

Stifling demand: On the MGNREGS

MGNREGS should not be **let down** by funding issues and wage delays

The **efficacy** of a welfare programme **is** directly proportional to the **enthusiasm** of the government implementing it. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) will soon be completing 20 years of its implementation. **The fact** that it has not only survived but also **thrived** under two **regimes** across multiple terms **suggests** its utility and popularity among the rural poor, though, under the National Democratic Alliance, the scheme has acquired a status of being an unwanted **necessity** after being seen initially as someone else's baby. But as the COVID-19 pandemic showed, the MGNREGS was a necessity and **vital in terms of** the **sustenance** it provided to both rural workers and **migrant labour** returning to their rural homes after the lockdowns were announced. And it is fair to say that it is now seen as "unwanted", as **allocations** in percentage terms of **consecutive** Budgets **have** reduced **substantially** since the pandemic (from 3.2% in FY21 to 1.78% in FY25 (BE)). Besides, despite the fact that the scheme is demand driven, **inevitably leading to** the allocation of additional funds beyond the budgeted expenditure, no extra allocation for MGNREGS has been made this financial year even as wages have been delayed and, due to this, demand also **suppressed artificially**. **Reportedly**, the Rural Development Ministry was short of ₹4,315 crore for the wages and the Centre has a **liability** of ₹5,715 crore against its share for material component of the works to be done under the scheme.

There are other issues with MGNREGS implementation that require attention — the need to adjust wages to inflation, and the issues **concerning** the **seeding** of job cards with the Aadhaar-based payment system, among others. But the **core** of the scheme remains the adequacy of the **allocations** made for it by the Centre. By **pruning** funds, the **purpose** of providing demand-driven employment **is** under-served and it is unfair to rural workers across the country who have used the scheme to **augment** their incomes, especially in the agricultural off-seasons. There has been much academic study **detailing** the **fruits** of the scheme — from helping the **destitute** to creating village assets such as irrigation canals, rural roads, and water conservation facilities. A demand-driven exercise such as this scheme also puts **disposable income** in the hands of the village poor and helps the rural economy. The **importance** of MGNREGS in a country still facing rural poverty **needs** no **elaboration**. The Union government must change its attitude towards the MGNREGS. A **substantial allocation** in the Union Budget, that is true to the demand for the scheme, **would** be a good start. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Stifling** (adjective) – suffocating, restrictive, oppressive, smothering, constraining बाधित करने वाला
2. **Let down** (phrasal verb) – disappoint, fail, betray expectations, neglect, abandon निराश करना
3. **Efficacy** (noun) – effectiveness, efficiency, potency, ability to produce results, power प्रभावशीलता / क्षमता
4. **Enthusiasm** (noun) – eagerness, zeal, excitement, passion, keen interest उत्साह
5. **Thrive** (verb) – flourish, prosper, grow vigorously, do well, succeed फलना-फूलना
6. **Regime** (noun) – government, administration, system of rule, authority, governance व्यवस्था
7. **Necessity** (noun) – requirement, essential, need, requisite, must आवश्यकता
8. **Vital** (adjective) – essential, crucial, critical, indispensable, important बहुत महत्वपूर्ण
9. **In terms of** (phrase) – regarding, concerning, with respect to, as far as something is concerned, in reference to के संदर्भ में
10. **Sustenance** (noun) – livelihood, nourishment, subsistence, support, maintenance जीवन-यापन
11. **Migrant labour** (noun) – traveling workers, itinerant workforce, immigrant labourers, migrating employees, mobile workforce प्रवासी मज़दूर
12. **Consecutive** (adjective) – successive, sequential, continuous, following in order, back-to-back लगातार
13. **Substantially** (adverb) – significantly, considerably, to a large extent, markedly, notably काफी हद तक
14. **Inevitably** (adverb) – unavoidably, necessarily, inescapably, bound to happen, certainly अनिवार्य रूप से
15. **Lead** (to) (verb) – result in, cause, bring about, produce, give rise to का कारण बनना
16. **Suppress** (verb) – restrain, stifle, repress, curb, hold back रोकना
17. **Artificially** (adverb) – unnaturally, synthetically, in an artificial manner, not genuinely, falsely कृत्रिम रूप से
18. **Reportedly** (adverb) – allegedly, supposedly, it is said, as per reports, as claimed कथित रूप से
19. **Liability** (noun) – responsibility, debt, obligation, financial burden, accountability देयता

