

Maoist setback: On the anti-Naxalite operations this year

Security forces deliver major **blows** to the Maoists, but must avoid **repression**

With 159 Maoist cadres having been killed in **anti-Naxalite** operations led by security forces in 2024, the year **so far** has been one of major setbacks to the **long-standing**, left-wing extremist movement in India. After suffering major **casualties** in **ambushes** in April 2021 and April 2023, paramilitary and police forces are coordinating better and **firming up** a **no-holds-barred** approach towards the **militants**. This has **resulted in** the Maoists experiencing blow after blow in what is **perhaps** their only remaining **bastion** — south Chhattisgarh — even though they retain a presence in other forested districts in Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha and Maharashtra. The **success** in **taking on** the Maoists **is** also a consequence of the weakening base of support for the **insurgents** as intelligence is a **vital** component of the operations. This should not come as any surprise. **Notwithstanding grievances** against the Indian state among tribals in one of India's most forested and under-developed regions, there were always going to be fewer **takers** for the idea of a “**protracted**” war as **espoused** by the Maoists. The **insurgency** and the counter-operations have **taken a huge toll on** the tribal population, bringing in more **fatigue** for them. **That** most of the dead among the Maoist cadres are tribal youth **points to** the **tragedy** that has **befallen** one of India's poorest States.

The no-holds barred **approach** of what the Chhattisgarh government calls “Operation Prahar” **might** have succeeded in **eliminating scores** of Maoist cadres, **effected** surrenders and arrests, but it has also targeted peaceful **activists** fighting for tribal rights. Civil society organisations have complained that the **attacks** on the Maoists **have coincided with** repression against activists and tribals. Chhattisgarh and the Union Home Ministry must **be mindful of** these grievances as such actions could also increase **disenchantment** and **play into the hands of** the Maoists. **That streams** of the Maoist/Naxalite **current** have **lasted** for more than five **decades shows** that left **extremism** is still **resilient** in regions where governance by the Indian state is either absent or seen as **detrimental to** the **marginalised** sections. Yet, despite its **resilience**, **the Maoist movement** — as experiences of similar currents across the world show — **remains** an **anachronistic** one. **Far from** reaching any of its **lofty** goals, the Indian Maoist movement has only brought **misery** for those whom the insurgents claim to fight for. The earlier they realise the **futility** of their **ideology** and work towards using **spaces** in the Indian democratic system to **articulate** concerns, the better it would be for the tribals who are caught in this never-ending crossfire between security forces and the Maoists. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Setback** (noun) – Hindrance, obstacle, reversal, difficulty, blow झटका
2. **Blow** (noun) – Hit, strike, shock, calamity, setback आघात
3. **Repression** (noun) – Suppression, control, restraint, oppression, subjugation दमन
4. **Anti-Naxalite** (adjective) – Relating to measures or operations directed against the Naxalite movement.
5. **So far** (phrase) – Until now, up to this point, thus far, as of now, to date अब तक
6. **Long-standing** (adjective) – Enduring, established, lasting, long-term, persistent दीर्घकालिक
7. **Casualty** (noun) – Victim, fatality, death, loss, injured person हताहत
8. **Ambush** (noun) – Surprise attack, trap, snare, entrapment, assault घात
9. **Firm up** (phrasal verb) – Strengthen, solidify, reinforce, fortify, secure मजबूत करना
10. **No-holds-barred approach** (adjective) – Unrestrained, unrestricted, all-out, full-force, aggressive बिना किसी प्रतिबंध का
11. **Militant** (noun) – Extremist, radical, insurgent, combatant, activist उग्रवादी
12. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – Lead to, cause, bring about, culminate in, produce परिणामस्वरूप होना
13. **Perhaps** (adverb) – Maybe, possibly, potentially, conceivably, likely शायद
14. **Bastion** (noun) – Stronghold, fortress, citadel, defense, bulwark गढ़
15. **Take on** (phrasal verb) – Confront, challenge, face, oppose, engage सामना करना
16. **Notwithstanding** (preposition) – Despite, in spite of, regardless of, even though, although बावजूद
17. **Grievance** (noun) – Complaint, objection, dissatisfaction, resentment, protest शिकायत
18. **Taker** (noun) – Acceptant, adopter, claimant, receiver, participant लेने वाला
19. **Protracted** (adjective) – Prolonged, extended, drawn-out, lengthy, sustained दीर्घकालिक
20. **Espouse** (verb) – Adopt, support, embrace, advocate, endorse अपनाना
21. **Insurgency** (noun) – Rebellion, uprising, revolt, insurrection, mutiny विद्रोह

