

## Undermining federalism: On central funding, States and education

**Central funding** for States in education **should** be **delinked** from the NEP

By **withholding** Tamil Nadu's central share of Samagra Shiksha funds for rejecting the National Education Policy (NEP 2020), the Union Government is **flexing its muscles** to **coerce** States into **submission**. This move also **undermines** the **intent** of the Samagra Shiksha scheme (2018-19), which **consolidated** the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, and Teacher Education programmes. The scheme was designed to ensure **equitable** access to quality education for all schoolchildren. Since last year, Tamil Nadu has repeatedly **flagged** the **non-disbursal** of ₹2,152 crore, warning that the funding shortfall has severely **strained** its school education infrastructure, affecting nearly 40 lakh students and 32,000 staff members. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has **explicitly** blamed the State for the **impasse**, declaring that the funds will be released only if Tamil Nadu implements the NEP in "letter and spirit". **Adding fuel to the fire**, he has **insisted** that the State adopt the three-language formula, mandating Tamil, English, and a regional language in schools. This **stance disregards** Tamil Nadu's **long-standing** opposition to the **trilingual** system, **dating back to** 1937, and its **firm commitment** to a two-language policy of Tamil and English since 1968. Going a step further, Mr. Pradhan has **accused** Tamil Nadu's leadership **of** being **divisive** and politically motivated. He even suggested that the State needs to "**come to terms with** the Indian Constitution" and **adhere to** the "rule of law", **implying**, quite **unwarrantedly**, that the State was not being run **in line with** the **statute**.

Unsurprisingly, the **response** in Tamil Nadu **has** been **swift** and sharp, especially on the language issue, which remains non-negotiable for most political parties in the State. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has rightly questioned which constitutional provision **mandates** the three-language policy and warned that such **blatant coercion** will not be tolerated. While the NEP claims it does not "impose Hindi", **successive** Union Governments have, until now, respected Tamil Nadu's **autonomy** over its language policy. Policies governing subjects in the **Concurrent List** of the Constitution require **flexibility** and dialogue to ensure successful implementation across **diverse** regions. A rigid, **one-size-fits-all approach** risks undermining cooperative **federalism** and **fostering resentment** among States, which are equal **stakeholders** in central schemes. A more **pragmatic** approach would be to delink Samagra Shiksha and the Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme from the NEP and instead tie funding to **generic** performance indicators. At the same time, Tamil Nadu would do well to finalise and **roll out** its long-pending State Education Policy as a **viable** alternative to the NEP, ensuring academic continuity and stability for its students. [Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Delink** (verb) – Separate, Disconnect, Detach, Unlink, Decouple अलग करना
2. **Withhold** (verb) – Retain, Hold back, Keep, Refrain, Suppress रोकना
3. **Flex one's muscle** (phrase) – Show strength, Assert authority, Demonstrate power, Exert influence, Display dominance ताकत दिखाना
4. **Coerce** (verb) – Force, Compel, Pressure, Intimidate, Bully मजबूर करना
5. **Submission** (noun) – Surrender, Compliance, Yielding, Conformity, Obedience समर्पण
6. **Undermine** (verb) – Weaken, Sabotage, Erode, Damage, Destabilize कमजोर करना
7. **Intent** (noun) – Purpose, Aim, Goal, Objective, Intention इरादा
8. **Consolidate** (verb) – Strengthen, Unify, Merge, Combine, Solidify मजबूत करना
9. **Equitable** (adjective) – Fair, Just, Impartial, Balanced, Evenhanded न्यायसंगत
10. **Flag** (verb) – Highlight, Indicate, Point out, Mark, Signal चिह्नित करना
11. **Non-disbursal** (noun) – Non-payment, Withholding, Retention, Delay, Suspension भुगतान न करना
12. **Strain** (verb) – Stress, Overburden, Tax, Pressure, Overload दबाव डालना
13. **Explicitly** (adverb) – Clearly, Directly, Plainly, Unambiguously, Categorically स्पष्ट रूप से
14. **Impasse** (noun) – Deadlock, Stalemate, Standstill, Gridlock, Blockage गतिरोध
15. **Add fuel to the fire** (phrase) – Worsen, Aggravate, Intensify, Escalate, Provoke आग में घी डालना
16. **Insist** (verb) – Demand, Assert, Maintain, Urge, Press जोर देना
17. **Stance** (noun) – Position, Attitude, Standpoint, Approach, Posture रुख
18. **Disregard** (verb) – Ignore, Neglect, Overlook, Dismiss, Brush aside उपेक्षा करना
19. **Long-standing** (adjective) – Established, Enduring, Long-lasting, Traditional, Persistent दीर्घकालिक
20. **Trilingual** (adjective) – Three-language, Multilingual, Polyglot, Tri-lingual त्रिभाषी
21. **Date back to** (phrase) – Originate from, Trace back to, Begin from, Stem from, Go back to तारीख से शुरू होना
22. **Firm** (adjective) – Strong, Resolute, Steadfast, Determined, Unyielding दृढ़

