

Positive direction: On India-China talks, ties

India must ensure greater **transparency** in talks with China

The 23rd **meeting** of the “Special Representatives” (SRs) of India and China — National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister and Senior Politburo member Wang Yi — **was** a **milestone** in the **restoration** of ties since October this year. Although the meeting of SRs is a **stand-alone** process, meant to look at the broader boundary dispute and **resolve differences** over the 3,500 kilometre-long Line of Actual Control (LAC), it had been paused since the military **standoff** in 2020. There were a few firsts too: the two men meeting in their capacities as SRs since 2019, although they have **held talks** in the **interim**; such a high-level visit to China and also Mr. Doval travelling to Beijing since 2020. This indicates that the **decision** to hold the SR talks, as **mandated** by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping during talks in Kazan in October, **is** a signal that with only LAC **disengagement** completed, New Delhi is willing to move ahead on other **mechanisms** for talks with Beijing, without waiting for the next processes of **de-escalation** and **de-induction**. The two sides have agreed to restart the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra from India, border trade in Sikkim, and data sharing for **trans-boundary** rivers. Other **suspended ties**, including direct flights, business and student visa **liberalisation**, and journalist **exchanges**, **are** also understood to be under discussion. On the boundary question, the Doval-Wang talks **yielded** what the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs **termed** as “six **consensuses**”, and the Ministry of External Affairs referred to as “positive directions” in its release. These involve continuing to implement the LAC de-escalation process; **revert** to the SR process on resolving the boundary issue according to the Eleven-articles **set out** in a 2005 agreement; **strengthen** Confidence Building Measures at the border and **cross-border** exchanges; enhance **coordination** of the SR process, and the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs to **follow up** agreements and to hold the next Doval-Wang talks in 2025 in India.

The **optics** and the messaging of the SR meeting indicate a certain **momentum** in re-engagement after four years of serious military tensions, and the **suspension** of regular contact, although **bilateral** trade continued to **thrive**. The meeting comes just ahead of 2025, that marks 75 years of diplomatic relations, and a likely visit to China by Mr. Modi as it **hosts** the next SCO **summit**. While **restoring** the links is important, it is necessary to **strike a note of** caution so that the situation caused by the **amassing of troops** and LAC **transgressions** by the PLA in 2020 is not repeated. The government must also ensure more transparency in its conversations with Beijing over the future steps in **normalising** ties, the **dismantling** of **buffer zones**, **restoration** of **status quo ante** to 2020, and mechanisms for future **deterrence** against **aggression** at the India-China boundary. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Ties** (noun) – Relations, connections, associations, links, partnerships संबंध
2. **Transparency** (noun) – Openness, clarity, honesty, accountability, visibility पारदर्शिता
3. **Milestone** (noun) – Significant event, landmark, achievement, breakthrough, turning point महत्वपूर्ण पड़ाव
4. **Restoration** (noun) – Recovery, revival, renewal, reinstatement, re-establishment बहाली
5. **Standalone** (adjective) – Independent, separate, self-contained, autonomous, individual स्वतंत्र
6. **Resolve** (verb) – Settle, solve, address, conclude, find a solution समाधान करना
7. **Differences** (noun) – Disagreements, disputes, variations, conflicts, contrasts मतभेद
8. **Standoff** (noun) – Deadlock, impasse, stalemate, confrontation, standoff गतिरोध
9. **Hold talks** (phrase) – Conduct discussions, engage in dialogue, negotiate, have a meeting वार्ता करना
10. **Interim** (noun) – Temporary period, meantime, interval, in-between, transitory अंतरिम
11. **Mandate** (verb) – Authorize, instruct, direct, require, order आदेश देना
12. **Disengagement** (noun) – Withdrawal, separation, detachment, removal, disconnection अलगाव
13. **Mechanism** (noun) – System, process, method, procedure, framework प्रणाली
14. **De-escalation** (noun) – Reduction of tension, decrease, lowering, cooling down, easing off तनाव कम करना
15. **De-induction** (noun) – Removal, withdrawal, retreat, pullout, exit वापसी
16. **Trans-boundary** (adjective) – Across borders, cross-border, international, inter-regional सीमा पार
17. **Suspended** (adjective) – Delayed, postponed, paused, halted, on hold निलंबित
18. **Liberalization** (noun) – Deregulation, relaxation of restrictions, freedom from control, opening up उदारीकरण
19. **Exchanges** (noun) – Interactions, communications, trade, transfers, swaps बातचीत
20. **Yield** (verb) – Produce, result in, generate, provide, give उपजना

