

Not the only path: On acting against the Maoists

A purely militaristic **solution** against the Maoists **can** also **lead** to tribal repression

In two operations in Bastar, Chhattisgarh on Thursday (March 20, 2025), 30 alleged “Maoists” were **gunned down** taking the number of Maoists killed in operations, according to security forces, to over 100 this year. In its 20-plus years of existence as a unified political force, the Communist Party of India (Maoist) finds itself in its most challenging period. The **insurgency** had **peaked** in the mid- to late-2000s, when the then government **termed** it as the “greatest security threat” to the nation, and has since then been restricted to the forested areas of southern Chhattisgarh and **contiguous** areas. This weakening was never in doubt — the Maoists **profess** an **anachronistic** political strategy of adopting violent means to achieve their goals, and in the long **war of attrition** against the Indian state, have **subjugated** their “mass” work to **militarism**. This has **resulted in** the **erosion** of support bases in places that were built where and when the agencies of the Indian state were weak. With successive central governments **seeking** to **address** the development **lacunae** in governance in such tribal areas and adopting a take-no-prisoners approach to tackle the Maoists’ guerilla warfare, their threat has been significantly **whittled down**. In the anti-insurgency strategy, however, the police and paramilitary agencies have made errors — the Salwa Judum campaign is one example and it is still not clear whether the anti-Maoist operations that have led to claims of many **casualties** among the **insurgents** include tribals **caught in the crossfire**.

If the Indian **state** — the Union and State governments — **believes** that the Maoist threat can be **extinguished** using a purely militaristic approach, then this is not **borne out** from experiences elsewhere against similar insurgencies. **Ideologies** such as **Maoism**, even if anachronistic and **misplaced** in the current socio-political **milieu**, **tend to** take deeper roots when **repressions** peak and a purely militaristic solution that **envisages** a violent end to the insurgency has the possibility of causing **disenchantment** among tribals. A better solution would be to involve civil society in working out a **truce** and sending a clear message for the Maoists to **give up** their violent path with **incentives** for rehabilitation. The Maoists have shown little inclination in doing so, being **stubborn** in **upholding** their **flawed** understanding of the Indian state and the people. **The loss** of lives, that includes tribals either **coerced** into the violence due to repression that they face or simply caught in the crossfire, **should compel** them to change **tack**, if they are truly concerned about the lot of the tribal people they claim to **stand up for**. The **experience** of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) or that of the Nepali Maoists, who gave up their insurgent campaigns, **suggests** that such a pathway is possible.

[Practice Exercise]

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where ‘red’ denotes ‘subject’ and ‘blue’ denotes ‘verb’.
- **Coerce** (into) (verb) – to persuade someone forcefully to do something that they are unwilling to do
विवश करना

Vocabulary

1. **Lead** (to) (verb) – Result in, Cause, Bring about, Trigger, Produce वजह बनना
2. **Repression** (noun) – Suppression, Oppression, Control, Subjugation, Tyranny दमन
3. **Gun down** (phrasal verb) – Shoot, Kill, Execute, Assassinate, Murder गोली मारना
4. **Insurgency** (noun) – Rebellion, Uprising, Revolt, Mutiny, Insurrection विद्रोह
5. **Peak** (verb) – Reach the highest point, Climax, Top, Culminate, Max out चरम पर पहुंचना
6. **Term** (verb) – Call, Label, Name, Describe, Designate कहना
7. **Contiguous** (adjective) – Adjacent, Neighboring, Adjoining, Bordering, Connecting सटा हुआ
8. **Profess** (verb) – Claim, Declare, Affirm, Assert, State दावा करना
9. **Anachronistic** (adjective) – Outdated, Obsolete, Old-fashioned, Outmoded, Antiquated अप्रचलित
10. **War of attrition** (noun) – a prolonged period of conflict during which each side seeks to gradually wear down the other by a series of small-scale actions. थकाऊ युद्ध
11. **Subjugate** (verb) – Dominate, Oppress, Conquer, Suppress, Enslave अधीन करना
12. **Militarism** (noun) – Aggression, Warmongering, Combativeness, Militancy, Belligerence सैन्यवाद
13. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – Lead to, Cause, Bring about, Trigger, Produce परिणाम होना
14. **Erosion** (noun) – Decline, Deterioration, Weakening, Reduction, Degradation घटौती
15. **Seek** (verb) – Pursue, Search, Aim, Strive, Request तलाश करना
16. **Address** (verb) – Tackle, Handle, Confront, Resolve, Deal with सुलझाना
17. **Lacunae** (noun) – Gaps, Shortcomings, Deficiencies, Omissions, Weaknesses कमियां
18. **Whittle down** (phrasal verb) – Reduce, Diminish, Decrease, Cut down, Shrink कम करना
19. **Casualty** (noun) – Victim, Fatality, Loss, Sufferer, Injury हताहत
20. **Insurgent** (noun) – Rebel, Revolutionary, Guerrilla, Mutineer, Agitator विद्रोही
21. **Caught in the crossfire** (phrase) – involved in or harmed by a situation where people around you disagree with each other मुसीबत स्थिति में होना

