

A learning curve: On the PM Internship Scheme

The **outcomes** of the PM Internship Scheme's **pilot project** **need** monitoring

On October 3, without much **fanfare**, the Centre launched an online portal that will serve as the platform for implementing one of the major announcements in the Budget for India's unemployed, and to a significant **extent**, unemployable youth. The **portal**, which **operationalises** the PM Internship Scheme — part of a five-scheme package designed to **spur** job creation and **impart** skills to 4.1 crore youth over five years — **will** match companies willing to offer year-long on-the-job training **stints** with young people **striving to** find a job. **In principle**, the mainly Centre-funded scheme makes sense for a country with a large, young workforce which is also **grappling with distressing** levels of youth unemployment. Apart from **bridging the gap** between the education provided to students and the real-world practical skills desired by employers, well-known firms could offer some form of certification at the end of the internship, providing comfort to **prospective employers** reviewing candidates for jobs. This could **address** a key question that employers often grapple with: "They can get the job, but can they get the job done?"

Under a pilot project, the first **batch** of 1.25 lakh **interns** **will** begin stints with voluntarily participating companies on December 2. While the government has consulted industry bodies before and after announcing the scheme, it is rightly **cautious** before **scaling it up to meet** the target of creating one crore internships by March 2029. The **lessons learned** from the pilot project will inform the final scheme design. Some **insights** will be **apparent** in the initial process of matching applicants to companies, but the full scope of outcomes can only be **assessed** after December 2025, when the interns re-enter the job market. **Along the way, dropout rates** and **grievances** will need to be monitored closely. A few features **pose** challenges, such as the plan to place interns within or near their district, and if that is not **feasible**, within their State. It is unclear how this will **play out** in less industrialised and less services-oriented States such as Bihar, which are **likely** to attract higher numbers of applicants. Just five States **account for** over half of India's manufacturing output, and youth unemployment is higher in States with lower business presence. Apart from shop floor skills, the scheme also needs to **incorporate** digital and **soft skills** that are **vital** for the modern workplace. The pilot project's **trajectory** requires a **diligent** and **candid evaluation** without a **self-congratulatory** approach, **ensuring** that intended outcomes are **eventually** met. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Outcome** (noun) – Result, consequence, effect, conclusion, product परिणाम
2. **Pilot project** (noun) – Test project, trial run, experimental phase, initial implementation प्रायोगिक परियोजना
3. **Fanfare** (noun) – Show, publicity, display, spectacle, noise धूमधाम
4. **To an extent** (phrase) – To a degree, partially, somewhat, up to a point एक हद तक
5. **Operationalise** (verb) – Implement, execute, put into action, make functional संचालन करना
6. **Spur** (verb) – Stimulate, encourage, boost, incite, prompt प्रोत्साहित करना
7. **Impart** (verb) – Provide, give, bestow, convey, communicate देना
8. **Stint** (noun) – Period of work, assignment, term, task, duty कार्यकाल
9. **Strive** (to) (verb) – Endeavor, attempt, try hard, make an effort, aim प्रयास करना
10. **In principle** (phrase) – Theoretically, basically, in essence, in theory सिद्धांत रूप में
11. **Grapple with** (phrasal verb) – Struggle with, wrestle with, contend with, tackle जूझना
12. **Distressing** (adjective) – Upsetting, troubling, alarming, disheartening, concerning परेशान करने वाला
13. **Bridge the gap** (phrase) – reduce the gap between two things दूरी को कम करना
14. **Prospective** (adjective) – Potential, future, likely, possible संभावित
15. **Employer** (noun) – Boss, manager, organization, company, business नियोक्ता
16. **Address** (verb) – Deal with, tackle, manage, handle, attend to समाधान करना
17. **Intern** (noun) – Trainee, apprentice, student, junior employee प्रशिक्षु
18. **Cautious** (adjective) – Careful, prudent, vigilant, wary, circumspect सावधान
19. **Scale up** (phrasal verb) – Expand, enlarge, grow, increase, amplify बढ़ाना
20. **Meet** (verb) – Fulfill, achieve, accomplish, satisfy पूरा करना
21. **Learn the lesson** (phrase) – Gain knowledge from experience, take away insights, understand from results सबक सीखना
22. **Insight** (noun) – Understanding, perception, awareness, realization अंतर्दृष्टि

