Wrong notion: On simultaneous elections
The **idea** of **simultaneous** elections **is** inherently anti-federal

Notwithstanding the opposition from political parties and many in civil society to the idea of simultaneous elections, the Union government has decided to accept the recommendations of a high-level committee headed by former President Ram Nath Kovind to go ahead with the scheme. The committee **envisaged** simultaneous Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections as the first step, **followed** by municipal and panchayat polls within 100 days of the general election. **In order to do** so, the government would need to get constitutional **amendments** to be passed, in Parliament and in the State Assemblies. Two key reasons have been **evinced** for the proposal — first, **the costs** of conducting these elections **would** be significantly reduced if held together, and, second, not having simultaneous elections has kept political parties in **prolonged** campaign mode, impacting governance and legislative work. There has been little to no **empirical** data to support the first reason. Already, general elections take an **inordinately** long time, with some State polls being held in phases. Simultaneous elections could **prolong** this process. One of the committee's recommendations is that if a State Assembly gets **dissolved** before five years of its term, after the "appointed date" — the date for **synchronising** Lok Sabha and Assembly elections — fresh "midterm" elections will be held but the new Assembly's will not have a full five-year tenure. Its tenure will end five years from the "appointed date". This **provision militates** against the original idea of cost cutting through simultaneous elections. It is also an anti-federal idea.

In a **multi-tiered governance** system, people choose their representatives based on their **perception** of who is best suited. The **power** being **demarcated** for different levels of government **allows** for distinct roles for each representative and **suggests varied** voter choices that could be based on party **affiliation**, candidate strength, **ideological** positions or **socio-economic** reasons that are constituency-specific. Each tier has its exclusive importance and so does the related election. **The second reason**, that representatives are in **perennial** campaign mode and, therefore, polls to every tier should all be held during the same period, **is problematic**. For one, that national representatives of parties are forever in campaign mode is a **consequence** of the **centralising tendencies** of parties that are in power today and is not a **reflection** of the **extant** electoral democratic system. Second, **subsuming** multi-tier elections into simultaneous mode **has** the **potential** to reduce the importance of each tier, especially the Assembly and municipal/panchayat levels, and is anti-federal. Lastly, to **effect** this proposal, the **tenures** of quite a few State governments **will** have to be **cut short**. Parties and civil society actors **committed** to **federalism** must **squarely** reject this proposal by the Union government.

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

Vocabulary

1. **Notion** (noun) – Idea, belief, concept, perception, understanding अवधारणा

2. **Simultaneous** (adjective) – Occurring at the same time, concurrent, synchronous, happening together एक साथ होने वाला

3. **Inherently** (adverb) – Naturally, intrinsically, fundamentally, essentially स्वाभाविक रूप से

4. **Anti-federal** (adjective) – Opposed to federal principles, against decentralization, anti-devolution संघ विरोधी

5. **Notwithstanding** (adverb) – Despite, in spite of, regardless of, even though इसके बावजूद

6. **Envisage** (verb) – Imagine, foresee, anticipate, contemplate कल्पना करना

7. **Follow** (verb) – Come after, succeed, ensue, result from के बाद होना

8. **In order to do** (phrase) – To accomplish, to achieve, for the purpose of ताकि

9. **Amendment** (noun) – Modification, change, alteration, revision संशोधन

10. **Evince** (verb) – Show, demonstrate, reveal, exhibit प्रदर्शित करना

11. **Prolonged** (adjective) – Extended, lengthy, drawn-out, protracted लंबा

12. **Empirical** (adjective) – Based on observation or experience, evidence-based, experimental, factual अनुभवसिद्ध

13. **Inordinately** (adverb) – Excessively, overly, unusually, disproportionately अत्यधिक