21. **Term** (verb) – Describe, label, define, name, designate नाम देना
22. **Consensus** (noun) – Agreement, accord, unity, common view, collective decision सहमति
23. **Revert** (to) (verb) – Return, go back, resume, reverse, change back वापस लौटना
24. **Set out** (phrasal verb) – Define, outline, explain, lay down, establish निर्धारित करना
25. **Strengthen** (verb) – Reinforce, fortify, bolster, enhance, improve मजबूत करना
26. **Cross-border** (adjective) – International, transnational, inter-country, across boundaries सीमा पार
27. **Coordination** (noun) – Organization, cooperation, collaboration, management, alignment समन्वय
28. **Follow up** (phrasal verb) – Continue, pursue, monitor, track, check up on अनुवर्ती कार्य करना
29. **Optics** (noun) – Perception, public image, appearance, viewpoint, perspective दृष्टिकोण
30. **Momentum** (noun) – Drive, progress, force, thrust, energy गति/अग्रगति
31. **Suspension** (noun) – Interruption, pause, stoppage, delay, hold रोक
32. **Bilateral** (adjective) – Two-sided, mutual, reciprocal, dual, joint द्विपक्षीय
33. **Thrive** (verb) – Flourish, prosper, succeed, grow, expand फलना-फूलना
34. **Host** (verb) – Organize, arrange, hold, convene, conduct आयोजन करना
35. **Summit** (noun) – Meeting, conference, high-level discussion, assembly, forum शिखर सम्मेलन
36. **Restore** (verb) – Re-establish, bring back, reinstate, recover, fix बहाल करना
37. **Strike a note of** (phrase) – Express, emphasize, highlight, stress, indicate ज़ोर देना
38. **Amass** (verb) – Gather, accumulate, assemble, collect, build up एकत्र करना
39. **Troop** (noun) – Military unit, soldiers, armed force, army group सैनिक टुकड़ी
40. **Transgression** (noun) – Violation, breach, infringement, offense, wrongdoing उल्लंघन
41. **Normalise** (verb) – Stabilize, regularize, restore, adjust, balance सामान्य बनाना
42. **Dismantling** (noun) – Breaking down, deconstruction, disassembly, removal, taking apart विघटन

43. **Buffer zone** (noun) – Safety area, neutral space, protective barrier, separation zone
सुरक्षा क्षेत्र

44. **Restoration** (noun) – Repair, renewal, reinstatement, revival, comeback पुनः
स्थापना

45. **Status quo ante** (noun) – Previous state, original condition, earlier situation, former position पूर्व स्थिति

46. **Deterrence** (noun) – Prevention, discouragement, inhibition, avoidance, dissuasion निवारण

47. **Aggression** (noun) – Hostility, attack, assault, provocation, offensive आक्रामकता

