

## Unnatural disaster: On the Wayanad landslides

Kerala must **restore denuded flora** and **rehabilitate** people in **vulnerable** areas

Climate change can **encourage unprecedented** weather, **precipitating** natural disasters of **magnitudes** that may surprise local responders. The **calamitous landslides** in Wayanad district in Kerala on July 30 **are** not necessarily such disasters. Parts of Kerala have been **bearing the brunt** of heavy rains during the southwest monsoon and landslides are a yearly affair. But **deadly** landslides are new. This week, heavy rains **triggered** multiple landslides that have killed 200 people and **laid waste to** a few villages. The region is a tourist destination and **incentivises infrastructure** development to maximise revenue potential. The Chaliyar river here **springs** from an altitude of around 2 km and flows in a **sheer** path down towards Vellarmala, bringing fast waters that also **sweep** relatively more **sediment downstream**. The rains this year further increased the river's volume and force, which **swept up debris** and deposited it in the villages settled on less steep land where many of the deaths have been reported. But the tragedy is **compounded** by the fact that heavy rains here in 2020 had caused the Chaliyar to **strip swaths of** its **upstream** areas of plant cover, leaving more rocks and **humus** vulnerable to being **displaced**.

The geographical **peculiarities** of **landslide-prone** Idukki, Kottayam, Malappuram, and Wayanad **have** been **evident** for years; they also **feature prominently** on landslide risk maps. **Blame** for the landslides' deadly **recurrence must** thus be shared by climate change and a State that has been repeatedly **caught off-guard**. A **recurring** issue is an **abject** lack of advance warning and emergency **preparedness**. Landslides are more common in ecologically **fragile** areas. The monsoons have been producing more short **bursts of intense** rain, **resulting in** some soil types becoming easier to **dislodge** while **quarrying**; linear infrastructure development, construction activities, and **monocropping** have **compromised ecosystems'** ability to **cope with** changing natural conditions. For these reasons, **patterns** of land use **must** not change and the State must restore denuded flora and rehabilitate people in these areas to ensure they have other opportunities for their welfare. As recommended by the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, Kerala must also decline engineering projects in **ecologically** sensitive areas and their surroundings, and constitute, equip, staff, and **empower** expert committees that **deliberate** the **feasibility** of other projects here. **Indeed**, the panel's recommendations were designed to **tame** the effects of unpredictable weather without also **denting** economic growth, but Kerala today is **sliding past** the point of having an option to balance development needs with environmental concerns. [Practice Exercise]

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



## Vocabulary

1. **Restore** (verb) – Repair, reinstate, rejuvenate, refurbish, renew पुनर्स्थापित करना
2. **Denuded** (adjective) – Stripped, bare, exposed, uncovered, depleted उजाड़
3. **Flora** (noun) – Vegetation, plant life, greenery, botany, foliage वनस्पति
4. **Rehabilitate** (verb) – Restore, reintegrate, reestablish, renew, rebuild पुनर्वास करना
5. **Vulnerable** (adjective) – Susceptible, exposed, defenseless, sensitive, weak असुरक्षित
6. **Encourage** (verb) – Inspire, motivate, stimulate, support, promote प्रोत्साहित करना
7. **Unprecedented** (adjective) – Unmatched, unparalleled, exceptional, extraordinary, unique अभूतपूर्व
8. **Precipitate** (verb) – Cause, trigger, hasten, accelerate, provoke उत्पन्न करना
9. **Magnitude** (noun) – Scale, size, extent, dimension, degree मात्रा
10. **Calamitous** (adjective) – Disastrous, catastrophic, devastating, ruinous, tragic आपदाजनक
11. **Bear the brunt** (of) (phrase) – Suffer the worst part, endure the impact, take the full force, experience the major part, withstand the worst खामियाजा भुगतना
12. **Deadly** (adjective) – Fatal, lethal, mortal, life-threatening, dangerous घातक
13. **Trigger** (verb) – Activate, initiate, spark, prompt, provoke शुरू करना
14. **Laid waste to** (phrase) – Devastated, destroyed, ravaged, ruined, wrecked बर्बाद कर देना
15. **Incentivise** (verb) – Motivate, encourage, stimulate, spur, promote प्रेरित करना
16. **Infrastructure** (noun) – Framework, foundation, system, base, structure आधारभूत संरचना
17. **Spring** (verb) – Emerge, arise, originate, come forth, emanate उत्पन्न होना
18. **Sheer** (adjective) – Steep, abrupt, sharp, vertical, precipitous खड़ा
19. **Sweep** (verb) – Brush, clean, clear, scour, move quickly साफ करना
20. **Sediment** (noun) – Deposits, residue, silt, particles, debris तलछट
21. **Downstream** (adverb) – Downriver, with the current, following the flow, downwards, below धारा के साथ

