

Mad doctrine: On Russia's revision of its nuclear doctrine

Any **threat** of use of nuclear weapons **must** be viewed seriously

Russian President Vladimir Putin's **revision** of Russia's nuclear doctrine announced last week **is** a worrying increase in the war **rhetoric surrounding** the Russia-Ukraine conflict. It would once have been considered unthinkable for permanent members of the UN Security Council to behave in this manner. His announcement was that **in the event of** a **conventional** attack on Russia by any country that is supported by a nuclear power, Russia would consider that a "joint attack" and **presumably, deal with** the threat accordingly. He added that Russia could use nuclear weapons in response to a conventional attack **posing** a "critical threat to [its] **sovereignty**", a threat that was repeated by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov at the UN General Assembly meet over the weekend, when he said **the idea** of defeating Russia on the battlefield **is** "senseless" and a "suicidal **escapade**" **given** that Moscow has nuclear weapons. Clearly, the context of Mr. Putin's nuclear doctrine revision and the comments is Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's visit to the United States, where he attempted to present a new "victory plan" for Ukraine. Mr. Zelenskyy wants the permission of the U.S. and other western countries to use missiles and other heavy **weaponry procured** from them for attacks deep inside Russia. Thus far, **the weaponry**, including Storm Shadow and ATACMS missiles, **can** only be used for Ukraine's defence, although western capitals **turned a blind eye** when Ukrainian forces **invaded** the Russian Oblast of Kursk in August with tanks and weaponry, allowing Mr. Zelenskyy to **rack up** a symbolic win and possibly some **leverage** in future **negotiations** for peace. However, much of the **euphoria** in Kyiv has since **dissipated** with Russia hitting back **anew**, sending in **troops** to Kursk, and also opening a new **front** around Ukraine's Pokrovsk, and western countries remaining **loathe** to enter the **theatre** of war. **To that end**, U.S. President Joseph Biden has now announced nearly \$8 billion in additional military **aid** for Ukraine, but made no reference to the demand for its utilisation inside Russia.

It remains to be seen whether Mr. Putin will be **assuaged**, or if concerns about the war reaching a "nuclear **threshold**" will grow from this point on, and it is hoped countries, including India, that have **committed** to finding a path to **dialogue** and peace, redouble their efforts to prevent such a **catastrophe**. New Delhi has said that it "**conveyed** messages" to Moscow when safety concerns grew over the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant. Prime Minister Narendra Modi may be **called on** to do the same when he visits Russia in October for the BRICS summit. As the world **grapples with** the **spectre of escalation** in West Asia, **the last thing** it needs **is** a **reversion** to **chilling cold war scenarios** in Eurasia, of mutually assured destruction.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Mutual assured destruction** (MAD) (noun) – A military strategy and national security policy where both sides possess the capability to destroy each other, ensuring total annihilation if one side initiates conflict.
2. **Doctrine** (noun) – Principle, policy, belief, philosophy, creed सिद्धांत
3. **Rhetoric** (noun) – Persuasive speech, discourse, language, oratory, propaganda भाषणबाज़ी
4. **Surround** (verb) – Encircle, enclose, encompass, ring, hem in घेरना
5. **In the event of** (phrase) – In case of, if something happens, during, when की स्थिति में
6. **Conventional** (adjective) – Traditional, standard, customary, usual, typical पारंपरिक
7. **Presumably** (adverb) – Probably, likely, supposedly, apparently, seemingly संभवतः
8. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – Manage, handle, address, tackle, confront से निपटना
9. **Pose** (verb) – Present, cause, constitute, create, bring forth उत्पन्न करना
10. **Sovereignty** (noun) – Authority, self-rule, independence, autonomy, control संप्रभुता
11. **Escapade** (noun) – Adventure, exploit, stunt, risky endeavor, frolic दुस्साहसिक कार्य
12. **Given** (preposition) – Considering, in view of, taking into account, bearing in mind देखते हुए
13. **Weaponry** (noun) – Arms, arsenal, munitions, armaments, weapon systems हथियार
14. **Procure** (verb) – Obtain, acquire, secure, purchase, get प्राप्त करना
15. **Turn a blind eye** (phrase) – Ignore, overlook, disregard, pretend not to see, look the other way अनदेखा करना
16. **Invade** (verb) – Attack, occupy, overrun, assault, enter forcibly आक्रमण करना
17. **Rack up** (phrasal verb) – Accumulate, gather, amass, achieve, build up इकट्ठा करना
18. **Leverage** (noun) – Advantage, power, influence, authority, bargaining power प्रभाव
19. **Negotiation** (noun) – Discussion, dialogue, bargaining, talks, consultation बातचीत
20. **Euphoria** (noun) – Joy, elation, happiness, excitement, ecstasy अत्यधिक उत्साह
21. **Dissipate** (verb) – Disperse, scatter, vanish, dissolve, fade away समाप्त होना
22. **Anew** (adverb) – Again, once more, afresh, from the beginning, over फिर से
23. **Troop** (noun) – Soldiers, armed forces, battalion, unit, regiment सैनिक

