact is a consideration but not the primary reason for the subsidy proposal.

B) Incorrect as the passage does not discuss simplifying administrative processes as a reason for the subsidy.

C) Correct because the passage explicitly mentions that the subsidy addresses waste in grain storage and allows the government to support a larger variety of crops, which the country needs.

D) Incorrect because the passage does not suggest eliminating the MSP program, but rather providing an alternative to address its limitations.
- 2. D) It accounts for the ecological costs associated with paddy farming.**

A) Incorrect because the passage does not directly link this policy to enhancing food security by focusing on other crops.

B) Incorrect because the passage does not specifically mention reducing expenses of the MSP but rather providing an alternative.

C) Incorrect as the passage mentions ecological costs, but not specifically the allocation of resources like irrigation and fertilizers as a primary reason for this measure.

D) Correct because the passage points out that paying farmers not to farm might sound odd until the ecological impacts, which include irrigation, fertiliser, and power costs, are considered. This acknowledges the broader environmental considerations of not farming paddy.
- 3. A) A because the passage mentions that the suggestion to pay farmers not to grow paddy is aimed at reducing ecological damage and shifting cultivation to rainfed parts of the country where paddy can be grown with less environmental impact. This implies a strategic shift to more suitable regions for paddy cultivation.**

C) Incorrect because the focus is not on increasing paddy cultivation elsewhere but on reducing it where it is harmful.

B) Incorrect because even though a green revolution for pulses and oils is mentioned, the subsidy suggestion specifically targets reducing paddy cultivation, not directly promoting other crops.

D) Incorrect as the passage criticizes the inefficiency of storage facilities and does not suggest their enhancement as a primary goal.
- 4. C) C because the passage suggests that a green revolution in pulses and edible oils, supported by subsidies and price support, would benefit from reduced paddy cultivation. This would consequently reduce India's import dependence for these crops.**

A) Incorrect as the passage does not discuss the overall agricultural output.

- B) Incorrect because the passage suggests shifting paddy cultivation to more suitable areas, not increasing imports.
- D) Incorrect as the passage criticizes storage inefficiencies and does not claim improvement as a consequence of reduced paddy cultivation.
5. **A) A because the passage explicitly states that other countries have found it expedient to pay farmers not to grow selective crops to avoid the costs and inefficiencies associated with storage, where crops might rot or be eaten by rats.**
- B) Incorrect as the passage does mention this strategy used by other countries.
- C) Incorrect because it is clearly mentioned.
- D) Incorrect as this information is relevant to the context of discussing alternative agricultural interventions.
6. A) 'Each other' का use होगा क्योंकि "each other" का अर्थ होता है एक दूसरे के साथ, और यह reciprocal actions को दर्शाता है। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि लोग अपने विचारों पर असहमत होते हैं, और यहाँ "each other" इस आपसी असहमति को सही ढंग से व्यक्त करता है। जबकि 'Other' अस्पष्ट होता है क्योंकि यह एक विशेष द्वंद्व को स्पष्ट नहीं करता, 'All of us' समूह की बात करता है, जो यहाँ correct नहीं है, और 'Another' एकल अन्य व्यक्ति की ओर इंगित करता है, जो यहाँ मान्य नहीं है।
- 'Each other' will be used because it implies interaction between two parties in a reciprocal manner. The sentence discusses how people disagree on their views, making "each other" the appropriate term to reflect mutual disagreement. On the other hand, 'Other' is vague as it does not specify a particular duality, 'All of us' refers to a group which is not relevant here, and 'Another' points to another single individual, which is not valid in this context.
7. C) "swells up" का use होगा क्योंकि "swells up" का अर्थ होता है बढ़ना या फूलना, खासकर भावनाओं के संदर्भ में। Sentence में बताया गया है कि असहमति होने पर गुस्सा बढ़ जाता है, जिससे 'swells up' यहाँ उपयुक्त है। जबकि 'Getting up' का अर्थ होता है उठना, 'Shore up' का अर्थ है समर्थन या मजबूत करना, और 'Catch up' का अर्थ है पीछा करना या बराबरी करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।
- "swells up" will be used because "swells up" means to increase or expand, especially in the context of emotions. The sentence indicates that anger increases when there is disagreement, making 'swells up' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Getting up' means to rise, 'Shore up' means to support or strengthen, and 'Catch up' means to follow or equalize, which are not suitable in this context.
8. D) 'End up' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि 'end up' का अर्थ होता है किसी निश्चित परिणाम या स्थिति में पहुँचना। passage में mention है कि अगर हम शांत नहीं रह पाते हैं, तो हम कुछ हानिकारक कहने या करने की ओर बढ़ सकते हैं, जो 'end up' के अर्थ को पूरा करता है।

जबकि 'Cheer up' का अर्थ होता है खुश होना या किसी को खुश करना, 'Dry up' का अर्थ होता है बोलने में असमर्थ हो जाना या सूख जाना, और 'Prop up' का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को सहारा देना या समर्थन करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

'End up' will be used because it means to arrive at a specific outcome or condition. The passage describes a scenario where failing to remain calm might lead us to eventually saying or doing something harmful, which fits the usage of 'end up'. In contrast, 'Cheer up' means to make someone happier, 'Dry up' means to become speechless or to dry out, and 'Prop up' means to support or sustain something, which do not align with this context.

