Counting right: On caste surveys

A caste survey will not automatically mean higher quota for OBCs.

Last week's **launch** of a caste survey in Telangana by the Congress government **is** a step towards fulfilling its 2023 Assembly **poll** promise. The survey may form the basis for **enhancing** the **quantum** of reservation for Backward Classes (BCs), **going by** the party's election **manifesto**. At present, 112 **communities** under five categories of BCs **enjoy** a 29% quota in education and employment, including 4% for socially and educationally Muslim BCs. The survey is being **undertaken** at a time when **demand** for such an **exercise** at the all-India level **is** growing louder. In Tamil Nadu, an early mover in the area of **affirmative action** for BCs, political parties have been raising the issue **though** divided on whether the State or the Centre should conduct the exercise. In poll-bound Maharashtra, the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi has promised a caste-based census. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh had **stated** that a caste **census** undertaken for the welfare of the **downtrodden was** fine but the BJP is **cold** to the idea. The Union government had also said that it had no proposal to make caste data of the Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011 public. In fact, in Karnataka, where most of the work on a socio-economic and educational survey was done about 10 years ago, the survey report has yet to be **made public** despite the **submission** of the final report to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

The **idea** of a caste-based survey **is** being **floated** as a **prelude** to the automatic **lifting** of the Supreme Court's **ceiling** of 50% in reservation for OBCs, SCs and STs. In June, the Patna High Court **struck down** two Acts in Bihar, **envisaging enhanced** quantum in quota for BCs, Extremely BCs, SCs and STs in education and government jobs. The Nitish Kumar government had **carried out** a caste survey prior to **enacting** the laws. The High Court had **emphasised** the principle of adequate representation while **striking down** the laws. In the case on 10.5% internal quota for Vanniyars within the Most BCs of Tamil Nadu, the Supreme Court had **upheld** the Madras High Court's **conclusion** that the **reservation** to the community under the 2021 Act **was** based on "**antiquated data**". Compilation and presentation of data would not mechanically **pave the way for** any increase in the quantum, let alone **breaching** the 50% **cap**. **Analysis** of features such as poverty, caste, occupation and location of residence **should** justify any move to increase the quantum. Besides, as in Article 16(4), only those **communities** inadequately represented in the public services **can** be given job quota. No political party should create an impression that a caste census will **lead to** increased OBC reservation. The Centre should also **limit** the ceiling of annual parental income in determining the creamy layer among OBCs. Else, only the most **advanced** sections among BCs will continue to **corner** the benefits of reservation.

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

Vocabulary

1. **Poll** (noun) – Election, voting, ballot, election process, referendum चुनाव

2. **Enhance** (verb) – Improve, increase, augment, boost, elevate बढ़ाना

3. **Quantum** (noun) – Amount, quantity, measure, proportion, volume परिमाण

4. **Go by** (phrasal verb) – Follow, adhere to, be guided by, rely on, depend on के अनुसार चलना

5. **Manifesto** (noun) – Declaration, policy statement, platform, proclamation, agenda घोषणापत्र

6. **Undertake** (verb) – Begin, start, commence, embark on, initiate आरंभ करना

7. **Exercise** (noun) – Activity, operation, task, process, endeavor कार्यवाही

8. **Affirmative action** (noun) – Policies that support members of disadvantaged groups through education, employment, and housing सकारात्मक कार्रवाई

9. **Though** (preposition) – Although, even though, despite the fact that, however, nevertheless हालांकि

10. **State** (verb) – Declare, express, assert, mention, proclaim बयान करना

11. **The downtrodden** (noun) – Oppressed people, disadvantaged, underprivileged, marginalized groups पीड़ित लोग

12. **Cold to** (adjective) – Uninterested in, indifferent to, unresponsive to, apathetic towards उदासीन

13. **Make public** (phrase) – Disclose, reveal, announce, publish, unveil सार्वजनिक करना

14. **Submission** (noun) – Presentation, handing in, delivery, proposal, offering प्रस्ताव

15. **Floated** (adjective) – Proposed, suggested, put forward, introduced प्रस्तावित

16. **Prelude to** (noun) – Introduction, forerunner, precursor, preliminary, lead-in प्रस्तावना

