Special relationship: On U.S. policy on Israel

The broad national consensus on Israel in the U.S. is slowly breaking up

On the eve of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's visit to Washington, the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) issued a new evacuation order, asking Palestinians to leave several neighbourhoods of the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis, including areas that had earlier been designated as a humanitarian zone. When Mr. Netanyahu addressed a joint session of the U.S. Congress in Washington on Wednesday, more than 39,000 Palestinians, a vast majority of them women and children, had already been killed in Gaza by the IDF in less than 10 months. At least 90,000 Palestinians have been wounded and nearly the entire population of the enclave has been displaced, some of them several times. Dozens of journalists have been killed. Private charities, UN aid workers, hospitals, ambulances, and even tent camps of the displaced have been bombed. Gaza, besieged by the IDF, does not have enough food, water, or medicines. The UN, which has repeatedly tried to draw the world's attention to the suffering of Palestinians, now warns of epidemics. Two UN Security Council resolutions called for a ceasefire in Gaza. There have been two rulings from the International Court of Justice, which is hearing a case of genocide, against Israel's conduct of the war. None of this seems to bother the U.S. lawmakers, who applauded Mr. Netanyahu throughout his speech.

Without the U.S.'s political and military support, Mr. Netanyahu's government would not have been able to fight such a **disastrous** war, which was **triggered** by Hamas's attack on October 7, 2023, in Israel, killing 1,200 people. More than 100 people **taken hostage** on October 7 are still in Hamas's **captivity**, which Israel cites as the reason for the **continuation** of the war. But in the name of fighting Hamas, Israel has been punishing the entire Palestinian population in Gaza. **Officials** of the Biden administration **have voiced** concerns over civilian **casualties**. But besides the **verbal protestations**, Washington has done little to force Israel to act. Worse, the U.S. continues to provide military **assistance** to Israel. Yet, there are **underlying** tensions in the relationship. The **protests** in Washington while Mr. Netanyahu was speaking at Congress **point to** the growing public **criticism** of his war and America's support for it. The welcome Mr. Netanyahu received at Congress shows that he has the support of the **elites**. But the **protest** on the streets and the **dissenting voices** even among lawmakers **suggest** that the national consensus on Israel is **eroding** in the U.S.

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

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Vocabulary

- 1. **Consensus** (noun) Agreement, harmony, concurrence, unanimity, accord सहमति
- 2. **Break up** (phrasal verb) Disintegrate, dissolve, split, separate, fracture टूटना
- 3. **On the eve of** (phrase) Just before, prior to, in anticipation of, on the brink of, in preparation for से पहले
- Evacuation (noun) Removal, withdrawal, exodus, departure, clearance निकासी
- Neighbourhood (noun) A surrounding or nearby region पड़ोसि
- 6. **Designated** (adjective) Appointed, assigned, specified, named, nominated ਗਮਿਰ
- 7. **Humanitarian** (adjective) —
 Compassionate, charitable, benevolent,
 philanthropic, humane मानवतावादी
- 8. Address (verb) Speak to, talk to, deliver a speech to, give an address to, communicate to संबोधित करना
- 9. **Vast** (adjective) Huge, immense, extensive, expansive, enormous विशास
- 10. **Wound** (verb) Injure, hurt, damage, harm, maim घायल करना
- 11. **Enclave** (noun) Territory, region, area, zone, district क्षेत्र

- 12. **Displace** (verb) Relocate, uproot, move, shift, expel विस्थापित करना
- 13. **Bomb** (verb) Attack, strike, shell, hit, blast बम गिराना
- 14. **Besiege** (verb) Surround, encircle, blockade, confine, trap घेरना
- 15. **Draw attention to** (phrase) Highlight, emphasize, point out, bring to notice, underscore ध्यान आकर्षित करना
- 16. **Suffering** (noun) Pain, distress, anguish, hardship, misery पीड़ा
- 17. **Epidemic** (noun) Outbreak, plague, pandemic, widespread disease, contagion महामारी
- 18. **Call for** (phrasal verb) Demand, require, request, ask for, appeal for मांग करना
- 19. **Ceasefire** (noun) Truce, armistice, peace, suspension of hostilities, halt in fighting युद्धविराम
- 20. **Ruling** (noun) Decision, judgment, verdict, decree, pronouncement निर्णय
- 21. **Hearing** (noun) Trial, session, proceeding, examination, inquiry स्नवाई
- 22. **Genocide** (noun) Mass murder, extermination, ethnic cleansing, massacre, holocaust जनसंहार

