

Closer than ever: On India-Qatar bilateral bonhomie

India and Qatar have **deepened** their **ties** despite **differences**

The **visit** of the Qatari Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, a **decade** after his last visit to India, **has led to a reaffirmation** of the deep ties between two countries. While they do not always share the same worldview, both countries recognise each other's importance on the regional and global stage. For Qatar, India is a globally connected power, maintaining a balance with all players in the West Asian region including Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Iran and Israel. Indian **expatriates** are often seen as the **backbone** of Qatari economic activity. For India, Qatar is a Gulf power, a huge source of **remittances** and a partner with a major geo-strategic role. Qatar also provides 45% of India's LNG needs, which **makes up** about half of the bilateral trade of \$15 billion between the two countries. While Qatar is home to a U.S. military base, which houses the U.K. and Australian air forces, it has also **hosted** groups such as the Hamas and the Taliban, and maintains ties with regional **militia** groups. In its recent decision to broaden its engagement with the Taliban **regime** in Afghanistan, the Narendra Modi government has **leaned on** the Qatari leadership. In addition, the Qatari Amir's **decision** to **pardon** eight former Indian naval personnel, **reportedly accused of** spying and handed the death **sentence** in 2023, **has** helped **forge** a closer understanding. It is **fitting** and long **overdue**, therefore, that after the talks in Delhi, India and Qatar decided to upgrade ties to a strategic partnership, **given** that India already has strategic partnerships signed with the Gulf Cooperation Council including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Kuwait. They also signed a double taxation avoidance agreement and MoUs in areas including sports and youth affairs. They agreed to double bilateral trade by 2030, and Qatar is to invest \$10 billion in India in **infrastructure** and manufacturing sectors and other areas.

While the joint statement and **readouts dwelt on** the bilateral bonhomie, the **geopolitical undertones** of their **summit cannot** be ignored. The Qatari Amir's visit comes **amidst turmoil** in the Gulf region over the Israel-Gaza conflict and U.S. President Donald Trump's **outrageous** plan to clear two million Palestinians from their homeland in the name of regional peace. Every country in the Gulf region has **voiced** its opposition to the Trump announcement, and New Delhi's relative silence has been noted. While the joint statement said that both sides **conveyed** their respective positions on the "Israel-Hamas issue", it did not **detail** those positions. As Arab, GCC and OIC members meet this week to discuss the challenge from **developments** in Gaza, the India-Qatar talks may have delivered the opportunity for both sides to **bridge that divide** between them, even as Delhi and Doha **committed to** a much stronger, **forward-looking** bilateral partnership. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Bilateral** (adjective) – Two-sided, Mutual, Joint, Reciprocal, Collaborative द्विपक्षीय
2. **Bonhomie** (noun) – Friendliness, Camaraderie, Warmth, Affability, Cordiality मित्रता
3. **Deepen** (verb) – Strengthen, Enhance, Intensify, Expand, Solidify गहरा करना
4. **Ties** (noun) – Relations, Bonds, Connections, Links, Associations संबंध
5. **Differences** (noun) – Disagreements, Disputes, Divisions, Contrasts, Variations मतभेद
6. **Decade** (noun) – Period of Ten years दशक
7. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, Cause, Bring about, Trigger, Produce वजह बनना
8. **Reaffirmation** (noun) – Confirmation, Reassertion, Renewal, Validation, Reinforcement पुनः पुष्टि
9. **Expatriate** (noun) – Immigrant, Migrant, Foreigner, Emigrant, Settler प्रवासी
10. **Backbone** (noun) – Foundation, Core, Pillar, Mainstay, Support मुख्य आधार
11. **Remittance** (noun) – Payment, Transfer, Sending, Dispatch, Consignment प्रेषण
12. **Make up** (phrasal verb) – Constitute, Form, Comprise, Represent, Account for बनाना
13. **Host** (verb) – Accommodate, Entertain, Welcome, Receive, Lodge आयोजित करना
14. **Regime** (noun) – Government, Administration, Rule, Authority, Leadership शासन
15. **Lean** (on) (verb) – Depend, Rely, Count, Trust, Bank भरोसा करना
16. **Pardon** (verb) – Forgive, Excuse, Absolve, Acquit, Clear क्षमा करना
17. **Reportedly** (adverb) – Allegedly, Supposedly, Apparently, Purportedly, Ostensibly कथित तौर पर
18. **Accuse** (of) (verb) – Blame, Charge, Indict, Allege, Implicate आरोप लगाना
19. **Sentence** (noun) – Judgment, Verdict, Ruling, Decree, Punishment सजा
20. **Forge** (verb) – Create, Build, Develop, Establish, Shape बनाना
21. **Fitting** (adjective) – Appropriate, Suitable, Proper, Apt, Right उचित
22. **Overdue** (adjective) – Late, Delayed, Belated, Tardy, अतिदेय
23. **Given** (preposition) – Considering, Taking into account, In view of, Bearing in mind, Regarding देखते हुए

