

Power play: On hydropower projects and the environment

Hydropower projects must **factor in** the environmental costs too

While Wayanad in Kerala **limps** back to normal life after the **devastating landslide** last month, a **landslide** on Tuesday (August 20, 2024) in Sikkim **caused** damage to six houses and a building of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) at its Teesta-5 hydropower station in Gangtok. There is no comparison of the impact of the event in both places, as there was no loss of lives or injuries reported in Sikkim. However, the cause for concern is that this is the second natural-disaster-led **assault** on a hydropower project along the Teesta. A **deluge** from the South Lhonak glacier in North Sikkim last October **washed away** the Chungthang dam that was **critical** to the Teesta-3 power station (which is not operated by the NHPC). The Teesta-3 (1,200 MW) power project was the largest hydroelectric power project in the State until it was effectively **grounded** after the **outburst**. **Only a tenth** of the power originally being supplied by the project **is** now available. The Teesta-5 project, at 510 MW, has also been made non-functional since the glacial lake outburst.

The disaster **shines a new light on** an old, but never **quiescent, conundrum posed** by hydropower projects. From initial proposals nearly three **decades** ago to have 47 power projects along the run of the Teesta in Sikkim and West Bengal, only five projects **exist** and about 16 are in various stages of **consideration**. A **tributary** of the Brahmaputra, the Teesta river originates from the Tso Lhamo Lake at an **elevation** of about 5,280 metres in north Sikkim. The river travels for about 150 km in Sikkim and 123 km in West Bengal, before entering Bangladesh from Mekhligunj in Cooch Behar district; it flows another 140 km in Bangladesh and joins the Bay of Bengal. In theory, the river's **course** through **undulating terrain is** what **tempts** governments to **extract** as much benefit as possible for power projects. Through the decades, several companies have **bid** for projects **auctioned out** by State governments but the process has rarely been without **complications**. It has been a **complicated** exercise in balancing the environmental risks, costs of properly insuring for those risks, public perception and aiming for profit. In the case of the Teesta-3 project, reports have emerged that the **developers, in order to** save on costs, **built** a concrete-faced rock fill dam **as opposed to** a concrete gravity dam — one reason why it was completely washed away. **Environmental impact assessments** of hydropower projects in the region must give a clear **estimate** of the actual costs involved. This will not only **bolster** public faith in these projects but also be environmentally **sustainable**. [\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

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

Vocabulary

1. **Power play** (phrase) – tactics exhibiting or intended to increase a person's power or influence.
2. **Factor in** (phrasal verb) – Include, consider, account for, take into account, incorporate शामिल करना
3. **Limp** (verb) – proceed with difficulty. कठिनाई से आगे बढ़ना
4. **Devastating** (adjective) – Destructive, catastrophic, disastrous, ruinous, overwhelming विनाशकारी
5. **Landslide** (noun) – Earthfall, rockslide, mudslide, avalanche, slope collapse भूस्खलन
6. **Assault** (noun) – Attack, strike, onslaught, offensive, aggression हमला
7. **Deluge** (noun) – Flood, inundation, overflow, torrent, surge बाढ़
8. **Wash away** (phrasal verb) – Erase, remove, sweep away, carry off, dissolve बहा ले जाना
9. **Critical** (to) (adjective) – Essential, crucial, vital, necessary, key महत्वपूर्ण
10. **Ground** (verb) – Halt, stop, immobilize, disable, bring to a standstill रोक देना
11. **Outburst** (noun) – a sudden occurrence of a particular activity. विस्फोट
12. **Shine a new light** (phrase) – Illuminate, reveal, highlight, bring attention to, clarify नए दृष्टिकोण से देखना
13. **Quiescent** (adjective) – Inactive, dormant, still, quiet, at rest शांत
14. **Conundrum** (noun) – Puzzle, problem, dilemma, riddle, quandary पहेली
15. **Pose** (verb) – Present, create, constitute, cause, bring about उत्पन्न करना
16. **Decade** (noun) – a period of ten years दशक
17. **Exist** (verb) – Be present, live, endure, occur, survive होना
18. **Consideration** (noun) – Thought, deliberation, reflection, review, examination विचार
19. **Tributary** (noun) – Branch, stream, feeder river, offshoot, secondary river सहायक नदी
20. **Elevation** (noun) – Height, altitude, rise, ascent, level ऊंचाई
21. **Undulating** (adjective) – Wavy, rolling, hilly, uneven, fluctuating लहरदार
22. **Terrain** (noun) – Landscape, ground, topography, land, area भूभाग
23. **Tempt** (verb) – Entice, lure, attract, provoke, seduce लुभाना

