

Canadian frostbite: On the India-Canada diplomatic war

India must consider the impact of its next steps on its **diplomacy** and image

After a year of **frosty exchanges** and declining relations, India and Canada have declared **diplomatic war**, as India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) revealed this week that the Canadian government had **sought** to investigate and even **interrogate** the Indian High Commissioner and five other **diplomats**, naming them "persons of interest" for the killing of Khalistani activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. **Mr. Nijjar**, who was shot dead in June 2023 in British Columbia, **was** wanted by India. In a press conference, the Canadian police (RCMP) detailed their **suspensions** that the Indian diplomats were somehow involved with an Indian criminal network they believe is responsible for the killing, as well in the targeting of some in the Indian **diaspora**. The Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has **alleged** political **interference** by India's diplomats, something **hitherto** it had **accused** China **of**. India's MEA has called the charges "**preposterous**", accusing Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of **orchestrating** the investigations for political gain with a **pro-separatist** Khalistani votebank, **given** his record-low ratings ahead of the 2025 general election. India also accused what it called the Canadian "**regime**" for providing **space** to "violent extremists and terrorists to ... **intimidate** Indian diplomats and community leaders...", in the name of free speech. Delhi and Ottawa have each **expelled** six diplomats. With the reduced staff strength in the High Commissions in both capitals and an **outraged** India reserving the right to further action, it could well mean drastic cuts in visas and **curtailed** direct travel links.

With the **die cast** for worsening **ties**, New Delhi must consider carefully the impact of its next steps not only on Indian diplomacy but also India's image. While it is **imperative** to defend India's diplomats, it is equally important to investigate the allegations that Indian intelligence agencies have **overstepped** in operations in the case. The RCMP's **naming** of Indian underworld gangster Lawrence Bishnoi **must** also be investigated. As India's **adversaries** seek to draw links between allegations against Indian intelligence and national security operations in Pakistan, the UAE, Qatar, Canada and the U.S., even India's close partners are looking **askance**. The U.S.'s **statement**, that India should cooperate with Canada, **must** be seen as evidence of that. India's dual policy towards the Nijjar case, which it **outrightly** rejects any connection to, and the Pannun case in the U.S. — it has sent a high-level inquiry team — also raises questions. The government must prove it has nothing to hide. It must also be more **transparent** about how it expects to **deal with** this challenge, and to reports that link Canada's allegations to India's top leadership including National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Home Minister Amit Shah. Above all, New Delhi must **step up** an international campaign to ensure **accountability** from Canada: to either present verifiable evidence, or to stop **casting this shadow over** India's reputation and its diplomats. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Frostbite** (noun) – Extreme coldness in relationships or situations
2. **Diplomacy** (noun) – The art of managing international relations; negotiation, tact, foreign policy कूटनीति
3. **Frosty** (adjective) – Cold and unfriendly रूखा और अमैत्रीपूर्ण
4. **Exchange** (noun) – Interaction, communication, dialogue, conversation वार्ता
5. **Diplomatic** (adjective) – Related to international relations or tactful management of interactions; political, tactful, negotiative कूटनीतिक
6. **Seek** (verb) – Try to obtain or achieve; pursue, search for, strive for प्रयास करना
7. **Interrogate** (verb) – Question closely and aggressively; examine, grill, probe पूछताछ करना
8. **Diplomat** (noun) – An official representing a country abroad; ambassador, envoy, representative राजनयिक
9. **Suspicion** (noun) – Doubt, mistrust, uncertainty, concern संदेह
10. **Diaspora** (noun) – People settled far from their ancestral homelands; expatriates, migrant community प्रवासी समुदाय
11. **Allege** (verb) – Claim without proof; accuse, assert, contend आरोप लगाना
12. **Interference** (noun) – Unwanted involvement or intervention; intrusion, meddling, obstruction हस्तक्षेप
13. **Hitherto** (adverb) – Until now, up to this point; previously, so far, thus far अब तक
14. **Accuse** (of) (verb) – Charge someone with a wrongdoing; blame, allege, indict आरोप लगाना
15. **Preposterous** (adjective) – Absurd, ridiculous, unreasonable, nonsensical बेतुका
16. **Orchestrate** (verb) – Plan or coordinate something skillfully; arrange, organize, engineer रचना
17. **Pro-separatist** (adjective) – Supporting a separatist cause or movement; favoring division अलगाववादी समर्थक
18. **Given** (preposition) – Considering, taking into account; in light of, due to देखते हुए
19. **Regime** (noun) – Government, administration, ruling authority शासन
20. **Space** (noun) – Opportunity or freedom for action; room, capacity, scope स्वतंत्रता
21. **Intimidate** (verb) – Frighten or overawe someone; threaten, bully, scare धमकाना

