

World wide web of schools for our young: Indian students' dream to study abroad remains a steady one

Indian students are **intent** on adding that foreign education experience on their CV. As Canada, Britain and Australia set conditions and **caps** for foreign students, Indians are looking **elsewhere**.

Barring the US, which continues to **dominate** the destination wishlist, students are now **opting** to study in countries that were previously not on their list for reasons such as language **barrier**, strict work-study **norms** and higher financial requirements.

As some of the traditional favourite education destinations **limit** entry, **others**, particularly non-English-speaking countries, **are** improving the 'ease of **onboarding** international students'.

Growing **affluence**, better **prospects**, difficulties in admission to top-tier institutions in India and gateway for **emigration** are among the many reasons **driving** young Indians abroad - 1.33 mn this year. They represent a huge financial opportunity for **host** countries, too.

According to RBI, Indians spent \$6.3 bn on educational travel. New Zealand, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Ireland and Malta have **stepped up** their efforts, and are now moving up the list offering language classes to help students adjust while easing up strict language requirements, making working off-campus easier and improving employment opportunities, smoother visa processing, and easing norms for **accompanying** family members.



Migration may have become a **hot button issue** in many parts of the world. But **the international flow** of students **continues** to rise. Universities and countries are increasingly recognising the value of **internationalising** higher education.

India, too, should **join the ranks**, internationalising its campuses more actively, **seeking out** foreign students, **diversifying** faculty and stepping up promotion in **catchment countries**. **[Practice Exercise]**

- **Steady** (adjective) – Continual, constant, perpetual, never-ending, ceaseless, स्थिर
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.

Vocabulary

1. **Intent** (on) (adjective) – Determined, focused, resolved, eager दृढ़ संकल्पित
2. **Cap** (noun) – Limit, restriction, ceiling, maximum सीमा
3. **Elsewhere** (adverb) – In another place, somewhere else, abroad, outside अन्यत्र
4. **Opt** (verb) – Choose, select, pick, decide for चुनना
5. **Barrier** (noun) – Obstacle, hurdle, block, hindrance बाधा
6. **Barring** (preposition) – Except for, excluding, apart from, unless को छोड़कर
7. **Dominate** (verb) – Control, lead, command, prevail over हावी होना
8. **Norm** (noun) – Standard, rule, expectation, guideline मानक
9. **On-board** (verb) – Integrate, include, accept, bring in शामिल करना
10. **Affluence** (noun) – Wealth, prosperity, richness, financial success समृद्धि
11. **Prospect** (noun) – Opportunity, possibility, future outlook, potential संभावना
12. **Emigration** (noun) – Leaving one's country to settle abroad, relocation, migration प्रवास
13. **Drive** (verb) – Propel, motivate, push, influence प्रेरित करना
14. **Host** (noun) – The receiving party, country, or institution मेजबान
15. **Step up** (phrasal verb) – Increase, intensify, accelerate, boost बढ़ाना
16. **Accompanying** (adjective) – Attending, going with, associated with, linked with साथ में
17. **Hot button issue** (noun) – Controversial topic, sensitive issue, matter of debate विवादास्पद मुद्दा
18. **Internationalise** (verb) – Globalise, broaden reach, make international अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बनाना
19. **Join the ranks** (phrase) – Become part of, enter, align with, participate in शामिल होना
20. **Seek out** (phrasal verb) – Search for, look for, find, pursue तलाश करना
21. **Diversify** (verb) – Vary, expand, broaden, widen विविधता लाना
22. **Catchment country** (noun) – A country from which students or resources are drawn, target country लक्षित देश