24. **Front** (noun) – Battle line, war zone, sector, field of operations, conflict area मोर्चा
25. **Loathe** (noun) – Reluctant, unwilling, disinclined, averse, unenthusiastic अनिच्छुक
26. **Theatre** (noun) – Area of conflict, war zone, battlefield, combat area, scene of operations युद्ध क्षेत्र
27. **To that end** (phrase) – For that purpose, with that aim, in order to achieve that, so as to fulfill that उस उद्देश्य के लिए
28. **Aid** (noun) – Assistance, support, help, backing, relief सहायता
29. **It remains to be seen** (phrase) – Uncertain, not yet determined, undecided, still to be known यह देखा जाना बाकी है
30. **Assuage** (verb) – Alleviate, soothe, calm, ease, pacify शांति देना
31. **Threshold** (noun) – Limit, boundary, brink, verge, starting point सीमा रेखा
32. **Commit** (to) (verb) – Pledge, dedicate, devote, engage, promise प्रतिबद्ध होना
33. **Dialogue** (noun) – Conversation, discussion, negotiation, exchange, communication संवाद
34. **Catastrophe** (noun) – Disaster, calamity, tragedy, mishap, devastation आपदा
35. **Convey** (verb) – Communicate, express, impart, transmit, inform व्यक्त करना
36. **Call on** (phrasal verb) – Request, ask, appeal to, urge, encourage आग्रह करना
37. **Grapple with** (phrasal verb) – Struggle with, wrestle with, deal with, confront, cope with संघर्ष करना
38. **Spectre** (noun) – Threat, menace, danger, fear, shadow खतरा
39. **Escalation** (noun) – Intensification, increase, expansion, rise, growth वृद्धि
40. **Reversion** (noun) – Return, relapse, regression, backslide, fallback वापसी
41. **Chilling** (adjective) – Frightening, terrifying, alarming, scary, disturbing भयावह
42. **Cold war** (noun) – Political tension, rivalry, conflict, standoff, opposition शीत युद्ध
43. **Scenario** (noun) – Situation, setting, context, circumstances, conditions परिदृश्य

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Revision of Nuclear Doctrine:** Russian President Vladimir Putin has revised Russia's nuclear doctrine, indicating a shift towards a more aggressive stance amidst the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict.
2. **Nuclear Weapon Usage:** The revision suggests that Russia could use nuclear weapons in response to a conventional attack on its territory, especially if the attack is supported by a nuclear power.
3. **Joint Attack Interpretation:** Putin announced that a conventional attack by any country, backed by a nuclear state, would be considered a "joint attack," signaling a heightened threshold for nuclear retaliation.
4. **Critical Threat Clause:** Russia could resort to nuclear weapons if it perceives a "critical threat" to its sovereignty, as reiterated by Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov at the UN General Assembly.
5. **Response to Zelenskyy's Visit:** The revision coincides with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's visit to the U.S., where he sought approval to use Western-supplied weaponry for deeper attacks inside Russia.
6. **Weaponry Restrictions:** So far, Western-supplied missiles like Storm Shadow and ATACMS can only be used for Ukraine's defense, but there is growing ambiguity in their utilization.
7. **Western Ambiguity:** Western nations have shown a passive stance regarding Ukraine's use of weaponry, as seen when Ukrainian forces invaded the Russian region of Kursk in August.
8. **Ukrainian Setback:** The initial symbolic win for Ukraine in Kursk has been overshadowed by Russia's strong counteroffensive and the opening of new battlefronts.
9. **U.S. Aid to Ukraine:** President Biden announced \$8 billion in additional military aid for Ukraine, but refrained from addressing the issue of deploying these resources inside Russian territory.
10. **Nuclear Threshold Concerns:** There is rising concern that the conflict could escalate to a "nuclear threshold" if Putin's nuclear doctrine is pushed to its limits.
11. **Call for Dialogue:** Countries like India, which have advocated for peace and dialogue, need to intensify their diplomatic efforts to prevent a nuclear catastrophe.
12. **India's Role:** India has previously conveyed messages to Russia regarding safety concerns at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant and may need to intervene again during the upcoming BRICS summit.
13. **Geopolitical Impact:** The editorial emphasizes that the world cannot afford another cold war scenario of mutually assured destruction, particularly with rising tensions in West Asia.
14. **Chilling Cold War Resurgence:** The editorial warns against a return to Cold War dynamics, where nuclear brinkmanship posed an existential threat to global security.
15. **Preventing Catastrophe:** The article concludes by stressing the need for global powers to actively seek dialogue and peace to avoid a catastrophic escalation.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. Match the following statements with the respective entities based on the passage: [Editorial Page]

