Indian universities climb QS rankings — but can they go global?

The performance of Indian institutes in the QS University World Ranking System, released last week, shows that their initiatives to upgrade the research ecosystem are yielding results. Nine institutes in the country figure in the top 50 and 79 Indian universities have made it to the list, up from 69 last year. Indian universities are particularly well represented in engineering (24 institutes), social sciences (20 institutes) and natural sciences (19 institutes). It's heartening that at a time when several reports and surveys have called out the skill deficit of Indian graduates, the QS survey speaks of the strides taken by the country's top universities to improve their standing among employers. However, QS 2025 also shows where the country lags in its endeavour to become a top knowledge economy destination. It underlines that India's elite universities need to improve student learning experiences and enhance their global presence.

The resources available to students for teaching, supervision and curriculum development play a crucial role in their learning experiences. The top runners in the QS ranking system have a near perfect score on that metric. The best Indian universities, in contrast, score between 10 and 20. Attracting an adequate number of qualified faculty and providing them with favourable working conditions has been a longstanding problem of the country's higher education milieu. In 2023, a CAG audit found that though the IITs have been recruiting faculty consistently, the pace of recruitment did not match student enrolment. This historical weakness has, however, never been scientifically quantified. In 2009, a task force set up by the erstwhile Ministry of Human Resource Development, called for "standing mechanism to monitor the size and quality of faculty resources and for data on faculty members to be made available on the website of every academic institution". This recommendation has, at best, been partially implemented. The government does collect faculty-related data for its Annual Survey of Higher Education. However, this is a voluntary process for institutions and the numbers are not verified by an independent agency.

The QS survey suggests that Indian universities could benefit from global **collaborations** which enable the "country's scholars to access a wider range of academic **debates** and discoveries". The National Education Policy too rightly **emphasises** the role of **cross-border collaborations**. The government has also invited universities outside the country to set up campuses in India. And, in 2023, IIT-Madras set up a **wing** in Zanzibar, Tanzania. Internationalisation is, however, a work in progress. **The need of the hour** is to **liberalise** the student exchange rules between Indian and foreign universities as well as build linkages with industry. Indian education administrators could **perhaps** do well to **take cues** from the 17-year-old tie-up between IIT-Bombay, among the **consistent** performers from the country in global ratings, and Monash University in Australia. If there's one message from the latest QS rankings it's this — top Indian institutes require more of such **nurturing**. That could provide them with the experience required to play a critical role in the education milieu — handhold the smaller universities that **cater to** the bulk of the needs of the country's aspirational classes.

[Practice Exercise]

Vocabulary

- 1. **Climb** (verb) Rise, Ascend, Improve, Advance, Progress ऊपर चढ़ना
- 2. **Ecosystem** (noun) Environment, Network, System, Framework, Structure पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र
- 3. **Yield** (verb) Produce, Generate, Deliver, Provide, Bear परिणाम देना
- 4. **Heartening** (adjective) Encouraging, Uplifting, Reassuring, Promising, Inspiring उत्साहवर्धक
- 5. **Call out** (phrasal verb) Highlight, Point out, Identify, Expose, Criticize उजागर करना
- 6. Skill deficit (noun) a situation where someone lacks a specific skill or ability, meaning they haven't learned how to perform a particular behavior or task कौशल की कमी
- 7. **Take stride** (phrase) Make progress, Advance, Move forward, Improve, Develop प्रगति करना
- 8. **Standing** (noun) Reputation, Status, Position, Rank, Prestige स्थिति
- 9. **Lag** (verb) Fall behind, Trail, Drag, Delay, Linger पीछे रहना
- 10. **Endeavour** (noun) Effort, Attempt, Initiative, Venture, Pursuit प्रयास

