

Staying the course: On the fight against air pollution in the Indo-Gangetic plains

The Centre and the States need to fight air pollution together

With the southwest monsoon **drawing to a close**, north India, particularly the States in the Indo-Gangetic plains, **brace** themselves **for** the annual **spike** in winter pollution. Earlier this week, a top **functionary** in the Prime Minister's Office **convened** a meeting with representatives from Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, along with the heads of several ministries in Delhi. The brief was to **take stock of** the steps **in place** to prevent air quality from **deteriorating catastrophically** in Delhi. While pollution from **vehicular emissions**, road and construction **dust**, solid waste management, and diesel sets have over the years been **counted** as key sources of **emissions**, the **burning** of paddy **stubble** in Punjab and Haryana **is** known to be responsible for as much as 40% of the pollutant load during October and November. Punjab is expected to generate 19.52 million tonnes of paddy straw this year as compared to Haryana's 8 million tonnes. At the meeting, both States have **committed to "eliminate"** paddy stubble burning this year. **To be sure**, last November, the Supreme Court of India had expressly ordered that such burning completely **ceases**. This year, it has demanded to know from the Centre the steps that have been taken to **address** the problem. Whether the States can **comply remains to be seen**.

The harvest season of 2023 saw a 59% fall in the number of stubble-burning incidents in Punjab as compared to 2022; in Haryana it **dipped** by 40% but Uttar Pradesh saw a 30% rise. Despite the solutions to address the problem being known — create economic incentives as well as **punitive** measures to prevent straw from being burned — implementation remains a challenge. Punjab says that it hopes to manage 11.5 million tonnes of its paddy straw through **in-situ** (on the field) crop **residue** management and the rest via **ex-situ** methods. Similarly, Haryana will manage 3.3 million tonnes in-situ and use ex-situ methods for the remainder. **In addition to this**, **2 million tonnes** of paddy straw **would** be 'co-fired' in 11 thermal power plants across the NCR region. Co-firing refers to turning the straw into **pellets** that can be used as a source of carbon. Experience over the years shows that **several** of these machines **are** not available to farmers when required. While using the straw in power plants has often been **touted** as a solution, there is no **well-oiled** system in place to transport straw from field to plant. The causes of the pollution crisis are multi-layered and will **yield** results only **gradually**. The States and the Centre must **set aside** their political **differences** and stay the course collectively. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Stay the course** (phrase) – Continue with a process or action, remain consistent, persevere, keep going despite difficulties.
डटे रहना
2. **Draw to a close** (phrase) – Come to an end, conclude, wind up, finish, wrap up.
समाप्त होना
3. **Brace for** (phrasal verb) – Prepare for, get ready for, be on guard for, anticipate. तैयार होना
4. **Spike** (noun) – Sharp increase, surge, rise, escalation. अचानक वृद्धि
5. **Functionary** (noun) – Official, officer, administrator, representative, bureaucrat. अधिकारी
6. **Convene** (verb) – Assemble, gather, call together, summon, meet. बैठक बुलाना
7. **Take stock of** (phrase) – Review, assess, evaluate, consider, analyze. मूल्यांकन करना
8. **In place** (phrase) – Established, arranged, set up, in position, ready. मौजूद
9. **Deteriorate** (verb) – Decline, worsen, degrade, degenerate, fall apart. बिगड़ना
10. **Catastrophically** (adverb) – Disastrously, devastatingly, calamitously, extremely badly. विनाशकारी रूप से
11. **Vehicular** (adjective) – Related to vehicles, automotive, transport-related. वाहन-संबंधी
12. **Emission** (noun) – Discharge, release, outflow, ejection, exhalation. उत्सर्जन
13. **Dust** (noun) – Fine particles, dirt, powder, debris, sediment. धूल
14. **Count** (verb) – Consider, regard, include, take into account. शामिल करना
15. **Emission** (noun) – Release, discharge, output, expulsion, emission. उत्सर्जन
16. **Stubble** (noun) – Crop residue, straw, leftover stalks, plant remains. पराली
17. **Committed** (to) (adjective) – Dedicated, devoted, loyal, determined, resolute. प्रतिबद्ध
18. **Eliminate** (verb) – Remove, get rid of, eradicate, abolish, terminate. समाप्त करना
19. **To be sure** (phrase) – Certainly, undoubtedly, of course, for sure, without a doubt. निस्संदेह
20. **Cease** (verb) – Stop, end, terminate, discontinue, halt. बंद करना
21. **Address** (verb) – Deal with, tackle, respond to, handle, focus on. समाधान करना
22. **Comply** (verb) – Obey, follow, adhere to, conform, submit. पालन करना