14. **Prolong** (verb) – Extend, lengthen, delay, stretch लंबा करना

15. **Dissolve** (verb) – Disband, end, terminate, disintegrate भंग करना

16. **Synchronise** (verb) – Align, coordinate, harmonize, match साथ-साथ होना

17. **Provision** (noun) – Clause, condition, stipulation, requirement प्रावधान

18. **Militate against** (phrasal verb) – Work against, oppose, hinder, obstruct विरोध करना

19. **Multi-tiered** (adjective) – Layered, multi-level, hierarchical, stratified बहु-स्तरीय

20. **Governance** (noun) – Administration, management, control, regulation शासन

21. **Perception** (noun) – Understanding, viewpoint, awareness, insight धारणा

22. **Demarcate** (verb) – Define, mark, delineate, separate सीमांकित करना

23. **Varied** (adjective) – Diverse, different, assorted, mixed विविध

24. **Affiliation** (noun) – Association, connection, alliance, relationship संबद्धता

25. **Ideological** (adjective) – Related to ideas, political, philosophical, doctrinal वैचारिक

26. **Socio-economic** (adjective) – Related to society and economy, social and financial सामाजिक-आर्थिक

27. **Perennial** (adjective) – Persistent, enduring, continuous, perpetual निरंतर

28. **Problematic** (adjective) – Troubling, difficult, concerning, complicated समस्यात्मक

29. **Consequence** (noun) – Result, outcome, effect, impact परिणाम

30. **Centralising** (adjective) – Concentrating power, unifying, consolidating केंद्रीकरण करने वाला

31. **Tendency** (noun) – Inclination, predisposition, propensity, trend प्रवृत्ति

32. **Reflection** (noun) – Indication, sign, mirror image, representation प्रतिबिंब

33. **Extant** (adjective) – Still existing, surviving, current, present वर्तमान

34. **Subsume** (verb) – Include, incorporate, absorb, encompass सम्मिलित करना

35. **Potential** (noun) – Possibility, capability, ability, prospect क्षमता

36. **Effect** (verb) – Implement, bring about, achieve, execute कार्यान्वित करना

37. **Cut short** (phrase) – to end (something) earlier than expected स्वाभाविक समय के पहले अंत कर देना

38. **Committed** (to) (adjective) – Dedicated, loyal, devoted, resolute प्रतिबद्ध

39. **Federalism** (noun) – a system of government in which powers have been divided between the centre and its constituent parts such as states or provinces. संघवाद

40. **Squarely** (adverb) – Directly, firmly, without hesitation, straightforwardly स्पष्ट रूप से

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Union government plans to implement simultaneous elections based on recommendations from a high-level committee led by former President Ram Nath Kovind.

2. The committee proposes holding simultaneous Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections, followed by municipal and panchayat polls within 100 days.

3. Constitutional amendments are required for this scheme, which must be passed by both Parliament and State Assemblies.

4. Two reasons are cited for the proposal: cost reduction and preventing political parties from being in constant campaign mode.

5. There is no significant empirical evidence to support the claim that simultaneous elections would cut costs.

6. Simultaneous elections could potentially prolong the election process rather than shorten it.

7. A recommendation is made for "midterm" elections if a State Assembly dissolves early, with the new Assembly's term synchronized with the national election date.

8. This provision contradicts the goal of cost-cutting and is seen as an anti-federal measure.

9. In a multi-tier governance system, people elect representatives based on local issues, party affiliation, and other factors unique to each tier of government.

10. Each governance tier, including Lok Sabha, State Assemblies, and local bodies, holds unique importance and should have distinct election periods.

11. The idea that politicians are always in campaign mode is more a reflection of centralizing tendencies in today's politics, not the electoral system itself.

12. Holding all elections together risks diminishing the importance of Assembly and local body elections, undermining federalism.

13. The proposal could require the premature dissolution of several State governments, cutting short their terms.

14. The editorial argues that the simultaneous elections scheme is fundamentally anti-federal, as it reduces the autonomy of state and local governments.

