

Sparking smile: Lessons from a children's elocution competition

From innovative tech-based ideas to timeless acts of **kindness**, the young participants presented **thoughtful** solutions that left me inspired about what truly makes us happy

Last week, I had the **privilege** of being on the panel of judges for an elocution competition for students, with the topic 'The Perfect Solution to Make People Smile More.' It was an **intriguing** subject-one very close to my heart-because I am the kind of person who smiles a lot. A lot more than people sometimes care to respond to or **reciprocate**. On the street, in the metro, in the building gallery, during my walk-almost anyone I can get eye contact with, whether **stranger** or friend, gets a smile. It is the most inexpensive gift I can offer, **regardless of** whether it is valued or not. It's a heart-felt **gesture** that could be the very thing someone needs to **make their day**. The **children** who participated **came** up with some **remarkable** ideas-everything from making a smile a commodity that **fetches monetary** rewards or other **tangible** benefits to **evoking** emotional points that deeply **resonated** with the **empathy** in me. **Given** that the contest was called "Pitch Perfect," the students **brought forth** many innovative concepts to make people smile, many of which revolved around technology. It was **fascinating** to imagine how new-age devices could inspire smiles, but I couldn't help **wondering**-do we really need tools and gadgets to smile? Can't we simply find natural reasons for it? Can't we create genuine moments that make people's eyes **crinkle** at the corners authentically?

As I waited for those ideas to **unfold**, I felt a gentle discomfort with the **implicit** belief that nothing happens these days without gadgets. But then came a few **gems** that **emphasised** the importance of **compassion**, **empathy**, and kindness as part of our daily lives-powerful ingredients for **sparkling** smiles. This is what I want the younger generation to **embody**-an attitude that encourages them to be better people each day, spreading smiles through simple acts of kindness, rather than relying solely on innovations.

I was deeply moved by what some of the children shared. When I asked one young participant what act of kindness he had done that day to make someone smile or **brighten** their day, his answer was simple yet **profound**: "I told my mother how yummy the breakfast was, and it made her very happy."

My **takeaway** from the experience **was** this: the new generation is competitive, full of energy to **beat the odds** and rise to the top in life. But it is also **brimming with humaneness** and **rationality**, qualities **nurtured** by the guidance of teachers, parents, and mentors. As they **navigate** the pressures of becoming super achievers, they still understand that the roots of happiness and peace **lie** in kindness and **compassion**. As is my habit, I **often** ask my students if they enjoy going to school and, if so, why. The answer I **invariably** hear is they like school not because of what they learn in class, but because of their friends. This sometimes makes me question my belief that schools and universities should be temples of learning-platforms for young minds to **ignite** and **soar**.

Their answer also makes me wonder if there's more to be desired in how we **mould** our students. Have we focused too much on **academic** excellence at the cost of **soul-nurturing** education? **Perhaps**

we need to spend less time teaching children skills to **thrive in** a competitive world and more time preparing them to be **compassionate, kind-hearted** individuals who bring joy to those around them.

This **competition**, with all its innovation and **spirited** energy, **reminded** me that the most profound **solutions** to making people smile often **lie** in the simplest of acts: a word of **appreciation**, a **compliment**, a smile shared.

