

Staunch the breach: On India, Pakistan and the Indus Waters Treaty

India and Pakistan need to drop their **hard line stances** on the Indus Waters Treaty

In its fourth notice to Pakistan since January 2023, India has **escalated** its demand for the **renegotiation** of the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), now **calling off** all meetings of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) until Pakistan agrees to sit at the table for talks. India's demand last year followed a **logjam** in the entire process, once **held up** internationally as a model **template** for water-sharing agreements. Even in the new **millennium**, the **tenets** of the treaty **held firm**, and India was able to win two major disputes by **adhering to** the processes **laid out**, including the Baglihar Dam project in 2007, and another dispute over **allegations** that India was **interfering** with Pakistan's Neelum project in 2013. The **issue** over how to proceed on dispute **resolution** for the Kishenganga and Ratle projects **has snowballed** since 2016, when Pakistan **escalated** the disputes — having a **neutral** expert look at them and demanding a Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA). **In a moment of weakness**, that it may come to regret, **the World Bank** — it is a co-signatory and guarantor of the IWT — **decided** to allow two **parallel** processes of the dispute **mechanism** to run at the same time. To make matters worse, Pakistan **turned its back** on the neutral expert's proceedings, while India has **boycotted** the PCA **hearings** at **The Hague**. Pakistan has been **cold** to India's notices on **renegotiating** the treaty and the **decision** by the Modi government to stop all PIC meetings **has** put the future of the process **in peril**. Unlike in past **decades**, when the IWT was considered **off-limits** for **partisan** politics, leaders on both sides are now not above using **fiery rhetoric**. Mr. Modi's **statement** after the 2016 Uri attack, that "blood and water" cannot flow together, **is perhaps** the most **egregious** example.

It is no **coincidence** that the **spiral mirrors** the **unravelling** of the India-Pakistan **bilateral** relationship in the same period. There is no political engagement or trade and the 2021 LoC **ceasefire** agreement is in danger after growing terror attacks and deaths of Indian Army personnel. It may be possible to re-open the treaty talks, but **concluding** any agreement will be that much more difficult. All eyes are now on New Delhi's response to Pakistan's invitation for the SCO Heads of Government meeting on October 15-16. Such an opening could present an opportunity for talks on **the way forward**. No doubt, **new-age issues** such as climate change and the need for renewable energy and hydropower options on the Indus **necessitate** a re-opening of the 64-year-old Treaty. How that is done, along with **resolving** current disputes, will decide whether the two countries can save the treaty, once referred to as the "**one bright spot**" in a "very **depressing** world picture" by U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Staunch** (verb) – Stop, halt, stem, suppress, block रोकना
2. **Hard line** (noun) – Firm stance, strict position, uncompromising attitude, rigid approach सख्त रवैया
3. **Stance** (noun) – Position, viewpoint, opinion, attitude रुख
4. **Escalate** (verb) – Intensify, increase, heighten, amplify बढ़ाना
5. **Renegotiation** (noun) – Re-discussion, re-evaluation, new talks, revision of terms पुनर्विचार
6. **Call off** (phrasal verb) – Cancel, terminate, withdraw, discontinue रद्द करना
7. **Logjam** (noun) – Deadlock, impasse, standstill, stalemate गतिरोध
8. **Hold up** (phrasal verb) – Delay, hinder, obstruct, prevent रोकना
9. **Template** (noun) – Model, pattern, example, prototype नमूना
10. **Millennium** (noun) – A period of a thousand years, thousand-year period सहस्राब्दी
11. **Tenet** (noun) – Principle, belief, doctrine, dogma सिद्धांत
12. **Hold firm** (phrasal verb) – Maintain, stay strong, persist, continue दृढ़ रहना
13. **Adhere to** (phrasal verb) – Follow, stick to, comply with, abide by पालन करना
14. **Lay out** (phrasal verb) – Present, explain, set forth, arrange प्रस्तुत करना
15. **Allegation** (noun) – Accusation, claim, charge, assertion आरोप
16. **Interfere** (verb) – Meddle, intervene, obstruct, intrude हस्तक्षेप करना
17. **Resolution** (noun) – Settlement, conclusion, solution, decision समाधान
18. **Snowball** (verb) – Grow rapidly, escalate, accumulate, intensify तेज़ी से बढ़ना
19. **Escalate** (verb) – Increase, intensify, amplify, heighten बढ़ाना
20. **Neutral** (adjective) – Impartial, unbiased, non-aligned, objective तटस्थ
21. **In a moment of weakness** (phrase) – At a vulnerable time, in a lapse of judgment, during a weak point कमजोर क्षण में
22. **Parallel** (adjective) – Simultaneous, corresponding, equivalent, side by side समानांतर
23. **Mechanism** (noun) – Process, system, procedure, method तंत्र
24. **Turn one's back** (phrase) – Reject, ignore, abandon, refuse पीठ फेर लेना