9. A) 'Retaliation' का use होगा क्योंकि "retaliation" का अर्थ होता है प्रतिशोध या बदला लेना। Passage में mention है कि अगर हम शांत नहीं रह पाते, तो हम कुछ हानिकारक कह या कर बैठते हैं, जो कि आगे चलकर 'retaliation' की ओर ले जाता है। जबकि 'Humiliation' का अर्थ है अपमान, 'Fascination' का अर्थ है आकर्षण, और 'Initiation' का अर्थ है शुरुआत, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

'Retaliation' will be used because it means revenge or taking retribution. The passage explains that if we cannot remain calm, we end up saying or doing something hurtful, leading to 'retaliation.' Whereas, 'Humiliation' means to disgrace, 'Fascination' means attraction, and 'Initiation' means beginning, which don't fit in this context.

10. C) 'Feud' का use होगा क्योंकि "feud" का अर्थ होता है दीर्घकालिक झगड़ा या मनमुटाव। Passage में mention है कि असहमति जल्द ही लड़ाई में बदल जाती है और यह एक दीर्घकालिक दुश्मनी बन सकती है, इसलिए 'Feud' यहाँ सही है। 'Deprived' का अर्थ है वंचित होना, 'Censored' का अर्थ है सेंसर करना, और 'Heed' का अर्थ है ध्यान देना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

'Feud' will be used because it means a long-standing quarrel or conflict. The passage describes how a disagreement soon turns into a fight that could even become a long-term enmity, making 'Feud' the correct word here. On the other hand, 'Deprived' means to lack or be denied of something, 'Censored' means to suppress or remove content, and 'Heed' means to pay attention, none of which appropriately fit this context.

11. B) **Verbosity** (noun) – The quality of using more words than needed; wordiness, long-windedness. शब्दाडंबर

Antonym: Succinctness (noun) – The quality of expressing something clearly and in a few words; brevity, conciseness. संक्षिप्तता

- **Vengeance** (noun) – Punishment inflicted or retribution exacted for an injury or wrong; revenge. प्रतिशोध

- **Humility** (noun) – The quality of having a modest or low view of one's importance; humbleness. **विनय**
- **Candour** (noun) – The quality of being open and honest; frankness, forthrightness. **स्पष्टता/ खरापन**

12. D) **tired**' और 'tyre' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पहले रिक्त स्थान के लिए 'tired' यानी थक गया, सही है और दूसरे रिक्त स्थान के लिए 'tyre' यानी टायर, सही है। इसलिए उत्तर D सबसे उपयुक्त होगा।

- 'tired' and 'tyre' should be used because for the first blank, 'tired' meaning fatigued, is correct and for the second blank 'tyre' meaning the rubber covering of a wheel, is correct. Hence, option D would be the most appropriate choice.

13. A) **Refuse** (verb) – To decline, reject, or not accept something. **मना करना**

Antonym: Allowed (verb) – To permit, grant permission, or let someone do something.

अनुमति देना

- **Visit** (verb) – To go and see someone or something as part of a journey or activity. **यात्रा**
- **Accommodation** (noun) – A place to live, work, or stay in. **आवास**
- **Shrine** (noun) – A holy or sacred place dedicated to a particular deity, ancestor, hero, or event. **पवित्र स्थल**

14. C) **'Callous'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'callous' का अर्थ होता है संवेदनहीन या भावहीन। संदर्भ के हिसाब से CEO की अपने कर्मचारियों की भलाई के प्रति अभावना को दर्शाने के लिए 'callous' सबसे उपयुक्त शब्द है।

- **'Callous'** should be used because it means insensible or unfeeling. In context, it describes the CEO's lack of concern for his employees' well-being. Thus, 'callous' is the most appropriate word.

15. A) **fastly**' के बदले 'fast' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'fast' एक adverb भी है जिसका अर्थ है 'तेजी से', जबकि 'fastly' गलत रूप है; जैसे— He runs fast.

- 'fast' will be used instead of 'fastly' because 'fast' also serves as an adverb meaning 'quickly', whereas 'fastly' is an incorrect form; Like— He runs fast.