15. Parties and civil society groups that value federalism are urged to reject this proposal.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, which of the following is one of the primary reasons given in support of simultaneous elections?**   [Editorial Page]
   A. It will lead to the complete abolition of the panchayat system.
   B. It will allow political parties to focus more on governance and less on campaigning.
   C. It will ensure a uniform term for all state governments.
   D. It will enable every state to have elections on the same date every year.

2. **What can be inferred as one of the main criticisms against the idea of simultaneous elections from the passage?**
   A. It will ensure that all elections are conducted fairly.
   B. It will help political parties save resources.
   C. It may conflict with the federal structure of governance.
   D. It will allow the government to avoid amendments to the Constitution.

3. Choose the word that is most opposite in meaning to "**prolong**" as used in the passage?
   A. Lengthen
   B. Extend
   C. Expand
   D. Shorten

4. **Which of the following is true about the committee's recommendation for simultaneous elections, as mentioned in the passage?**
   A. The recommendation suggests midterm elections for State Assemblies will have a full five-year tenure if held before their scheduled time.
   B. The committee recommended that simultaneous elections would reduce the time taken for general and state elections.
   C. The committee proposed that if a State Assembly is dissolved before its term, its next tenure would end five years from the "appointed date."
   D. Simultaneous elections would ensure that costs of conducting elections will definitely decrease.

5. **According to the last paragraph of the passage, why is the proposal for simultaneous elections considered problematic?**
   A. It diminishes the significance of the Assembly and municipal/panchayat elections.
   B. It leads to better governance at the local level.
   C. It reduces the importance of national elections.
   D. It ensures that voters choose representatives based on socio-economic issues.

6. **Select the correct option to form a meaningful sentence.**
   Little progress (a)/ has been suffering (b) / have been made in (c) / seems to (d)/ checking the alarming (e) / and pollutants (f) / levels of toxic heavy metals (g) / that Punjab (h) / in groundwater (i) / for decades (j) / from (k)
   A. a, d, c, e, f, i, h, g, k, j, b
   B. a, d, e, k, f, i, h, b, g, j, c
   C. a, d, b, e, f, i, h, c, g, k, j

D. a, d, c, e, g, f, i, h, b, k, j

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.

Oil is almost certainly one of the ocean's greatest resources. 33% of the world's oil comes from seaward fields in seas. Oils are liquids that easily burn and do not (1)_____ in water. Most of the time, they are made of chains of carbon and hydrogen atoms. There are three (2)_____ types of oils: mineral, essential and fixed oils. From plants, essential oils are thin, scented oils. Because they frequently have an odour, essential oils are (3)_____ in perfumery and food flavouring. Aromatic extraction processes like cold pressing, distillation and extraction are typically used to prepare essential oils. Fatty acids are used by animals and plants to make fixed oils. They are especially non-volatile oils that are found in the seeds of cotton, corn, flax, sunflowers, peanuts, coconuts and olives, as well as in fatty animal tissues. Mineral oils are (4)_____ from petroleum which has been underground for millions of years from sea organism skeletons. Mineral oils are one of the petroleum by-products with the lowest prices. Mineral oils are colourless and transparent. They are made up of a (5)_____ of hydrocarbons

7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
   A. dissolve
   B. diffuse
   C. evaporate
   D. melt

8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
   A. initial
   B. original
   C. primary
   D. early

9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
   A. operated
   B. utilised
   C. applied
   D. employed

10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
    A. renewed
    B. produced
    C. fabricated
    D. invented

11. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
    A. association
    B. collaboration
    C. combination
    D. cooperation

12. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required'.**

    Applications **are to be sent** to the school's e-mail ID before 30th June.
    A. is sending
    B. would be send to
    C. No substitution required
    D. will be send to

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

    The _____ in my shoelace created a lot of trouble.
    A. nought
    B. not
    C. knot
    D. naught

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

    The crowd gave them a _____ of applause
    A. yell
    B. load
    C. round
    D. laugh