23. **Apparent** (adjective) – Clear, evident, obvious, noticeable स्पष्ट
24. **Assess** (verb) – Evaluate, judge, measure, review, analyze मूल्यांकन करना
25. **Along the way** (phrase) – During the process, in the course of, throughout the journey प्रक्रिया के दौरान
26. **Dropout rate** (noun) – the percentage of students failing to complete a particular school or college course.
27. **Grievance** (noun) – Complaint, issue, dissatisfaction, objection शिकायत
28. **Pose** (verb) – Present, create, constitute, offer, cause खड़ा करना
29. **Feasible** (adjective) – Possible, achievable, practical, workable संभव
30. **Play out** (phrasal verb) – Unfold, happen, occur, develop, materialize सामने आना
31. **Likely** (adjective) – Probable, expected, possible, plausible संभावित
32. **Account for** (phrasal verb) – Make up, constitute, represent, explain जिम्मेदार होना
33. **Incorporate** (verb) – Include, encompass, absorb, merge, contain शामिल करना
34. **Soft skill** (noun) – a set of personal attributes and interpersonal qualities that enable individuals to effectively interact and communicate with others
35. **Vital** (adjective) – Essential, crucial, important, necessary महत्वपूर्ण
36. **Trajectory** (noun) – Path, course, direction, progression, development दिशा
37. **Diligent** (adjective) – Hardworking, attentive, conscientious, meticulous मेहनती
38. **Candid** (adjective) – Honest, straightforward, frank, open स्पष्ट
39. **Evaluation** (noun) – Assessment, appraisal, review, analysis मूल्यांकन
40. **Self-congratulatory** (adjective) – Boastful, self-satisfied, prideful, smug आत्म प्रशंसा से भरा
41. **Ensure** (verb) – Guarantee, make sure, secure, confirm सुनिश्चित करना
42. **Eventually** (adverb) – Ultimately, in the end, finally, sooner or later अंततः

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Launch of PM Internship Scheme:** The editorial discusses the recent launch of the PM Internship Scheme's portal, which aims to provide on-the-job training to unemployed youth in India.
2. **Objective and Scope:** The scheme is part of a broader initiative involving five schemes to create jobs and impart skills to 4.1 crore youth over five years.
3. **Focus on Youth Employment:** The scheme targets youth who are either unemployed or unemployable, providing them with practical skills that align with industry requirements.
4. **Benefits of the Scheme:** The internships could help bridge the gap between academic learning and industry needs, with participating firms offering certification to improve employability.
5. **Addressing Employer Concerns:** Employers often question whether candidates can effectively perform on the job; the internships aim to mitigate such concerns.
6. **Pilot Project Initiation:** A pilot project involving 1.25 lakh interns will start on December 2, with lessons learned to inform the scheme's future design.
7. **Gradual Scaling:** The government is cautious about scaling up the scheme, aiming to create one crore internships by March 2029, based on insights from the pilot phase.
8. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Continuous monitoring of dropout rates and grievances is essential to refine the scheme.
9. **Placement Challenges:** The scheme's goal to place interns near their district or State could be challenging in less industrialised areas like Bihar, which might attract a large number of applicants.
10. **State-wise Disparity:** The editorial highlights that only five States contribute over half of India's manufacturing output, complicating the placement of interns in States with limited business presence.
11. **Youth Unemployment Variation:** States with lower business presence experience higher youth unemployment, indicating a need for targeted internship placements.
12. **Integration of Soft Skills:** The scheme should incorporate digital and soft skills, crucial for today's workplace, alongside technical skills.
13. **Outcome Assessment:** The full impact of the scheme will only be visible after December 2025, when interns re-enter the job market.
14. **Candid Evaluation Needed:** The editorial suggests a diligent and honest evaluation of the pilot project without a self-congratulatory approach.
15. **Ensuring Long-term Success:** Continuous monitoring and honest assessment are necessary to ensure that the scheme achieves its intended outcomes and addresses youth unemployment effectively.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial Page]