16. B) **Raciness** (noun) – the quality of being exciting and slightly shocking, especially because of relating to or suggesting sex

Antonym: Perfection (noun) – The state or quality of being perfect, flawlessness, excellence.

संपूर्णता

- **Filth** (noun) – Dirt, muck, grime, squalor. **गंदगी**
- **Lewdness** (noun) – Obscene, salacious, lascivious behavior or talk. **अश्लीलता**

- **Obscenity** (noun) – The state or quality of being obscene; indecency, impropriety.
अश्लीलता

17. D) **A, D, C, B**

I once met a gentleman who told me about a game he plays with his grandchildren. He picks some names of politicians, rock stars or even criminals from his generation. . He then asks his teenage grandchildren if they know who those people are. He shares a titbit or two and it starts off a conversation.

18. B) Sentence में '**comitted**' की जगह '**committed**' होना चाहिए, क्योंकि सही spelling '**committed**' है।

- The word '**comitted**' should be '**committed**' because the correct spelling is '**committed**'. Therefore, segment B has a spelling error.

19. A) Shyam killed the snake

20. C) 'you recommended to' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि सही संरचना में 'recommend' verb के बाद 'to' का प्रयोग होता है जब किसी व्यक्ति की सिफारिश की जाती है। जैसे— He recommended this book to me.

- 'you recommended to me earlier' will be used instead of 'me earlier' because the correct structure uses 'to' after the verb 'recommend' when suggesting something to someone. Like— He recommended this book to me.

21. D) **SQRP**

Eye donation is a very generous act towards society which helps in illuminating and enlightening the dark world of two blind or visually impaired persons and allows them to come out of their imaginary world

22. D) Shut the door

23. B) **Loyal** (adjective) – Faithful, true, devoted, steadfast, staunch. **वफ़ादार**

Antonym: Treacherous (adjective) – Betraying trust, deceptive, untrustworthy, duplicitous.
विश्वासघाती

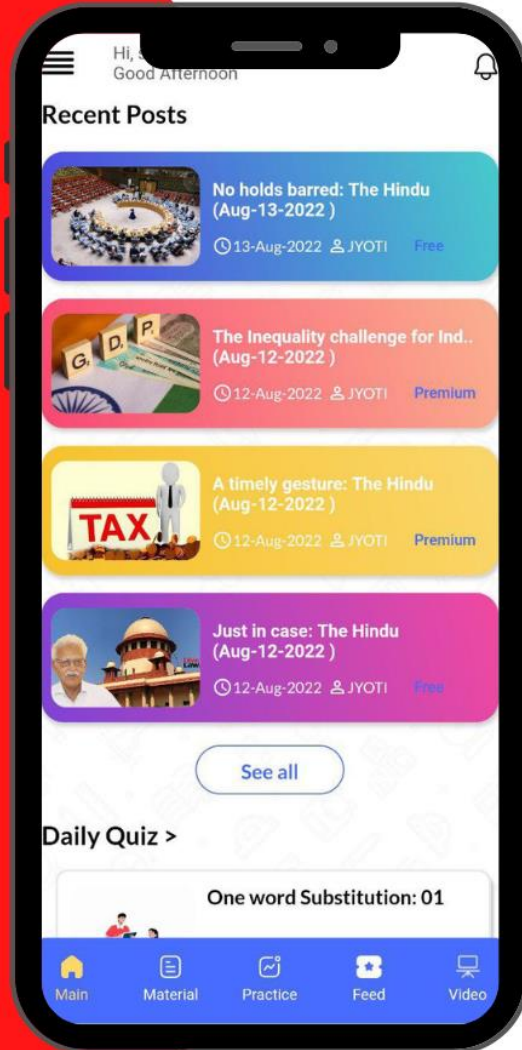
- **Infamous** (adjective) – Having a bad reputation, notorious, disgraceful, scandalous.
कुख्यात
- **Livid** (adjective) – Furiously angry; also refers to a bluish discoloration. **परितापित**
- **Unyielding** (adjective) – Not giving way to pressure, hard, firm, inflexible. **अडिग**

24. A) 'in' के बदले 'at' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि विषयों या कौशलों में प्रवीणता के लिए 'good at' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— He is good at singing.

- 'at' will be used instead of 'in' because for proficiency in subjects or skills, 'good at' is used; Like— He is good at singing.

25. B) 'cut back few employees' के बदले 'lay off some' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'cut back' का अर्थ है घटाना या कमी करना, लेकिन जब यह किसी कर्मचारी के संदर्भ में प्रयुक्त होता है, तो 'lay off' उपयुक्त होता है, जिसका अर्थ है किसी को नौकरी से निकाल देना।

- 'lay off some' will be used instead of 'cut back few employees' because 'cut back' means to reduce or decrease, but when used in context of employees, 'lay off' is appropriate, which means to dismiss from employment.



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