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

    A sailor was _____through the high tides
    A. swelling
    B. ceiling
    C. selling
    D. sailing

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

    Important
    A. Recurring
    B. Trivial
    C. Significant
    D. Productive

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

    Merit
    A. Fault
    B. Tumult
    C. Result
    D. Occult

18. **Select the correct spelling of the underlined word in the following sentence.**

    I am **contant** with my day's work.
    A. content
    B. contint
    C. contante

D. cuntent

19. **Select the most appropriate homophone to fill in the blank.**

Namita still cannot _____ the pain of her cat's untimely demise
   A. bier
   B. bear
   C. beer
   D. bare

20. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.**

Vishnu and Vignesh are always **like two peas in a pod**.
   A. Very similar to each other
   B. Smart and intelligent
   C. Happy and compassionate
   D. Good in every way

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

He lived on the bank of a mighty river, broad and deep, **that have always silently rolling** on to a vast undiscovered ocean.
   A. that were always silently rolling
   B. which were always silently rolling
   C. what has always silently rolling
   D. which was always silently rolling

22. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**

Gentlemen always go for a **lawful** approach, but rouges choose _____ ways to solve problems.
   A. legitimate
   B. sophisticated
   C. illicit
   D. legal

23. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word**
   A. Astounding
   B. Adulterous
   C. Amendment
   D. Advertisment

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

The painting **look** good in this room.
   A. have looking
   B. looks
   C. had look
   D. looking

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

If you are thinking about investing in share markets, **isn't it** make sense to find an expert?

A. do it

B. is it

C. did it

D. doesn't it

Answers

| 1. | B | 2. C | 3.D | 4.C | 5.A | 6. D | 7. A | 8.C | 9. B | 10. B | 11.C | 12. C |

| 13. | C | 14. C | 15. D | 16.B | 17. A | 18.A | 19.B | 20. A | 21.D | 22. C | 23.D | 24. B |

25. D   **[Practice Exercise]**

Explanations

1. **B) It will allow political parties to focus more on governance and less on campaigning.**
   The passage states that one of the key reasons given for the proposal is that not having simultaneous elections has kept political parties in prolonged campaign mode, which affects governance and legislative work. Holding simultaneous elections would allow parties to focus more on governance.
   A is incorrect because there is no mention of abolishing the panchayat system in the passage.
   C is incorrect because the passage discusses synchronising elections but not ensuring a uniform term for state governments.
   D is incorrect because the passage mentions synchronising elections but does not suggest holding them on the same date every year.

2. **C) It may conflict with the federal structure of governance.**
   The passage clearly states that the proposal of simultaneous elections is "an anti-federal idea." This shows that one of the key criticisms of the proposal is that it may infringe on the federal structure, where State and Central governments operate independently.
   A is incorrect because there is no mention in the passage of fairness being improved by simultaneous elections.
   B is incorrect because although the passage mentions cost-cutting, it does not indicate saving resources as a central benefit for political parties.
   D is incorrect because the passage explicitly states that constitutional amendments would indeed be required to implement simultaneous elections.

3. D) **Shorten**
   In the passage, "prolong" is used to indicate something being extended over a long period. The antonym of prolong, in this context, is "shorten," which means to reduce the duration.

4. **C) The committee proposed that if a State Assembly is dissolved before its term, its next tenure would end five years from the "appointed date."**
   C is correct because the passage clearly mentions, "if a State Assembly gets dissolved before five years of its term, after the 'appointed date,' fresh 'midterm' elections will be held, but the new Assembly's tenure will end five years from the 'appointed date.'"
   A is incorrect because it states that the next Assembly will have a full five-year term, which contradicts the committee's recommendation.
   B is incorrect because the passage says that simultaneous elections could prolong the process, not shorten it.
   D is incorrect as there is no empirical data to prove that simultaneous elections will definitely reduce costs.