22. **Sweep up** (phrasal verb) – Gather, collect, pick up, remove, clean up इकट्ठा करना
23. **Debris** (noun) – Rubble, wreckage, fragments, remains, litter मलबा
24. **Compound** (verb) – Intensify, exacerbate, worsen, aggravate, add to बढ़ाना
25. **Strip** (of) (verb) – Remove, take away, deprive, divest, clear हटा देना
26. **Swath** (noun) – Band, strip, area, belt, stretch विशाल क्षेत्र
27. **Upstream** (adjective) – Against the current, upriver, towards the source, higher up, above धारा के विपरीत
28. **Humus** (noun) – a substance made from dead leaves and plants, that you put into the ground to help plants grow
29. **Displaced** (adjective) – Uprooted, removed, relocated, dislodged, evacuated विस्थापित
30. **Peculiarity** (noun) – Uniqueness, distinctiveness, oddity, characteristic, feature विशेषता
31. **Landslide-prone** (adjective) – Susceptible to landslides, vulnerable, at risk, predisposed, likely भू-स्खलन के प्रति संवेदनशील
32. **Evident** (adjective) – Obvious, clear, apparent, noticeable, conspicuous स्पष्ट
33. **Feature** (verb) – Include, present, highlight, display, showcase शामिल करना
34. **Prominently** (adverb) – Noticeably, conspicuously, visibly, importantly, strikingly प्रमुखता से
35. **Recurrence** (noun) – Reappearance, return, repetition, relapse, reoccurrence पुनरावृत्ति
36. **Caught off-guard** (phrase) – Surprised, unprepared, taken aback, shocked, astonished आश्चर्यचकित
37. **Recurring** (adjective) – Repeating, continual, ongoing, repetitive, persistent बार-बार होने वाला
38. **Abject** (adjective) – Miserable, wretched, hopeless, pitiable, deplorable अत्यंत निम्न
39. **Preparedness** (noun) – Readiness, alertness, preparation, vigilance, awareness तैयारी
40. **Fragile** (adjective) – Delicate, weak, brittle, vulnerable, breakable नाजुक
41. **Burst** (noun) – Explosion, outbreak, surge, eruption, blast विस्फोट
42. **Intense** (adjective) – Extreme, strong, severe, powerful, fierce तीव्र
43. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – Lead to, cause, bring about, produce, create के परिणामस्वरूप