20. **Concerning** (preposition) – regarding, about, relating to, pertaining to, on the subject of के संबंध में
21. **Seeding** (noun) – In this context, linking or integrating records (e.g., job cards) with a system (e.g., Aadhaar-based payment). डेटा या रिकॉर्ड को किसी प्रणाली के साथ जोड़ना
22. **Core** (noun) – essence, heart, central part, nucleus, crux मूल
23. **Allocation** (noun) – apportionment, allotment, distribution, assignment, share आवंटन
24. **Prune** (verb) – cut back, reduce, pare down, trim, diminish घटाना
25. **Augment** (verb) – increase, enhance, enlarge, amplify, boost बढ़ाना
26. **Detail** (verb) – outline, specify, elaborate, describe in detail, give particulars विस्तार से बताना
27. **Fruits** (noun) – results, outcomes, benefits, rewards, gains परिणाम
28. **Destitute** (noun) – impoverished individuals, the extremely poor, indigent people, needy, those with no means अत्यंत गरीब
29. **Disposable income** (noun) – Income remaining after deduction of taxes and other mandatory charges, available to be spent or saved. उपयोग योग्य आय (करों आदि के बाद शेष राशि)
30. **Elaboration** (noun) – explanation, expansion, elucidation, detailed discussion, clarification विस्तार
31. **Substantial** (adjective) – significant, considerable, ample, important, large पर्याप्त
32. **Allocation** (noun) – apportionment, allotment, distribution, assignment, share आवंटन

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Government's Role in Welfare Programs** – The success of a welfare scheme like MGNREGS depends on the government's commitment to its implementation.
2. **Longevity of MGNREGS** – The scheme has lasted for nearly 20 years, proving its relevance despite political transitions.
3. **Perception Shift** – Initially seen as an essential initiative, MGNREGS is now considered an "unwanted necessity" under the current government.
4. **Pandemic Validation** – During COVID-19, MGNREGS played a crucial role in providing financial relief to rural and returning migrant workers.
5. **Budgetary Cuts** – The scheme's budgetary allocation has significantly reduced from 3.2% of total expenditure in FY21 to 1.78% in FY25 (BE).
6. **Demand Suppression** – Despite being demand-driven, no additional funds have been allocated this year, leading to artificial suppression of demand.
7. **Wage Delays** – Workers are experiencing wage payment delays due to budget constraints, impacting their livelihood.
8. **Outstanding Liabilities** – The Rural Development Ministry lacks ₹4,315 crore for wages, and the Centre owes ₹5,715 crore for material costs under MGNREGS.
9. **Inflation-adjusted Wages** – MGNREGS wages need revision to match inflation, ensuring fair compensation for rural workers.
10. **Aadhaar-based Payment Issues** – The requirement of Aadhaar-linked job cards has created implementation challenges and payment delays.
11. **Impact on Rural Economy** – The scheme boosts rural incomes, especially during non-agricultural seasons, and contributes to economic activity.
12. **Creation of Village Assets** – MGNREGS helps build essential infrastructure such as irrigation canals, rural roads, and water conservation structures.
13. **Poverty Alleviation** – The scheme plays a key role in addressing rural poverty by providing direct employment opportunities.
14. **Government's Attitude Needs Change** – The Centre needs to prioritize MGNREGS rather than reducing its funding and neglecting its importance.
15. **Call for Higher Budget Allocation** – A substantial increase in the MGNREGS budget is necessary to align with its demand-driven nature and ensure its effectiveness.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial page]

