Express view on quota for women at IIT: Proof that inclusion works

The increasing **representation** of women in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) **marks** a **pivotal** moment in the journey toward greater **inclusivity** and gender **equity** in India's premier institutions of higher education. It is also welcome **affirmation** of the larger and **irreversible** shift in society that **top-down** institutional reforms can help make deeper and wider. **Data** obtained by this newspaper under the Right to Information Act **has** revealed that six years since the implementation of a **supernumerary quota** of 20 per cent for women in undergraduate engineering programmes, in which extra seats were created instead of reserving them within the existing **pool**, IITs are **witnessing** a significant **surge** in female students. At IIT-Kanpur, the number of women rose from 908 in 2017 to 2,124 in 2024; IIT-Roorkee saw a 76.36 per cent jump between 2019-20 and 2024. **IITs** in Chennai, Mumbai, Guwahati and Kharagpur, too, **saw** **commensurate** jumps in enrolment.

The **upsurge reflects** a positive **correlation** between individual **ambition** and availability of opportunities that is a result of good-faith **affirmative** action. Initiated in 2018, the quota in IITs goes beyond numbers in reshaping an academic **space** that has historically been male-dominated. There have been infrastructure upgrades in the form of more hostels, washrooms and **recreational** facilities for women. Some campuses have a special open-door policy for female aspirants and their parents to learn about campus life. These are all welcome **departures** from a **masculine** imagination of the classroom where women were expected to **man up or ship out**, where **safeguards** against everyday **sexism** **were** **few and far between**. The change challenges the old **narrative** that STEM is a field for men, and signals a future where women's voices, ideas, and innovations will be **indispensable** in shaping the country's intellectual and technological future. **Given** that of the total enrolled students in engineering and technology — according to the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) for 2021-22 — women still comprise only 11.3 lakh, while 27.6 lakh are men in the undergraduate programmes, it is crucial to **bridge the gap**.

But as with medicine, where for every 100 men there were 100 women enrolled in medical colleges in India in 2020-21, the increased presence of women in IITs can only be counted as a job well begun. It **underscores** the need for greater systemic support to ensure that the progress of women does not **stall**, that the **passage** from classroom to workplace **remains** **unhindered**. The focus must now shift to ensuring that the IITs continue to create an environment where women can **thrive** free from **biases**, and are **equipped with** all the support and resources they need to succeed. The India Human Development **Survey**, by the University of Maryland and the National Council of Applied Economic Research, that has tracked changes in the lives of Indian households between 2004 and 2024, **shows** that despite ongoing transformations in their lives, **one area** where women continue to be **let down is in terms of** economic opportunities. With more women **poised to** enter the workforce, it is time to ensure that gender-neutral **policies**, mentorship, and a culture of inclusivity **allow** them to realise their potential more fully.   **[Practice Exercise]**

Vocabulary

1. **Mark** (verb) – Indicate, signify, denote, represent, show चिह्नित करना

2. **Pivotal** (adjective) – Crucial, critical, essential, key, central महत्वपूर्ण

3. **Inclusivity** (noun) – Inclusion, diversity, acceptance, openness समावेशिता

4. **Equity** (noun) – Fairness, justice, impartiality, equality समानता

5. **Affirmation** (noun) – Declaration, confirmation, assertion, endorsement पुष्टि

6. **Irreversible** (adjective) – Unchangeable, permanent, irrevocable, unalterable अपरिवर्तनीय

7. **Top-down** (adjective) – Hierarchical, directive, centrally controlled ऊपर से नीचे तक

8. **Supernumerary quota** (noun) – a set of seats that are reserved for students who meet certain criteria, such as being economically disadvantaged or underrepresented

9. **Pool** (noun) – Group, collection, reserve, stock समूह

10. **Witness** (verb) – Observe, see, experience, record देखना

11. **Surge** (noun) – Rise, increase, spike, upturn उछाल

12. **Commensurate** (adjective) – Equivalent, proportionate, corresponding, comparable अनुरूप

13. **Upsurge** (noun) – Increase, growth, boost, escalation वृद्धि

14. **Reflect** (verb) – Indicate, show, reveal, mirror दिखाना

15. **Correlation** (noun) – Connection, relationship, association, linkage सहसंबंध

16. **Ambition** (noun) – Aspiration, goal, desire, determination महत्वाकांक्षा

17. **Affirmative** (adjective) – Positive, supportive, confirming, approving सकारात्मक