25. **Boycott** (verb) – Refuse to participate, shun, avoid, reject बहिष्कार करना
26. **Hearing** (noun) – Legal session, trial, inquiry, review सुनवाई
27. **The Hague** (noun) – Home of the International Court of Justice हेग
28. **Cold** (adjective) – Unresponsive, indifferent, aloof, uninterested उदासीन
29. **Renegotiate** (verb) – Re-discuss, revise terms, reopen talks, re-negotiate पुनः वार्ता करना
30. **In peril** (phrase) – In danger, at risk, in jeopardy, threatened खतरे में
31. **Decade** (noun) – A period of ten years दशक
32. **Off-limit** (adjective) – Restricted, prohibited, out of bounds, forbidden प्रतिबंधित
33. **Partisan** (adjective) – Biased, one-sided, political, prejudiced पक्षपाती
34. **Fiery** (adjective) – Passionate, intense, heated, explosive उग्र
35. **Rhetoric** (noun) – Language, speech, discourse, oratory वाक्पटुता
36. **Perhaps** (adverb) – Maybe, possibly, potentially, conceivably शायद
37. **Egregious** (adjective) – Shockingly bad, outrageous, atrocious, flagrant भयानक
38. **Coincidence** (noun) – Chance occurrence, accidental event, concurrence संयोग
39. **Spiral** (noun) – Deterioration, worsening situation, downward trend, decline गिरावट
40. **Mirror** (verb) – Reflect, resemble, imitate, replicate प्रतिबिंबित करना
41. **Unravelling** (noun) – Disintegration, collapse, breakdown, deterioration विघटन
42. **Bilateral** (adjective) – Two-sided, mutual, reciprocal, involving both sides द्विपक्षीय
43. **Ceasefire** (noun) – Truce, armistice, halt in fighting, cessation of hostilities युद्धविराम
44. **Conclude** (verb) – Finalize, complete, close, bring to an end समाप्त करना
45. **The way forward** (noun) – Future plan, next step, course of action, path ahead आगे का रास्ता
46. **Necessitate** (verb) – Require, demand, make necessary, compel आवश्यक बनाना
47. **Resolve** (verb) – Solve, settle, clear up, deal with हल करना
48. **Bright spot** (noun) – Positive aspect, hopeful element, good feature, uplifting factor सकारात्मक पहलू
49. **Depressing** (adjective) – Gloomy, discouraging, disheartening, saddening निराशाजनक

Summary of the Editorial

1. India has escalated its demand for renegotiating the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), calling off all meetings of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) until Pakistan agrees to discussions.
2. The IWT, once a model of water-sharing agreements, has faced a deadlock since January 2023.
3. The treaty held firm through disputes, with India winning major cases in 2007 (Baglihar Dam) and 2013 (Neelum project).
4. The Kishenganga and Ratle project disputes have escalated since 2016, with Pakistan seeking arbitration and India favoring a neutral expert.
5. The World Bank's decision to allow parallel dispute resolution mechanisms worsened the situation, creating confusion.
6. Pakistan has rejected the neutral expert process, while India has boycotted the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) hearings.
7. India's decision to stop all PIC meetings has jeopardized the treaty's future.
8. Unlike in the past, the IWT has now become a subject of partisan politics, with both countries using fiery rhetoric.
9. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 2016 statement that "blood and water cannot flow together" marked a turning point.
10. The deteriorating India-Pakistan bilateral relationship mirrors the treaty's unravelling, with no political engagement or trade currently.
11. The 2021 LoC ceasefire agreement is at risk, as terror attacks and deaths of Indian soldiers continue.
12. Reopening treaty talks is possible, but reaching an agreement will be much harder.
13. Pakistan's invitation for the SCO Heads of Government meeting in October 2024 offers a potential opportunity for dialogue.
14. Climate change, renewable energy, and hydropower needs on the Indus necessitate revisiting the 64-year-old treaty.
15. The future of the treaty depends on resolving current disputes and adapting to new issues, recalling its historical significance as a bright spot in global diplomacy.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial Page]