22. **Expel** (verb) – Force someone to leave; eject, remove, banish निकालना
23. **Outraged** (adjective) – Extremely angry or offended; indignant, furious, incensed नाराज़
24. **Curtail** (verb) – Reduce, limit, or cut short; restrict, diminish, shorten कम करना
25. **The die is cast** (phrase) – A decision has been made and cannot be changed; fate is sealed निर्णय हो चुका है
26. **Ties** (noun) – Relations or connections between countries; links, bonds, relationships संबंध
27. **Imperative** (adjective) – Absolutely necessary, urgent; essential, critical, important आवश्यक
28. **Overstep** (verb) – Go beyond acceptable boundaries; exceed, transgress, go too far सीमा से अधिक जाना
29. **Adversary** (noun) – Opponent, rival, enemy, antagonist विरोधी
30. **Askance** (adverb) – With suspicion or disapproval; skeptically, distrustfully, suspiciously संदेह की दृष्टि से
31. **Outrightly** (adverb) – Completely, totally, without reservation; entirely, absolutely पूरी तरह से
32. **Transparent** (adjective) – Open and honest, easy to understand; clear, straightforward, unambiguous पारदर्शी
33. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – Manage, handle, or address something; cope with, tackle, resolve सामना करना
34. **Step up** (phrasal verb) – Increase efforts or intensity; escalate, intensify, enhance बढ़ाना
35. **Accountability** (noun) – Responsibility for actions or decisions; answerability, liability, responsibility जवाबदेही
36. **Cast the shadow over** (phrase) – Create doubt or a negative impression; overshadow, taint, blemish संदेह उत्पन्न करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Diplomatic Tensions:** India and Canada are in a diplomatic conflict, with accusations against Indian diplomats over the killing of Khalistani activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.
2. **Canadian Allegations:** Canada suspects Indian diplomats' involvement in Nijjar's killing and links them to an Indian criminal network.
3. **Political Interference Charges:** The Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs accuses Indian diplomats of political interference, similar to accusations previously made against China.
4. **India's Response:** India's Ministry of External Affairs has rejected the accusations as "preposterous" and accuses Canada of providing space for extremists under the guise of free speech.
5. **Diplomatic Expulsions:** Both countries have expelled six diplomats each, signaling a worsening of relations.
6. **Impact on Visas and Travel:** The diplomatic fallout could lead to significant reductions in visas and curtailments in direct travel between India and Canada.
7. **Careful Diplomacy Required:** India must carefully consider its next steps to protect its diplomatic interests and international image.
8. **Need for Investigation:** It is essential for India to investigate the allegations of its intelligence agencies overstepping in this case.
9. **Lawrence Bishnoi Connection:** The involvement of Indian gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, as mentioned by Canadian authorities, must be thoroughly investigated.
10. **International Concerns:** Allegations against Indian intelligence have raised concerns among India's global partners, including the U.S.
11. **U.S. Stance:** The U.S. has called for India to cooperate with Canada, which indicates a shift in international relations regarding the case.
12. **Dual Policy Issue:** India's handling of the Nijjar case in Canada, compared to its response to the Pannun case in the U.S., raises questions about transparency.
13. **Need for Transparency:** India must demonstrate that it has nothing to hide in the case and should clarify its strategy to the international community.
14. **Leadership Involvement:** Reports linking Canada's allegations to Indian leadership, including Ajit Doval and Amit Shah, need to be addressed openly.
15. **Accountability from Canada:** India must launch an international campaign to demand verifiable evidence from Canada or to push for an end to the damaging allegations.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the reason behind the deteriorating India-Canada relations?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. India's Ministry of External Affairs accused Canada of harboring Khalistani activists.
 - B. The Canadian police suspect Indian diplomats of being involved in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar.
 - C. India's MEA accused Justin Trudeau of using the investigations for political advantage.
 - D. India and Canada have only recently developed frosty relations due to unrelated diplomatic disputes.
2. **Based on the passage, is the following statement true or false?**
"Canada has expelled six Indian diplomats while India has expelled the same number of Canadian diplomats in retaliation."
 - A. True
 - B. False
 - C. Partially True
 - D. Cannot be determined
3. **What does India accuse the Canadian government of doing to justify its diplomatic actions?**
 - A. Supporting Khalistani separatists for political gain.
 - B. Investigating Indian diplomats without evidence.
 - C. Encouraging the Indian diaspora to act against Indian interests.
 - D. Refusing to cooperate with India on diplomatic matters.
4. **India's diplomatic response to Canada's allegations is twofold: to _____ its actions and to _____ Canada to either present verifiable evidence or stop tarnishing India's reputation.**
 - A. conceal, urge
 - B. justify, demand
 - C. ignore, force
 - D. deflect, suggest
5. **What does the idiom "casting a shadow" mean in the context of the passage?**
 - A. Obscuring the truth
 - B. Improving the image
 - C. Highlighting the truth
 - D. Protecting the interests
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. Therefore, it is no surprise that there is a severe backlash against both the legislation,
 - b. Which has just entered its 20th year, and those who use it
 - c. The Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005, has been one of the most empowering laws for Indians.
 - d. From exposing corruption in the delivery of basic rights to bringing to light the truth behind the opaque electoral bonds scheme, the law has been used by citizens to hold power to account.
 - A. d, b, a, c
 - B. c, a, b, d
 - C. c, d, a, b
 - 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. Delhi experienced an unprecedented 50+°C.
- Q. With the progress of the monsoon and the memory of the extreme heat far behind us, we risk ignoring a critical warning.
- R. In India, this year's summer shattered records, with red alerts issued nationwide.
- S. Over 200 lives were lost to heatwaves (official), but countless more went unrecorded.
- A. RSPQ
- B. PRQS
- C. QRPS
- D. RQPS
8. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.**
He was an irresponsible person to the matter of taking up responsibilities.
- A. in the matter of taking up
- B. at the matter of taking up
- C. by the matter of taking up
- D. along the matter of taking up
9. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Pugnacious
- A. Sly
- B. Dogmatic
- C. Belligerent
- D. Ally
10. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Stationary
- A. Portable
- B. Swindle
- C. Still
- D. Motile
11. **Select the option that can be used as a one word substitute for the given group of words.**
An often-imaginary place or state of utter perfection and happiness
- A. Dystopia
- B. Euphoria
- C. Inferno
- D. Utopia
12. **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 is also called a nuclear family.
- B. It is good to be in a small family because there is better management of resources.
- C. A small family is one with parents and a maximum of two children.
- D. The advantages of a small family are numerous
- A. CADB
- B. ACBD
- C. CBDA
- D. BACD
13. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the following sentence to fill in the blank.**