22. **Extinguish** (verb) – Eliminate, Eradicate, Destroy, Quell, Suppress खत्म करना
23. **Bear out** (phrasal verb) – Confirm, Support, Validate, Substantiate, Corroborate पुष्टि करना
24. **Ideology** (noun) – Belief, Doctrine, Philosophy, Principle, Creed विचारधारा
25. **Maoism** (noun) – Maoism was the political and military ideology of the Chinese Communist Party and Maoist revolutionary movements worldwide.
26. **Misplaced** (adjective) – Inappropriate, Misguided, Incorrect, Unsuitable, Misallocated गलत
27. **Milieu** (noun) – Environment, Setting, Context, Background, Atmosphere परिवेश
28. **Repression** (noun) – Suppression, Oppression, Control, Subjugation, Tyranny दमन
29. **Envisage** (verb) – Imagine, Visualize, Foresee, Anticipate, Conceive कल्पना करना
30. **Disenchantment** (noun) – Disillusionment, Disappointment, Dissatisfaction, Discontent, Frustration मोहभंग
31. **Truce** (noun) – Ceasefire, Armistice, Peace agreement, Settlement, Pause युद्धविराम
32. **Give up** (phrasal verb) – Surrender, Abandon, Quit, Relinquish, Renounce छोड़ देना
33. **Incentive** (noun) – Motivation, Stimulus, Encouragement, Reward, Spur प्रोत्साहन
34. **Stubborn** (adjective) – Obstinate, Unyielding, Inflexible, Determined, Resolute जिद्दी
35. **Uphold** (verb) – Support, Maintain, Defend, Sustain, Preserve बनाए रखना
36. **Flawed** (adjective) – Faulty, defective, damaged, imperfect त्रुटिपूर्ण
37. **Compel** (verb) – Force, Oblige, Coerce, Press, Drive मजबूर करना
38. **Tack** (noun) – Approach, Strategy, Method, Plan, Direction रुख/दिशा
39. **Stand up for** (phrasal verb) – Support, Defend, Advocate, Champion, Back समर्थन करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Recent operations in Bastar, Chhattisgarh** resulted in the death of **30 alleged Maoists**, pushing the 2025 toll past 100.
2. The **CPI (Maoist)**, once a dominant insurgent group, is facing its **most difficult phase** in over two decades.
3. The insurgency peaked in the **mid-2000s**, when it was called India's "**greatest internal security threat.**"
4. Now, Maoist presence is largely **restricted to forested regions** of **southern Chhattisgarh** and nearby areas.
5. The **Maoists' violent tactics** and prioritization of militarism over grassroots engagement have **eroded their support.**
6. **State development efforts** and strong counter-insurgency actions have helped **reduce the Maoist threat.**
7. However, **security forces have also made mistakes**, such as the controversial **Salwa Judum movement.**
8. There are concerns that **tribals may be caught in the crossfire**, or wrongly identified as Maoists in operations.
9. A **purely militaristic approach** may further **alienate tribal communities**, potentially **fueling more dissent.**
10. **Repression could deepen Maoist ideology**, even if it is outdated and flawed in today's context.
11. The editorial advocates **involving civil society** to explore **peaceful alternatives** and **rehabilitation options.**
12. Maoists have so far shown **little willingness** to abandon violence or accept negotiation offers.
13. Many **tribals involved in the conflict** may be victims of coercion or **collateral damage**, not true insurgents.
14. The piece cites examples like **FARC in Colombia** and **Nepali Maoists** as groups that **successfully transitioned** away from violence.
15. Ultimately, the editorial stresses that a **sustainable solution** must combine **security measures** with **dialogue, development, and justice** for tribal communities.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial page]