- 11. **Underline** (verb) Emphasize, Highlight, Stress, Accentuate, Reinforce जोर देना
- 12. **Elite** (adjective) Top-tier, Exclusive, Premier, Superior, High-ranking उत्कृष्ट
- 13. **Supervision** (noun) Oversight, Guidance, Monitoring, Management, Control निरीक्षण
- 14. **In contrast** (phrase) On the other hand, Conversely, Differently, Oppositely, Alternatively इसके विपरीत
- 15. **Longstanding** (adjective) Long-term, Persistent, Enduring, Established, Chronic दीर्घकालिक
- 16. **Milieu** (noun) Environment, Setting, Context, Background, Atmosphere परिवेश
- 17. **Audit** (noun) Review, Inspection, Examination, Assessment, Evaluation लेखा परीक्षण
- 18. **Consistently** (adverb) Regularly, Steadily, Constantly, Uniformly, Reliably लगातार
- 19. **Pace** (noun) Speed, Rate, Tempo, Momentum, Progress गति
- 20. **Set up** (phrasal verb) Establish, Create, Form, Organize, Initiate स्थापित करना
- 21. **Erstwhile** (adjective) Former, Previous, Past, Ex-, One-time पूर्व

- 22. **Mechanism** (noun) System, Process, Framework, Procedure, Structure तंत्र
- 23. **Voluntary** (adjective) Optional, Willing, Unforced, Discretionary, Uncompelled स्वैच्छिक
- 24. **Collaboration** (noun) Partnership, Cooperation, Alliance, Teamwork, Coordination सहयोग
- 25. **Debate** (noun) Discussion, Discourse, Argument, Deliberation, Dialogue बहस
- 26. **Emphasise** (verb) Highlight, Stress, Underline, Accentuate, Reinforce जोर देना
- 27. **Cross-border** (adjective) International, Transnational, Global, Foreign, Overseas सीमा पार
- 28. **Collaboration** (noun) Partnership, Cooperation, Alliance, Teamwork, Coordination सहयोग

- 29. **Wing** (noun) Branch, Division, Section, Unit, Department शाखा
- 30. **The need of the hour** (phrase) Urgency, Priority, Necessity, Requirement, Demand समय की मांग
- 31. **Liberalise** (verb) Relax, Ease, Deregulate, Open up, Loosen उदार बनाना
- 32. **Perhaps** (adverb) Maybe, Possibly, Potentially, Conceivably, Perchance शायद
- 33. **Take cue** (phrase) Follow, Imitate, Learn, Adopt, Emulate संकेत लेना
- 34. **Consistent** (adjective) Steady, Regular, Reliable, Uniform, Constant स्संगत
- 35. **Nurture** (verb) Foster, Cultivate, Encourage, Support, Develop पोषण करना
- 36. **Cater** (to) (verb) Serve, Provide, Accommodate, Fulfill, Meet पूरा करना

Summary of the Editorial

- 1. Indian universities have improved their performance in the QS World University Rankings, with nine institutes in the top 50 and 79 universities listed, up from 69 last year.
- 2. Indian universities are particularly strong in engineering (24 institutes), social sciences (20 institutes), and natural sciences (19 institutes).
- 3. The QS rankings highlight progress in addressing employer perceptions of Indian graduates, countering earlier reports of skill deficits.
- 4. Despite improvements, Indian universities lag in student learning experiences and global presence, key areas for becoming a top knowledge economy.
- 5. Top global universities in the QS rankings score nearly perfect on teaching, supervision, and curriculum development, while top Indian universities score between 10 and 20.
- 6. Attracting and retaining qualified faculty remains a persistent challenge in India's higher education system.
- 7. A 2023 CAG audit revealed that faculty recruitment at IITs has not kept pace with rising student enrollment.
- 8. A 2009 task force recommended a standing mechanism to monitor faculty size and quality, but this has only been partially implemented.
- 9. The government's Annual Survey of Higher Education collects faculty-related data, but participation is voluntary, and data is not independently verified.
- 10. Global collaborations could help Indian scholars access broader academic debates and discoveries, as suggested by the QS survey.
- 11. The National Education Policy emphasizes the importance of cross-border collaborations in higher education.
- 12. The government has invited foreign universities to set up campuses in India, and IIT-Madras established a branch in Zanzibar, Tanzania, in 2023.
- 13. Internationalization of Indian universities is still a work in progress, requiring liberalized student exchange rules and stronger industry linkages.
- 14. Successful collaborations, like the 17-year-old partnership between IIT-Bombay and Monash University, Australia, offer a model for other Indian institutions.
- 15. Top Indian universities need more nurturing and experience to play a leadership role in supporting smaller institutions that cater to the majority of India's aspirational students.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. What is the tone of the passage?