23. **Commitment** (noun) – Dedication, Pledge, Promise, Obligation, Assurance प्रतिबद्धता
24. **Accuse** (of) (verb) – Blame, Charge, Indict, Allege, Implicate आरोप लगाना
25. **Divisive** (adjective) – Controversial, Polarizing, Alienating, Disruptive, Sectarian विभाजनकारी
26. **Come to terms with** (phrase) – Accept, Reconcile, Adjust, Adapt, Acknowledge स्वीकार करना
27. **Adhere** (to) (verb) – Follow, Abide by, Comply, Observe, Stick to पालन करना
28. **Imply** (verb) – Suggest, Indicate, Hint, Insinuate, Mean संकेत करना
29. **Unwarrantedly** (adverb) – Unjustifiably, Unnecessarily, Inappropriately, Baselessly, Groundlessly बिना कारण के
30. **In line with** (phrase) – Consistent with, In accordance with, Aligned with, Compatible with, Following के अनुरूप
31. **Statute** (noun) – Law, Regulation, Rule, Act, Legislation कानून
32. **Swift** (adjective) – Quick, Rapid, Fast, Immediate, Prompt तेज
33. **Mandate** (noun) – Directive, Order, Command, Decree, Instruction आदेश
34. **Blatant** (adjective) – Obvious, Flagrant, Glaring, Unmistakable, Shameless जाहिर
35. **Coercion** (noun) – Force, Pressure, Compulsion, Intimidation, Duress जबरदस्ती
36. **Successive** (adjective) – Consecutive, Sequential, Continuous, Ongoing, Repeated लगातार
37. **Autonomy** (noun) – Independence, Self-rule, Sovereignty, Freedom, Self-governance स्वायत्तता
38. **Concurrent list** (noun) – a list of subjects that are of common interest to both the Union and the State governments in India. समवर्ती सूची
39. **Flexibility** (noun) – Adaptability, Versatility, Adjustability, Elasticity, Openness मजबूती
40. **Diverse** (adjective) – Varied, Multifaceted, Mixed, Heterogeneous, Assorted विविध
41. **One-size-fits-all approach** (phrase) – Uniform approach, Standardized method, Generic solution, Universal model, Fixed strategy एक जैसा दृष्टिकोण
42. **Federalism** (noun) – a system of government in which power is divided between a central authority and various constituent units of the country. संघवाद
43. **Foster** (verb) – Encourage, Promote, Nurture, Cultivate, Support प्रोत्साहित करना
44. **Resentment** (noun) – Bitterness, Anger, Discontent, Grudge, Hostility नाराजगी

45. **Stakeholder** (noun) – Participant, Contributor, Partner, Investor, Shareholder  
हितधारक
46. **Pragmatic** (adjective) – Practical, Realistic, Sensible, Logical, Down-to-earth  
व्यावहारिक
47. **Generic** (adjective) – General, Universal, Common, Broad, Standard सामान्य
48. **Roll out** (phrasal verb) – Launch, Introduce, Implement, Begin, Start शुरू करना
49. **Viable** (adjective) – Feasible, Practical, Workable, Achievable, Sustainable व्यवहार्य

## Summary of the Editorial

1. **Withholding Funds:** The Union Government has withheld Tamil Nadu's share of Samagra Shiksha funds due to its rejection of the National Education Policy (NEP 2020).
2. **Coercive Tactics:** This move is seen as an attempt to coerce Tamil Nadu into implementing the NEP, undermining the State's autonomy.
3. **Samagra Shiksha Scheme:** The scheme, launched in 2018-19, consolidates key education programs to ensure equitable access to quality education.
4. **Funding Shortfall:** Tamil Nadu has flagged a ₹2,152 crore funding gap, severely impacting 40 lakh students and 32,000 staff members.
5. **Union Minister's Stance:** Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan insists on NEP implementation and the three-language formula for fund release.
6. **Three-Language Formula:** The Union Government's push for Tamil, English, and a regional language clashes with Tamil Nadu's two-language policy (Tamil and English).
7. **Historical Opposition:** Tamil Nadu has opposed the three-language formula since 1937, firmly adopting a two-language policy in 1968.
8. **Political Accusations:** Pradhan accused Tamil Nadu's leadership of being divisive and politically motivated, questioning its adherence to the Constitution.
9. **State's Response:** Chief Minister M.K. Stalin challenged the constitutional basis of the three-language policy and rejected coercive measures.
10. **Concurrent List:** Education is on the Concurrent List, requiring flexibility and dialogue for policy implementation across diverse States.
11. **Federalism Concerns:** The Union's rigid approach risks undermining cooperative federalism and fostering resentment among States.
12. **Delinking Funding:** A pragmatic solution would be to delink Samagra Shiksha and PM SHRI schemes from the NEP, tying funds to generic performance indicators.
13. **State Education Policy:** Tamil Nadu should finalize and implement its State Education Policy as an alternative to the NEP.
14. **Academic Continuity:** A State-specific policy would ensure stability and continuity for Tamil Nadu's students.
15. **Equal Stakeholders:** States must be treated as equal partners in central schemes, respecting their autonomy and diversity.

## Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial page]

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**
  - A. Neutral
  - B. Appreciative
  - C. Critical
  - D. Indifferent
2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
  - A. The constitutional provisions for a three-language policy
  - B. The conflict over NEP 2020 and its impact on federalism
  - C. The advantages of imposing Hindi in non-Hindi speaking States
  - D. The historical development of Tamil Nadu's two-language policy
3. **Based on the passage, which of the following inferences can be drawn about the Union Government's approach to Tamil Nadu regarding the National Education Policy (NEP)?**
  - A. The Union Government is using financial incentives to promote educational diversity.
  - B. The Union Government is employing funding leverage to compel NEP implementation.
  - C. The Union Government is constitutionally bound to withhold funds if NEP is not accepted.
  - D. The Union Government is ensuring full autonomy to States on language policies.
4. **According to the passage, approximately how many students in Tamil Nadu are affected by the shortfall in Samagra Shiksha funding?**
  - A. Nearly 25 lakh
  - B. Nearly 32 lakh
  - C. Nearly 40 lakh
  - D. Nearly 50 lakh
5. **Which longstanding policy has Tamil Nadu adhered to since 1968, as highlighted in the passage, and that conflicts with the NEP's three-language formula?**
  - A. A three-language formula (Tamil, English, Hindi)
  - B. A single-language policy (Tamil only)
  - C. A dual script policy (Tamil and Sanskrit)
  - D. A two-language policy (Tamil and English)
6. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

Call it a day

  - A. Stop working on something
  - B. Begin with an assignment
  - C. Name a particular day
  - D. Involve many people for a simple job
7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

His family lives \_\_\_\_\_ Mahu in Madhya Pradesh.

  - A. at
  - B. on

- C. of  
D. by
8. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below. While the first and the last sentences (S1 and S6) are in the correct order, the sentences in between are jumbled up. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
- S1. CV Raman's story begins in a village near Tiruchirapalli (known in his days as Trichinopoly) in southern India.
- P. When he was four years old, Raman's family moved to Vishakapatnam.
- Q. He was born on 8 November 1888, the second child of R Chandrashekara Iyer and Parvati Ammal.
- R. Chandrasekara Iyer was an athletic man and he took active interest in sports.
- S. His father took up a job there, as a lecturer in Mrs. AV Narsimha Rao College, where he taught physics, mathematics and physical geography.
- S6. His young son Raman was not physically very strong, but was very intelligent and he preferred to read books and work at his studies.
- A. QPSR  
B. SRPQ  
C. PQSR  
D. QPRS
9. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
- Abolish
- A. Assist  
B. Cancel  
C. Subside  
D. Worship
10. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
- Harish is clever than wise
- A. cleverest than  
B. more clever than  
C. clever as  
D. more cleverer than
11. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in indirect speech.**
- The patient says, "I am fine."
- A. The patient says that he will be fine.  
B. The patient says that he is fine.  
C. The patient says that he would be fine.  
D. The patient says that he was fine.
12. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
- I remember my mother taking me to the stadium.
- A. I remember being taken to the stadium by my mother.

