

Regressive move: On minimising night duty for women

Reducing work hours of women is not the way to ensure their safety

The last things that a rape and murder need are platitudes, and a predictably tiresome one is being peddled after the brutal killing of a woman doctor on duty at Kolkata's R.G. Kar Hospital on August 9. One of the guidelines issued by the West Bengal government calls for minimising night duty for women. How will this dictum — "wherever possible, night duty may be avoided for women to the extent possible" — secure safety at the workplace? This regressive move will only end up removing women from the workforce, instead of ensuring a stop to violence. With the labour force participation rate for urban women in India, ages 15 and above, pegged at an abysmal 25.2% in April-June 2024, according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey's quarterly bulletin, the governments at the Centre and States must ensure that women, employed as health-care professionals, gig and factory workers, call centre staff, auto drivers, hotel duties and journalists, are able to work safely, anywhere, and at anytime. Reducing their time at work will only lead to women losing jobs and their financial independence. The other guidelines, as part of the programme called 'Rattirer Shaathi (helpers of the night)', include the call for separate rest rooms and toilets for women, creating safe zones with CCTVs, and a special mobile phone app — measures which should have been already in place.

The Supreme Court, taking suo motu cognisance of the Kolkata case, in its hearing on Tuesday announced a national task force to look into the safety of doctors and medical professionals. Gender violence should be a matter of serious concern in every sphere, not least the informal sector, where women are employed in large numbers. The sweeping changes brought into the system after the 2012 Delhi rape, such as harsher laws and stringent punishment, have not been enough. The National Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) annual report of 2022, the latest one available, shows that 4.45 lakh cases of crimes against women were registered, which is equivalent to nearly 51 FIRs every hour. Protocols cannot be just on paper, the Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud said. In 2017, when the Court was confirming the death penalty of four men, who were accused in the 2012 Delhi rape, Justice R. Banumathi had said that apart from effective implementation of laws, a change in the mindset of the society at large and creating awareness in the public on gender justice would go a long way to combat violence against women. Campaigns led by women after the R.G. Kar rape, to "reclaim the night" in Kolkata and other parts of the country, should serve as wake-up calls to governments, and society, to do it right by women.

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

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

Vocabulary

1. **Regressive** (adjective) – Backward, retrograde, reactionary, conservative, restrictive प्रतिगामी
2. **Platitude** (noun) – Cliché, truism, banality, commonplace, overused statement साधारण बात/ घिसी-पिटी बातें
3. **Tiresome** (adjective) – Boring, dull, monotonous, wearying, exhausting थकाऊ/ कष्टकर
4. **Peddle** (verb) – to spread an idea in order to get people to accept it (अमान्य) किसी विचार को प्रचारित करना ताकि जनता उसे स्वीकार करे
5. **Brutal** (adjective) – Cruel, savage, vicious, harsh, merciless क्रूर
6. **Call for** (phrasal verb) – Demand, require, necessitate, advocate, ask for की मांग करना
7. **Dictum** (noun) – Pronouncement, edict, decree, command, statement आदेश
8. **Extent** (noun) – Range, scope, degree, magnitude, level हद
9. **End up** (phrasal verb) – Conclude, result in, finish as, wind up, become अंत में पहुँचना
10. **Workforce** (noun) – Labor force, employees, workers, staff, manpower कार्यबल
11. **Peg** (verb) – Fix, set, determine, establish, assign निर्धारित करना
12. **Abysmal** (adjective) – Terrible, awful, dreadful, appalling, extremely poor अत्यंत खराब
13. **Gig worker** (noun) – a person who works temporary jobs typically in the service sector as an independent contractor or freelancer गिग कर्मचारी
14. **Lead to** (phrasal verb) – Result in, cause, bring about, produce, contribute to कारण बनना
15. **In place** (phrase) – Established, set up, arranged, ready, implemented स्थापित
16. **Suo motu** (noun) – On its own motion, on its initiative, self-directed action स्वयं संज्ञान लेना
17. **Cognisance** (noun) – Awareness, understanding, knowledge, recognition, perception संज्ञान
18. **Hearing** (noun) – Trial, session, proceeding, court session, legal discussion सुनवाई
19. **Look into** (phrasal verb) – Investigate, examine, explore, review, study जांच करना
20. **Sphere** (noun) – Domain, field, area, sector, scope क्षेत्र