[Editorial Page]

- A. Optimistic yet analytical
- B. Sarcastic and dismissive
- C. Neutral and indifferent
- D. Pessimistic and alarmist
- 2. Why do Indian universities struggle to enhance student learning experiences according to the QS rankings?
 - A. They lack a strong research ecosystem.
 - B. They do not attract enough qualified faculty.
 - C. They do not participate in global rankings.
 - D. They focus only on technical subjects.
- 3. What is one of the key suggestions from the QS survey for improving Indian universities?
 - A. Increasing faculty salaries significantly.
 - B. Establishing more private universities.
 - C. Enhancing global collaborations.
 - D. Reducing student enrolment.
- 4. Where does the passage indicate that India is lagging in becoming a top knowledge economy destination?
 - In research and innovation.
 - B. In faculty recruitment and data transparency.
 - C. In student enrolment numbers.
 - D. In government support for education.
- 5. What is the antonym of "nurturing" as used in the last paragraph of the passage?
 - A. Neglecting
 - B. Fostering
 - C. Cultivating
 - D. Sustaining
- 6. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.

She			
\n _Δ	to no lindo	erstood by the	こっているもい
JUE	to be unde	istoud by the	: SUCIELY

- A. looked
- B. sought
- C. chased
- D. hunted
- 7. Rectify the error in the given sentence by selecting the correct spelling from the options provided.

The chord of my voilin is not tuned properly.

A. violin

- B. wiolin
- C. voilen
- D. woilin
- 8. The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.

I have been / looking by my / cream sweater for / a few weeks now

- A. I have been
- B. cream sweater for
- C. looking by my
- D. a few weeks now
- 9. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.

The council never _____ the new complex to be constructed, nor did local residents.

- A. liked
- B. wanted
- C. refreshed
- D. occurred
- 10. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the given sentence.

Overfishing and destructive fishing practices threaten the **<u>sustainability</u>** of marine resources and ecosystems.

- A. Reasonableness
- B. Equanimity
- C. Justifiability
- D. Indefensibility
- 11. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.

Harmony

- A. Unity
- B. Discord
- C. Concord
- D. Accord
- 12. Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.
 - A. navigate
 - B. rhetericol
 - C. lascivious
 - D. tangible
- 13. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the highlighted word in the given sentence.

The negotiations were conducted in an **amicable** atmosphere, leading to a peaceful resolution.

- A. Cordial
- B. Serene
- C. Hostile
- D. Agreeable
- 14. Select the most appropriate degree of comparison to fill in the blank.

	Hu	nny is person in his family					
	A.	tall					
	В.	taller					
	C.	more taller					
	D.	the tallest					
15.	5. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given						
	sentence.						
	Ву	definition, making a pictogram is to present and visualise data					
	A.	Pictogram is making a definition					
	В.	In making a pictogram, the definition					
	C.	The purpose of a pictorgram					
	D.	To make a pictogram by definition					
16.	If s	omeone mentions that 'the ball is in your court', what does this idiom imply?					
	A.	It's your turn to make a decision or take action.					
	В.	It's time for a break.					
C. It's a reference to tennis.							
	D.	It's time to play a sport.					
17.	Sel	ect the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.					
	The speaker requested the audience to pay						
	A.	attention					
	В.	ears					
	C.	activeness					
	D.	silence					
18	Par	ts of the following sentence have been given as ontions. Select the ontion that contains an					

18. Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.