23. **Remains to be seen** (phrase) – Uncertain, yet to be determined, not decided yet, wait and see. देखा जाना बाकी है
24. **Dip** (verb) – Decrease, decline, drop, fall, lessen. गिरावट होना
25. **Punitive** (adjective) – Disciplinary, penalizing, retributive, corrective, harsh. दंडात्मक
26. **In-situ** (adverb) – In the original place, on-site, locally, in position. स्थल पर
27. **Residue** (adjective) – Remaining, leftover, remnant, residual, excess. शेष
28. **Ex-situ** (adverb) – Outside the original location, off-site, elsewhere. स्थल से बाहर
29. **In addition to** (phrase) – As well as, besides, along with, together with, plus. इसके अतिरिक्त
30. **Pellet** (noun) – Small compressed mass, tablet, grain, granule, bead. छोटी गोली
31. **Tout** (verb) – Promote, endorse, advertise, acclaim, praise. बढ़ावा देना
32. **Well-oiled** (adjective) – Efficient, smooth-functioning, well-organized, operating well. सुचारू रूप से चलने वाला
33. **Yield** (verb) – Produce, generate, provide, result in, bear. उत्पन्न करना
34. **Gradually** (adverb) – Slowly, progressively, step-by-step, incrementally, little by little. धीरे-धीरे
35. **Set aside** (phrase) – Put away, reserve, dismiss, disregard, keep aside. अलग रखना
36. **Differences** (noun) – Disagreements, divergences, conflicts, disputes, variations. मतभेद

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Seasonal Pollution Spike:** With the southwest monsoon ending, North India, especially the Indo-Gangetic plains, faces an annual rise in air pollution during the winter months.
2. **High-Level Meeting:** The Prime Minister's Office held a meeting with representatives from Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh to address the worsening air quality.
3. **Key Sources of Emissions:** Pollution sources include vehicular emissions, construction dust, waste management, diesel generator sets, and most notably, paddy stubble burning.
4. **Impact of Paddy Stubble Burning:** Stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana contributes to around 40% of the pollutant load during October and November.
5. **Stubble Generation in 2023:** Punjab is expected to produce 19.52 million tonnes of paddy straw, while Haryana will generate 8 million tonnes this year.
6. **States' Commitment:** Punjab and Haryana have committed to eliminating stubble burning entirely this year, following the Supreme Court's directive from last November.
7. **Reduction in Stubble Burning Incidents:** In 2023, Punjab saw a 59% reduction in stubble burning incidents compared to 2022, while Haryana reported a 40% decrease. However, Uttar Pradesh experienced a 30% rise.
8. **Proposed Solutions:** Both States plan to use in-situ (on-field) crop residue management and ex-situ methods to handle the straw, with Punjab managing 11.5 million tonnes and Haryana managing 3.3 million tonnes in-situ.
9. **Ex-Situ Management:** Ex-situ methods involve transporting straw to power plants to be co-fired as pellets, which serve as a source of carbon.
10. **Challenges in Implementation:** Farmers often lack access to necessary machinery for straw management, and the transportation system for moving straw from fields to power plants is not well-established.
11. **Role of Thermal Power Plants:** Around 2 million tonnes of paddy straw are planned to be co-fired in 11 thermal power plants across the NCR region.
12. **Need for Collective Action:** The pollution crisis is complex and multi-layered, requiring coordinated efforts from both the States and the Centre.
13. **Political Coordination:** The Centre and States must set aside political differences to ensure successful implementation of pollution control measures.
14. **Gradual Improvement:** Addressing the pollution crisis will take time, and consistent, long-term efforts are essential to see substantial results.
15. **Urgency of Compliance:** The Supreme Court has demanded a status update on the Centre's actions to control stubble burning, putting pressure on the States to comply with their commitments.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