17. **Lift** (verb) – Remove, abolish, cancel, revoke, eliminate हटाना

18. **Ceiling** (noun) – Limit, cap, maximum, upper limit, restriction सीमा

19. **Strike down** (phrasal verb) – Nullify, invalidate, annul, abolish, overturn अमान्य करना

20. **Envisage** (verb) – Imagine, foresee, contemplate, envision, anticipate परिकल्पना करना

21. **Enhanced** (adjective) – Increased, improved, augmented, elevated, boosted बढ़ा हुआ

22. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) – Execute, perform, conduct, implement, accomplish कार्यान्वित करना

23. **Enact** (verb) – Pass, legislate, establish, make into law, approve अधिनियमित करना

24. **Emphasise** (verb) – Stress, highlight, underscore, accentuate, draw attention to ज़ोर देना

25. **Uphold** (verb) – Support, maintain, confirm, sustain, endorse बनाए रखना

26. **Conclusion** (noun) – Decision, judgment, finding, outcome, result निष्कर्ष

27. **Antiquated data** (noun) – Outdated information, old statistics, obsolete data, archaic figures पुराना डेटा

28. **Pave the way for** (phrase) – Prepare for, make possible, enable, facilitate, lay the groundwork for मार्ग प्रशस्त करना

29. **Breach** (verb) – Violate, break, infringe, disobey, transgress तोड़ना

30. **Cap** (noun) – Limit, maximum, ceiling, restriction, upper bound सीमा

31. **Lead to** (verb) – Result in, cause, bring about, give rise to, culminate in वजह बनना

32. **Limit** (verb) – Restrict, confine, constrain, cap, curb सीमित करना

33. **Advanced** (adjective) – Developed, progressive, ahead, leading, superior उन्नत

34. **Corner** (verb) – Monopolize, dominate, control, secure exclusively, take over कब्जा करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. Telangana's Congress government initiated a caste survey to fulfill a 2023 Assembly election promise.

2. The survey aims to potentially increase reservations for Backward Classes (BCs), as mentioned in the party's manifesto.

3. Currently, Telangana offers a 29% quota to BCs, spread over 112 communities, including 4% for Muslim BCs.

4. The demand for caste-based surveys is growing across India, with states like Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra engaging in discussions.

5. In Maharashtra, the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi supports a caste-based census, whereas the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh supports it for welfare purposes.

6. The BJP remains hesitant about conducting a caste census, and the Union government has no plans to publish the Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011 data.

7. Karnataka conducted a socio-economic and educational survey nearly a decade ago, but the final report remains unpublished.

8. The idea of a caste-based survey often raises concerns about breaching the Supreme Court's 50% reservation cap for OBCs, SCs, and STs.

9. The Patna High Court struck down laws in Bihar that sought to increase BC and SC/ST quotas, emphasizing adequate representation principles.

10. The Supreme Court had earlier struck down a 10.5% internal quota for Vanniyars in Tamil Nadu, citing outdated data.

11. Accurate and updated data are essential for any attempt to justify quota increases, but this alone won't guarantee exceeding the 50% cap.

12. Factors like poverty, occupation, and location must support any reservation adjustments, and representation in public services must be inadequate.

13. Political parties should not imply that a caste census will automatically result in higher OBC reservations.

14. The Union government must also address the annual parental income ceiling that determines the creamy layer among OBCs.

15. Without limits, advanced sections among BCs might disproportionately benefit from reservations, sidelining the truly disadvantaged.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**   **[Editorial page]**
    A. Informative
    B. Persuasive
    C. Optimistic
    D. Satirical

2. **What can be inferred from the passage regarding the political implications of caste surveys?**
    A. Caste surveys are widely supported by all political parties for their fairness.
    B. Caste surveys have become a politically strategic tool for parties ahead of elections.
    C. The central government is actively working on making caste data public.
    D. A caste survey will definitely result in an increase in reservations for BCs.