1. **What best describes the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Indifferent
 - B. Critical and concerned
 - C. Lighthearted
 - D. Appreciative
2. **As per the passage, how much shortfall does the Rural Development Ministry currently face for wages under MGNREGS?**
 - A. ₹2,500 crore
 - B. ₹5,715 crore
 - C. ₹4,315 crore
 - D. ₹10,000 crore
3. **Why was MGNREGS particularly vital during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the passage?**
 - A. It was the only welfare scheme in India providing high wages to rural workers.
 - B. It offered a guaranteed return to urban areas for migrant labour.
 - C. It provided sustenance to rural workers and returning migrants after the lockdowns.
 - D. It focused exclusively on skill development for rural youth.
4. In the context of the passage, which of the following words serves as the best antonym for the term “stifling”?
 - A. Restrictive
 - B. Strenuous
 - C. Liberating
 - D. Overwhelming
5. Which one of the following statements is **true** according to the passage?
 - A. MGNREGS is a fixed, supply-driven scheme that limits employment opportunities based on government quotas.
 - B. Adequate funding and demand-driven allocation are crucial for the effectiveness of MGNREGS, helping rural workers especially in off-seasons.
 - C. The passage argues that MGNREGS benefits only urban infrastructure development, not rural areas.
 - D. There is no mention of academic studies that highlight any positive outcomes of MGNREGS.
6. **Identify the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence.**

BBC Media has shown exponential growth in their revenue this year.

 - A. revenue
 - B. year
 - C. exponential
 - D. media
7. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

- A. Fantastic
B. Expensive
C. Damaged
D. Forgetfull
8. **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.**
It is a common perception / that the rich sometimes / despise poor.
A. that the rich sometimes
B. It is a common perception
C. despise poor.
D. no error
9. **Select the option that has used the correct tense**
A. By the time we arrives at the party, they had been waiting for over an hour.
B. By the time we arrive at the party, they had been waiting for over an hour.
C. By the time we arrived at the party, they had been waiting for over an hour.
D. By the time we arriving at the party, they had been waiting for over an hour
10. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Searing
A. Mocking
B. Freezing
C. Pressing
D. Thrilling
11. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**
I have never seen so beautiful a landscape than this one.
A. than this one
B. so beautiful
C. a landscape
D. i have never seen
12. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
Prem is an excellent chess player. He is the _____ student of the class too.
A. intelligent
B. intelligently
C. more intelligent
D. most intelligent
13. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word in bold in the given sentence.**
He was so **enraged** at the article about him that he sued the newspaper.
A. Generated
B. Angered
C. Determined

- D. Enhanced
14. **Select the most appropriate idiom that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.**
His sudden resignation left the company in a very difficult situation and to have to make a hard decision as they scrambled to find a replacement
- A. with a silver lining
 - B. between a rock and a hard place
 - C. on cloud nine
 - D. in the dark
15. **Select the correct spelling of the underlined word in the given sentence.**
The weather was absolutley perfect for the outdoor event
- A. absolutly
 - B. absoultely
 - C. absoluttley
 - D. absolutely
16. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A post without any remuneration
- A. Bigot
 - B. Illegible
 - C. Honorary
 - D. Effeminate
17. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Meticulous
- A. Persevering
 - B. Exemplary
 - C. Regardless
 - D. Determined
18. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given phrase.**
Belonging or pertaining to an individual from birth
- A. Congenial
 - B. Congruent
 - C. Congregational
 - D. Congenital
19. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Boisterous
- A. Quiet
 - B. Noisy
 - C. Benevolent
 - D. Buoyant
20. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the highlighted group of words in the given sentence.**

The minister went to visit the monuments set up for people who were buried in other countries

- A. cemetery
- B. cenotaphs
- C. coffins
- D. graves

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.

Though people are becoming health-conscious these days, (1)_____ simple lifestyle habits they are prone to fatal diseases.

(2)_____ a new study published in 'The Journal of the American College of Cardiology', (3)_____ food more sparingly is linked to a lower risk of heart disease, heart failure, and ischemic heart disease. A significant risk factor for cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, is demonstrated to be correlated (4)_____ high sodium intake. As per the research, a person's individual sodium intake over time may be predicted by how (5)_____ they salt their food. It is found that people who do not put a little additional salt to their food very often had a much lower risk of heart disease event regardless of lifestyle factors and pre-existing disease.

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

- A. for
- B. because
- C. because of
- D. but

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

- A. According to
- B. According with
- C. Accordingly
- D. In according with

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

- A. salting
- B. salt with
- C. salt
- D. salted

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

- A. of
- B. with
- C. for
- D. in

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

- A. hefty
- B. soundly

- C. burly
- D. frequently

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) Critical and concerned

The passage criticizes the government's inconsistent funding for MGNREGS and expresses concern about its impact on rural workers. The overall sentiment is one of urgency, stressing the importance of robust support for the welfare scheme.