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Celebratory
 - B. Analytical
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Humorous
2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The failures of tribal governance in India
 - B. The rise of Maoist ideology in urban India
 - C. The need for a comprehensive approach beyond militarism to tackle Maoist insurgency
 - D. The glorification of armed operations by Indian security forces
3. **The Maoist insurgency has weakened primarily due to _____.**
 - A. international interventions and peace treaties
 - B. rise in tribal militancy
 - C. complete withdrawal of Maoist leadership from affected areas
 - D. outdated ideology and focused governance + security strategy
4. **What could be a long-term risk of relying solely on a militaristic approach to handle Maoist insurgency?**
 - A. It may completely eliminate Maoist ideology
 - B. It could lead to international condemnation
 - C. It may deepen alienation among tribal communities
 - D. It might increase government popularity
5. **What does the passage suggest as an effective complement to military action against Maoists?**
 - A. Deploying more paramilitary troops in forests
 - B. Using drones and AI-based tracking technology
 - C. Imposing strict curfews in tribal areas
 - D. Engaging civil society and offering rehabilitation incentives
6. **Select the most appropriate ANOTNYM of the word 'zest' in the given sentence.**

The peppy and energetic music of the DJ was able to remove the passivity and dullness present in the party.

 - A. peppy
 - B. remove
 - C. energetic
 - D. dullness
7. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**

A room for cleaning and storing dishes and cooking utensils and for doing messy kitchen work.

 - A. Sanatorium
 - B. Scullery

- C. Dormitory
D. Overlay
8. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Fondness
A. Mistake
B. Liking
C. Dislike
D. Brilliance
9. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
He is the friendly man in the group
A. most friendly
B. more friendly
C. friendlier
D. friendliest
10. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
Departing or having departed from a country to settle elsewhere
A. Native
B. Emigrant
C. Excommunicate
D. Immigrant
11. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**
Much of the beauty and glory of life have disappeared.
A. of life
B. have disappeared.
C. beauty and glory
D. Much of the
12. **Select the option that rectifies the spelling error of the underlined word.**
The historic cathedrel stood as a symbol of faith and architectural marvel, drawing visitors from around the world.
A. cathedril
B. cathedral
C. cathidral
D. cathidrel
13. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the highlighted word.**
Sonali uses a soft mattress to sleep.
A. cushiony
B. spongy
C. flabby
D. hard

14. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Catch someone's eye

- A. To physically capture someone's gaze and hold it, making them unable to look away
- B. To attract someone's attention or to be noticed by them
- C. To irritate or annoy someone intentionally
- D. To surprise someone with unexpected behaviour

15. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.

Despite facing numerous challenges, the team successfully _____ the project ahead of schedule.

- A. will be completed
- B. has been completed
- C. completed
- D. had completed

16. Rectify the sentence by selecting the correct spelling from the options.

While threatening the integrity of Universal values, the campaign to spread democracy will not succeed.

- A. Succsed
- B. Succeed
- C. Sucseed
- D. Suucced

17. Select the most appropriate synonym of the word given in brackets to fill in the blank.

In the absence of her parents, the little girl felt _____ (lonely).

- A. collectively
- B. crowded
- C. sociable
- D. alone

18. Select the most appropriate adjective to fill in the blank.

Among the three little cats, the first was _____ and the second was smaller.

- A. small
- B. more small
- C. most smallest
- D. most small

19. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.

She asked if he could recount a moment when he felt completely serene.