3. **Arrange the following statements in the order that best summarizes the key points of the passage:**
    i) The Union government has no current plan to release caste data.
    ii) The Congress government in Telangana initiated a caste survey.
    iii) Demand for a caste survey is increasing across India.
    iv) Political parties in different states are divided on who should conduct the survey.
    A. iii, ii, iv, i
    B. ii, iii, iv, i
    C. ii, iv, iii, i
    D. iii, iv, ii, i

4. **Which of the following best completes the sentence from the passage?**
    "The Nitish Kumar government had carried out a caste survey prior to enacting the laws. The High Court had emphasised the principle of _____ representation while striking down the laws."
    A. adequate
    B. extreme
    C. insufficient
    D. nominal

5. **Select the option that is most opposite in meaning to the word "antiquated" as used in the passage?**
    A. archaic
    B. obsolete
    C. ancient
    D. modern

6. **Which of the following statements is incorrect according to the passage?**
    A. The Congress government in Telangana launched a caste survey as part of its 2023 Assembly poll promise.
    B. Tamil Nadu has already conducted a complete and successful caste-based census.
    C. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh stated that a caste census for the welfare of the downtrodden was acceptable.

D. The Union government has not made caste data from the 2011 Socio Economic and Caste Census public.

7. **Why is the idea of a caste-based survey being floated, as mentioned in the passage?**
   A. To ensure every community gets adequate representation.
   B. To allocate more benefits specifically to the most advanced sections among BCs.
   C. To replace outdated data with comprehensive new statistics.
   D. To automatically increase the reservation cap beyond 50% for OBCs, SCs, and STs

8. **What condition must be met for communities to receive job reservations according to Article 16(4)?**
   A. Communities must demonstrate severe poverty levels.
   B. The community must be inadequately represented in public services.
   C. The community must have a historical claim to reservations.
   D. The community must have a high population density in urban areas.

9. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
   Transnational linkages, for example, sever the nation-state's **integrity and corrupt** state-society relations.
   A. cohesion and erode
   B. divergence and relativity
   C. severance and revolution
   D. controversy and diminution

10. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
    The cashier had finished the assigned task on time.
    A. The assigned task had been finished by the cashier on time.
    B. The assigned task is finished by the cashier on time.
    C. The assigned task was finished by the cashier on time.
    D. The assigned task has been finished by the cashier on time.

11. **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. However, their population is declining nowadays due to noise pollution.
    B. It is one of the most common birds along with the other two species, the European starling, and the rock pigeon.
    C. Their constant presence outside our homes makes it easy to overlook them.
    D. House sparrows can be found in most places with and without houses (or other structures).
    A. DBCA
    B. DACB
    C. BDCA
    D. DABC

12. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
    Desolate
    A. Melancholic
    B. Frugal

C. Festive

D. Allusive

13. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.**

    Data is being collected by the researcher

    A. The researcher has been collecting data.

    B. The researcher will be collecting data.

    C. The researcher is collecting data.

    D. The researcher has collected data.

14. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word to fill in the blank. Capricious**

    Share market prices have remained _____ for weeks.

    A. fickle

    B. stable

    C. mischievous

    D. volatile

15. **Out of the four sentences given, three have spelling errors. Identify the sentence that has no spelling error**

    A. A clergyman read the litturgy from the prayer-book.

    B. What advice did he give to young entreprenuers?

    C. She tried to manoeuvre her trolley around people.

    D. The computer's software detected an anamoly caused by a virus.

16. **Select the most appropriate option that has the same meaning as the italicised segment.**

    His illness became **a blessing in disguise** when he married his nurse

    A. when someone finds it difficult to choose between two alternatives

    B. deal with a problem if and when it becomes necessary

    C. to present a counter- argument

    D. an apparent misfortune that eventually has good results

17. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

    Determined

    A. hesitant

    B. faltering

    C. resolute

    D. loathe

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

    Evenings get **dark** very early in this cold weather

    A. Shadowy

    B. Dim

    C. Bright

    D. Gloomy

19. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

    Fallacy

    A. Veracity

    B. Error

C. Evidence

D. Verify

20. **Select the most appropriate order of the segments in the options that will fill in the blanks and make a coherent paragraph.**

Though Sheela loves watching horror movies,

_____/_____/_____/_____ she

rented another romantic today.