24. **Extract** (verb) – Remove, draw out, obtain, derive, pull out निकालना
25. **Bid** (verb) – Offer, propose, tender, compete, make an attempt बोली लगाना
26. **Auction out** (phrasal verb) – Sell off, put up for sale, offer for bidding, put on the market नीलाम करना
27. **Complication** (noun) – Difficulty, problem, issue, obstacle, hindrance जटिलता
28. **Complicated** (adjective) – Complex, intricate, difficult, convoluted, involved जटिल
29. **In order to** (phrase) – To, for the purpose of, so as to, with the intention of, in an effort to ताकि
30. **As opposed to** (phrase) – Instead of, rather than, in contrast to, unlike के बजाय
31. **Environmental impact assessment** (EIA) (noun) – a tool used to assess the significant effects of a project or development proposal on the environment.
32. **Estimate** (noun) – Approximation, calculation, assessment, evaluation, guess अनुमान
33. **Bolster** (verb) – Support, strengthen, reinforce, boost, fortify मजबूत करना
34. **Sustainable** (adjective) – Maintainable, renewable, enduring, long-lasting, environmentally friendly टिकाऊ

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Recent Landslides:** A landslide in Sikkim damaged six houses and a building at the NHPC's Teesta-5 hydropower station, following a devastating landslide in Wayanad, Kerala.
2. **Previous Disaster:** In October 2023, a glacial deluge washed away the Chungthang dam, crucial for the Teesta-3 power project, significantly reducing its output.
3. **Teesta-5 Project:** The Teesta-5 project, producing 510 MW, has been rendered non-functional after the glacial lake outburst.
4. **Hydropower Dilemma:** Hydropower projects face challenges in balancing environmental risks and development needs, a persistent issue.
5. **Initial Proposals:** Plans for 47 hydropower projects along the Teesta river in Sikkim and West Bengal have only led to five operational projects, with 16 under consideration.
6. **Teesta River's Course:** The Teesta river originates from Tso Lhamo Lake in Sikkim and flows through West Bengal before entering Bangladesh, where it joins the Bay of Bengal.
7. **Undulating Terrain:** The river's course through difficult terrain makes it attractive for hydropower projects, but also increases environmental and geological risks.
8. **Complicated Bidding Process:** Several companies have bid for hydropower projects, but the process has been fraught with complications, balancing environmental risks and profit.
9. **Teesta-3 Dam Design:** Reports suggest the Teesta-3 project developers built a concrete-faced rock fill dam to save costs, which was a factor in its destruction.
10. **Environmental Costs:** Hydropower projects often downplay environmental costs in favor of profit, which can lead to long-term damage and public distrust.
11. **Public Perception:** Proper environmental assessments and risk insurance can improve public trust in hydropower projects.
12. **Sustainability:** Hydropower projects must incorporate environmentally sustainable practices to ensure long-term viability.
13. **Impact Assessments:** Clear and accurate environmental impact assessments are crucial for understanding the true costs of hydropower projects.
14. **Government Role:** Governments are tempted to maximize power extraction from rivers, but must also consider the environmental consequences.
15. **Future of Hydropower:** Hydropower projects need to balance development and environmental sustainability, factoring in climate change-related risks like glacial outbursts.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