22. **Take a toll on** (phrase) – Affect negatively, damage, harm, impact, exact a price भारी नुकसान पहुंचाना
23. **Fatigue** (adjective) – Tiredness, exhaustion, weariness, lethargy, burnout थकान
24. **Point to** (phrasal verb) – Indicate, suggest, imply, denote, highlight संकेत करना
25. **Tragedy** (noun) – Disaster, calamity, catastrophe, misfortune, sorrow त्रासदी
26. **Befall** (verb) – Happen to, occur, strike, overtake, afflict घटित होना
27. **Eliminate** (verb) – Remove, eradicate, exterminate, obliterate, annihilate समाप्त करना
28. **Score** (noun) – Large number, multitude, plethora, several, many बड़ी संख्या
29. **Effect** (verb) – Bring about, cause, produce, enact, accomplish घटित करना
30. **Activist** (noun) – Campaigner, advocate, reformer, protester, crusader कार्यकर्ता
31. **Coincide** (with) (verb) – Occur simultaneously, happen at the same time, concur, synchronize, overlap साथ होना
32. (be) **mindful** (of) (adjective) – Aware, attentive, conscious, careful, considerate सतर्क रहना
33. **Disenchantment** (noun) – Disillusionment, disappointment, dissatisfaction, discontent, frustration नाराज़गी
34. **Play into the hands of someone** (phrase) – Benefit, aid, help, assist, advantage लाभ पहुंचाना
35. **Stream** (noun) – Flow, current, wave, trend, movement धारा
36. **Current** (noun) – Flow, trend, movement, wave, direction प्रवाह
37. **Last** (verb) – Endure, persist, continue, survive, remain जारी रहना
38. **Decade** (noun) – a period of ten years दशक
39. **Extremism** (noun) – Radicalism, fanaticism, militancy, zealotry, fundamentalism अतिवाद
40. **Resilient** (adjective) – Strong, tough, enduring, adaptable, flexible मज़बूत
41. **Detrimental** (to) (adjective) – Harmful, damaging, injurious, destructive, adverse हानिकारक
42. **Anachronistic** (adjective) – Outdated, obsolete, archaic, antiquated, old-fashioned कालानुक्रमिक
43. **Far from** (phrase) – Not at all, nowhere near, completely different from, contrary to, far removed from से दूर

44. **Lofty** (adjective) – High, elevated, noble, grand, ambitious ऊँचा
45. **Misery** (noun) – Suffering, distress, anguish, agony, hardship दुख
46. **Futility** (noun) – Pointlessness, uselessness, ineffectiveness, vanity, fruitlessness व्यर्थता
47. **Ideology** (noun) – Belief system, doctrine, creed, philosophy, principles विचारधारा
48. **Space** (noun) – Area, domain, field, sphere, realm, purview कार्यक्षेत्र
49. **Articulate** (verb) – Express, convey, communicate, enunciate, voice व्यक्त करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. In 2024, security forces killed 159 Maoist cadres, marking a major setback for the Maoist insurgency in India.
2. After suffering heavy casualties in 2021 and 2023, security forces have improved coordination and adopted a no-holds-barred approach.
3. The Maoists' remaining stronghold is south Chhattisgarh, though they maintain a presence in forested areas of Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, and Maharashtra.
4. Success against the Maoists is partly due to weakening support for the insurgency, driven by improved intelligence operations.
5. Despite grievances among tribals in underdeveloped regions, fewer are willing to support the Maoists' idea of a "protracted" war.
6. Both insurgency and counter-operations have taken a heavy toll on the tribal population, leading to more fatigue and loss of life.
7. Many of the dead Maoist cadres are tribal youth, highlighting the tragic impact on one of India's poorest communities.
8. Chhattisgarh's "Operation Prahar" has eliminated many Maoist fighters, while also forcing surrenders and arrests.
9. However, this operation has been criticized for also targeting peaceful activists and tribals fighting for their rights.
10. Civil society organizations have raised concerns about repression against tribal activists coinciding with anti-Maoist actions.
11. Chhattisgarh and the Union Home Ministry must address these grievances to avoid fueling further disenchantment.
12. The Maoist movement, which has lasted over five decades, persists in regions where governance is weak or harmful to marginalized groups.
13. Despite its longevity, the Maoist movement is viewed as outdated and has failed to achieve its revolutionary goals.
14. The movement has only brought suffering to the tribals it claims to fight for, creating a "never-ending" conflict between security forces and Maoists.
15. The sooner the Maoists recognize the futility of their ideology and engage in democratic processes, the better it will be for the affected tribals.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