18. **Space** (noun) – Area, environment, domain, realm क्षेत्र

19. **Recreational** (adjective) – Entertaining, leisurely, enjoyable, fun-related मनोरंजक

20. **Departure** (noun) – Change, deviation, shift, break प्रस्थान

21. **Masculine** (noun) – Male, manly, related to men पुरुषोचित

22. **Man up or ship out** (phrase) – someone needs to start acting more courageously or responsibly, or they should leave the situation सुधरना या बाहर होना

23. **Safeguard** (verb) – Protect, secure, shield, defend सुरक्षा करना

24. **Sexism** (noun) – Gender bias, discrimination, prejudice, chauvinism लैंगिक भेदभाव

25. **Few and far between** (phrase) – Rare, infrequent, uncommon, occasional बहुत कम

26. **Narrative** (noun) – Story, account, description, perspective कथा

27. **Indispensable** (adjective) – Essential, necessary, crucial, vital अनिवार्य

28. **Given** (preposition) – Considering, in view of, taking into account देखते हुए

29. **Bridge the gap** (phrase) – Close the difference, connect, reconcile, link अंतर कम करना

30. **Underscore** (verb) – Highlight, emphasize, underline, stress ज़ोर देना

31. **Stall** (verb) – Delay, halt, obstruct, impede रोकना

32. **Passage** (noun) – Transition, progress, journey, pathway मार्ग

33. **Unhindered** (adjective) – Unobstructed, free, unrestrained, unimpeded बिना बाधा के

34. **Thrive** (verb) – Flourish, prosper, succeed, grow फलना-फूलना

35. **Bias** (noun) – Prejudice, partiality, inclination, favoritism पक्षपात

36. **Equip** (with) (verb) – Provide, furnish, prepare, arm लैस करना

37. **Let down** (phrasal verb) – Disappoint, fail, neglect, betray निराश करना

38. **In terms of** (phrase) – Regarding, concerning, relating to, with respect to के संदर्भ में

39. **Poise** (to) (verb) – Prepare, balance, ready, stabilize तैयार होना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Landmark Progress in Gender Equity**: The increased representation of women in IITs is a significant step toward inclusivity and gender balance in India's premier educational institutions.

2. **Supernumerary Quota Success**: The introduction of a 20% supernumerary quota for women, implemented without reducing seats for men, has led to a substantial rise in female enrolment across IITs.

3. **Dramatic Growth in Numbers**: Institutes like IIT-Kanpur, IIT-Roorkee, and others have seen remarkable increases in female students, indicating the quota's effectiveness.

4. **Empowerment Through Opportunity**: The surge in female enrolment reflects a positive correlation between women's ambitions and the availability of enabling opportunities.

5. **Challenging Gender Stereotypes**: The initiative disrupts traditional narratives that STEM fields are male domains, paving the way for more women to contribute to technological and intellectual advancements.

6. **Infrastructure Improvements**: IITs have upgraded their campuses with more hostels, washrooms, and recreational facilities for women, creating a more inclusive and supportive environment.

7. **Special Initiatives**: Open-door policies for female aspirants and their parents have encouraged more women to consider IITs as viable academic options.

8. **Breaking Everyday Barriers**: The reforms address challenges like sexism and the traditionally masculine culture of STEM education, making IITs more welcoming for women.

9. **Persistent Gender Gap**: Despite progress, women still account for only 11.3 lakh out of 38.9 lakh students in engineering and technology undergraduate programmes, underscoring the need for continued efforts.

10. **Learning from Medicine**: Achieving gender parity in medicine, where equal numbers of men and women are enrolled, serves as a benchmark for engineering disciplines.

11. **Focus Beyond Enrolment**: Increasing women's participation in IITs is just the beginning; ensuring their seamless transition from education to employment is crucial.

12. **Economic Opportunity Gaps**: Surveys show that despite educational progress, women still face significant barriers in accessing economic opportunities, calling for systemic interventions.

13. **Need for Gender-Neutral Policies**: IITs must adopt policies that promote inclusivity, mentorship, and career development to help women realise their full potential.

14. **Culture of Inclusivity**: Building a bias-free, supportive environment is essential for sustaining and enhancing the progress made so far.