44. **Dislodge** (verb) – Remove, eject, extricate, oust, displace हटाना
45. **Quarrying** (noun) – Excavation, mining, extraction, digging, removal खनन
46. **Monocropping** (noun) – Single crop farming, single-crop agriculture, continuous cropping, one-crop cultivation एक फसल की खेती
47. **Compromise** (verb) – Undermine, weaken, impair, damage, jeopardize कमजोर करना
48. **Ecosystem** (noun) – Environment, habitat, biome, ecological community पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र
49. **Cope with** (phrasal verb) – Manage, deal with, handle, tackle, address सामना करना
50. **Ecologically** (adverb) – Environmentally, greenly, sustainably, naturally पारिस्थितिक रूप से
51. **Empower** (verb) – Enable, authorize, permit, equip, strengthen सशक्त करना
52. **Deliberate** (adjective) – Intentional, planned, calculated, purposeful, premeditated जानबूझकर
53. **Feasibility** (noun) – Viability, practicality, possibility, achievability, workability व्यवहार्यता
54. **Indeed** (adverb) – Certainly, truly, undoubtedly, actually, really वास्तव में
55. **Tame** (verb) – Control, restrain, subdue, curb, moderate काबू करना
56. **Dent** (verb) – Damage, harm, diminish, reduce, impair क्षति पहुँचाना
57. **Slide** (verb) – Slip, glide, move, shift, coast फिसलना
58. **Past** (adjective) – Former, previous, earlier, prior, preceding पूर्व

## Summary of the Editorial

1. **Climate Change and Disasters:** Climate change can lead to unprecedented weather, causing natural disasters that challenge local responders.
2. **Wayanad Landslides:** Recent landslides in Wayanad, Kerala, are not new, but their deadly impact is surprising, with 200 fatalities and destruction of villages.
3. **Monsoon Impact:** Kerala experiences heavy rains during the southwest monsoon, with landslides becoming an annual occurrence.
4. **Tourism and Infrastructure:** Wayanad, as a tourist destination, has incentivized infrastructure development to maximize revenue, impacting the region's vulnerability.
5. **Chaliyar River:** The Chaliyar river's fast flow from a 2 km altitude, along with increased rain volume, has contributed to landslides by depositing debris in villages.
6. **Environmental Degradation:** Past heavy rains, like those in 2020, stripped upstream areas of plant cover, making rocks and soil more prone to displacement.
7. **Landslide-Prone Regions:** Idukki, Kottayam, Malappuram, and Wayanad have long been identified as landslide-prone and feature prominently on risk maps.
8. **State Unpreparedness:** Kerala's government has been repeatedly caught off-guard due to a lack of advance warning and emergency preparedness.
9. **Ecologically Fragile Areas:** Landslides are more frequent in ecologically fragile areas, which struggle to adapt to intense monsoon bursts.
10. **Human Activities:** Quarrying, infrastructure development, and monocropping have compromised ecosystems' resilience to changing natural conditions.
11. **Land Use Patterns:** It's crucial to maintain consistent land use patterns and restore denuded flora in affected areas for better ecological stability.
12. **Rehabilitation Efforts:** The State must rehabilitate people in vulnerable areas to provide them with alternative opportunities for their welfare.
13. **Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel:** Kerala should heed the panel's recommendations, avoiding engineering projects in ecologically sensitive areas.
14. **Expert Committees:** Establish expert committees to assess the feasibility of development projects in sensitive regions, balancing development and environmental concerns.
15. **Urgent Action Required:** Kerala is reaching a critical point where balancing development needs with environmental protection is becoming increasingly challenging.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following factors is most likely to have exacerbated the impact of landslides in Wayanad, as mentioned in the passage?** [Editorial Page]
  - A. The high altitude of the Chaliyar river's origin.
  - B. The presence of tourist infrastructure in the region.
  - C. The yearly occurrence of landslides in Kerala.
  - D. The decreased plant cover upstream of the Chaliyar river.
2. **What is the primary cause of the deadly landslides in Wayanad as mentioned in the passage?**
  - A. The sheer path of the Chaliyar river.
  - B. Climate change inducing unexpected weather patterns.
  - C. Increased sediment swept downstream by the river.
  - D. Heavy rains causing the river to dislodge debris from denuded areas.
3. **Based on the passage, which of the following can be inferred about the relationship between human activities and landslides in Kerala?**
  - A. Human activities have no significant impact on landslides, as they are solely caused by natural factors like climate change.
  - B. Human activities exacerbate the risk of landslides by disrupting the ecological balance and natural landscapes.
  - C. Landslides are unpredictable events that occur regardless of human intervention in ecologically sensitive areas.
  - D. The State has implemented sufficient measures to prevent landslides, but climate change undermines these efforts.
4. **According to the passage, the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel recommended that Kerala should \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - A. increase the number of engineering projects to boost economic growth
  - B. implement more quarrying activities to utilize the natural resources
  - C. avoid engineering projects in ecologically sensitive areas and their surroundings
  - D. prioritize monocropping practices to stabilize the soil and prevent landslides
5. **What does the passage suggest about the State's response to landslide risks in Kerala?**
  - A. The State has effectively balanced economic development and environmental protection.
  - B. The State has been consistently proactive in implementing expert recommendations to prevent landslides.
  - C. The State has been inadequately prepared and often caught off-guard by landslides, failing to implement necessary measures.
  - D. The State's response has focused solely on addressing climate change, ignoring other contributing factors to landslides.
6. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