- Most of the land near the town is barren, but the efforts of the farmers have turned it _____.
- A. sterile
B. unfruitful
C. infertile
D. Fertile
14. **Select the correct spelling to fill in the blank.**
Subir's long absence is likely to have _____ for employees in the office.
- A. reperrussions
B. rapercussions
C. repercussions
D. repercusions
15. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.**
- O. delicious
R. she
Q. a
P. baked
S. chocolate cake
- A. SRPQO
B. QOSRP
C. RPQOS
D. OPQRS
16. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the following sentence to fill in the blank.**
Most of the flowers bloom in the spring season but they start to _____ during summer
- A. flush
B. flourish
C. blossom
D. Wither
17. **Select the option that correctly expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
The shareholders will elect him a director
- A. The shareholders have elected him a director.
B. He will be elected as director by the shareholders.
C. The shareholders elected him a director.
D. He will be elected a director
18. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**
No other place in this country is so better as Gulmarg, Kashmir
- A. No other place
B. in this country is
C. so better as
D. Gulmarg, Kashmir
19. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.**
Rare species of frogs were very quicker identified by Stella
- A. of frogs were very quickly
B. to frogs were very quickly

- C. of frogs were very quicklier
D. in frogs were very quicker
20. **What does the idiom 'Bite the bullet' mean?**
- A. Enjoy a delicious meal
B. Give someone a piece of advice
C. Avoid confrontation
D. Face a difficult situation with courage

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.

Americans have been arguing about pandemic (1) _____ for two years, and the debate is particularly fraught among parents of small children, for good reasons. While (2) _____ such as masking and isolation mean temporary discomfort or inconvenience for most people, their (3) _____ for still-developing young children are more mysterious, and possibly more significant and lasting.