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Milestone Talks Resumed:** The 23rd India-China "Special Representatives" (SRs) meeting marked significant progress after a pause since 2020.
2. **High-Level Engagement:** National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held their first SR talks since 2019.
3. **Broader Agenda:** Despite incomplete de-escalation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), India agreed to resume broader talks with China.
4. **Mandate from Leaders:** The decision followed instructions from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping after their October meeting in Kazan.
5. **Restoring Ties:** Key agreements included restarting the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra, Sikkim border trade, and sharing trans-boundary river data.
6. **Resumption of Other Links:** Direct flights, business visas, student exchanges, and journalist visits are under consideration for revival.
7. **Six Consensuses:** The talks yielded six key agreements, termed "positive directions" by India and "consensuses" by China.
8. **Boundary Talks Framework:** Both sides agreed to resume boundary talks as per the 2005 Eleven-article agreement.
9. **Confidence Building Measures:** Strengthening trust and cross-border exchanges emerged as mutual priorities.
10. **Coordination Mechanisms:** Enhanced coordination through the SR process and Working Mechanism for Consultation on Border Affairs was agreed upon.
11. **Next Meeting Scheduled:** The next SR talks are set for 2025 in India.
12. **Improved Relations Momentum:** The talks indicated progress toward normalizing ties despite past military standoffs.
13. **Strategic Timing:** The discussions occurred ahead of 2025, marking 75 years of diplomatic ties and India's potential SCO summit participation.
14. **Need for Caution:** India must remain cautious to prevent a repeat of the 2020 LAC transgressions by the Chinese military.
15. **Call for Transparency:** Greater transparency in future talks and clear communication on the status of border agreements are essential for trust-building.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Based on the passage, what can be inferred about India's stance on resuming mechanisms for dialogue with China despite the ongoing boundary dispute?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. India insists on a complete resolution of the LAC dispute before any other talks resume.
 - B. India is willing to move ahead with other mechanisms for dialogue even though only LAC disengagement has been completed.
 - C. India has decided to suspend all talks and not engage until de-induction occurs.
 - D. India aims to avoid any high-level visits and focus solely on military-level negotiations.
2. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Optimistic
 - B. Critical
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Pessimistic
3. **The meeting between India and China's Special Representatives was considered a _____ in restoring ties since October this year.**
 - A. Stalemate
 - B. Disruption
 - C. Impasse
 - D. Milestone
4. **According to the passage, what key process between India and China resumed after a pause since 2020?**
 - A. Cultural exchanges
 - B. Military exercises
 - C. Special Representatives' talks
 - D. Economic agreements
5. **Choose the word opposite in meaning to "opacity" as used in the context of international talks.**
 - A. Lucidity
 - B. Obscurity
 - C. Vagueness
 - D. Enigma
6. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

The teacher asked us to _____ the main idea of the passage in the exam.

 - A. summarise
 - B. conclusion
 - C. underestimate
 - D. Plagiarise
7. **Rectify the error in the given sentence by selecting the correct spelling from the options provided.**

- The nights of King Arthur were known for their chivalry.
- A. knots
 - B. naughts
 - C. knights
 - D. Nites
8. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**
- A. Fulfeel
 - B. Altogether
 - C. Until
 - D. Always
9. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Benevolent
- A. Hostile
 - B. Kind
 - C. Enthusiastic
 - D. Mysterious
10. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
Despite the challenges,/ they ultimate achieved / their goal of launching / their startup
- A. their goal of launching
 - B. they ultimate achieved
 - C. Despite the challenges,
 - D. their startup
11. **Select the most appropriate idiom that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
Bheem has been shown in the popular culture as someone who eats in large quantity.
- A. eat humble pie
 - B. eat like a bird
 - C. eats like a horse
 - D. chews the fat
12. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Careful
- A. Corrosive
 - B. Cautious
 - C. Corrupt
 - D. Captivating
13. **In the following sentence the underlined part contains an error. Alternatives to the underlined part are given as options. Select the correct alternative.**
I want to buy the less expensive bike, but with the best mileage
- A. least
 - B. little

- C. lesser
D. most less
14. **Select the appropriate option that can substitute the underlined idiom in the given sentence.**
The entire audience was all ears when the Indian-born American economist started giving a speech.
A. was willing to exit the show
B. was keen to listen
C. as arguing in favour of both sides
D. was eager to speak plainly
15. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
Poonam used a rubber band to keep the pencils together. 'Band' here means _____.
A. a long rigid piece of wood or metal
B. a tube filled with water
C. a thin ring of rubber used for holding things together
D. a range of values or frequencies within a series
16. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A person who rules with absolute power and authority
A. Dictator
B. Ruler
C. Senator
D. Sovereign
17. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
Once the seminar was over, the host gave up the certificates to the active participants.
A. gave away
B. put across
C. brought about
D. came by
18. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the highlighted word.**
The partners ended up being traitorous to each other.
A. Fickle
B. Faithful
C. Proficient
D. Disloyal
19. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
The most effective way to enhance your vocabulary is to look to unknown words in a dictionary.
A. stand against
B. look up

- C. set by
- D. write off

20. Identify the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence.

The microscopic chip that emits a unique signal has been embedded into your arm

- A. microscopic
- B. embedded
- C. emits
- D. unique

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.