As we look toward a future increasingly **driven** by technology, let's not **lose sight of** what makes us truly human. It's the little things that have the power to make the world a little brighter. **[Practice Ex.]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Sparkling** (adjective) – shining, glimmering, glittering, dazzling, radiant चमकदार
2. **Elocution** (noun) – articulation, oration, public speaking, speech, delivery वाक्चातुर्य
3. **Kindness** (noun) – compassion, benevolence, goodwill, generosity, warmth दया
4. **Thoughtful** (adjective) – considerate, reflective, pensive, attentive, contemplative विचारशील
5. **Privilege** (noun) – advantage, benefit, honor, prerogative, special right विशेषाधिकार
6. **Intriguing** (adjective) – fascinating, captivating, engaging, interesting, absorbing आकर्षक
7. **Reciprocate** (verb) – return, respond, exchange, repay, requite प्रत्युत्तर देना
8. **Stranger** (noun) – outsider, unknown person, newcomer, alien, foreigner अजनबी
9. **Regardless of** (phrase) – despite, irrespective of, no matter, notwithstanding, in defiance of के बावजूद
10. **Gesture** (noun) – sign, motion, indication, expression, action संकेत
11. **Make one's day** (phrase) – delight, please, cheer up, bring joy, gladden किसी का दिन बना देना
12. **Remarkable** (adjective) – extraordinary, notable, exceptional, outstanding, impressive उल्लेखनीय
13. **Fetch** (verb) – bring, retrieve, carry, collect, deliver लाना
14. **Monetary** (adjective) – financial, fiscal, economic, pecuniary, capital-related मौद्रिक
15. **Tangible** (adjective) – palpable, concrete, material, substantial, physical ठोस
16. **Evoke** (verb) – invoke, arouse, summon, elicit, awaken उत्पन्न करना
17. **Resonate** (verb) – echo, reverberate, connect, harmonize, strike a chord गूँजना
18. **Empathy** (noun) – understanding, compassion, sympathy, fellow-feeling, care सहानुभूति
19. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into account, bearing in mind, owing to, due to ध्यान में रखते हुए
20. **Bring forth** (phrasal verb) – produce, generate, create, present, propose उत्पन्न करना

21. **Fascinating** (adjective) – enthralling, captivating, engrossing, spellbinding, alluring मोहक
22. **Wonder** (verb) – ponder, question, marvel, think, speculate आश्चर्य करना
23. **Crinkle** (noun) – wrinkle, fold, crease, ripple, furrow सिलवट
24. **Unfold** (verb) – reveal, disclose, open, spread out, develop उजागर करना
25. **Implicit** (adjective) – implied, understood, indirect, unstated, unspoken निहित
26. **Gems** (noun) – treasures, jewels, valuables, pearls, precious items रत्न
27. **Emphasise** (verb) – stress, highlight, underline, accentuate, draw attention to जोर देना
28. **Compassion** (noun) – kindness, sympathy, empathy, mercy, pity करुणा
29. **Embody** (verb) – personify, represent, exemplify, manifest, incarnate प्रतीक बनना
30. **Brighten** (verb) – illuminate, lighten, cheer up, enhance, uplift उजाला करना
31. **Profound** (adjective) – deep, meaningful, significant, insightful, thorough गहन
32. **Takeaway** (noun) – lesson, message, main point, conclusion, summary मुख्य बात
33. **Beat the odds** (phrase) – overcome challenges, succeed against difficulties, triumph, prevail, surpass expectations विपरीत परिस्थितियों को हराना
34. **Brim with** (phrasal verb) – overflow with, be full of, abound, teem, burst भरा हुआ होना
35. **Humaneness** (noun) – kindness, compassion, empathy, mercy, consideration मानवता
36. **Rationality** (noun) – logic, reason, sensibility, practicality, coherence तर्कसंगतता
37. **Nurture** (verb) – cultivate, develop, foster, nourish, support पोषण करना
38. **Navigate** (verb) – steer, guide, direct, manage, pilot मार्गदर्शन करना
39. **Lie** (verb) – rest, exist, reside, be situated, be found स्थित होना
40. **Often** (adverb) – frequently, regularly, repeatedly, commonly, many times अक्सर
41. **Invariably** (adverb) – always, consistently, constantly, without fail, unfailingly हमेशा
42. **Ignite** (verb) – spark, kindle, set aflame, trigger, inspire प्रज्वलित करना
43. **Soar** (verb) – rise, ascend, escalate, climb, elevate ऊपर उठना