24. **Infrastructure** (noun) – Framework, Structure, Foundation, System, Setup
अवसंरचना
25. **Readout** (noun) – Summary, Report, Briefing, Statement, Outline सारांश
26. **Dwell on** (phrasal verb) – Focus on, Emphasize, Elaborate, Discuss, Expound
विस्तार से बताना
27. **Geopolitical** (adjective) – Political, Strategic, Global, International, Diplomatic
भू-राजनीतिक
28. **Undertone** (noun) – Implication, Hint, Suggestion, Nuance, Subtext संकेत
29. **Summit** (noun) – Meeting, Conference, Assembly, Gathering, Talks शिखर सम्मेलन
30. **Amidst** (preposition) – During, In the middle of, Among, Amid, Surrounded by के बीच
31. **Turmoil** (noun) – Chaos, Disorder, Upheaval, Confusion, Instability उथल-पुथल
32. **Outrageous** (adjective) – Shocking, Appalling, Disgraceful, Scandalous, Unacceptable अपमानजनक
33. **Voice** (verb) – Express, Articulate, State, Declare, Communicate व्यक्त करना
34. **Convey** (verb) – Communicate, Express, Transmit, Impart, Relay संप्रेषित करना/ सूचित करना
35. **Detail** (verb) – Specify, Elaborate, Describe, Outline, Explain विस्तार से बताना
36. **Development** (noun) – Event, happening, occurrence, change, incident, stage घटनाक्रम
37. **Bridge the divide** (phrase) – Reconcile, Unite, Connect, Mend, Heal मतभेद दूर करना
38. **Committed** (adjective) – Dedicated, Devoted, Loyal, Pledged, Engaged प्रतिबद्ध
39. **Forward-looking** (adjective) – Progressive, Innovative, Visionary, Ambitious, Futuristic प्रगतिशील

Summary of the Editorial

1. **High-level visit after a decade:** The Qatari Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, visited India a decade after his last trip, underscoring a renewed momentum in bilateral ties.
2. **Reaffirmation of deep ties:** India and Qatar reaffirmed their enduring relationship despite not always sharing the same worldview, recognizing each other's strategic importance.
3. **Mutual recognition of importance:** Qatar sees India as a globally connected power balancing its ties in West Asia; India views Qatar as a crucial Gulf partner with significant geo-strategic influence.
4. **Indian expatriate backbone:** The large Indian diaspora in Qatar plays a vital role in the Qatari economy, contributing to remittances back to India.
5. **Energy security link:** Qatar provides 45% of India's LNG needs, forming a key component of bilateral trade, which stands at about \$15 billion.
6. **Major U.S. military base:** Qatar hosts a U.S. military base (including British and Australian air forces), reflecting its strategic importance in regional security.
7. **Engagement with diverse regional actors:** Doha maintains ties with groups like Hamas and the Taliban and balances relationships with various regional militia and countries.
8. **India leaning on Qatari mediation:** New Delhi has increased its engagement with the Taliban regime in Afghanistan through Qatari mediation, showing the depth of trust in Doha's diplomatic outreach.
9. **Pardon of Indian naval personnel:** The Qatari Amir's decision to pardon eight former Indian naval officers, accused of espionage, fostered greater goodwill between the two nations.
10. **Upgraded ties to a strategic partnership:** Recognizing the strong relationship, India and Qatar have decided to raise their ties to a strategic partnership—a step similar to India's ties with other GCC countries.
11. **New agreements and MoUs:** Both sides signed a double taxation avoidance agreement and MoUs in sports, youth affairs, and other domains to bolster cooperation.
12. **Plan to double trade:** India and Qatar aim to double bilateral trade by 2030, reflecting a clear vision for expansive economic engagement.
13. **Qatari investment in India:** Qatar plans to invest \$10 billion in India, targeting infrastructure, manufacturing, and other strategic sectors.
14. **Geopolitical context:** The summit took place amidst tensions in the Gulf over the Israel-Gaza conflict, which has drawn strong reactions from countries across the region.
15. **Bridging differences:** While each side maintains its own stance on West Asian conflicts, the India-Qatar talks offered a chance to reconcile viewpoints and advance a more robust, future-focused partnership.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial Page]