Summary of the Editorial

1. Indian students remain highly interested in pursuing foreign education to enhance their career prospects.
2. Countries like Canada, Britain, and Australia have introduced conditions and caps on foreign student admissions, prompting Indian students to explore other destinations.
3. The United States continues to dominate as the top choice for Indian students despite these changes.
4. Non-traditional countries, which were previously less popular due to language barriers and strict work-study norms, are now gaining traction among Indian students.
5. Non-English-speaking countries are simplifying processes to attract international students by improving onboarding experiences.
6. Factors like growing affluence, limited admission opportunities in India's top institutions, and aspirations for emigration are driving Indian students abroad.
7. In 2023, approximately 1.33 million Indian students sought education abroad, presenting significant economic opportunities for host countries.
8. According to the RBI, Indians spent \$6.3 billion on educational travel in recent years.
9. Countries like New Zealand, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Ireland, and Malta are actively working to attract Indian students by offering language classes and easing requirements.
10. These countries are making it easier for international students by relaxing language norms, allowing off-campus work, and improving visa processing and job opportunities.
11. The easing of family accompaniment norms is another factor that appeals to Indian students.
12. Despite global concerns over migration, the international flow of students continues to grow.
13. Universities and countries increasingly recognise the benefits of internationalising higher education.
14. India should follow the global trend by internationalising its own campuses to attract foreign students.
15. By diversifying faculty and promoting itself in potential catchment countries, India could position itself as a competitive player in global education.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **From the passage, it can be inferred that all of the following are true about Indian students' education choices EXCEPT that:**
 - A. The US remains the most popular study destination for Indian students.
 - B. Non-English-speaking countries are becoming more appealing to Indian students.
 - C. India has plenty of top-tier institutions that Indian students prefer over foreign universities.
 - D. Indian students seek education abroad due to better prospects and emigration opportunities.
2. **Which one of the following statements best summarizes the author's position on Indian students studying abroad?**
 - A. Indian students are primarily seeking education abroad because of high admission fees in Indian universities.
 - B. Non-English-speaking countries are more challenging for Indian students but offer better financial aid.
 - C. The Australia is the only desirable destination for Indian students due to its unmatched education system.
 - D. Indian students are driven by a mix of factors, including better prospects abroad and restrictions in traditional destinations.
3. **According to the passage, all of the following are true about the changing preferences of Indian students EXCEPT that:**
 - A. Some non-traditional destinations have become more attractive due to improvements in onboarding international students.
 - B. Canada, Britain, and Australia have become more restrictive in admitting foreign students.
 - C. Indian students are only looking at English-speaking countries for higher education abroad.
 - D. The number of Indian students going abroad for education represents a significant financial opportunity for host countries.
4. **Which of the following best completes the sentence:**
"New Zealand and several other countries have made it easier for Indian students by _____."
 - A. Increasing tuition fees to discourage admissions
 - B. Easing language requirements and employment opportunities
 - C. Offering scholarships to all Indian students without restrictions
 - D. Limiting the number of student visas provided annually
5. **According to the passage, what suggestion is made for India regarding international higher education?**
 - A. To internationalise its campuses and attract more foreign students
 - B. To limit the number of foreign students coming to India
 - C. To increase tuition fees for Indian students studying abroad

- D. To discourage foreign faculty from teaching in Indian institutions
6. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
- A. Recent media pieces have speculated on whether India's fraught relations with
- B. FDI involves a radical departure from the policy of linkage between the state of borders and the state of overall relations
- C. China are headed towards a relative thaw and suggestions are being put forward for a more liberal attitude towards foreign direct investment (FDI) from that country
- D. Such a policy prescription of doing away with restrictions on Chinese
- A. ACDB
- B. CABD
- C. BCAD
- D. ABCD

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.

Nutrition experts have researched the bad effects of junk food and have come to the (1)_____ that junk food manufacturing companies are fooling the people by (2)_____ deceptive advertisements that show junk food as healthy. We must substitute junk food with (3)_____ food like fruits and vegetables. So the next time you think of (4)_____ that burger, hotdog, pizza, samosa, kachori or even ice cream in a restaurant, eating joint or a party, stop your instincts and look for some healthier food (5)_____ instead.