Pooja could feel the anger building off inside her.

  - A. building upon inside her
  - B. building of inside her

- C. building on inside her  
D. building up inside her
7. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**  
Can you please / pass me a sweater? / It's going to be / the cold day today.  
A. Can you please  
B. the cold day today  
C. It's going to be  
D. pass me a sweater?
8. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the following sentence.**  
The health-care system is in transition at those moment.  
A. at that moments  
B. at the moment  
C. at a moments  
D. at these moment
9. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**  
A. groups such as migrants and  
B. collecting data on vulnerable population  
C. persons with disabilities is crucial  
D. understanding who are being left behind  
E. in identifying the challenges they face and  
A. EADCB  
B. CABED  
C. BACED  
D. DACBE
10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the homonym in the context of the following sentence to fill in the blank.**  
They do not say anything but stalk furiously out of the room.  
'Stalk' here means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the stem or main axis of a plant  
B. to walk in an angry or proud way  
C. to go through an area in search of prey  
D. recur constantly and spontaneously
11. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**  
The Tokyo Games accelerated energy policies in Japan, demonstrating how they could make steps towards a low-carbon economy by powering the athletes' village with hydrogen from clean, green sources.  
A. inspiring  
B. exploring  
C. collating



- D. Hiding
12. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.**  
The guilty are punished by the judge.
- A. The judge is punishing the guilty.
  - B. The judge punishes the guilty.
  - C. The judge has been punishing the guilty.
  - D. The judge has punished the guilty.
13. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**  
Can you please / open a door? / I can hear / somebody knocking.
- A. Can you please
  - B. somebody knocking
  - C. I can hear
  - D. open a door
14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**  
She suffered an emotional \_\_\_\_\_ after the death of her husband in a road accident.
- A. turbulense
  - B. terbulense
  - C. toorbulence
  - D. Turbulence
15. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that arranges the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**
- A. although many scholars believe that
  - B. no records of such a commission from Francesco exist,
  - C. the painting depicts Lisa Gherardini, wife of the Florentine merchant Francesco del Giocondo,
  - D. and the sitter has never been conclusively identified
- A. D, C, B, A
  - B. C, A, B, D
  - C. B, D, A, C
  - D. A, C, B, D
16. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**  
Hysterical
- A. Controlled
  - B. Resolute
  - C. Manful
  - D. Shy
17. **Select the most appropriate idiom for the underlined segment in the following sentence.**  
The child played the video game as much as he wanted to.
- A. To his heart's content
  - B. To gild the pill
  - C. To kick the bucket

- D. To assume airs
18. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**  
We hope that we shall win the match against Australia
- A. It is hoped that the match against Australia shall be won by us.
  - B. It is expected that the match against Australia should be won by us.
  - C. It is hoped that the match against Australia was won by us.
  - D. It is sure that the match against Australia was won by us.
19. **Select the appropriate **ANTONYM** of the underlined word to fill in the blank.**  
The flow of the river is very rapid now. Let's go in when it's a little \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. fast
  - B. quick
  - C. delayed
  - D. Slow
20. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word 'Flung' from the given sentence.**  
The entrepreneur's innovative strategies propelled his startup to success.
- A. Strategies
  - B. Innovative
  - C. Success
  - D. Propelled