5. **A) It diminishes the significance of the Assembly and municipal/panchayat elections.**
   A is correct because the passage states, "subsuming multi-tier elections into simultaneous mode has the potential to reduce the importance of each tier, especially the Assembly and municipal/panchayat levels."
   C is incorrect because the national elections' importance is not diminished; rather, local and Assembly elections are.

B is incorrect as the passage criticizes the proposal, implying that governance might suffer due to reduced importance of certain tiers.

D is incorrect since it does not address the problem of reducing the importance of Assembly and municipal elections, which is the main issue mentioned.

6. **D) a, d, c, e, g, f, i, h, b, k, j**

a: This starts the sentence by introducing the subject, "little progress."

d: This phrase connects to "Little progress" by indicating a perception. "Seems to" is necessary to link the subject to the rest of the sentence

c: This phrase completes the main clause. "Seems to have been made in" connects back to "little progress" and explains the area of focus where progress is lacking.

e: This phrase follows naturally, describing "checking the alarming" levels, which is the action in which little progress has been made. It adds the problem of concern

g: This specifies "the alarming" factor: toxic heavy metals. It completes the description of what is being checked.

f: This adds another problem, "pollutants," that is connected to the "levels of toxic heavy metals."

I: This phrase specifies where these alarming levels and pollutants are being found, giving context: "in groundwater."

h: This identifies the region, "Punjab," that is facing this issue. It makes the sentence region-specific and ties the pollution problem to Punjab.

b: This part explains that "Punjab has been suffering," meaning the state has been enduring the problem for a long time. This verb phrase indicates a long-term issue.

k: This preposition introduces what Punjab is suffering from, preparing to explain the duration or source of the suffering.

j: This concludes the sentence by indicating the duration: "for decades." It indicate the time frame for how long Punjab has been suffering from the issue.

7. A) **'Dissolve'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "dissolve" का अर्थ होता है किसी पदार्थ का किसी तरल में पूरी तरह मिल जाना। जबकि 'diffuse' का अर्थ है फैलाना, 'evaporate' का अर्थ है वाष्पित होना, और 'melt' का अर्थ है पिघलना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

   - **'Dissolve'** should be used because it means to completely mix a substance in a liquid. Whereas, 'diffuse' means to spread, 'evaporate' means to turn into vapor, and 'melt' means to turn from solid to liquid, which don't fit in this context.

8. C) **'Primary'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "primary" का अर्थ होता है मुख्य या प्रमुख प्रकार। जबकि 'initial' का अर्थ है प्रारंभिक, 'original' का अर्थ है मौलिक, और 'early' का अर्थ है जल्दी, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

   - **'Primary'** should be used because it means main or chief types. Whereas, 'initial' means beginning, 'original' means first, and 'early' means early, which don't fit in this context.

9. B) **'Utilised'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "utilised" का अर्थ है किसी विशेष उद्देश्य के लिए कुछ उपयोग करना। जबकि 'Operated' का अर्थ है संचालन करना, 'Applied' का अर्थ है लागू करना, और 'Employed' का अर्थ है किसी कार्य के लिए काम पर रखना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

   - **'Utilised'** should be used because it means to use something for a particular purpose. Whereas, 'Operated' means to operate, 'Applied' means to apply, and 'Employed' means to hire for a job, which don't fit in this context.

10. B) **'Produced'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "produced" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को बनाना या प्राप्त करना। जबकि 'Renewed' का अर्थ है नवीनीकृत करना, 'Fabricated' का अर्थ है गढ़ना या तैयार करना, और 'Invented' का अर्थ है आविष्कार करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
    - **'Produced'** should be used because it means to create or obtain something. Whereas, 'Renewed' means to make new again, 'Fabricated' means to construct or create, and 'Invented' means to create something new, which don't fit in this context.