Three big fat rats once found a new use for _____1_____ tails. During the night, they came _____2_____ into the larder and found a jar with treacle in it. But the jar had a _____3_____ neck, and try as they might, the rats could not reach the treacle either with their mouths or their paws. At last, a bright idea _____4_____ one of them. He climbed onto the jar and let his tail hang down into the treacle. Then he pulled it out nicely coated with treacle and allowed the two rats to lick it _____5_____.

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

- A. their
- B. it's
- C. the
- D. There

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

- A. creeping
- B. acting
- C. dreaming
- D. Yelling

23. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.

- A. obese
- B. narrow
- C. slow
- D. Funny

24. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.

- A. flew
- B. stood
- C. struck
- D. Went

25. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.

- A. in
- B. by
- C. off
- D. at

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. **B) India is willing to move ahead with other mechanisms for dialogue even though only LAC disengagement has been completed.**

The passage indicates that after only disengagement at the LAC (not full de-escalation), India is still moving ahead with other talks and mechanisms. It mentions restarting the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra, border trade in Sikkim, and data sharing for trans-boundary rivers, suggesting India is not waiting for a complete boundary resolution to restore other ties.

A: The passage explicitly states that India is moving forward even though only LAC disengagement is completed, not insisting on full resolution first.

C: The opposite is true; India is not suspending talks but actually resuming several activities.

D: High-level visits, like Mr. Doval's visit to Beijing, are already taking place, contradicting this option.

2. **A) Optimistic**

The passage highlights progress in India-China talks, indicating positive steps like reopening the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra, border trade, and direct flights. Although cautious notes are included, the overall tone suggests hope for improvement.

B: The passage does not criticize the talks but acknowledges progress while suggesting caution.

C: The passage clearly shows interest and involvement in the India-China relationship.

D: While there is caution, the passage discusses positive developments, not a negative outlook.

3. **D) Milestone**

A: **Stalemate:** Refers to a deadlock or situation where progress is impossible, contradicting the positive progress described.

B. **Disruption:** Means interruption or disturbance, opposite of what the passage conveys.

C. **Impasse:** Suggests a situation where no progress is possible, which isn't the case here.

D. **Milestone:** Correct, as it signifies a significant event marking progress in India-China relations.

4. **C) Special Representatives' talks**

A: These were not explicitly mentioned as resumed processes in the passage.

B: There's no mention of joint military exercises in the passage.

C: Correct, as the passage discusses the resumption of SR talks after being paused since 2020.

D: Trade continued despite tensions but wasn't highlighted as a newly resumed process.

5. **A) Lucidity**

Lucidity: Correct, meaning clarity or transparency, opposite of "opacity," which means a lack of clarity or being difficult to understand.

6. A) **Summarise**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है मुख्य विचार को संक्षेप में प्रस्तुत करना। sentence में यह mention है कि शिक्षक ने परीक्षा में हमसे मुख्य विचार को बताने के लिए कहा, इसलिए 'summarise' सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प है। 'Conclusion' का अर्थ है निष्कर्ष निकालना, लेकिन यह वाक्य के अनुरूप नहीं है क्योंकि यह मुख्य विचार को प्रस्तुत करने के बजाय अंतिम परिणाम का उल्लेख करता है। 'Underestimate' का अर्थ है कम आंकना, जो इस संदर्भ में पूरी तरह गलत है। 'Plagiarise' का अर्थ है नकल करना, जो वाक्य में अर्थ के अनुकूल नहीं है।

'Summarise' will be used because it means to briefly present the main idea. The sentence mentions the teacher asking students to identify the main idea in the exam, making 'summarise' the most appropriate choice. 'Conclusion' means to draw a result, which doesn't align with the sentence as it refers to presenting the main idea, not the result. 'Underestimate' means to undervalue, which is completely irrelevant in this context.

'Plagiarise' means to copy or steal someone else's work, which doesn't fit the context.