15. **Long-Term Impact**: By encouraging more women to enter and thrive in STEM, IITs are not just addressing gender disparity but also contributing to a future where women play an indispensable role in India's technological and intellectual growth.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**　　　　　　　　　　　　**[Editorial page]**
   A. Skeptical
   B. Optimistic and encouraging
   C. Neutral and disinterested
   D. Cynical

2. **What can be inferred from the passage about the impact of introducing a 20 per cent supernumerary quota for women in IITs?**
   A. It has had no significant impact on women's enrollment.
   B. It has resulted in a substantial increase in the number of women in IITs.
   C. It has led to reduced resources and opportunities for male students.
   D. It was introduced solely for public relations and has no real effect on inclusivity.

3. **According to the passage, what remains a major challenge even after more women enroll in IITs?**
   A. Getting parents' approval to send daughters to colleges far from home
   B. Phasing out all forms of reservations and quotas in the next academic year
   C. Replacing male faculty members with female faculty members to maintain balance
   D. Ensuring continued support, gender-neutral policies, and a bias-free environment for women's progress

4. The passage mentions that IITs have seen "commensurate jumps in enrolment" for women over the years. What is the closest synonym of "**commensurate**" as used in the passage?
   A. Equivalent
   B. Capricious
   C. Contradictory
   D. Inadequate

5. **Direction: Identify whether the statement is true or false based on the passage.**
   Statement: The supernumerary quota in IITs reserved 20% of the existing seats for women in undergraduate engineering programmes.
   A. True
   B. False
   C. Can not be determined
   D. Partially true

6. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
   Ishika saw the tiger in the forest
   A. The tiger saw by Ishika in the forest.
   B. The tiger was seen by the forest in Ishika.
   C. The tiger was seen by Ishika in the forest.
   D. The tiger sees Ishika in the forest.

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

   Innuendo

   A. Prose
   B. Crude
   C. Ragged
   D. Insinuation

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

   'Spy Family' is a graphic novel that is a narrative work in which the story is conveyed to the reader using **uninterrupted art in a traditional** comics format

   A. sequential art in a traditional
   B. existential art in a traditional
   C. sedimental art in a traditional
   D. longitudinal art in a traditional

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

   Fatal

   A. Deadly
   B. Additional
   C. Jovial
   D. Easy

10. **The following sentence has been divided into four segments. Identify the segment that contains an error.**

    Mr. Abhilash and his family / have received / no informations / about the incident

    A. have received
    B. no informations
    C. about the incident.
    D. Mr. Abhilash and his family

11. **Select the option that expresses the opposite meaning of the underlined word.**

    The explosive used is of my own formulation, and I can **vouch** for its efficiency.

    A. Maintain
    B. Certify
    C. Invalidate
    D. Witness

12. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

    Vinod had a _____ escape in the car accident.

    A. comfortable
    B. full
    C. narrow
    D. Wide

13. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

A. Embarrass

B. Connoisseur

C. Relevent

D. Bureaucracy

14. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word in bold.**

We'd better watch our step and not give him any excuse to **harass** us further.

A. betray

B. relish

C. soothe

D. Intimidate

15. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given phrase.**

A short interesting story about a real person or event

A. Poem

B. Sketch

C. Anecdote

D. Narrative

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

She is **proficient in speaking many languages**

A. Monolithic

B. Multilingual

C. Heterolinguistic

D. Bilingual

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

To have bigger fish to fry

A. To have an interest in cooking

B. To know different kinds of fishing techniques

C. To take calculated risks

D. To have bigger things to take care of than the menial task at hand

18. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**

My brother performed / extremely good / in the class test / held yesterday

A. held yesterday

B. in the class test

C. My brother performed

D. extremely good

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

Toxic

A. Laudatory

B. Lanky

C. Lethal

D. Licit

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

A person who likes to argue about anything

A. Reticent

B. Coward

C. Veracious

D. Contentious

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.

There is a saying that coming events cast their shadows before. (1)_____, it is not universally true. Something can happen within a second, and one may not (2)_____ it. (3)_____, some instances show that predictions based on certain signs have gone wrong. People generally say that natural calamities can be predicted by observing the animals. But what if animals are suffering from some disease and don't show any signs before the event appears? They may fail to make peculiar sounds or actions about the events which are going to take place.