Children with speech or language disorders offer perhaps the (4) _____ example of these murky trade-offs. Pandemic restrictions vary by state, county and school district, but I spoke with parents in California, New York, Massachusetts, Washington, New Jersey, Iowa and Maryland, who said their children's speech therapy has been (5) _____: first by the loss of in-person therapy and then by masking requirements, in places that have them

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 1**
- A. advantages
B. intemperance
C. handicap
D. Restrictions
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 2**
- A. measures
B. brandings
C. models
D. Sluggishness
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 3**
- A. marginalisation
B. disapproval
C. consequences
D. Foundations
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 4.**
- A. indistinct
B. nebulous
C. clearest
D. Vague
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 5.**
- A. normalised
B. disrupted
C. measured
D. regulated

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

- B) The Canadian police suspect Indian diplomats of being involved in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar.**

B: The passage clearly states that the Canadian police suspect Indian diplomats are linked to the killing of Nijjar, which has contributed to the deteriorating relations.

A: Although India accused Canada of supporting extremists, it wasn't presented as the primary reason for diplomatic tensions in this specific situation.

C: While India accused Trudeau of political motives, the inference is that the diplomatic situation is mainly due to the accusations by Canadian authorities regarding the killing of Nijjar.

D: The passage indicates a history of frosty relations, not a sudden deterioration due to unrelated disputes.
- A) True**

A: The passage mentions that both India and Canada have expelled six diplomats each, confirming that the statement is true.

B: The statement is entirely true as both nations expelled an equal number of diplomats.

C: The passage clearly states both countries expelled six diplomats, making it completely true.

D: The information is in passage, so it can be determined as true.
- A) Supporting Khalistani separatists for political gain.**

A: India accuses the Canadian government, specifically Trudeau, of using pro-separatist Khalistani support for political reasons ahead of the 2025 elections.

B: The passage does not state that the investigations lack evidence, only that India finds the accusations preposterous.

C: The passage doesn't indicate that Canada is encouraging the Indian diaspora to act against Indian interests.

D: The passage does not mention a lack of diplomatic cooperation; the issue is centered around the investigation and political interference.
- B) justify, demand**

B) This is the correct answer as the passage discusses the need for India to defend its actions while pushing Canada to present evidence or stop damaging its reputation. "Justify" fits with explaining or defending India's actions, and "demand" aligns with the push for accountability from Canada.

A) Conceal means hiding something, which the passage does not suggest. "Urge" is too weak for the context of demanding evidence.

C) ignore, force: Ignore is incorrect because the passage emphasizes addressing the allegations, not ignoring them. Force also does not fit the diplomatic tone.

D) deflect, suggest: Deflect suggests avoiding responsibility, which is not supported by the passage. Suggest is too mild for the firm stance India is encouraged to take.

5. **A) Obscuring the truth**

"Casting a shadow" means creating doubt or suspicion, which aligns with Canada casting doubts over India's reputation, as mentioned in the passage.

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

c starts the paragraph by introducing the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005 as one of the most empowering laws for Indians.

d logically follows c because it explains how the RTI Act has been used by citizens to expose corruption and hold those in power accountable.

a comes next after d as it transitions to the backlash against both the legislation and those who use it. This connects to the effectiveness of the law described in d, explaining why some might be opposed to it.

b concludes the paragraph by stating that the RTI Act has now entered its 20th year and those who use it face challenges, which relates back to the backlash mentioned in a.

7. **A) RSPQ**

R starts the paragraph with the general statement about the extreme summer India experienced, using "In India, this year's summer shattered records." The mention of "red alerts issued nationwide" sets up the context of widespread consequences. The past tense in this sentence establishes the event that the rest of the paragraph will elaborate on.

S logically follows R as it builds on the consequences mentioned in the previous sentence. S continues with "Over 200 lives were lost to heatwaves," which directly connects to the "red alerts" mentioned in R.

P comes after S because it provides a specific example of the extreme heat by mentioning Delhi's unprecedented 50+°C temperature.

Q logically concludes the paragraph by transitioning to the present and warning about the "risk of ignoring a critical warning." This relates back to the severity of the heat mentioned in P and S, reinforcing the idea that despite the monsoon's progress, the lesson from the extreme summer should not be forgotten. The shift from past events (the extreme summer) to a caution about the future provides a fitting conclusion.

