Death for rape: On Bengal's Aparajita Bill

Homes and workplaces must first be made safe for women

The cry for the death penalty after every heinous sexual crime, and governments yielding to it by issuing ordinances or passing Bills, have become fairly commonplace. The criminal laws were amended in 2013 after the brutal rape of a woman in Delhi; subsequently, States including Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Arunachal Pradesh have sought amendments for enhanced punishment for sexual assault. On Tuesday, the West Bengal Assembly unanimously passed The Aparajita Women and Child (West Bengal Criminal Laws Amendment) Bill, 2024, by a voice vote, following the rape and murder of a doctor at a government hospital in Kolkata on August 9 and a persistent clamour for justice. The Bill introduces the death penalty or life-long imprisonment for rape by amending the relevant sections in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the new penal code. In fact, death has been sought to be prescribed for five offences — rape; rape by police officer or public servant; rape causing death or sending victim to persistent vegetative state; gang rape, and being a repeat offender. It also amends the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita to provide for special courts to try such offences in a time-bound manner, and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, to provide for death in cases of penetrative sexual assault and its aggravated form. The President's assent will be required for the State amendments.

There is little evidence that awarding the death penalty is a deterrent against sexual offences, but the call for more stringent laws after such crimes often evokes an official response. By stating that "rape is a curse against humanity and social reforms are required to prevent such crimes," Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee herself put a question mark on the need for a Bill that leans on legal sanction rather than seeking a change in societal mindsets. The Justice J.S. Verma Committee had said it was not inclined to recommend the death penalty for rape even for the rarest of rare cases, arguing that "...seeking of [the] death penalty would be a regressive step in the field of sentencing and reformation". However, death penalty was introduced subsequently for rape of girls under 12 and gangrape of those under 18; but women are far from feeling safer. It is also a tragedy that the cruel death in Bengal has become a political slugfest between the Centre and the State. The onus is on every government to ensure that laws are implemented effectively, and the police work without bias to prevent and punish sexual assault. Justice will be better served if barriers to women's advancement are removed by first making workplaces and homes safe for them. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

- Cry (for) (noun) Demand, appeal, plea, outcry, call मांग करना
- Heinous (adjective) Wicked, atrocious, vile, egregious, abhorrent जघन्य
- 3. **Yield** (to) (verb) Give in, submit, concede, surrender, comply घ्टने टेकना
- 4. **Ordinance** (noun) Decree, regulation, law, statute, rule अध्यादेश
- 5. **Amend** (verb) Modify, change, revise, alter, adjust संशोधन करना
- 6. **Brutal** (adjective) Cruel, savage, ruthless, harsh, inhumane 秦र
- Seek (verb) Pursue, attempt, try for, search, strive for प्रयास करना
- 8. **Amendment** (noun) Alteration, revision, modification, correction, change संशोधन
- 9. **Enhanced** (adjective) Increased, improved, augmented, boosted, amplified बढ़ा हुआ
- 10. **Assault** (noun) Attack, strike, onslaught, offense, aggression हमला
- 11. **Unanimously** (adverb) Collectively, universally, in agreement, without opposition सर्वसम्मति से
- 12. **Following** (preposition) After, subsequent to, next to, succeeding के बाद

- 13. **Persistent** (adjective) Continuous, constant, unrelenting, determined, tenacious लगातार
- 14. **Clamour** (noun) Uproar, outcry, protest, demand, noise कोलाहल
- 15. **Imprisonment** (noun) Confinement, incarceration, detention, custody कारावास
- 16. **Penal** (adjective) Punitive, disciplinary, corrective, legal दंडात्मक
- 17. **Code** (noun) Law, regulation, statute, rule, guideline संहिता
- 18. **Vegetative** (adjective) Unresponsive, inactive, comatose, lifeless अचेत
- 19. **Offender** (noun) Criminal, lawbreaker, wrongdoer, perpetrator अपराधी
- 20. **Penetrative** (adjective) Invasive, intrusive, piercing, deep गहराई तक प्रवेश करने वाला
- 21. **Aggravated** (adjective) Worsened, intensified, heightened, exacerbated बढ़ा ह्आ
- 22. **Assent** (noun) Agreement, approval, consent, sanction, endorsement स्वीकृति
- 23. **Award** (verb) Grant, bestow, give, allocate प्रदान करना
- 24. **Deterrent** (adjective) Discouraging, preventative, dissuasive, obstructive निवारक