- In the passage, what is the primary concern regarding hydropower projects in Sikkim?**
A. Lack of proper government regulations on hydropower projects [Editorial Page]
B. The impact of landslides on human settlements
C. Natural disasters repeatedly damaging hydropower infrastructure
D. The environmental effects of hydropower projects on local wildlife
- Which of the following best describes the state of the Teesta-3 power project after the glacial lake outburst?**
A. It continues to generate power at its full capacity
B. It has been completely shut down and no longer operates
C. It is only able to generate a fraction of its original capacity
D. It has been repaired and is back to normal operations
- What is the most likely reason for the increased vulnerability of hydropower projects like Teesta-5 and Teesta-3 to natural disasters?**
A. Poor engineering design of the hydropower stations
B. Proximity to environmentally sensitive areas
C. Lack of timely maintenance of the hydropower infrastructure
D. Insufficient funding for disaster preparedness
- Which of the following is the best synonym for the word "quiescent" as used in the passage?**
A. Dormant
B. Active
C. Turbulent
D. Vigorous
- What can be inferred about the challenges of hydropower projects on the Teesta river from the passage?**
A. The projects have been widely accepted without any public concerns.
B. The environmental impact assessments are ignored by developers to save costs.
C. Hydropower projects on the Teesta face a complex balance between environmental risks and profit.
D. The Teesta river is unsuitable for hydropower due to its calm and stable course.

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.

Of all the stages through which a person ____1____ to pass, death is the ____2____ certain. Everyone who is alive now will be dead sometime in the future. One day the eyes of those who see will fade and their tongues ____3____ silence. Every human being will one day be leaving this world, never to return, and entering a world which he will never leave. No one can be sure when death will come; it might strike at any instant. The gravity of the situation lies in death not being the end of life, but rather the beginning of a new, eternal life, a world of ____4____ reward or retribution.

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

- A. will has been
B. will have been
C. have
D. will have
7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
A. Most
B. More
C. Very
D. Far
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
A. freeze for
B. freeze to
C. freeze into
D. freeze by
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**
A. Retreating
B. Everlasting
C. Setting
D. Challenging
10. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined word in the given sentence.**
Last week's rain ravaged the whole city.
A. reaffirmed
B. rescinded
C. ruined
D. retracted
11. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
National development is defined as an improvement in people's daily arrangements, the provision of fundamental necessities to citizens such as food, education, social services, medical help, and so on, as well as an increase in per capita income.
A. diving techniques
B. dining categories
C. existing calamities
D. living conditions
12. **Select the word with the correct spelling from the options given below to fill in the blank.**
They saw the beautiful _____ of the Gods in the Temples.
A. Idols
B. Idoles
C. Ideals
D. Idles

13. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.**

The traffic sergeant proved through the test that Raj was under the influence of drugs. and alcohol.

- A. inebriated
B. simonised
C. ponied
D. Pocked
14. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
He does not buy shirts.
A. Shirts are not bought by him.
B. Shirts are not brought by him.
C. Shirts were not been bought by him.
D. Shirts were not bought by him.
15. **Identify the sentence that correctly uses the indefinite article.**
A. She purchased a apple in the market with me.
B. She purchased an apple in the market with me.
C. She purchased apple in the market with me.
D. She purchase a apple in the market with me.
16. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
She is building a new house.
A. A new house is being built by her.
B. She had built a new house.
C. She has built a new house.
D. A new house has been built by her.
17. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.**
The company was engaged in spurious trade practices.
A. Effective
B. Fraudulent
C. Spacious
D. Trendy
18. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Intriguing
A. Glorifying
B. Ravishing
C. Stunning
D. Interesting
19. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**
Sajni had / interfere in / this matter.
A. interfere in

- B. No error
C. this matter
D. Sajni had
20. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below. While the first and the last sentences (S1 and S6) are in the correct order, the sentences in between are jumbled up and named P, Q, R, S. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
(S1) Today, the world has become a much smaller place, thanks to the adventures and miracles of science.
(P) We are slowly realising that the world is a single cooperative group.
(Q) Other religions have become forces with which we have to reckon, and we are seeking for ways and means by which we can live together in peace and harmony.
(R) Mingling of population is bringing about interchange of thought.
(S) Foreign nations have become our next-door neighbours.
(S6) We cannot have religious unity and peace so long as we assert that we are in possession of the light and all others are groping in the darkness.
- A. S, R, P, Q
B. P, Q, R, S
C. S, R, Q, P
D. Q, R, S, P
21. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Bad iron
- A. No steam
B. Not hot
C. Bad luck
D. Bad behavior
22. **Select the sentences that contains no spelling errors.**
- A. The mall road of our city is always teyming with street vendors.
B. The mall road of our city is always tiiming with street vendors.
C. The mall road of our city is always tyiming with street vendors.
D. The mall road of our city is always teeming with street vendors.
23. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the following sentence.**
I always enjoy the company of respectful teachers.
- A. admiring
B. derogatory
C. dutiful
D. Insolent
24. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A sentimental memory of the past
- A. Hysteria
B. Nostalgia
C. Mania
D. Euphoria