1. What is the tone of the passage?

- A. Optimistic
- B. Neutral
- C. Cautionary
- D. Aggressive

2. Match the following based on the disputes mentioned in the passage:

Column A	Column B
1. Baglihar Dam dispute	A. 2013
2. Neelum Project dispute	B. 2016
3. Kishenganga & Ratle dispute	C. 2007
4. Parallel dispute mechanisms	D. 2016

- A. 1-C, 2-A, 3-B, 4-D
- B. 1-C, 2-D, 3-A, 4-B
- C. 1-B, 2-C, 3-A, 4-D
- D. 1-D, 2-A, 3-C, 4-B

3. Fill in the blank based on the passage:

The passage suggests that the World Bank's decision to allow two parallel processes of dispute resolution has _____ the situation further.

- A. complicated
- B. simplified
- C. resolved
- D. ignored

4. What can be inferred about the future of the India-Pakistan relationship based on the passage?

- A. The relationship will remain hostile without any significant change.
- B. The treaty will be saved due to international pressure.
- C. There is a possibility for dialogue if India participates in the SCO meeting.
- D. The bilateral relationship is beyond repair and cannot be improved.

5. Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the passage?

- A. The 2021 LoC ceasefire agreement has completely ended.
- B. The India-Pakistan relationship has deteriorated without political engagement or trade.
- C. The SCO meeting will definitely lead to a treaty agreement.
- D. The Indus Water Treaty is no longer relevant to both nations.

6. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.

- A. Five miles of trudging beyond the main road will bring you to a croft now called Knockavill, or as George Orwell named it, Barnhill, where he set up a frugal farmhouse and wrote his classic 1984.

- B. This Hebridean island in Scotland has always been an abiding fascination for me, as I too, like Orwell, sought its isolation and peace, its beauty and remoteness, its ruggedness and wildlife, its solitude and its adventure.
- C. On the island of Jura live more deer and sheep than people.
- D. Scotland holds a special enchantment for me, and I have found myself drawn back to its rolling hills, placid lochs, and peaceful streams time and again.
- A. BDAC
- B. CABD
- C. BCAD
- D. ABCD
7. **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:** My 20x30 feet terrace, a tranquil oasis in the middle of the bustling city, is a tapestry of vibrant colours and textures and a masterfully plotted haven.
- S4:** The terrace, still simple and unassuming, stands in contrast to the modern, high-demand terraces of today.
- P:** The Bible refers to Noah's use of the raven and dove to bring him information about the proverbial Flood.
- Q:** The warm sunlight dances across the lush foliage, casting dappled shadows on the worn stone floor.
- R:** Blooming plants — lemongrass, palms, roses, and marigolds — sway gently in the breeze, their sweet fragrance wafting through the air like a symphony of scents and the soft chirping of birds fills the air.
- S:** Since earliest times birds have been not only a material but also a cultural resource.
- A. P and Q
- B. Q and R
- C. P and S
- D. Q and S

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.

Once upon a time, there was a man (1)_____ used to tell the fortunes of people. One day, he was telling the fortune as usual when a man came to him and said, "Somebody (2)_____ broken the door of your house and has stolen many valuables. Go home at once!" The fortune teller was (3)_____ shocked to hear the news. He could not utter a word out of shock. He just ran to his house as fast as he could. He was in such a hurry that he left all his things behind. Now, one of his customers saw him rushing and (4)_____, "Every day he (5)_____ the fortunes of so many people but today he could not see his own future!" The fortune teller felt very embarrassed.

