

Culture and society: On upholding Section 6A of the Citizenship Act

Supreme Court of India **verdict** on citizenship law for Assam **helps** avoid fresh problems

In upholding Section 6A of the Citizenship Act, a provision introduced in 1985 to **give effect to** the **core** feature of the Assam Accord, the Supreme Court of India has helped **preserve** the **existing** legal **regime** for determining citizenship and identification of foreigners in Assam. **Striking it down** would have had the **undesirable** consequence of **turning the clock back** on the process **laid down** in **statutory** provisions and rules for the purpose. In its 4:1 decision, the Court has rightly seen the provision **in the light of** historical **developments**. While on one hand, Section 6A **conferred deemed citizenship** on all those who entered Assam from areas in **erstwhile** East Pakistan before January 1, 1966, it created, on the other, a system of registration for those who **immigrated** from that day to March 25, 1971, the day Pakistan began Operation Searchlight, a military **drive** to **suppress** the Bengali nationalist movement. The latter category of people had to be ordinarily **residing** in Assam and declared to be a foreigner by a **tribunal** before they could apply for registration as citizens. However, they would be ineligible to be on the **electoral rolls** for 10 years from the date of detection. **Section 6A**, as the Chief Justice of India, D.Y. Chandrachud, says in his **concurring** opinion, **was** aimed at **finding a middle ground** between a **humanitarian** approach towards the **immigrant** population in Assam and ensuring that **large-scale immigration** does not **result in** the loss of the cultural, economic and political rights of the Assam people.

The majority has rejected the **notion** that the provision is unconstitutional **on the ground that** it treats Assam differentially from the rest of the country. It has noted that the citizenship **provisions** in the Constitution **referred** to ‘citizenship at the **commencement** of the Constitution’ and Parliament was not **deprived of** the power to introduce provisions on citizenship for a different category of people from a different date. In his main opinion, speaking for himself and two other judges, Justice Surya Kant has **acknowledged** the **petitioners’ “demographic anxiety”**, but did not believe that the idea of **fraternity** in the Constitution was threatened by a **mere** change in demography. It is not a **misplaced** fear when he says accepting the argument that demographic change could **lead to** an **erosion** of the cultural rights of a section of society may **open the floodgates** for similar challenges to **undermine inter-State migration in the guise of** protecting **indigenous** culture. At a time when the **exercise** to finalise a National Register of Citizens for Assam **is in limbo** — 19 lakh people have been identified as non-citizens, but there have been no further developments — any **decision invalidating** Section 6A **would** have created fresh **complications**. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Uphold** (verb) – Maintain, support, sustain, defend, enforce बनाए रखना
2. **Verdict** (noun) – Judgment, decision, ruling, decree, finding निर्णय
3. **Give effect to** (phrase) – Implement, execute, enforce, carry out, put into action लागू करना
4. **Core** (adjective) – Central, fundamental, essential, primary, main मुख्य
5. **Preserve** (verb) – Protect, conserve, maintain, safeguard, keep संरक्षित करना
6. **Existing** (adjective) – Current, present, prevailing, ongoing, established मौजूदा
7. **Regime** (noun) – Government, administration, system, authority, rule शासन
8. **Strike down** (phrasal verb) – Nullify, invalidate, abolish, annul, void रद्द करना
9. **Undesirable** (adjective) – Unwanted, objectionable, unfavorable, unwelcome, adverse अवांछनीय
10. **Turn the clock back on** (phrase) – Reverse, revert, undo, regress, go back वापस ले जाना
11. **Lay down** (phrasal verb) – Establish, set, prescribe, stipulate, dictate निर्धारित करना
12. **Statutory** (adjective) – Legal, legislative, lawful, regulated, authorized कानूनी
13. **In the light of** (phrase) – Considering, taking into account, in view of, because of, due to के मद्देनज़र
14. **Development** (noun) – event, turn of events, occurrence, happening, circumstance घटनाक्रम
15. **Confer** (verb) – Grant, bestow, give, award, provide प्रदान करना
16. **Deemed citizenship** (noun) – Citizenship that is considered or assumed to be granted automatically under certain legal provisions, even without formal application or verification. It refers to individuals who are legally recognized as citizens based on specific criteria or historical circumstances without the need for explicit confirmation.
17. **Erstwhile** (adjective) – Former, previous, past, earlier, bygone पूर्व
18. **Immigrate** (verb) – Migrate, relocate, move, settle, come to live प्रवासन करना
19. **Drive** (noun) – Campaign, initiative, effort, push, movement अभियान
20. **Suppress** (verb) – Subdue, restrain, quell, stifle, repress दबाना
21. **Reside** (verb) – Live, dwell, inhabit, occupy, stay निवास करना