44. **Mould** (verb) – shape, form, influence, model, sculpt आकार देना
45. **Academic** (adjective) – educational, scholarly, intellectual, theoretical, pedagogical शैक्षणिक
46. **Soul-nurturing** (adjective) – uplifting, enriching, fulfilling, inspiring, comforting आत्मा को पोषण देने वाला
47. **Perhaps** (adverb) – maybe, possibly, conceivably, perchance, potentially शायद
48. **Thrive in** (phrasal verb) – flourish, prosper, succeed, excel, bloom उन्नति करना
49. **Compassionate** (adjective) – kind-hearted, empathetic, caring, considerate, merciful दयालु
50. **Kind-hearted** (adjective) – generous, warm-hearted, good-natured, benevolent, caring नेकदिल
51. **Spirited** (adjective) – energetic, lively, enthusiastic, vigorous, dynamic जोशीला
52. **Appreciation** (noun) – gratitude, recognition, acknowledgment, valuation, praise सराहना
53. **Compliment** (noun) – praise, flattery, commendation, acknowledgment, tribute प्रशंसा
54. **Drive** (verb) – propel, motivate, lead, push, guide प्रेरित करना
55. **Lose sight of** (phrase) – forget, overlook, neglect, disregard, fail to notice ध्यान से हटना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Competition Theme:** The elocution competition for children revolved around the theme "The Perfect Solution to Make People Smile More," offering a thoughtful and heartwarming topic.
2. **Personal Connection:** The author, a habitual smiler, found the subject personally meaningful and close to their heart.
3. **Power of Smiling:** The author emphasized the smile as a cost-free, heartfelt gesture capable of brightening someone's day.
4. **Innovative Ideas:** The young participants presented creative ideas, including tech-based solutions like gadgets that encourage smiling or reward it with tangible benefits.
5. **Tech Dependency:** The author questioned the increasing reliance on technology for something as natural as smiling and pondered whether genuine human connections are being overlooked.
6. **Timeless Acts of Kindness:** A few children highlighted the importance of empathy, compassion, and kindness as essential elements for sparking smiles.
7. **Simple Gestures Matter:** One child's act of appreciating his mother's breakfast illustrated how small, thoughtful gestures can spread joy.
8. **Generational Observations:** The younger generation, while ambitious and competitive, also embodies humaneness, rationality, and empathy under proper guidance.
9. **Friendship vs. Academics:** Children often find happiness in friendships at school, suggesting that emotional bonds matter as much as academic pursuits.
10. **Education's Purpose:** The author questioned whether the current education system focuses excessively on academic success at the expense of nurturing kindness and compassion.
11. **Focus on Humanity:** There's a need to prepare students to be compassionate and kind individuals, alongside equipping them with competitive skills.
12. **Lessons from the Competition:** The competition highlighted that the most profound ways to bring smiles often lie in the simplest acts of kindness.
13. **Technology vs. Human Connection:** The author stressed the importance of balancing technological advancements with preserving human touch and emotional connections.
14. **Value of Small Actions:** Simple actions like giving compliments, appreciating others, or sharing a genuine smile can significantly impact happiness.
15. **A Reminder for the Future:** The editorial concluded with a call to cherish the little things that make us human and to nurture compassion and kindness in an increasingly technology-driven world.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial page]