Statements

Entities

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| i. Described the idea of defeating Russia as “senseless” | A. Joseph Biden |
| ii. Presented a new “victory plan” for Ukraine | B. Sergey Lavrov |
| iii. Announced revision of Russia’s nuclear doctrine | C. Vladimir Putin |
| iv. Provided nearly \$8 billion in military aid | D. Volodymyr Zelenskyy |
- A. i-B, ii-D, iii-C, iv-A
 B. i-D, ii-A, iii-B, iv-C
 C. i-C, ii-B, iii-A, iv-D
 D. i-A, ii-C, iii-D, iv-B
2. **What can be inferred from Russia’s revision of its nuclear doctrine as stated in the passage?**
- A. Russia has decided to withdraw from its conflict with Ukraine.
 B. Russia might consider the use of nuclear weapons even in response to non-nuclear threats.
 C. Russia has gained support from all UN Security Council members for its actions.
 D. Russia plans to enter a full-scale war with NATO forces
3. **Why did Vladimir Putin revise Russia’s nuclear doctrine, as stated in the passage?**
- A. To counter the potential use of Western weaponry in attacks deep inside Russia.
 B. To withdraw support for Ukraine in the conflict.
 C. To gain diplomatic support from Western countries.
 D. To declare war on Ukraine officially.
4. **Based on the last paragraph of the passage, which of the following reflects a potential consequence if dialogue and peace are not achieved?**
- A. A return to mutually assured destruction scenarios similar to the Cold War.
 B. Increased support for Ukraine by Western countries.
 C. Russia’s complete withdrawal from the battlefield.
 D. Expansion of the BRICS alliance to include more countries.
5. **Which of the following statements is true according to the passage?**
- A. The U.S. has permitted Ukraine to use weaponry inside Russia.
 B. Russia is prepared to use nuclear weapons only in response to a nuclear attack.
 C. President Zelenskyy’s visit to the U.S. was aimed at gaining support for offensive operations inside Russia.
 D. India has refused to engage in dialogue with Russia regarding the war.
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. A few months ago, I got a call from my mother at dawn and I indolently picked it up in my bed.
 b. Without any reluctance, I quickly recited the number.
 c. She asked the contact number of my school maths teacher.
 d. She told me to sleep well and I cut the call.
- A. d, b, a, c
 B. c, a, b, d
 C. a, b, c, d
 D. a, c, b, d

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

- P. should the focus be on great power competition or continuing imbalance in the institutions, agenda setting, and global inequality?
 - Q. The former looks at the means and not the ends
 - R. The Summit of the Future raises a set of fundamental questions on global governance:
 - S. with a continuing debate on the meaning of justice
- A. SPQR
 - B. RSQP
 - C. RPQS
 - D. RQPS

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.

Family plays a vital role in our lives, serving as a source of love, support, and stability. It is (1) _____ the family unit that we develop lasting bonds, learn essential values, and find comfort during (2) _____ times. Families provide a nurturing environment for personal growth and emotional well-being. They (3) _____ guidance, share experiences, and create cherished memories. The strength and (4) _____ of a family contribute to individual happiness, societal harmony, and the (5) _____ of a strong community.