11. C) **'Combination'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "combination" का अर्थ होता है विभिन्न तत्वों का मिश्रण। जबकि 'Association' का अर्थ है संबंध, 'Collaboration' का अर्थ है सहयोग, और 'Cooperation' का अर्थ है सहकारिता, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।
    - **'Combination'** should be used because it means a mixture of different elements. Whereas, 'Association' means relationship, 'Collaboration' means cooperation, and 'Cooperation' means working together, which don't fit in this context.

12. C) No substitution required

13. 'C) **Knot'** का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence में जूतों के फीते की समस्या की चर्चा हो रही है। यहाँ "The _____ in my shoelace created a lot of trouble" के माध्यम से उस समस्या को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें फीते के गांठ की बात की जा रही है। इसलिए, "knot" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
    - '**Knot'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the trouble caused by something in the shoelace. Here, through "The _____ in my shoelace created a lot of trouble", it portrays that specific problem related to the shoelace, which is a knot. Thus, "knot" would be the most appropriate choice.

14. C) **Round'** का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence भीड़ द्वारा दी गई सराहना को दर्शा रहा है। यहाँ "The crowd gave them a (3)_____ of applause" के माध्यम से उस तालियों की गूँज को व्यक्त किया जा रहा है, जो एक सामान्य प्रथा है जब कोई प्रदर्शन या प्रयास सराहनीय होता है। इसलिए, "round" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
    - '**Round'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the appreciation given by the crowd. Here, through "The crowd gave them a (3)_____ of applause," it portrays that echo of clapping, which is a common practice when a performance or effort is commendable. Thus, "round" would be the most appropriate choice.

15. 'D) **Sailing'** का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence समुद्र में एक नाविक की गतिविधियों की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "A sailor was _____through the high tides" के माध्यम से उस नाविक की लहरों के बीच यात्रा का वर्णन किया जा रहा है। इसलिए, "sailing" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
    - '**Sailing'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the activities of a sailor in the sea. Here, through "A sailor was _____through the high tides," it describes the sailor's journey through the waves. Thus, "sailing" would be the most appropriate choice.

16. B) **Important** (adjective) – Of great significance or value, essential, crucial, key. महत्वपूर्ण

    Antonym: **Trivial** (adjective) – Of little value or importance, insignificant, minor. तुच्छ
    - **Recurring** (adjective) – Occurring again periodically or repeatedly. पुनरावर्ती
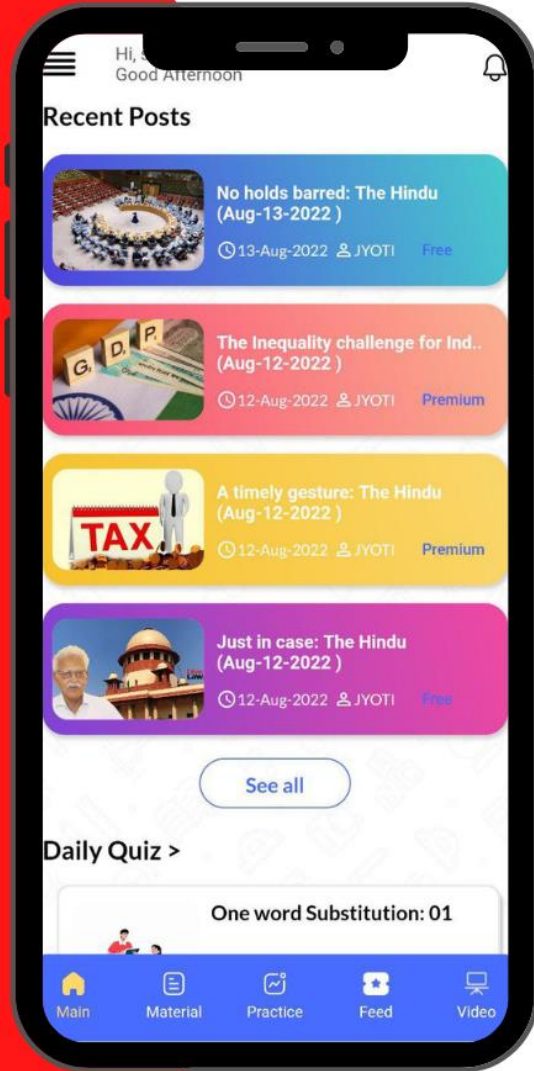
- **Significant** (adjective) – Sufficiently great or important to be worthy of attention, notable, consequential. महत्वपूर्ण
- **Productive** (adjective) – Achieving or producing a significant amount or result, fruitful, effective. उत्पादक