It was an interesting chat with an European gymnast that changed my mindset towards the sport

- A. an European gymnast that changed
- B. It was an interesting
- C. chat with
- D. my mindset towards the sport
- 19. Select the most appropriate form of comparative degree that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.

Food prices in Switzerland are **expensiver to** the rest of Western Europe

- A. more expensive to
- B. as expensiver to
- C. the most expensive than
- D. more expensive than
- 20. Select the correct option of the given sentence.

Vishnu is the more courageous than all other boys in the class.

18 Mar 2025

- A. Vishnu is the most courageous than all other boys in the class.
- B. Vishnu is much more courageous than all other boys in the class.
- C. Vishnu is most courageous than all other boys in the class.
- D. Vishnu is more courageous than all other boys in the class

		visitifu is filore courageous triair air other boys in the class
	Co	mprehension:
	In	the following passage, some words have been deleted. Read the passage carefully and
	sel	ect the most appropriate option to fill in each blank.
	The	e ship struck the iceberg (1) its side while it was still moving forward. In a few (2)
		, six great holes were made in the steel. Water rushed in, not in one place, but in separate
	pla	ces covering the Titanic hundred feet. The steel doors were therefore
	(3)	Captain Smith soon understood that (4) could save the ship. He ordered the
	wir	reless officer to send out the ship's position and the letters CQD, which is the call for help. It
	tol	d the world that the Titanic was (5)
21.	Sel	ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1
	A.	under
	В.	with
	C.	beyond
	D.	above
22.	Sel	ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.
	A.	years
	В.	days
		moments
		weeks
23.		ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.
		painted
		burnt
		useless
24		complete
24.		ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.
		nothing all
		everything enemies
25		ect the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.
۷).		floating
		victorious

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C. sinkingD. reaching

Answers

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

Explanations

1. A) Optimistic yet analytical

The passage acknowledges the progress Indian universities have made in QS rankings and highlights their strengths in various disciplines, which reflects optimism. However, it also critically analyzes areas where Indian institutes still lag, such as faculty recruitment and global collaborations, making it analytical.

- B) The passage does not ridicule or mock the education system but provides constructive analysis.
- C) The passage does not take a detached or emotionless stance; it actively discusses both achievements and shortcomings.
- D) While it points out challenges, it does not exaggerate issues or create panic; instead, it suggests ways for improvement.

2. B) They do not attract enough qualified faculty.

The passage states that Indian universities have difficulty in recruiting an adequate number of qualified faculty, which negatively impacts student learning experiences.

- A: The passage acknowledges improvements in research efforts, showing that Indian universities are making strides in this area.
- C: Indian universities do participate in QS rankings, as evidenced by the increase in the number of universities ranked.
- D: The passage mentions that Indian universities are well represented in multiple fields, not just technical subjects.

3. C) Enhancing global collaborations.

The passage explicitly mentions that global collaborations can help Indian scholars access a wider range of academic discussions and discoveries.

- A: Although faculty recruitment and working conditions are a concern, the passage does not specifically mention salary increases as a primary solution.
- B: The passage discusses the challenges faced by existing universities but does not suggest increasing private institutions as a primary solution.
- D: The passage states that student enrolment has increased, but it does not suggest reducing it as a means of improving education.

4. B) In faculty recruitment and data transparency.

The passage mentions that faculty recruitment has not kept pace with student enrolment and highlights the lack of a proper mechanism to monitor faculty resources.

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A: The passage states that research improvements are happening, with Indian universities performing well in several academic fields.

C: Student enrolment is increasing, and the issue lies more in faculty shortages rather than enrolment numbers.

D: The passage discusses initiatives like the National Education Policy and international university collaborations, showing that the government is making efforts.