22. **Tribunal** (noun) – Court, panel, judiciary, arbitration board, adjudicatory body
न्यायाधिकरण
23. **Electoral roll** (noun) – Voters list, registry of voters, electoral register मतदाता सूची
24. **Concurring** (adjective) – Agreeing, consistent, harmonious, unanimous, coinciding सहमति वाला
25. **Find a middle ground** (phrase) – Compromise, reconcile, find a balance, meet halfway, negotiate समझौता करना
26. **Humanitarian** (adjective) – Compassionate, humane, philanthropic, benevolent, kind मानवीय
27. **Immigrant** (adjective) – Migrant, foreign-born, incoming, non-native, newcomer प्रवासी
28. **Large-scale** (adjective) – Massive, extensive, widespread, broad, wide-ranging बड़े पैमाने पर
29. **Immigration** (noun) – Migration, relocation, movement, resettlement, influx प्रवासन
30. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – Lead to, cause, bring about, produce, end in का परिणाम होना
31. **Notion** (noun) – Idea, concept, belief, perception, understanding धारणा
32. **On the ground that** (phrase) – Because, due to the reason that, since, as, based on the fact that इस आधार पर कि
33. **Commencement** (noun) – Beginning, start, inception, initiation, onset आरंभ
34. **Deprive** (of) (verb) – Deny, strip, dispossess, rob, divest वंचित करना
35. **Acknowledge** (verb) – Recognize, admit, accept, concede, affirm स्वीकार करना
36. **Petitioner** (noun) – Applicant, claimant, supplicant, requester, pleader याचिकाकर्ता
37. **Demographic anxiety** (noun) – a fear that the "wrong" people are multiplying and becoming the majority, while the "right" people are losing out जनसांख्यिकीय चिंता
38. **Fraternity** (noun) – Brotherhood, fellowship, camaraderie, solidarity, association भाईचारा
39. **Mere** (adjective) – Only, just, simply, nothing more than, solely केवल
40. **Misplaced** (adjective) – Inappropriate, unfounded, incorrect, misguided, erroneous अनुचित
41. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, cause, bring about, produce, give rise to वजह बनना
42. **Erosion** (noun) – Deterioration, decline, degradation, wearing away, loss विकृति/घटाव

43. **Open the floodgate** (phrase) – Unleash, set off, trigger, initiate, allow an uncontrolled outpouring झड़ी लगाना
44. **Undermine** (verb) – Weaken, sabotage, subvert, erode, damage कमजोर करना
45. **Inter-state** (adjective) – Between states, cross-state, regional, among states अंतर्राज्यीय
46. **Migration** (noun) – Movement, relocation, exodus, resettlement, emigration प्रवास
47. **In the guise of** (phrase) – Under the pretense of, masquerading as, in the form of, pretending to be के आड़ में
48. **Indigenous** (adjective) – Native, local, original, aboriginal, homegrown स्थानीय
49. **In limbo** (phrase) – Uncertain, in suspense, unresolved, pending, in a state of neglect अनिश्चितता में
50. **Invalidate** (verb) – Nullify, void, cancel, negate, annul अमान्य करना
51. **Complication** (noun) – Difficulty, problem, obstacle, complexity, hindrance जटिलता