1. **Which of the following statements are correct based on the passage?**
 - i. Qatar provides 45% of India's LNG needs, accounting for nearly half of the current bilateral trade of \$15 billion.
 - ii. India and Qatar signed a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement and MoUs in sports and youth affairs.
 - iii. India has no existing strategic partnerships with other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries apart from Qatar.
 - iv. India and Qatar agreed to double their bilateral trade by 2030 and plan to invest \$10 billion in Indian infrastructure and manufacturing.
 - A. i, ii, and iv only
 - B. i and iv only
 - C. i and ii only
 - D. i, ii, iii, and iv
2. **Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage about India's foreign policy in the Gulf region?**
 - A. India maintains a strict policy of isolation from West Asian nations.
 - B. India only values its relationship with Qatar for economic reasons.
 - C. India strives to balance relationships with multiple stakeholders in the West Asian region.
 - D. India relies entirely on the U.S. military base in Qatar for strategic interests.
3. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word based on the context of the passage:**

After their discussions in Delhi, India and Qatar decided to _____ their ties to a strategic partnership.

 - A. downgrade
 - B. dismiss
 - C. upgrade
 - D. abandon
4. In the sentence, "While the joint statement and readouts dwelt on the bilateral bonhomie, the geopolitical undertones of their summit cannot be ignored," the word **bonhomie** most closely means:
 - A. hostility
 - B. complexity
 - C. cordiality
 - D. caution
5. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. A critique of Western military interventions in West Asia
 - B. Growing tensions between India and Qatar over trade
 - C. Detailed biography of the Qatari Amir

- D. Strengthening India-Qatar ties amid regional geopolitical complexities
6. **Select the appropriate option that can substitute the underlined word in the following sentence to make it grammatically correct.**
Only the beautiful painting is to be displayed in the exhibition
- A. the most beautiful
B. beautiful
C. the much beautiful
D. more beautiful
7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blanks.**
His dog did not _____ when thieves were slashing the _____ of his precious tree.
- A. stem
B. shout
C. bark
D. claw
8. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
We / enjoyed lunch / he gave / us.
- A. enjoyed lunch
B. We
C. he gave
D. us
9. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**
The meteorological department predicted heavy rain over the coming days
- A. Light
B. Plentiful
C. Drizzly
D. Rare
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
He couldn't attend the meeting _____ he was sick
- A. so
B. because
C. although
D. but
11. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
Exactly the same words as were used originally
- A. Verbatim
B. Precise
C. Factual
D. Ornate
12. **Select the sentence that has a grammatical error.**
A. I have a lot of work to complete.