7. C) The correct spelling " is "**knights**", which means "a man granted an honorary title of knighthood by a monarch or political leader, especially in a historical context" (वीर योद्धा, राजाओं के दरबार में सम्मानित व्यक्ति).
8. A) The incorrectly spelled word is '**Fulfeel**'. The correct spelling is '**Fulfill**', which means "to carry out or bring to realization." In Hindi, it means "पूरा करना" या "संपन्न करना।"
9. B) **Benevolent** (adjective) – Well-meaning, kind, compassionate, generous, charitable. परोपकारी, दयालु, उदार।
Synonym: **Kind** (adjective) – Having or showing a gentle, considerate, and sympathetic nature. दयालु।
- **Hostile** (adjective) – Unfriendly, antagonistic, aggressive. शत्रुतापूर्ण।
 - **Enthusiastic** (adjective) – Eager, passionate, zealous. उत्साही।
 - **Mysterious** (adjective) – Difficult to understand, enigmatic, secretive. रहस्यमय।
10. B) '**ultimate**' का use गलत है क्योंकि यह एक विशेषण (adjective) है। यहाँ 'achieved' क्रिया का वर्णन करने के लिए एक क्रिया विशेषण (adverb) की आवश्यकता है। सही रूप 'ultimately' होगा।
The word 'ultimate' is incorrect because it is an adjective. In this sentence, we need an adverb to modify the verb 'achieved'. The correct form should be 'ultimately'.
11. C) **Eats like a horse** (idiom) – Someone who eats a lot; has a large appetite. **भूख बहुत ज्यादा होना, बहुत अधिक खाना।**

- **Eat humble pie** (idiom): To admit one's mistake and apologize; अपनी गलती मानकर माफी मांगना।
 - **Eat like a bird** (idiom): To eat very little; बहुत कम खाना।
 - **Chews the fat** (idiom): To have a casual, leisurely conversation; आराम से बातचीत करना।
12. B) **Careful** (adjective) – Paying close attention to details, avoiding mistakes or harm, alert, attentive. सावधान, सतर्क
- Synonym: Cautious** (adjective) – Taking care to avoid danger or mistakes, watchful, prudent. सावधान, चौकस
- Corrosive** (adjective) – Causing damage or gradual destruction, especially through chemical reaction, eroding. संक्षारक, हानिकारक
- Corrupt** (adjective) – Dishonest, unethical, lacking integrity, immoral. भ्रष्ट, बेईमान
- Captivating** (adjective) – Attractive and holding interest, charming, fascinating. मोहक, आकर्षक
13. A) 'less' के बदले 'least' का use होगा क्योंकि वाक्य में तुलना के तीन या अधिक विकल्प होने का संकेत है। 'Less' का use Comparative Degree में होता है, जबकि यहाँ Superlative Degree ('least') उपयुक्त है क्योंकि 'the' के साथ Superlative Degree का प्रयोग होता है।
- 'Least' will be used instead of 'less' because the sentence indicates a comparison among three or more options. 'Less' is used for Comparative Degree, while 'least' is the Superlative Degree, which fits the context when used with 'the.'
- Correct Sentence:** "I want to buy the least expensive bike, but with the best mileage."
14. B) was keen to listen
- was all ears**(idiom)- Eager to listen attentively ध्यान से सुनने के लिए उत्सुक
15. C) **'Band'** (noun) - a thin ring of rubber used for holding things together– चीजों को एक साथ बांधने के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जाने वाला पतला रबर का छल्ला
16. A) **Dictator** (noun) – A person who rules with absolute power and authority. तानाशाह
- **Ruler** (noun) – A person who governs or leads a country or group, but not necessarily with absolute power. शासक
 - **Sebnator** (noun) – A member of a senate, typically part of a legislative assembly. सीनेटर/सांसद
 - **Sovereign** (noun) – A supreme ruler, especially a monarch, but not necessarily one with unchecked power. सर्वोच्च शासक/सत्ता

17. A) 'gave away' का use 'gave up' के स्थान पर होगा क्योंकि 'gave up' का अर्थ होता है 'त्याग देना या छोड़ देना', जबकि यहां संदर्भ प्रमाणपत्रों के वितरण का है। इसलिए 'gave away' उपयुक्त है, जिसका अर्थ है 'वितरित करना।'

The phrase "gave up" is incorrect in this context because it means to surrender or abandon something. In the given sentence, the action involves distributing certificates to the participants. The correct phrase to use here is "gave away," which means to distribute or hand out something freely.