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- 23. **Bother** (verb) Disturb, trouble, annoy, worry, concern परेशान करना
- 24. **Lawmaker** (noun) Legislator, politician, representative, congressman, parliamentarian विधायक
- 25. **Applaud** (verb) Praise, commend, cheer, acclaim, clap प्रशंसा करना
- 26. **Throughout** (adverb) During, all through, across, the entire time, in every part के दौरान
- 27. **Disastrous** (adjective) Catastrophic, devastating, ruinous, calamitous, tragic विनाशकारी
- 28. **Trigger** (verb) Cause, provoke, initiate, start, spark शुरू करना
- 29. **Take hostage** (phrase) Kidnap, abduct, seize, capture, hold prisoner बंधक बनाना
- 30. **Captivity** (noun) Imprisonment, confinement, detention, incarceration, bondage क़ैद
- 31. **Continuation** (noun) Prolongation, persistence, perpetuation, extension, carrying on निरंतरता
- 32. **Voice** (verb) Express, articulate, convey, state, declare व्यक्त करना

- 33. **Casualty** (noun) Injury, fatality, victim, wounded, dead घायल व्यक्ति
- 34. **Verbal** (adjective) Spoken, oral, expressed, articulated, vocal मौखिक
- 35. **Protestation** (noun) Declaration, assertion, claim, statement, avowal विरोध
- 36. **Assistance** (noun) Help, support, aid, backing, cooperation सहायता
- 37. **Underlying** (adjective) Fundamental, basic, primary, essential, root आधारभूत
- 38. **Point to** (phrasal verb) Indicate, signify, suggest, show, denote संकेत करना
- 39. **Criticism** (noun) Disapproval, censure, critique, condemnation, rebuke आलोचना
- 40. **The Elite** (noun) The privileged, the upper class, the high-ranking, the influential, the powerful अभिजात वर्ग
- 41. **Dissenting** (adjective) Disagreeing, opposing, conflicting, differing, nonconforming असहमत
- 42. **Erode** (verb) Undermine, weaken, deteriorate, diminish, corrode कम करना

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Summary of the Editorial

- 1. The national consensus on Israel in the U.S. is gradually weakening.
- 2. Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu visited Washington amid escalating conflict.
- 3. The IDF issued evacuation orders for Palestinians in Khan Younis, Gaza.
- 4. Over 39,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, have been killed in Gaza.
- 5. At least 90,000 Palestinians have been wounded, and nearly the entire enclave's population is displaced.
- 6. Journalists, aid workers, hospitals, and ambulances have been targeted.
- 7. Gaza faces severe shortages of food, water, and medicines.
- 8. The UN warns of potential epidemics in Gaza.
- 9. Two UN Security Council resolutions called for a Gaza ceasefire.
- 10. The International Court of Justice has ruled against Israel's conduct in the war.
- 11. U.S. lawmakers largely support Netanyahu despite international concerns.
- 12. U.S. political and military support is crucial for Israel's war efforts.
- 13. Hamas's attack on October 7, 2023, killed 1,200 people and triggered the war.
- 14. Israel cites hostages held by Hamas as a reason to continue the war.
- 15. There are growing public protests and dissent among U.S. lawmakers against the support for Israel, indicating an eroding consensus.

	Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based
1.	What can be inferred about the reaction of U.S. lawmakers to the situation in Gaza as
	described in the passage? [Editorial Page
	A. They are planning to take action against Israel.
	B. They are unaware of the situation.
	C. They are indifferent to the plight of Palestinians.
	D. They are actively supporting the IDF.
2.	According to the passage, the UN has repeatedly tried to draw the world's attention to the
	suffering in Gaza and now warns of potential
	A. epidemics
	B. economic sanctions
	C. political upheaval
	D. peace negotiations
3.	What triggered the war discussed in the passage?
	A. A peace treaty signed on October 7, 2023
	B. An attack by Hamas on October 7, 2023
	C. Economic sanctions imposed by the U.S.
	D. A diplomatic visit by Mr. Netanyahu to Washington
4.	The passage suggests that the U.S. has taken substantial actions to force Israel to change it
	approach in the war against Hamas.
	A. True, as the U.S. has implemented economic sanctions against Israel.
	B. True, as the U.S. has threatened military withdrawal.
	C. False, as the U.S. has only made verbal protestations.
	D. False, as the U.S. continues to increase military support.
5.	What is the tone of the passage?
	A. Objective
	B. Critical
	C. Indifferent
	D. Optimistic
	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.
	We all experience those intense,1 moments in life that2 us to
	question the very purpose of our existence. These events or situations beg us to review the
	ohilosophy and motivation of our life3 have a seismic effect that shakes the
	foundations of our belief system, convictions and our comprehension of the world that we live
	n. These moments are4 consequent to5 form of disillusionment,
_	sudden realisation of the 'bitter' truths of life, an unexpected tragedy, or misfortune.
6.	Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.
	A. Significant

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B. Unpleasant

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C. Relevant

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- D. Poignant
- 7. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.
 - A. Compelling
 - B. Compel
 - C. Compellingly
 - D. Spell
- 8. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.
 - A. They
 - B. I
 - C. Who
 - D. Whom
- 9. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4
 - A. Moreover
 - B. Indeed
 - C. Often
 - D. Further
- 10. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5
 - A. Few
 - B. Little
 - C. A few
 - D. Some
- 11. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.

The agency had been robbed by two masked intruders.

- A. Two masked intruders had rob the agency.
- B. Two masked intruders had been robbed the agency.
- C. Two masked intruders had robbed the agency.
- D. Two masked intruders have been robbing the agency.
- 12. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the given word.

Intensive

- A. Real
- B. Dare
- C. Fierce
- D. Superficial
- 13. The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error and select the option which rectifies that error.

A lot of adulterants / are chemicals that can lead / to an range of health problems / in both children and adults

- A. A lot of adulterants
- B. are chemical that can lead
- C. in both children and adult.
- D. to a range of health problems

Website: www.englishmadhyam.info, Phone number: 7722987077 Page 6 14. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the following sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required'.

The invigilator did not know that the four friends were exchanging notes right at the front of him.

- A. of front of him
- B. for front of him
- C. No substitution required
- D. in front of him
- 15. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** to substitute the underlined word in the given sentence.

The preparations for the picnic have been **meticulously** completed by the programme committee on time.

- A. Mesmerisingly
- B. Prudently
- C. Chaotically
- D. Serenely
- 16. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.

Affected by an undesirable condition or unpleasant feeling

- A. Cancelled
- B. Indifferent
- C. Modest
- D. Stricken
- 17. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.

Bewitching

- A. Painful
- B. Alluring
- C. Rude
- D. Repulsive
- 18. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No correction required'.

The mermaid murmured that it had been very difficult for her to live far from human civilisation.

- A. it had
- B. No correction required
- C. this have been
- D. this had been
- 19. Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.
 - P. an unparalleled popularity
 - **Q**. the lotus Temple has always enjoyed
 - **R**. as shown by its pre-dominance in literature and art
 - S. throughout the length and breadth of India from the earliest times down to the present day,

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A. QPSR

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- B. PSOR
- C. QRSP
- D. QPRS

20. Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word from the given sentence.

After hours of persistent pursuit and percecution, the little prince was at last deserted by the rabble and left to himself.

- A. Persistent
- B. Rabble
- C. Percecution
- D. Deserted

21. Select the option that will improve the underlined part of the given sentence.

Mothers have great **animosity** for their children

- A. affection
- B. affectation
- C. abasement
- D. absurdity
- 22. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the underlined word in the given sentence.

In order to protect his identity, the spy had to <u>efface</u> all evidence of his true name and occupation from his personal documents

- A. reveal
- B. clarify
- C. maintain
- D. Destroy
- 23. Select the most appropriate **synonym** of the given word.

Comprehend

- A. Distort
- B. Deter
- C. Assimilate
- D. Complex

24. Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.

Suman has bought a black and a white shawl to wear with her new dress.