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Supreme Court's Ruling:** The Supreme Court upheld Section 6A of the Citizenship Act, preserving the legal framework for determining citizenship in Assam.
2. **Historical Importance:** Section 6A was introduced in 1985 to implement the Assam Accord, balancing local concerns with humanitarian considerations.
3. **Avoiding Complications:** Striking down Section 6A would have reversed established processes for identifying foreigners and determining citizenship in Assam.
4. **4:1 Decision:** The Court's majority opinion viewed the provision in the context of historical events and legal developments.
5. **Deemed Citizenship for Pre-1966 Migrants:** Those who entered Assam before January 1, 1966, from erstwhile East Pakistan were granted deemed citizenship.
6. **Registration for 1966-1971 Migrants:** Migrants who entered Assam between January 1, 1966, and March 25, 1971, were subject to a registration process, following tribunal declaration as foreigners.
7. **10-Year Electoral Exclusion:** Registered immigrants from this latter period could not be included in the electoral rolls for 10 years after being identified as foreigners.
8. **Balancing Act:** Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud noted that Section 6A sought to balance humanitarian concerns and the protection of Assam's cultural and political rights.
9. **Rejection of Unconstitutionality:** The Court rejected the claim that Section 6A was unconstitutional due to its differential treatment of Assam from other Indian states.
10. **Constitutional Powers:** It upheld Parliament's authority to introduce specific provisions on citizenship for a distinct group of people from a different time period.
11. **Demographic Anxiety:** Justice Surya Kant acknowledged concerns about demographic changes but dismissed the fear that it would threaten constitutional fraternity.
12. **Fraternity Not Undermined:** The ruling emphasized that demographic changes do not necessarily lead to an erosion of cultural rights or constitutional principles.
13. **Inter-State Migration:** The Court warned against using arguments about demographic threats to challenge inter-state migration under the guise of protecting indigenous culture.
14. **NRC in Limbo:** The National Register of Citizens (NRC) process in Assam has stalled, with 19 lakh individuals identified as non-citizens but no further action taken.
15. **Preventing Fresh Complications:** Striking down Section 6A could have complicated the already delicate situation in Assam concerning citizenship and immigration issues.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following best represents the dual focus of Section 6A of the Citizenship Act as upheld by the Supreme Court of India?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. Ensuring immigrants' right to vote immediately and preserving Assam's cultural heritage
 - B. Offering citizenship to immigrants and balancing humanitarian concerns with Assam's cultural preservation
 - C. Promoting open immigration from East Pakistan and preventing any political unrest
 - D. Allowing all immigrants from 1971 onward to gain immediate citizenship and electoral rights
2. **What is the cut-off date set by Section 6A of the Citizenship Act for immigrants from erstwhile East Pakistan to be eligible for deemed citizenship without registration?**
 - A. January 1, 1966
 - B. March 25, 1971
 - C. January 1, 1985
 - D. December 31, 1965
3. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Optimistic
 - B. Cautionary
 - C. Neutral and Analytical
 - D. Aggressive
4. **Why did the Supreme Court reject the argument that Section 6A of the Citizenship Act treats Assam differently from the rest of the country?**
 - A. Because the court believed demographic anxiety was unfounded.
 - B. Because the Constitution allows Parliament to introduce special provisions for different regions and groups.
 - C. Because the Constitution does not mention any state-specific provisions.
 - D. Because Assam has already resolved its citizenship issues.
5. **What concern did Justice Surya Kant mention regarding accepting demographic change arguments?**
 - A. It could challenge the idea of fraternity in the Constitution.
 - B. It might invalidate the National Register of Citizens.
 - C. It would create new cultural rights for migrants.
 - D. It would strengthen the case for uniform citizenship laws across India.
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: The go-ahead to the first visit by an Indian External Affairs Minister to Pakistan in almost nine years was indication enough that behind-the-scenes diplomacy had been productive.

S4: In the Pakistan capital, he said activities characterised by the three evils of terrorism, extremism and separatism would not encourage trade, energy flows, connectivity and people-to-people exchanges.

P: Before going to Islamabad to attend a conclave of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, S Jaishankar had declared that India's Pakistan policy was not passive.

Q: New Delhi, the message went, was willing to respond to any positive gestures.

R: However, no executive action has been taken by the White House, which “speaks to the duplicity of the Western world,” says Hasan.

S: In a rare demonstration of bipartisan resolve, the U.S. House of Representatives voted by an overwhelming 368-7 in June for an investigation into alleged poll-rigging in Pakistan, echoing separate calls by the U.K. and E.U.