18. B) **Traitorous** (adjective) – Disloyal, betraying trust, perfidious, unfaithful. विश्वासघाती, धोखेबाज।

Antonym: **Faithful** (adjective) – Loyal, trustworthy, steadfast, dedicated. वफादार, ईमानदार।

- **Fickle** (adjective) – Changing frequently, inconsistent, capricious, erratic चंचल, अस्थिर।
- **Proficient** (adjective) – Skilled, competent, adept, expert. कुशल, निपुण।
- **Disloyal** (adjective) – Betraying trust, unfaithful, treacherous. अविश्वासी, बेईमान

19. B) 'look to' के बदले 'look up' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य का संदर्भ यह है कि शब्दों का अर्थ खोजने के लिए सही शब्द का उपयोग किया जाए। 'look up' का अर्थ है "सूचना या जानकारी किसी संदर्भ पुस्तक या ऑनलाइन माध्यम में खोजना।" अतः वाक्य में उचित phrasal verb 'look up' होगा। उदाहरण: "The most effective way to enhance your vocabulary is to look up unknown words in a dictionary." 'look up' will be used instead of 'look to' because the sentence refers to finding the meanings of unknown words, which requires the appropriate phrasal verb 'look up'. The phrase 'look up' means "to search for information, especially in a reference book or online."

Example: "The most effective way to enhance your vocabulary is to look up unknown words in a dictionary."

20. D) The incorrectly spelt word in the sentence is '**Uniqe**', and the correct spelling is '**Unique**', which means "being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else" – अद्वितीय, विशेष, अनोखा.
21. A) **Their**' का use होगा है क्योंकि यहाँ 'tails' का उल्लेख किया गया है, जो 'rats' का हिस्सा है। चूंकि 'tails' का स्वामित्व चूहों (rats) के पास है, इसलिए possessive pronoun 'their' का उपयोग सही है। 'It's' गलत है क्योंकि यह 'it is' या 'it has' का संक्षिप्त रूप है, और यहाँ स्वामित्व की बात हो रही है, जो इस context में फिट नहीं बैठता। 'The' गलत है क्योंकि यह article है और यहाँ possessive pronoun की आवश्यकता है। 'There' का अर्थ है 'वहाँ', जो इस वाक्य के अर्थ से मेल नहीं खाता।

Their' is correct because it indicates possession, referring to the tails belonging to the rats. Since 'tails' are part of the rats, the possessive pronoun 'their' is appropriate here. 'It's' is

incorrect as it is a contraction of 'it is' or 'it has', which does not fit the context requiring possession.

'The' is incorrect because it is an article and not a possessive pronoun, which is needed in this sentence. 'There' is incorrect as it means 'in that place', which does not align with the sentence's context.

22. A) **Creeping**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है चुपके से और सावधानीपूर्वक चलना। कहानी के अनुसार, चूहे रात के समय लार्डर में चुपचाप प्रवेश कर रहे थे, जो "creeping" के लिए उपयुक्त है। 'Acting' का अर्थ है अभिनय करना, जो संदर्भ में गलत है क्योंकि यह चुपचाप प्रवेश करने की प्रक्रिया को नहीं दर्शाता। 'Dreaming' का अर्थ है सपना देखना, जो संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होता क्योंकि यह शारीरिक गतिविधि की बजाय मानसिक क्रिया को दर्शाता है। 'Yelling' का अर्थ है चिल्लाना, जो पूरी तरह से अनुचित है क्योंकि कहानी में चुपचाप घुसने का उल्लेख है।

Creeping' will be used because it means moving quietly and carefully. In the story, the rats entered the larder quietly during the night, making "creeping" the most appropriate choice. 'Acting' means performing, which does not suit the context as it does not convey the quiet entry. 'Dreaming' means imagining or seeing in dreams, which is irrelevant since the activity described is physical, not mental. 'Yelling' means shouting, which contradicts the context as the entry was supposed to be quiet.

23. B) **Narrow**' का use होगा क्योंकि "narrow" का अर्थ है पतला या संकीर्ण। story में mention है कि चूहे ट्रिकल तक नहीं पहुँच पा रहे थे, और इसके लिए जार की गर्दन पतली होना समस्या थी। इस संदर्भ में 'narrow' सही उत्तर है। 'Obese' का अर्थ है मोटा, जो यहाँ उचित नहीं है क्योंकि जार की गर्दन का मोटा होना समस्या नहीं है। 'Slow' का अर्थ है धीमा, जो किसी जार की गर्दन का वर्णन नहीं कर सकता। 'Funny' का अर्थ है मजेदार, जो जार की गर्दन के लिए अनुचित है।