- A. to wear with
- B. her new dress.
- C. a black and a white shawl
- D. Suman has bought

25. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Like a cat on a hot tin roof

- A. Studying very hard
- B. Being lazy
- C. Being in a state of agitation D. Urging somebody not to worry about something

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Answers

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

Explanations

1. C) They are indifferent to the plight of Palestinians.

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The passage indicates that despite the extensive casualties and displacement in Gaza, and the international calls for a ceasefire and rulings against Israel's actions, U.S. lawmakers applauded Mr. Netanyahu throughout his speech. This suggests an indifference to the hardships faced by Palestinians.

- A) No information suggests they plan to take action against Israel; rather, they applauded Netanyahu.
- B) The awareness of lawmakers is implied as they were present for Netanyahu's speech amidst international and UN interventions.
- D) While they applauded Netanyahu, active support of the IDF's actions is not directly stated, making this choice an assumption beyond the given information.

2. A) epidemics.

The passage specifically mentions that the UN warns of epidemics due to the dire situation in Gaza, characterized by lack of food, water, or medicines and the conditions in which the population lives.

- C) Political upheaval is not mentioned as a concern of the UN in the passage.
- B) Economic sanctions are not discussed in the context of the UN's warnings.
- D) Peace negotiations are not what the UN warned about; the focus is on immediate humanitarian concerns.

3. B) An attack by Hamas on October 7, 2023

A: Incorrect, as the passage does not mention any peace treaty related to the war's trigger.

B: Correct, as the passage explicitly states that the war was triggered by Hamas's attack on October 7, 2023.

C: Incorrect, the passage does not discuss any economic sanctions related to the initiation of the war.

D: Incorrect, there is no mention of Mr. Netanyahu's visit to Washington being a trigger for the war.

4. C) False, as the U.S. has only made verbal protestations.

The passage indicates that despite voicing concerns over civilian casualties, the U.S. has done little beyond verbal protestations to compel Israel to change its approach. This confirms that the statement is false, making option C correct. Options A and B are incorrect because the passage does not mention any economic sanctions or threats of military withdrawal. Option D, while stating that the U.S. continues to support Israel militarily, does not address the direct question about taking substantial actions to force a change, which the passage negates.

5. B) Critical

A: Incorrect because the passage does not merely present facts without bias; it includes critical commentary on the actions of the U.S. and the consequences in Gaza.

B: Correct as the passage contains language that expresses disapproval towards the U.S. policy and its effects on the Palestinian population, highlighting significant criticism of ongoing military actions and political support.

C: Incorrect as the passage shows a clear bias and emotional engagement with the subject, criticizing the U.S. and Israel for their roles in the conflict.

- D: Incorrect because the tone is not hopeful or positive; it is condemning and reproachful regarding the actions discussed.
- 6. D) 'Poignant' का use होगा क्योंकि "poignant" का अर्थ होता है भावनात्मक रूप से गहरा या दिल को छू लेने वाला। passage में mention है कि कुछ घटनाएं या स्थितियां हमें जीवन के मूल प्रयोजन को पुनर्विचार करने के लिए विवश करती हैं, इसलिए 'poignant' यहाँ सटीक है। जबिक 'Significant' का अर्थ है महत्वपूर्ण, 'Unpleasant' का अर्थ है अप्रिय, और 'Relevant' का अर्थ है संबंधित या प्रासंगिक, जो इस संदर्भ में नहीं हैं।

'Poignant' will be chosen because it means emotionally deep or touching. The passage mentions that certain events or situations compel us to reconsider the very purpose of our life, making 'poignant' a fitting choice. Whereas, 'Significant' means important, 'Unpleasant' means not pleasing, and 'Relevant' means related or applicable, which aren't as impactful in this context.

7. B) 'Compel' का use होगा क्योंकि "compel" का अर्थ होता है किसी को किसी काम के लिए मजबूर करना। Sentence में कहा गया है कि ये घटनाएँ हमें हमारे जीवन के उद्देश्य पर पुनर्विचार करने के लिए मजबूर करती हैं, इसलिए 'compel' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Compelling' एक adjective है जिसका अर्थ होता है आकर्षक या मजबूत, 'Compellingly' adverb है जो तरीके को दर्शाता है, और 'Spell' का अर्थ होता है जादू करना या वर्णन करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Compel' will be used because it means to force someone to do something. The sentence states that these events force us to question the very purpose of our existence, making 'compel' fitting here. Whereas, 'Compelling' is an adjective meaning attractive or strong, 'Compellingly' is an adverb indicating a manner, and 'Spell' means to magically affect or describe, which don't fit in this context.