- Which of the following factors primarily contributed to the weakening of Maoist support, as per the passage?** [Editorial Page]
 - Maoist cadres have been killed in large numbers by security forces.
 - The tribal population has grown weary due to the protracted conflict.
 - The Indian government has offered more economic development programs.
 - Maoist forces have retreated to forested districts in Jharkhand and Odisha.
- What can be inferred from the passage about the future of Maoist insurgency in India?**
 - Maoist insurgency will likely disappear within a year due to continuous losses.
 - Maoists will regroup and continue their efforts in other forested regions.
 - The decline in tribal support signals a gradual end to Maoist influence in Chhattisgarh.
 - The insurgency will likely grow stronger as Maoists recruit new tribal youth.
- Which of the following statements is incorrect based on the passage?**
 - The Maoists have experienced significant losses in south Chhattisgarh in 2024.
 - The coordination between paramilitary and police forces improved after the ambushes of 2021 and 2023.
 - Maoist support among tribals is growing due to their grievances against the Indian state.
 - Intelligence has played a crucial role in the success of anti-Maoist operations.
- The success of anti-Maoist operations in 2024 can be primarily attributed to which of the following?**
 - The complete eradication of Maoists in Bihar and Odisha.
 - The use of better weapons and technology by paramilitary forces.
 - The weakening support base for Maoists among tribal communities.
 - Continuous support from international agencies.
- The fatigue experienced by the tribal population in the region is primarily due to ____.**
 - the continuous fighting between Maoists and security forces.
 - their lack of access to education and healthcare.
 - the government's failure to resolve land disputes.
 - the high level of unemployment among youth.

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.

Time is ____1____ in eternity; history is shrouded in mystery. It is a ____2____ state of there being distinction, but not division. Past and future are human constructs; they are products of the mind that seeks to understand the sense of separateness that we experience and the ____3____ moments in our timeline – even as we sense our interconnectedness with the rest of creation and with ____4____. Self-consciousness is the ability that human beings ____5____, to be aware of this.

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

- C. intended
D. surrounded
7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
A. Virtuous
B. Curious
C. Ominous
D. Vicious
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
A. Discernment
B. Dilemma
C. Dismissal
D. Discrete
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**
A. one another
B. other
C. another
D. everyone
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5**
A. Are
B. Had
C. Has
D. Have
11. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in direct speech.**
The teacher orders Mohan not to tear off pages from his note-book
A. The teacher says to Mohan, "Don't tear off pages from your notebook."
B. The teacher says to Mohan, "Mustn't tear off pages from your notebook."
C. The teacher says to Mohan, "Let the pages not be torn off from your notebook."
D. The teacher says to Mohan, "You shouldn't tear off pages from your notebook."
12. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
Who is looking for a smart advisor?
A. By whom was a smart advisor looked?
B. By whom is a smart advisor looked?
C. By whom is a smart advisor being looked for?
D. By whom is a smart advisor looked for?
13. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.**
Many unavoidable situations were avoided only because someone had our back
A. Without help
B. In consultation
C. To support
D. Within reach
14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

- A popular theory among critics is that the character Count Dracula is based on the _____ barbaric Vlad III, better known as Vlad the Impaler
- A. debauched
B. ingloriously
C. infamously
D. Miserably
15. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Grave
A. Living
B. Belittle
C. Low
D. Humorous
16. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Inertia
A. Inactivity
B. Energy
C. Progression
D. Activeness
17. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in indirect speech.**
“Hurrah! I have topped again,” he said. “Congratulations,” said I.
A. He exclaimed with joy that he had topped again. I congratulated him.
B. He exclaimed that he topped, and I congratulated him.
C. He said that he topped again. I congratulated him.
D. He said to me he had topped again, and I congratulated him.
18. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a spelling error.**
It seemed that his route / to the coveted island / was not to be / an easy one.
A. to the coveted island
B. was not to be
C. an easy one
D. It seemed that his route
19. **The given sentence has an error. Select the option that contains the error in the given sentence.**
We have to be cautius regarding the impact of global warming
A. of global warming
B. be cautius
C. regarding the impact
D. We have to
20. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
Mr. Johnson teaches us mathematics
A. Mathematics is being taught to us by Mr. Johnson.
B. Mathematics will be taught to us by Mr. Johnson.

