

## Life's unplanned pathways: A journey through coincidences

Sometimes life **unfolds** in ways that we cannot **foresee**, shaped by a mix of choices, opportunities, and coincidences

I joined a **premier** engineering and science institute after my schooling. I quit two years later as I failed to **secure** an engineering seat. I joined another engineering college and then the **prestigious** railway services. My entry into the railways could also be **attributed** to good **fortune** as the organization increased the number to be **inducted**. **My inability** to join the civil services **was a sore point** with my parents. I would **often tease** them that I might have done much better **had** I continued to pursue science.

They would **retort** that I might have been working as a clerk in some **obscure** government department. Who knows! I might have worked harder to clear the civil services examinations had I continued to pursue science in the premier institute or had I not been selected for the railways. My father often narrates the story of his friend, a civil engineering graduate from his college, who joined the state services.

He was afraid that **the bridge** that he had designed **might collapse**. He followed my father's advice to join academics. He is now an internationally recognized geotechnical engineer in America. My father is an electrical engineer who joined the engineering college a year into postgraduation. He had wanted to **pursue** his MSc and then enter academics if he could not join the prestigious IAS.

My father does not **regret** his choices. He does have one memory that he regrets whenever he remembers about it. This also is from his college days. A few of them decided to **indulge** themselves with **an evening out**. My father went to the friend's room to take him along. This young boy appeared **cheerful** but refused to **accompany** them. He had committed suicide by the time they returned. My father still **ruminates**, "Maybe, we could have saved him had we stayed back or pushed him to accompany us." I know an engineer who joined a famous engineering college.

The **branch** that he had joined **was** not **considered** well-placed. He was offered the branch of choice in another college a year later. He left the overnight without consulting anyone. He is extremely successful in his chosen profession. However, he has **pangs** of regret that his life would have taken a different **trajectory** had he not taken the **impulsive** decision and waited the night out to **reconsider**. The two of us recently **bumped** into another well-known engineer at Mumbai airport.

This gentleman almost quit the structured and disciplined life of the engineering college which was in **stark contrast to** the relaxed **environs** of the science graduate course he had completed. He went to his friend's hostel room with the admission forms for the postgraduate course, to realise that the

studies were as structured and disciplined as his engineering course. He completed his engineering, joined the railway services, and successfully headed a leading metro rail organization in India at the time of his retirement.

We were walking to our car after a beautiful laser show in Connaught Place in Delhi a few years back. I was **approached** by a lady requesting if she could use my mobile phone to contact her husband. They had got separated in the crowd. The husband spoke to me to thank me for the **courtesy**. It **turned out** that we were together during training in my first job. **Douglas Coupland**, Canadian novelist and designer, **said**, "Every single moment is a coincidence." It is up to us to use this **joker in the pack** to play this game of life. [\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Coincidence** (noun) – Chance, accident, serendipity, fluke, happenstance संयोग
2. **Unfold** (verb) – Reveal, develop, evolve, manifest, open up खुलना
3. **Foresee** (verb) – Predict, anticipate, expect, envision, forecast पूर्वानुमान करना
4. **Premier** (adjective) – Leading, top, foremost, prime, superior प्रमुख
5. **Secure** (verb) – Obtain, acquire, achieve, gain, ensure प्राप्त करना
6. **Prestigious** (adjective) – Respected, esteemed, renowned, illustrious, honorable प्रतिष्ठित
7. (Be) **attributed** (to) (adjective) – Ascribed, credited, assigned, linked, associated श्रेय दिया जाना
8. **Fortune** (noun) – Luck, chance, destiny, fate, providence भाग्य
9. **Induct** (verb) – Enroll, recruit, initiate, admit, integrate शामिल करना
10. **A sore point** (noun) – an issue about which someone feels distressed or annoyed and which it is therefore advisable to avoid raising with them. दुखती बात
11. **Often** (adverb) – Frequently, regularly, repeatedly, commonly, habitually अक्सर
12. **Tease** (verb) – Mock, taunt, provoke, rib, jibe चिढ़ाना
13. **Had** (conjunction) – If, supposing, in case, provided, assuming अगर
14. **Retort** (verb) – Reply, respond, counter, answer, rebuff उत्तर देना
15. **Obscure** (adjective) – Unclear, unknown, hidden, ambiguous, vague अस्पष्ट
16. **Collapse** (verb) – Crumble, fall, break down, cave in, disintegrate ढह जाना
17. **Pursue** (verb) – Chase, follow, seek, aspire, strive लक्ष्य रखना
18. **Regret** (verb) – Lament, repent, feel sorry, rue, be remorseful अफसोस करना
19. **Indulge** (verb) – Pamper, spoil, treat oneself, revel, gratify लिप्त होना
20. **An evening out** (noun) – Outing, social event, night out, excursion, get-together शाम की मौज
21. **Cheerful** (adjective) – Happy, joyful, upbeat, positive, buoyant प्रसन्न
22. **Accompany** (verb) – Go with, escort, join, attend, follow साथ आना
23. **Ruminate** (verb) – Contemplate, ponder, reflect, meditate, mull over विचार करना