September 6, 2024 JOIN TELEGRAM CHANNEL: ENGLISH MADHYAM

- 25. **Call** (noun) Demand, plea, appeal, request, invocation मांग
- 26. **Stringent** (adjective) Strict, rigorous, tough, severe, harsh করা
- 27. **Evoke** (noun) Call forth, bring to mind, trigger, elicit, stimulate उत्पन्न करना
- 28. **State** (verb) Declare, express, announce, articulate, affirm कहना
- 29. **Curse** (noun) Blight, bane, malediction, affliction, evil अभिशाप
- 30. **Lean** (on) (verb) Rely on, depend on, be supported by, turn to निर्भर होना
- 31. **Sanction** (noun) Approval, authorization, endorsement, permission, consent स्वीकृति
- 32. **Societal** (adjective) Social, communal, collective, public, community-based सामाजिक
- 33. **Incline** (to) (verb) Tend towards, favor, be prone to, lean towards प्रवृत्त होना
- 34. **Argue** (verb) Dispute, contend, reason, claim, assert तर्क करना

- 35. **Regressive** (adjective) Backward, reactionary, traditionalist, conservative प्रतिगामी
- 36. **Sentence** (verb) Punish, convict, condemn, judge, decree सजा सुनाना
- 37. **Reformation** (noun) Improvement, rehabilitation, transformation, change सुधार
- 38. **Far from** (phrase) Not at all, nowhere near, opposite of, distant from से दूर
- 39. **Cruel** (adjective) Harsh, brutal, inhumane, pitiless, merciless निर्दयी
- 40. **Slugfest** (noun) Battle, fight, dispute, brawl, contest संघर्ष
- 41. **Onus** (noun) Responsibility, duty, burden, obligation जिम्मेदारी
- 42. **Bias** (noun) Prejudice, partiality, unfairness, favoritism पक्षपात
- 43. **Barrier** (noun) Obstacle, hindrance, hurdle, obstruction, impediment ৰাधা
- 44. **Advancement** (noun) Progress, development, growth, improvement, promotion प्रगति

Summary of the Editorial

- 1. Demands for the death penalty after heinous sexual crimes are increasingly common, with governments responding by passing new laws or issuing ordinances.
- 2. In 2013, criminal laws were amended after the brutal Delhi rape case, and several states have since pushed for enhanced punishment for sexual assault.
- 3. West Bengal passed The Aparajita Women and Child Bill, 2024, following the rape and murder of a doctor at a Kolkata hospital, introducing death or life-long imprisonment for rape.
- 4. The Bill amends the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita to prescribe the death penalty for five types of rape offenses, including gang rape and rape by a public servant.
- 5. It also calls for special courts for swift trials and includes death for severe forms of child sexual abuse under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.
- 6. The Bill still requires the President's assent before it becomes law.
- 7. There is little evidence that the death penalty deters sexual crimes, yet stringent laws are often introduced after public outcry.
- 8. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee acknowledged that societal reform, not just legal action, is needed to prevent such crimes.
- 9. The Justice J.S. Verma Committee opposed the death penalty for rape, even in rarest of rare cases, viewing it as a regressive step.
- 10. Despite the introduction of the death penalty for the rape of young girls, women remain far from safe.
- 11. The death of the doctor in Kolkata has ignited political tensions between the Centre and the State, overshadowing the tragedy.
- 12. Effective implementation of laws and unbiased police work are crucial to preventing sexual assault and delivering justice.
- 13. The editorial stresses that harsher laws alone will not protect women unless workplaces and homes are made safer.
- 14. The Bill's focus on punitive measures overlooks the need for long-term societal and cultural changes to address gender violence.
- 15. Governments should prioritize removing barriers to women's advancement by ensuring safety in both personal and professional environments.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. What is the antonym of "deterrent" as used in the passage?