A: The author is not neutral or detached; they clearly express worry and criticism.

C: The passage is serious, focusing on funding issues and the welfare of rural workers.

D: Although it acknowledges MGNREGS's benefits, the passage is not praising the current approach but rather critiquing funding constraints.

2. C) ₹4,315 crore

C is correct because the passage explicitly states: "...the Rural Development Ministry was short of ₹4,315 crore for the wages..."

A is incorrect as ₹2,500 crore is not the figure mentioned in the passage.

B is incorrect because ₹5,715 crore is the liability for the material component, not for wages.

D is incorrect as ₹10,000 crore is not cited anywhere in the passage.

3. C) It provided sustenance to rural workers and returning migrants after the lockdowns.

C is correct because the passage highlights that MGNREGS offered crucial support to both rural workers and returning migrant labourers during the pandemic-induced lockdowns.

A is incorrect since the scheme is not characterized in the passage as the only source of high wages; it is a wage employment scheme but not uniquely high-paying.

B is incorrect because MGNREGS does not guarantee any return to urban areas; it provides employment opportunities in rural regions.

D is incorrect as MGNREGS is not solely focused on skill development; it is fundamentally a wage employment and rural asset-creation programme.

4. D). Liberating

Stifling in the passage refers to something that is suppressive or suffocating (e.g., "stifling demand"). The opposite would be something that frees or relieves, hence "liberating."

5. B) Adequate funding and demand-driven allocation are crucial for the effectiveness of MGNREGS, helping rural workers especially in off-seasons.

The passage clearly emphasizes that MGNREGS must remain a demand-driven program to support rural workers, especially in agricultural off-seasons, and that adequate funding is essential for its success.

A is incorrect because the scheme is demand-driven, not supply-driven with fixed quotas.

C is incorrect as the passage specifically states that MGNREGS helps create village assets such as irrigation canals, rural roads, and water conservation facilities, not urban infrastructure.

D is incorrect since the passage explicitly mentions there is "much academic study" detailing the positive outcomes of MGNREGS.

6. C) The correct spelling of '**exponenteal**' is '**exponential**', which means "increasing rapidly by successive increments or multiples" (अत्यधिक तीव्रता से बढ़ना).
7. D) The correct spelling of '**Forgetfull**' is '**Forgetful**', which means "failing to remember or recall things" "भूलने वाला"
8. C) 'poor' से पहले 'the' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि जब हम किसी विशेष वर्ग (जैसे- गरीब, अमीर, बुजुर्ग इत्यादि) की बात करते हैं तो सामान्य रूप से "the + adjective" का प्रयोग किया जाता है; जैसे— "The rich sometimes despise the poor."

'the' will be used before 'poor' because when we talk about a category or a class of people as a whole (e.g., the poor, the rich, the elderly), we use "the + adjective" to denote that group collectively; like— "The rich sometimes despise the poor."

9. C) **By the time we arrived at the party, they had been waiting for over an hour.**

'arrived' का प्रयोग Past Tense में होगा और साथ ही 'had been waiting' Past Perfect Continuous Tense में प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि वे पहले से इंतज़ार कर रहे थे और जब हम पहुँचे तो वह इंतज़ार की प्रक्रिया पूरी हो चुकी थी; जैसे—

"It was raining when I reached home. It had been raining for hours."

- 'arrived' should be in the Simple Past Tense and 'had been waiting' in the Past Perfect Continuous Tense to show that the waiting started before we arrived and continued until that past point; like—

"It was raining when I reached home. It had been raining for hours."

10. B) **Searing** (adjective): Meaning: Extremely hot or intense, scorching, blazing, burning. अत्यधिक गर्म, जलाने वाला, तीव्र।

Antonym: Freezing (adjective): Extremely cold, chilling, icy. अत्यधिक ठंडा, जमाने वाला।

- **Mocking** (adjective): Making fun of someone or something in a cruel way, derisive, sarcastic. उपहासपूर्ण, व्यंग्यात्मक।
- **Pressing** (adjective): Meaning: Urgent, requiring immediate attention, crucial, imperative. अत्यावश्यक, तत्काल।
- **Thrilling** (adjective): Meaning: Exciting, exhilarating, causing a sudden feeling of excitement or pleasure. रोमांचक, उत्तेजक।

11. A) 'than this one' के बदले 'as this one' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'so ... as' का प्रयोग Negative degree में Comparison के लिए किया जाता है; जैसे— I have never seen so beautiful a place as this one.