A. and to her surprise she enjoyed it very much /so much so that /so she rented the latest romantic /she planned to try something different yesterday

B. so she rented the latest romantic / and to her surprise she enjoyed it very much / so much so that / she planned to try something different yesterday

C. so much so that / and to her surprise she enjoyed it very much / she planned to try something different yesterday / so she rented the latest romantic

D. she planned to try something different yesterday / so she rented the latest romantic / and to her surprise she enjoyed it very much / so much so that

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.

When Ojeya Cruz Banks moved to Ohio from New Zealand (1) _____ years ago, she was overwhelmed by the logistics of uprooting her life. But Cruz Banks, a Denison University professor and a single mom, who is also my neighbour and friend, was (2) _____ to find a house next to a public elementary school. She assumed that she would be able to walk to pick up her daughter, a needed convenience given that she didn't yet have a car.

Unfortunately, when she went to register her daughter for kindergarten, she was met with an (3) _____ surprise: The only (4) _____ option was a half-day program that would bus students to a day-care centre on the outskirts of the town for the afternoon. The district did offer a limited number of full-day slots, but those had all been claimed in a lottery earlier that spring and came with a tuition cost. "I was like, 'Cost me? What? Public school costs money here?'" she told me.

Many parents across the United States, like Cruz Banks, may assume that free, full-day kindergarten is a (5) _____ part of the country's public education system. I was one of them, until my youngest had to enter our district's lottery several months ago. When he was assigned to the half-day program, I swung between alarm and frustration.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 1.**

A. particular

B. immense

C. several

D. enormous

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 2.**

A. distraught

B. dispassionate

C. worried

    D. relieved

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 3.**
    A. amusing
    B. enjoyable
    C. unpleasant
    D. agreeable

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 4.**
    A. futile
    B. available
    C. inaccessible
    D. nonviable

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 5.**
    A. disapproved
    B. required
    C. ceaseless
    D. inessential

Answers

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

Explanations

1. **A) Informative**
    The passage provides detailed information about the current situation surrounding caste surveys, their implications, and ongoing debates. The author aims to present facts without advocating a specific stance.
    B: Incorrect. The passage does not try to convince the reader to adopt a particular opinion or take a specific action. It maintains a neutral and factual tone.
    C: Incorrect. The passage does not express hope or positivity about the outcomes of caste surveys or any related policies. The author is focused on explaining rather than expressing a positive outlook.
    D: Incorrect. There is no use of irony, humor, or ridicule to criticize or highlight any issue. The tone is serious and factual.

2. **B) Caste surveys have become a politically strategic tool for parties ahead of elections.**
    B: The passage emphasizes that various political parties are promising or implementing caste surveys as part of their election strategies, indicating that caste surveys are used for political leverage.
    A: The passage highlights a division in opinion on caste surveys, especially between the State and the Centre, indicating they are not universally supported.
    C: The Union government has stated there is no proposal to make caste data public, which contradicts this option.
    D: The passage mentions that the survey may form the basis for reservation enhancement, not that it will definitely result in it.

3. **A) iii, ii, iv, i**
    A) This order presents a logical sequence, beginning with the growing demand for caste surveys, followed by the Telangana government's action, the political divide over responsibility, and ending with the Union government's position.
    B) This option places the Telangana action before the broader context of increasing demand, which disrupts the logical flow.
    C) It misorders the political division and the growing demand, making the narrative less coherent.
    D) The sequence improperly prioritizes the demand before discussing the Telangana government's action, resulting in a disconnected explanation.

4. A) **adequate**
    A: This is the correct answer because the passage discusses the High Court emphasizing the need for "adequate representation" in the context of quota laws.
    B: Incorrect because the High Court did not emphasize "extreme" representation; the focus was on adequacy, not extremity.
    C: Incorrect as the passage implies that the laws needed to ensure proper representation, not highlight insufficiency.
    D: Incorrect because "nominal" representation would imply a very limited or token presence, which is not the concern raised by the High Court.

5. D) **modern**
    D) This is the correct answer because "modern" is the opposite of "antiquated," which means old-fashioned or outdated.