- 1. What was the primary purpose of the meeting convened by the Prime Minister's Office with representatives from Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. To discuss the construction of new highways in the region.
 - B. To assess the steps taken to prevent catastrophic air quality deterioration in Delhi.
 - C. To review the budget allocations for healthcare facilities in these States.
 - D. To implement new policies on vehicular emissions across India.
- 2. Why is the burning of paddy stubble considered a significant problem during October and November in the Indo-Gangetic plains?**
 - A. It produces harmful greenhouse gases that cause global warming.
 - B. It is the primary cause of vehicular traffic in the region.
 - C. It contributes up to 40% of the pollutant load during these months.
 - D. It affects the groundwater levels, causing severe water scarcity.
- 3. What step has the Supreme Court of India taken regarding the burning of paddy stubble in Punjab and Haryana?**
 - A. It has increased the penalty for stubble burning to reduce air pollution.
 - B. It has banned all forms of agricultural activity during October and November.
 - C. It has directed the Centre to fund alternative methods for managing stubble.
 - D. It has ordered that stubble burning should completely cease.
- 4. What is the most likely reason for the persistence of stubble-burning incidents in Uttar Pradesh, despite the decrease in other states?**
 - A. Farmers in Uttar Pradesh are not provided with sufficient machinery and incentives for in-situ and ex-situ crop residue management.
 - B. Uttar Pradesh has different climatic conditions that make stubble management more challenging.
 - C. The State government in Uttar Pradesh is not actively enforcing punitive measures against stubble burning.
 - D. Farmers in Uttar Pradesh have a cultural preference for stubble burning over other methods of residue management.
- 5. The method of handling crop residues directly on the field is known as _____.**
 - A. Ex-situ management
 - B. Co-digestion
 - C. In-situ management
 - D. Composting
- 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. It's not without reason that revisions in the Class XII political science textbook have led to a hue and cry.
 - B. Periodic revision of learning material is par for the course.
 - C. How the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is going about it is problematic, ill-advised and smacks of narrow-mindedness.

- D. Questions are bound to be raised over the strange logic of whitewashing contemporary events, skipping uncomfortable moments in India's history and choosing to ignore incidents of violence and protest.
- A. BDAC
 - B. CABD
 - C. BCAD
 - D. ABCD

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.

Today, let's explore the significant role of human beings in shaping the world as we know it. Can you 1. _____ a world without human beings? Who would have 2. _____ the resources and created social and cultural environment? The people are 3. _____ to develop the economy and the society. The people make and use resources and are themselves resources with 4. _____ quality. Coal is but a piece of rock, until people were able to 5. _____ technology to obtain it and make it a 'resource'

7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
- A. imagine
 - B. neglect
 - C. fabricate
 - D. ignore
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
- A. utilised
 - B. destroyed
 - C. crippled
 - D. broken
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3**
- A. frantic
 - B. hopeful
 - C. hasty
 - D. Crucial
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**
- A. inconstant
 - B. varying
 - C. deviating
 - D. Alternating
11. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
- A. mint
 - B. fashion
 - C. invent
 - D. Open

12. Read the sentence carefully and select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined part.

The crux of the study has been delineated by the researcher.

- A. relevant part
 - B. central point
 - C. fixed limitation
 - D. collected data
13. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the following sentence.

Play cards is not allowed here

- A. Playing card
 - B. Play card
 - C. Played cards
 - D. Playing cards
14. Identify the most appropriate antonym of the given word.