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

- A. among
- B. within
- C. beyond
- D. between

9. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.

- A. initial
- B. wasteful
- C. joyful
- D. challenging

10. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.

- A. contribute
- B. propose
- C. offer
- D. deliver

11. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.

- A. commotion
- B. intrusion
- C. cohesion
- D. disruption

12. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 5.

- A. collision
- B. erosion
- C. foundation
- D. undermining

13. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
We have carried out an successful raid on a fraudulent minister.
- A. the successful raid
 - B. successful raid
 - C. a successful raid
 - D. these successful raid
14. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**
- A. Intertwined
 - B. Competition
 - C. Reimbursement
 - D. Comendation
15. **Identify the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word based on the context of the sentence.**
He gave a haughty consent without honouring him with a single word.
- A. Indifferent
 - B. Happy
 - C. Modest
 - D. Proud
16. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Bells and whistles
- A. To take on a difficult task
 - B. Attractive but unnecessary features added to products
 - C. An innovative development
 - D. At a serious disadvantage
17. **Select the most appropriate homophone to fill in the blank.**
The hospital is _____ the river.
- A. bye
 - B. by
 - C. buy
 - D. Bi
18. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Generous
- A. Clever
 - B. Needy
 - C. Considerate
 - D. Mean
19. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
Yoga may manage pain and helping reduce stress
- A. help in reducing
 - B. helped reduce
 - C. help reduction for
 - D. help reduced
20. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
I like played cricket after school
- A. playing

- B. having to play
C. play
D. played
21. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Injustice
A. Complacency
B. Demand
C. Equality
D. Discrimination
22. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Fish out of water
A. To die soon
B. No knowledge of marine life
C. To be out of place
D. Not good at swimming
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
The _____ today will be cloudy and humid
A. weather
B. wither
C. whether
D. waiter
24. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Erudite
A. Strong
B. Educated
C. Honest
D. Humble
25. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word from the given sentence.**
They were good-hearted girls, unclean, clothed in rags and profiundly ignorant
A. Profiundly
B. Unclean
C. Clothed
D. Hearted

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. A) i-B, ii-D, iii-C, iv-A

i matches with B: Sergey Lavrov described defeating Russia as “senseless”.

ii matches with D: Volodymyr Zelenskyy presented the “victory plan” for Ukraine.

iii matches with C: Vladimir Putin announced the revision of Russia’s nuclear doctrine.

iv matches with A: Joseph Biden provided military aid to Ukraine.

B (Incorrect): Incorrect pairings for all entities.

C (Incorrect): Incorrect pairings; Vladimir Putin did not describe the idea of defeating Russia.

D (Incorrect): Incorrect pairings; Joseph Biden did not present any victory plan.

2. B) Russia might consider the use of nuclear weapons even in response to non-nuclear threats.

B (Correct): The passage mentions that Russia could use nuclear weapons in response to a conventional attack, indicating a change in its stance.

A (Incorrect): There is no indication that Russia is considering withdrawal; in fact, the passage suggests the opposite.

C (Incorrect): There is no evidence in the passage about Russia gaining support from the UN Security Council members.

D (Incorrect): The passage does not mention Russia planning a full-scale war with NATO

3. A) To counter the potential use of Western weaponry in attacks deep inside Russia.

A (Correct): The passage mentions that Putin revised the nuclear doctrine in response to Ukraine’s intention to use Western weaponry for attacks inside Russia.

B (Incorrect): There is no reference to Putin withdrawing support; rather, the revision is to address increased aggression.

C (Incorrect): The passage does not discuss gaining diplomatic support from the West.

D (Incorrect): The passage does not mention any official declaration of war.

4. A) A return to mutually assured destruction scenarios similar to the Cold War.

A is correct because the passage mentions, “the last thing it needs is a reversion to chilling cold war scenarios in Eurasia, of mutually assured destruction.” This indicates that if the situation escalates, it could lead to scenarios reminiscent of the Cold War where nuclear threats were prevalent.

B is incorrect because the passage suggests that Western countries are reluctant to escalate the conflict, not that they will increase support for Ukraine significantly.

C is incorrect because there is no indication in the passage that Russia is considering complete withdrawal. Instead, it’s stated that Russia is responding with more aggression.