17. A) **Merit** (noun) – The quality of being particularly good or worthy, especially so as to deserve praise or reward. योग्यता, गुण

    Antonym: **Fault** (noun) – An unattractive or unsatisfactory feature, especially in a piece of work or in a person's character. दोष

    - **Tumult** (noun) – A loud, confused noise, especially one caused by a large mass of people. कोलाहल
    - **Result** (noun) – A consequence, effect, or outcome of something. परिणाम
    - **Occult** (adjective) – Relating to mystical, supernatural, or magical powers. गुप्त

18. A) The correct spelling of 'contant' is '**content**' which means "in a state of peaceful happiness" संतुष्ट, सुखी.

19. B) '**bear'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence नमिता और उसके बिल्ली के अचानक निधन के कारण होने वाले दर्द की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "Namita still cannot (17)_____ the pain of her cat's untimely demise" के माध्यम से उस भावनात्मक दर्द को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें "bear" का अर्थ सहन करना होता है। इसलिए, "bear" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
    - '**bear'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the pain Namita feels due to her cat's untimely demise. Here, through "Namita still cannot (17)_____ the pain of her cat's untimely demise," it portrays the emotional pain where "bear" means to endure or tolerate. Thus, "bear" would be the most appropriate choice.

20. A) **Like two peas in a pod** (idiom) – Very similar to each other बहुत समान

21. D) 'which was always silently rolling' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'river' के लिए 'which' का प्रयोग होता है और 'river' Singular है, इसलिए 'was' का प्रयोग करना सही होगा। सही वाक्य होगा: He lived on the bank of a mighty river, broad and deep, which was always silently rolling on to a vast undiscovered ocean.
    - 'which was always silently rolling' will be used because 'which' is used for 'river,' and since 'river' is singular, 'was' is the correct verb. The correct sentence should be: He lived on the bank of a mighty river, broad and deep, which was always silently rolling on to a vast undiscovered ocean.

22. C) **Lawful** (adjective) – Legal, legitimate, permitted by law. वैध

    Antonym: **Illicit** (adjective) – Forbidden by law, rules, or custom, illegal, unlawful. गैरकानूनी

    - **Legitimate** (adjective) – Conforming to the law or to rules, legal, authorized. वैध
    - **Sophisticated** (adjective) – Complex, refined, cultured, worldly. जटिल/ परिष्कृत
    - **Legal** (adjective) – Of, based on, or concerned with the law, lawful, permitted by law. कानूनी

23. D) The correct spelling of 'Advertisment' is '**Advertisement**' which means "a public notice or announcement, especially one promoting a product, service, or event" विज्ञापन.

24. B) look' के बदले **'looks'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि subject 'The painting' singular है और Verb के साथ-साथ subject भी singular होना चाहिए; जैसे— The painting looks good in this room.

    - **'looks'** will be used instead of 'look' because the subject 'The painting' is singular and both the verb and the subject should be singular; Like— The painting looks good in this room.

25. D) **'doesn't it'** का use होगा क्योंकि यह एक Tag Question है और यह 'make sense' के साथ प्रयोग किया जाएगा जो कि Present Tense में है। जैसे— If you are thinking about investing in share markets, doesn't it make sense to find an expert?

    - **'doesn't it'** will be used because this is a Tag Question and it will be used with 'make sense' which is in Present Tense; Like— If you are thinking about investing in share markets, doesn't it make sense to find an expert?