**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.

Primitive cultures are those that exist in societies that have not yet developed advanced technology or complex social (1)\_\_\_\_\_. These cultures are often characterized by their close relationship with the natural world. Despite being considered 'primitive', these cultures have a rich history and a unique way of life that is (2)\_\_\_\_\_ studying and preserving. These cultures often have a deep understanding of the environment and its cycles, and they have developed intricate systems of knowledge and belief that are closely tied to nature. For example, indigenous cultures in the Amazon rainforest have an (3)\_\_\_\_\_ knowledge of the medicinal properties of plants and the cycles of the seasons, which they use to sustain themselves and their communities. Another important aspect is that these cultures often have complex systems of kinship and social hierarchy. Despite the many challenges that primitive cultures face, including the (4)\_\_\_\_\_ of modern societies and environmental degradation, these cultures have an important role to play in our understanding of the human experience. They offer a different (5)\_\_\_\_\_ on the world and its complexities, and their traditions and knowledge have the potential to inform and enrich our modern lives.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1.**
- A. borders
  - B. outlines
  - C. structures
  - D. Configurations
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.**

- A. important
  - B. insignificant
  - C. worth
  - D. Trivial
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.**
- A. acquired
  - B. intimate
  - C. estimated
  - D. Gained
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.**
- A. migration
  - B. possession
  - C. encroachment
  - D. Estimation
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 5.**
- A. conclusion
  - B. perspective
  - C. blame
  - D. biasness

## Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

## Explanations

### 1. D) The decreased plant cover upstream of the Chaliyar river.

A: The high altitude of the river's origin is a natural feature and not directly related to exacerbating the landslides. The passage highlights that the altitude contributes to the river's steep flow but not necessarily to the increased impact of landslides.

B: While tourist infrastructure can contribute to environmental degradation, the passage does not directly link it to the exacerbation of landslides.

C: The regularity of landslides suggests familiarity with such events, but the passage emphasizes that deadly landslides are a new phenomenon, indicating a different exacerbating factor.

D: The passage explicitly states that the reduction in plant cover due to past heavy rains made upstream areas more vulnerable to being displaced, thus worsening the landslides' impact.

### 2. D) Heavy rains causing the river to dislodge debris from denuded areas.

A: Although the river's steep path contributes to fast water flow, the passage does not identify this as the primary cause of the deadly landslides.

B: While climate change can lead to unusual weather, the passage suggests that the specific landslides were due to known factors rather than unprecedented weather patterns.

C: Increased sediment contributes to the impact but is not the primary cause. The passage notes sediment movement but focuses on other factors leading to the deadly outcome.

D: The passage clearly states that heavy rains increased the river's volume and force, which swept debris from areas stripped of plant cover, directly causing the deadly landslides.

### 3. B) Human activities exacerbate the risk of landslides by disrupting the ecological balance and natural landscapes.

The passage highlights how quarrying, linear infrastructure development, construction activities, and monocropping in ecologically fragile areas have increased the landslide risk, showing that human activities contribute significantly to the problem.

A) This option ignores the passage's emphasis on the role of human activities in exacerbating landslide risks.

C) The passage suggests that human interventions make these areas more vulnerable, not that landslides are entirely unpredictable or independent of human impact.

D) The passage criticizes the State for being caught off-guard repeatedly and suggests that current measures are inadequate.

### 4. C) avoid engineering projects in ecologically sensitive areas and their surroundings

The passage mentions that the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel advised against such projects to mitigate the effects of unpredictable weather and environmental degradation.

A) This contradicts the panel's recommendation to limit such projects in sensitive areas to protect the environment.