- B. I was taken to the stadium by mother that I remembered.  
C. My mother remembered me taken to the stadium.  
D. I was remembered being taken to the stadium by my mother.
13. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the given sentence.**  
Huxley was an exponent of Darwin's theory of evolution  
A. Cease  
B. Terminate  
C. Proponent  
D. Conclude
14. **Select the most appropriate article(s) to fill in the blanks.**  
I was in \_\_\_\_\_ state of unconsciousness for about half \_\_\_\_\_ hour  
A. the ; a  
B. a ; No article  
C. a ; an  
D. No article ; an
15. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word to fill in the blank.**  
Allies have always come to his rescue in spite of his \_\_\_\_\_ attempts to defame him  
A. fellows'  
B. scholars'  
C. buddies'  
D. Enemies
16. **In the following sentence, a few of the spellings are incorrect. Find out the sentence with correctly spelt words from the given options.**  
He is wimsical by natur. No one can seek an explanation from him for his absurd atitute towards others.  
A. He is wimsical by nature. No one can seek an explanation from him for his absurd attitude towards others.  
B. He is whimsical by natur. No one can seek an explanation from him for his absurd attitude towards others.  
C. He is whimsical by nature. No one can seek an explanation from him for his absurd atitute towards others.  
D. He is whimsical by nature. No one can seek an explanation from him for his absurd attitude towards others.
17. **Select the most appropriate adverb to fill in the blank.**  
\_\_\_\_\_, I'm going to walk my dog.  
A. Annually  
B. Now  
C. Rarely  
D. Already
18. **Rearrange the jumbled words and choose the alternative that correctly matches the given sentence.**



I missed the \_\_\_\_\_ for the next.

usually / hour / which / for / board / had / wait / an / bus / I / and / to

- A. bus which I board and had to wait for an usually hour
- B. bus which I usually board and had to wait for an hour
- C. hour and had to wait for an bus which I usually board
- D. bus I usually board which had to wait for an hour and

19. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

- A. Intuition
- B. Instinctual
- C. Implusive
- D. Initiative

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

The rising rate of inflation is making life very hard for \_\_\_\_\_ poor

- A. the
- B. some
- C. all
- D. its

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

Dingy

- A. Pure
- B. Dreary
- C. Sterile
- D. Bright

**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.**

During active sleep, the body is still, (1)\_\_\_\_\_ the brain is active. The eyes dart back and forth behind closed lids, blood pressure (2)\_\_\_\_\_ and the breathing pattern speeds up. An EEG of someone during rapid eye movement sleep looks almost the same as the EEG of a person in the (3)\_\_\_\_\_ state, although one is still asleep and the body is still (4)\_\_\_\_\_. Rapid eye movement during sleep plays a vital role in harmonising the experiences we have in the world outside.

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

- A. neither
- B. therefore
- C. so
- D. but

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

- A. relaxes
- B. beeps
- C. stables

D. increases

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

A. sleeping

B. standing

C. waking

D. eating

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

A. conscious

B. immobile

C. performing

D. active

## Answers

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

**[Practice Exercise]**

## Explanations

### 1. C) Critical

The passage strongly criticizes the Union Government for coercive tactics against Tamil Nadu by withholding central education funds. The language expresses disapproval and concern over undermining federal principles, which reflects a critical tone.

A: The passage clearly takes a stance and criticizes specific actions; it is not neutral.

B: The passage does not praise the Union Government's approach; it criticizes it, so it cannot be termed appreciative.

D: The passage shows strong engagement and concern with the issue, not indifference

### 2. B) The conflict over NEP 2020 and its impact on federalism

The passage centers on how the Union Government's linking of central funds to the acceptance of NEP 2020 challenges federal principles, particularly affecting Tamil Nadu's autonomy in educational and language policies.

A: The passage does mention the three-language formula, but the main focus is on the broader federal conflict, not just constitutional language provisions.

C: The passage does not advocate imposing Hindi; it criticizes any coercion related to language policy.

D: While Tamil Nadu's two-language policy is discussed, it is part of the larger dispute over the NEP and federalism, not the central theme on its own.

### 3. B) The Union Government is employing funding leverage to compel NEP implementation

The passage indicates that the Centre has withheld Samagra Shiksha funds specifically because Tamil Nadu refuses to implement NEP 2020. This suggests that the Centre is leveraging financial resources to push compliance rather than allowing independent State-level decisions.

A is incorrect: The passage does not indicate that the government is offering incentives for diversity. Rather, it points to coercion, not promotion of diverse approaches.

C is incorrect: There is no constitutional clause requiring the Centre to withhold funds whenever a State declines the NEP. The passage emphasizes federal flexibility, not a legal mandate.

D is incorrect: The passage makes clear that the Centre is pressuring Tamil Nadu to adopt a three-language policy, which contradicts the notion of providing "full autonomy" to the State on language matters.

### 4. C) Nearly 40 lakh

The passage explicitly states that the funding shortfall has impacted nearly 40 lakh students in Tamil Nadu.

A is incorrect: The figure 25 lakh does not appear in the passage; it understates the impact.

B is incorrect: Although 32,000 staff are mentioned, 32 lakh is not the stated figure for affected students.

D is incorrect: The passage does not reference a 50 lakh figure; it specifically says "nearly 40 lakh."

### 5. D) A two-language policy (Tamil and English)

The passage points out that Tamil Nadu has firmly upheld a two-language policy (Tamil and English) since 1968, rejecting the introduction of an additional language.