5. A) Neglecting

"Nurturing" means supporting and encouraging growth, whereas "neglecting" means failing to provide necessary care or attention, making it the correct antonym.

6. B) 'Sought' का use होगा क्योंकि "sought" का अर्थ है कुछ प्राप्त करने या हासिल करने की कोशिश करना। sentence में यह mention है कि वह समाज द्वारा समझे जाने की कोशिश कर रही थी, जो "sought" को उपयुक्त बनाता है। जबिक 'Looked' का अर्थ है देखना, 'Chased' का अर्थ है पीछा करना या कुछ प्राप्त करने का प्रयास करना (लेकिन यह संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है), और 'Hunted' का अर्थ है शिकार करना या तलाश करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

'Sought' will be used because it means to attempt to gain or achieve something. The sentence mentions that she was trying to be understood by society, making 'sought' the most appropriate choice here. Whereas, 'Looked' means to see, 'Chased' means to pursue or try to catch something (but it doesn't fit the context), and 'Hunted' means to search or hunt for something, which is not suitable in this context.

- 7. A) The correct spelling of '**voilin'** is '**violin'**, which means "a stringed musical instrument of treble pitch, played with a bow" वाद्य यंत्र जिसमें तारों को धनुष से बजाया जाता है।
- 8. C) 'looking by my' में error है क्योंकि 'look' के बाद सही preposition 'for' का use किया जाता है, न कि 'by' का। Verb 'look' के साथ 'for' का use तब होता है जब हम किसी चीज़ को खोजने की बात कर रहे होते हैं। अत: वाक्य का सही रूप होगा: "I have been looking for my cream sweater for a few weeks now." The error is in the phrase 'looking by my' because the correct preposition to use with 'look' in this context is 'for,' not 'by.' The verb 'look' takes 'for' when referring to searching for something. Hence, the corrected sentence is:"I have been looking for my cream sweater for a few weeks now."
- 9. B) Wanted' का use होगा क्योंकि "wanted" का अर्थ है कुछ करने की इच्छा करना या आवश्यक समझना। यहाँ sentence में कहा गया है कि काउंसिल ने कभी भी नए कॉम्प्लेक्स के निर्माण की इच्छा नहीं जताई, और स्थानीय निवासियों ने भी ऐसा नहीं किया। 'Liked' का अर्थ है पसंद करना, जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होता क्योंकि वाक्य में इच्छा या स्वीकृति का अभाव बताया गया है। 'Refreshed' का अर्थ है पुनः

ताजा या नवीनीकृत करना, जो इस संदर्भ से असंबंधित है। 'Occurred' का अर्थ है होना या घटित होना, जो यहाँ व्याकरण और अर्थ दोनों में गलत है।

'Wanted' will be used because it means to desire or consider necessary. The sentence states that the council never wanted the new complex to be constructed, nor did local residents. 'Liked' means to appreciate, which doesn't fit here as the sentence talks about the lack of desire or approval. 'Refreshed' means to renew or rejuvenate, which is irrelevant in this context. 'Occurred' means to happen, which is both grammatically and contextually incorrect here.

10. D) **Sustainability** (noun) — The ability to be maintained or sustained over time, endurance, viability, conservation. स्थिरता/सततता

Antonym: Indefensibility (noun) — The quality of being unjustifiable or not capable of being defended, vulnerability, instability. अस्थिरता/अस्रक्षता

- Reasonableness (noun) The quality of being fair and sensible, rationality, moderation. ਤਧਿਨਗ
- **Equanimity** (noun) Mental calmness, composure, and evenness of temper, especially in a difficult situation, serenity. धैर्य
- Justifiability (noun) The quality of being defensible or acceptable, validity, soundness.
 औचित्य/समर्थनीयता
- 11. B) **Harmony** (noun) A state of agreement, peace, and concord. It refers to a pleasing arrangement or coexistence. सामंजस्य, तालमेल ।