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Analytical
 - B. Optimistic
 - C. Critical
 - D. Neutral
2. **Which of the following can be inferred as the primary objective of the PM Internship Scheme based on the passage?**
 - A. To provide financial assistance to companies hiring fresh graduates.
 - B. To reduce the unemployment rate by bridging the gap between academic knowledge and practical skills.
 - C. To increase the number of internships available in the private sector.
 - D. To encourage youth to pursue self-employment opportunities.
3. **According to the passage, how is the PM Internship Scheme expected to benefit prospective employers?**
 - A. By providing a dedicated platform for hiring experienced candidates.
 - B. By ensuring that interns possess comprehensive technical expertise.
 - C. By offering certification of skills acquired during internships.
 - D. By reducing the financial burden of training new employees.
4. **Why is the government cautious about scaling up the PM Internship Scheme to meet the target of one crore internships?**
 - A. The government wants to ensure that the lessons learned from the pilot project inform the final scheme design.
 - B. Due to financial constraints faced by the participating companies.
 - C. There is a lack of support from industry bodies for the project.
 - D. The scheme is only meant for rural areas, limiting the scope of expansion.
5. **What is a significant challenge the PM Internship Scheme might face in less industrialized States like Bihar?**
 - A. Difficulty in securing companies willing to participate in the scheme.
 - B. Inability to incorporate digital and soft skills training for interns.
 - C. Higher dropout rates among interns from these States.
 - D. Placement issues due to higher number of applicants in relation to job opportunities.
6. **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: Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, the leader of the sect Dera Sacha Sauda, who is a convicted rapist and murderer, was released on parole days before the Haryana Assembly elections.

S4: In all, Singh has spent more than 250 days of his sentence outside jail.

P: He was released on parole in the run-up to the Punjab Assembly elections in 2022 and the Rajasthan Assembly elections in 2023 as well.

Q: The court also imposed a fine of ₹50,000 each.

R: Singh has come out on parole 15 times, with several of these occasions coinciding with some election.

S: He is fortunate to have the additional responsibility.

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

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. It's clear now, just in case it wasn't to those wearing rose-tinted glasses, that the US-UK alliance will never give up control of this strategically important island,
 - Q. The UK's decision to cede the sovereignty of Chagos Islands to Mauritius is prompted by geopolitical compulsions rather than diplomatic generosity
 - R. Had the UK been truly magnanimous, it would have also handed back the Diego Garcia military base to Mauritius, which it gave to the US as far back as 1966, via an "exchange of notes"
 - S. citing its "commitment to safeguarding global security" and "averting threats to peace" in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR)
- A. RSPQ
 - B. QSPR
 - C. QRPS
 - 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.

Conversation is indeed the (1)_____ teachable of all arts. All you need to do in order to become a good conversationalist is to find a (2)_____ that interests you and your listeners. But the important thing is that you must talk about the other (3)_____ hobby rather than your own. Therein lies the secret of your (4)_____. Talk to your friends about the things that interest them, and you will get a reputation for good fellowship, charming wit, and a brilliant mind. There is nothing that (5)_____ people so much as your interest in their interest

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

- A. more easily
- B. most occasionally
- C. most easily
- D. more likely

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

- A. luxury
- B. subject
- C. result

- D. credit
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
- A. worker's
 - B. victim's
 - C. fellow's
 - D. self's
11. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
- A. irrationality
 - B. audacity
 - C. capacity
 - D. popularity
12. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
- A. advances
 - B. pleases
 - C. admits
 - D. accompanies
13. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
- Bill Gates' fortune was bequeathed for the old age home
- A. by the old age home
 - B. to the old age home
 - C. into the old age home
 - D. with the old age home
14. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
- An old head on young shoulders
- A. A person who is slow at understanding things.
 - B. A young person who acts or speaks like an older person.
 - C. A young person who looks old.
 - D. A young person who is lazy
15. **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'.**
- The small size of his store makes it impossible for him to stock all the items.
- A. made them impossible
 - B. making it impossible
 - C. No substitution required
 - D. is made it impossible
16. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
- I would like to reach the _____ of the Everest.
- A. pike
 - B. peek
 - C. peak
 - D. pick

17. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the bracketed word in the following sentence to fill in the blank.**

The meeting was brought to a _____ (rapid) conclusion.