[Editorial page]

"There is little evidence that awarding the death penalty is a deterrent against sexual offences."

- A. Encouragement
- B. Stratagem
- C. Prevention
- D. Inhibition

2. What is the primary purpose of The Aparajita Women and Child (West Bengal Criminal Laws Amendment) Bill, 2024?

- A. To introduce new welfare schemes for women and children.
- B. To amend criminal laws to increase punishment for sexual assault, including the death penalty.
- C. To enhance medical facilities for rape victims in West Bengal hospitals.
- D. To abolish life imprisonment as a punishment for sexual crimes.

3. Why will the President's assent be required for the State amendments in The Aparajita Bill?

- A. Because the amendments deal with constitutional matters.
- B. Because the Bill pertains to the entire country, not just West Bengal.
- C. Because the amendments affect laws that are under the concurrent list, needing central approval.
- D. Because the President must approve all state laws.

4. What can be inferred from the passage about the effectiveness of death penalties in deterring sexual offences?

- A. Death penalties have a strong deterrent effect on sexual offences.
- B. The introduction of death penalties has not significantly improved women's safety.
- C. The Justice J.S. Verma Committee fully supports the death penalty for rape.
- D. Legal sanctions alone are sufficient to prevent crimes like rape.

5. Complete the following statement based on the passage:

"The Justice	J.S. Verma Committee argued that seeking the death penalty for rape would be

- A. a progressive step in the reformation of sentencing
- B. necessary for the rarest of rare cases
- C. a regressive step in the field of sentencing and reformation
- D. an essential part of preventing crimes against women

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.

Thorough	self-introspection can help us understand whether there is really a big problem
1_	we are simply overreacting to a minor discomfort. Often, due to a sense of
2	self-importance and low frustration tolerance, we wrongly assume that there is
3_	emergency-like situation. It is desirable to set goals and achieve them, but we

September 6, 2024 JOIN TELEGRAM CHANNEL: ENGLISH MADHYAM

		em to have overstretched it4live a meaningful and happy life, achieving erything is neither required nor healthy. When we slow down, we realise that there is5 goodness in the universe capable of nourishing our being at every single						
	mo	oment.						
6.	Sel	ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.						
	A. Or							
		Nor						
	C.	Either						
	D.	Neither						
7.	7. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.							
	A.	Gained						
	В.	Protracted						
	C.	Assorted						
	D.	Exaggerated						
8.	8. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.							
	A.	An						
	В.	A						
	C.	The						
	D.	No article required						
9.	Sel	ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4						
	A.	with respect to						
		in particular						
		in relation to						
		In order to						
10.		lect the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5						
		prediction						
		abundant						
		seclusion						
		potent						
11.		ect the most appropriate synonym of the given word.						
		elligible						
		Dispensable						
		Impossible						
		Responsible						
		Comprehensible						
12.		word in the following sentence is INCORRECTLY spelt. Select that word from the given						
	options.							
	It's better to think about what you are doing right now—without worying about the unknown							
		better						
		without						
	C.	worying						

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Page 6

D. About

13. A word in the following sentence is INCORRECTLY spelt. Select that word from the given options.

Fungal diseases in the lungs are often similar to other illnesses such as bacterial orviral pneumoniia

- A. often
- B. pneumoniia
- C. illnesses
- D. Fungal
- 14. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.

Lift the veil

- A. Let the veil had been lifted!
- B. Please let the veil be lifted now!
- C. Let the veil have been lifted!
- D. Let the veil be lifted!
- 15. Select the correct option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select 'No substitution'.

The train **left before I reached** the station

- A. left before I had reached
- B. had left before I reached
- C. left before I have reached
- D. No substitution
- 16. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.

We met a lot of people our stay in Ahmedabad.

- A. in
- B. while
- C. on
- D. During
- 17. Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.

She is enough wise not to interfere in their matter, once being insulted publicly by them.

- A. insulted publicly by them.
- B. not to interfere in
- C. She is enough wise
- D. their matter, once being
- 18. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in indirect speech.

They said to him, "Do not jump into the pond today."