7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
- A. conclusion
- B. derivation
- C. assumption
- D. solution
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
- A. blowing
- B. assuming
- C. showing
- D. observing
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
- A. powerful
- B. healthier
- C. expensive
- D. cleaner
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
- A. skipping
- B. turning
- C. building

- D. grabbing
11. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
- A. additions
 - B. options
 - C. chances
 - D. comparisons
12. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**
The growth of the cell wall is very rarely uniform.
- A. Balanced
 - B. Paired
 - C. Fixed
 - D. Variegated
13. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Vehement
- A. Smashed
 - B. Passionate
 - C. Mild
 - D. Reliable
14. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required'.**
She was thinking at the fun they had
- A. by
 - B. beside
 - C. No substitution required
 - D. About
15. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Noble
- A. Common
 - B. Magical
 - C. Indescribable
 - D. Grand
16. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined word in the given sentence.**
A newer, more effective computer system was installed in place of the obsolete one
- A. outdated
 - B. advanced
 - C. modern
 - D. Current
17. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Walk a tightrope
- A. To walk on a narrow road

- B. To try and balance yourself
C. To act carefully in a difficult situation
D. To be tensed about something
18. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the given sentence.**
The performance of the team in the lost match was dismal
A. Cheap
B. Dainty
C. Luminous
D. Sadden
19. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Desire
A. Loathing
B. Longing
C. Disgust
D. Aversion
20. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**
A. Physiologist
B. Courageous
C. Contagious
D. Gracious
21. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required'.**
I had to write a letter of mistake to my father for the blunder I made.
A. circumstance
B. No substitution required
C. gratitude
D. Apology
22. **Identify the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the following sentence.**
There is no transparency in the procedure followed by the company
A. Coherence
B. Opacity
C. Clarity
D. Reliability
23. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Benevolent
A. Patient
B. Cruel
C. Harmless
D. Happy
24. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence.**
Shreya prefers wearing green coloured saree on marriage funcktions.

- A. Marriage
- B. Functions
- C. Prefers
- D. Wearing

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

He takes his always dog for a walk in the park.

- A. takes his dog for an always walk
- B. always takes his dog for a walk
- C. takes his dog for always a walk
- D. his dog for a walk always takes

Answers

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

Explanations

- C) India has plenty of top-tier institutions that Indian students prefer over foreign universities.**
 This is incorrect because the passage emphasizes that difficulties in admission to top-tier institutions in India are one of the driving factors behind Indian students seeking education abroad. Thus, Indian students are not preferring Indian top-tier institutions.
 A is true because the passage clearly mentions that the US continues to dominate the destination wishlist for Indian students.
 B is true as non-English-speaking countries are becoming more appealing due to their efforts to ease onboarding.
 D is true because the passage mentions that better prospects and emigration opportunities are reasons why students seek foreign education.
- D) Indian students are driven by a mix of factors, including better prospects abroad and restrictions in traditional destinations.**
 This statement captures the essence of the passage, which explains multiple reasons (affluence, better prospects, admission difficulties, and gateway for emigration) that are motivating Indian students to study abroad.
 A is incorrect because the passage does not mention high admission fees in Indian universities as a primary reason; instead, it focuses on difficulties in admission to top-tier institutions.
 B is incorrect as the passage does not highlight financial aid from non-English-speaking countries but rather their efforts to ease the onboarding process.
 C is incorrect because, the Australia is not only a popular destination, the passage discusses other destinations also, so it's not correct option.
- C) Indian students are only looking at English-speaking countries for higher education abroad.**
 This is incorrect because the passage explicitly states that Indian students are also choosing non-English-speaking countries that were previously not considered.
 A is true because the passage explains how non-English-speaking countries have made onboarding easier, making them more attractive.
 B is true as the passage highlights how Canada, Britain, and Australia have set conditions and caps for foreign students, limiting entry.
 D is true since the passage mentions that the 1.33 million Indian students studying abroad represent a huge financial opportunity for host countries.
- B) Easing language requirements and employment opportunities**
 The passage clearly mentions that countries like New Zealand are easing language requirements and improving employment opportunities, making it easier for Indian students to adapt.
 A is incorrect because there is no mention in the passage about increasing tuition fees to discourage admissions.
 C is incorrect as the passage does not state that all Indian students are offered unrestricted scholarships.
 D is incorrect because the passage talks about smoother visa processing, not limiting student visas.
- A) To internationalise its campuses and attract more foreign students**

The passage suggests that India should internationalise its campuses by seeking out foreign students, diversifying faculty, and promoting higher education internationally.