21. **Informal sector** (noun) – the part of any economy that is neither taxed nor monitored by any form of government. असंगठित क्षेत्र
22. **Sweeping** (adjective) – Broad, extensive, comprehensive, wide-ranging, far-reaching व्यापक
23. **Harsh** (adjective) – Severe, tough, strict, cruel, stern कठोर
24. **Stringent** (adjective) – Strict, rigorous, tight, inflexible, severe कड़ा
25. **Protocol** (noun) – Procedure, guideline, rule, regulation, code प्रोटोकॉल
26. **Accuse** (verb) – Charge, blame, indict, allege, hold responsible आरोप लगाना
27. **At large** (phrase) – In general, on the whole, overall, as a whole, all together बड़े पैमाने पर
28. **Go a long way** (phrase) – Be very effective, contribute greatly, help significantly, make a big difference बहुत सहायक होना
29. **Combat** (verb) – Fight, battle, tackle, confront, oppose मुकाबला करना
30. **Reclaim** (verb) – Recover, regain, take back, restore, retrieve पुनः प्राप्त करना
31. **Wake-up call** (noun) – Warning, alert, signal, alarm, prompt चेतावनी

Summary of the Editorial

1. The West Bengal government's directive to minimize night duty for women following the brutal killing of a woman doctor is being criticized as regressive.
2. This guideline—"wherever possible, night duty may be avoided for women to the extent possible"—fails to secure workplace safety.
3. Minimizing night duty for women could lead to their exclusion from the workforce instead of addressing the issue of violence against them.
4. India's labor force participation rate for urban women aged 15 and above was only 25.2% in April-June 2024, highlighting the need for better job security for women.
5. The government must ensure that women working in various sectors can work safely at any time and place.
6. Reducing women's working hours might result in job losses and hinder their financial independence.
7. Other guidelines under the 'Rattirer Shaathi (helpers of the night)' program, like separate restrooms, safe zones, and a mobile app, should have already been implemented.
8. The Supreme Court, in response to the Kolkata case, has announced a national task force to address the safety of doctors and medical professionals.
9. Gender violence remains a serious concern, especially in the informal sector where many women are employed.
10. Despite changes in laws after the 2012 Delhi rape case, such as harsher punishments, violence against women persists.
11. The National Crime Records Bureau's 2022 report shows that 4.45 lakh cases of crimes against women were registered, equivalent to nearly 51 FIRs every hour.
12. Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud emphasized that protocols cannot remain on paper but must be effectively implemented.
13. Justice R. Banumathi, during the 2012 Delhi rape case hearing, stressed that societal mindset change and public awareness of gender justice are key to combating violence.
14. Women-led campaigns, such as the "reclaim the night" protests after the R.G. Kar incident, should prompt governments and society to take meaningful action.
15. Ensuring women's safety and equal participation in the workforce is crucial for achieving true gender justice.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following facts is highlighted regarding the participation of women in the workforce in India?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. The labour force participation rate for urban women in India is improving steadily.
 - B. The labour force participation rate for urban women in India is approximately 50%.
 - C. The labour force participation rate for urban women in India, aged 15 and above, is very low.
 - D. The labour force participation rate for rural women in India is abysmal.
2. **According to the passage, what is one major consequence of reducing women's work hours?**
 - A. Women will be promoted to higher positions.
 - B. Women will lose their jobs and financial independence.
 - C. Women's safety will be greatly improved.
 - D. Women will have more rest and better health.
3. **Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the effectiveness of harsher laws introduced after the 2012 Delhi rape case?**
 - A. They have significantly reduced crimes against women.
 - B. They have been partially effective but insufficient to address the problem completely.
 - C. They have not been implemented at all.
 - D. They have completely eliminated gender violence.
4. **According to the passage, what should accompany the effective implementation of laws to combat violence against women?**
 - A. Stricter punishment for offenders
 - B. Increased government surveillance
 - C. More police presence in public spaces
 - D. A change in societal mindset and public awareness on gender justice
5. **According to the passage, the campaigns led by women after the R.G. Kar rape should serve as _____.**
 - A. Evidence that stricter laws are working
 - B. A signal to halt reforms for gender justice
 - C. A wake-up call to governments and society
 - D. Proof that public protests are ineffective
6. **Parts of the given sentence have been underlined. One of them contains an error Select the option that has the segment with a grammatical error.**