(4)_____, some unnatural calamities that are likely to appear may forecast their shadows by some bad omens. (5)_____, we should not completely cancel out the possibilities that animals can sense certain unnatural happenings.

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

A. Moreover

B. Therefore

C. Furthermore

D. However

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

A. legalise

B. foresee

C. rescind

D. Affect

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

A. Therefore

B. Moreover

C. Nevertheless

D. However

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

A. Besides

B. Secondly

C. Therefore

D. Despite

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

A. However
B. Nevertheless
C. Moreover
D. Therefore

Answers

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

Explanations

1. **B) Optimistic and encouraging**

   The passage highlights the positive impact of the supernumerary quota for women at IITs, celebrating the rise in women's enrolment. It acknowledges the progress made and encourages continued efforts toward inclusivity and support for women. Overall, the author's stance is hopeful, recognizing achievements while urging further reforms.

   A (Skeptical): The passage is not doubtful about the effectiveness of the quota; it clearly sees its benefits.

   C (Neutral and disinterested): The author is actively advocating for more change and highlighting success; there is no neutral or detached stance.

   D (Cynical): There is no mocking or negative sentiment toward the quota or its outcomes; instead, the passage is encouraging and positive.

2. **B) It has resulted in a substantial increase in the number of women in IITs.**

   The passage gives data showing a marked surge in the number of women students at IITs — for instance, at IIT-Kanpur the number increased from 908 in 2017 to 2,124 in 2024, illustrating the success of the supernumerary quota in boosting women's enrollment.

   A: Incorrect because the passage explicitly states a "significant surge" in female students, indicating the opposite.

   C: Incorrect as there is no indication that male resources or opportunities have declined; extra seats were created rather than taking from the existing pool.

   D: Incorrect because the data shows the quota had a real positive impact, not just a superficial or PR-driven effect.

3. **D) Ensuring continued support, gender-neutral policies, and a bias-free environment for women's progress**

   The passage highlights that increasing female enrollment is only the first step. It emphasizes the importance of creating an inclusive environment and offering resources and mentorship so that women can thrive academically and professionally.

   A: While parental approval can be an issue, the passage does not identify this as the primary or ongoing challenge.

   B: The passage does not advocate for immediately ending reservations; rather, it underscores the necessity of sustained systemic support.

   C: There is no mention of a plan to replace male faculty members wholesale; the focus is on inclusivity, not exclusion.

4. A) **Equivalent**

Correct because "commensurate" means corresponding in size or degree, which aligns with the meaning of equivalent or proportionate (अनुरूप).

5. B) **False**

   The statement is false because, as mentioned in the passage, the supernumerary quota created additional seats for women, rather than reserving 20% within the existing pool.

   True: Incorrect because the quota did not involve reserving existing seats but rather creating new ones.

6. **C) The tiger was seen by Ishika in the forest**

   (C) 'saw' के बदले 'was seen' का प्रयोग होगा। Passive Voice में हमेशा 'To Be'

   [is/are/am/was/were/be/being/been] + V³ [Verb का Past Participle रूप] का प्रयोग होता है, जैसे—

   (i) The book was read by Sita. To Be → was V³ → read

   Explanation in English:

   (C) In place of 'saw', 'was seen' will be used.

   In Passive Voice, we always use the formula:

   To Be [is/are/am/was/were/be/being/been] + V³ [Past Participle form of the Verb]

   For example: (i) The book was read by Sita. → To Be → was → V³ → read

7. D) **Innuendo** (noun) – An allusive or oblique remark or hint, typically a suggestive or disparaging one. अप्रत्यक्ष संकेत, ताना

   Synonym: **Insinuation** (noun) – An unpleasant hint or suggestion of something bad. संकेत, ताना

   - **Prose** (noun) – Written or spoken language in its ordinary form, without metrical structure. गद्य

   - **Crude** (adjective) – In a natural or raw state; not yet processed or refined. कच्चा, असभ्य

   - **Ragged** (adjective) – Roughly unkempt or uneven, typically related to clothes or appearance. मैला, फटा हुआ

8. A) 'uninterrupted art in a traditional' के बदले **'sequential art in a traditional'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'Sequential art' का अर्थ होता है एक ऐसी कला-रूप जिसमें चित्रों की श्रृंखला के माध्यम से कहानी प्रस्तुत की जाती है। यह ग्राफिक उपन्यास और कॉमिक्स के संदर्भ में सही बैठता है। अन्य विकल्प 'existential', 'sedimental', और 'longitudinal' का इस संदर्भ में कोई अर्थ नहीं है।

   uninterrupted art in a traditional' should be replaced with 's**equential art in a traditional'** because 'Sequential art' refers to a form of storytelling using a sequence of images to convey a narrative, which is appropriate in the context of graphic novels and comics. The other options like 'existential', 'sedimental', and 'longitudinal' are not relevant in this context.