Accept

- A. Regret
 - B. Refuse
 - C. Agree
 - D. Present
15. Identify the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the given sentence.

His jovial nature has won him many friends

- A. Dumb
 - B. Cunning
 - C. Shrewd
 - D. Miserable
16. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.

Vihaan is clumsy at dancing

- A. heavy duty
 - B. easy handed
 - C. all thumbs
 - D. master skill
17. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the given sentence.

When I got an opportunity to start a new business, Ravikanth queered my pitch.

- A. Helped me by standing beside me
 - B. Advised me
 - C. Ruined my plan
 - D. Supported me with money
18. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.

Absurd

- A. Reasonable

- B. Foolish
C. Nonsensical
D. Insane
19. **Identify the correct spelling of the underlined word.**
The police issued a varant to the criminals
A. Warant
B. Warent
C. Varrant
D. Warrant
20. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Lazy
A. Barren
B. Diligent
C. Helpful
D. Genuine
21. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Change
A. Adjust
B. Renew
C. Alter
D. Resolute
22. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word 'Plausible' from the given sentence.**
The trend of improvement is unlikely to continue for the foreseeable future
A. unlikely
B. trend
C. future
D. foreseeable
23. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the following sentence.**
There was a noise that was wake me up.
A. wakes me up
B. has woke me up
C. woke me up
D. woken me up
24. **Select the option to fill in the blank with the most appropriate collocation.**
In boarding schools, students need to _____ by themselves
A. make the bed
B. run the bed
C. turn the bed
D. wash the bed
25. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**
A. Imprudent

- B. Scatered
- C. Brazen
- D. Crowded

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

- B) To assess the steps taken to prevent catastrophic air quality deterioration in Delhi.**

B is correct as the passage mentions that the meeting was called to take stock of the steps in place to prevent air quality from deteriorating catastrophically in Delhi.
A is incorrect because there is no mention of highway construction in the passage.
C is incorrect as the passage does not talk about healthcare facilities or budget allocations.
D is incorrect because although vehicular emissions are mentioned as a source of pollution, the meeting was not about implementing new policies across India but specifically focused on the Indo-Gangetic plains' pollution issues.
- C) It contributes up to 40% of the pollutant load during these months.**

C is correct as the passage states that the burning of paddy stubble in Punjab and Haryana is known to be responsible for as much as 40% of the pollutant load during October and November.
A is incorrect because although stubble burning does produce greenhouse gases, the passage specifically emphasizes its contribution to pollution rather than global warming.
B is incorrect as stubble burning does not lead to vehicular traffic; rather, it contributes to air pollution.
D is incorrect because there is no mention of stubble burning affecting groundwater levels or causing water scarcity in the passage.
- D) It has ordered that stubble burning should completely cease.**

D is correct as the passage explicitly mentions that last November, the Supreme Court of India had ordered that stubble burning should completely cease.
A is incorrect because the passage does not mention any increase in penalties for stubble burning.
B is incorrect as the Supreme Court has not banned all agricultural activity but specifically targeted stubble burning.
C is incorrect because the passage does not talk about the Supreme Court directing the Centre to fund alternative methods for managing stubble.
- A) Farmers in Uttar Pradesh are not provided with sufficient machinery and incentives for in-situ and ex-situ crop residue management.**

The passage mentions that Punjab and Haryana have set targets for managing their paddy straw using in-situ and ex-situ methods and implementing co-firing strategies. However, no such measures are detailed for Uttar Pradesh, indicating that the lack of machinery and incentives might be a significant reason for the increase in stubble-burning incidents in this state.
B is incorrect because the passage does not mention climatic conditions as a factor affecting stubble management.

C is incorrect because there is no specific mention of enforcement issues in Uttar Pradesh.

D is incorrect because the passage does not mention cultural factors influencing the choice of stubble management methods.

5. **C) In-situ management**

The passage defines "in-situ management" as managing paddy straw directly on the field. This involves techniques such as mulching or using the straw as a natural cover to prevent burning.