24. **Consider** (verb) – Think about, contemplate, take into account, deliberate, weigh विचार करना
25. **Pang** (noun) – Twinge, ache, sharp pain, spasm, sting पीड़ा
26. **Trajectory** (noun) – Path, course, direction, track, arc मार्ग
27. **Impulsive** (adjective) – Spontaneous, rash, hasty, instinctive, unplanned आवेगपूर्ण
28. **Reconsider** (verb) – Reevaluate, rethink, reassess, review, change one's mind पुनर्विचार करना
29. **Bump** (into) (verb) – Meet unexpectedly, encounter, run into, stumble upon, come across अचानक मिलना
30. **Stark** (adjective) – Sharp, clear, striking, harsh, distinct स्पष्ट
31. **In contrast to** (phrase) – In opposition to, contrary to, compared with, as opposed to, unlike इसके विपरीत
32. **Environ** (noun) – Surroundings, atmosphere, environment, setting, backdrop परिवेश
33. **Approach** (verb) – Move toward, advance, near, come closer, reach संपर्क करना
34. **Courtesy** (noun) – Politeness, civility, respect, kindness, thoughtfulness शिष्टाचार
35. **Turn out** (phrasal verb) – Happen, prove, end up, result, transpire निकलना
36. **Joker in the pack** (phrase) – a person or factor likely to have an unpredictable effect on events.

## Summary of the Editorial

1. Life often unfolds unpredictably, shaped by a combination of choices, opportunities, and coincidences.
2. The author narrates their journey, starting from joining a premier engineering institute but quitting after two years due to not securing an engineering seat.
3. The author eventually joined another engineering college and entered the prestigious railway services, attributing this to luck as recruitment numbers increased.
4. The failure to join the civil services disappointed the author's parents, and they often debated the different paths the author could have taken.
5. The author's father often shares stories of his friend, a civil engineer who left his job due to fear of responsibility and later found success in academia.
6. The author's father, an electrical engineer, also considered joining academics if he had failed to get into the IAS, but does not regret his final choice.
7. A tragic memory haunts the author's father, where a cheerful friend committed suicide after refusing to join their evening outing.
8. The author recalls another engineer who switched colleges impulsively for a better branch, achieving success but regretting his hasty decision.
9. The author recently met a successful engineer who almost quit his engineering course due to its rigid structure but later completed it and achieved great success in the railway services.
10. An encounter at a laser show in Delhi with a lady needing to use the author's phone revealed an old connection with her husband, whom the author had trained with years before.
11. The editorial reflects on how life often brings unexpected twists and reunions through coincidences.
12. The unpredictability of life is likened to a "joker in the pack," and we must use these coincidences to navigate life's challenges.
13. Every moment in life is described as a coincidence, as Canadian novelist Douglas Coupland said, adding that how we handle these moments shapes our journey.
14. The author highlights how impulsive decisions, missed opportunities, and serendipitous encounters can drastically change the trajectory of life.
15. Ultimately, the narrative underscores the power of coincidences and how they play a pivotal role in shaping the course of one's life.

## Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial page]

- What is the tone of the passage?**
  - Nostalgic
  - Analytical
  - Pessimistic
  - Humorous
- From the passage, it can be inferred that all of the following are true about the author's father EXCEPT that:**
  - He regrets not joining the IAS.
  - He gave advice to his friend, which led him to a successful career in academics.
  - He is an electrical engineer who pursued postgraduation.
  - He regrets not being able to save a college friend who committed suicide.
- Which one of the following statements best summarizes the author's position on how life unfolds?**
  - Life is primarily shaped by hard work and determination.
  - Life is shaped by a combination of coincidences and deliberate choices.
  - Success in life is mostly determined by the field of study one chooses.
  - Life is a series of missed opportunities and regrets.
- What is the synonym of the word "impulsive" as used in the passage?**
  - Cautious
  - Deliberate
  - Thoughtless
  - Hesitant
- Which of the following statements is true based on the passage?**
  - The gentleman who almost quit his engineering course later joined the civil services.
  - The author regrets using his mobile phone to help the lady find her husband.
  - The gentleman who was impulsive in his decision later became successful in his profession.
  - The author's father was a well-known engineer who headed a metro rail organization in India.

### 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.**

On the afternoon of 30 March 1981, many Americans experienced a (i) \_\_\_\_\_ of déjà-vu. Déjà-vu is a name given to the feeling that a person has seen or experienced an event before. Many Americans could not help having that feeling on this day.

The (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ hit TVs and radios immediately. President Ronald Raegan had been shot. He was leaving a hotel in Washington DC, turned to wave at some of the people gathered to see him, and fell towards the ground. Before he could hit the ground, his Secret Service Agents (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ him into the car and rushed to the nearest hospital. This same story had been heard before. On 22 November 1963 President John F Kennedy was riding in a motorcade through Dallas, Texas. He smiled and waved to the crowd that had gathered to see

him. (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ rang out from a nearby building. The President collapsed into the backseat of the car and was immediately taken to the nearest hospital. He was (v) \_\_\_\_\_ dead at the hospital. Now, just seventeen years later, the news sounded eerily the same.

6. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No. (i).**

- A. feeling
- B. dealing
- C. blinking
- D. recalling

7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No. (ii).**

- A. sceptre
- B. ball
- C. arrow
- D. news

8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No. (iii).**

- A. pushed
- B. pulled
- C. whisked
- D. called

9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No. (iv).**

- A. Prayers
- B. Shots
- C. Alarm
- D. Music

10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No. (v).**

- A. pronounced
- B. acting
- C. almost
- D. shot

11. **Identify the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**

Lenient

- A. Strict
- B. Rowdy
- C. Rude
- D. Kind

12. **Choose the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

Ace in the hole

- A. A second chance to do something
- B. On the point of
- C. A hidden advantage
- D. A lot to do

13. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

She \_\_\_\_\_ gracefully and greeted the interview committee with respect

- A. grinned  
B. smiled  
C. smirked  
D. leered
14. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**  
I will require a quiet room to work at  
A. in  
B. on  
C. about  
D. with
15. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**  
The woman lost much to her body weight due to diabetes  
A. for her body weight due to  
B. off her body weight due to  
C. of her body weight due to  
D. from her body weight due to
16. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**  
Interpret  
A. Complicate  
B. Cleanse  
C. Celebrate  
D. Clarify
17. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**  
Confidential  
A. Limited  
B. Public  
C. Secret  
D. Open source
18. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the bracketed word in the following sentence to fill in the blank.**  
Lead paint is an environmental \_\_\_\_\_ (danger) and can harm children  
A. empathy  
B. toil  
C. conflict  
D. hazard
19. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**  
In every country of the world, primary caregivers are the women of children and elders  
A. the women primary caregivers are of  
B. women are the caregivers primary of