A is incorrect: Tamil Nadu has always opposed a three-language formula, especially involving Hindi, going back to historical protests since 1937.

B is incorrect: The State's policy explicitly includes both Tamil and English, not Tamil alone.

D is incorrect: There is no mention of Sanskrit being used in Tamil Nadu's formal schooling policy; the passage specifically references Tamil and English.

6. **A) Call it a day** (idiom) – To stop working on something, especially when deciding to finish for the day.

It is used to indicate that the work or activity has come to an end for now. किसी काम को बंद करना

7. **A) "At"** का use स्थान के संदर्भ में किसी छोटे या विशिष्ट स्थान को इंगित करने के लिए किया जाता है। यहाँ "Mahu in Madhya Pradesh" एक विशिष्ट स्थान है, इसलिए "at" का उपयोग सही है। "On" का उपयोग सतह या किसी चीज़ के ऊपर स्थित होने को दर्शाने के लिए किया जाता है, जो इस वाक्य के संदर्भ में सही नहीं है। "Of" का उपयोग स्वामित्व या संबंध दिखाने के लिए किया जाता है, जो इस स्थिति में उपयुक्त नहीं है। "By" का उपयोग किसी चीज़ के पास या निकटता को व्यक्त करने के लिए किया जाता है, लेकिन यह यहाँ सही अर्थ नहीं देता। "At" is used to refer to a specific or small place. Here, "Mahu in Madhya Pradesh" refers to a specific location, so "at" is correct.. "On" indicates a surface or position over something, which doesn't apply here. "Of" denotes possession or association, which is irrelevant in this context. "By" expresses proximity or closeness, which is not the intended meaning in this sentence.

8. **A) QPSR**

$S1 \rightarrow Q \rightarrow P \rightarrow S \rightarrow R \rightarrow S6$

**S1:** This sentence introduces CV Raman and sets the context for the narrative.

**Q** follows **S1:** **Q** logically follows **S1** by providing basic biographical details about CV Raman's birth and his parents. It connects directly to the introduction in **S1**.

**P** comes next after **Q:** **P** progresses the narrative by mentioning a significant event in Raman's early life — his family moving to Vishakapatnam. This sentence builds on the timeline introduced in **Q**.

**S** follows **P:** **S** explains the reason for the move mentioned in **P**, specifically the new job taken by Raman's father. The use of "there" refers back to Vishakapatnam, creating a logical connection.

**R** comes after **S:** **R** provides additional details about Raman's father, elaborating on his personality and interests, which complements **S** by offering more context about the family environment.

**S6:** **S6** concludes the paragraph by transitioning back to Raman and highlighting his intellectual traits, contrasting with his father's athletic nature mentioned in **R**.

S1 CV Raman की कहानी शुरू करता है।

Q, S1 के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह उनके जन्म और माता-पिता के बारे में जानकारी देता है।

P, Q के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह उनके बचपन में परिवार के स्थान परिवर्तन का उल्लेख करता है।

S, P के बाद फिट होता है क्योंकि यह बताता है कि उनके पिता ने विशाखापट्टनम में नौकरी क्यों की।

R, S के बाद उनके पिता के व्यक्तित्व और खेलों में रुचि का वर्णन करता है।

S6, पूरे paragraph को Raman की शारीरिक कमजोरी लेकिन बुद्धिमत्ता के उल्लेख के साथ समाप्त करता है।