- A. turbulent
- B. hilarious
- C. pacific
- D. derogatory

20. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required'.

Mohit have appreciated Riya for her hard work.

- A. had appreciating
- B. have appreciates
- C. has appreciated
- D. No substitution required

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.

The (1) _____ life in Kashmir was drawing to its end after three (2) _____ months. Miss Joan was leaving a week earlier than Mrs. Rhodes, and about two days before she left, I took her alone to the hotel for dinner. We walked to the hotel in (3) _____ silence, a silence so heavy that I could (4) _____ breathe. The hotel seemed to be far away and yet not far (5) _____.

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

- A. romantic
- B. biquadratic
- C. mucolytic
- D. tonetic

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

- A. glorious
- B. analogous
- C. jealous
- D. anonymous

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

- A. direct
- B. select
- C. perfect
- D. slack

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

- A. gradually
- B. hardly
- C. loudly
- D. gladly

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

- A. overweigh
- B. thorough
- C. clough
- D. enough

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) Analytical

The passage takes a critical and balanced view of the Indian state's approach to tackling Maoists, while also exploring the historical, political, and socio-economic context. The tone is analytical, as it evaluates multiple aspects — from insurgent strategy to government errors and suggests alternative solutions.

A. Incorrect because the author doesn't express any triumph or joy over Maoist deaths; instead, the tone is serious and evaluative.

C. Incorrect because the author clearly cares about tribal suffering, policy outcomes, and potential alternatives.

D. Clearly inappropriate, as the subject matter is grave and serious; there is no attempt at humor.

2. C) The need for a comprehensive approach beyond militarism to tackle Maoist insurgency

The central idea is that while Maoist insurgency has weakened, a purely militaristic strategy is insufficient. The author advocates for civil engagement, rehabilitation incentives, and learning from global peace processes as more sustainable solutions.

A. While tribal issues are mentioned, it's not the main focus, but rather part of the broader issue.

B. Not discussed at all; the focus is on decline in rural forested areas.

D. The author does not glorify the operations; instead, they critique excesses and stress civilian involvement.

3. D) outdated ideology and focused governance + security strategy

The passage attributes the weakening of the Maoists to their anachronistic ideology, their militaristic focus, and the government's developmental + military approach

A. No international role or treaties are mentioned.

B. Tribal militancy is not a factor; tribals are victims or coerced

C. No evidence suggests full withdrawal of Maoist leadership.

4. C) It may deepen alienation among tribal communities

The passage states that a purely violent approach can cause disenchantment among tribals, making the ideology harder to root out.

A. The passage suggests militarism alone doesn't eliminate ideology.

B. International response is not mentioned.

D. There's no suggestion that popularity will rise due to militarism.

5. D) Engaging civil society and offering rehabilitation incentives

The passage proposes civil society involvement and incentive-based rehabilitation as a more sustainable and humane solution, citing Colombia and Nepal as examples.

A. Military deployment is already in place; passage stresses it's not enough.

B. Technology isn't discussed as a strategy.

C. Curfews are not mentioned and could worsen alienation.

6. D) **Zest** (noun) – Great enthusiasm and energy; excitement, delight, eagerness. जोश, उमंग
Antonym: **Dullness** (noun) – Lack of energy, enthusiasm, or brightness; lifelessness, boredom.
निष्क्रियता, सुस्ती

- **Peppy** (adjective) – Lively and energetic; full of enthusiasm. चुस्त, फुर्तीला
- **Remove** (verb) – To take away or eliminate something. हटाना, निकालना
- **Energetic** (adjective) – Full of energy and vitality; dynamic, active. ऊर्जावान, सक्रिय

7. B) **Scullery** (noun) – A room for cleaning and storing dishes and cooking utensils and for doing messy kitchen work. बर्तन धोने और रखने तथा रसोई का गंदा काम करने का स्थान।

- **Sanatorium** (noun): A medical facility for long-term illness, most typically associated with the treatment of tuberculosis. स्वास्थ्यगृह।
- **Dormitory** (noun): A large bedroom for a number of people in a school or institution. सामूहिक शयनकक्ष।
- **Overlay** (noun): A covering either to protect or to add decoration. आच्छादन।