- C. Mathematics was taught to us by Mr. Johnson.
D. Mathematics is taught to us by Mr. Johnson.
21. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
The enigma of quantum mechanics remains inscrutably elusive despite of decades of intensive research by the world's leading physicists
- A. despite decades of
B. despite of decades in
C. despite decades with
D. despite of decades to
22. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
The plot of the story effects the character and their growth
- A. effect the character
B. affect the character's
C. affects the character
D. affect the character
23. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Melancholy
- A. Blue
B. Cheerful
C. Sorrow
D. Sad
24. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**
(A) fell dead in an instant
(B) stunned the movement
(C) of the busy Bazaar and
(D) silenced the cacophony
(E) suddenly, a ringing blast
(F) out of the bodies, which
- A. BADFEC
B. FACEDB
C. CABEDF
D. EDCBFA
25. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**
Due to its fragrance, the petals of an rose are often used in perfumes and cosmetics
- A. rose are often used
B. Due to its fragrance,
C. the petals of an
D. in perfumes and cosmetic

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. B) The tribal population has grown weary due to the protracted conflict.

B: The passage specifically mentions that the insurgency and counter-operations have "brought in more fatigue" for the tribal population, contributing to the weakening of Maoist support.

A: While the killing of Maoist cadres is mentioned, it is not directly cited as the primary reason for the loss of support.

C: The passage does not mention any new government economic programs as a factor weakening Maoist support.

D: While Maoists still have a presence in other forested districts, this is not the main reason for the decline in their support base.

2. C) The decline in tribal support signals a gradual end to Maoist influence in Chhattisgarh.

C: The passage suggests that the weakening support base, particularly among tribals, points to a gradual decline in Maoist influence in Chhattisgarh.

A: While the Maoists have suffered setbacks, the passage does not suggest they will completely disappear within a year.

B: Though the Maoists retain a presence in other forested regions, the passage emphasizes their weakening support, not a regrouping.

D: The passage suggests the recruitment of tribal youth has led to tragedy, not the strengthening of the insurgency.

3. C) The passage mentions that the base of support for the Maoists is weakening, not growing.

A: Correct. The passage clearly states that the Maoists faced significant blows in their stronghold of south Chhattisgarh in 2024.

B: Correct. It mentions that after the ambushes in 2021 and 2023, security forces improved coordination.

D: Correct. Intelligence is highlighted as an essential factor in the successful anti-Maoist operations.

4. C) The passage mentions the weakening support base for the Maoists, particularly among tribals, as a significant factor in the success of the operations.

A: The passage doesn't mention the complete eradication of Maoists in Bihar and Odisha; it focuses on setbacks in south Chhattisgarh.

B: The passage doesn't specifically mention better weapons or technology; it emphasizes improved coordination and intelligence.

D: No mention of international agencies is made in the passage

5. A) The passage explicitly states that the insurgency and counter-operations have taken a huge toll on the tribal population, leading to their fatigue.

B: While the region is underdeveloped, the passage doesn't link fatigue to a lack of education or healthcare.

C: Land disputes are not discussed as a cause of fatigue in the passage.

D: Unemployment is not mentioned as a reason for the fatigue affecting the tribal population.

6. A) 'Shrouded' का use होगा क्योंकि "shrouded" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को रहस्य में छिपाना या ढकना। sentence में समय को अनंतता के संदर्भ में रहस्यमयी बताया गया है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही बैठता है। जबकि 'fetched' का अर्थ है लाना, 'intended' का अर्थ है इरादा करना, और 'surround' का अर्थ है चारों ओर होना। ये इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

'Shrouded' will be used because it means something hidden or covered in mystery. The sentence refers to time being hidden in eternity, making 'shrouded' the correct choice here. On the other hand, 'fetched' means to bring, 'intended' means to aim or plan, and 'surround' means to be all around, which don't fit in this context. 'shrouded' is a past participle acting as an adjective here, correctly modifying the noun 'time.'