• 'as this one' will be used instead of 'than this one' because 'so ... as' is used for comparison in negative degree; Like— I have never seen so beautiful a place as this one.

12. D) '**Most intelligent**' का use सही है क्योंकि यहाँ sentence में Prem की तुलना पूरी class के सभी students से की गई है। जब comparison सभी से होता है और subject को सबसे उच्च स्तर पर दर्शाना होता है, तो superlative degree (most intelligent) का प्रयोग किया जाता है। 'Intelligent' केवल positive degree है और किसी तुलना को व्यक्त नहीं करता। इसलिए यह contextually और grammatically सही नहीं है। intelligently: यह adverb है, जबकि blank में adjective की आवश्यकता है, क्योंकि यह "student" (noun) को describe कर रहा है। more intelligent: यह comparative degree है और केवल दो entities के बीच comparison के लिए उपयोग होता है। यहाँ पूरे class के साथ तुलना हो रही है, इसलिए यह गलत है।

Most intelligent will be used because the sentence compares Prem with the entire class. In such cases, the superlative degree is grammatically correct and contextually appropriate. intelligent is incorrect because it is a positive degree and does not indicate comparison. intelligently is an adverb, while an adjective is required to describe "student." more intelligent is a comparative degree, suitable for comparing two entities, but here the comparison involves the entire class.

13. B) **Enraged** (verb/adjective) – Very angry; furious; infuriated. क्रोधित

Synonym: Angered – To make someone angry; to irritate or provoke. क्रोधित करना

- **Generated** (verb) – To produce or create something; to bring something into existence. उत्पन्न करना
- **Determined** (adjective) – Having a strong decision to do something; resolute or firm. दृढ़ निश्चयी
- **Enhanced** (verb) – To improve the quality, amount, or value of something; to make something better. सुधारना

14. B) **Between a rock and a hard place** (idiom) – In a very difficult situation and to have to make a hard decision (कठिन स्थिति में होना और कठिन निर्णय लेना)

15. D) The correct spelling of the underlined word '**absolutley**' is '**Absolutely**', which means "completely or without qualification; totally." (पूर्णतः, बिलकुल).

16. C) **Honorary** (noun/adjective) – A position held without salary or payment as a mark of honor. सम्मानित या मानद

- **Bigot** (noun) – A person who is intolerant towards those holding different opinions. कट्टरपंथी व्यक्ति

- **Illegible (adjective)** – Not clear enough to be read. अस्पष्ट या अपठनीय
- **Effeminate (adjective)** – A man having or showing characteristics regarded as typical of a woman; unmanly. स्त्रैण या नारीसुलभ गुण वाला

17. C) **Meticulous (adjective)** – Showing great attention to detail; very careful and precise. सूक्ष्म, अत्यधिक सावधान

Antonym: Regardless (adjective) – Showing no care or concern for something; not paying attention to details. लापरवाह, बिना ध्यान दिए

- **Persevering (adjective)** – Continuing in a course of action despite difficulty or delay. दृढ़, अटल
- **Exemplary (adjective)** – Serving as a desirable model; representing the best of its kind. उदाहरणात्मक, अनुकरणीय
- **Determined (adjective)** – Having made a firm decision and being resolved not to change it. दृढ़निश्चयी, निश्चित

18. D) **Congenital (adjective)** – Belonging or pertaining to an individual from birth. जन्मजात

- **Congenial (adjective)** – Pleasant and agreeable due to being suited to one's nature or taste. अनुकूल
- **Congruent (adjective)** – In agreement or harmony; compatible. संगत
- **Congregational (adjective)** – Relating to an assembly or gathering, especially in a church. मण्डली संबंधी

19. A) **Boisterous (adjective)** – Noisy, energetic, and rowdy; rough and unrestrained behavior. उदंड, शोरगुल भरा, उन्मुक्त

Antonym: Quiet (adjective) – Making little or no noise; calm, peaceful, silent, subdued.