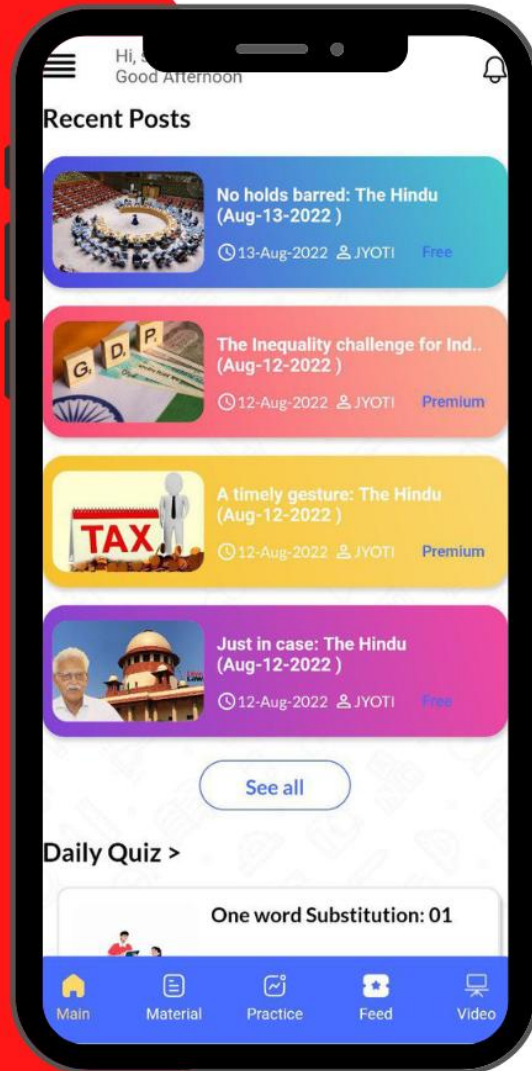
Narrow' will be used because it means thin or constricted. The story mentions that the rats couldn't reach the treacle, and a narrow neck of the jar would logically be the issue here. Hence, 'narrow' is the correct choice. 'Obese' means fat, which doesn't fit as the jar's neck being fat isn't a problem. 'Slow' means sluggish, which cannot describe a jar's neck. 'Funny' means amusing, which is irrelevant in the context of the jar's neck.

24. C) **Struck**' का use होगा क्योंकि "struck" का अर्थ है किसी के दिमाग में अचानक कोई विचार आना। Passage में mention है कि एक चूहे को अचानक एक शानदार विचार आया। इस context में, 'struck' सही विकल्प है।

flew का अर्थ है उड़ना, जो यहाँ contextually सही नहीं है। stood का अर्थ है खड़ा होना, जो विचार आने के संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। went का अर्थ है जाना, जो यहाँ सही अर्थ नहीं देता है।

'Struck' will be used because it means an idea suddenly occurring to someone. The passage narrates that one of the rats suddenly got a bright idea, making 'struck' contextually accurate. 'flew' means to fly, which is irrelevant here. 'stood' means to stand, which does not fit the idea-related context. 'went' means to go, which is not appropriate in this situation.

25. C) **Off** का use होगा क्योंकि 'off' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को हटाना या साफ करना। sentence में बताया गया है कि चूहे पूंछ पर लगे ट्रिकल (treacle) को चाट रहे थे। इसलिए 'off' यहाँ सही है, क्योंकि यह पूंछ से ट्रिकल हटाने का सटीक भाव देता है। 'In' का अर्थ है 'के अंदर', लेकिन यहाँ ट्रिकल पूंछ के अंदर नहीं है। 'By' का अर्थ है 'द्वारा', लेकिन यह माध्यम को दर्शाता है, जो यहाँ अप्रासंगिक है। 'At' का उपयोग स्थान या लक्ष्य को दर्शाने के लिए होता है, लेकिन यहाँ licking का मतलब movement से है, न कि लक्ष्य से।
- 'Off' will be used because 'off' means to remove or clean something. The sentence describes the rats licking the treacle off the tail. Therefore, 'off' fits perfectly in this context. 'In' means 'inside', but the treacle is not inside the tail. 'By' indicates a method, which is irrelevant here. 'At' refers to location or target, but licking here involves removal, not location.



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