7. B) 'Curious' का use होगा क्योंकि "curious" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ के बारे में जिज्ञासा या जाँच करना। यहाँ passage में समय और इतिहास के बीच अंतर को एक जिज्ञासु स्थिति के रूप में देखा गया है, जहाँ विभाजन तो नहीं है, परंतु भिन्नता अवश्य है। इसलिए 'Curious' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Virtuous' का अर्थ है सदाचारी, जो यहाँ फिट नहीं बैठता क्योंकि यह नैतिक मूल्य को व्यक्त करता है, 'Ominous' का अर्थ है अशुभ, और 'Vicious' का अर्थ है क्रूर या हिंसक, जो इस context में उचित नहीं है।

'Curious' will be used because it means having a desire to learn or investigate something. In the passage, the state of distinction between time and history is portrayed as curious, highlighting a sense of inquiry or curiosity about this separation. 'Virtuous' means morally good, which doesn't fit the context here as it is about a state of inquiry, not moral value. 'Ominous' means something foreboding or threatening, and 'Vicious' means cruel or violent, neither of which is suitable for this passage.

8. D) 'Discrete' का use होगा क्योंकि "discrete" का अर्थ होता है अलग-अलग या पृथक। यहाँ passage में यह mention है कि हम समयरेखा में अलग-अलग क्षणों को अनुभव करते हैं, इसलिए 'discrete' सही option है। 'Discernment' का अर्थ है सूक्ष्म अंतर को समझना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Dilemma' का अर्थ होता है असमंजस या द्विविधा, और 'Dismissal' का अर्थ है किसी बात को नजरअंदाज करना, जो यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

'Discrete' will be used because it means separate or distinct. The passage discusses our experience of separate moments in our timeline, making 'discrete' the appropriate choice. 'Discernment' means the ability to understand subtle differences, which doesn't fit here. 'Dilemma' refers to a situation requiring a difficult choice, and 'Dismissal' means disregarding something, both of which are incorrect in this context. 'Discrete' is an adjective that correctly

modifies "moments" to describe them as separate or distinct, which aligns with the meaning of the passage

9. A) 'One another' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "एक-दूसरे के साथ," और यह संदर्भ में उपयुक्त है। sentence में यह mention है कि हम सृष्टि और एक-दूसरे के साथ जुड़े हुए हैं, इसलिए 'one another' सही है। जबकि 'other' का अर्थ होता है "कोई अन्य," जो आपसी संबंध नहीं दर्शाता और गलत है। 'Another' का अर्थ होता है "एक और," जो यहां आपसी संबंध की भावना को व्यक्त नहीं करता, इसलिए यह भी गलत है। 'Everyone' का अर्थ है "हर कोई," लेकिन यह व्यापक संदर्भ में आता है और आपसी संबंध के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है।

'One another' will be used because it means "with each other," and this is appropriate in the context. The sentence talks about our interconnectedness with creation and one another, making 'one another' the correct choice. 'Other' means "someone else" but doesn't imply mutual interaction, so it's incorrect. 'Another' means "one more" but doesn't convey the idea of mutual connection, so it's incorrect as well. 'Everyone' refers to "all people" but does not fit the reciprocal sense needed here.

10. D) 'Have' का use होगा क्योंकि "have" का अर्थ होता है कुछ अधिकार या स्वामित्व होना। यहाँ passage में mention है कि मानव के पास "self-consciousness" की क्षमता है, जो उन्हें इसे अनुभव करने में सक्षम बनाती है। चूंकि "human beings" एक plural noun है, इसलिए 'have' सही option है। 'Are' का use नहीं है क्योंकि यह क्रिया present की स्थिति को व्यक्त करती है, जबकि यहाँ स्वामित्व की बात हो रही है। 'Had' का अर्थ है पहले कुछ था, और 'Has' का उपयोग singular nouns के लिए होता है, इसलिए ये दोनों विकल्प यहाँ सही नहीं हैं।

'Have' will be used because it refers to possession or ownership. The passage mentions that human beings possess the ability of self-consciousness, making 'have' the correct choice. Since "human beings" is a plural noun, 'have' fits here. 'Are' is not applicable because it expresses a state of being, not possession. 'Had' refers to something that existed in the past, and 'Has' is used with singular nouns, both of which are incorrect in this context. 'Have' is used with plural subjects to indicate possession or the existence of something, aligning with "human beings" (a plural noun) in the sentence, making it grammatically correct.