शांत, चुप, शीतल

- **Noisy (adjective)** – Making or causing a lot of noise; loud and disruptive. शोरगुल करने वाला
- **Benevolent (adjective)** – Well-meaning and kind; compassionate, generous, charitable. परोपकारी
- **Buoyant (adjective)** – Cheerful and optimistic; able to stay afloat. प्रसन्नचित्त, उत्साहित

20. B) **Cenotaphs (noun)** – A monument set up for people who were buried in other countries. स्मारक

- **Cemetery** (noun) – A place where dead people are buried, usually not specific to those buried in other countries. कब्रिस्तान
- **Coffins** (noun) – A box or container in which a dead body is buried. ताबूत
- **Graves** (noun) – A specific place in the ground where a dead body is buried. कब्र

21. C) '**Because of**' का use होगा क्योंकि यह किसी क्रिया या स्थिति के कारण को स्पष्ट करता है। sentence का अर्थ यह बताने की कोशिश कर रहा है कि भले ही लोग स्वास्थ्य के प्रति जागरूक हो रहे हैं, लेकिन सरल जीवनशैली की आदतों के कारण वे अभी भी गंभीर बीमारियों के शिकार हो सकते हैं। 'For' का उपयोग कारण देने के लिए नहीं होता है, बल्कि यह अक्सर उद्देश्य या कारण बताने के लिए होता है। 'Because' एक conjunction है, जो clause को जोड़ता है, लेकिन यहाँ noun phrase 'simple lifestyle habits' है, जिसके कारण preposition 'because of' का उपयोग सही है। 'But' का उपयोग विरोधाभास दिखाने के लिए होता है, जो यहाँ उचित नहीं है।

'**Because of**' is correct as it explains the reason or cause of an action or situation. The sentence intends to convey that although people are becoming health-conscious, due to simple lifestyle habits, they are still prone to fatal diseases. 'For' does not indicate a reason directly but is often used for purpose or cause. 'Because' is a conjunction connecting clauses, but here the noun phrase 'simple lifestyle habits' makes the use of the preposition 'because of' appropriate. 'But' is used to show contrast, which does not fit the context here.

22. A) '**According to**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "के अनुसार" या "के मुताबिक।" इस sentence में, एक नए अध्ययन का जिक्र किया गया है जो 'The Journal of the American College of Cardiology' में प्रकाशित हुआ है। यह अध्ययन हृदय रोगों के जोखिम और खाने की आदतों के बीच संबंध के बारे में बात कर रहा है। इसलिए, यहां "According to" सही उत्तर है क्योंकि यह सही तरीके से संदर्भ प्रदान करता है। "According with" गलत है क्योंकि यह grammatically incorrect है। 'Accordingly' का अर्थ होता है "उसी के अनुसार" और यह एक क्रिया विशेषण (adverb) है, जो वाक्य में स्वतंत्र रूप से प्रयोग किया जाता है, इसलिए यह सही नहीं होगा। "In according with" भी व्याकरणिक रूप से गलत है क्योंकि सही संरचना "in accordance with" होती है।

'**According to**' will be used because it means "as per" or "in reference to." The sentence refers to findings from a new study published in 'The Journal of the American College of Cardiology.' Since the study is being introduced as the source of the information, "According to" is the appropriate choice. "According with" is grammatically incorrect. 'Accordingly' is an adverb meaning "in a corresponding manner," which does not fit here. 'In according with' is also incorrect as the correct phrase is "in accordance with."

23. A) '**Salting**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'salting' का अर्थ है भोजन में नमक डालने की प्रक्रिया, और यह वाक्य में एक gerund के रूप में इस्तेमाल हो रहा है। sentence में यह दर्शाता है कि भोजन में नमक डालने की प्रक्रिया को नियंत्रित करना दिल की बीमारियों के कम जोखिम से जुड़ा हुआ है। Salt' पदार्थ को संदर्भित करता है, जबकि यहाँ प्रक्रिया की आवश्यकता है। 'Salt with' का प्रयोग गलत है। Salted' एक adjective है, जबकि यहाँ gerund की आवश्यकता है।