8. B) **Fondness** (noun): A feeling of affection, liking, or tenderness for someone or something. पसंद, स्नेह

Synonym: **Liking** – A feeling of attraction or affection. पसंद

- **Mistake** (noun): An error or fault in action, judgment, or understanding. त्रुटि, गलती
- **Dislike** (noun): A feeling of aversion or distaste. नापसंद
- **Brilliance** (noun): Intense brightness or exceptional talent. तेजस्विता, उत्कृष्टता

9. D) यह sentence superlative degree में है क्योंकि इसमें एक व्यक्ति की तुलना पूरे समूह से की जा रही है। जब किसी गुण का उच्चतम स्तर व्यक्त करना हो, तो adjective का superlative रूप use होता है। "Friendly" एक adjective है, और इसका superlative रूप "friendliest" है। सही संरचना है: "He is the friendliest man in the group."

The sentence is in the superlative degree because it is comparing one man with the entire group. When referring to the highest degree of a quality, the superlative form of the adjective is used. "Friendly" is an adjective, and its superlative form is "friendliest." The correct structure for a superlative comparison is: "He is the friendliest man in the group."

10. B) **Emigrant** (noun) – Departing or having departed from a country to settle elsewhere प्रवासी
- **Native** (noun) – A person born in a particular place or country; not suitable as it refers to someone who belongs to a place by birth. मूल निवासी

- **Excommunicate** (verb) – To officially exclude someone from participation in the sacraments and services of the Christian Church; unrelated to the concept of migration. बहिष्कार करना
- **Immigrant** (noun) – A person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country; it refers to someone arriving in a new country, which is the opposite of the given phrase. आप्रवासी

11. B) 'have disappeared' के बदले 'has disappeared' का use होगा क्योंकि 'Much of the beauty and glory of life' एक singular विचार को दर्शाता है, और जब दो Abstract Nouns (जैसे beauty और glory) को एक इकाई के रूप में लिया जाता है, तो singular verb का use होता है। जैसे— Much of the beauty and glory of life has disappeared.

'has disappeared' will be used instead of 'have disappeared' because when two abstract nouns are considered a single idea or unit, they take a singular verb; Like— The peace and harmony of the village has been disturbed.

12. B) The correct spelling of "**cathedrel**" is "**cathedral**", which means "a principal church, especially one with a bishop's seat" or "महत्वपूर्ण गिरजाघर, विशेष रूप से जहाँ बिशप की गद्दी हो".

13. D) **Soft** (adjective) – Smooth, tender, not hard or firm, gentle. कोमल

Antonym: Hard (adjective) – Firm, solid, tough, not soft or yielding. सख्त

- **Cushiony** (adjective) – Soft, comfortable, spongy, padded. गद्देदार
- **Spongy (adjective)** – Soft, springy, porous, absorbent. स्पंजी
- **Flabby (adjective)** – Lacking firmness, loose, saggy. ढीला

14. B) **Catch someone's eye** – To attract someone's attention or to be noticed by them. किसी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना।

15. C) "**Completed**" का use होगा क्योंकि वाक्य यह बताता है कि टीम ने कई चुनौतियों का सामना करने के बावजूद परियोजना को समय से पहले सफलतापूर्वक पूरा कर लिया। यह एक past tense वाक्य है, और action पूरी हो चुकी है, इसलिए 'completed' सही option है। "Will be completed" भविष्य में होने वाले action को दर्शाता है, जो इस context में उपयुक्त नहीं है। "Has been completed" वर्तमान perfect tense है, जो वर्तमान से संबंधित होता है, लेकिन वाक्य स्पष्ट रूप से एक past event का वर्णन कर रहा है। "Had completed" past perfect tense है, जो तब उपयोग होता है जब किसी अन्य past event के पहले कुछ पूरा हुआ हो, लेकिन यहाँ ऐसा संदर्भ नहीं है।

"**Completed**" will be used because the sentence states that the team successfully finished the project ahead of schedule despite facing numerous challenges. This is a past tense statement, and the action is already complete, making 'completed' the correct choice. "Will be completed" refers to an action that will happen in the future, which is not relevant in this context.