- A. stubborn
- B. hasty
- C. pervious
- D. grim

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

Professor Singh is not in the office today. I ask you try call him tomorrow

- A. asked you to call
- B. am suggesting you calling
- C. ask you to try called
- D. suggest you try calling

19. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence.**

The ministir ordered the engineers to build roads through high mountains and bridges across deep ravines in a week.

- A. Ministir
- B. Engineers
- C. Ravines
- D. Bridges

20. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**

The encounter made the audience squirm

- A. Speak
- B. Chat
- C. Pray
- D. Relax

21. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

A wild goose chase

- A. Fruitful search
- B. On a hunt
- C. Fruitless search
- D. Ideal seeking

22. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**

The poet was lost in a reverie

- A. Fantasy
- B. Daydream
- C. Reality
- D. Trance

23. **Select the most appropriate option to correct the sentence by using the proper meaning of the underlined word.**

He scores good marks in exams as he is quite meticulous.

- A. Careful
 - B. Selective
 - C. Intelligent
 - D. Lazy
24. **The given sentence is divided into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a spelling error.**
- When the famous businessman / faced a huge loss / in his business, / no one expressed simpathy
- A. When the famous businessman
 - B. in his business
 - C. no one expressed simpathy
 - D. faced a huge loss
25. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.**
- The girl tried to alleviate her brother's problem.
- A. increase
 - B. worsen
 - C. reduce
 - D. Soar

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. A) Analytical

A: The passage carefully analyzes the PM Internship Scheme, discussing both its potential benefits and its limitations. The tone is detailed and thoughtful, focusing on examining the scheme's implementation and future outlook.

B.: While the passage acknowledges the scheme's benefits, it maintains a neutral, fact-based tone rather than one of optimism.

C: The passage does not focus on criticizing the scheme but rather on evaluating it from multiple perspectives.

D: The passage is not entirely neutral; it shows an intent to analyze the scheme's implications, making it more analytical than neutral.

2. B) To reduce the unemployment rate by bridging the gap between academic knowledge and practical skills.

B is correct because the passage specifically mentions that the scheme aims to bridge the gap between the education provided to students and the practical skills required by employers, thus reducing youth unemployment.

A is incorrect because the passage does not mention any financial assistance being provided to companies for hiring graduates.

C is incorrect as the focus of the scheme is not solely on increasing internships but on providing training and skills to youth.

D is incorrect because the scheme is about providing on-the-job training and not about promoting self-employment.

3. C) By offering certification of skills acquired during internships.

C is correct because the passage mentions that well-known firms could offer some form of certification at the end of the internship, which would provide comfort to prospective employers.

A is incorrect as the scheme targets fresh candidates rather than experienced ones.

B is incorrect since the focus is on bridging the gap between education and real-world skills, not on ensuring comprehensive technical expertise.

D is incorrect as the passage does not discuss the financial aspects of training employees but emphasizes skill development and certification.

4. A) The government wants to ensure that the lessons learned from the pilot project inform the final scheme design.

A is correct because the passage clearly mentions that the government is cautious before scaling up the scheme, as it wants to apply the lessons learned from the pilot project to the final scheme design.

B is incorrect because the passage does not mention any financial constraints faced by companies.

C is incorrect as it is mentioned that the government has consulted industry bodies, and there is no lack of support.

D is incorrect because the scheme is intended for placement across districts and States, not just rural areas.

5. **D) Placement issues due to higher number of applicants in relation to job opportunities.**

D is correct as the passage highlights that less industrialised States like Bihar are likely to attract higher numbers of applicants, leading to placement issues due to limited job opportunities.

A is incorrect because the passage does not indicate any difficulty in securing participating companies.

B is incorrect as the passage mentions the need to incorporate digital and soft skills but does not indicate that it's an issue specific to these States.

C is incorrect because the passage discusses monitoring dropout rates in general, without focusing on States like Bihar.

6. **B) P and R**

P: This sentence fits well as S2 because it continues the idea of parole being granted before elections. It shows that his parole release is not an isolated event but a pattern, thus maintaining the context.