- 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.**

- O. Imposed in 2016, the liquor ban aimed to curb alcohol-related harm, but it has, instead, fuelled the rise of a thriving black market for illicit liquor, costing countless lives and leading to significant revenue loss.
 - P. This tragedy is not an isolated incident.
 - Q. Bihar has repeatedly faced such fatal outcomes, with over 350 deaths linked to spurious liquor since prohibition began.
 - R. The latest hooch tragedy in Bihar, claiming over 35 lives (unofficial reports put the figure at around 65) in Siwan, Saran and Gopalganj districts, exposes the stark inefficacy of the state’s prohibition policy.
- A. ROPQ
 - B. PRQO
 - C. OQRP
 - D. RQPO

8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word in the brackets to fill in the blank.**

The _____ to the venue was decorated with beautiful lights. [exit]

- A. house
- B. entry
- C. road
- D. Ceremony

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

The media, these days, constructs _____ (misleading) narratives on politics and celebrities to increase the viewership

- A. candid
- B. sincere
- C. mendacious
- D. true

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

Care a hang

- A. Caring too much
- B. Hanging clothes to dry
- C. Showing no interest
- D. Putting an outfit on a hanger

11. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**

Choice between two unsatisfactory alternatives

- A. Problem
- B. Dilemma
- C. Confusion
- D. Difficulty

12. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**

Fear of closed spaces

- A. Photophobia
- B. Claustrophobia
- C. Agoraphobia
- D. Optophobia

13. **Select the correctly spelt word to fill in the blank.**

The transistors are used as the main _____, which are built into computer chips.

- A. cumponents
- B. components
- C. kamponents
- D. Kumponents

14. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

To tell others secret information only for enjoyment is not a good practice

- A. spill the words
- B. spill the cat
- C. spill the beans
- D. spill the onions

15. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

- A. Voluptuous
- B. Vomitus
- C. Verminous
- D. Verifiability

16. **Select the option that can substitute/replace the bracketed word correctly and complete the sentence.**

They could (always) stay in, or go for a walk

- A. either
- B. not only
- C. had better

- D. Neither
17. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined word.**
Solomon's reputation as an accountant is taintless
- A. dubious
 - B. inconsistent
 - C. faultless
 - D. flawed
18. **Parts of the following sentence have been underlined and given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**
The supermarket is open from 10 a.m. still 10 p.m.
- A. open
 - B. from 10 a.m.
 - C. The supermarket
 - D. still 10 p.m.
19. **The following sentence has been divided into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
My sister, Juliet, / got married / as her / was 23.
- A. as her
 - B. My sister, Juliet,
 - C. got married
 - D. was 23
20. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined word in the given sentence.**
Mayra has the ability for mathematics
- A. astute
 - B. aptitude
 - C. attitude
 - D. Altitude

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.

As a result of Covid-19, the quick (1) _____ to digital training has exposed the hazards of student disengagement and the resulting consequences of lower student performance across (2) _____ courses. The latest (3) _____ has altered the education of millions of people around the world. New approaches and improvements in the school system are urgently required. Considering the increasing digital divide, the strategy may exacerbate existing inequality disparities. More than 500 million students, at various levels, around the world were forced to (4) _____ their studies. These changes have caused and will continue to cause some inconvenience, but they will also foster innovation and future reforms inside this education system.

During a global Covid-19 pandemic, the 'pile-on effect' of the coronavirus can have long-term consequences for schooling, notably for the most vulnerable. Children, (5) _____ basic, core learning (reading, math, languages, etc.) was weak to begin with, face a significant risk of

regression. During Covid-19, millions of children whose right to education has already been violated, particularly girls, are exposed to greater health and well-being hazards (both psychosocial and physical).

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
 - A. transition
 - B. end
 - C. stagnation
 - D. Set
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
 - A. numerous
 - B. fewer
 - C. particular
 - D. Limit
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
 - A. epidemic
 - B. local
 - C. endemic
 - D. Pandemic
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
 - A. suspend
 - B. carry on
 - C. resume
 - D. Reopened
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
 - A. whom
 - B. whose
 - C. who
 - D. which

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

- B) The passage clearly mentions that Section 6A was designed to balance humanitarian considerations (granting citizenship) while protecting Assam's cultural and political identity, which aligns with this option.**

A. Incorrect: Section 6A did not immediately grant voting rights; it imposed a 10-year ineligibility for some immigrants.

C. Incorrect: The focus was not on promoting open immigration but regulating it, particularly for those between 1966-1971.