- A. They told him not jumped into the pond that day.
- B. They told him to jump into the pond the previous day.
- C. They told him from jumping into the pond the same day.
- D. They told him not to jump into the pond that day.
- 19. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.

The question is being answered by Sherry.

- A. Sherry answered the question.
- B. The question was answered by Sherry.
- C. Sherry is answering the question.
- D. The question was being answered by Sherry.
- 20. Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.

The arrangement of events or dates in the order of their occurrence

- A. Plutocracy
- B. Allegory
- C. Topography
- D. Chronology
- 21. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.

Loathe

- A. Love
- B. Esteem
- C. Hate
- D. Dissipate
- 22. Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.

Generally, a cycle has an seat and handle along with two pedals and a bell, sometimesa carrier too.

- A. with two pedals and
- B. Generally, a cycle has an
- C. a bell, sometimes a carrier too.
- D. seat and handle along
- 23. Select the most appropriate meaning of the following idiom.

At sixes and sevens

- A. In disorder
- B. In happy mood
- C. Having dispute
- D. Heavy rains
- 24. Select the most appropriate word opposite in meaning (ANTONYM) to the underlined word in the given sentence.

Human life is transient

- A. permanent
- B. tranquil
- C. thrifty
- D. Timid
- 25. Select the option that correctly expresses the given sentence in direct speech.

The coach asked us when we were planning to begin practice.

- A. "When did you planning to begin practice?", the coach asked us.
- B. "When will you to begin practice?", the coach asked us.
- C. "When are you planning to begin practice?", the coach asked us.

D. "When do you plan to begin practice?", the coach asked us.

Answers

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

Explanations

1. A) Encouragement

A "deterrent" is something that discourages action, while "encouragement" means to inspire or promote an action, making it the opposite.

2. B) To amend criminal laws to increase punishment for sexual assault, including the death penalty.

B is correct because the passage specifically states that the Bill introduces the death penalty or life-long imprisonment for rape by amending the relevant sections of the new penal code. The main focus is on amending criminal laws to enhance punishment for sexual assault.

A is incorrect because there is no mention in the passage of welfare schemes for women and children; the Bill is focused on punitive measures.

C is incorrect because although the passage mentions a rape victim, there is no reference to enhancing medical facilities.

D is incorrect because life imprisonment remains an option in the Bill, alongside the death penalty.

3. C) Because the amendments affect laws that are under the concurrent list, needing central approval.

C is correct because the criminal laws, which are being amended, fall under the concurrent list, meaning both the state and central governments have jurisdiction over them, thus requiring the President's assent for state-specific changes.

A is incorrect because the passage does not mention constitutional matters directly, only amendments to criminal laws.

B is incorrect because the Bill is specific to West Bengal, not for the entire country, though it seeks central approval for state amendments.

D is incorrect because not all state laws require the President's approval, only those affecting matters in the concurrent list.

4. B) The introduction of death penalties has not significantly improved women's safety.

B is correct because the passage clearly mentions that despite the introduction of the death penalty for certain cases of rape, women are still far from feeling safer. This implies that the death penalty has not significantly deterred such crimes.

A is incorrect because the passage specifically states there is little evidence that the death penalty deters sexual offences.

C is incorrect because the Justice J.S. Verma Committee did not support the death penalty, stating it would be a regressive step in sentencing.

D is incorrect because the passage suggests that social reforms, in addition to legal sanctions, are needed to prevent such crimes.

5. C) a regressive step in the field of sentencing and reformation

C is correct as the passage directly quotes the Justice J.S. Verma Committee, stating that the death penalty would be a regressive step in sentencing and reformation.

A is incorrect because the passage describes the death penalty as regressive, not progressive. B is incorrect because the Justice J.S. Verma Committee did not recommend the death penalty even for the rarest of rare cases.