Antonym: Discord (noun) – Disagreement, conflict, or lack of harmony. असहमति, कलह।

- Unity (noun) Oneness or togetherness, a state of being united. एकता।
- Concord (noun) Agreement or harmony between people or groups. संधि, मेलजोल।
- Accord (noun) An agreement or mutual understanding. समझौता।
- 12. B) The correct spelling of '**rhetericol'** is '**rhetorical'**, which means "expressed in terms intended to persuade or impress" "शब्दाडंबरपूर्ण, प्रभाव डालने के उद्देश्य से व्यक्त"
- 13. C) Amicable (adjective) Friendly, peaceful, cooperative, harmonious. मैत्रीपूर्ण

Antonym: Hostile (adjective) – Aggressive, antagonistic, unfriendly, confrontational. शत्रुतापूर्ण

- Serene (adjective) Calm, peaceful, tranquil, composed. शांत
- Cordial (adjective) Warm, friendly, affectionate, kind. सौहार्दपूर्ण
- Agreeable (adjective) Pleasant, friendly, cooperative, compliant. सहमत

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- 14. D) 'The tallest' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence में तुलना पूरी family के बीच की जा रही है और "tall" एक positive degree है, जबकि "taller" comparative degree और "the tallest" superlative degree है। यहाँ superlative degree का use आवश्यक है क्योंकि Hunny को पूरी family के संदर्भ में सबसे लंबा बताया जा रहा है। 'More taller' गलत है क्योंकि यह redundant comparative degree है।
 - 'The tallest' will be used because the sentence is making a comparison among all members of the family, and "tall" is the positive degree, "taller" is the comparative degree, while "the tallest" is the superlative degree. The use of the superlative degree is correct as Hunny is being described as the tallest in the context of the entire family. 'More taller' is incorrect as it redundantly uses a comparative degree.
- 15. C) 'By definition, making a pictogram' के स्थान पर '**The purpose of a pictogram'** का use होगा क्योंकि वाक्य का उद्देश्य पिक्टोग्राम का अभिप्राय या उद्देश्य स्पष्ट करना है। अन्य विकल्प वाक्य के अर्थ को सही तरीके से व्यक्त नहीं करते
 - 'By definition, making a pictogram' should be replaced with 'The purpose of a pictogram' because the sentence is about clarifying the purpose of a pictogram. Other options fail to express the correct meaning.
- 16. A) **The ball is in your court** Responsibility to take the next step निर्णय या अगला कदम उठाने की जिम्मेदारी आपकी है।
- 17. A) 'Attention' का use होगा क्योंकि "attention" का अर्थ होता है किसी बात को ध्यानपूर्वक सुनना या देखना। यह context में फिट बैठता है क्योंकि वाक्य में यह बताया गया है कि वक्ता ने दर्शकों से ध्यान देने की मांग की। 'Ears' का अर्थ है कान, जो इस context में उचित नहीं है ,Activeness' का अर्थ है सक्रियता, जो इस context में उचित नहीं है क्योंकि यह ध्यान देने की बजाय किसी गतिविधि की बात करता है। Silence' का अर्थ है चुप्पी, लेकिन यह दर्शकों से ध्यान देने के अनुरोध को सही ढंग से व्यक्त नहीं करता है। 'Attention' will be used because it means to listen to or observe something carefully. The sentence indicates that the speaker requested the audience to pay attention, making 'attention' the correct choice.'Ears' refers to the physical organ and, although it can be metaphorically used, it doesn't fit grammatically in this sentence.'Activeness' refers to being active, which doesn't align with the context of requesting focus. 'Silence' implies quietness, but it doesn't convey the act of paying attention in this context.
- 18. A) an' के बदले '**a'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'European' का उच्चारण 'यूरोपीयन' (yoo-roh-pee-an) होता है, जिसमें पहला sound व्यंजन (consonant) 'yoo' से शुरू होती है। इसलिए 'a' का use सही है न कि 'an' का। a European gymnast