D. Incorrect: Section 6A does not allow automatic or immediate citizenship for those arriving after 1971, nor immediate electoral rights for some.
- A) The passage states that those who entered Assam before January 1, 1966, were given deemed citizenship, making this the correct cut-off date.**

B. Incorrect: March 25, 1971, is the date until which a special system of registration applies, not the cut-off for deemed citizenship.

C. Incorrect: January 1, 1985, is not mentioned in the passage and is irrelevant to the specific cut-off dates in question.

D. Incorrect: December 31, 1965, is incorrect because the passage refers specifically to January 1, 1966, as the relevant date.
- C) Neutral and Analytical**

A. Incorrect, as the passage does not show excessive positivity but rather discusses the Supreme Court's judgment and its consequences in a balanced manner.

B. Incorrect, although the passage touches on potential complications, it doesn't serve as a warning but presents a well-reasoned analysis of the legal implications.

C. Correct, as the tone remains factual, explaining the court's decision and its rationale without emotional engagement or bias.

D. Incorrect, as the tone is not confrontational or forceful. It provides a balanced legal analysis of Section 6A of the Citizenship Act.
- B) Because the Constitution allows Parliament to introduce special provisions for different regions and groups.**

A is incorrect because while the court acknowledged demographic anxiety, it wasn't the basis for rejecting the argument about Assam's differential treatment.

B is correct because the Supreme Court emphasized that Parliament had the power to introduce provisions for a different category of people at different times, including special provisions for Assam.

C is incorrect because the Constitution refers to 'citizenship at the commencement of the Constitution,' allowing future provisions, which is why the argument about state-specific provisions is irrelevant.

D is incorrect because Assam's citizenship issues are still ongoing, and the verdict did not state that these issues were already resolved.
- A) It could challenge the idea of fraternity in the Constitution.**

A is correct because Justice Surya Kant expressed concern that accepting arguments based on demographic change could threaten fraternity and lead to challenges against inter-State migration.

B is incorrect because the National Register of Citizens (NRC) issue is separate and has not been resolved; it is not directly linked to demographic change arguments in this context.

C is incorrect because the argument was about protecting cultural rights from demographic change, not creating new rights for migrants.

D is incorrect because the judgment was specific to Assam's situation and did not call for uniform citizenship laws across India.

6. **A) P and Q**

S1 (Given): This sentence sets the context for a diplomatic visit and implies some background diplomatic activities between India and Pakistan

S2 (P): This logically follows S1 because it gives more detail about the event mentioned in S1. It talks about the Indian External Affairs Minister's visit and the assertion of India's proactive stance on its Pakistan policy

S3 (Q): This continues the diplomatic context. The sentence reinforces India's readiness to engage with Pakistan based on positive initiatives, fitting into the ongoing diplomatic discussion introduced in S2.

S4 (Given): This sentence discusses the External Affairs Minister's statements during his visit, which naturally follows S2 and S3.

R and S are unrelated to the context of Indo-Pakistan diplomacy and instead focus on actions taken in the U.S. and other international responses.

7. **A) ROPQ**

R introduces a tragic event.

O follows R because it explains the cause behind the recurring tragedies: "Imposed in 2016, the liquor ban aimed to curb alcohol-related harm..." This gives background to the prohibition policy mentioned in R, explaining why the policy was introduced and how it has backfired. O explains the cause of such tragedies (the liquor ban)

P comes next after O as it generalizes the incident: "This tragedy is not an isolated incident." After describing the liquor ban's failure, P generalizes the specific tragedy in R by stating that this is part of a larger pattern.

Q concludes the paragraph by providing more context: "Bihar has repeatedly faced such fatal outcomes..." This supports P by detailing how often such incidents have occurred, linking them to the 2016 prohibition policy.

8. **B) Exit** (noun) – A way out, a place of departure, an opening to leave. निर्गमन

Antonym: **Entry** (noun) – A place of entrance, doorway, gateway, access. प्रवेश

- **House** (noun) – A building for human habitation, home, residence. घर
- **Road** (noun) – A wide way leading from one place to another, especially one with a specially prepared surface which vehicles can use. सड़क
- **Ceremony** (noun) – A formal occasion, event, celebration. समारोह

9. **C) Misleading** (adjective) – Giving the wrong idea or impression, deceptive, untruthful. भ्रमित करने वाला

Synonym: **Mendacious** (adjective) – Not telling the truth, lying, false, dishonest. झूठा, कपटी