D is incorrect because the passage does not mention any expansion of the BRICS alliance.

5. C) President Zelenskyy’s visit to the U.S. was aimed at gaining support for offensive operations inside Russia.

C is correct because the passage explicitly states that “Mr. Zelenskyy wants the permission of the U.S. and other western countries to use missiles and other heavy weaponry procured from them for attacks deep inside Russia.”

A is incorrect because the passage mentions that the weaponry can only be used for Ukraine’s defence and no explicit permission has been given for offensive operations inside Russia.

B is incorrect because the passage states that Russia could use nuclear weapons in response to a conventional attack posing a critical threat, not just a nuclear attack.

D is incorrect because the passage states that India has “conveyed messages” to Moscow and is committed to finding a path to dialogue and peace.

6. **D) a, c, b, d**

a: The sentence starts with a time reference ("A few months ago") which is essential in establishing the timeline of events.

c: This sentence introduces direct speech with the mother’s request ("She asked..."), continuing the conversation flow from the call mentioned in sentence a.

b: The word "quickly" indicates an immediate response, linking this sentence directly to the mother’s request. The past tense is consistent with the ongoing narrative.

d: Sentence (d) concludes the paragraph by describing the end of the interaction: "She told me to sleep well and I cut the call."

7. **C) RPQS**

R: The paragraph begins with R, which introduces the main topic by stating that "The Summit of the Future raises a set of fundamental questions on global governance." This sets the context and theme for the subsequent sentences.

P: P follows R, introducing one of the primary questions posed by the summit. This directly builds upon the theme of global governance raised in R.

Q: Q logically comes after P, as it provides an evaluation of the first option mentioned in P (great power competition). It states that the former looks at the means and not the ends, offering a critique.

S: S comes at the end, which adds to the discussion by mentioning that this debate is part of a larger, ongoing discourse on the meaning of justice. This sentence wraps up the paragraph by linking it to a broader context.

8. **B) 'Within' का use होगा क्योंकि "within" का अर्थ होता है किसी के अंदर या भीतर। वाक्य में mention किया गया है कि हम परिवार इकाई के भीतर स्थायी बंधन विकसित करते हैं, आवश्यक मूल्य सीखते हैं, और कठिन समय में आराम पाते हैं, इसलिए 'within' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'among' का अर्थ है के बीच में, 'beyond' का अर्थ है के परे, और 'between' का अर्थ है दो के बीच, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।**

- 'Within' will be used because it means inside or within something. The sentence mentions that we develop lasting bonds, learn essential values, and find comfort during tough times within the family unit, making 'within' fitting here. Whereas, 'among' means in the middle of, 'beyond' means past, and 'between' means in the space separating two, which don't fit in this context.

9. D) **Challenging**' का use होगा क्योंकि "challenging" का अर्थ होता है कठिनाइयों या समस्याओं का सामना करना। वाक्य में उल्लेख किया गया है कि परिवार कठिन समय में आराम प्रदान करता है, इसलिए 'challenging' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'initial' का अर्थ है प्रारंभिक, 'wasteful' का अर्थ है बेकार, और 'joyful' का अर्थ है खुशियों से भरा, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Challenging'** will be used because it means facing difficulties or problems. The sentence mentions that the family provides comfort during tough times, making 'challenging' fitting here. Whereas, 'initial' means the beginning, 'wasteful' means useless, and 'joyful' means full of happiness, which don't fit in this context.
10. C) **'Offer'** का use होगा क्योंकि "offer" का अर्थ होता है देना या प्रदान करना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि परिवार मार्गदर्शन प्रदान करते हैं, अनुभव साझा करते हैं, और प्रिय यादें बनाते हैं, इसलिए 'offer' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'contribute' का अर्थ है योगदान करना, 'propose' का अर्थ है प्रस्ताव रखना, और 'deliver' का अर्थ है पहुँचाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Offer'** will be used because it means to give or provide. The sentence mentions that families provide guidance, share experiences, and create cherished memories, making 'offer' fitting here. Whereas, 'contribute' means to contribute, 'propose' means to suggest, and 'deliver' means to deliver, which don't fit in this context.
11. C) **'Cohesion'** का use होगा क्योंकि "cohesion" का अर्थ होता है एकजुटता या सामंजस्य। sentence में mention किया गया है कि परिवार की ताकत और एकता व्यक्तिगत खुशी, सामाजिक सद्भाव, और मजबूत समुदाय की स्थापना में योगदान करती है, इसलिए 'cohesion' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'commotion' का अर्थ है हलचल, 'intrusion' का अर्थ है घुसपैठ, और 'disruption' का अर्थ है बाधा, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Cohesion'** will be used because it means unity or togetherness. The sentence mentions that the strength and unity of a family contribute to individual happiness, societal harmony, and the establishment of a strong community, making 'cohesion' fitting here. Whereas, 'commotion' means disturbance, 'intrusion' means interference, and 'disruption' means interruption, which don't fit in this context.
12. C) **'Foundation'** का use होगा क्योंकि "foundation" का अर्थ है बुनियाद या आधार। passage में बताया गया है कि परिवार की शक्ति और एकता व्यक्तिगत खुशी, सामाजिक समरसता, और मजबूत समुदाय की स्थापना में योगदान करती है, इसलिए 'foundation' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'collision' का अर्थ है टकराव, 'erosion' का अर्थ है क्षरण, और 'undermining' का अर्थ है कमजोर करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।
- **'Foundation'** will be used because it means the base or groundwork. The passage mentions that the strength and unity of a family contribute to individual happiness, societal harmony, and the establishment of a strong community, making 'foundation'