- C. women are the primary caregivers of  
D. primary caregivers women are of the
20. **Select the most appropriate spelling of the underlined word in the given sentence.**  
Nobody could move on after such a scandalous allegation is made on them
- A. scandalous  
B. scandelous  
C. scendolous  
D. skandelous
21. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**  
Abscond
- A. Annoy  
B. Avoid  
C. Stay  
D. Flee
22. **Select the appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**  
Last resort
- A. Last friend remaining  
B. Last ride  
C. Last hotel on the way  
D. Last course of action
23. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word**
- A. Aspirant  
B. Autonomous  
C. License  
D. Ommision
24. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**  
Gulliver hear his watch ticking in his pocket
- A. could hear his watch ticking  
B. could hear his watch ticked  
C. watch ticking  
D. heard his watch tickling
25. **For the four-sentence (S1 to S4) paragraph below, sentences S1 and S4 are given. From the options P, Q, R and S select the appropriate sentences for S2 and S3, respectively.**
- S1:** The 2024-25 Budget introduces significant provisions aimed at transforming the agricultural sector with a focus on sustainability, productivity and economic growth for farmers.
- S4:** To enhance vegetable production and streamline the supply chain, the Budget emphasises promoting Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), cooperatives and startups.
- P:** One crore farmers are envisaged to be initiated into natural farming within two years.

**Q:** A dramatic drop in ginger prices combined with crop diseases caused by heavy rain this year has left farmers in a state of concern.

**R:** The farm gate price of fresh ginger rhizomes has plummeted to ₹1,400 per 60 kg bag in the Wayanad market, a stark contrast to ₹6,400 during the same period last year.

**S: This enterprise is to be complemented by establishing 10,000 bio-input resource centres for sustainable farm practices.**

- A. P and Q
- B. P and R
- C. P and S
- D. Q and S

## Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

## Explanations

### 1. A) Nostalgic

The tone of the passage reflects a sense of nostalgia, as the author recounts personal experiences, choices, and events from the past, often with a reflective and wistful attitude. The mention of past regrets, missed opportunities, and memories like the suicide incident all contribute to this tone.

B: Incorrect because the passage does not dissect or critically analyze the events. It focuses more on personal reflections and recounts.

C: Incorrect as the passage, while it discusses regrets, does not adopt an overwhelmingly negative or hopeless view of life.

D: Incorrect because the passage lacks humor or a light-hearted tone. It is more serious and reflective in nature.

### 2. A) He regrets not joining the IAS.

The passage explicitly states that the author's father does not regret his career choices, including not joining the IAS. Hence, this is the only option that is incorrect.

B: Correct, as the passage mentions the advice that led the friend to a successful academic career in geotechnical engineering.

C: Correct, as the passage states that the father is an electrical engineer and joined an engineering college after a year into postgraduation.

D: Correct, as the passage describes the father's regret about not being able to save his friend from suicide.

### 3. B) Life is shaped by a combination of coincidences and deliberate choices.

The author repeatedly emphasizes that life is shaped by both choices and coincidences, as seen in the various examples provided in the passage. He mentions how opportunities, fortune, and decisions interact to shape life's outcomes.

A: Incorrect, as while hard work may play a role, the passage focuses more on coincidences and circumstances beyond one's control.

C: Incorrect, as the passage does not emphasize this point. Success is shown to depend on various factors, including luck and choices beyond education.

D: Incorrect, as the author does mention regrets, but the passage is not overwhelmingly pessimistic and focuses more on life's unpredictability than missed opportunities alone.