B is incorrect because the passage does not suggest limiting the number of foreign students; instead, it encourages India to attract more.

C is incorrect as the passage does not mention increasing tuition fees for Indian students studying abroad.

D is incorrect because the passage suggests diversifying faculty, not discouraging foreign faculty from teaching in India.

6. A) **ACDB**

Option B (CABD): Although C introduces FDI and follows from A, B cannot follow directly after C. B is more of a concluding or explanatory sentence and doesn't follow logically right after C. Thus, B is eliminated.

Option C (BCAD): B cannot be the starting sentence because it talks about the departure of policy, which presupposes that the topic has already been introduced. B requires some context before it can be understood, so this option is also incorrect.

Option D (ABCD): D cannot be the concluding sentence because B provides a deeper explanation about FDI and policies, which is a more logical ending. Hence, this option is eliminated.

Option A (ACDB):

A provides an introduction to the issue of India-China relations.

C follows by introducing FDI from China as a suggestion.

D discusses the policy prescription related to the FDI mentioned in C.

B concludes by explaining the significance of the policy change

7. A) '**Conclusion**' का use होगा क्योंकि "conclusion" का अर्थ होता है किसी जांच या अध्ययन के बाद निकाला गया अंतिम परिणाम। जबकि 'Derivation' का अर्थ है व्युत्पत्ति, 'Assumption' का अर्थ है अनुमान लगाना, और 'Solution' का अर्थ है समाधान, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- '**Conclusion**' should be used because it means the final result reached after an investigation or study. Whereas, 'Derivation' means origin, 'Assumption' means to assume, and 'Solution' means a solution, which don't fit in this context.

8. C) '**Showing**' का use होगा क्योंकि "showing" का अर्थ होता है कुछ प्रदर्शित करना। जबकि 'blowing' का अर्थ है फूँक मारना या उड़ाना, 'assuming' का अर्थ है मान लेना, और 'observing' का अर्थ है निरीक्षण करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- '**Showing**' should be used because it means to display something. Whereas, 'blowing' means to blow or move something with air, 'assuming' means to take for granted, and 'observing' means to watch or monitor, which don't fit in this context.

9. B) '**healthier**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'junk food' जो खाने की गुणवत्ता को दर्शाता है। sentence में mention है कि हमें 'junk food' के बजाय ऐसा भोजन चुनना चाहिए जो स्वास्थ्य के लिए अच्छा हो, इसलिए '**healthier**' इस संदर्भ में सबसे appropriate विकल्प है; जैसे—We must substitute junk food with healthier food like fruits and vegetables.

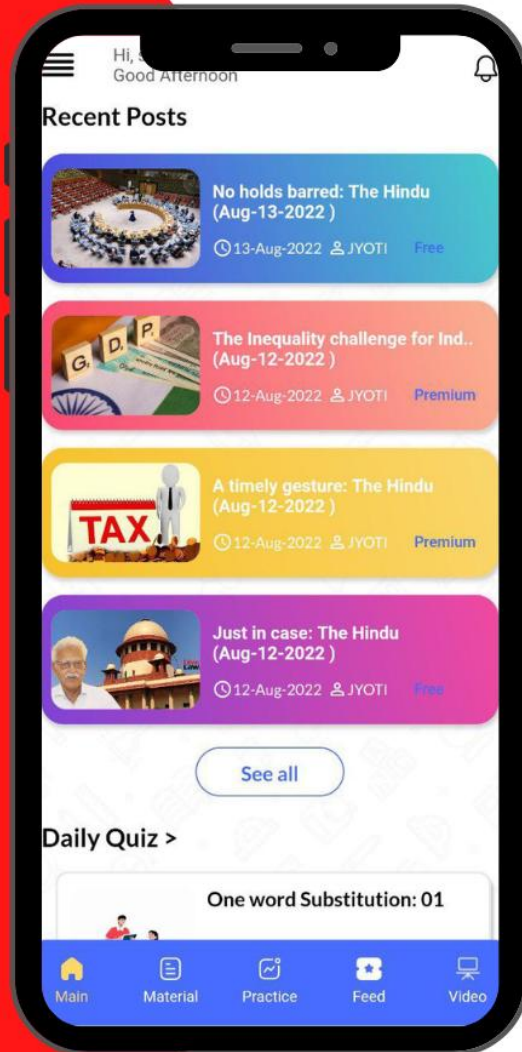
- '**healthier**' will be used as the alternative to 'junk food' because it is the correct choice that reflects the quality of the food. The sentence suggests that we should choose food that is