8. A) 'They' का use होगा क्योंकि "they" का अर्थ होता है किसी समूह या वस्तुओं का संदर्भ देना, जो mention हैं। sentence में mention है कि ये घटनाएँ या स्थितियाँ हमारी मान्यताओं के आधार को हिला देती हैं, इसलिए 'they' यहाँ सही है। जबिक 'I' का अर्थ है किसी एकल व्यक्ति का संदर्भ देना, 'Who' और 'Whom' का प्रयोग व्यक्ति के लिए होता है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- 'They' will be used because it means to refer to a group or objects that are already being discussed. The sentence mentions that these events or situations shake the foundations of our beliefs, making 'they' fitting here. Whereas, 'I' refers to an individual, and 'Who' and 'Whom' are used for persons, which don't fit in this context.
- 9. C) 'often' का use होगा क्योंकि "often" का अर्थ होता है बार-बार या आमतौर पर। sentence में mention है कि ये पल आम तौर पर किसी निराशा, अचानक सत्य का एहसास, अप्रत्याशित त्रासदी, या दुर्भाग्य के कारण होते हैं, इसलिए 'often' यहाँ सही है। 'Moreover' का अर्थ है इसके अलावा, 'Indeed' का अर्थ है वास्तव में, और 'Further' का अर्थ है अतिरिक्त रूप से, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
 - 'often' will be used because "often" means frequently or usually. The sentence mentions that these moments are usually consequent to some form of disillusionment, a sudden realization of the bitter truths, an unexpected tragedy, or misfortune, making 'often' fitting here. Whereas, 'Moreover' means in addition, 'Indeed' means actually, and 'Further' means additionally, which don't fit in this context.
- 10. D) 'Some' का use होगा क्योंकि 'some' का अर्थ होता है कुछ अनिश्चित मात्रा या संख्या में होना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त है। sentence का संदर्भ है कि कुछ विशेष प्रकार के अन्भवों से जीवन में अहसासों की गहराई आती है। 'Few' और 'A few' का प्रयोग संख्यात्मक रूप से कम होने का स्झाव देता है, जो यहाँ अनुपयुक्त है। 'Little' का उपयोग गैर-गिनती योग्य संज्ञाओं के लिए होता है, जो यहां लागू नहीं होता।
 - 'Some' will be used because it refers to an unspecified amount or number, which is appropriate in this context. The sentence refers to certain types of experiences that bring depth of realization in life. 'Few' and 'A few' suggest a small numerical quantity, which is inappropriate here. 'Little' is used for non-count nouns, which does not apply here.
- 11. C) Two masked intruders had robbed the agency.
- 12. D) Intensive (adjective) Concentrated, in-depth, thorough, deep. गहन

Antonym: Superficial (adjective) – On the surface, shallow, not thorough, cursory. सतही

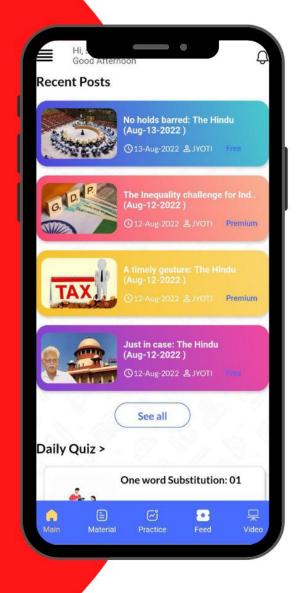
- Real (adjective) Actual, true, genuine, authentic. वास्तविक
- Dare (verb) To have the courage, challenge, defy. साहस
- Fierce (adjective) Intense, strong, aggressive, ferocious. उग्र
- 13. D) **'to an range of health problems'** के बदले 'to a range of health problems' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'range' से पहले 'an' का प्रयोग गलत है क्योंकि 'range' 'vowel sound' से शुरू नहीं होता है।
 - to an range of health problems' should be corrected as 'to a range of health problems' because 'an' is incorrectly used before 'range', which doesn't start with a vowel sound.