### 4. C) Thoughtless

The word "impulsive" refers to actions taken without careful thought or planning, often done on a whim. In the passage, the character makes a decision overnight without reconsidering it, reflecting impulsive behavior.

A: Incorrect because "cautious" means careful, which is the opposite of impulsive.

B: Incorrect because "deliberate" implies careful planning, which is contrary to acting on impulse.

D: Incorrect because "hesitant" means being unsure or reluctant, which does not align with the quick and spontaneous nature of being impulsive.

### 5. C) The gentleman who was impulsive in his decision later became successful in his profession.

The passage clearly states that the individual who made an impulsive decision regarding his college branch was later successful in his chosen profession, though he had some regrets about the decision.

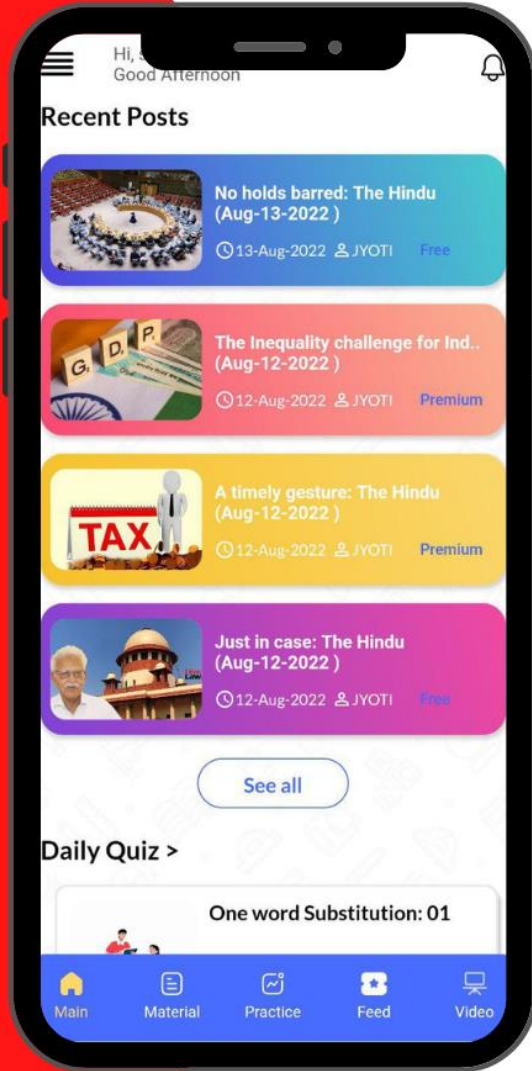
- A: Incorrect because the gentleman joined the railway services, not the civil services.  
 B: Incorrect because the author does not express any regret about helping the lady; in fact, the interaction was courteous and positive.  
 D: Incorrect because the person who headed the metro rail organization was a different gentleman, not the author's father.
6. A) '**Feeling**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "feeling" का अर्थ है किसी अनुभव या स्थिति की अनुभूति होना। जबकि 'Dealing' का अर्थ है किसी चीज का सामना करना, 'Blinking' का अर्थ है पलकों का झपकना, और 'Recalling' का अर्थ है स्मरण करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Feeling**' should be used because it means to experience an emotion or sensation. Whereas, 'Dealing' means to handle or face something, 'Blinking' means to close and open the eyes quickly, and 'Recalling' means to remember, which don't fit in this context.
7. D) '**News**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "news" का अर्थ होता है सूचना या समाचार, जो इस संदर्भ में सही है। जबकि 'sceptre' का अर्थ होता है राजदंड, 'ball' का अर्थ होता है गेंद, और 'arrow' का अर्थ होता है तीर, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**News**' should be used because it means information or reports, which fits in this context. Whereas, 'sceptre' means a royal staff, 'ball' means a spherical object, and 'arrow' means a projectile, which don't fit in this context.
8. C) '**whisked**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "whisked" का अर्थ होता है तेजी से और सतर्कता से किसी को कहीं ले जाना। जबकि 'pushed' का अर्थ है धक्का देना, 'pulled' का अर्थ है खींचना, और 'called' का अर्थ है बुलाना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Whisked**' should be used because it means to move someone quickly and carefully. Whereas, 'Pushed' means to shove, 'Pulled' means to drag, and 'Called' means to summon, which don't fit in this context.
9. B) '**Shots**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "shots" का अर्थ होता है गोली चलने की आवाज़, जो इस संदर्भ में सही है। जबकि 'Prayers' का अर्थ है प्रार्थनाएँ, 'Alarm' का अर्थ है चेतावनी का संकेत, और 'Music' का अर्थ है संगीत, जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं बैठते हैं।
- '**Shots**' should be used because it means the sound of gunfire, which fits this context. Whereas, 'Prayers' means prayers, 'Alarm' means a warning signal, and 'Music' means music, which don't fit in this context.
10. A) '**Pronounced**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "pronounced" का अर्थ है किसी व्यक्ति को आधिकारिक तौर पर मृत घोषित करना। जबकि 'Acting' का अर्थ है कार्य करना, 'Almost' का अर्थ है लगभग, और 'Shot' का अर्थ है गोली मारना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Pronounced**' should be used because it means to officially declare someone dead. Whereas, 'Acting' means to perform an action, 'Almost' means nearly, and 'Shot' implies being struck by a bullet, which don't fit in this context.
11. A) **Lenient** (adjective) – Merciful, tolerant, not harsh or strict. उदार/ सौम्य  
 Antonym: **Strict** (adjective) – Demanding that rules concerning behavior are obeyed and observed, stringent, severe. सख्त