25. Select the most appropriate idiom or phrase to fill in the blank in the given sentence.

Sweety has been _____ since her painting won first prize.

- A. walking on eggshells
- B. waiting in the wings
- C. walking into the lion's den
- D. walking on air

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. C) Natural disasters repeatedly damaging hydropower infrastructure

C is correct because the passage highlights that natural disasters, such as landslides and glacial lake outbursts, have caused significant damage to hydropower projects like Teesta-3 and Teesta-5 in Sikkim. This repeated damage is a major concern for the sustainability of such projects.

A is incorrect because the passage does not emphasize the lack of government regulations as the primary concern. The focus is on the damage caused by natural disasters.

B is incorrect because while landslides affect human settlements, the passage emphasizes the impact on hydropower infrastructure rather than on settlements.

D is incorrect because the passage does not discuss the effects of hydropower projects on wildlife; instead, it focuses on the destruction of the infrastructure due to natural disasters.

2. C) It is only able to generate a fraction of its original capacity

C is correct because the passage states that only a tenth of the power originally being supplied by the Teesta-3 project is now available after the glacial lake outburst, indicating that it is operating at a significantly reduced capacity.

A is incorrect because the Teesta-3 project is not generating power at its full capacity; it is significantly reduced.

B is incorrect because the passage does not state that the project has been completely shut down. It mentions that only a fraction of its capacity is available.

D is incorrect because the project has not been fully repaired and restored to normal operations, as indicated by the passage.

3. B) Proximity to environmentally sensitive areas

B is correct because the passage discusses the occurrence of natural disasters, such as landslides and glacial lake outbursts, which are more likely to happen in environmentally sensitive areas like those near glaciers. The proximity of the hydropower projects to these areas increases their vulnerability.

A is incorrect because the passage does not attribute the damage to poor engineering design. The natural disasters themselves are highlighted as the cause of the damage.

C is incorrect because the passage does not mention a lack of maintenance as a factor in the vulnerability of the hydropower projects.

D is incorrect because there is no mention in the passage of insufficient funding for disaster preparedness as a reason for the damage to the hydropower projects.

4. A) Dormant

A. "Quiescent" means inactive or in a state of dormancy. The correct synonym in this context is "dormant," which signifies being in a state of rest or inactivity, just as the hydropower conundrum mentioned in the passage remains unresolved but not forgotten.

B: "Active" is the opposite of "quiescent." It refers to something that is functioning or moving, which contradicts the meaning of the word in this context.

C: "Turbulent" means chaotic or in a state of unrest, which is far from the meaning of "quiescent."

D: "Vigorous" implies strong, energetic activity, which contrasts with the idea of something being quiet or dormant.

5. **C) Hydropower projects on the Teesta face a complex balance between environmental risks and profit.**

C. The passage emphasizes that the development of hydropower projects on the Teesta has been a complicated process due to the need to balance environmental risks, the costs of mitigating those risks, public perception, and profit. This highlights the challenges developers face, making this inference correct.

A. The passage mentions complications in the development of these projects, including public perception, which indicates that the projects have not been universally accepted.

B. While cost-cutting is mentioned in the context of the Teesta-3 project, the passage does not suggest that all environmental impact assessments are ignored. Instead, it emphasizes the importance of proper assessments.

D. The passage indicates that the river's undulating terrain is what tempts governments to develop hydropower projects, making it unsuitable for hydropower due to calmness an incorrect inference.