The art historian argued that the painting's value has been greatly underestimated, and that its unique style and technique deserved recognition from the art community and the public alike

 - A. its unique style and technique
 - B. has been greatly underestimated
 - C. recognition from the art community
 - D. and the public alike
7. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

Mourn

- A. Dread
- B. Amuse
- C. Grieve
- D. Approve

8. **Select the most appropriate idiom to fill in the blank.**

When I went to Egypt and lost my wallet and passport, I was _____.

- A. rolling up my sleeves
- B. putting my nose to the grindstone
- C. working my fingers to the bone
- D. up in a creek without a paddle

9. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**

Oral

- A. Verbal
- B. Inscribed
- C. Obligatory
- D. Dejected

10. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them contains an error Select the part that contains the error from the given options.**

Mr. Vinu / has never / slept in / a igloo

- A. slept in
- B. a igloo
- C. Mr. Vinu
- D. has never

11. **Select the most appropriate idiom to fill in the blank.**

John was always _____ about becoming a millionaire without doing any hard work

- A. a storm in a tea cup
- B. eating like a horse
- C. building castles in the air
- D. having an ace up his sleeve

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

No sooner had she finished her breakfast that she had received a phone call from her boss, informing her that she needed to come to work immediately

- A. that she received
- B. that she receives
- C. than she receives
- D. than she received

13. **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 substitution'.**

If I was very rich , I would spend all my time and money for the poor

- A. No substitution

- B. If I were very rich
C. If I have much riches
D. If I am very rich
14. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**
My neighbours were serious injured in the car accident
A. serious injured
B. My neighbours were
C. the car accident
D. In
15. **Select the most appropriate idiom that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
The players like the coach because he is honest, realistic and practical in dealing with them.
A. down to earth
B. by and large
C. far and wide
D. sick and tired
16. **Identify the most appropriate antonym of the given word.**
Rapid
A. active
B. smart
C. lately
D. Slow
17. **The following sentence has been divided into four segments. Identify the segment that has a grammatical error.**
I am working with him since 2002, / but even today / I am unable / to understand his motives
A. I am unable
B. I am working with him since 2002,
C. to understand his motives.
D. but even today
18. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
An area/place in which dead bodies are buried
A. Demise
B. Cemetery
C. Mansion
D. Clementi
19. **Underlined word in the sentence is not spelt correctly. Identify the correct spelling from the options given below.**
Raman had been living a reklusive life since he had lost his job
A. Reclusive
B. Reclucive
C. Reslusive

D. Reclusive

20. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.

Convalesce

A. Collapse

B. Conceal

C. Corrupt

D. Confront

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.

Why do people yawn? No one seems to know the exact (1) _____. Some people believe that we yawn (2) _____ we do not have enough oxygen in our bodies. In (3) _____ words, we yawn to breathe in (4) _____ oxygen. People also believe that yawning is associated (5) _____ boredom.

21. Select the correct option to fill blank 1.

A. explanation

B. basis

C. reason

D. reality

22. Select the correct option to fill blank 2.

A. when

B. as

C. why

D. while

23. Select the correct option to fill blank 3

A. some

B. new

C. rather

D. other

24. Select the correct option to fill blank 4.

A. less

B. little

C. much

D. more

25. Select the correct option to fill blank 5.

A. on

B. in

C. with

D. by

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. **C) The labour force participation rate for urban women in India, aged 15 and above, is very low.**

Option C is correct because the passage clearly states that the labour force participation rate for urban women in India, ages 15 and above, is only 25.2%, which is considered very low.

A is incorrect because the passage does not indicate any improvement in the participation rate; rather, it highlights the low rate.

B is incorrect as 50% is not the correct percentage mentioned.

D is incorrect because the passage specifically discusses urban women, not rural women.

2. **B) Women will lose their jobs and financial independence.**

B is correct because the passage emphasizes that reducing women's work hours could lead to job losses and a loss of financial independence.

A is incorrect as the passage does not suggest that reducing work hours would lead to promotions.