1. **What is the overall tone of the passage?**
 - A. Nostalgic and regretful
 - B. Reflective and encouraging
 - C. Harsh and critical
 - D. Comedic and frivolous
2. **Based on the author's reflection, which of the following can be inferred about their view on using technology to make people smile?**
 - A. The author values technology but prioritizes compassion and simple acts of kindness
 - B. The author believes technology alone is sufficient to foster genuine human connection.
 - C. The author thinks technology has no role in making people smile.
 - D. The author discourages young people from engaging with any gadgets.
3. **According to the passage, why do students say they enjoy going to school?**
 - A. They find the teaching methods highly innovative.
 - B. They appreciate the stringent academic standards.
 - C. They love spending time with their friends.
 - D. They enjoy the variety of gadgets available at school.
4. **According to the passage, why does the author express discomfort with the belief that nothing happens without gadgets?**
 - i. The author believes reliance on technology diminishes the value of natural human connection.
 - ii. The author feels that genuine moments of happiness are possible without the use of tools and gadgets.
 - iii. The author is skeptical about the younger generation's ability to innovate without gadgets.
 - iv. The author worries that gadgets are more powerful than acts of kindness in creating smiles.
 - A. i and ii only
 - B. i and iii only
 - C. ii, iii, and iv only
 - D. i, ii, iii, and iv
5. **Based on the passage, what were the author's main takeaways from the children's elocution competition?**
 - i. The new generation possesses a balance of competitiveness and humaneness.
 - ii. Kindness and empathy are powerful tools for creating happiness.
 - iii. The reliance on gadgets for happiness should be entirely discouraged.
 - iv. Schools and universities need to focus more on nurturing compassion rather than academic success.
 - A. i, ii, and iv only
 - B. i, ii, and iii only

- C. ii and iv only
D. i, iii, and iv only
6. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**
If things were not going to be normal / after the pandemic, mankind will / have to accept the New Normal
- A. after the pandemic, mankind will
B. have to accept the New Normal
C. If things were not going to be normal
D. no error
7. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
Let me buy an expensive bag for my friend.
- A. I request you to buy an expensive bag for my friend.
B. An excessive bag will be bought by me for my friend.
C. Let an expensive bag was bought by me for my friend.
D. Let an expensive bag be bought by me for my friend.
8. **Select the most appropriate idiom/phrase that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
Your career is now Competely obsolete
- A. moving like a worm
B. as dead as a doornail
C. dead even
D. hanging by a thread
9. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined word in the given sentence.**
Arthur has some strange ideas, but on this occasion, I am inclined to agree with him.
- A. tended
B. conflicted
C. refused
D. Conspired
10. **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. Water gives itself away for our agriculture and other uses.
B. Trees give flowers, fruits and wood.
C. Giving soothes an individual with the vibration of joy.
D. Unconditional giving is a natural principle and evident everywhere in nature which gives us solid, liquids and minerals.
- A. ACDB
B. CDAB
C. CBDA
D. BDCA

11. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined word in the following sentence.**

During the wedding ceremony, the bride seemed even quieter and more diffident than usual

- A. Showing lack of interest
 - B. Bold in others' company
 - C. Giving a false or misleading impression
 - D. Shy due to lack of confidence
12. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution'.**

While he saw the bear, he ran to the nearest tree, dropped his gun and climbed to a safe place.

- A. When he saw the bear
 - B. No substitution
 - C. No sooner did he see
 - D. Hardly he saw the bear
13. **Select the most appropriate one-word substitution of the given group of words.**
Capable of or adapted for turning easily from one to another of various tasks, fields of endeavour, etc. and is able to do many things.

- A. Versatile
 - B. Turncoat
 - C. Talented
 - D. Flexible
14. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the word given in the bracket to fill in the blank.
There are _____ (definite) weaknesses in their security arrangements
- A. monotonous
 - B. Certain
 - C. subtle
 - D. Vague

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

This will be most difficult of/ the adjustments we have to make/ because we have been used to / spending a lot on guests.

- A. spending a lot on guests
 - B. the adjustments we have to make
 - C. This will be most difficult of
 - D. because we have been used to
16. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

The family has visit many parts of Europe when the man was working with an international educational agency.

- A. had visited
- B. are visited

- C. have visit
D. has visiting
17. **Select the correct idiom that can substitute the italicised group of words in the given sentence.**
My business partners thought that I would simply accept their cheating, but they will soon realise that *I am more powerful than what they expected.*
- A. damsel in distress
B. they caught a tartar
C. cutting a cloth
D. casting pearls before swine
18. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**
This is such a **rowdy** classroom.
- A. Compliant
B. Chattering
C. Disorderly
D. Noisy
19. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**
She will **probably** come tonight for a party.
- A. definitely
B. perhaps
C. apparently
D. Possibly
20. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Fierce
- A. Fanatic
B. Aggressive
C. Fraud
D. Gentle

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.