- B. A young boy offered her his seat.
C. I wish I had eraser to erase all the mistakes in my life.
D. This is a very difficult task to accomplish.
13. **Select the option that rectifies the underlined spelling error.**
The impacts of climate change on different sectors of society are interelated.
- A. interrilated
B. interrelated
C. enterrelated
D. interrelated
14. **Select the correctly spelt word to fill in the blank and make the sentence meaningful.**
Sheetal has been studying engineering for five years, _____ countless hours to her coursework
- A. daidicating
B. deddicating
C. dedicating
D. dedecating
15. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
If you don't have a lump sum to _____ in a fixed deposit, you can surely opt for a long-term recurring deposit.
- A. draw
B. publish
C. gather
D. invest
16. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Proficient
- A. Accomplished
B. Recalcitrant
C. Glamorous
D. Callous
17. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Fatigued
- A. Tired
B. Furious
C. Tricky
D. Famous
18. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A person or entity that is unable to pay debts
- A. Insolvent
B. Busted
C. Insurgent
D. Recluse

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

Rahul speaks fluently English / although he makes / quite a lot of mistakes /while writing.

- A. quite a lot of mistakes
 - B. although he makes
 - C. rahul speaks fluently English
 - D. while writing
20. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

Despite their differences, the counties found common ground and buried the hatchet.

- A. To continue a conflict
- B. To disagree publicly
- C. To settle a dispute peacefully
- D. To seek revenge in the future

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.

Sniffer dog Tucker uses (1)_____ nose to help researchers find out why a killer whale population off the northwest coast of the United States is (2)_____ the decline. He searches for whale faeces floating on the surface of the water, which are then collected for examination. He is one of the elite team members of detection dogs used by scientists studying a (3)_____ of species including right whales and killer whales. Conservation canines are fast becoming indispensable tools for biologists according to Aimee Hurt, associate director and co-founder of Working Dogs for Conservation, (4)_____ in Three Forks, Montana.

Over the last few years, though, so many new conservation dog projects have sprung up that Hurt can no (5) _____ keep track of them all. Her organisation's dogs and their handlers are fully booked to assist field researchers into 2012.

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

- A. his
- B. her
- C. him
- D. its

22. Choose the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 2.

- A. at
- B. on
- C. off
- D. after

23. Choose the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 3.

- A. number
- B. division
- C. cacophony

D. cadre

24. **Choose the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 4.**

A. living

B. rested

C. surviving

D. based

25. **Choose the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 5**

A. lesser

B. shorter

C. moreover

D. longer

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. A) i, ii, and iv only

(i) is correct: The passage explicitly states that Qatar supplies 45% of India's LNG requirements, which forms about half of the \$15 billion bilateral trade.

(ii) is correct: The passage mentions India and Qatar signed a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement and MoUs in sports and youth affairs during the Qatari Amir's visit.

(iv) is correct: India and Qatar agreed to double their bilateral trade by 2030, and Qatar announced an investment of \$10 billion in India.

(iii) is incorrect: India already has strategic partnerships with other GCC nations such as the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Kuwait. Hence, saying India has no other strategic partnerships in the GCC is false.

2. C) India strives to balance relationships with multiple stakeholders in the West Asian region.

The passage indicates that India maintains ties with various players in West Asia-Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Iran, and Israel-showing a balanced approach rather than favoring a single nation.

A: Isolation is directly contradicted by India's engagement with multiple West Asian nations.

B: While economic ties (especially LNG) are important, the passage also emphasizes strategic and diplomatic aspects, so it is not only economic reasons.

D: The passage does not suggest India is entirely dependent on the U.S. military base in Qatar; India's interests in Qatar span diplomacy, energy, and strategic cooperation beyond just that base.

3. C) upgrade

The passage explicitly states that India and Qatar decided to upgrade their relationship to a strategic partnership.

A & D: Downgrade or abandon would imply weakening or ending the relationship, which contradicts the strengthening ties described.

B: Dismiss suggests disregarding the relationship entirely, which again goes against the idea of expanding it to a strategic level.

4. C) cordiality

"Bonhomie" refers to a warm, friendly, and amiable atmosphere, which aligns best with cordiality.

A: Hostility is the direct opposite of friendliness.

B: Complexity does not capture the friendly, cheerful sense of bonhomie.