R: This sentence logically follows S2 because it provides additional details, mentioning the frequency of his parole and reinforcing the point that it often coincides with elections.

Q: This sentence introduces an unrelated detail about a fine, which doesn't fit the context of parole releases.

S: This sentence is vague and doesn't fit the context of the paragraph. It introduces a new idea that is unrelated to the pattern of Singh's paroles before elections

7. **C) QRPS**

Q: ये sentence बताता है कि UK का चागोस द्वीपसमूह की संप्रभुता को मॉरीशस को सौंपने का निर्णय असल में geopolitical compulsions की वजह से लिया गया है, ना कि diplomatic generosity के कारण। इससे paragraph का main idea introduce होता है।

R: R, Q के बाद logically fit होता है क्योंकि ये आगे explain करता है कि अगर UK वास्तव में generous होता, तो उसने US को 1966 में दिया गया Diego Garcia military base भी वापस किया होता। इससे paragraph की continuity बनी रहती है।

P: P, R के बाद naturally आता है क्योंकि ये emphasize करता है कि US-UK alliance कभी भी इस strategically important island का control नहीं छोड़ेगा। ये R के विचार को reinforce करता है।

S: S sentence paragraph को conclude करता है। ये justify करता है कि US-UK alliance क्यों इस island का control maintain करना चाहता है, citing “commitment to safeguarding global security” और “averting threats to peace” in the IOR (Indian Ocean Region)

Explanation in English

Q: This sentence introduces the central idea of the paragraph, stating that the UK's decision to cede the sovereignty of Chagos Islands is influenced by geopolitical factors rather than genuine diplomatic intentions.

R: Sentence R follows Q as it elaborates on the UK's lack of generosity by highlighting that if the UK were truly magnanimous, it would have also handed back the Diego Garcia military base to Mauritius.

P: P comes after R because it reinforces the point made in R, emphasizing that the US-UK alliance will not relinquish control of this strategically important island.

S: S concludes the paragraph by providing a justification for the control maintained by the US-UK alliance, citing reasons related to global security and peace in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

8. C) 'most easily' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'the' article के बाद Superlative Degree का प्रयोग किया जाता है। यहाँ 'conversation' को सबसे सरल कला के रूप में संदर्भित किया गया है; जैसे— He is the most intelligent student in the class.
- 'most easily' will be used because the Superlative Degree is required after the article 'the.' Here, 'conversation' is referred to as the easiest of all arts; Like— He is the most intelligent student in the class.
9. B) **Subject** का use होगा क्योंकि "subject" का अर्थ होता है चर्चा या अध्ययन का विषय। Sentence में कहा गया है कि आपको एक ऐसा विषय ढूँढना चाहिए जो आपको और आपके listeners को रुचिकर लगे, इसलिए 'subject' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Luxury' का अर्थ है विलासिता, 'Result' का अर्थ है परिणाम, और 'Credit' का अर्थ है श्रेय, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।
- **Subject** will be used because it means a topic of discussion or study. The sentence mentions finding a topic that interests both you and your listeners, making 'subject' fitting here. Whereas, 'Luxury' means indulgence, 'Result' means outcome, and 'Credit' means recognition, which don't fit in this context.
10. C) **Fellow's** का use होगा क्योंकि "fellow's" का अर्थ है साथी या सहयोगी का। वाक्य में mention किया गया है कि आपको अपने दोस्त के शौक के बारे में बात करनी चाहिए न कि अपने। इसलिए, 'fellow's' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'worker's' का अर्थ है कार्यकर्ता का, 'victim's' का अर्थ है पीड़ित का, और 'self's' का अर्थ है स्वयं का, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।
- **Fellow's** will be used because it means of a companion or associate. The sentence mentions that you should talk about your friend's hobby rather than your own. Therefore, 'fellow's' is fitting here. Whereas, 'worker's' means of a worker, 'victim's' means of a victim, and 'self's' means of oneself, which do not fit in this context.