A is incorrect because ex-situ management involves handling crop residues outside the field, such as transporting them to other locations for processing.

B is incorrect because co-digestion refers to the process of anaerobic digestion with other organic matter, not specific to crop residue management.

D is incorrect because composting is a broader method of converting organic matter into compost, which is not mentioned as a direct crop residue management strategy in the passage.

6. **C) BCAD**

B: B is first because it introduces the general concept of periodic revision of learning material.

C: "How" introduces a dependent clause describing the method (subject) of the revision, which logically follows the introduction of the topic in B.

A: A comes after C because it gives further context by mentioning the consequences of the revisions. Sentence A discusses why these revisions have caused a commotion. The word "revisions" connects back to the revisions mentioned in B and criticized in C.

D: D comes after A because it gives additional details on the questions raised by these controversial revisions, directly ties into the previous discussion about the controversy in A.

7. **A) 'Imagine'** का use होगा क्योंकि "imagine" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ की कल्पना करना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि क्या आप एक ऐसी दुनिया की कल्पना कर सकते हैं जहाँ इंसान न हों, इसलिए 'imagine' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Neglect' का अर्थ है उपेक्षा करना, 'Fabricate' का अर्थ है बनाना या गढ़ना, और 'Ignore' का अर्थ है अनदेखा करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Imagine'** will be used because it means to visualize or think about something that isn't real or present. The sentence mentions if you can visualize a world without human beings, making 'imagine' fitting here. Whereas, 'Neglect' means to overlook or ignore, 'Fabricate' means to construct or invent, and 'Ignore' means to disregard, which don't fit in this context.

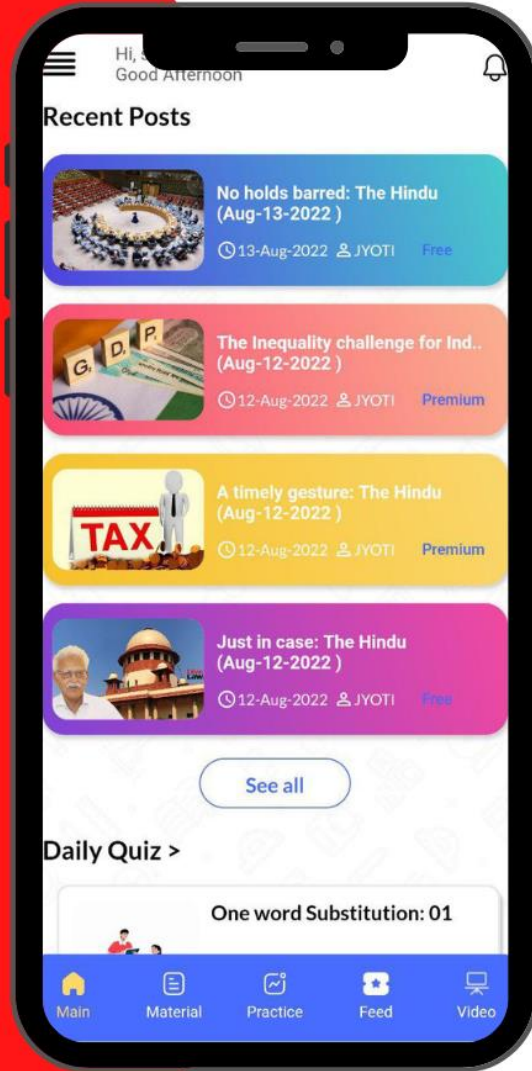
8. **A) 'Utilised'** का use होगा क्योंकि "utilised" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को उपयोग करना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि कौन संसाधनों को उपयोग करेगा और सामाजिक एवं सांस्कृतिक वातावरण बनाएगा, इसलिए 'utilised' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Destroyed' का अर्थ है नष्ट करना, 'Crippled' का अर्थ है अपंग बनाना, और 'Broken' का अर्थ है टूटना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Utilised'** will be used because it means to make use of something. The sentence mentions who would have used the resources and created a social and cultural environment, making 'utilised' fitting here. Whereas, 'Destroyed' means to destroy, 'Crippled' means to make someone or something unable to function properly, and 'Broken' means to be fractured or damaged, which don't fit in this context.