11. A) The teacher says to Mohan, "Don't tear off pages from your notebook."
 12. C) By whom is a smart advisor being looked for?
 13. **C) To support** - (had our back) - समर्थन देना.

Had our back refers to someone providing support or protection

14. C) 'infamously' का use सही होगा क्योंकि 'infamously' का अर्थ है 'कुख्यात रूप से,' और यहां वाक्य में Count Dracula के चरित्र को कुख्यात Vlad III के साथ link किया जा रहा है, जिसे Vlad the Impaler के नाम से जाना जाता है। अन्य विकल्प जैसे 'debauched' का अर्थ है 'अश्लील,'

'ingloriously' का अर्थ है 'बिना गौरव के,' और 'miserably' का अर्थ है 'दुखी रूप से,' जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

'infamously' will be used because it means 'notoriously,' and in the sentence, the character of Count Dracula is being linked to the notorious Vlad III, better known as Vlad the Impaler. Other options like 'debauched' mean 'immoral,' 'ingloriously' means 'without glory,' and 'miserably' means 'in a sad way,' which do not fit this context.

15. D) **Grave** (adjective) – Serious, solemn, somber, sober. गंभीर

Antonym: Humorous (adjective) – Funny, amusing, comical, entertaining. हास्यप्रद

- **Living** (adjective) – Alive, existing, breathing. जीवित
- **Belittle** (verb) – Dismiss, downplay, underestimate, disparage. तुच्छ समझना
- **Low** (adjective) – Reduced, small, short, slight. कम

16. A) **Inertia** (noun) – A tendency to do nothing or to remain unchanged, lack of movement or activity. जड़ता/ निष्क्रियता

Synonym: Inactivity (noun) – The state of being inactive; lack of activity or action. निष्क्रियता

- **Energy** (noun) – The strength and vitality required for sustained physical or mental activity. ऊर्जा
- **Progression** (noun) – The process of developing or moving gradually towards a more advanced state. प्रगति
- **Activeness** (noun) – The quality of being active; engaging or ready to engage in physically energetic pursuits. सक्रियता

17. A) He exclaimed with joy that he had topped again. I congratulated him.

18. A) '**covted**' के बदले 'coveted' का use होगा क्योंकि 'covted' की सही spelling 'coveted' है। अतः option A में spelling error है; जैसे— It seemed that his route to the coveted island was not to be an easy one.

- 'covted' will be used instead of 'covted' because the correct spelling of 'covted' is 'coveted'. Therefore, option A contains the spelling error; Like— It seemed that his route to the coveted island was not to be an easy one.

19. B) '**cautius**' के बदले 'cautious' का use होगा क्योंकि 'cautius' गलत है और सही spelling 'cautious' है; जैसे— We have to be cautious regarding the impact of global warming.

- 'cautious' will be used instead of 'cautius' because 'cautius' is incorrect and the correct spelling is 'cautious'; Like— We have to be cautious regarding the impact of global warming.

20. D) Mathematics is taught to us by Mr. Johnson.

21. A) '**despite of**' के बदले 'despite' का use होगा क्योंकि 'despite' के साथ 'of' का use नहीं होता; जैसे— Despite the rain, they continued playing.

- 'despite' will be used instead of 'despite of' because 'despite' does not take 'of'; Like— Despite the rain, they continued playing.

22. C) 'affects the character' सही option है क्योंकि sentence में Verb 'affects' का प्रयोग होना चाहिए, और 'character' Subject के Singular होने के कारण Verb 'affects' को Singular रूप में प्रयोग किया गया है। option 'B' में 'affect the character's' का प्रयोग किया गया है, जिसमें 'affect' तो सही है, लेकिन Apostrophe के साथ 'character's' गलत है क्योंकि sentence में Possession की आवश्यकता नहीं है। इसी तरह, option 'D' में 'affect the character' का प्रयोग किया गया है, जो Verb का सही रूप है, लेकिन यह Plural Verb है, जबकि हमें Singular Verb की आवश्यकता है। 'affects the character' का प्रयोग सही होगा क्योंकि 'affect' एक Verb है जिसका अर्थ है 'प्रभाव डालना' और वाक्य में यह Subject 'plot of the story' के द्वारा 'character' पर डाले गए प्रभाव को दर्शा रहा है। 'effects' Noun के रूप में प्रयोग होता है, जो इस context में गलत है। इसलिए 'affects' का प्रयोग सही है।