- 'a' will be used instead of 'an' because the word 'European' begins with a vowel letter but is pronounced with a consonant sound 'yoo'. In English, the article 'an' is used before words that start with a vowel sound, not just a vowel letter. a European gymnast
- 19. D) 'expensiver to' के बदले 'more expensive than' का use होगा क्योंकि 'expensive' एक तीन-अक्षरीय (polysyllabic) adjective है, जिसका Comparative Degree 'more + adjective + than' के रूप में बनता है। 'than' का use तुलना (comparison) दर्शाने के लिए किया जाता है; जैसे—
 Food prices in Switzerland are more expensive than the rest of Western Europe.
 'more expensive than' will be used instead of 'expensiver to' because 'expensive' forms its comparative degree with 'more,' and 'than' is required for comparison; Like—
- 20. **D)** "Vishnu is more courageous than all other boys in the class I"
 the more' के बदले 'more' का use होगा क्योंकि यह वाक्य Comparative Degree में है, और 'than' के
 साथ तुलना की जा रही है। Comparative Degree की संरचना है: Subject + is/are + more + adjective +
 than + other (plural noun)। उदाहरण— She is more talented than her classmates.

 'the more' should be replaced with 'more' because the sentence is in the Comparative Degree.

Food prices in Switzerland are more expensive than the rest of Western Europe.

- 'the more' should be replaced with 'more' because the sentence is in the Comparative Degree, and comparison is being made using 'than.' The structure for Comparative Degree is: Subject + is/are + more + adjective + than + other (plural noun). Example— She is more talented than her classmates.
- 21. B) 'With' का use होगा क्योंकि "with" का अर्थ यहाँ "के साथ टकराना" को दर्शाने के लिए किया गया है। जब कोई चीज़ किसी अन्य वस्तु से टकराती है, तो "with" का use किया जाता है, जैसे "The car collided with a tree." इस वाक्य में, जहाज (ship) बर्फ़ की चट्टान (iceberg) से टकराया, इसलिए "with" सही option है। 'Under' का अर्थ "नीचे" होता है, लेकिन यहाँ जहाज हिमखंड के नीचे नहीं टकराया, इसलिए यह गलत है। 'Beyond' का अर्थ "के परे" होता है, लेकिन यहाँ टकराने की स्थिति व्यक्त की जा रही है, न कि किसी चीज़ से आगे जाने की, इसलिए यह गलत है। 'Above' का अर्थ "ऊपर" होता है, लेकिन जहाज ने हिमखंड को ऊपर से नहीं छुआ, इसलिए यह गलत है।

'With' will be used because it correctly indicates the ship colliding with the iceberg.

'Under' means "beneath," which does not fit as the ship did not hit below the iceberg.

- 'Beyond' means "past," which is incorrect because the ship did not move past the iceberg; it struck it. 'Above' means "over," which does not describe the impact between the ship and the iceberg.
- 22. C) 'moments' का use होगा क्योंकि "moments" का अर्थ होता है बहुत छोटे समय का अविध। passage में mention किया गया है कि जब पानी जहाज के अंदर आया, तो यह कुछ ही क्षणों में हुआ, इसलिए

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'moments' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'years' का अर्थ है वर्षों की अवधि, 'days' का अर्थ है दिनों की अवधि, और 'weeks' का अर्थ है सप्ताहों की अवधि, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

'moments' will be used because it refers to a very short period of time. The passage mentions that water rushed in quickly after the impact, which aligns perfectly with the idea of 'moments'. Whereas, 'years' refers to a span of years, 'days' means a span of days, and 'weeks' indicates a duration of weeks, none of which fit the context here.