good for health instead of junk food, so 'healthier' is the most appropriate option in this context; Like—We must substitute junk food with healthier food like fruits and vegetables.

10. D) 'grabbing' का use होगा क्योंकि व्यक्ति किसी अस्वास्थ्यकर भोजन को खाने की सोच रहा है।
sentence में mention है कि जब भी आप किसी अस्वास्थ्यकर भोजन जैसे बर्गर, हॉटडॉग आदि को खाने की सोचें, तो अपनी प्रवृत्ति को रोकें। इस प्रकार, 'grabbing' यहाँ सही विकल्प है; जैसे—So the next time you think of grabbing that burger, hotdog, pizza, samosa, kachori or even ice cream in a restaurant, eating joint or a party, stop your instincts and look for some healthier food instead.
- 'grabbing' will be used because it fits the context where a person is thinking about eating some unhealthy food. The sentence suggests that whenever you think of eating something unhealthy like a burger, hotdog, etc., you should stop your instincts. Therefore, 'grabbing' is the correct choice here; Like—So the next time you think of grabbing that burger, hotdog, pizza, samosa, kachori or even ice cream in a restaurant, eating joint or a party, stop your instincts and look for some healthier food instead.
11. B) **Options'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "options" का अर्थ होता है विभिन्न विकल्प। जबकि 'additions' का अर्थ है जोड़, 'chances' का अर्थ है संभावनाएँ, और 'comparison' का अर्थ है तुलना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- '**Options'** should be used because it means different choices. Whereas, 'additions' means adding something, 'chances' means possibilities, and 'comparison' means comparing, which don't fit in this context.
12. D) **Uniform** (adjective) – Consistent, even, unvarying, homogeneous. समान, एकरूप
Antonym: **Variegated** (adjective) – Exhibiting different colors, especially as irregular patches or streaks, multicolored, diverse. बहुरंगी, विविध
- **Balanced** (adjective) – Being in a state of proper equilibrium, stable, evenly distributed. संतुलित
 - **Paired** (adjective) – Consisting of two corresponding or similar parts, coupled, matched. युग्मित
 - **Fixed** (adjective) – Securely placed or fastened, not subject to change or fluctuation, stationary. स्थिर
13. C) **Vehement** (adjective) – Showing strong feeling; forceful, passionate, or intense. प्रबल, जोशीला
Antonym: **Mild** (adjective) – Not severe, serious, or harsh; gentle. हल्का, सौम्य
- **Smashed** (adjective) – Broken into pieces; drunk. टुकड़े-टुकड़े, नशे में
 - **Passionate** (adjective) – Showing or caused by strong feelings or a strong belief. भावुक
 - **Reliable** (adjective) – Consistently good in quality or performance; able to be trusted. विश्वसनीय
14. D) **at** के बदले **'about'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'thinking' के बाद 'about' Preposition के रूप में प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— She was thinking about the good times they had.