D: Caution implies wariness rather than the warmth conveyed by bonhomie.

5. D) Strengthening India-Qatar ties amid regional geopolitical complexities

The passage focuses on how India and Qatar are forging closer strategic, economic, and diplomatic ties despite differences in regional and global outlooks, particularly against the backdrop of conflicts and shifting alliances in West Asia.

A. While the U.S. base in Qatar is mentioned, the passage does not center on critiquing Western military actions.

B. The passage actually highlights cooperation and increased trade, not tensions.

C. The passage only briefly mentions the Amir's visit; it does not delve into his personal life or background.

6. A) 'Only the beautiful' के बदले 'the most beautiful' का use होगा क्योंकि 'the' के साथ Superlative Degree का use किया जाता है; जैसे— This is the most difficult question in the exam.

'the most beautiful' will be used instead of 'only the beautiful' because 'the' is used with the Superlative Degree; Like— This is the most difficult question in the exam.

7. C) "bark" का अर्थ होता है कुत्ते का भौंकना। यहाँ वाक्य में यह बताया गया है कि जब चोर उसके कीमती पेड़ की छाल को काट रहे थे, तब कुत्ता भौंका नहीं। दूसरे blank में पेड़ की बाहरी सुरक्षा परत का उल्लेख है, जिसे "bark" (छाल) कहते हैं।

"bark" is the correct verb to use when referring to the sound a dog makes. In the context of the sentence, it means the dog did not make any noise or raise an alarm while the thieves were slashing something. The second blank refers to the outer protective layer of a tree, which is called "bark" as well.

8. A) 'enjoyed lunch' के बदले '**had enjoyed lunch**' का use होगा क्योंकि Main Clause में verb Past Perfect में होनी चाहिए यदि यह किसी अन्य घटना से पहले की क्रिया को व्यक्त कर रही हो। अतः यह Past Perfect Tense में होना चाहिए; जैसे— We had enjoyed lunch before he arrived.

'**had enjoyed lunch**' will be used instead of 'enjoyed lunch' because the main clause should be in Past Perfect Tense when it expresses an action completed before another action. Therefore, it must be in Past Perfect Tense; Like— We had enjoyed lunch before he arrived.

9. A) **Heavy** (adjective) – Large in amount, weight, or intensity; substantial, massive. भारी, ज़्यादा मात्रा में।

Antonym: Light (adjective) – Small in amount, weight, or intensity; not heavy, gentle, slight. हल्का, कम मात्रा में।

- **Plentiful** (adjective) – Existing in or yielding a large amount; abundant, ample. प्रचुर मात्रा में।
- **Drizzly** (adjective) – Light rain falling in very fine drops; misty. फुहार।
- **Rare** (adjective) – Uncommon or infrequent; unusual, extraordinary. दुर्लभ।

10. 'B) **Because**' का use होगा क्योंकि यह "वह बीमार था" के कारण को स्पष्ट करता है कि वह मीटिंग में क्यों नहीं जा सका। वाक्य में कारण और प्रभाव के संबंध को स्पष्ट करने के लिए 'because' उपयुक्त है। 'Because' एक subordinating conjunction है, जो कारण या वजह को दर्शाने के लिए उपयोग होता है। यहाँ "he was sick" यह समझाने के लिए है कि उसने मीटिंग में भाग क्यों नहीं लिया, जिससे वाक्य व्याकरणिक रूप से सही बनता है। 'So' का अर्थ होता है "इसलिए।" यह परिणाम व्यक्त करता है, जबकि यहाँ कारण की आवश्यकता है।, " 'Although' विरोधाभास को व्यक्त करता है, लेकिन यहाँ कोई विरोधाभास नहीं है, इसलिए यह उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'But' विरोध या विपरीतता को व्यक्त करता है, जो इस वाक्य में सही नहीं है

'**Because**' will be used because it explains the reason "he was sick," which is why he couldn't attend the meeting. The sentence requires a cause-and-effect relationship, making 'because' appropriate here. 'Because' is a subordinating conjunction used to indicate cause. The clause "he was sick" justifies the main clause "He couldn't attend the meeting," making it grammatically correct. So': 'So' expresses a result and would fit in a different structure, but it doesn't express the cause in this context.' Although': It introduces contrast or concession, which is not present in the sentence. 'But': It expresses contrast, which doesn't align with the logical flow of this sentence.