- D is incorrect because the committee did not advocate for the death penalty as a prevention measure; rather, they focused on social reforms and safer environments for women.
- 6. A) "Or" का use होगा क्योंकि किसी विकल्प या संभावना को व्यक्त करना। यहाँ sentence में दो विकल्प दिए गए हैं: "क्या वास्तव में कोई बड़ी समस्या है या हम केवल एक छोटे असुविधा पर अधिक प्रतिक्रिया दे रहे हैं, जबिक "Nor" का use तब होता है जब नकारात्मक स्थिति को व्यक्त किया जा रहा हो, "Either" संभावनाओं की श्रुआत को इंगित करता है, और "Neither" का उपयोग तब किया जाता है जब दोनों विकल्पों को नकारना हो, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। "Or" will be used because it indicates a choice or possibility. In the sentence, two possibilities are mentioned: "whether there is really a big problem or we are simply overreacting to a minor discomfort," making "or" the correct choice. Whereas, "Nor" is used to express a negative condition, "Either" signals the start of possibilities, and "Neither" negates both options, which do not fit in this context.
- 7. D) 'Exaggerated' का use होगा क्योंकि "exaggerated" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को आवश्यकता से अधिक बड़ा या महत्वपूर्ण बना देना। यहाँ पर self-importance के बारे में बात की जा रही है, और यह बताया जा रहा है कि अक्सर लोग अपनी self-importance को बढ़ा-चढ़ाकर देखते हैं, जिससे उन्हें छोटी समस्याएँ भी बड़ी लगने लगती हैं। जबकि 'Gained' का अर्थ है प्राप्त करना, 'Protracted' का अर्थ है लंबा खिंच जाना, और 'Assorted' का अर्थ है विविधता से भरा होना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Exaggerated' will be used because it means to make something seem larger or more important than it actually is. The sentence talks about how people often have an inflated sense of self-importance, causing them to misinterpret minor issues as major problems. Whereas 'Gained' means obtained, 'Protracted' means prolonged, and 'Assorted' means various or mixed, none of which fit the context correctly.

8. A) 'An' का use होगा क्योंकि 'emergency-like situation' का वर्णन एक स्वर से शुरू हो रहे शब्द 'emergency' के साथ किया गया है। जब किसी word की शुरुआत स्वर ध्वनि (a, e, i, o, u) से होती है, तो उसके पहले 'an' का प्रयोग किया जाता है। जबकि 'A' का उपयोग तब किया जाता है जब शब्द व्यंजन ध्विन से श्रू होता है, और 'The' का प्रयोग किसी विशेष या पहले से ज्ञात वस्तु के लिए होता है।

'An' will be used because the phrase "emergency-like situation" begins with the vowel sound of 'emergency'. In English, when a word starts with a vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u), 'an' is used

- before it. While 'A' is used for words beginning with a consonant sound, and 'The' is used for something specific or already known.
- 9. D) 'In order to' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है "कुछ हासिल करने के लिए"। यहाँ संदर्भ में यह कहा जा रहा है कि एक सार्थक और खुशहाल जीवन जीने के लिए हर चीज़ को हासिल करना जरूरी नहीं है। 'In order to' एक उद्देश्य को दर्शाता है, जबकि 'with respect to' का अर्थ है "किसी चीज़ के संदर्भ में", 'in particular' का अर्थ है "विशेष रूप से", और 'in relation to' का अर्थ है "संबंधित रूप से", जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होते।
 - 'In order to' will be used because it means "to achieve something." In the context, it is mentioned that to live a meaningful and happy life, achieving everything is neither required nor healthy. 'In order to' signifies a purpose, making it appropriate here. Whereas 'with respect to' means "in reference to," 'in particular' means "specifically," and 'in relation to' means "in connection with," none of which fit this context correctly.
- 10. B) 'Abundant' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है "भरपूर मात्रा में"। यहाँ संदर्भ में यह कहा जा रहा है कि जब हम जीवन की गित धीमी करते हैं, तो हमें यह एहसास होता है कि ब्रह्मांड में हमारे अस्तित्व को पोषित करने की असीमित अच्छाई है। जबिक 'Prediction' का अर्थ है "पूर्वानुमान", 'Seclusion' का अर्थ है "अलगाव", और 'Potent' का अर्थ है "शिक्तशाली", जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।
 - 'Abundant' will be used because it means "plentiful" or "in large quantities." In the context, it is mentioned that when we slow down, we realize there is abundant goodness in the universe that can nourish our being at every moment. Therefore, 'abundant' fits the context perfectly. Whereas 'Prediction' means "a forecast," 'Seclusion' means "isolation," and 'Potent' means "powerful," none of which are appropriate here
- 11. D) **Intelligible** (adjective) Able to be understood, clear, comprehensible. स्पष्ट/ समझने योग्य Synonym: **Comprehensible** (adjective) – Able to be understood, clear, intelligible. समझने योग्य
 - Dispensable (adjective) Not necessary, able to be done without. अनावश्यक
 - Impossible (adjective) Not able to occur, exist, or be done. असंभव
 - Responsible (adjective) Having an obligation to do something, dependable. जिम्मेदार
- 12. C) The incorrect spelling in the sentence is 'worying'. The correct spelling is 'worrying', which means "to feel or cause to feel anxious or troubled about actual or potential problems." चिंतित होना
- 13. B) The correct spelling of **'pneumoniia'** is 'pneumonia' which means "an infection that inflames the air sacs in one or both lungs" न्यूमोनिया, फेफड़ों की सूजन
- 14. D) Let the veil be lifted! जब imperative sentence को passive voice में बदलते हैं, तो "Let + object + be + past participle" का उपयोग किया जाता है। इसलिए, 'Let the veil be lifted!' सही है।