- B) Quarrying is identified in the passage as one of the activities that increase landslide risks, and the panel recommended avoiding such actions in sensitive regions.
- D) The passage mentions monocropping as a practice that has compromised ecosystems, not one that should be prioritized.
5. **C) The State has been inadequately prepared and often caught off-guard by landslides, failing to implement necessary measures.**  
The passage criticizes the State for a lack of advance warning and preparedness, indicating a failure to act effectively against landslide risks.
- A) The passage suggests that Kerala is "sliding past the point" where it can balance development with environmental concerns, indicating an imbalance.
- B) The passage implies that the State has not adequately followed the recommendations of expert panels.
- D) The passage criticizes the State for a lack of preparedness overall, not just a focus on climate change, indicating a broader inadequacy in addressing the issue.
6. D) **'building off inside her'** के बदले 'building up inside her' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि सही English phrase "building up" होता है जिसका अर्थ होता है धीरे धीरे बढ़ रहा है।
- 'building up inside her' will be used instead of 'building off inside her' because the correct English phrase is "building up" which means gradually increasing.
7. B) Error 'the cold day today' में है क्योंकि इसमें 'the' का प्रयोग गलत है। सही वाक्य होता - 'It's going to be a cold day today.'
- The error is in 'the cold day today' because the use of 'the' is incorrect. The correct sentence should be - 'It's going to be a cold day today.'
8. B) **'at those moment'** के बदले 'at the moment' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह सही वाक्य-रचना के अनुसार उपयुक्त माना जाता है; जैसे— I am busy at the moment.
- 'at the moment' will be used instead of 'at those moment' because it is considered appropriate according to correct sentence construction; Like— I am busy at the moment.
9. C) **BACED**  
Collecting data on vulnerable population groups such as migrants and persons with disabilities is crucial in identifying the challenges they face and understanding who are being left behind
10. B) 'Stalk' का प्रयोग यहाँ **"to walk in an angry or proud way"** के अर्थ में किया गया है क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, वाक्य में लोगों का गुस्से में या अहंकार में कमरे से बाहर जाने का वर्णन किया गया है। "They do not say anything but stalk furiously out of the room" में 'stalk' शब्द के माध्यम से उनकी गुस्से या अहंकार में चलने की बात कही गई है। इसलिए, विकल्प B "to walk in an angry or proud way" सबसे उपयुक्त होगा।
- 'Stalk' here means "to walk in an angry or proud way" because in the entire context, the sentence is describing people walking out of the room in anger or pride. Through "They do

not say anything but stalk furiously out of the room," it conveys that they are walking in an angry or proud manner. Thus, option B "to walk in an angry or proud way" would be the most appropriate choice.

11. D) **Demonstrating** (verb) – To show clearly, to exhibit, to display, to illustrate. **दिखाना**

**Antonym: Hiding** (verb) – To keep out of sight, to conceal, to cover up, to keep secret.

**छुपाना**

- **Inspiring** (verb) – To motivate, encourage, stimulate, or arouse a feeling or thought. **प्रेरित करना**
- **Exploring** (verb) – To examine or investigate, to travel through for the purpose of discovery. **तलाश करना**
- **Collating** (verb) – To collect, compare and arrange in order, especially of texts. **मिलान करना**

12. B) The judge punishes the guilty.

13. D) 'open a door' के बदले 'the door' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहां पर विशेष द्वार की बात की जा रही है जिससे कोई ध्वनि सुनाई दे रही है।

- 'the door' will be used instead of 'open a door' because we are referring to a specific door from which the sound is coming.

14. D) '**Turbulence**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह विकल्प एक भावनात्मक अस्थिरता या उतार-चढ़ाव को दर्शाने के लिए सही शब्द है। "emotional \_\_\_\_\_ after the death of her husband in a road accident" इस वाक्यांश से स्पष्ट होता है कि वह महिला अपने पति की मौत के बाद भावनात्मक अस्थिरता में है। इसलिए, "Turbulence" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- '**Turbulence**' should be used because it is the correct word to denote emotional instability or upheaval. "emotional \_\_\_\_\_ after the death of her husband in a road accident" makes it clear that the woman is in emotional distress following her husband's death. Thus, "Turbulence" would be the most appropriate choice.