I went on (1) _____ trying to 'find out how to'; but I wrote two or three novels without feeling that I had made (2) _____ progress. It was not until I wrote 'Ethan Frome' that I suddenly felt the artisan's full (3) _____ of his implements. When 'Ethan Frome' first appeared, I was (4) _____ criticised by the reviewers for what was considered the clumsy structure of the tale. I had pondered long on this structure, had felt its peculiar difficulties, and possible awkwardness, but could think of no (5) _____ which would serve as well in the given case: and though I am far from thinking 'Ethan Frome' is my best novel, and am bored and even exasperated when I am told that it is, I am still sure that its structure is not its weak point.

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

- A. steadily
 - B. playfully
 - C. ambiguously
 - D. Plausibly
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 2.**
- A. no sooner
 - B. barely
 - C. much
 - D. so
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 3.**
- A. dissent
 - B. stability
 - C. rigidity
 - D. Control
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 4.**
- A. selectively
 - B. severely
 - C. intelligibly
 - D. legibly
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 5.**
- A. adjudication
 - B. adulteration
 - C. alternate
 - D. alternative

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. B) Reflective and encouraging

The passage reflects on the author's experience at the children's elocution competition and the encouraging nature of their message about kindness, compassion, and genuine smiles. The writer takes a positive, hopeful stance, especially emphasizing simple acts of kindness and their importance for genuine happiness.

A: While the author does look back on the event, the sentiment is neither regretful nor deeply nostalgic. The tone focuses on lessons learned and hopes for the future, not on longing for the past or expressing regret.

C: The author does question over-reliance on technology, but the overall approach is gentle and reflective, not harsh or condemnatory.

D: Although the passage is light-hearted in places, it is not primarily comedic or trivial. The focus is on the meaningful impact of kindness, which gives it more depth and seriousness.

2. A) The author values technology but prioritizes compassion and simple acts of kindness.

Throughout the passage, the author acknowledges the innovation that technology offers but emphasizes that true happiness and connection come from acts of kindness, empathy, and compassion. Therefore, the author doesn't dismiss technology outright; rather, they stress balance and human values.

B. The author does not claim technology alone is sufficient. They specifically raise doubts about relying solely on gadgets for genuine smiles.

C. The author never says technology has no role; they merely question over-reliance on it.

D. There is no outright discouragement of gadgets; the author wants young people to use them wisely while maintaining empathy and kindness.

3. C) They love spending time with their friends.

The passage explicitly states that when the author asks students why they enjoy school, they answer it's because of their friends, not the classroom learning.

A. There is no mention that innovative teaching methods are the main reason they enjoy school.

B. The passage questions whether too much focus on academics detracts from "soul-nurturing" education; it does not say students enjoy academic standards most.

D. While technology is mentioned in the passage, the students do not cite gadgets as their reason for enjoying school.

4. A) i and ii only

i. The passage explicitly mentions the author's discomfort with the over-reliance on gadgets and their belief that this reliance undermines natural human connection.