6. D) 'will have' का use होगा क्योंकि "will have" future perfect tense के लिए होता है जब हम future में किसी समय पर पहले ही समाप्त हो चुके कार्य की बात करते हैं। sentence में कहा गया है कि मृत्यु से पहले व्यक्ति को कई चरणों से गुजरना होता है, जो कि भविष्य में पूरा हो चुका होगा, इसलिए 'will have' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'will has been' grammatically incorrect है, क्योंकि 'has' के साथ 'will' का use नहीं होता, 'have' यहाँ inadequate है क्योंकि यह संदर्भ में भविष्य के पूर्ण काल को नहीं दर्शाता, और 'will have been' भी incorrect है क्योंकि इसका प्रयोग भविष्य के अतीत में होता है जो कि यहाँ irrelevant है।

'will have' will be used because it indicates the future perfect tense, used when referring to actions that will have been completed by a certain future point. The sentence discusses stages a person will have passed through before death, thus necessitating the future perfect tense, making 'will have' the appropriate choice here. 'will has been' is grammatically incorrect as 'will' never accompanies 'has', 'have' is inadequate as it does not express the future perfect tense in this context, and 'will have been' is also incorrect as it's used for the past in the future, which is irrelevant here.

7. A) 'Most' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ बात की जा रही है की मृत्यु कितनी सुनिश्चित है, और 'most' एक superlative degree है जो दर्शाता है कि मृत्यु सबसे अधिक सुनिश्चित है। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि मृत्यु एक ऐसा स्तर है जिसे पार करना हर किसी के लिए

अवश्यम्भावी है, इसलिए 'most' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'More' और 'Very' comparative और intensifier शब्द हैं, जो यहाँ फिट नहीं बैठते, और 'Far' का उपयोग सुनिश्चितता के context में नहीं होता।

'Most' will be used because it expresses the superlative degree, indicating that death is the most certain among all stages one must pass through. The sentence emphasizes that death is an inevitable stage for everyone, making 'most' appropriate here. On the other hand, 'More' and 'Very' are comparative and intensifiers, respectively, which don't fit here, and 'Far' is not used in the context of certainty.

8. C) 'Freeze into' का उपयोग किया जाएगा क्योंकि यहाँ "freeze into" का अर्थ होता है किसी अवस्था या चीज में बदल जाना या स्थिर हो जाना। Passage में mention है कि लोगों की आँखें मंद पड़ जाएंगी और उनकी जुबान 'silence' में बदल जाएगी, इसलिए 'freeze into' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Freeze for' का अर्थ होता है कुछ समय के लिए रुक जाना, 'Freeze to' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ से चिपक जाना, और 'Freeze by' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ के पास या आसपास जम जाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

'Freeze into' will be used because it means to become or be made into a certain state or thing, or to become fixed. The passage mentions that people's eyes will dim and their tongues will turn into 'silence,' making 'freeze into' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Freeze for' implies stopping for a period of time, 'Freeze to' means to adhere or become attached to something, and 'Freeze by' means to become solid near or around something, which don't fit in this context.

9. B) Everlasting' का use होगा क्योंकि "everlasting" का अर्थ होता है हमेशा बना रहने वाला या अनंत। paragraph में mention है कि मृत्यु के बाद एक नया, शाश्वत जीवन शुरू होता है, जिसमें इनाम या सज़ा दी जाती है, इसलिए 'everlasting' यहाँ सही है। everlasting' एक adjective है जो 'world' noun को modify करता है यहाँ 'world of everlasting reward or retribution' का मतलब है एक ऐसी दुनिया जो हमेशा रहने वाली है, जहाँ इनाम या सज़ा मिलती रहेगी। जबकि 'Retreating' का अर्थ है पीछे हटना, 'Setting' का अर्थ है स्थापित करना, और 'Challenging' का अर्थ है चुनौतीपूर्ण होना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

Everlasting' will be used because it means lasting forever or eternal. The paragraph describes that after death begins a new, eternal life where reward or punishment is given, making 'everlasting' appropriate here. 'everlasting' is an adjective modifying the noun 'world'. Here, 'world of everlasting reward or retribution' means a world that is eternal, where rewards or punishments continue indefinitely. Whereas, 'Retreating' implies moving back, 'Setting' means establishing, and 'Challenging' implies being difficult, which do not fit in this context.