9. A) **Fatal** (adjective) – Resulting in death, causing destruction or disaster. घातक

Synonym: **Deadly** (adjective) – Causing or able to cause death, lethal, fatal. जानलेवा

- **Additional** (adjective) – Added, extra, supplementary. अतिरिक्त

- **Jovial** (adjective) – Cheerful and friendly, good-humored, merry. प्रसन्नचित्त

- **Easy** (adjective) – Achieved without great effort, simple, uncomplicated. सरल

10. B) 'informations' के बदले 'information' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'information' एक Uncountable Noun है और इसका हमेशा Singular रूप में प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— They provided us with correct information.
'information' will be used instead of 'informations' because 'information' is an Uncountable Noun and is always used in the Singular form; Like— They provided us with correct information.

11. C) **Vouch** (verb) – Assert or confirm as a result of one's own experience that something is true or accurately described. साक्षी देना

Antonym: **Invalidate** (verb) – Make (an argument, statement, or theory) unsound or erroneous. अमान्य करना

- **Maintain** (verb) – To continue or keep in existence. बनाए रखना

- **Certify** (verb) – To confirm or attest, typically in writing, that something is true. प्रमाणित करना

- **Witness** (verb) – To see, hear, or know by personal presence or perception. गवाह होना

12. C) **Narrow'** का use होगा क्योंकि "narrow escape" का अर्थ होता है किसी खतरे या दुर्घटना से बहुत मुश्किल से बचना। sentence में बताया गया है कि Vinod कार दुर्घटना में मुश्किल से बच पाया, इसलिए 'narrow' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'comfortable' का अर्थ है आरामदायक, 'full' का अर्थ है पूर्ण, और 'wide' का अर्थ है चौड़ा, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

Narrow' will be used because "narrow escape" means a close or barely avoided danger or accident. The sentence indicates that Vinod barely escaped the car accident, making 'narrow' the correct choice here. Whereas, 'comfortable' means relaxing, 'full' means complete, and 'wide' means broad, which do not fit in this context.

13. C) The incorrectly spelt word is **'Relevent'**. The correct spelling is **'Relevant'**, which means **"closely connected or appropriate to the matter at hand"** संबंधित या उचित.

14. D) **Harass** (verb) – To subject someone to aggressive pressure or intimidation. तंग करना, परेशान करना।

Synonym: **Intimidate** (verb) – To frighten or overawe someone, especially in order to make them do what one wants. डराना, भयभीत करना।

- **Betray** (verb) – To deceive or be disloyal to someone. धोखा देना।

- **Relish** (verb) – To enjoy or take pleasure in something. आनंद लेना।

- **Soothe** (verb) – To gently calm or relieve. शांत करना।

15. **C) Anecdote (noun)** – A short interesting story about a real person or event **अनुच्छेद**

- **Poem** (noun) – A piece of writing that expresses emotions and ideas, especially with rhythm and sometimes rhyme. कविता

- **Sketch** (noun) – A rough or unfinished drawing or a brief description of something. रूपरेखा

- **Narrative** (noun) – A spoken or written account of connected events; a story. कथा

16. **B) Multilingual (noun/adjective)** – A person who is able to speak multiple languages. बहुभाषी

- **Monolithic** (adjective) – Formed of a single large block of stone; (in a figurative sense) large, powerful, and intractably indivisible. एकाश्मक

- **Heterolinguistic** (adjective) – Refers to having different languages or dialects. भिन्न-भाषी

- **Bilingual** (noun/adjective) – A person who is able to speak two languages fluently. द्विभाषी

17. D) To have bigger fish to fry (idiom) – To have bigger things to take care of than the menial task at hand कोई व्यक्ति के पास साधारण काम की तुलना में अधिक महत्वपूर्ण या आवश्यक कार्य हैं।

18. D) 'extremely good' के बदले **'extremely well'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'good' एक adjective है जो noun को modify करता है, जबकि यहाँ verb 'performed' को modify करने के लिए adverb 'well' का प्रयोग करना चाहिए; जैसे— He performed well in the exam.