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

- A. whose
B. by whom
C. who
D. whom
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
A. shall have
B. had
C. have
D. has
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
A. many
B. so more
C. so less
D. quite
11. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
A. comment
B. comments
C. commenting
D. commented
12. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
A. told
B. telling
C. tell
D. tells
13. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the following sentence.**
There is also an increase in juvenile delinquency.
A. Minor
B. Puerile
C. Teenage
D. Adult
14. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
The boy watched a sci-fi movie in the lieu of playing in the game zone
A. in lieu of play
B. in lieu of playing
C. on lieu of playing
D. in lieu off playing
15. **Select the most appropriate synonym that can replace the underlined word in the given sentence.**
It did not take her very long to ascend to power
A. arise
B. reach

- C. climb
D. grab
16. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Peculiar
A. Revolutionary
B. Usual
C. Frequent
D. Strange
17. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Alluring
A. Glamourous
B. Enticing
C. Fascinating
D. Repulsive
18. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined part in the following sentence.**
My entire family left me in the lurch when I went to them after I divorced my husband
A. blamed only me for my failure
B. scorned me for committing mistakes
C. refused to help me in my distress
D. attempted to harass me
19. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence.**
The west Africans have a heritage of producing sculpture using wax and bronze
A. Bronze
B. Heritage
C. Producing
D. Sculpture
20. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Resourceful
A. Incompetent
B. Ingenious
C. Impeccable
D. Immaculate
21. **Fill in the blank using the correct collocation.**
We need to _____ a decision on the housing project tomorrow morning.
A. build
B. draw
C. frame
D. make
22. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.**
Prakash could not make up his mind about what to do with the project.
A. Decide

- B. Abandon
C. Think
D. Abide
23. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined word in the following sentence.**
His flight departs in 5:00 pm.
A. of
B. at
C. for
D. from
24. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Agile
A. Sluggish
B. Energetic
C. Apathetic
D. Active
25. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
The novel highlights the place of the endangered species in the rainforest.
A. prowess
B. position
C. perspective
D. plight

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. C) **Cautionary**

The passage warns of escalating tensions between India and Pakistan over the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), highlighting the risks of both countries' hard-line stances and the potential collapse of the treaty. The cautious tone emerges as the passage discusses the need for careful handling of the treaty to avoid further complications.

A: This is incorrect as the passage does not present a positive outlook on the future of the treaty or the relationship between the two countries.

B: This is incorrect because the passage takes a clear stance on the potential risks and consequences of the current situation, rather than remaining impartial.

D: While there are mentions of political rhetoric, the passage itself does not adopt an aggressive tone but rather focuses on caution and the need for careful negotiation.

2. **A) 1-C, 2-A, 3-B, 4-D**

The Baglihar Dam dispute was resolved in 2007, so 1 matches with C.

The Neelum Project dispute occurred in 2013, matching 2 with A.

The Kishenganga and Ratle dispute snowballed in 2016, so 3 matches with B.

The parallel dispute mechanisms were allowed in 2016, matching 4 with D.

3. A) **complicated**

The passage explicitly states that "the World Bank... decided to allow two parallel processes... to run at the same time," and the phrase "to make matters worse" indicates that this decision complicated the situation.

B) simplified is incorrect because the passage mentions the decision worsened, not simplified, the process.

C) resolved is wrong as the issue has not been resolved.

D) ignored is also incorrect since the World Bank took action, not ignored the issue.

4. **C) There is a possibility for dialogue if India participates in the SCO meeting.**

C is correct because the passage mentions that Pakistan has invited India for the SCO Heads of Government meeting, and this could open up an opportunity for talks about the future of the relationship and the treaty.

A is incorrect because although the relationship is strained, the passage indicates potential openings for dialogue.

B is incorrect because the passage does not mention any international pressure saving the treaty; rather, it focuses on bilateral actions.

D is incorrect because the passage suggests the possibility of dialogue and does not state that the relationship is beyond repair.

5. **B) The India-Pakistan relationship has deteriorated without political engagement or trade.**

B is correct because the passage explicitly states that there has been no political engagement or trade between India and Pakistan, and the bilateral relationship is deteriorating.

A is incorrect because the passage says the ceasefire agreement is in danger but does not confirm that it has ended completely.

C is incorrect because the passage only mentions the SCO meeting as a potential opportunity for talks, but there is no certainty about an agreement being reached.

D is incorrect because the passage emphasizes the ongoing relevance of the Indus Water Treaty, especially in the context of new-age issues like climate change and renewable energy.