10. C) 'ruined' का प्रयोग 'ravaged' के बदले होगा, क्योंकि दोनों शब्दों का अर्थ नगर या किसी चीज को बर्बाद कर देना है; जैसे— Last week's rain ruined the whole city.

- 'ruined' will be used instead of 'ravaged' because both words mean to destroy or spoil something, like a city or object; Like— Last week's rain ruined the whole city.
11. D) 'daily arrangements' के बदले 'living conditions' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह राष्ट्रीय विकास के संदर्भ में लोगों की दिनचर्या और जीवन शैली को व्याप्त करता है; जैसे— खुराक, शिक्षा, सामाजिक सेवाएं, चिकित्सा सहायता, आदि।
- 'living conditions' will be used instead of 'daily arrangements' because it encompasses people's daily routines and lifestyles in the context of national development; such as food, education, social services, medical assistance, etc.
12. A) 'Idols' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence मंदिरों में देवताओं की सुंदर मूर्तियों की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "beautiful _____ of the Gods in the Temples" के माध्यम से वे मूर्तियों को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिन्हें लोग पूजते हैं। इसलिए, "Idols" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
- 'Idols' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the beautiful statues of the Gods in the Temples. Here, through "beautiful _____ of the Gods in the Temples", it portrays those sculptures that people worship. Thus, "Idols" would be the most appropriate choice.
13. A) 'under the influence of drugs and alcohol' के बदले 'inebriated' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'inebriated' का अर्थ है नशे में धुत होना जिससे यह स्पष्ट होता है कि व्यक्ति ड्रग्स या अल्कोहल के प्रभाव में है।
- 'inebriated' will be used instead of 'under the influence of drugs and alcohol' because the word 'inebriated' means being intoxicated, clearly implying that the person is under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
14. A) Shirts are not bought by him.
15. B) 'an' will be used instead of 'a' when the following word begins with a vowel sound, as in 'apple'; Like— She purchased an apple in the market with me.
16. A) A new house is being built by her.
17. B) **Spurious** (adjective) – False, fake, counterfeit, deceptive, not genuine. जाली
- Synonym: Fraudulent** (adjective) – Deceptive, dishonest, cheating, untrustworthy. धोखाधड़ी
- **Effective** (adjective) – Successful, productive, efficient, operative. कारगर
 - **Spacious** (adjective) – Large, roomy, capacious, extensive. विशाल
 - **Trendy** (adjective) – Fashionable, stylish, chic, modish. फैशनेबल
18. D) **Intriguing** (adjective) – Causing curiosity or interest, fascinating, engaging, captivating. रोचक
- Synonym: Interesting** (adjective) – Engaging or exciting, holding one's attention, appealing, absorbing. दिलचस्प

- **Glorifying** (adjective) – Praising, exalting, extolling, lauding, magnifying. महिमा गाने वाला
- **Ravishing** (adjective) – Extremely beautiful or attractive, entrancing, enchanting, fetching. मोहक
- **Stunning** (adjective) – Strikingly beautiful or attractive, remarkable, impressive, breathtaking. शोभायमानी

19. A) **'interfere'** के बदले **'interfered'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि **'had'** के साथ Past Perfect Tense में Verb की Third Form (Past Participle) का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— Sajni had interfered in this matter.

- **'interfered'** will be used instead of **'interfere'** because with **'had,'** the verb should be in the third form (Past Participle) for Past Perfect Tense; Like— Sajni had interfered in this matter

20. A) **S, R, P, Q**

Today, the world has become a much smaller place, thanks to the adventures and miracles of science. Foreign nations have become our next-door neighbours. Mingling of population is bringing about interchange of thought. We are slowly realising that the world is a single cooperative group. Other religions have become forces with which we have to reckon, and we are seeking for ways and means by which we can live together in peace and harmony. We cannot have religious unity and peace so long as we assert that we are in possession of the light and all others are groping in the darkness.