C is incorrect because the passage argues that reducing work hours is not an effective measure to improve women's safety.

D is incorrect because the passage does not mention any health benefits associated with reducing work hours. Instead, it focuses on negative impacts like job loss.

3. **B) They have been partially effective but insufficient to address the problem completely.**

B is correct because the passage mentions that despite the harsher laws and stringent punishment, gender violence continues to be a significant issue, indicating partial effectiveness.

A is incorrect because the passage clearly states that the changes have not been enough.

C is incorrect because the laws have been implemented, but their impact is limited.

D is incorrect because the passage highlights that violence against women persists.

4. **D) A change in societal mindset and public awareness on gender justice**

D is correct because the passage explicitly states that a change in societal mindset and creating public awareness on gender justice are essential to combat violence against women.

A is incorrect because although stricter punishment is mentioned, the passage emphasizes the need for societal change.

B is incorrect because there is no mention of increased government surveillance as a solution.

C is incorrect because the focus is on societal mindset, not merely increasing police presence.

5. **C) A wake-up call to governments and society**

C is correct because the passage clearly states that the campaigns should serve as wake-up calls to governments and society to address the issue.

A is incorrect because the campaigns are not presented as evidence of effective laws.

B is incorrect because the passage advocates for continued efforts, not halting reforms.

D is incorrect because the passage suggests that these campaigns highlight the need for action, not that they are ineffective.

6. B) '**has been greatly underestimated**' के बदले 'had been greatly underestimated' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'that' Clause में verb 'argued' Past Tense में है अतः Relative Clause में भी Verb Past Tense में होगा; जैसे— The art historian argued that the painting's value had been greatly underestimated.
- had been greatly underestimated' will be used instead of 'has been greatly underestimated' because in 'that' clause the verb 'argued' is in Past Tense, so in Relative Clause also Verb will be in Past Tense; Like— The art historian argued that the painting's value had been greatly underestimated.
7. C) **Mourn** (verb) – Feel or show deep sorrow or regret for someone or their death. शोक मनाना
Synonym: **Grieve** (verb) – Feel intense sorrow, mourn, lament. दुखी होना
- **Dread** (verb) – Anticipate with great apprehension or fear. डरना
 - **Amuse** (verb) – Provide interesting and enjoyable occupation for someone, entertain. मनोरंजन करना
 - **Approve** (verb) – Officially agree to or accept as satisfactory. मंजूरी देना
8. D) **Up in a creek without a paddle** (idiom) – In a difficult or troublesome situation बिना किसी मदद के मुश्किल स्थिति में
- **Rolling up my sleeves** (idiom) – To prepare to do hard work. कठिन काम के लिए तैयार होना
 - **Putting my nose to the grindstone** (idiom) – To work hard and diligently. मेहनत और लगन से काम करना
 - **Working my fingers to the bone** (idiom) – To work extremely hard. अत्यधिक परिश्रम करना
9. B) **Oral** (adjective) – Spoken, vocal, related to the mouth. मौखिक
Antonym: **Inscribed** (adjective) – Written or engraved, especially on a surface. लिखित
- **Verbal** (adjective) – Relating to words or speech, spoken or written. मौखिक
 - **Obligatory** (adjective) – Required by a legal, moral, or other rule; compulsory. अनिवार्य
 - **Dejected** (adjective) – Sad, depressed, disheartened. उदास
10. B) **a igloo** के बदले 'an igloo' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'igloo' का उच्चारण vowel sound 'i' से होता है; अतः vowel sound वाले शब्द से पहले 'an' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— He lives in an igloo.