8. A) 'to the matter of taking up' के बदले 'in the matter of taking up' का use होगा क्योंकि 'in the matter of' एक phrase है जिसका अर्थ होता है "किसी विषय के संदर्भ में"। यहाँ 'in' का use उचित है क्योंकि यह responsibilities (जिम्मेदारियों) के संदर्भ में प्रयोग किया गया है।

'in the matter of taking up' will be used instead of 'to the matter of taking up' because 'in the matter of' is a fixed phrase meaning "with reference to a particular subject." The use of 'in' is appropriate here as it indicates a reference to responsibilities.

9. C) **Pugnacious** (adjective) – Eager or quick to argue, quarrel, or fight; combative, aggressive, confrontational. लड़ाकू

Synonym: **Belligerent** (adjective) – Hostile and aggressive; eager to fight or argue. युद्धप्रिय, लड़ाकू

- **Sly** (adjective) – Deceitful, cunning, crafty. चालाक

- **Dogmatic** (adjective) – Assertive, opinionated, insistent on principles. हठी
 - **Ally** (noun) – A person, group, or nation associated with another for some common purpose. सहयोगी, मित्र
10. C) **Stationary** (adjective) – Not moving or not intended to be moved, fixed, immobile, motionless. स्थिर
Synonym: **Still** (adjective) – Not moving or making a sound, motionless, immobile, static. स्थिर
- **Portable** (adjective) – Able to be easily carried or moved, transportable. सुवाह्य
 - **Swindle** (verb) – Use deception to deprive someone of money or possessions, cheat, deceive. धोखा देना
 - **Motile** (adjective) – Capable of movement, moving. गति करने में सक्षम
11. D) **Utopia** (noun) – An often-imaginary place or state of utter perfection and happiness. आदर्श लोक
- **Dystopia** (noun) – An imagined state or society in which there is great suffering or injustice. प्रतिकल्पना
 - **Euphoria** (noun) – A feeling or state of intense excitement and happiness. परमानंद
 - **Inferno** (noun) – A place or state that resembles hell; intense heat or fire. नरक
12. A) **CADB**
C sentence starts the paragraph as it defines what a small family is, “A small family is one with parents and a maximum of two children.” This establishes the context for the paragraph. A logically follows C as it gives an additional detail about a small family by stating, “It is also called a nuclear family.” This connects well to the definition given in C.
D comes next as it introduces the benefits of a small family, “The advantages of a small family are numerous,” building on the context in C and A.
B concludes the paragraph by providing a specific advantage, “It is good to be in a small family because there is better management of resources,” which explains one of the numerous advantages mentioned in D.
13. D) **Barren** (adjective) – Unable to produce plants or fruit, desolate, arid, infertile. अनुत्पादक, बंजर
Antonym: **Fertile** (adjective) – Capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops, productive, fruitful. उपजाऊ, उत्पादक
- **Sterile** (adjective) – Free from bacteria or other living microorganisms, barren, unable to produce. निष्फल, बाँझ
 - **Unfruitful** (adjective) – Not producing good or useful results, barren, unproductive. अनुत्पादक, व्यर्थ
 - **Infertile** (adjective) – Unable to reproduce or sustain growth, barren, sterile. अनुत्पादक, ऊसर

14. C) The correct spelling is '**repercussions**', which means "unintended consequences of an event or action, especially when they are unwelcome or unpleasant" प्रतिक्रिया या प्रभाव.

15. C) **RPQOS**

R starts the sentence with the subject "she," which tells us who performed the action.

P follows "R" as it introduces the verb "baked," which describes what the subject did. This establishes a clear subject-verb relationship: She baked.

Q comes next as it introduces the article "a," which connects to the upcoming noun phrase, setting up the object of the verb "baked."

O follows "Q" with the adjective "delicious," which describes the noun that follows, providing more information about the object being referred to.

S concludes the sentence by introducing the noun "chocolate cake," completing the noun phrase started by "a" and described by "delicious."

16. D) **Bloom** (verb) – To produce flowers, blossom, thrive, grow. खिलना

Antonym: **Wither** (verb) – To become dry and shriveled, wilt, decline, decay. मुरझाना

- **Flush** (verb) – To turn red or blush, especially in the face. लाल होना
- **Flourish** (verb) – To grow or develop in a healthy or vigorous way, thrive. फूलना-फलना
- **Blossom** (verb) – To produce flowers or come to a promising stage of development. खिलना

17. B) He will be elected as director by the shareholders

Active Voice को Passive Voice में बदलते समय, object sentence की शुरुआत में आता है और क्रिया (verb) को Passive Voice के form में बदलकर प्रयोग किया जाता है। जैसे— (i) The shareholders will elect him a director.