    'extremely well' will be used instead of 'extremely good' because 'good' is an adjective that modifies a noun, whereas here the adverb 'well' should be used to modify the verb 'performed'; Like— He performed well in the exam.

19. **C) Lethal (adjective)** – Deadly, harmful, fatal, poisonous. घातक

    Synonym: **Toxic** (adjective) – Poisonous, harmful, dangerous, deadly. विषैला

- **Laudatory** (adjective) – Expressing praise, commendatory, approving. प्रशंसात्मक

- **Lanky** (adjective) – Tall and thin, gangly, lean. दुबला-पतला

- **Licit** (adjective) – Lawful, legal, legitimate, allowed. वैध

20. D) **Contentious** (adjective) – A person who likes to argue or is likely to cause disagreement

विवादास्पद

- **Reticent** (adjective) – Not revealing one's thoughts or feelings readily. मितभाषी

- **Coward** (noun) – A person who lacks the courage to do or endure dangerous or unpleasant things. कायर

- **Veracious** (adjective) – Speaking or representing the truth. सत्यवादी

21. D) 'However' का use होगा क्योंकि "However" का अर्थ होता है 'फिर भी' या 'हालाँकि', जो विपरीत दृष्टिकोण या अपवाद को व्यक्त करता है। पहले sentence में कहा गया है कि 'आने वाली घटनाएँ पहले से संकेत देती हैं,' लेकिन बाद में इसे चुनौती दी जा रही है कि यह सार्वभौमिक रूप से सही नहीं है। इसलिए 'However' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Moreover' का अर्थ है 'इसके अतिरिक्त,' 'Therefore' का अर्थ है 'अतः,' और 'Furthermore' का अर्थ है 'आगे और,' जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं क्योंकि ये sentence के विपरीत अर्थ को व्यक्त नहीं करते।

'However' will be used because it means 'but' or 'despite that,' which expresses contrast or an exception. The first sentence states that 'coming events cast their shadows before,' but then it challenges that it is not universally true. Therefore, 'However' is suitable here. Whereas, 'Moreover' means 'in addition,' 'Therefore' means 'as a result,' and 'Furthermore' means 'in continuation,' which do not fit as they do not express contradiction in this context.

22. B) **Foresee'** का use होगा क्योंकि "foresee" का अर्थ होता है भविष्य में होने वाली किसी घटना की पूर्व जानकारी होना। sentence में कहा गया है कि कुछ घटनाएँ एक सेकंड में हो सकती हैं और कोई उन्हें 'पूर्वानुमानित' नहीं कर सकता, इसलिए 'foresee' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Legalise' का अर्थ है वैध करना, 'Rescind' का अर्थ है रद्द करना, और 'Affect' का अर्थ है प्रभावित करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

'Foresee' will be used because it means to have prior knowledge or prediction of an event that might happen in the future. The sentence mentions that something can happen within a second, and one may not be able to 'foresee' it, making 'foresee' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Legalise' means to make legal, 'Rescind' means to revoke or cancel, and 'Affect' means to influence, which don't fit in this context.

23. **B)** Moreover' का use होगा क्योंकि "Moreover" का अर्थ है 'इसके अतिरिक्त,' जो जानकारी या तर्क को जोड़ने के लिए प्रयोग किया जाता है। passage में कहा गया है कि कुछ घटनाओं का पूर्वानुमान गलत हो सकता है, और इसके अतिरिक्त, कुछ उदाहरण ऐसे भी हैं जहाँ ये भविष्यवाणियाँ गलत साबित हो चुकी हैं। यहाँ नए विचार को जोड़ने के लिए 'Moreover' का प्रयोग किया गया है। जबकि 'Therefore' का अर्थ है