6. B) **CABD**

C: This sentence introduces the island of Jura, establishing the setting for the rest of the paragraph.

A: The use of "Five miles of trudging..." gives a sense of action and location, creating a transition from a general description (island) to something more specific (Barnhill).

B: This sentence shifts from describing Orwell's experience to the speaker's personal connection to the island.

D: The structure of this sentence concludes the narrative by summarizing the speaker's recurring fondness for Scotland, using past tense ("have found") to reflect on repeated actions, suitable for a closing statement.

7. B) **Q and R.**

Q continues the description of the terrace by adding sensory imagery of sunlight and foliage, which fits with S1's peaceful, colorful setting.

R enhances the scene with specific details about plants and their fragrances, maintaining the tranquil and natural theme of the terrace.

P: This sentence introduces an unrelated religious and historical reference. It does not logically follow the description of the terrace and breaks the flow of the passage.

S: This sentence is factual and historical, discussing birds as resources rather than contributing to the sensory and aesthetic description of the terrace. It does not fit.

8. C) 'Who' का use होगा क्योंकि "who" का अर्थ होता है जो व्यक्ति कुछ कर रहा हो और यहां यह man के लिए प्रयुक्त हो रहा है, जो लोगों का भविष्य बताता था। यह subject pronoun है और इसलिए सही है। जबकि, 'Whose' का अर्थ होता है 'जिसका' और यह possessive है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'By whom' का अर्थ होता है 'जिसके द्वारा', जो यहां उपयुक्त नहीं है क्योंकि यह passive structure की आवश्यकता होती है, और 'Whom' का प्रयोग object के लिए किया जाता है, लेकिन यहां subject की आवश्यकता है।

'Who' will be used because it refers to a person doing something, and here it refers to the man who used to tell fortunes. It is a subject pronoun, making it the correct choice. 'Whose' means 'belonging to someone' and is possessive, which does not fit here. 'By whom' means 'by which person,' but this requires a passive structure, and 'Whom' is an object pronoun, but here we need the subject.

9. D) Has' का use होगा क्योंकि यह present perfect tense का सही रूप है और यहां 'somebody' के द्वारा दरवाजा तोड़ने और चोरियों के बारे में वर्तमान की घटना की ओर इशारा किया जा रहा है। Present perfect tense का उपयोग किसी ऐसी घटना के लिए किया जाता है जो हाल ही में पूरी हुई हो। जबकि 'Shall have' future perfect tense के लिए होता है, जो यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Had' past perfect tense है, और 'Have' plural subject के साथ प्रयोग होता है, जबकि यहाँ 'somebody' singular है।

'Has' will be used because it is the correct form of the present perfect tense, indicating that the breaking of the door and theft are recent events. The present perfect tense is used for actions that have just been completed. 'Shall have' is for future perfect tense, which doesn't fit here. 'Had' is past perfect tense, and 'Have' is used with plural subjects, while 'somebody' is singular.