6. B) The statement "Tamil Nadu has already conducted a complete and successful caste-based census" is incorrect. While Tamil Nadu is known for affirmative action for BCs and political parties have raised the issue, the State has not completed a separate caste-based census.
A is correct as the Congress government in Telangana did launch the caste survey as per its promise.
C is correct; the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh did express approval for a caste census if aimed at the welfare of the downtrodden.
D is correct because the Union government has not made the caste data public.

7. **D) D is incorrect; the passage discusses preventing advanced BCs from cornering benefits, not allocating more to them**
A is incorrect because, while representation is crucial, the emphasis in the passage is on lifting the cap, not merely ensuring representation.
C is incorrect as replacing outdated data is mentioned but is not the primary reason for the survey.
B The passage mentions that the idea of a caste-based survey is being floated as a potential prelude to lifting the Supreme Court's 50% reservation ceiling for OBCs, SCs, and STs.

8. **B) Article 16(4) of the Indian Constitution states that only communities inadequately represented in public services are eligible for job reservations.**
A is incorrect as poverty levels alone do not justify reservations under Article 16(4).
C is incorrect; the provision is not based on historical claims.
D is incorrect; high population density in urban areas is not a criterion for job reservations.

9. A) 'integrity and corrupt' के बदले '**cohesion and erode'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'sever' का अर्थ 'काटना या तोड़ना' होता है, इसलिए सही option वह होगा जिसमें इस क्रिया के अनुकूल भाव हो। 'cohesion' (अखंडता) और 'erode' (क्षरण) एक-दूसरे के अनुकूल भाव व्यक्त करते हैं और वाक्य का अर्थ सही प्रकार से व्यक्त करते हैं। उदाहरण— Transnational linkages sever the nation-state's cohesion and erode state-society relations.
'**cohesion and erode'** will be used instead of 'integrity and corrupt' because 'sever' means 'to cut or break,' so the correct option will be the one that aligns with this action. 'Cohesion' (unity) and 'erode' (to wear away) express the intended meaning appropriately and convey the sentence's message correctly. For example— Transnational linkages sever the nation-state's cohesion and erode state-society relations.

10. **A) The assigned task had been finished by the cashier on time.**
Active Voice को Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए (Object + Auxiliary Verb + Past Participle + by + Subject) का use किया जाता है। वाक्य 'The cashier had finished the assigned task on time' को Passive Voice में बदलते समय Object 'the assigned task' को sentence की शुरुआत में रखा जाता है। Verb 'had finished' को Passive Voice में बदलकर 'had been finished' किया जाता है। Subject 'the cashier' को अंत में 'by the cashier' के रूप में रखा जाता है।

To convert Active Voice into Passive Voice, the structure (Object + Auxiliary Verb + Past Participle + by + Subject) is used. In the sentence 'The cashier had finished the assigned task on time', the object 'the assigned task' is placed at the beginning, and the verb 'had finished' is changed to 'had been finished'. The subject 'the cashier' is placed at the end as 'by the cashier'. Therefore, the correct answer is (The assigned task had been finished by the cashier on time)

11. A) **DBCA**

Why D comes first: D introduces the subject, "House sparrows," and gives a general description of their habitat, setting the context for the rest of the paragraph

Why B follows D: B provides additional information about the house sparrows, placing them in the context of other common birds.

Why C follows B: C builds on the idea in B by explaining why house sparrows are often overlooked, despite being common. It logically connects to B by discussing how their familiarity leads to their being unnoticed

Why A comes last: A introduces a contrasting idea with "However," discussing the current decline in the sparrow population and providing a reason for this decline (noise pollution).

12. **C) Desolate** (adjective) – A place deserted of people and in a state of bleak and dismal emptiness. (सूना, उजाड़)

    Antonym: Festive (adjective) – Relating to a festival, cheerful, or joyful atmosphere. (उत्सवपूर्ण)

    - **Melancholic** (adjective) – Feeling or expressing deep sadness or sorrow. (उदास)
    - **Frugal** (adjective) – Sparing or economical with money or food, thrifty. (मितव्ययी)
    - **Allusive** (adjective) – Referring to or hinting at something indirectly. (संकेतपूर्ण)