- ii. The author questions whether we really need tools or gadgets to smile, suggesting that genuine happiness can come from simpler, natural moments.
- iii, which is incorrect. The author is not skeptical of the younger generation's creativity but appreciates their innovation and ability to come up with thoughtful ideas.
- iv, which is incorrect. The author does not believe gadgets are more powerful than kindness; they prioritize compassion over technological solutions.
5. **A) i, ii, and iv only**
- i. The author mentions that the younger generation is competitive but also filled with humaneness and rationality, making it a key takeaway.
- ii. The passage emphasizes kindness and empathy as key tools for spreading happiness, which the competition reinforced.
- iv. The author questions the focus on academic excellence and suggests more attention should be given to compassion and holistic development.
- iii, which is incorrect. The author does not advocate for entirely discouraging gadgets but questions over-reliance on them.
6. C) The part with an error is: If things were not going to be normal.
 'were' के बदले 'are' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence भविष्य की वास्तविक संभावना (Real Future Condition) को दर्शाता है। main clause में 'will' का प्रयोग किया गया है, तो 'if' वाले भाग में वर्तमान काल (Present Tense) रखना चाहिए
 "are" will be used instead of "were" because the sentence describes a real future possibility (Real Future Condition). When the main clause uses "will," the "if" clause should be in the present tense to indicate a likely future scenario.
7. D) Let an expensive bag be bought by me for my friend
8. B) The phrase "as dead as a doornail" accurately substitutes the underlined segment "Completely obsolete," suggesting that the career in question is completely inactive or irrelevant now.
- **Moving like a worm** (phrase) – implies slow progress, but doesn't indicate obsolescence. धीरे से बढ़ना
 - **Dead even** (phrase) – at exactly the same stage or moving at exactly the same speed बराबरी में
 - **Hanging by a thread** (phrase) – implies a situation is precarious but hasn't ended,. बहुत नाजुक स्थिति में
9. A) 'incline' का अर्थ है 'tend' जिसका मतलब है किसी विशेष दिशा, राय, या भावना की ओर झुकाव होना। इसलिए, उपयुक्त विकल्प है 'tended'.

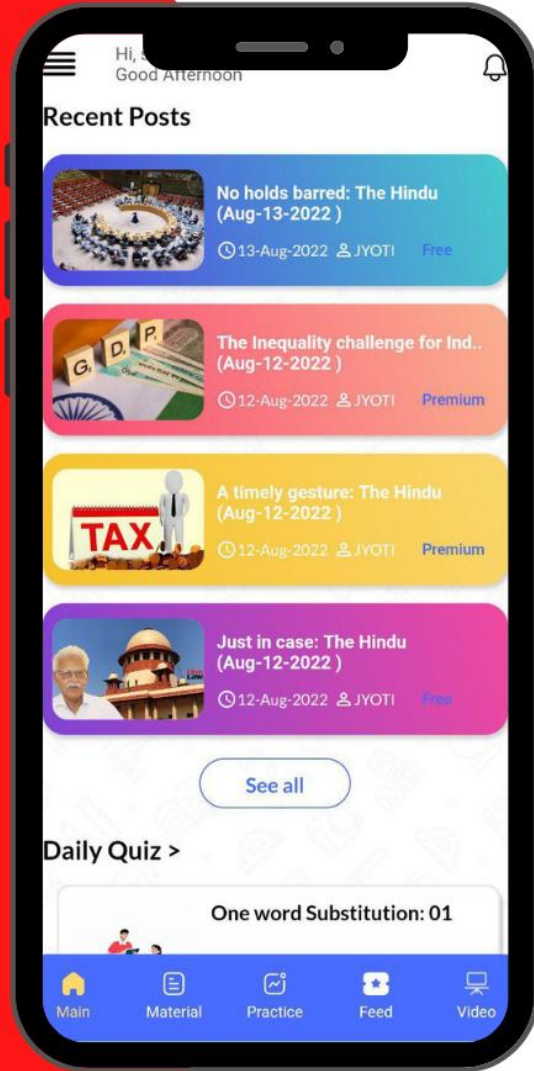
- **'inclined'** means 'tended' which signifies a particular direction, opinion, or feeling towards something. Therefore, the appropriate option is 'tended'.
10. B) **CDAB**
Giving soothes an individual with the vibration of joy. D. Unconditional giving is a natural principle and evident everywhere in nature which gives us solid, liquids and minerals Water gives itself away for our agriculture and other uses Trees give flowers, fruits and wood.
11. D) The word "diffident" in the sentence means "**shy due to lack of confidence. आत्मविश्वास की कमी के कारण शर्मीला।**"
12. A) **'While he saw the bear'** के बदले 'When he saw the bear' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य में एक ही घटना को बताने के लिए 'when' का प्रयोग अधिक उपयुक्त है
- When he saw the bear' will be used instead of 'While he saw the bear' because 'when' is more appropriate to describe a single event in the sentence.
13. A) **Versatile** (adjective) – Capable of or adapted for turning easily from one to another of various tasks, fields of endeavour, etc. and is able to do many things. बहुमुखी/ परिवर्तनशील
- **Turncoat** (noun) – a person who deserts one party or cause in order to join an opposing one. दलबदलू
 - **Talented** (adjective) – having a natural aptitude or skill for something. प्रतिभाशाली
 - **Flexible** (adjective) – capable of bending easily without breaking; willing to change or compromise. लचीला
14. D) D) **Definite** (adjective) – Clearly stated or decided, distinct, explicit. स्पष्ट
Antonym: **Vague** (adjective) – Not clearly expressed, stated, or defined, ambiguous, unclear. अस्पष्ट
- **Monotonous** (adjective) – Dull, tedious, repetitive, lacking in variety. एकसमान
 - **Certain** (adjective) – Known for sure, definite, assured. निश्चित
 - **Subtle** (adjective) – Delicate, elusive, not obvious. सूक्ष्म
15. C) C 'This will be most difficult of' में error है। 'most' के पहले 'the' का प्रयोग होना चाहिए क्योंकि superlative degree of adjective से पहले Article 'The' का प्रयोग होता है।
- Segment C 'This will be most difficult of' contains the error. 'the' should be used before 'most' because Article 'The' is used before the superlative degree of adjective.
16. A) **'has visit'** के बदले 'had visited' का use होगा क्योंकि 'when' Clause में verb 'was working' Past Continuous Tense में है अतः Main Clause में भी Verb Past Perfect Tense में होगा; जैसे— She had finished her work when I arrived.