10. D) 'Quite' का use होगा क्योंकि यह एक intensifier है जो shock की गंभीरता को दिखाता है। 'Quite shocked' का अर्थ है कि वह व्यक्ति बहुत ज्यादा हैरान था। 'Many' का अर्थ 'बहुत सारे' होता है, जो यहां भाव या मात्रा को व्यक्त करने के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'So more' और 'so less' दोनों गलत हैं क्योंकि 'more' और 'less' का प्रयोग मात्रा की तुलना के लिए होता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Quite' will be used because it is an intensifier, emphasizing the degree of shock. 'Quite shocked' means he was very surprised. 'Many' means 'a lot of,' which doesn't suit here as it refers to a number. 'So more' and 'so less' are incorrect as they are used for comparisons of quantity, which do not fit this context.
11. D) 'Commented' का use होगा क्योंकि यह past tense का सही रूप है और यहां बताया गया है कि ग्राहक ने पहले ही टिप्पणी की थी। पूरे passage को past tense में लिखा गया है, इसलिए 'commented' सही है। 'Comment' और 'comments' present tense में हैं, जो यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं हैं। 'Commenting' continuous tense में होता है, जो इस sentence में आवश्यक नहीं है। 'Commented' will be used because it is the correct form in past tense, indicating that the customer had already made a remark. The entire passage is written in past tense, so 'commented' fits. 'Comment' and 'comments' are in present tense, which is not appropriate here. 'Commenting' is continuous tense, which is not needed in this sentence.
12. D) 'Tells' का use होगा क्योंकि यह simple present tense का सही रूप है और यहां व्यक्ति की एक नियमित आदत या क्रिया के बारे में बताया जा रहा है कि वह हर दिन भविष्य बताता है। Simple present tense का उपयोग उन कार्यों के लिए किया जाता है जो नियमित रूप से होते हैं। 'Told' past tense में है, जो इस आदत को व्यक्त करने के लिए सही नहीं है। 'Telling' continuous tense है, जो यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Tell' base form है और subject (he) के साथ 's' की आवश्यकता होती है। 'Tells' will be used because it is the correct form in the simple present tense, referring to a regular habit or action of the person telling fortunes every day. The simple present tense is used for habitual actions. 'Told' is past tense, which is not appropriate for expressing a habit. 'Telling' is continuous tense, which is not needed here. 'Tell' is the base form, but it needs an 's' with the subject (he).
13. D) **Juvenile** (adjective) – Relating to young people, youthful, adolescent. किशोर
Antonym: Adult (adjective) – Fully grown or developed, mature, grown-up. वयस्क
- **Minor** (adjective) – Lesser in importance, seriousness, or significance, underage. मामूली
 - **Puerile** (adjective) – Childishly silly and trivial, immature, juvenile. बालसुलभ
 - **Teenage** (adjective) – Relating to teenagers, adolescent, young. किशोर
14. B) in lieu of playing' का use सही है क्योंकि 'in lieu of' एक phrase है जिसका अर्थ है 'के स्थान पर' और इसके बाद verb के '-ing' form का प्रयोग होता है। सही वाक्य होगा: The boy watched a sci-fi movie in lieu of playing in the game zone.
 ➤ 'in lieu of playing' is correct because 'in lieu of' is a phrase that means 'in place of,' and it is followed by the '-ing' form of the verb. The correct sentence is: The boy watched a sci-fi movie in lieu of playing in the game zone.
15. C) **Ascend** (verb) – Move up, rise, go up, mount. चढ़ना

Synonym: Climb (verb) – to move or go up (something) using your feet and often your hands, especially to a higher position. चढ़ना

- Arise (verb) – to become apparent, to come into being or attention. उठना
- Reach (verb) – to arrive at; to attain a goal or destination. पहुंचना
- Grab (verb) – to take hold of something or someone suddenly and roughly. पकड़ना

16. D) **Peculiar (adjective) – Unusual, distinctive, different from the normal, odd. अजीब**

Synonym: **Strange (adjective) – Unusual, odd, not familiar, peculiar. अजीब**

- **Revolutionary (adjective) – Involving or causing a complete or dramatic change, innovative. क्रांतिकारी**
- **Usual (adjective) – Habitual, common, regular, normal. सामान्य**
- **Frequent (adjective) – Occurring often, repeated, regular. बार-बार**

17. D) **Alluring (adjective) – Powerfully and mysteriously attractive or fascinating; seductive. आकर्षक**

Antonym: **Repulsive (adjective) – Arousing intense distaste or disgust; offensive, unattractive. घृणास्पद**

- **Glamorous (adjective) – Attractive in an exciting and special way. आकर्षक**
- **Enticing (adjective) – Attractive or tempting; alluring. लुभावनी**
- **Fascinating (adjective) – Extremely interesting and attractive. मोहक**

18. C) **Leave someone in the lurch (phrase) – Refused to help me in my distress किसी को मझधार में छोड़ देना**

19. C) The correct spelling of 'Producing' is '**Producing**' which means "making or manufacturing from components or raw materials" निर्माण करना, उत्पादन करना.