9. **B) Abolish** (verb) – To officially put an end to a law, practice, or institution. समाप्त करना  
Synonym: **Cancel** (verb) – To nullify, invalidate, or terminate something officially. रद्द करना
- **Assist** (verb) – To help, support, or give aid. मदद करना
  - **Subside** (verb) – To become less intense, severe, or active. कम होना
  - **Worship** (verb) – To show reverence or adoration, often towards a deity. पूजा करना
10. **B) "clever than" के स्थान पर "more clever than" का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि किसी व्यक्ति की दो विशेषताओं की तुलना करने के लिए "more + adjective + than" का प्रयोग किया जाता है। उदाहरण: "He is more intelligent than strong."**  
"more clever than" will be used instead of "clever than" because when comparing two qualities of the same person, we use the structure "more + adjective + than". Example: "He is more intelligent than strong."
11. **B) The patient says that he is fine.**  
Reporting Verb says Present Tense में है, इसलिए Reported Speech में कोई Tense परिवर्तन नहीं होगा। Direct Speech में First Person Pronoun I को Subject the patient के अनुसार Third Person Pronoun he में बदला गया है। Verb am को Present Tense में ही is के रूप में रखा गया है।  
Since the Reporting Verb says is in the Present Tense, there is no change in the tense of the Reported Speech. The First Person Pronoun I in Direct Speech changes to the Third Person Pronoun he according to the Subject the patient, and the Verb am remains in the Present Tense as is.
12. **A) I remember being taken to the stadium by my mother.**  
Passive Voice में वाक्य को बदलते समय Gerund Phrase taking me को Passive में being taken के रूप में बदला जाता है। Object 'me' को वाक्य की शुरुआत में रखा गया है। मुख्य क्रिया remember को अपरिवर्तित रखा गया, और 'my mother' को Passive Voice में 'by my mother' के रूप में रखा गया है।  
While converting the sentence into Passive Voice, the Gerund Phrase taking me is changed to being taken. The object 'me' is placed at the beginning of the sentence. The main verb remember remains unchanged, and 'my mother' is written as 'by my mother' in the Passive Voice. The phrase 'to the stadium' is retained at the end.
13. **C) Exponent (noun):** A person who supports or promotes an idea, theory, or cause; advocate, proponent, champion. समर्थक, प्रचारक  
**Synonym: Proponent** (noun) – A person who argues for or supports an idea or cause; advocate. समर्थक, पक्षधर
- **Cease** (verb) – To stop or discontinue something. बंद करना
  - **Terminate** (verb) – To bring to an end, finish, or conclude. समाप्त करना
  - **Conclude** (verb) – To bring something to an end, to finish. निष्कर्ष निकालना

14. C) first blank में 'a' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'state' एक singular countable noun है और यहां पर यह indefinite sense में है। second blank में 'an' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'hour' का उच्चारण vowel sound 'h' के silent होने के कारण 'अवर' की तरह होता है। अतः vowel sound के लिए 'an' का प्रयोग होगा।

In the first blank, 'a' is used because 'state' is a singular countable noun and is used in an indefinite sense here.

In the second blank, 'an' is used because the pronunciation of 'hour' starts with a vowel sound as 'h' is silent, making it sound like 'our'.

15. D) **Allies (noun)** – Friends, supporters, partners, people or groups united for a common purpose. मित्र, सहयोगी

**Antonym:** Enemies (noun) – Adversaries, foes, individuals who oppose or are hostile. दुश्मन, शत्रु।

- **Fellows' (noun)** – Associates, colleagues, people who belong to the same group or share an interest. साथी, सहकर्मी।
- **Scholars' (noun)** – Academicians, learned persons, or individuals involved in scholarly pursuits. विद्वान, पंडित।
- **Buddies' (noun)** – Informal term for close friends. दोस्त।

16. D) He is whimsical by nature. No one can seek an explanation from him for his absurd attitude towards others.

'wimsical' is 'whimsical', which means "playfully quaint or fanciful, especially in an appealing and amusing way" - कल्पनाशील.

'natur' is 'nature', which means "the inherent qualities or characteristics of someone or something" - प्रकृति.

'attitude' is 'attitude', which means "a settled way of thinking or feeling about something" - दृष्टिकोण.

17. B) **Now** सही है क्योंकि यह वर्तमान समय को दर्शाता है और वाक्य के संदर्भ के साथ मेल खाता है, जिसमें वक्ता कुत्ते को टहलाने की तुरंत की क्रिया का उल्लेख कर रहा है। वाक्य से स्पष्ट है कि यह क्रिया वर्तमान समय में होने वाली है। "Annually" का अर्थ है वार्षिक रूप से, जो कुत्ते को टहलाने के लिए प्रासंगिक नहीं है। "Rarely" का अर्थ है कभी-कभी या बहुत कम, जो वर्तमान में होने वाली क्रिया के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। "Already" का अर्थ है पहले ही हो चुका, जो वर्तमान समय में होने वाली क्रिया से मेल नहीं खाता।

The adverb "**Now**" is the most appropriate choice as it denotes the present time and aligns with the context of the sentence where the speaker is about to perform an immediate action, i.e., walking the dog. The sentence implies an action occurring in the present moment. "Annually" means something that happens once a year, which is illogical for walking a dog. "Rarely" means seldom or infrequently, which doesn't suit the present action being undertaken. "Already" implies an action that has been completed before now, which doesn't align with the idea of the action being about to happen.

18. B) I missed the bus which I usually board and had to wait for an hour for the next. usually hour which for board had wait an bus I and to

R starts the phrase with the noun "bus," which is the object that was missed.

- This introduces what was missed: the bus.

P follows R as it introduces the relative clause "which I usually board," providing more information about the bus.

- It tells us which bus was missed—the one I usually board.

Q comes next with the conjunction and verb phrase "and had to wait," indicating the consequence of missing the bus.