- **Candid** (adjective) – Truthful and straightforward, honest, frank. खुला, स्पष्टवादी
- **Sincere** (adjective) – Free from pretense or deceit, genuine, honest. ईमानदार
- **True** (adjective) – In accordance with fact or reality, correct, accurate. सत्य, सही

10. C) **Care a hang** (idiom) – Showing no interest कोई रुचि नहीं दिखाना
11. B) **Dilemma** (noun) – A situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two or more alternatives, especially equally undesirable ones. दुविधा
- **Problem** (noun) – A matter or situation regarded as unwelcome or harmful and needing to be dealt with and overcome. समस्या
 - **Confusion** (noun) – Lack of understanding; uncertainty. भ्रम
 - **Difficulty** (noun) – A thing that is hard to accomplish, deal with, or understand. कठिनाई
12. B) **Claustrophobia** (noun) – Fear of closed spaces (बंद स्थानों का भय)
- **Photophobia** (noun) – Extreme sensitivity to light (प्रकाश का असहनीय होना)
 - **Agoraphobia** (noun) – Fear of open or crowded spaces (खुले या भीड़भाड़ वाले स्थानों का भय)
 - **Optophobia** (noun) – Fear of opening one's eyes (आंखें खोलने का भय)
13. B) **Components** का use होगा क्योंकि "components" का अर्थ है "उपकरणों के भाग या अवयव जो किसी प्रणाली के आवश्यक हिस्से होते हैं।" यहाँ sentence में बताया गया है कि ट्रांजिस्टर मुख्य _____ के रूप में उपयोग किए जाते हैं, जो कंप्यूटर चिप्स में निर्मित होते हैं, इसलिए 'components' सही उत्तर है। जबकि 'cumponents', 'kamponents', और 'kumponents' spelling-wise incorrect हैं
- 'Components' will be used because it means "parts or elements that are essential to the functioning of a system." The sentence mentions that transistors are used as the main _____, which are built into computer chips, making 'components' the correct answer. On the other hand, 'cumponents', 'kamponents', and 'kumponents' are all misspelled and do not exist in standard English.
14. 'C) 'spill the beans' का use होगा क्योंकि यह एक idiomatic expression है जिसका अर्थ है किसी गुप्त जानकारी को उजागर करना।
- 'spill the beans' will be used because it is an idiomatic expression meaning to reveal secret information.
15. D) The correct spelling of 'Verifiability' is '**Verifiability**', which means "the quality of being able to be checked or proved" सत्यापन क्षमता।
16. A) **either** का use 'always' के बदले होगा क्योंकि sentence का अर्थ दो विकल्पों का सुझाव देना है – 'वे या तो घर में रह सकते हैं या टहलने जा सकते हैं।' अतः 'either' विकल्पों के बीच चयन दर्शाने के लिए सही विकल्प है। जैसे— They could either stay in, or go for a walk.
- 'either' will be used instead of 'always' because the sentence suggests two alternatives – 'they could either stay in or go for a walk.' Hence, 'either' is the correct option to indicate a choice between two options. Like— They could either stay in, or go for a walk.
17. C) **Faultless** (adjective) – Free from defect or error; perfect. त्रुटिरहित
- Meaning of: **Taintless** (adjective) – Not contaminated or polluted; free from any defect or corruption.
- निर्दोष
- **Dubious** (adjective) – Hesitating or doubting; not to be relied upon; suspect. संदिग्ध
 - **Inconsistent** (adjective) – Not staying the same throughout; lacking compatibility or agreement. असंगत

- **Flawed** (adjective) – Blemished, damaged, or imperfect in some way. त्रुटिपूर्ण