- 'an igloo' will be used instead of 'a igloo' because 'igloo' starts with the vowel sound 'i'; therefore, the article 'an' is used before words starting with a vowel sound; like— He lives in an igloo.
11. C) **Building castles in the air** (idiom) – To have unrealistic or impractical dreams or plans. अव्यावहारिक या असंभव सपने देखना
- **A storm in a tea cup** (idiom) – A lot of unnecessary anger and worry about a matter that is not important. छोटी सी बात पर ज्यादा हंगामा करना
 - **Eating like a horse** (idiom) – To eat a lot. बहुत ज्यादा खाना
 - **Having an ace up his sleeve** (idiom) – To have a hidden advantage or a secret plan. छुपा हुआ लाभ या गुप्त योजना रखना
12. D) **that she had received'** के बदले 'than she received' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'No sooner' के बाद 'than' का प्रयोग होता है, न कि 'that' का, और यह sentence Past Tense में है; अतः Verb भी Past Tense में होगा; जैसे— No sooner had she finished her breakfast than she received a phone call from her boss, informing her that she needed to come to work immediately.
- 'than she received' will be used instead of 'that she had received' because after 'No sooner', 'than' is used, not 'that', and this sentence is in Past Tense; so the Verb will also be in Past Tense; Like— No sooner had she finished her breakfast than she received a phone call from her boss, informing her that she needed to come to work immediately.
13. B) **was'** के बदले 'were' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि condition statement में Verb 'were' का प्रयोग Subjunctive Mood में होता है; जैसे— If I were a bird, I would fly in the sky.
- 'were' will be used instead of 'was' because in a conditional statement the verb 'were' is used in Subjunctive Mood; Like— If I were a bird, I would fly in the sky.
14. A) **'serious injured'** के बदले 'seriously injured' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'injured' Past Participle Verb है और Past Participle Verb के पहले Adverb का प्रयोग किया जाता है; जैसे— He was seriously hurt in the accident.
- 'seriously injured' will be used instead of 'serious injured' because 'injured' is a Past Participle Verb and an Adverb is used before a Past Participle Verb; Like— He was seriously hurt in the accident.
15. A) **down to earth** – realistic and practical यथार्थवादी और व्यावहारिक
- **By and large** (idiom) – Generally speaking; on the whole. सामान्य रूप से
 - **Far and wide** (idiom) – Over a large area; everywhere. बहुत दूर-दूर तक
 - **Sick and tired** (idiom) – Fed up; no longer able to tolerate something. तंग आ जाना
16. D) **Rapid** (adjective) – Happening in a short time or at a great rate. तेज

Antonym: **Slow** (adjective) – Moving or operating, or designed to do so, only at a low speed; not quick or fast. धीमा

- **Active** (adjective) – Engaging or ready to engage in physically energetic pursuits. सक्रिय
- **Smart** (adjective) – Having or showing a quick-witted intelligence. बुद्धिमान
- **Lately** (adverb) – Recently; not long ago. हाल ही में

17. B) 'am working' के बदले 'have been working' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'since 2002' दर्शाता है कि क्रिया पिछले समय से अब तक जारी है और यह Present Perfect Continuous Tense में होना चाहिए; जैसे— I have been working with him since 2002, but even today I am unable to understand his motives.

- '**have been working**' will be used instead of 'I am working' because 'since 2002' indicates that the action started in the past and continues up to the present, so it should be in Present Perfect Continuous Tense; Like— I have been working with him since 2002, but even today I am unable to understand his motives.

18. B) **Cemetery** (noun) – An area/place in which dead bodies are buried कब्रिस्तान

- **Demise** (noun) – a person's death. मृत्यु
- **Mansion** (noun) – a large, impressive house. हवेली
- **Clementi** (noun) – (Not a relevant option in this context)

19. D) The correct spelling of '**reklusive**' is '**reclusive**' which means "avoiding the company of other people; solitary" एकांतप्रिय, एकांतवासी.

20. A) **Convalesce** (verb) – To recover one's health and strength over a period of time after an illness or operation. ठीक होना

Antonym: Collapse (verb) – To fall down or give way suddenly, often as a result of illness or injury. पतन होना