- 'had visited' will be used instead of 'has visit' because in 'when' clause the verb 'was working' is in Past Continuous Tense, so in Main Clause also Verb will be in Past Perfect Tense; Like— She had finished her work when I arrived
17. B) **They caught a tartar** (idiom) – to confront or assault someone who proves to be unexpectedly formidable or resilient. ज्यादा शक्तिशाली व्यक्ति से सामना करना
- **Damsel in distress** (noun) – a young woman who is in trouble and needs to be rescued. आपत्ति में पड़ी हुई कन्या
 - **Cutting a cloth** (idiom) – this is not a standard idiom in English. Therefore, an equivalent meaning or translation is not provided.
 - **Casting pearls before swine** (idiom) – to offer something valuable or good to someone who does not know its value. भैंस के आगे बीना बजाना
18. A) **Rowdy** (adjective) – Disorderly, noisy, unruly, disruptive, tumultuous. उपद्रवी
Antonym: **Compliant** (adjective) – Willing to comply, obedient, submissive, conforming. आज्ञाकारी
- **Chattering** (adjective) – Talking rapidly and continuously, jabbering, prattling. बकबक करते हुए
 - **Disorderly** (adjective) – Lacking organization, chaotic, messy, untidy. अव्यवस्थित
 - **Noisy** (adjective) – Producing or characterized by much noise, loud, clamorous. शोरयुक्त
19. A) **Probably** (adverb) – In all likelihood or possibility, maybe, possibly, perhaps. संभवतः
Antonym: **Definitely** (adverb) – Without any doubt, surely, unquestionably, undeniably. निश्चित रूप से
- **Perhaps** (adverb) – Used to express uncertainty or possibility, maybe, possibly. संभवतः
 - **Apparently** (adverb) – As far as one knows or can see, seemingly, evidently. प्रतीत होता है
 - **Possibly** (adverb) – Perhaps, maybe, it's possible. संभवतः
20. B) **Fierce** (adjective) – Intense, strong, aggressive, ferocious. उग्र
Synonym: **Aggressive** (adjective) – Ready or likely to attack or confront; characterized by or resulting from aggression. आक्रामक
- **Fanatic** (noun) – A person filled with excessive and single-minded zeal, especially for an extreme religious or political cause. कट्टर