To Be → will be V³ → elected

Note: "Him" को "He" से बदला गया, और "will be elected" Passive Voice के रूप में प्रयोग किया गया। "by the shareholders" को वाक्य के end में रखा गया।

Explanation in English:

While converting Active Voice into Passive Voice, the object appears at the beginning of the sentence, and the verb is changed into the Passive Voice form. For example: (i) The shareholders will elect him a director.

→ To Be → will be → V³ → elected

Note: "Him" is changed to "He," and "will be elected" is used as the Passive Voice. "by the shareholders" is placed at the end of the sentence.

18. C) 'so better as' के बदले '**as good as**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Comparative degree के लिए 'as...as' का प्रयोग किया जाता है, और 'better' Comparative degree के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। अतः सही वाक्य होगा:

No other place in this country is as good as Gulmarg, Kashmir.

'as good as' will be used instead of 'so better as' because for comparative degree, 'as...as' is used, and 'better' is not appropriate in this construction. Thus, the correct sentence is: No other place in this country is as good as Gulmarg, Kashmir.

19. A) of frogs were 'very quicker' के बदले **of frogs were 'very quickly'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'quickly' एक adverb है जो Verb 'identified' को modify करने के लिए प्रयोग किया जाता है। Sentence में Verb को modify करने के लिए हमेशा adverb का प्रयोग होता है, जबकि 'quicker' adjective है, जो यहाँ सही नहीं होगा। अतः सही उत्तर 'very quickly' है।
'of frogs were very quickly' will be used instead of of frogs were 'very quicker' because 'quickly' is an adverb, which is used to modify the verb 'identified.' In a sentence, adverbs are always used to modify verbs, whereas 'quicker' is an adjective, which is incorrect in this context. Hence, the correct answer is 'very quickly.'
20. **D) Bite the bullet (idiom) – Face a difficult situation with courage** कठिन परिस्थिति का साहसपूर्वक सामना करना
21. **D) Restrictions'** का use होगा क्योंकि "restrictions" का अर्थ होता है किसी गतिविधि या स्थिति को सीमित करना या नियंत्रित करना। Sentence में mention है कि अमेरिकन लोग महामारी की "पाबंदियों" के बारे में बहस कर रहे हैं, इसलिए 'restrictions' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Advantages' का अर्थ है लाभ, 'Intemperance' का अर्थ है अति या अनुशासनहीनता, और 'Handicap' का अर्थ है असमर्थता, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
'Restrictions' will be used because it means to limit or control an activity or situation. The sentence mentions that Americans have been arguing about pandemic restrictions, making 'restrictions' fitting here. Whereas, 'Advantages' means benefits, 'Intemperance' means lack of self-control or excess, and 'Handicap' means disability, which don't fit in this context.
22. **A) 'Measures'** का use होगा क्योंकि "measures" का अर्थ होता है उपाय या कदम, जो विशेष रूप से किसी समस्या का समाधान करने के लिए उठाए जाते हैं। Sentence में mention है कि जैसे मास्किंग और आइसोलेशन जैसी चीजें अस्थायी असुविधा या परेशानी का कारण बनती हैं, इसलिए 'measures' यहाँ सही विकल्प है। जबकि 'brandings' का अर्थ है नामकरण या लेबलिंग, 'models' का अर्थ है नमूने, और 'sluggishness' का अर्थ है धीमापन, जो इस context में फिट नहीं बैठते।
'Measures' will be used because it refers to steps or actions taken to address a problem or situation. The sentence mentions that measures like masking and isolation cause temporary discomfort or inconvenience, making 'measures' the correct choice here. Whereas, 'Brandings' means labeling or naming, 'Models' refers to samples or examples, and 'Sluggishness' means a state of being slow, none of which fit the context of the sentence.
23. **C) Consequences'** का use होगा क्योंकि "consequences" का अर्थ होता है किसी कार्य या स्थिति का परिणाम। Sentence में mention है कि मास्किंग और आइसोलेशन जैसी नीतियों का छोटे बच्चों के विकास पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा, जो "consequences" शब्द को appropriate बनाता है। जबकि 'marginalisation' का अर्थ है हाशिए पर करना, 'disapproval' का अर्थ है अस्वीकृति, और 'foundations' का अर्थ है नींव, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।
'Consequences' will be used because it means the result or effect of an action or situation. The sentence discusses how policies such as masking and isolation may affect the development of young children, making "consequences" appropriate here. Whereas, 'marginalisation' means