'affects the character' is the correct option because the verb 'affects' is required in the sentence, and since 'character' is singular, the verb 'affects' is used in its singular form. In option 'B,' 'affect the character's' uses 'affect' correctly, but the apostrophe in 'character's' is incorrect as there is no need for possession in this context. Similarly, in option 'D,' 'affect the character' uses the correct verb form, but 'affect' is the plural form of the verb, while a singular verb is required here. 'affects the character' will be used because 'affect' is a Verb that means 'to influence,' and in the sentence, it shows the influence of the 'plot of the story' on the 'character.' 'effects' is used as a Noun, which is incorrect in this context. Therefore, 'affects' is the correct choice.

23. B) **Melancholy** (adjective) – A deep, persistent sadness or depression. उदासी
Antonym: **Cheerful** (adjective) – Noticeably happy and optimistic, expressing good spirits and joy. प्रसन्न

- **Blue** (adjective) – Feeling sad, melancholic. उदास
- **Sorrow** (noun) – A feeling of deep distress caused by loss, disappointment, or other misfortune. दुःख
- **Sad** (adjective) – Feeling or showing sorrow; unhappy. दुखी

24. D) **EDCBFA**

E: "Suddenly, a ringing blast" is the starting point, introducing the event.

D: "Silenced the cacophony" logically follows, indicating the effect of the blast.

C: "Of the busy Bazaar and" specifies where the cacophony is happening, linking with the previous.

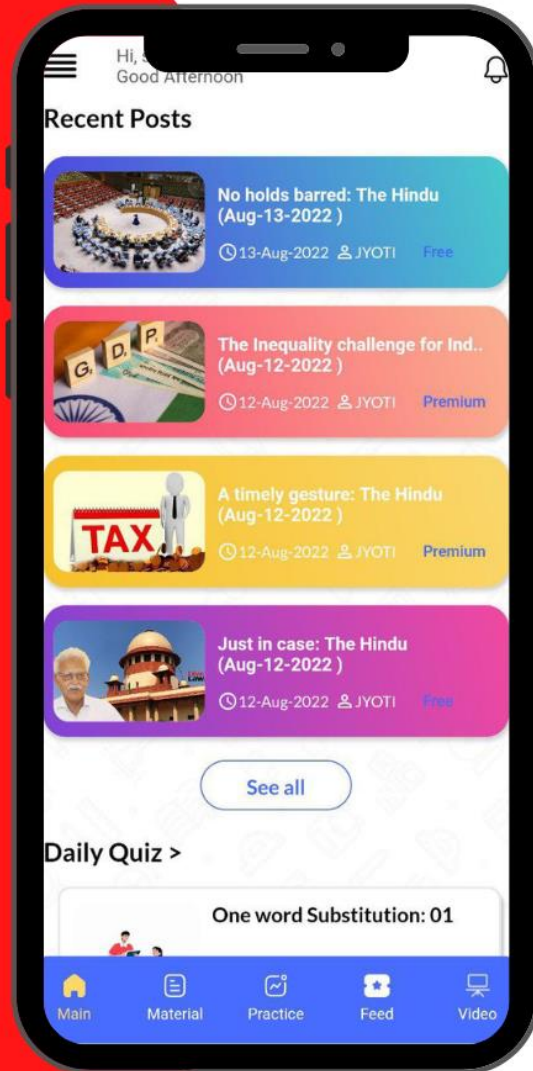
B: "Stunned the movement" follows logically, showing how the blast impacted the people in the Bazaar.

F: "Out of the bodies, which" provides additional detail about the aftermath of the blast.

A: "Fell dead in an instant" completes the sentence by describing the final outcome.

25. C) **an**' के बदले 'a' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'rose' का पहला अक्षर consonant sound 'r' से प्रारंभ होता है; अतः 'a' article का प्रयोग होगा, जैसे— the petals of a rose are often used in perfumes and cosmetics.

- 'a' will be used instead of 'an' because the first letter of 'rose' starts with the consonant sound 'r'; therefore, the article 'a' will be used, like— the petals of a rose are often used in perfumes and cosmetics.



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