11. D) **Popularity**' का use होगा क्योंकि "popularity" का अर्थ होता है लोकप्रियता, और sentence में कहा गया है कि दूसरों की रुचियों के बारे में बात करने से आपको अच्छा fellowship, charming wit, और एक brilliant mind का reputation मिलता है। यह logically सही है क्योंकि यह आपके social skills और लोगों के साथ अच्छा संबंध बनाने की क्षमता को दर्शाता है। जबकि 'Irrationality' का अर्थ होता है अविवेक, जो इस context में बिल्कुल सही नहीं है क्योंकि यहां positive quality की बात हो रही है। 'Audacity' का अर्थ है साहस या दुस्साहस, जो यहां फिट नहीं बैठता क्योंकि यह सकारात्मक सामाजिक कौशल के बारे में नहीं बताता। 'Capacity' का अर्थ है क्षमता, जो कि इस context में सही नहीं बैठता क्योंकि यह आपकी social reputation के बारे में बात नहीं करता।

- **'Popularity'** will be used because it means being liked or admired by many people, and the sentence suggests that talking about others' interests will earn you a reputation for good fellowship, charming wit, and a brilliant mind. This logically fits as it reflects your social skills and ability to build good relationships. Whereas, 'Irrationality' means lack of reason, which is not correct in this context as it refers to a positive quality. 'Audacity' means boldness, which doesn't fit here as it doesn't describe positive social skills. 'Capacity' means ability, which doesn't fit this context as it doesn't relate to your social reputation.

12. B) **Pleases**' का use होगा क्योंकि "pleases" का अर्थ होता है किसी को खुश करना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि किसी की रुचि में आपकी रुचि उन्हें कितना खुश करती है, इसलिए 'pleases' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Advances' का अर्थ है आगे बढ़ाना, 'Admits' का अर्थ है स्वीकार करना, और 'Accompanies' का अर्थ है साथ देना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Pleases'** will be used because it means to make someone happy. The sentence mentions how much your interest in someone's interest pleases them, making 'pleases' fitting here. Whereas, 'Advances' means to move forward, 'Admits' means to accept, and 'Accompanies' means to go along with, which don't fit in this context.

13. B) **'for the old age home'** के बदले 'to the old age home' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'bequeathed' Verb का प्रयोग जब किसी को कुछ देने के संदर्भ में होता है, तब इसके साथ Preposition 'to' का प्रयोग किया जाता है; जैसे— Bill Gates' fortune was bequeathed to the charity.

- 'to the old age home' will be used instead of 'for the old age home' because the verb 'bequeathed' is used in the context of giving something to someone, and it takes the preposition 'to'; Like— Bill Gates' fortune was bequeathed to the charity.

14. B) **An old head on young shoulders** (idiom) – A young person who acts or speaks like an older person कम उम्र में बुढ़ापे की समझ

15. C) No substitution required

16. C) **Peak**' का use होगा क्योंकि "peak" का अर्थ होता है किसी वस्तु का सबसे ऊँचा बिंदु। वाक्य में कहा गया है कि व्यक्ति Everest की चोटी तक पहुँचना चाहता है, इसलिए 'peak' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Pike' का अर्थ है भाला, 'Peek' का अर्थ है झाँकना, और 'Pick' का अर्थ है चुनना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Peak'** will be used because it means the highest point of something. The sentence mentions that the person wants to reach the top of Everest, making 'peak' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Pike' means a spear, 'Peek' means to glance, and 'Pick' means to choose, which don't fit in this context.

17. B) **Rapid (adjective)** – Moving or acting with great speed, quick, fast. तेज

Synonym: Hasty (adjective) – Done or acting with excessive speed or urgency, hurried, rushed.
शीघ्र

- **Stubborn** (adjective) – Unyielding, obstinate, inflexible, determined. हठी
- **Pervious** (adjective) – Allowing things to pass through, permeable, porous. छिद्रपूर्ण
- **Grim** (adjective) – Forbidding or uninviting, stern, harsh. गंभीर

18. D) suggest you try calling

the speaker is offering advice on what to do, which is why 'suggest' is the appropriate verb. The structure "suggest you try calling" is correct because it follows the pattern of 'suggest' + 'subject' + 'try' + 'verb+ing.'

19. A) The correct spelling of 'Ministir' is '**Minister**' which means "a high-ranking government official" मंत्री, मंत्रीपदाधिकारी.