20. A) **Resourceful (adjective) – Having the ability to find quick and clever ways to overcome difficulties, inventive, capable. संसाधन संपन्न**

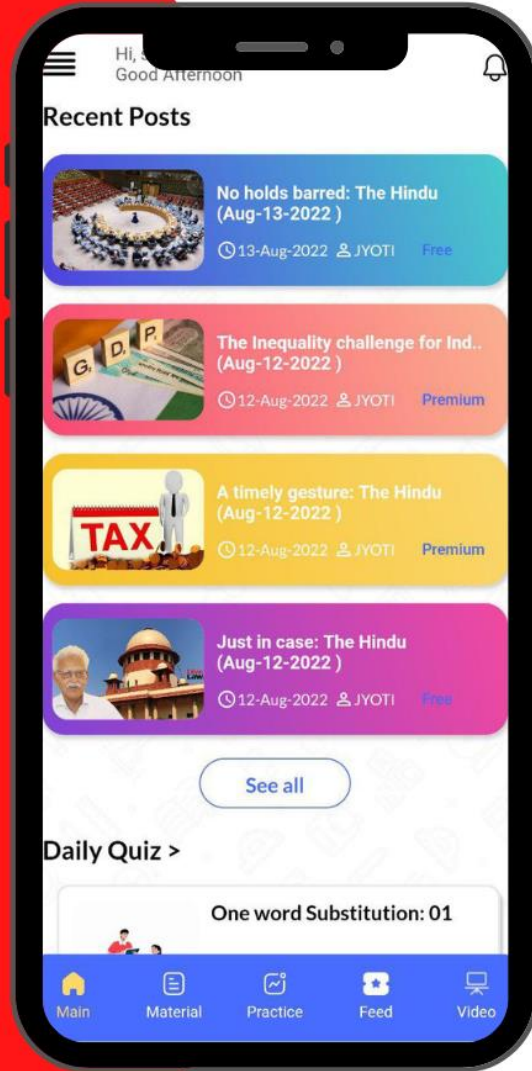
Antonym: **Incompetent (adjective) – Not having or showing the necessary skills to do something successfully, inept, unskilled.**

अक्षम

- **Ingenious (adjective) – Clever, original, and inventive, resourceful. उद्यमी**
- **Impeccable (adjective) – In accordance with the highest standards; faultless. निर्दोष**
- **Immaculate (adjective) – Perfectly clean, neat, or tidy, spotless; perfect, flawless, faultless निर्मल/ श्रेष्ठ**

21. D) Make' का use होगा क्योंकि 'make a decision' एक सही collocation है। इसका अर्थ है कोई निर्णय लेना। 'Build', 'draw', और 'frame' का उपयोग इस context में सही नहीं है क्योंकि इनका अर्थ या तो निर्माण करना, खींचना, या किसी संरचना को तैयार करना है, जो निर्णय लेने के कार्य से मेल नहीं खाता। 'Make' will be used because 'make a decision' is the correct collocation. It means to take a decision. 'Build', 'draw', and 'frame' are incorrect in this context, as their meanings (to construct, sketch, or structure) do not align with the action of deciding.

22. A) **Make up his mind** (idiom) – Decide निर्णय लेना
23. B) 'in' के बदले 'at' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि समय बताने के लिए preposition 'at' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— The meeting starts at 3:00 PM.
- 'at' will be used instead of 'in' because the preposition 'at' is used to indicate specific times; Like— The meeting starts at 3:00 PM.
24. A) **Agile** (adjective) – Quick and light in movement or action, nimble, spry, lively. चुस्त
- Antonym: Sluggish** (adjective) – Slow-moving or inactive, lethargic, lacking energy, unenergetic. सुस्त
- **Energetic** (adjective) – Showing or involving great activity or vitality, lively, vigorous. ऊर्जावान
 - **Apathetic** (adjective) – Showing or feeling no interest, enthusiasm, or concern, indifferent, uninterested. उदासीन
 - **Active** (adjective) – Engaging or ready to engage in physically energetic pursuits, lively, agile. सक्रिय
25. D) 'Plight' का use होगा क्योंकि "plight" का अर्थ है कठिन या दुखद स्थिति, और यहां novel उन प्रजातियों की खतरनाक स्थिति पर प्रकाश डालता है। 'Prowess' का अर्थ है उत्कृष्ट कौशल, 'Position' का अर्थ है स्थान या स्थिति, और 'Perspective' का अर्थ है दृष्टिकोण।
- 'Plight' will be used because "plight" means a difficult or dangerous situation, which fits as the novel highlights the endangered species' perilous condition. 'Prowess' means great skill, 'Position' refers to a place or status, and 'Perspective' means a viewpoint.



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