18. D) 'still 10 p.m.' के बदले '**till 10 p.m.**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'still' का अर्थ है 'अभी तक' या 'अब भी' जबकि यहाँ सही शब्द 'till' है, जो समय की अवधि को इंगित करता है; जैसे— The supermarket is open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.
'till 10 p.m.' will be used instead of 'still 10 p.m.' because 'still' means 'up to now' or 'even now', whereas 'till' is used to indicate the duration of time; Like— The supermarket is open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.
19. A) 'as her' के बदले 'when she' का use होगा क्योंकि 'as her' का use गलत है। यहाँ 'when she was 23' का use होना चाहिए क्योंकि यहाँ उम्र को दर्शाने के लिए 'when' और व्यक्ति को संदर्भित करने के लिए 'she' का प्रयोग किया जाता है, न कि 'her' का।
'when she' will be used instead of 'as her' because 'as her' is incorrect. The correct expression should be 'when she was 23' since 'when' is used to indicate the time (age) and 'she' is used to refer to the person, not 'her'.
20. B) 'ability' के बदले '**aptitude**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'aptitude' का अर्थ है "विशिष्ट प्रकार की कार्यकुशलता या क्षमता", जो कि 'mathematics' जैसे विषय के संदर्भ में सही बैठता है। 'ability' का प्रयोग सामान्य क्षमता के लिए होता है, जबकि 'aptitude' का प्रयोग विशेष विषय में निपुणता दर्शाने के लिए किया जाता है; जैसे—
She has an aptitude for solving complex mathematical problems.
'aptitude' will be used instead of 'ability' because 'aptitude' means "a specific type of skill or capacity", which is suitable in the context of 'mathematics'. 'ability' is used for general capability, whereas 'aptitude' is used to show proficiency in a specific subject; Like—
She has an aptitude for solving complex mathematical problems.
21. A) **Transition** का use होगा क्योंकि "transition" का अर्थ है एक अवस्था या स्थिति से दूसरी अवस्था में परिवर्तन। Sentence में यह बताया गया है कि Covid-19 के कारण डिजिटल ट्रेनिंग की ओर तेजी से बदलाव हुआ, जिससे छात्रों के जुड़ाव में कमी और उनकी प्रदर्शन क्षमता में कमी का खतरा उजागर हुआ। इसलिए 'transition' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'End' का अर्थ है अंत, 'Stagnation' का अर्थ है स्थिरता या रुकावट, और 'Set' का अर्थ है स्थापित करना। ये सभी विकल्प इस context में सही नहीं बैठते हैं।
'Transition' will be used because it means a change from one state or condition to another. The sentence talks about the quick shift to digital training due to Covid-19, revealing the hazards of student disengagement and resulting in lower student performance, making 'transition' appropriate here. Whereas, 'End' means conclusion, 'Stagnation' means lack of movement or activity, and 'Set' means to establish, none of which fit in this context.
22. A) **Numerous** का use होगा क्योंकि "numerous" का अर्थ है बहुत सारे, और यहाँ वाक्य में छात्रों के प्रदर्शन को अलग-अलग पाठ्यक्रमों में चर्चा की जा रही है। इसलिए 'numerous' सही है। जबकि 'Fewer' का अर्थ है कम संख्या में, जो यहाँ फिट नहीं बैठता क्योंकि वाक्य में कम संख्या की बात नहीं हो रही है। 'Particular' का अर्थ है विशेष, जो यहाँ संदर्भ के हिसाब से सही नहीं है, और 'Limit' का अर्थ है सीमा, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
'Numerous' will be used because it means "many" or "a large number". The sentence is discussing student performance across various courses, so 'numerous' fits well. Whereas, 'Fewer' means "a

smaller number," which does not fit here as the context is not about a reduced quantity. 'Particular' means "specific," which is not contextually appropriate, and 'Limit' refers to a restriction, which is not applicable here.

23. D) **Pandemic** का use होगा क्योंकि "pandemic" का अर्थ होता है एक ऐसी बीमारी जो व्यापक रूप से पूरे विश्व में फैलती है। वाक्य में "latest" शब्द का उपयोग किया गया है, जो इस बीमारी के वैश्विक प्रभाव को इंगित करता है। यहाँ कोविड-19 का जिक्र हो रहा है, जो एक वैश्विक महामारी थी, इसलिए 'pandemic' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Epidemic' का अर्थ है एक बीमारी जो एक विशेष क्षेत्र में फैलती है, 'Local' का अर्थ है किसी विशेष स्थान या क्षेत्र से संबंधित, और 'Endemic' का अर्थ है किसी विशेष क्षेत्र में स्थायी रूप से मौजूद बीमारी, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