20. D) **Squirm** (verb) – To twist or move your body from side to side because you are uncomfortable, nervous, or embarrassed. घबड़ाहट दिखलाना

Antonym: Relax (verb) – To make or become less tense or anxious, to rest, to feel at ease.
आराम करना

- **Speak** (verb) – To say something in order to convey information, an opinion, or a feeling. बोलना
- **Chat** (verb) – To talk in a friendly and informal way. बातचीत करना
- **Pray** (verb) – To address a solemn request or expression of thanks to a deity or other object of worship. प्रार्थना करना

21. C) **A wild goose chase** (idiom) – Fruitless search निरर्थक खोज

22. C) **Reverie** (noun) – A state of being pleasantly lost in one's thoughts; a daydream. भावना

Antonym: Reality (noun) – The state of things as they actually exist, as opposed to an idealistic or notional idea of them. वास्तविकता

- **Fantasy** (noun) – The faculty or activity of imagining things, especially things that are impossible or improbable. कल्पना
- **Daydream** (noun) – A series of pleasant thoughts that distract one's attention from the present. दिवास्वप्न
- **Trance** (noun) – A half-conscious state characterized by an absence of response to external stimuli, typically as induced by hypnosis or entered by a medium. आत्म-विस्मृति

23. A) **meticulous** का अर्थ 'सावधान' होता है, इसलिए 'A' (Careful) होगा।

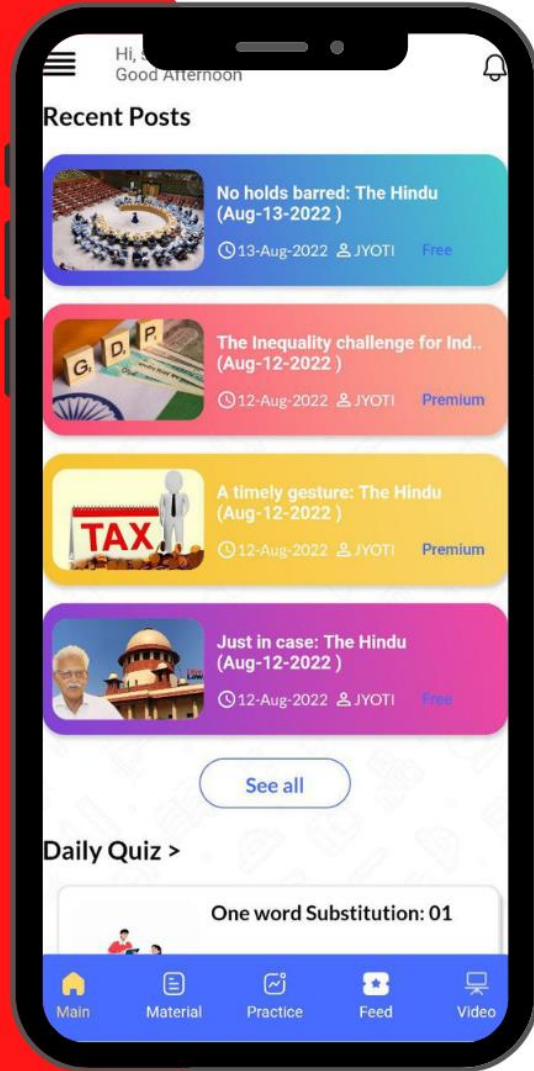
- 'Careful' will be used because 'meticulous' means 'careful', which correctly conveys the meaning of the sentence. For example— He scores good marks in exams as he is quite careful.

24. C) The correct spelling of 'simpathy' is '**sympathy**' which means "feelings of pity and sorrow for someone else's misfortune" सहानुभूति, हमदर्दी.

25. C) **Alleviate** (verb) – To make something less severe, to relieve, to ease. कम करना

Synonym: Reduce (verb) – To make something smaller or less in amount, degree, or size, to lessen. कम करना

- **Increase** (verb) – To become or make greater in size, amount, intensity, or degree. बढ़ाना
- **Worsen** (verb) – To make or become worse, to deteriorate. बिगाड़ना
- **Soar** (verb) – To fly or rise high in the air, to increase rapidly. ऊँचा उठना



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