11. A) **Verbatim** (adverb/adjective) – In exactly the same words as were used originally. शब्दशः

- **Precise** (adjective) – Marked by exactness and accuracy of expression or detail. सटीक
- **Factual** (adjective) – Concerned with what is actually the case; based on facts. तथ्यात्मक
- **Ornate** (adjective) – Made in an intricate shape or decorated with complex patterns. अलंकृत

12. C) '**an eraser**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'eraser' एक singular countable noun है और इसके पहले article 'an' का होना अनिवार्य है। 'eraser' vowel sound से शुरू होता है, इसलिए इसके साथ article 'an' का उपयोग किया जाएगा।

The article '**an**' should be used before the noun '**eraser**' because it is a singular, countable noun, and nouns of this type require an article. Since '**eraser**' begins with a vowel sound, the correct article is '**an**'

13. B) The correct spelling of '**interrelated**' is '**interrelated**', which means "having a mutual or reciprocal relation" – परस्पर संबंधित।

14. C) The correct spelling is "**dedicating**", which means "to devote (time, effort, or oneself) to a particular task or purpose." In Hindi, it translates to "समर्पित करना" or "अर्पित करना".

15. D) 'Invest' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है किसी वित्तीय योजना या योजना में धन लगाना। sentence में mention है कि यदि आपके पास एकमुश्त राशि नहीं है, तो आप एक दीर्घकालिक आवर्ती जमा चुन सकते हैं। यह स्पष्ट रूप से धन निवेश करने की स्थिति को संदर्भित करता है, इसलिए 'Invest' सही है। 'Draw' का अर्थ है धन निकालना या खींचना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Publish' का अर्थ है जानकारी या सामग्री प्रकाशित करना, जो यहाँ संदर्भ से मेल नहीं खाता। 'Gather' का अर्थ है इकट्ठा करना, लेकिन यह निवेश के विचार को व्यक्त नहीं करता।

'Invest' will be used because it means to put money into a financial plan or scheme. The sentence states that if you don't have a lump sum amount, you can opt for a long-term recurring deposit. This clearly refers to the act of investing money, making 'Invest' the correct choice. 'Draw' means to withdraw money or pull, which is not suitable in this context. 'Publish' means to release information or content, which doesn't align with the context here. 'Gather' means to collect, but it doesn't express the idea of investing money.

16. A) **Proficient (adjective):** Competent or skilled in doing or using something; expert, adept, capable. कुशल

Synonym: Accomplished (adjective): Highly skilled, talented, or successful in a particular area; expert, proficient. निपुण

- **Recalcitrant (adjective):** Uncooperative, stubbornly resistant to authority or control. अवज्ञाकारी
- **Glamorous (adjective):** Having glamour; fascinatingly attractive or stylish. आकर्षक
- **Callous (adjective):** Showing or having an insensitive and cruel disregard for others; unfeeling, heartless. निर्दयी

17. A) **Fatigued (adjective)** – Extremely tired, exhausted, worn out, weary. थका हुआ

Synonym: Tired (adjective) – Feeling a need for rest or sleep, exhausted, weary, fatigued. थका हुआ

- **Furious (adjective):** Very angry, enraged, infuriated. क्रोधित
- **Tricky (adjective):** Difficult to deal with, requiring careful handling. पेचीदा
- **Famous (adjective):** Known about by many people, celebrated, well-known. प्रसिद्ध

18. A) **Insolvent (noun)** – A person or entity that is unable to pay debts दिवालिया

- **Busted (adjective)** – Broken, ruined, or out of order; not necessarily related to financial inability. टूटा हुआ या बिगड़ा हुआ
- **Insurgent (noun)** – A person who rebels against authority or government. विद्रोही

- **Recluse** (noun) – A person who lives a solitary life and tends to avoid other people.
एकांतवासी

19. C) 'fluently English' के बदले '**English fluently**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि adverb 'fluently' को हमेशा verb और उसके object के बीच में रखने की बजाय या तो verb से पहले या sentence के अंत में रखा जाता है; जैसे— Correct Sentence: "Rahul speaks English fluently although he makes quite a lot of mistakes while writing."