- 14. D) 'at the front of him' के बदले 'in front of him' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इस context में यह सही prepositional phrase है जो यहां पर उपयोग होना चाहिए; जैसे— He was standing in front of me.
 - 'In front of him' will be used instead of 'at the front of him' because it is the correct prepositional phrase to use in this context; Like— He was standing in front of me.
- 15. C) Meticulously (adverb) With great attention to detail; very thoroughly. सतर्कतापूर्वक Antonym: Chaotically (adverb) — In a manner lacking order or coherence; disorderly. अव्यवस्थित रूप से
 - Mesmerisingly (adverb) In a manner that captures one's complete attention as if by magic. मंत्रम्ग्ध कर देने वाला
 - Prudently (adverb) Acting with or showing care and thought for the future. बुद्धिमानी से
 - Serenely (adverb) In a calm, peaceful, and untroubled manner. शांति से
- 16. D) Stricken (verb) Severely affected by an undesirable condition or unpleasant feeling पीड़ित
 - Cancelled (verb) Decided or announced that (an arranged or planned event) will not take place रद्द किया ह्आ
 - Indifferent (adjective) Having no particular interest or sympathy; unconcerned उदासीन
 - Modest (adjective) Unassuming or moderate in the estimation of one's abilities or achievements विनम्न/ संकोची
- 17. B) **Bewitching** (adjective) Captivating, enchanting, charming, magical. मोहक **Synonym: Alluring** (adjective) – Attractive, appealing, tempting, seductive. आकर्षक
 - Painful (adjective) Causing distress, suffering or discomfort. दर्दनाक
 - Rude (adjective) Offensively impolite or ill-mannered. अशिष्ट
 - Repulsive (adjective) Arousing intense distaste or disgust, revolting, abhorrent.
 अरुचिकर
- 18. B) No correction required
- 19. A) QPSR
 - The lotus Temple has always enjoyed an unparalleled popularity throughout the length and breadth of India from the earliest times down to the present day, as shown by its predominance in literature and art
- 20. C) 'percecution' के बदले 'persecution' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'percecution' गलत वर्तनी है। सही spelling 'persecution' है।
 - **persecution'** will be used instead of 'percecution' because 'percecution' is spelt incorrectly. The correct spelling is 'persecution'.

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- 21. A) animosity' के बदले 'affection' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'animosity' का अर्थ शत्रुता या बैर होता है जबकि माताओं को अपने बच्चों के प्रति प्रेम होता है; जैसे— Mothers have great affection for their children.
 - 'affection' will be used instead of 'animosity' because 'animosity' means hostility or enmity, whereas mothers have love for their children; Like— Mothers have great affection for their children.
- 22. D) Efface (verb) Erase (a mark) from a surface; to eliminate or make indistinct. मिटाना

 Synonym: Destroy (verb) Put an end to the existence of something by damaging or attacking it. नष्ट करना
 - Reveal (verb) Make (previously unknown or secret information) known to others.
 - Clarify (verb) Make (a statement or situation) less confused and more comprehensible. स्पष्ट करना
 - Maintain (verb) Cause or enable (a condition or situation) to continue. बनाए रखना
- 23. C) **Comprehend (**verb) Understand, grasp, make sense of, catch. **समझना Synonym**: **Assimilate** (verb) Absorb, take in, understand, internalize. समझ लेना; आत्मसात् करना
 - Distort (verb) Twist out of shape, misrepresent, pervert, warp. विकृत करना
 - **Deter** (verb) Discourage, prevent, dissuade, inhibit. रोकना
 - Complex (adjective) Complicated, intricate, involved, convoluted. जटिल
- 24. C) 'a black and a white shawl' के बदले 'black and white shawls' का प्रयोग होगा यदि दो अलग अलग शॉल्स की बात हो रही है। या 'a black and white shawl' अगर एक ही शॉल की बात हो जिसमें काला और सफेद दोनों रंग हों।
 - 'black and white shawls' will be used instead of 'a black and a white shawl' if referring to two separate shawls. Or 'a black and white shawl' if referring to a single shawl that is both black and white.
- 25. C) **Like a cat on a hot tin roof** (idiom) Being in a state of agitation व्याकुलता की स्थिति में होना!



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