23. C) 'Useless' का use होगा क्योंकि यह steel doors के बारे में बताता है जो प्रभावी नहीं रहे। sentence में कहा गया है कि पानी कई जगहों से अंदर आ गया, जिससे steel doors को बंद करने का कोई असर नहीं पड़ा। इसलिए, 'useless' सही answer है। 'Painted' का अर्थ है रंग करना, जो यहाँ irrelevant है। 'Burnt' का अर्थ है जलना, जो steel doors के लिए सही नहीं हो सकता। 'Complete' का अर्थ है पूर्ण, जो इस context में फिट नहीं बैठता।

Useless' will be used because it describes the steel doors that became ineffective. The sentence explains that water rushed in from several places, making it impossible for the steel doors to stop it. Hence, 'useless' is the correct answer. 'Painted' means colored, which is irrelevant here.'Burnt' means burned, which cannot apply to steel doors in this context. 'Complete' means finished or whole, which does not fit here.

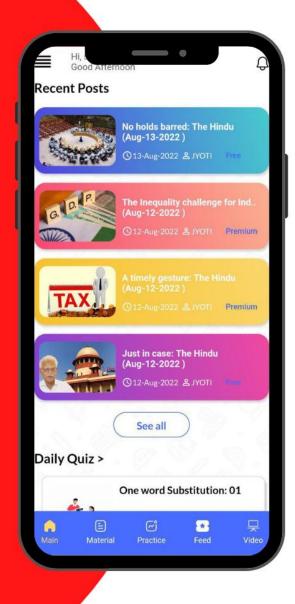
24. A) Nothing' का use होगा क्योंकि 'nothing' का अर्थ होता है 'कोई भी चीज नहीं' या 'कुछ भी नहीं।' यहाँ sentence में स्पष्ट है कि Captain Smith को यह समझ आ गया था कि जहाज को बचाने के लिए कुछ भी नहीं किया जा सकता था। इसलिए 'nothing' सही option है। 'All' का अर्थ है 'सभी,' जो इस संदर्भ में गलत है क्योंकि यहाँ बचाव का कोई भी उपाय संभव नहीं था। 'Everything' का अर्थ है 'सब कुछ,' जो इस context में फिट नहीं बैठता क्योंकि यहाँ बचाव के सभी विकल्प खत्म हो चुके थे। 'Enemies' का अर्थ है 'दुश्मन,' जो इस context में बिल्क्ल भी उपयुक्त नहीं है।

'Nothing' will be used because it means 'no thing' or 'not anything.' The sentence clearly indicates that Captain Smith understood that nothing could save the ship, making 'nothing' the most appropriate choice. 'All' means "everything" or "everyone," which is incorrect in this context because no action could save the ship. 'Everything' means "all things," but it does not fit here as all possible options for rescue were no longer available. 'Enemies' means "opponents," which is irrelevant and does not make sense in the given context.

25. 'C) **sinking'** का use होगा क्योंकि "sinking" का अर्थ है डूबना। Passage में बताया गया है कि कैप्टन ने मदद के लिए संकेत भेजा क्योंकि टाइटैनिक खतरे में था, और पानी जहाज के अलग-अलग हिस्सों में घुस चुका था। यह स्पष्ट करता है कि जहाज डूब रहा था, इसलिए 'sinking' सही है। 'Floating' का अर्थ है तैरना,

जो यहाँ फिट नहीं होता क्योंकि टाइटैनिक डूब रहा था। 'Victorious' का अर्थ है विजयी, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Reaching' का अर्थ है पहुँचना, जो यहाँ सही नहीं है।

sinking' will be used because "sinking" means going underwater. The passage describes how water was entering the ship, and the captain sent a distress signal indicating that the Titanic was in danger. This makes 'sinking' the correct choice. 'Floating' means staying on the surface of water, which is incorrect since the ship was sinking. 'Victorious' means achieving victory, which doesn't fit the context. 'Reaching' means arriving, which is also irrelevant in this scenario.



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