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

Although many scholars believe that the painting depicts Lisa Gherardini, wife of the Florentine merchant Francesco del Giocondo, no records of such a commission from Francesco exist, and the sitter has never been conclusively identified

16. A) **Hysterical** (adjective) – Extremely emotional, frantic, uncontrollable, overwrought. **अत्यंत उत्तेजित**

Antonym: **Controlled** (adjective) – Restrained, regulated, composed, calm. **नियंत्रित**

- **Resolute** (adjective) – Determined, steadfast, unswerving, firm in purpose. **दृढ़ निश्चय**

- **Manful** (adjective) – Showing qualities traditionally associated with men, especially strength or courage. पुरुषार्थी
- **Shy** (adjective) – Lacking confidence, bashful, reserved, hesitant. शरमीला

17. A) **To his heart's content** (idiom) – As much as one wants or until one is satisfied पूरी तरह से संतुष्ट

- **To gild the pill** (idiom) - To make an unpleasant or bitter situation seem more attractive or more palatable. सख्त हालात को आकर्षक बनाना।
- **To kick the bucket** (idiom) - A colloquial term used to refer to someone's death. मौत होना ।
- **To assume airs** (idiom) - To pretend to be more important or grander than is actually the case; to adopt a haughty or arrogant manner. अहम दिखाना।

18. A) It is hoped that the match against Australia shall be won by us.

19. D) **Rapid** (adjective) – Moving or flowing fast, quick, speedy. तेज़

**Antonym: Slow** (adjective) – Not moving quickly, taking a long time, leisurely. धीमा

- **Fast** (adjective) – Moving or capable of moving at high speed, quick, rapid. तेज़
  - **Quick** (adjective) – Moving fast or doing something in a short time, rapid. तेज़
  - **Delayed** (adjective) – Made late or postponed, behind time. विलंबित
- Therefore, the most appropriate antonym to fill in the blank is "Slow".

20. D) **Flung** (verb) – Thrown, hurled, tossed, cast. फेंका गया

Synonym: **Propelled** (verb) – To drive or push something forward, to send forth, thrust, launch. फेंकना

- **Strategies** (noun) – A plan, tactic, or technique designed to achieve a particular goal. रणनीति
- **Innovative** (adjective) – Featuring new methods or ideas, inventive, pioneering. अभिनव
- **Success** (noun) – The accomplishment of a goal or purpose, triumph, victory. सफलता

21. C) **'Structures'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "structures" का अर्थ होता है सामाजिक ढाँचे या प्रणालियाँ जिसे समाज में विकसित किया जाता है। 'Borders' का अर्थ है सीमा, 'Outlines' का अर्थ है रूपरेखा, और 'Configurations' का अर्थ है विन्यास या आकार, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