9. D) **Crucial**' का use होगा क्योंकि "crucial" का अर्थ होता है अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण या निर्णायक। sentence में mention किया गया है कि इस समय फैसला लेना बहुत जरूरी है, इसलिए 'crucial' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Frantic' का अर्थ है उत्तेजित या घबराया हुआ, 'Hopeful' का अर्थ है आशान्वित, और 'Hasty' का अर्थ है जल्दबाजी में किया हुआ, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Crucial'** will be used because it means extremely important or decisive. The sentence mentions that making a decision at this moment is very important, making 'crucial' fitting here. Whereas, 'Frantic' means excited or anxious, 'Hopeful' means optimistic, and 'Hasty' means done in a hurry, which don't fit in this context.
10. B) **Varying**' का use होगा क्योंकि "varying" का अर्थ होता है भिन्न-भिन्न या अलग-अलग। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि लोग खुद भी विभिन्न गुणों के साथ संसाधन हैं, इसलिए 'varying' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Inconstant' का अर्थ होता है अस्थिर, 'Deviating' का अर्थ होता है विचलित होना, और 'Alternating' का अर्थ होता है अदल बदल करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Varying'** will be used because it means different or diverse. The sentence mentions that people themselves are resources with diverse qualities, making 'varying' fitting here. Whereas, 'Inconstant' means unstable, 'Deviating' means departing, and 'Alternating' means switching, which don't fit in this context.
11. C) **Invent**' का use होगा क्योंकि "invent" का अर्थ होता है कुछ नया खोज या निर्माण करना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि लोग तकनीक का उपयोग करके कोयले को प्राप्त कर उसे एक 'resource' बनाते हैं, इसलिए 'invent' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'mint' का अर्थ है सिक्के बनाना, 'fashion' का अर्थ है आकार देना या बनाना, और 'open' का अर्थ है खोलना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Invent'** will be used because it means to create or discover something new. The sentence mentions that people were able to use technology to obtain coal and make it a 'resource,' making 'invent' fitting here. Whereas, 'mint' means to produce coins, 'fashion' means to shape or create, and 'open' means to make accessible, which don't fit in this context.
12. B) **Crux** (noun) – Central point केंद्रीय बिंदु
13. D) वाक्य का subject 'playing' gerund है, और जब gerund को subject के रूप में प्रयोग किया जाता है, तो इसे singular subject माना जाता है। इसलिए, इसके लिए singular verb ('is') की आवश्यकता होती है।
- "Playing cards" refers to the activity of playing with a deck of cards, which is a plural activity involving multiple cards. The phrase "playing card" would refer to a single card, which doesn't make sense in the context of the activity being prohibited.
 - The subject of the sentence is the gerund 'playing,' and when a gerund is used as a subject, it is treated as a singular subject. Therefore, a singular verb ('is') is required. 'Cards' is the object of the gerund 'playing,' so the correct phrase is 'Playing cards.'
14. C) **Accept** (verb) – to consent to receive or undertake something offered; to say yes to an invitation or offer. स्वीकार करना
Antonym: **Refuse** (verb) – indicate or show that one is not willing to do something; decline.
इनकार करना