- **Rowdy** (adjective) – Noisy and disorderly. उपद्रवी
  - **Rude** (adjective) – Offensively impolite or bad-mannered. अशिष्ट
  - **Kind** (adjective) – Having or showing a friendly, generous, and considerate nature. दयालु
12. C) **Ace in the hole** (idiom) – **A hidden advantage** छुपा हुआ फायदा
13. B) **Smiled** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence महिला के विनम्र और आदरपूर्ण व्यवहार की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "She \_\_\_\_\_ gracefully and greeted the interview committee with respect" के माध्यम से उसके सभ्य और आदरपूर्ण व्यवहार को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें उसने समिति को सम्मान के साथ अभिवादन किया।
- **'Smiled'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the woman's polite and respectful demeanor. Here, through "She \_\_\_\_\_ gracefully and greeted the interview committee with respect", it portrays her courteous and respectful behavior, where she greeted the committee with respect. Thus, "smiled" would be the most appropriate choice.
14. A) 'in' will be used instead of 'at' because when referring to a location or space where an activity is performed. In this context, "in" indicates that the work will be done within the confines of the room.
15. C) 'of her body weight due to' का use होगा क्योंकि 'of' का प्रयोग मात्रा, हिस्से, या समग्र के भाव को व्यक्त करने के लिए किया जाता है, और वाक्य के संदर्भ में 'much of her body weight' इस प्रकार के भाव को व्यक्त करता है; जैसे – 'She lost much of her strength after the illness.'
- 'of her body weight due to' will be used because 'of' is used to express a quantity, part, or whole, and in the context of the sentence, 'much of her body weight' expresses this kind of meaning; Like – 'She lost much of her strength after the illness.'
16. D) **Interpret** (verb) – Explain the meaning of (information, words, or actions), elucidate, make clear.  
**व्याख्या करना**
- Synonym: Clarify** (verb) – Make (a statement or situation) less confused and more comprehensible, explain, elucidate. **स्पष्ट करना**
- **Complicate** (verb) – Make (something) more difficult or confusing by causing it to be more complex. उलझाना
  - **Cleanse** (verb) – Make (something) thoroughly clean. शुद्ध करना
  - **Celebrate** (verb) – Acknowledge (a significant or happy day or event) with a social gathering or enjoyable activity. जश्न मनाना
17. C) **Confidential** (adjective) – Intended to be kept secret, private, restricted, not to be disclosed. गुप्त
- Synonym: Secret** (adjective) – Not known or seen or not meant to be known or seen by others, private, undisclosed. गुप्त
- **Limited** (adjective) – Restricted in size, amount, or extent, confined, bounded. सीमित
  - **Public** (adjective) – Open to everyone, not private, known by the community, common. सार्वजनिक
  - **Open source** (noun/adjective) – Denoting software for which the original source code is made freely available and may be redistributed and modified. मुक्त स्रोत