fitting here. Whereas, 'collision' means a crash, 'erosion' means gradual destruction, and 'undermining' implies weakening, which don't fit in this context

13. C) 'an' के बदले 'a' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'successful' का पहला अक्षर consonant sound में है अतः article 'a' का प्रयोग होगा; जैसे— She is a successful artist.

- a' will be used instead of 'an' because the first letter of 'successful' is a consonant sound, so the article 'a' will be used; Like— She is a successful artist.

14. D) The correct spelling of 'Comendation' is '**Commendation**' which means "an expression of praise or approval" प्रशंसा.

15. C) **Haughty** (adjective) – Arrogant, disdainful, snobbish, conceited. अहंकारी

Antonym: Modest (adjective) – Humble, unassuming, unpretentious, self-effacing. विनम्र

- **Indifferent** (adjective) – Unconcerned, apathetic, nonchalant, detached. उदासीन
- **Happy** (adjective) – Joyful, cheerful, content, pleased. खुश
- **Proud** (adjective) – Arrogant, haughty, conceited, self-important. गर्वित

16. B) **Bells and whistles** (idiom) – Attractive but unnecessary features added to products (आकर्षक लेकिन अनावश्यक सुविधाएँ जो उत्पादों में जोड़ी जाती हैं)

17. B) 'by' का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे context में, sentence नदी के समीप स्थित अस्पताल की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "The hospital is _____ the river" के माध्यम से उस भौगोलिक संबंध को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें अस्पताल नदी के पास स्थित है। इसलिए, "by" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- 'By' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the hospital's proximity to the river. Here, through "The hospital is _____ the river," it portrays that geographical relationship where the hospital is situated near the river. Thus, "by" would be the most appropriate choice.

18. D) **Generous** (adjective) – Showing a readiness to give more of something, especially money, than is strictly necessary or expected. उदार/ प्रचुर

Antonym: Mean (adjective) – Unwilling to give or share things, especially money; not generous. कंजूस

- **Clever** (adjective) – Quick to understand, learn, and devise or apply ideas; intelligent. चतुर
- **Needy** (adjective) – Lacking the necessities of life; very poor. गरीब
- **Considerate** (adjective) – Careful not to cause inconvenience or hurt to others; thoughtful. विचारशील