21. C) **Bad iron** (idiom) – Bad luck दुर्भाग्य

22. D) Sentence में **'teeming'** शब्द का सही वर्तनी है क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है किसी चीज से भरा होना, जैसे वाक्य में सड़क विक्रेताओं से भरी हुई है। इसलिए, सही विकल्प D है।

- **'teeming'** is the correct spelling as it means to be filled with something, like in the sentence where the road is filled with street vendors. Therefore, the correct option is D.

23. C) **Respectful** (adjective) – Showing deference and respect, polite, courteous, considerate. सम्मानपूर्वक

Synonym: **Dutiful** (adjective) – Conscientious, responsible, obedient, respectful. कर्तव्यनिष्ठ

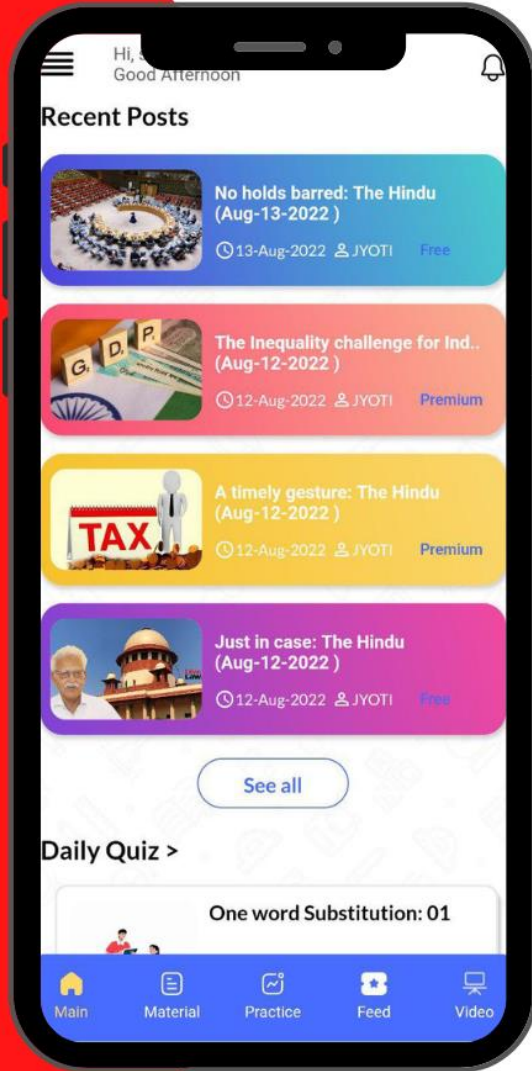
- **Admiring** (adjective) – Showing or feeling respect and approval, appreciative, favorable. प्रशंसापूर्वक
- **Derogatory** (adjective) – Showing a critical or disrespectful attitude, disparaging, belittling. अपमानजनक
- **Insolent** (adjective) – Showing a rude and arrogant lack of respect, impertinent, impudent. धृष्ट

24. B) **Nostalgia** (noun) – A sentimental longing or wistful affection for the past, typically for a period or place with happy personal associations. भूतकाल की किसी अवधि की याद

- **Hysteria** (noun) – Exaggerated or uncontrollable emotion or excitement, especially among a group of people. उन्माद
- **Mania** (noun) – An excessive enthusiasm or desire; an obsession. जुनून
- **Euphoria** (noun) – A feeling or state of intense excitement and happiness. उमंग उत्साह

25. D) 'walking on air' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि संदर्भ यह है कि Sweety ने अपनी पेंटिंग से पहला पुरस्कार जीता है। इस जीत के कारण वह बहुत खुश हो सकती है, और यहाँ "walking on air" का तात्पर्य बहुत खुश और उत्तेजित होने से है। बाकी के विकल्प संदर्भ से मेल नहीं खाते हैं, इसलिए "walking on air" सबसे उपयुक्त options होगा।

- '**Walking on air**' should be used because the context is that Sweety has won the first prize for her painting. This victory could make her extremely happy, and here, "walking on air" conveys being very happy and elated. The other options do not fit the context, so "walking on air" would be the most appropriate choice.



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