18. **D) Danger (noun)** – The possibility of suffering harm or injury; a person or thing that causes harm or peril. खतरा  
**Synonym: Hazard (noun)** – A danger or risk; something that can cause harm. जोखिम
- **Empathy (noun)** – The ability to understand and share the feelings of another. सहानुभूति
  - **Toil (noun)** – Hard work, laborious effort. मेहनत
  - **Conflict (noun)** – A serious disagreement or argument, a clash. संघर्ष
19. C) 'women are the primary caregivers of' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य में 'primary caregivers' के रूप में महिलाओं को विषय बनाया गया है और उनके द्वारा देखभाल किए जाने वाले 'children and elders' के संबंध में 'of' का प्रयोग किया गया है; जैसे – 'In most families, women are the primary caregivers of children and the elderly.'
- 'women are the primary caregivers of' will be used because the sentence focuses on women as the subject being the 'primary caregivers,' and 'of' is used to show their relationship to 'children and elders'; like – 'In most families, women are the primary caregivers of children and the elderly.'
20. A) The correct spelling of 'scandlous' is '**scandalous**' which means "causing general public outrage by a perceived offense against morality or law" आपराधिक.
21. **D) Abscond (verb)** – To leave hurriedly and secretly, typically to avoid detection or arrest for an unlawful action. चुपके से भाग जाना  
**Synonym: Flee (verb)** – To run away from a place or situation of danger, escape, bolt, take flight. भागना
- **Annoy (verb)** – Irritate, vex, make angry. चिढ़ाना
  - **Avoid (verb)** – Keep away from, shun, evade, dodge. बचना
  - **Stay (verb)** – Remain in the same place, wait, linger. रुकना
22. D) **Last resort (idiom)** – Last course of action अंतिम उपाय
23. D) The correct spelling of 'Ommision' is '**Omission**' which means "the act of omitting or leaving out" चूक, छोड़ना.  
 Note: SSC follows U.K English so License is right spelling in U.K english.
24. A) 'could hear his watch ticking' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'could hear' क्षमता को दर्शाता है और 'ticking' एक present participle है जो घड़ी की ongoing action को दर्शाता है; जैसे – 'He could hear the clock ticking in the silent room.'
- 'could hear his watch ticking' will be used because 'could hear' indicates the ability and 'ticking' is a present participle that describes the ongoing action of the watch; like – 'He could hear the clock ticking in the silent room.'
25. C) **P and S**  
 S1: S1 introduces the topic of the budget's focus on agriculture, specifically targeting sustainability, productivity, and economic growth for farmers.  
 P: P fits well as S2 because it continues the discussion on agricultural sustainability by mentioning the introduction of natural farming, which aligns with the budget's goals for the sector.  
 S: S fits as S3 because it complements P by giving additional details about how the natural farming

initiative will be supported. It continues the theme of sustainability, making it a logical transition to S4.  
Q – This sentence discusses a specific issue related to ginger prices and crop diseases, which introduces an entirely different topic unrelated to the budget's agricultural focus on sustainability and productivity. It does not logically connect to the provisions introduced in the budget.

R – This sentence also focuses on a specific issue with ginger prices in the Wayanad market, which does not relate to the larger goals of the budget mentioned in S1.



# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

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