English fluently will be used instead of 'fluently English' because the adverb 'fluently' should not be placed between the verb 'speaks' and its object 'English'. Proper placement of the adverb is either after the object or at the end of the sentence. For example: Correct Sentence: "Rahul speaks English fluently although he makes quite a lot of mistakes while writing."

20. C) **Buried the hatchet** (idiom) – To settle a dispute peacefully विवाद को शांति से सुलझाना।

21. A) '**His**' का use सही है क्योंकि "Tucker" एक sniffer डॉग है और कुत्तों को अक्सर अंग्रेजी में he/his के रूप में संदर्भित किया जाता है। वाक्य का मतलब है कि Tucker अपनी नाक का उपयोग करता है, इसलिए "his nose" सही है। 'Her' गलत है क्योंकि यह किसी मादा (female) का संदर्भ देता है, जबकि यहाँ Tucker (नाम से) नर (male) है। 'Him' गलत है क्योंकि "him" object pronoun है, जबकि हमें यहाँ possessive pronoun (his) की आवश्यकता है। 'Its' भी गलत है क्योंकि "its" का उपयोग निर्जीव वस्तुओं या जानवरों के लिए तब होता है जब उनका लिंग निर्दिष्ट न हो। लेकिन Tucker का gender संदर्भित है।

His is correct because Tucker is a sniffer dog, and dogs are commonly referred to as he/his in English. The sentence implies that Tucker uses his nose, making "his" the appropriate and natural choice. 'Her' is incorrect because it refers to a female subject, whereas Tucker (by name) is male. 'Him' is incorrect as it is an object pronoun, whereas a possessive pronoun (his) is required here. 'Its' is incorrect as "its" is used for inanimate objects or animals with unspecified gender. Tucker's gender is implied.

22. B) **On** का use होगा क्योंकि "on the decline" एक सामान्य अभिव्यक्ति है जिसका अर्थ है किसी चीज़ के घटने या कम होने की प्रक्रिया। इस sentence में killer whales की population के घटने की बात हो रही है, इसलिए 'on' सही है। जबकि 'at' किसी स्थान या बिंदु को दर्शाता है, 'off' अलगाव या दूरी को व्यक्त करता है, और 'after' क्रम या समय को दर्शाता है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

On will be used because "on the decline" is a common expression that means something is in the process of decreasing or deteriorating. The sentence refers to the killer whale population reducing, making "on" appropriate. Whereas, "at" refers to a specific point or location, "off" implies separation, and "after" indicates sequence or time, none of which fit in this context.

23. A) '**Number**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'number' का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ की मात्रा या संख्या। इस वाक्य में प्रजातियों के एक समूह, जैसे कि सही व्हेल और किलर व्हेल, का उल्लेख किया गया है। 'A number of species' एक grammatically सही वाक्यांश है जो प्रजातियों के संग्रह को दर्शाता है। जबकि 'Division' का अर्थ है विभाजन, 'Cacophony' का अर्थ है कठोर और अप्रिय ध्वनि का मिश्रण, और 'Cadre' का अर्थ है प्रशिक्षित व्यक्तियों का समूह।