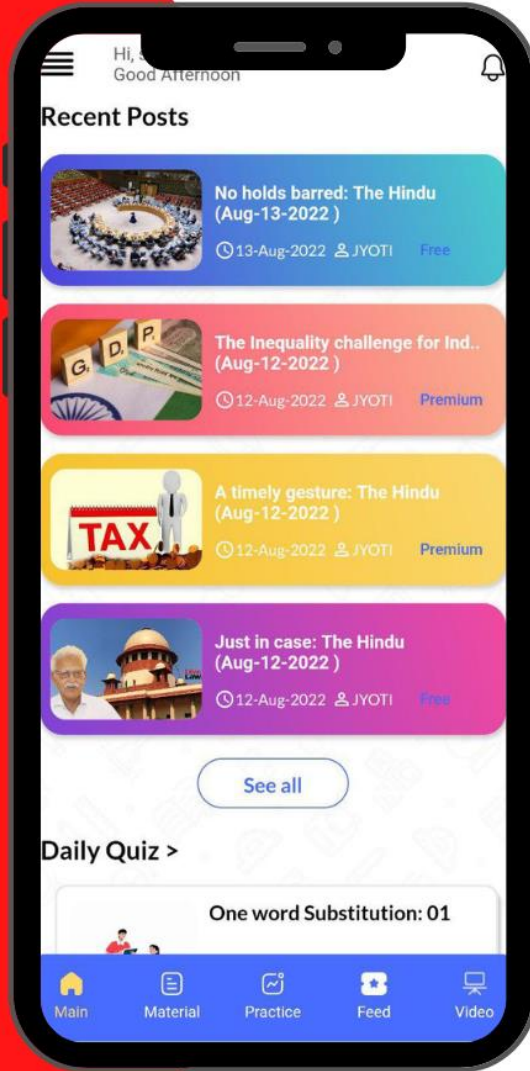
- **'Structures'** should be used because it refers to social frameworks or systems developed in societies. Whereas, 'Borders' means boundaries, 'Outlines' means a

general shape or form, and 'Configurations' implies a particular arrangement or pattern, which don't fit in this context.

22. C) '**Worth**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "worth" का अर्थ होता है मूल्य या महत्व। जबकि 'Important' का अर्थ है महत्वपूर्ण, 'Insignificant' का अर्थ है अमहत्वपूर्ण, और 'Trivial' का अर्थ है तुच्छ, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Worth**' should be used because it means value or significance. Whereas, 'Important' means of great significance, 'Insignificant' means of no importance, and 'Trivial' means of little value or importance, which don't fit in this context.
23. B) '**Intimate**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "intimate" का अर्थ होता है बहुत निकटता वाला या गहरा सम्बन्ध। इस संदर्भ में, वे अमेज़न वर्षा वन की मौलिक संस्कृतियों की वाणी के औषधीय गुण और ऋतुओं के चक्र के बारे में बात कर रहे हैं, इसलिए "intimate" सबसे उचित शब्द है जो उनके ज्ञान की गहराई को दर्शाता है। जबकि 'Acquired' का अर्थ होता है प्राप्त करना, 'Estimated' का अर्थ है अनुमान लगाना, और 'Gained' का अर्थ है प्राप्त करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Intimate**' should be used because it means having a deep or close connection. In this context, they are talking about the indigenous cultures of the Amazon rainforest's knowledge of medicinal properties and cycles of the seasons, so "intimate" is the most fitting word that depicts the depth of their knowledge. Whereas, 'Acquired' means to have gotten, 'Estimated' means to make a guess, and 'Gained' implies achieving or obtaining, which don't fit in this context.
24. C) '**Encroachment**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "encroachment" का अर्थ होता है धीरे-धीरे अधिग्रहण करना या अन्य किसी के अधिकार में प्रवेश करना। जबकि 'Migration' का अर्थ है प्रवास, 'Possession' का अर्थ है अधिकार या स्वामित्व, और 'Estimation' का अर्थ है अनुमान, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Encroachment**' should be used because it means the gradual and unauthorized intrusion or taking over someone else's rights or territory. Whereas, 'Migration' means movement, 'Possession' implies ownership or control, and 'Estimation' implies a guess or approximation, which don't fit in this context.
25. B) '**Perspective**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "perspective" का अर्थ होता है दृष्टिकोण या किसी विषय या स्थिति को देखने का तरीका। जबकि 'Conclusion' का अर्थ है निष्कर्ष पहुंचाना, 'Blame' का अर्थ है दोष देना, और 'Biasness' का अर्थ है पक्षपात होना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Perspective**' should be used because it means a viewpoint or a way to look at a subject or situation. Whereas, 'Conclusion' implies reaching an end or judgement,



'Blame' means to assign fault, and 'Biasness' implies partiality, which don't fit in this context.



# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

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