- This connects the actions and shows what happened after missing the bus.

O follows Q with the prepositional phrase "for an hour," specifying the duration of the wait.

- It completes the idea by telling how long the wait was.

19. C) The incorrectly spelt word is '**Impulsive**', and its correct spelling is '**Impulsive**'. हठी, जल्दीबाज़, असंयमी

20. A) **The** सही option है क्योंकि English grammar में जब हम किसी समूह का सामान्य रूप में उल्लेख करते हैं, जैसे "the poor," "the rich," या "the elderly," तो हम 'the' का उपयोग करते हैं। यह वाक्य में स्पष्ट है कि महंगाई गरीबों के जीवन को कठिन बना रही है, और यहाँ इसलिए है। गया किया उल्लेख से रूप सामान्य का "गरीबों" "the poor" सही है। 'Some': यह विकल्प गरीबों के केवल एक हिस्से या समूह को दर्शाता है, जो वाक्य के सामान्य अर्थ से मेल नहीं खाता। 'All': 'All poor' व्याकरण की दृष्टि से उपयुक्त नहीं है क्योंकि यह समूह को पूरी तरह इंगित नहीं करता है, और 'the' की कमी इसे गलत बनाती है। 'Its': यह व्याकरणिक रूप से गलत है क्योंकि 'its' एक possessive pronoun है और 'poor' को संशोधित नहीं कर सकता।

**The** is the correct choice because in English grammar, when we refer to a group of people in general, such as "the poor," "the rich," or "the elderly," we use the definite article 'the' to indicate that we're talking about the entire group as a collective noun. The context of the sentence indicates that the inflation is affecting "poor people" in general, making 'the poor' grammatically and contextually correct. 'Some': This would imply a part or subset of the poor, which does not align with the general implication of the sentence. 'All': While 'all poor' might seem grammatically acceptable, it lacks the definite article required to indicate the group of people as a whole. 'Its': This is grammatically incorrect, as 'its' is a possessive pronoun and cannot modify the noun "poor."

21. B) **Dingy** (adjective) – Dark and gloomy; dirty or discolored, lacking brightness or freshness. गंदा, मटमैला

Synonyms: **Dreary** (adjective) – Dull, lifeless, bleak, cheerless, gloomy. उदासीन, नीरस

- **Pure** (adjective) – Clean, free of impurities, uncontaminated. शुद्ध
- **Sterile** (adjective) – Germ-free, barren, unable to reproduce. बाँझ, बंजर
- **Bright** (adjective) – Full of light, shining, radiant, vivid. चमकदार

22. D) But' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि यह वाक्य में विरोधाभास (contrast) को दर्शाता है। वाक्य में कहा गया है कि "body still" है, लेकिन "brain active" है, जो एक विरोधाभास है। 'Neither' का अर्थ है "न तो" और यह उपयोग होता है नकारात्मकता व्यक्त करने के लिए, जो इस वाक्य में फिट नहीं बैठता। 'Therefore' का अर्थ है "इसलिए,"

जो किसी कारण और परिणाम को दर्शाता है, लेकिन यहां ऐसा संदर्भ नहीं है। 'So' का अर्थ है "इसलिए," और यह भी कारण और परिणाम का सुझाव देता है, जो यहां फिट नहीं होता। इसलिए 'But' सही उत्तर है क्योंकि यह "body still" और "brain active" के बीच का विरोधाभास दिखाता है।

But' will be used as it indicates a contrast in the sentence. The sentence mentions that "the body is still," but "the brain is active," which is a contradiction. 'Neither' means "not either" and is used for negation, which does not fit the context here. Therefore 'means' means "for that reason" and shows cause and effect, which is not relevant in this sentence. 'So' also implies cause and effect, which is not appropriate here. Thus, 'But' is correct because it highlights the contrast between "the body being still" and "the brain being active."

23. D) 'Increases' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "increases" का अर्थ है बढ़ना, और वाक्य में उल्लेख किया गया है कि सक्रिय नींद (active sleep) के दौरान, रक्तचाप (blood pressure) बढ़ता है। यह तंत्रिका गतिविधि और तेज़ सांस लेने के पैटर्न के कारण होता है। इस प्रकार, "increases" यहां सही विकल्प है। जबकि: 'Relaxes' का अर्थ है आराम करना। रक्तचाप आराम नहीं करता, बल्कि सक्रिय नींद के दौरान यह बढ़ता है। 'Beeps' का अर्थ है बीप की आवाज़ करना, जो रक्तचाप के संदर्भ में अप्रासंगिक है। 'Stables' का अर्थ है स्थिर करना। सक्रिय नींद में रक्तचाप स्थिर नहीं होता, बल्कि उतार-चढ़ाव करता है।

Increases' will be used because it means to rise, and the sentence mentions that during active sleep, blood pressure increases. This aligns with the brain activity and faster breathing pattern. Hence, "increases" is correct. Whereas: 'Relaxes' means to relax, but blood pressure does not relax during active sleep. 'Beeps' means to make a beeping sound, which is irrelevant in this context. 'Stables' means to stabilize, but blood pressure is not stable during active sleep; it fluctuates.