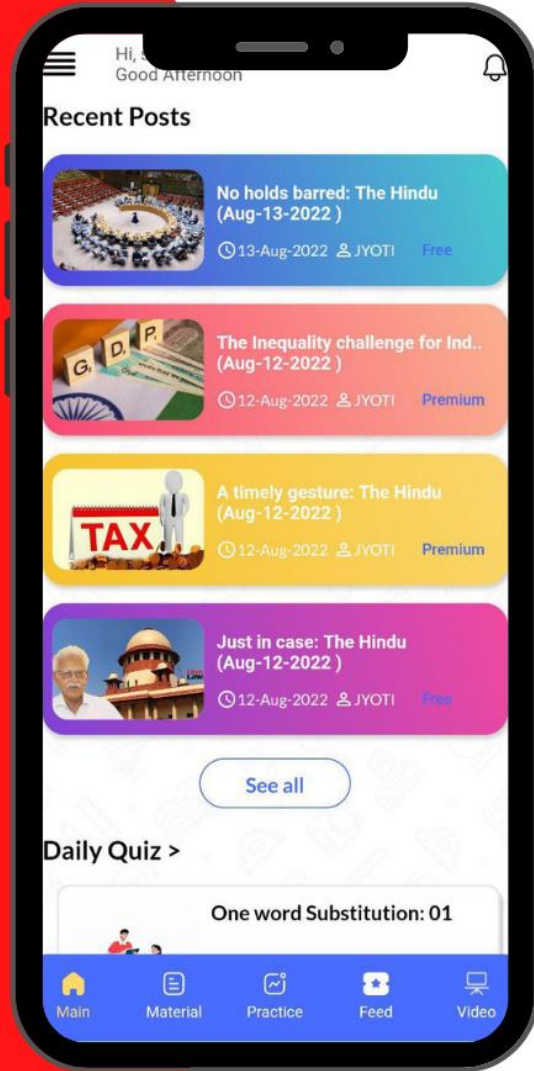
to put someone in a powerless position, 'disapproval' means to reject or disapprove, and 'foundations' means the basis or groundwork, which are not suitable in this context.

24. C) **Clearest** का use होगा क्योंकि "clearest" का अर्थ है सबसे स्पष्ट या सबसे आसानी से समझ में आने वाला। यहां sentence में कहा जा रहा है कि बच्चों के स्पीच या भाषा विकार वाले मामले सबसे स्पष्ट उदाहरण हैं। जबकि "indistinct" का अर्थ होता है अस्पष्ट, "nebulous" का अर्थ होता है धुंधला या अनिश्चित, और "vague" का अर्थ भी होता है अस्पष्ट, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं क्योंकि यहां स्पष्ट उदाहरण की बात हो रही है।

"**Clearest**" will be used because it means most easily understood or most obvious. The sentence is saying that children with speech or language disorders offer the clearest example of these trade-offs, making it the appropriate choice. Whereas, "indistinct" means unclear, "nebulous" means hazy or uncertain, and "vague" also means unclear, which do not fit in this context since it is referring to a clear example.

25. B) **Disrupted** का use होगा क्योंकि "disrupted" का अर्थ होता है किसी प्रक्रिया या सेवा में रुकावट डालना या बाधा उत्पन्न करना। Sentence में mention है कि बच्चों की स्पीच थेरेपी पहले व्यक्तिगत थेरेपी के न होने से और फिर मास्क पहनने की आवश्यकताओं के कारण बाधित हुई है। इसलिए 'disrupted' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Normalised' का अर्थ है सामान्य बनाना, 'Measured' का अर्थ है मापा हुआ या नियत, और 'Regulated' का अर्थ है नियंत्रित या व्यवस्थित किया हुआ, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Disrupted'** will be used because it means to interrupt or cause problems for a process or service. The sentence mentions that children's speech therapy was disrupted, first by the loss of in-person therapy and then by masking requirements. Thus, 'disrupted' is fitting here. Whereas, 'Normalised' means to make normal, 'Measured' means assessed or calculated, and 'Regulated' means controlled or managed, which don't fit in this context.



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