13. **C) The researcher is collecting data.**

    Passive Voice को Active Voice में बदलने के लिए (Subject + Auxiliary Verb + Present Participle + Object) का प्रयोग किया जाता है, जब वाक्य Present Continuous Tense में हो। sentence 'Data is being collected by the researcher' को Active Voice में बदलते समय Subject 'the researcher' को वाक्य की शुरुआत में रखा जाता है। Verb 'is being collected' को Active Voice में बदलकर 'is collecting' किया जाता है। Object 'data' को sentence के अंत में रखा जाता है।

    To convert Passive Voice into Active Voice in the Present Continuous Tense, the structure (Subject + Auxiliary Verb + Present Participle + Object) is used. In the sentence 'Data is being collected by the researcher', the subject 'the researcher' is placed at the beginning, and the verb 'is being collected' is changed to 'is collecting'. The object 'data' is placed at the end. Therefore, the correct answer is (The researcher is collecting data).

14. B) **Capricious** (adjective) – Given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood or behavior, unpredictable, impulsive. अप्रत्याशित, चंचल

    Antonym: **Stable** (adjective) – Not likely to change or fail, firm, steady, constant. स्थिर

    - **Fickle** (adjective) – Changing frequently, especially in regard to loyalties or interests. अस्थिर
    - **Mischievous** (adjective) – Causing trouble or harm, naughty, playful. शरारती
    - **Volatile** (adjective) – Liable to change rapidly and unpredictably, especially for the worse. अस्थिर, विस्फोटक

15. C) **She tried to manoeuvre her trolley around people.**
    The word "litturgy" is incorrectly spelled. The correct spelling is "liturgy
    The word "entreprenuers" is misspelled. The correct spelling is "entrepreneurs"
    The word "anamoly" is misspelled. The correct spelling is "anomaly".

16. D) **A blessing in disguise** – An apparent misfortune that eventually has good results एक छुपा हुआ आशीर्वाद

17. C) **Determined** (adjective) – having made a firm decision and being resolved not to change it, committed, resolute.

    Synonym: **Resolute** (adjective) – admirably purposeful, determined, unwavering, firm, steadfast. दृढ़ निश्चयी

    - **Hesitant** (adjective) – unsure, reluctant, uncertain, wavering. अनिश्चित
    - **Faltering** (adjective) – losing strength or momentum, uncertain, unsteady. डगमगाता हुआ
    - **Loathe** (verb) – feel intense dislike or disgust for, hate. घृणा करना

18. C) **Dark** (adjective) – Lacking light, having very little or no light, gloomy, shadowy. अंधेरा

    Antonym: **Bright** (adjective) – Giving out or reflecting a lot of light, shining, luminous, radiant. चमकीला

    - **Shadowy** (adjective) – Full of shadows, dark, shaded. छायादार
    - **Dim** (adjective) – Not shining brightly, faint, dull, weak. धुंधला
    - **Gloomy** (adjective) – Dark, poorly lit, especially so as to appear depressing or frightening. उदास, अंधकारपूर्ण

19. B) **Fallacy** (noun) – A mistaken belief, especially one based on unsound argument; misconception, delusion, error. भ्रांति

    Synonym: **Error** (noun) – A mistake, inaccuracy, fault. त्रुटि

    - **Veracity (noun)** – Truthfulness, accuracy, honesty. **सत्यता**
    - **Evidence (noun)** – Information indicating whether a belief is true or valid. **साक्ष्य**
    - **Verify (verb)** – To confirm the truth or accuracy. **सत्यापित करना**

20. D) D starts the paragraph with "she planned to try something different yesterday," which sets up the context and tells us what Sheela intended to do. This introduces the subject "she" and connects with the idea of trying something new.
    Next, "so she rented the latest romantic" follows logically because it describes the action she took as a result of her plan. Here, the conjunction "so" connects the intention to the action taken, establishing a cause-and-effect relationship.
    The phrase "and to her surprise she enjoyed it very much" comes next, adding a reaction to her action. The conjunction "and" introduces an unexpected outcome, giving depth to the narrative.
    Finally, "so much so that" completes the paragraph by intensifying her reaction and setting up a sense of continuation. It implies that her enjoyment was significant enough to lead to further developments, completing the thought process smoothly.
    Explanation in Hindi
    D sentence की शुरुआत "she planned to try something different yesterday" से करता है, जो context को सेट करता है और यह बताता है कि Sheela ने कुछ नया करने की योजना बनाई थी। यह subject "she" को introduce करता है और उसके उद्देश्य को दर्शाता है।