- **Fraud** (noun) – Wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain; a person or thing intended to deceive others, typically by unjustifiably claiming or being credited with accomplishments or qualities. **धोखाधड़ी**
 - **Gentle** (adjective) – Mild in temperament or behavior; kind or tender. **कोमल**
21. A) **'Steadily'** का use होगा क्योंकि "steadily" का अर्थ होता है निरंतर या लगातार किसी कार्य को करते रहना। जबकि 'Playfully' का अर्थ है मजाकिया ढंग से, 'Ambiguously' का अर्थ है अस्पष्टता से, और 'Plausibly' का अर्थ है संभावना से, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- **'Steadily'** should be used because it implies doing something continuously or without faltering. Whereas, 'Playfully' means in a jesting manner, 'Ambiguously' means in an unclear manner, and 'Plausibly' implies something that seems likely, which don't fit in this context.
22. C) **'Much'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "much" का अर्थ होता है बहुत अधिक। इस वाक्य में लेखक कह रहे हैं कि उन्होंने उपन्यास लिखे बिना अहसास किए कि उन्होंने बहुत अधिक प्रगति की है। 'No sooner', 'barely', और 'so' इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं होते हैं।
- **'Much'** should be used because it means a large amount or to a large extent. In the sentence, the author is saying they wrote novels without feeling that they had made a significant amount of progress. 'No sooner', 'barely', and 'so' don't fit in this context.
23. D) **'Control'** का use होगा क्योंकि "control" का अर्थ होता है किसी विशेष स्थिति या उपकरण पर पूरी तरह से प्रभुत्व प्राप्त करना। जबकि 'Dissent' का अर्थ है असहमति, 'Stability' का अर्थ है स्थिरता, और 'Rigidity' का अर्थ है कठोरता, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- 'Control' should be used because it implies having complete mastery over a particular situation or tool. Whereas, 'Dissent' means disagreement, 'Stability' means steadiness, and 'Rigidity' implies stiffness or inflexibility, which don't fit in this context.
24. B) **'Severely'** का use होगा क्योंकि यह शब्द आलोचना की कड़ीता या तीव्रता को दर्शाता है। जबकि 'Selectively' का अर्थ है चुनिंदा रूप से, 'Intelligibly' का अर्थ है स्पष्ट रूप से, और 'Legibly' का अर्थ है स्पष्ट लेखन में, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- **'Severely'** should be used because it denotes the intensity or harshness of the criticism. Whereas, 'Selectively' implies a choice-based approach, 'Intelligibly' means in a clear manner, and 'Legibly' refers to clear writing, which don't fit in this context.
25. D) **'Alternative'** का use होगा क्योंकि "alternative" का अर्थ होता है वैकल्पिक या दूसरा विकल्प। जब लेखक इस बारे में बात कर रहे हैं कि वे इस संरचना को बदलने का कोई अन्य तरीका नहीं सोच सकते थे, तो 'alternative' सबसे अधिक उपयुक्त शब्द होता है। 'Adjudication' का अर्थ होता है निर्णय,

'Adulteration' का अर्थ होता है मिलावट, और 'Alternate' का अर्थ होता है पर्यायी या बदलते-बदलते, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

'**Alternative**' should be used because it means another option or choice. When the author is discussing not being able to think of another way to change the structure, 'alternative' is the most fitting word. 'Adjudication' means a formal judgement, 'Adulteration' means contamination, and 'Alternate' means every other or changing in succession, which don't fit in this context.



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