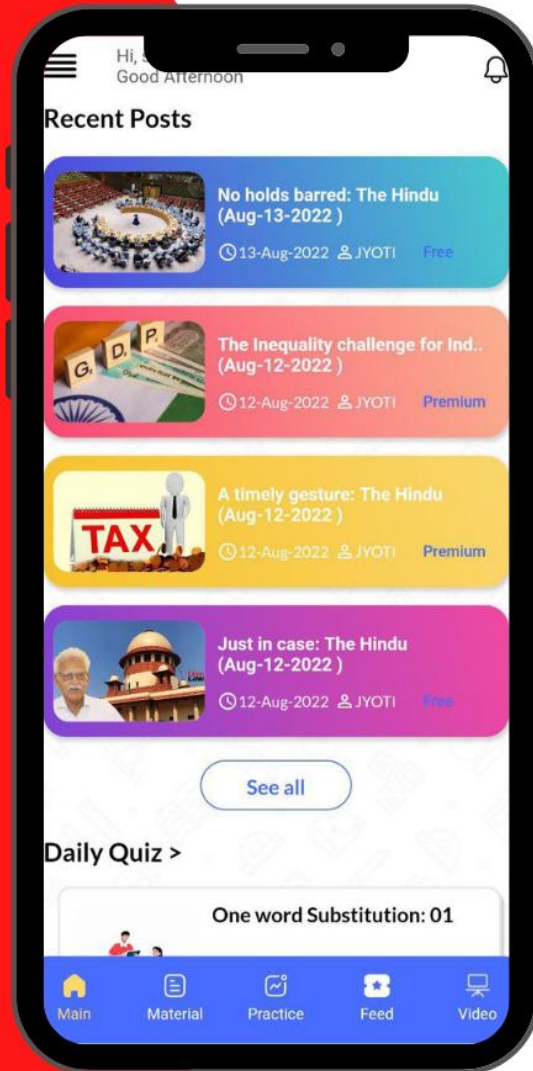
24. C) 'Waking' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "जागने की अवस्था।" वाक्य में उल्लेख किया गया है कि REM sleep के दौरान EEG "waking" अवस्था वाले व्यक्ति की EEG से समान दिखता है। यह बताता है कि दोनों अवस्थाओं में मस्तिष्क की गतिविधि समान है। इसलिए 'waking' सही है। 'Sleeping' का अर्थ है "सोने की अवस्था," जो यहां फिट नहीं होता क्योंकि तुलना जागने की अवस्था से की जा रही है। 'Standing' का अर्थ है "खड़े होने की अवस्था," जो EEG के संदर्भ में अप्रासंगिक है। 'Eating' का अर्थ है "खाने की क्रिया," जो यहां गलत है।

Waking' will be used because it means "the state of being awake." The sentence mentions that the EEG of someone during REM sleep looks similar to the EEG of a person in the waking state. Hence, 'waking' is appropriate. 'Sleeping' means "the state of sleeping," which is not suitable as the comparison is with wakefulness. 'Standing' refers to "the state of standing," which is irrelevant to EEG here. 'Eating' implies "the act of eating," which does not fit the context.

25. B) 'Immobile' का उपयोग सही है क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है 'अचल' या 'स्थिर', और यह वाक्य में वर्णित स्थिति को पूरी तरह व्यक्त करता है। वाक्य में कहा गया है कि शरीर अभी भी स्थिर है, इसलिए 'immobile' सही answer है। 'Conscious' का अर्थ है 'सचेत', जो यहां अप्रासंगिक है क्योंकि व्यक्ति सो रहा है। 'Performing' का अर्थ है 'प्रदर्शन करना', जो शरीर की निष्क्रियता के साथ मेल नहीं खाता। 'Active' का अर्थ है 'सक्रिय', जो इस संदर्भ में वाक्य के अर्थ को नष्ट कर देता है।



The word 'Immobile' is correct because it means 'still' or 'motionless', which aligns perfectly with the sentence describing the body's state. Other options are incorrect: 'Conscious' means 'aware', which is irrelevant here as the person is asleep. 'Performing' implies 'doing an activity', which contradicts the body's stillness in this context. 'Active' means 'engaged or moving', which distorts the intended meaning of the sentence.



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