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'अतः,' 'Nevertheless' का अर्थ है 'फिर भी,' और 'However' का अर्थ है 'हालाँकि,' जो इस context में नए विचार को जोड़ने के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।
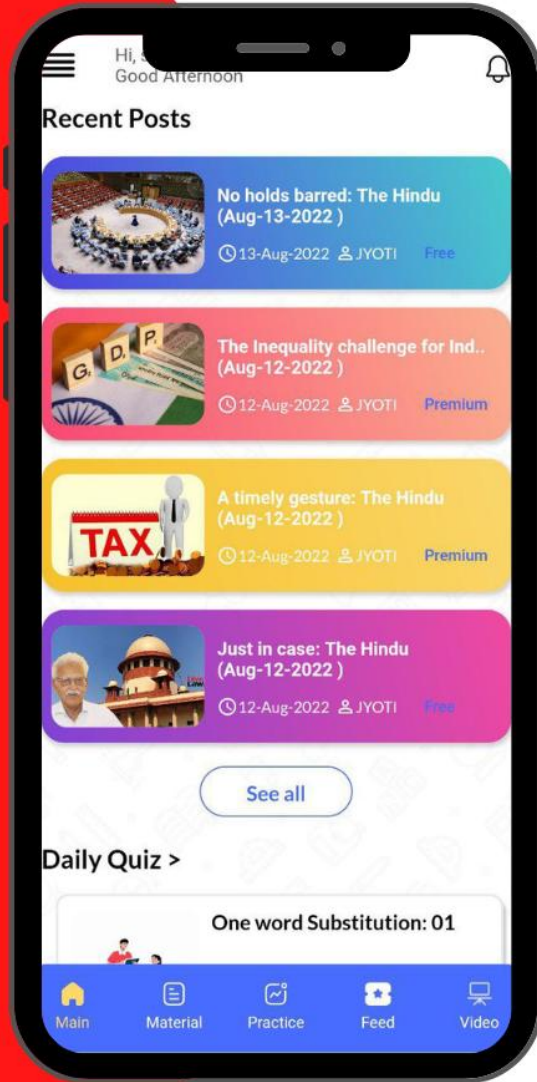
'Moreover' will be used because it means 'in addition,' which is used to add information or reasoning. The previous sentence states that some predictions can go wrong, and in addition, there are instances where predictions based on signs have gone wrong. 'Moreover' is used to introduce this additional information. Whereas, 'Therefore' means 'as a result,' 'Nevertheless' means 'despite that,' and 'However' means 'although,' which do not fit as they don't add information in the same manner in this context.

24. A) **'Besides'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "के अतिरिक्त"। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि कुछ असामान्य आपदाएँ आने से पहले अपने संकेत दिखा सकती हैं, जो जानवरों की भविष्यवाणी की शक्ति पर चर्चा में एक अतिरिक्त विचार है। इसलिए 'Besides' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Secondly' का अर्थ है "दूसरा बिंदु", 'Therefore' का अर्थ है "इसलिए", और 'Despite' का अर्थ है "के बावजूद", जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होते।

'Besides' will be used because it means "in addition to." The sentence suggests that some unnatural calamities may forecast their shadows by bad omens, which adds to the discussion on animals' ability to predict events. Hence, 'Besides' is appropriate here. Whereas, 'Secondly' means "the second point," 'Therefore' means "as a result," and 'Despite' means "in spite of," which don't fit in this context.

25. D) 'Therefore' का use होगा क्योंकि "Therefore" का अर्थ है 'इसलिए'। sentence में यह कहा गया है कि हमें पूरी तरह से इस संभावना को खारिज नहीं करना चाहिए कि जानवर कुछ अप्राकृतिक घटनाओं को पहले से भांप सकते हैं। यहां, 'Therefore' सही है क्योंकि यह पिछले तर्क से एक निष्कर्ष निकालता है और कहता है कि हमें इस संभावना को खारिज नहीं करना चाहिए। जबकि 'However' का अर्थ 'हालांकि' है, जो एक विरोधाभास प्रस्तुत करता है, जो इसमें उचित नहीं है। 'Nevertheless' का भी अर्थ 'फिर भी' होता है, लेकिन यह केवल तब प्रयोग होता है जब पहले वाक्य में विरोधाभास हो। 'Moreover' का अर्थ 'इसके अतिरिक्त' है, जो यहां अनुपयुक्त है.

'Therefore' will be used because it means 'as a result'. The sentence suggests that we should not entirely rule out the possibility that animals can sense certain unnatural happenings, making 'Therefore' fitting as it draws a conclusion based on the previous argument. Whereas, 'However' introduces a contradiction, which is not suitable in this context. 'Nevertheless' also means 'still', but it's used only when there's a contradiction. 'Moreover' means 'in addition to', which is incorrect.

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