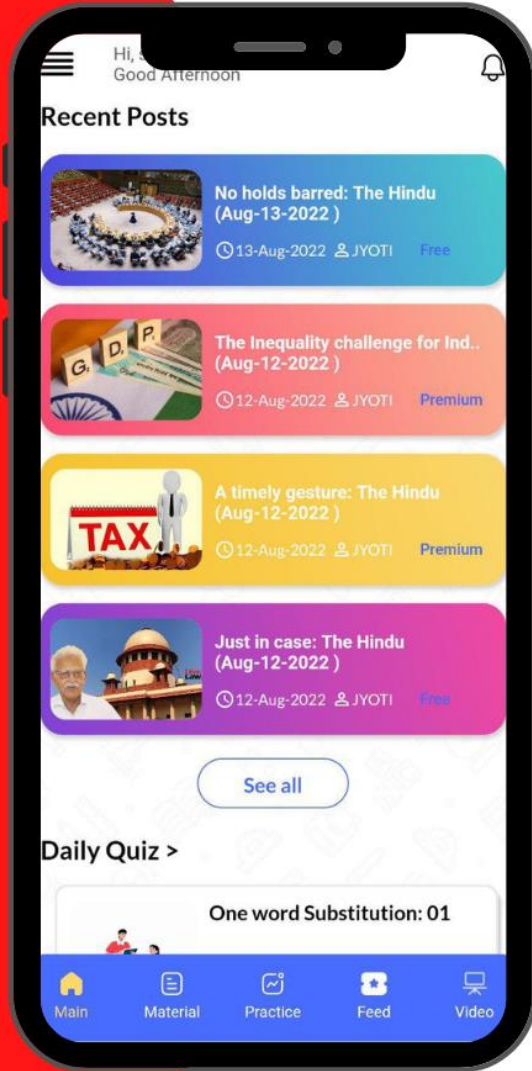
- **Conceal** (verb) – To hide, keep from sight, cover up. छिपाना
- **Corrupt** (verb) – To cause to act dishonestly, especially for money or personal gain; to make morally depraved. भ्रष्ट करना
- **Confront** (verb) – To face up to and deal with a problem or difficult situation; to challenge. सामना करना

21. C) **Reason**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence इंसान की आदतों और उनके कारणों की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "No one seems to know the exact (1)" के माध्यम से उस मुख्य कारण की बात की जा रही है, जिसमें यह बताया जा रहा है कि लोग जम्हाई क्यों लेते हैं। इसलिए, "reason" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- '**Reason**' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing human habits and their causes. Here, through "No one seems to know the exact (1)", it

is referring to the main cause, explaining why people yawn. Thus, "reason" would be the most appropriate choice.

22. A) 'when' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence इस बात की चर्चा कर रहा है कि हम किस परिस्थिति में जम्हाई लेते हैं। यहाँ "we yawn (2) _____ we do not have enough oxygen in our bodies" के माध्यम से यह बताया जा रहा है कि जब हमारे शरीर में पर्याप्त ऑक्सीजन नहीं होती है, तो हम जम्हाई लेते हैं। इसलिए, "when" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
- 'when' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing under what condition we yawn. Here, through "we yawn (2) _____ we do not have enough oxygen in our bodies," it is indicating that when our bodies lack sufficient oxygen, we yawn. Thus, "when" would be the most appropriate choice.
23. D) 'Other' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence विभिन्न संभावित कारणों की चर्चा कर रहा है, जिनके कारण लोग जम्हाई लेते हैं। यहाँ "In (3) _____ words" के माध्यम से उन अन्य शब्दों को दर्शाया जा रहा है जो इस संदर्भ को समझाने के लिए उपयोग किए जा सकते हैं। इसलिए, "other" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
- 'Other' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the different possible reasons why people yawn. Here, through "In (3) _____ words", it portrays those other words that can be used to explain this context. Thus, "other" would be the most appropriate choice.
24. D) 'More' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence शरीर में ऑक्सीजन की आवश्यकता को पूरा करने की बात कर रहा है। यहाँ "we yawn to breathe in (4) _____ oxygen" के माध्यम से उस प्रक्रिया को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें हमें अधिक ऑक्सीजन की आवश्यकता होती है। इसलिए, "more" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
- 'More' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the need for oxygen in the body. Here, through "we yawn to breathe in (4) _____ oxygen," it portrays the process where we need more oxygen. Thus, "more" would be the most appropriate choice.
25. C) 'with' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence yawning और उससे जुड़ी भावनाओं और स्थितियों की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "yawning is associated (5) _____ boredom" के माध्यम से यह दिखाया जा रहा है कि yawning और boredom के बीच एक संबंध है। इसलिए, "with" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
- 'with' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the emotions and conditions associated with yawning. Here, through "yawning is associated (5) _____ boredom," it portrays that connection between yawning and boredom. Thus, "with" would be the most appropriate choice.



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