19. A) 'helping reduce' के स्थान पर 'help in reducing' का use नहीं किया जाएगा क्योंकि यह parallelism के नियम का उल्लंघन करता है। Parallelism का नियम यह कहता है कि एक वाक्य में सभी क्रियाओं (verbs) का एक समान रूप होना चाहिए जब वे एक ही विषय से संबंधित हों।
- यहां 'manage' और 'help' दोनों क्रियाएं 'Yoga' के लिए उपयोग हो रही हैं, और चूंकि 'manage' infinitive रूप में है, इसलिए 'help' भी infinitive रूप में होना चाहिए। सही वाक्य होगा 'Yoga may manage pain and help reduce stress', जिसमें 'help reduce' parallel structure को बनाए रखता है।
 - The rule of parallelism states that when two or more verbs are connected to the same subject, they should be in the same form. Here, 'manage' is in the infinitive form, so 'help' should also be in the infinitive form. Therefore, the correct phrase is 'help reduce' to maintain parallel structure.
20. A) 'played' के बदले **'playing'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि verb 'like' के बाद Gerund (verb+ing) का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— I like swimming in the morning.
- 'playing' will be used instead of 'played' because after the verb 'like,' a Gerund (verb+ing) is used; Like— I like swimming in the morning.
21. **D) Injustice (noun)** – Lack of fairness or justice, unfair treatment, wrongful act. अन्यायपूर्ण काम
- Synonym: Discrimination (noun)** – Prejudiced or unjust treatment of different categories of people, bias, unfairness. भेदभाव
- **Complacency (noun)** – Self-satisfaction, smugness, unawareness of potential danger. आत्मसंतुष्टि
 - **Demand (noun)** – An insistent and peremptory request, a need or requirement. मांग
 - **Equality (noun)** – The state of being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunities. समानता
22. **C) Fish out of water (idiom)** – To be out of place **असहज**
23. A) **'Weather'** का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे context में, sentence मौसम की स्थिति की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "The _____ today will be cloudy and humid" के माध्यम से उस वर्तमान वातावरण को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें आज के मौसम की भविष्यवाणी की गई है। इसलिए, "weather" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
- **'Weather'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the condition of the atmosphere. Here, through "The _____ today will be cloudy and humid," it portrays the current weather forecast. Thus, "weather" would be the most appropriate choice.

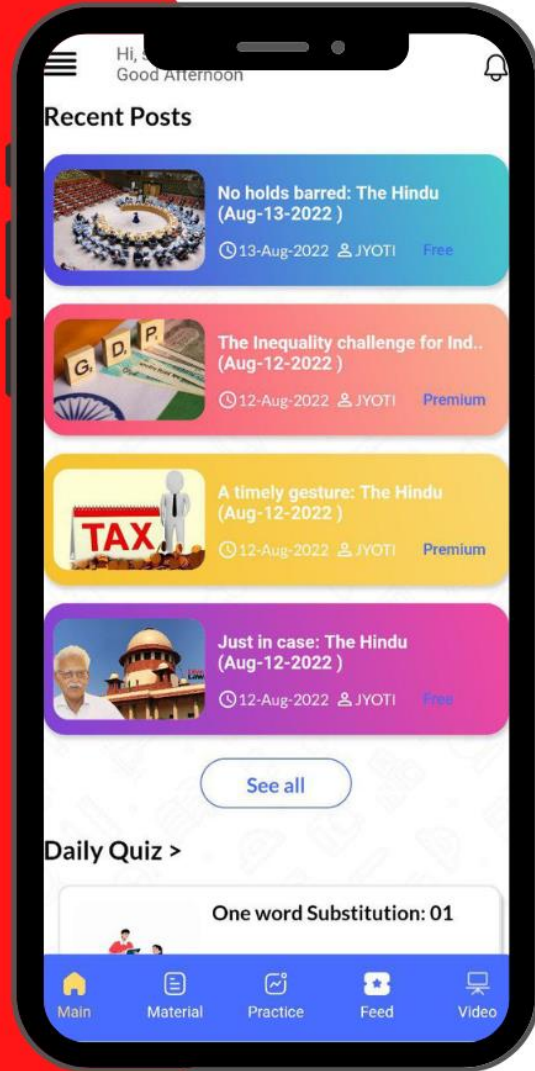
24. **B) Erudite** (adjective) – Having or showing great knowledge or learning, scholarly, well-read.

विद्वान

Synonym: Educated (adjective) – Having received a high level of education, knowledgeable, well-informed. शिक्षित

- **Strong** (adjective) – Having physical power and energy, robust, sturdy. मज़बूत
- **Honest** (adjective) – Free of deceit and untruthfulness, sincere, truthful. ईमानदार
- **Humble** (adjective) – Having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's importance, modest, unassuming. विनम्र

25. A) The correct spelling of 'Profundly' is '**Profoundly**' which means "to a profound extent; extremely" अत्यंत, गहन



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