इसके बाद "so she rented the latest romantic" naturally आता है क्योंकि यह उसके प्लान का action बताता है। यहाँ conjunction "so" योजना और की गई क्रिया के बीच cause-and-effect संबंध बनाता है। अगला phrase "and to her surprise she enjoyed it very much" आता है, जो उसकी प्रतिक्रिया को व्यक्त करता है। Conjunction "and" यह बताता है कि यह एक अप्रत्याशित outcome था, जिससे कहानी में depth जुड़ती है।अंत में, "so much so that" sentence को पूरा करता है और उसकी प्रतिक्रिया की तीव्रता को दर्शाता है, जिससे आगे की घटनाओं की संभावना बनती है।

21. C) **Several'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'several' का अर्थ होता है "कुछ या अनेक", जो कि यहाँ सालों के बारे में सही बैठता है। वाक्य में "years ago" के साथ 'several' सबसे उपयुक्त है क्योंकि यह संख्या या मात्रा को सूचित करता है, और यहाँ बताया जा रहा है कि कुछ साल पहले वह न्यूज़ीलैंड से आई थी। जबकि 'Particular' का अर्थ है "विशिष्ट", 'Immense' का अर्थ है "विशाल", और 'Enormous' का अर्थ है "बहुत बड़ा", जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

    'Several' will be used because it means "a few or many", which fits the context of the sentence when referring to years. The phrase "years ago" fits well with 'several' as it indicates a general number or quantity. Whereas, 'Particular' means "specific", 'Immense' means "vast", and 'Enormous' means "huge", which do not fit the context in this case.

22. D) **Relieved'** का use होगा क्योंकि "relieved" का अर्थ होता है किसी तनाव या चिंता के समाप्त होने पर सुकून महसूस करना। यहाँ, Cruz Banks को राहत महसूस हो रही थी कि उन्हें अपने घर के पास एक स्कूल मिल गया था, जो उनकी स्थिति में एक महत्वपूर्ण सुविधा थी। इसलिए 'relieved' सही है। जबकि 'Distraught' का अर्थ है बहुत अधिक चिंता में होना, 'Dispassionate' का अर्थ है भावनाओं से मुक्त या निष्पक्ष होना, और 'Worried' का अर्थ है चिंतित होना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

    'Relieved' will be used because it means feeling comfort or ease after stress or worry is removed. In this context, Cruz Banks was relieved to find a house near a school, which was a major convenience for her situation. Therefore, 'relieved' is the correct choice. Whereas, 'distraught' means being deeply upset, 'dispassionate' means being impartial or emotionless, and 'worried' means feeling anxious, which don't fit this context.