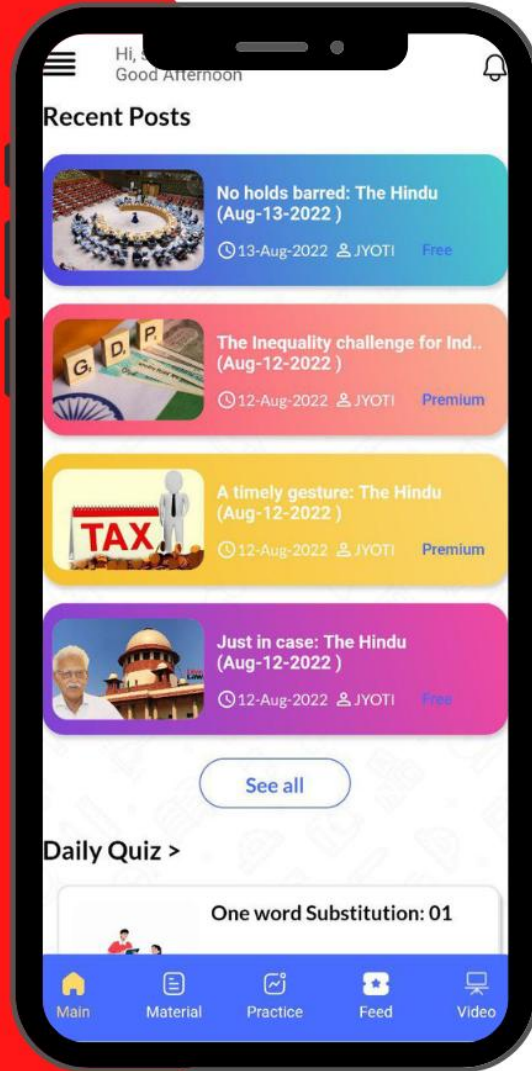
Salting' will be used because it refers to the act of adding salt and is functioning as a gerund (verb-noun) here. The sentence contextually supports the idea that the process of adding salt sparingly correlates with reduced heart disease risk. Salt **Wrong** because the sentence focuses on the action or process, not the substance. Salt with **Wrong** as it is incomplete and does not fit the sentence grammatically or contextually. Salted **Wrong** because an adjective is not required; the focus is on the process.

24. B) '**With**' का use होगा क्योंकि "correlated with" एक सही grammatical collocation है जो दो चीजों के बीच संबंध (सहसंबंध) को दर्शाने के लिए प्रयोग किया जाता है। sentence में कहा गया है कि उच्च रक्तचाप का सहसंबंध उच्च सोडियम सेवन के साथ है, इसलिए 'with' सही विकल्प है। जबकि 'of' स्वामित्व या संबंध को दर्शाता है, 'for' उद्देश्य या लाभ को इंगित करता है, और 'in' स्थान या समय के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

With' will be used because "correlated with" is the correct grammatical collocation to show the relationship between two things. The sentence indicates that high blood pressure is correlated with high sodium intake, making 'with' appropriate. Whereas 'of' signifies possession, 'for' denotes purpose or benefit, and 'in' refers to location or time, which do not fit in this context.

25. D) '**Frequently**' का use होगा क्योंकि "frequently" का अर्थ है "अक्सर"। sentence में mention है कि जो लोग अपने भोजन में अक्सर अतिरिक्त नमक नहीं डालते हैं, उनके हृदय रोग का जोखिम कम होता है। इस वाक्य में यह आवृत्ति (frequency) को व्यक्त करता है, इसलिए यह सही विकल्प है। Hefty" का अर्थ है भारी या बड़ा। यह वाक्य में नमक डालने की आदत को व्यक्त नहीं करता है, इसलिए यह गलत है। Soundly" का अर्थ है सुरक्षित या ठोस तरीके से। यह नमक डालने की आवृत्ति को व्यक्त नहीं करता है, इसलिए यह सही नहीं है Burly" का अर्थ है बलवान या शक्तिशाली।

'Frequently' will be used because it means "often." The sentence discusses how people who do not frequently add extra salt to their food have a significantly lower risk of heart disease. It appropriately conveys the idea of habit or frequency. Hefty" means large or heavy. This does not fit the context of the sentence as it does not relate to the frequency of adding salt. Soundly" means in a secure or thorough manner. It does not relate to how often salt is added Burly" means strong or muscular. This word is irrelevant in the context of adding salt to food.



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