- **Regret** (verb) – feel sad, repentant, or disappointed over something that has happened or been done. पछताना
 - **Agree** (verb) – have the same opinion about something; consent or concur. सहमत होना
 - **Present** (verb) – give something to someone formally or ceremonially. प्रस्तुत करना
15. **D) Jovial** (adjective) – Cheerful, friendly, happy, jolly. प्रसन्नचित्त/ आनन्दित
Antonym: Miserable (adjective) – Unhappy, sad, sorrowful, gloomy. दुखी
- **Dumb** (adjective) – Unable to speak, mute, silent. गूंगा
 - **Cunning** (adjective) – Sly, deceitful, crafty, tricky. धूर्त
 - **Shrewd** (adjective) – Astute, sharp, clever, intelligent. चतुर
16. **C) All thumbs** (phrase) – Clumsy बेढंगा
17. **C) Queered my pitch** (idiom) – Ruined my plan योजना बर्बाद करना
18. **A) Absurd** (adjective) – Ridiculously unreasonable, illogical, or inappropriate. तर्कहीन/ बेतुका
Antonym: Reasonable (adjective) – Having sound judgment, fair, sensible, logical. तर्कसंगत
- **Foolish** (adjective) – Lacking good sense or judgment, unwise. मूर्ख
 - **Nonsensical** (adjective) – Having no meaning, making no sense, absurd. निरर्थक
 - **Insane** (adjective) – Mentally disordered, crazy, mad. पागल
19. **D) The correct spelling of 'varant' is 'warrant' which means "a legal document authorizing the police to make an arrest, search premises, or carry out some other action" वॉरंट, आदेश.**
20. **B) Lazy** (adjective) – Unwilling to work or use energy, idle, indolent, lethargic. आलसी
Antonym: Diligent (adjective) – Having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties, hard-working, industrious, meticulous. परिश्रमी
- **Barren** (adjective) – Unable to produce much or any vegetation, infertile, unproductive. बंजर
 - **Helpful** (adjective) – Giving or ready to give help, cooperative, supportive. मददगार
 - **Genuine** (adjective) – Truly what something is said to be, authentic, real, sincere. वास्तविक
21. **C) Change** (verb) – To make or become different, modify, alter, adjust. बदलना
Synonym: Alter (verb) – To change or cause to change in character or composition, typically in a comparatively small but significant way. बदलना
- **Adjust** (verb) – To modify or correct, set or regulate to a specified condition. समायोजित करना
 - **Renew** (verb) – To resume after an interruption, reestablish, revive. नवीनीकरण करना
 - **Resolute** (adjective) – Admirably purposeful, determined, and unwavering. दृढ़
22. **A) Plausible** (adjective) – Seeming reasonable or probable, believable, credible. विश्वसनीय
Antonym: Unlikely (adjective) – Not likely to happen, improbable, doubtful. असंभव
- **Trend** (noun) – A general direction in which something is developing or changing, tendency, movement. प्रवृत्ति

- **Future** (noun) – The time yet to come, prospects, destiny. भविष्य
 - **Foreseeable** (adjective) – Able to be predicted, expected, anticipated. पूर्वानुमेय
23. C) 'was wake me up' के बदले '**woke me up**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'that' Clause में verb 'was' Past Tense में है अतः Relative Clause में भी Verb Past Tense में होगा; जैसे— It was Ram, Laxman and Sita who went to the forest.
- '**woke me up**' will be used instead of 'was wake me up' because in 'that' clause the verb 'was' is in Past Tense, so in Relative Clause also Verb will be in Past Tense; Like— It was Ram, Laxman and Sita who went to the forest.
24. A) 'make the bed' का प्रयोग किया जाएगा क्योंकि यह सही collocation है जो यह दर्शाता है कि छात्रों को अपने बिस्तर को स्वयं ठीक करना पड़ता है। 'Make the bed' एक phrase है, जिसका अर्थ होता है बिस्तर को सही तरीके से व्यवस्थित करना, जैसे चादरें सीधी करना और तकियों को ठीक से रखना।
- 'make the bed' is the correct collocation because it indicates that students need to tidy up their beds themselves. It is a common phrase meaning to arrange the bed properly, such as straightening the sheets and placing the pillows correctly.
25. B) The incorrectly spelt word is "Scatered." The correct spelling should be "Scattered," which means "spread or thrown over a wide area" बिखरा हुआ, छितराया हुआ।



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