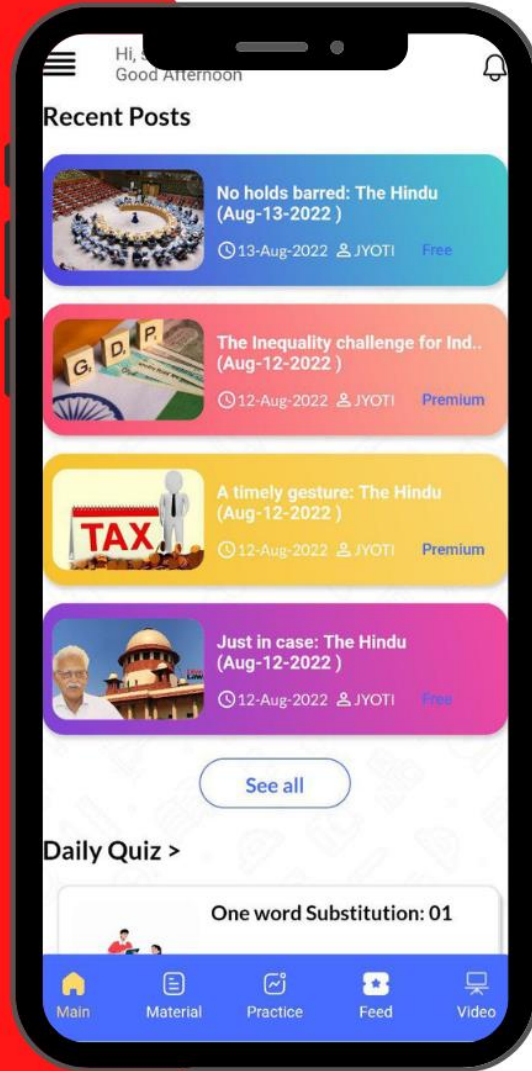
'Pandemic' will be used because it refers to a disease that spreads widely across the world. The sentence uses the word 'latest,' indicating the global impact of the disease. Since the context is about Covid-19, which was a global pandemic, 'pandemic' fits perfectly here. Whereas 'Epidemic' means a disease confined to a specific region, 'Local' relates to a particular place or area, and 'Endemic' refers to a disease permanently present in a specific region, which are not suitable for this context.

24. A) **Suspend** का use होगा क्योंकि "suspend" का अर्थ होता है किसी गतिविधि या प्रक्रिया को अस्थायी रूप से रोकना। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि 500 मिलियन से अधिक छात्रों को अपने अध्ययन को अस्थायी रूप से रोकना पड़ा, इसलिए 'suspend' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Carry on' का अर्थ है जारी रखना, जो इस वाक्य के संदर्भ में विपरीत है। 'Resume' का अर्थ है पुनः प्रारंभ करना, लेकिन यहाँ ऐसा कोई संकेत नहीं है कि उन्होंने अध्ययन पुनः शुरू किया। 'Reopened' का अर्थ है फिर से खोलना, जो शिक्षा प्रणाली के संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

'Suspend' will be used because it means to temporarily stop an activity or process. The sentence mentions that more than 500 million students were forced to temporarily halt their studies, making 'suspend' the fitting option here. Whereas, 'Carry on' means to continue, which is opposite to the sentence's context. 'Resume' means to start again, but there's no indication that the studies were resumed. 'Reopened' means to open again, which doesn't fit in the context of halting the education system.

25. B) **Whose** का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि "whose" का अर्थ है "जिसका", और यह किसी व्यक्ति या वस्तु की विशेषता या स्वामित्व को दर्शाने के लिए उपयोग होता है। sentence में बच्चों के मूलभूत शिक्षा कौशल (जैसे पढ़ाई, गणित, भाषाएं आदि) की बात की गई है जो पहले से ही कमजोर था, इसलिए "whose" यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'whom' का अर्थ है "जिसे", जो object pronoun के रूप में प्रयोग होता है, 'who' का अर्थ है "जो", जो subject pronoun के रूप में प्रयोग होता है, और 'which' का अर्थ है "कौन सा", जो non-human चीजों के लिए प्रयोग होता है। ये सभी इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

- **'Whose'** will be used because it indicates possession or characteristics related to a person or thing. In the sentence, it refers to the ownership of basic core learning skills by children, making 'whose' appropriate here. On the other hand, 'whom' is used as an object pronoun, 'who' is a subject pronoun, and 'which' is used for non-human objects. Therefore, these options are incorrect in this context.



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