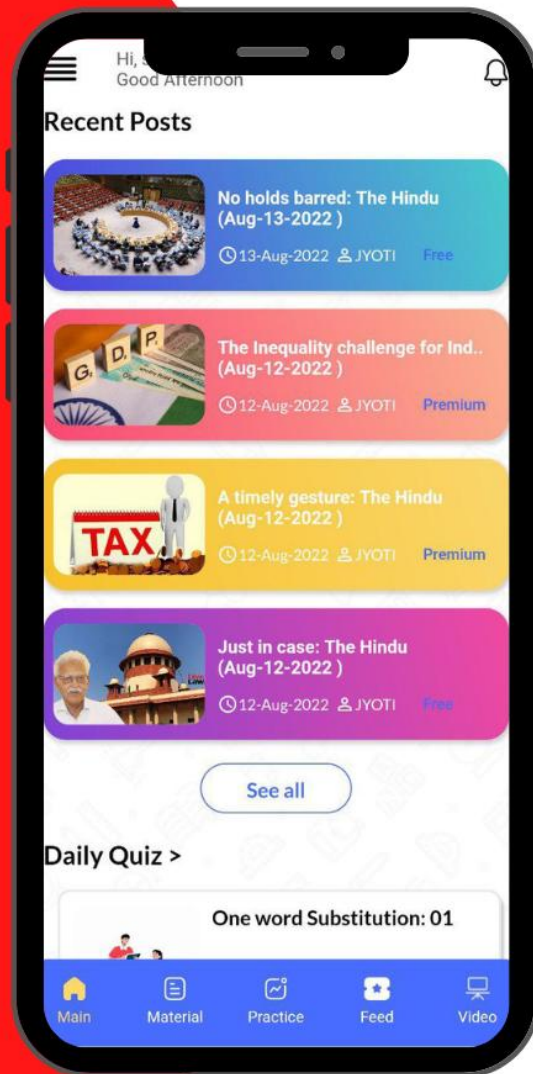
'**Number**' will be used because it means a quantity or amount of something. In this sentence, it refers to a group of species, such as right whales and killer whales. 'A number of species' is a grammatically correct phrase that represents a collection of species. Whereas, 'Division' means separation, 'Cacophony' refers to a harsh mixture of sounds, and 'Cadre' implies a group of trained individuals, which do not fit in this context.

24. D) '**Based**' का use होगा है क्योंकि "based" का अर्थ होता है किसी स्थान पर स्थापित होना। यहाँ पर वाक्य यह बताता है कि "Working Dogs for Conservation" का मुख्यालय Three Forks, Montana में है। इसलिए 'based' इस context में बिल्कुल सही है। जबकि: 'Living' का अर्थ है जीना, जो मुख्यालय के संदर्भ में उचित नहीं है। 'Rested' का अर्थ है विश्राम करना, जो यहां गलत है। 'Surviving' का अर्थ है जीवित रहना या बचना, जो वाक्य से मेल नहीं खाता।

'**Based**' is used because it means "established in a specific location." The sentence explains that the headquarters of "Working Dogs for Conservation" is located in Three Forks, Montana, making 'based' the correct choice. Whereas: 'Living' means residing or being alive, which doesn't fit the context of headquarters. 'Rested' means taking rest, which is irrelevant here. 'Surviving' means staying alive or enduring, which doesn't align with the intended meaning of the sentence.

25. D) '**longer**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "अब और नहीं" या "अब संभव नहीं।" sentence यह indicate करता है कि इतनी अधिक conservation dog projects शुरू हो गई हैं कि Hurt अब सभी पर नज़र नहीं रख सकती। इसलिए, 'longer' यहाँ सही विकल्प है। 'lesser' का अर्थ है "कम" या "सामान्यतः मात्रा या स्तर को दर्शाता है," जो यहां असंगत है। 'shorter' का अर्थ है "लंबाई या समय में कम," जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'moreover' का अर्थ है "इसके अलावा," जो यहाँ अनुचित है क्योंकि यह वाक्य के तर्क के साथ मेल नहीं खाता।

'**longer**' will be used because it means "no more" or "not possible anymore." The sentence indicates that so many conservation dog projects have been initiated that Hurt can no longer keep track of them all. Therefore, 'longer' is the correct choice. 'lesser' means "less" or usually denotes a quantity or degree, which is irrelevant here. 'shorter' implies "less in length or duration," which is unsuitable in this context. 'moreover' means "besides," which does not fit the logical progression of the sentence



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