- **about'** will be used instead of 'at' because after 'thinking' the preposition 'about' is used; Like— She was thinking about the good times they had.
15. **A) Noble** (adjective) – Having or showing fine personal qualities or high moral principles and ideals. महान, कुलीन, शानदार
Antonym: Common (adjective) – Ordinary; not exceptional or special, average. साधारण
- **Magical** (adjective) – Relating to, using, or resembling magic. जादुई
 - **Indescribable** (adjective) – Too unusual, extreme, or indefinite to be adequately described. अवर्णनीय
 - **Grand** (adjective) – Magnificent and imposing in appearance, size, or style. भव्य
16. **A) Obsolete** (adjective) – Outdated, archaic, superseded, old-fashioned, obsolescent पुराना
17. **C) Walk a tightrope (idiom)** – To act carefully in a difficult situation मुश्किल स्थिति में सावधानी से कार्य करना
18. **C) Dismal** (adjective) – Depressing, gloomy, bleak, dreary. निराशाजनक
Antonym: Luminous (adjective) – Radiating or reflecting light, bright, shining, radiant. प्रकाशमान
- **Cheap** (adjective) – Low in cost, inexpensive, economical. सस्ता
 - **Dainty** (adjective) – Delicately small and pretty, elegant, fine. नाज़ुक
 - **Sadden** (verb) – To cause to feel sorrow, make unhappy. उदास करना
19. **B) Desire** (noun) – A strong feeling of wanting to have something or wishing for something to happen. इच्छा
Synonym: Longing (noun) – A yearning desire, craving, ache, hunger. लालसा
- **Loathing** (noun) – A feeling of intense dislike or disgust; hatred. घृणा
 - **Disgust** (noun) – A strong feeling of revulsion or profound disapproval aroused by something unpleasant or offensive. घृणा
 - **Aversion** (noun) – A strong dislike or disinclination. अरुचि
20. **B)** The correct spelling of 'Couragious' is '**Courageous**' which means "having or characterized by courage; brave" साहसी, वीर.
21. **D) mistake'** के बदले '**apology**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'blunder' शब्द का अर्थ है बड़ी गलती और इसके लिए माफी मांगने की आवश्यकता होती है; जैसे— I had to write a letter of apology to my father for the blunder I made.
- '**Apology**' will be used instead of '**mistake**' because the word 'blunder' means a big mistake and it requires an apology; Like— I had to write a letter of apology to my father for the blunder I made.
22. **B) Transparency (noun)** – the quality of being easily seen through or detected; openness, clarity, honesty. पारदर्शिता
Antonym: Opacity (noun) – the quality of being difficult to see through or understand, lack of transparency, obscurity. अपारदर्शिता

- **Clarity** (noun) – the quality of being clear and easy to understand, openness, precision, transparency. स्पष्टता
 - **Coherence** (noun) – the quality of being logical and consistent, clarity, consistency. संगति
 - **Reliability** (noun) – the quality of being trustworthy or of performing consistently well, dependability, trustworthiness. विश्वसनीयता
23. B) **Benevolent (adjective)** – Well-meaning and kindly, charitable, generous, compassionate. दयालु
Antonym: Cruel (adjective) – Willfully causing pain or suffering to others, or feeling no concern about it, merciless, ruthless, brutal. क्रूर
- **Patient** (adjective) – Able to accept or tolerate delays, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious. धैर्यवान
 - **Harmless** (adjective) – Not able or likely to cause harm, safe, innocuous. हानिरहित
 - **Happy** (adjective) – Feeling or showing pleasure or contentment, joyful, cheerful. खुश
24. B) The correct spelling of 'Funcntions' is '**Functions**' which means "an activity or purpose natural to or intended for a person or thing" कार्य, उद्देश्य.
25. B) 'always takes his dog for a walk' का use होगा क्योंकि 'always' एक frequency adverb है और यह main verb 'takes' के पहले आता है। सही sentence structure में, 'always' को 'takes' से पहले रखा जाता है ताकि यह दर्शाया जा सके कि यह एक नियमित क्रिया है; जैसे—He always takes his dog for a walk in the park.
- 'always takes his dog for a walk' will be used because 'always' is a frequency adverb and it typically comes before the main verb 'takes.' In the correct sentence structure, 'always' is placed before 'takes' to indicate that this is a regular action; Like—He always takes his dog for a walk in the park.



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