Let the veil be lifted!' will be used because it follows the correct structure for passive voice. When converting imperative sentences into passive voice, the structure "Let + object + be + past participle" is used. Hence, 'Let the veil be lifted!' is correct.

- 15. B) had left before I reached
 - 'Had left' का use होगा क्योंकि यह action पहले हुआ है और दूसरा action उसके बाद हुआ है। जब दो actions भूतकाल में हुए होते हैं और उनमें से एक पहले हुआ होता है, तो पहले हुए action के लिए Past Perfect Tense का उपयोग किया जाता है। यहाँ पर, train पहले छूटी और उसके बाद मैं स्टेशन पहुँचा, इसलिए Past Perfect (had left) का use सही है। 'Had left' will be used because this action occurred first, followed by another action. When two actions happen in the past, and one happens before the other, we use the Past Perfect Tense for the action that happened first. Here, the train left first, and then I reached the station, so
- 16. D) 'During' का use होगा क्योंकि "during" का अर्थ है किसी समय अविध के दौरान, जो यहाँ sentence में हमारे Ahmedabad में रहने के समय का वर्णन करता है। जबिक 'in' का उपयोग किसी स्थान या enclosed area में के लिए किया जाता है, 'while' का उपयोग किसी दो घटनाओं के साथ-साथ होने के लिए किया जाता है, और 'on' का उपयोग किसी surface या किसी दिन के लिए किया जाता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
 - 'During' will be used because it refers to a time period, which in this sentence is describing the duration of our stay in Ahmedabad, making 'during' the correct option. Whereas, 'in' is used for being inside a place or enclosed area, 'while' is used for two events happening at the same time, and 'on' is used for a surface or specific days, which don't fit in this context
- 17. C) 'enough wise' के बदले 'wise enough' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि adjective (wise) के बाद adverb (enough) आता है English grammar में, जब 'enough' किसी adjective के साथ use होता है, तो 'enough' हमेशा adjective के बाद आता है।; जैसे— She is wise enough to make her own decisions.
 - 'wise enough' will be used instead of 'enough wise' because the adverb (enough) comes after the adjective (wise); Like— She is wise enough to make her own decisions.
- 18. D) They told him not to jump into the pond that day.

using the Past Perfect (had left) is correct.