23. C) **'Unpleasant'** का use होगा क्योंकि "unpleasant" का अर्थ होता है अप्रिय या असुविधाजनक। sentence में यह व्यक्त किया गया है कि Cruz Banks को जब अपनी बेटी का पंजीकरण करवाने गईं, तो उन्हें अप्रत्याशित रूप से एक असुविधाजनक स्थिति का सामना करना पड़ा। इसलिए 'unpleasant' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'amusing' का अर्थ होता है मनोरंजक, 'enjoyable' का अर्थ होता है आनंददायक, और 'agreeable' का अर्थ होता है सहमत होने योग्य, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।
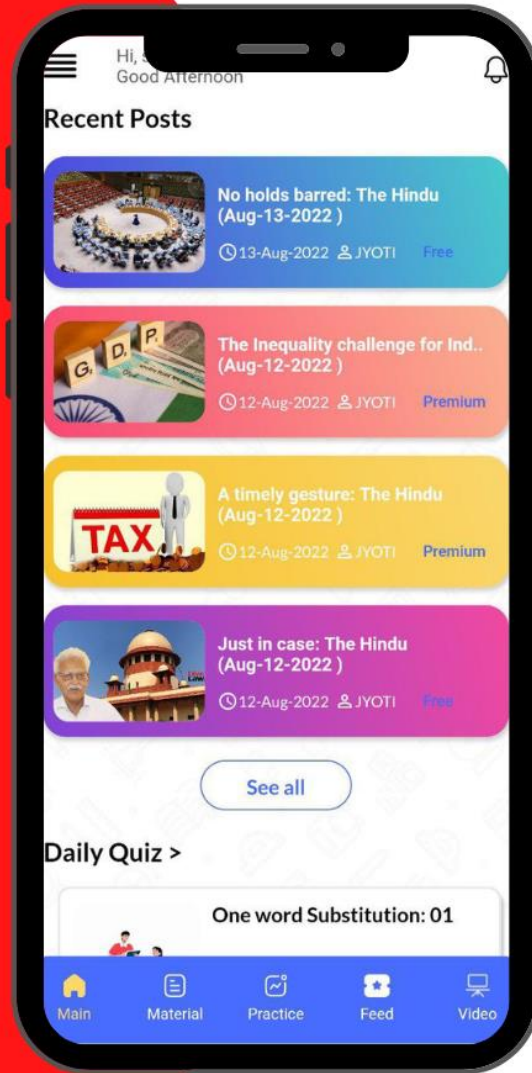
    'Unpleasant' will be used because it means something that is not pleasant or agreeable, indicating discomfort or inconvenience. The sentence highlights that Cruz Banks faced a surprising and uncomfortable situation when she went to register her daughter. Hence, 'unpleasant' is correct here. Whereas, 'amusing' means entertaining, 'enjoyable' means pleasant, and 'agreeable' means something one can agree with, which do not fit in this context.

24. B) **Available'** का उपयोग किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है 'उपलब्ध', जो इस sentence के context में सही बैठता है। Paragraph में कहा गया है कि केवल एक आधे दिन का कार्यक्रम उपलब्ध था, जो छात्रों को एक डे-केयर केंद्र तक बस करता था। इसलिए, 'available' सही है। जबकि 'futile' का अर्थ है 'निरर्थक', 'inaccessible' का अर्थ है 'अप्राप्य', और 'nonviable' का अर्थ है 'अव्यवहार्य', जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं बैठते।

'Available' will be used because it means 'accessible or ready for use', which fits well in the context of the sentence. The paragraph states that only a half-day program was available to bus students to a day-care center. So, 'available' is the correct word here. Whereas, 'futile' means 'pointless', 'inaccessible' means 'unreachable', and 'nonviable' means 'not feasible', which don't fit the context.

25. B) **'Required'** का उपयोग किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है कुछ ऐसा जो आवश्यक या अनिवार्य हो। Passage में यह बताया गया है कि अधिकांश माता-पिता मानते हैं कि मुफ्त, पूर्ण-दिवसीय किंडरगार्टन देश की सार्वजनिक शिक्षा प्रणाली का एक अनिवार्य हिस्सा है, इसलिए 'required' यहाँ उपयुक्त है। 'Disapproved' का अर्थ है अस्वीकार करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है क्योंकि यहाँ किसी नियम या प्रणाली को अस्वीकार करने की बात नहीं हो रही है। 'Ceaseless' का अर्थ है बिना रुके चलने वाला, जो शिक्षा प्रणाली के संदर्भ में गलत है क्योंकि यहाँ शिक्षा की अनिवार्यता की बात की जा रही है, न कि निरंतरता की। 'Inessential' का अर्थ है जो आवश्यक नहीं है, और यह इस संदर्भ में गलत है क्योंकि passage में शिक्षा के एक आवश्यक हिस्से के बारे में चर्चा हो रही है।

- **'Required'** is the most fitting option because it refers to something necessary or obligatory. The passage talks about parents assuming that full-day kindergarten is a necessary part of the public education system, making this word grammatically correct here. 'Disapproved' means rejected, which is not the case being discussed, as the passage doesn't mention rejecting any system. 'Ceaseless' means continuous without stopping, which doesn't fit here because the discussion is about something being mandatory, not continuous. 'Inessential' means not necessary, which contradicts the context where full-day kindergarten is assumed to be essential.