19. C) Sherry is answering the question.

'Sherry is answering the question.' का use होगा क्योंकि यह passive voice sentence को active voice में बदलते समय present continuous tense में सही structure है। यहाँ subject (Sherry) पहले आता है, फिर verb (is answering), और फिर object (the question)। जबकि Option A में tense को simple past में बदल दिया गया है, जो कि गलत है। Option B में sentence passive voice में ही रहता है और tense past simple में बदल जाता है, जो सही नहीं है। Option D में भी passive voice और tense को past continuous में बदल दिया गया है, जो गलत है।

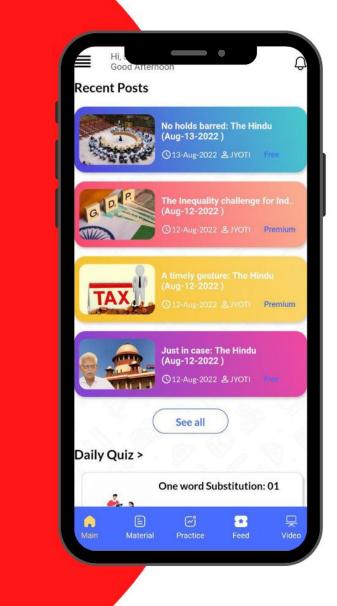
- 'Sherry is answering the question.' will be used because it is the correct structure in present continuous tense when converting the passive voice sentence into active voice. Here, the subject (Sherry) comes first, followed by the verb (is answering), and then the object (the question). Whereas Option A changes the tense to simple past, which is incorrect. Option B keeps the sentence in passive voice and changes the tense to past simple, which is not correct. Option D also remains in passive voice and changes the tense to past continuous, which is wrong.
- 20. D) **Chronology** (noun) The arrangement of events or dates in the order of their occurrence कालक्रम
 - Plutocracy (noun) A society or system ruled by the wealthy धनिकतंत्र
 - Allegory (noun) A story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one ৰুपक
 - Topography (noun) The arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area स्थलाकृति
- 21. C) **Loathe** (verb) To feel intense dislike or disgust for; to detest. घृणा करना Synonym: **Hate** (verb) – To feel intense or passionate dislike for someone or something. नफरत करना
 - Love (verb) To feel deep affection for someone or something; to adore. प्रेम करना
 - Esteem (verb) To regard with respect and admiration; to value highly. सम्मान करना
 - **Dissipate** (verb) To disperse or scatter; to waste resources or energy. व्यर्थ करना
- 22. B) 'an' के बदले 'a' का use होगा क्योंकि 'seat' एक consonant sound से शुरू होता है; जैसे— Generally, a cycle has a seat and handle along with two pedals and a bell, sometimes a carrier too.
 - 'a' will be used instead of 'an' because 'seat' begins with a consonant sound; Like— Generally, a cycle has a seat and handle along with two pedals and a bell, sometimes a carrier too.
- 23. A) At sixes and sevens (idiom) In disorder अव्यवस्था में
- 24. A) **Transient** (adjective) Lasting for a very short time, temporary, brief, fleeting. अस्थायी Antonym: **Permanent** (adjective) Lasting or intended to last or remain unchanged indefinitely, enduring, everlasting. स्थायी
 - Tranquil (adjective) Calm, peaceful, serene. शांत

25. C) "When are you planning to begin practice?", the coach asked us.

- Thrifty (adjective) Using money and other resources carefully and not wastefully, economical. किफ़ायती
- **Timid** (adjective) Showing a lack of courage or confidence, easily frightened. डरपोक
- When are you planning to begin practice?' का use होगा क्योंकि यह reported speech में "were planning" को direct speech में बदलने का सही तरीका है। यहाँ tense को वापस present continuous ("are planning") में बदलना चाहिए, जो कोच ने मूल रूप से कहा था। जबकि Option A में 'did' के बाद 'planning' का उपयोग करना गलत है, क्योंकि 'did' के साथ हमेशा base form

('plan') होना चाहिए। Option B में 'will' के साथ 'to' का उपयोग करना गलत है, इसे 'will you begin' होना चाहिए। Option D में tense को simple present ('do you plan') में बदल दिया गया है, जो अर्थ को बदल देता है।

• 'When are you planning to begin practice?' will be used because this is the correct way to convert "were planning" from reported speech into direct speech. The tense needs to be reverted to present continuous ("are planning"), which the coach originally said. Whereas in Option A, using 'planning' after 'did' is wrong because 'did' must be followed by the base form ('plan'). In Option B, using 'to' with 'will' is incorrect; it should be 'will you begin.' In Option D, the tense has been changed to simple present ('do you plan'), which alters the meaning.



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