"Has been completed" is in the present perfect tense, which relates to the present, but the sentence clearly describes a past event. "Had completed" is in the past perfect tense, which is used when an action is completed before another past event, but there is no such context here.

16. B) The correct spelling of 'succeed' is 'succeed', which means "to achieve the desired aim or result" (सफल होना, मंजिल प्राप्त करना).

17. D) **Lonely** (adjective): Feeling sad because one has no company; solitary, isolated, deserted, abandoned. अकेला

Synonym: **Alone** (adjective): Having no one else present; solitary, unaccompanied, isolated. अकेला

- **Collectively** (adverb): Together as a group; unitedly, jointly. सामूहिक रूप से
- **Crowded** (adjective): Full of people; packed, congested, jammed. भीड़-भाड़ वाला
- **Sociable** (adjective): Enjoying the company of others; friendly, outgoing. मिलनसार

18. A) 'Small' का use होगा क्योंकि यह adjective 'three little cats' में से पहले वाले के आकार को दर्शाने के लिए उपयुक्त है। इस वाक्य में comparative या superlative degree की आवश्यकता नहीं है, क्योंकि यह सीधे एक basic adjective के उपयोग को इंगित करता है। 'more small' गलत है, क्योंकि 'more small' एक incorrect comparative form है। 'Smaller' ही इसका सही comparative रूप है। 'most smallest' गलत है, क्योंकि superlative degree में 'most' और 'smallest' का एक साथ उपयोग नहीं होता। 'Smallest' अपने आप में superlative है। 'most small' भी गलत है, क्योंकि यह grammatical रूप से correct नहीं है।

Small will be used because it is the correct adjective to describe the first of the three little cats. The sentence does not require a comparative or superlative degree; it simply needs a basic adjective. 'More small' is incorrect because it is not the proper comparative form; 'smaller' is the correct one. 'Most smallest' is incorrect because using 'most' with 'smallest' is redundant; 'smallest' is already a superlative. 'Most small' is also incorrect because it is not grammatically valid.

19. A) **Serene** (adjective) – Calm, peaceful, tranquil, untroubled. शांत, सौम्य

Antonym: **Turbulent** (adjective) – Chaotic, disorderly, not calm, agitated. अशांत, उथल-पुथल

- **Hilarious**: (adjective) Very funny, amusing, or entertaining. Does not relate to calmness or tranquility. मजेदार, प्रफुल्लित
- **Pacific**: (adjective) Peaceful, calm, or promoting peace. Synonymous with "serene." Incorrect as it has the same meaning. शांतिपूर्ण
- **Derogatory**: (adjective) Expressing a low opinion, disrespectful, or insulting. Not related to calmness. अपमानजनक, तिरस्कारपूर्ण

20. C) 'have appreciated' के स्थान पर '**has appreciated**' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence का subject Mohit एक singular और third person का है। Present Perfect Tense में singular subject के साथ has का use किया जाता है।

'have appreciated' should be replaced with '**has appreciated**' because the subject of the sentence, Mohit, is singular and in the third person. In Present Perfect Tense, singular subjects take has instead of have.

21. A) '**Romantic**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'romantic' का अर्थ होता है रोमांचक, सुंदर, या भावनात्मक। passage में कश्मीर के जीवन का वर्णन किया गया है जो एक भावुक और सुंदर विदाई की ओर अग्रसर है, इसलिए 'romantic' यहाँ उपयुक्त है। जबकि 'biquadratic' का अर्थ है एक प्रकार का गणितीय समीकरण, 'mucolytic' का अर्थ है बलगम को पतला करने वाली दवा, और 'tonetic' का संबंध ध्वनियों और लहजों से है, जो इस context में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

Romantic will be used because it means exciting, beautiful, or emotional. The passage describes life in Kashmir coming to an emotional and scenic end, making 'romantic' the most fitting choice. Whereas, 'biquadratic' refers to a type of mathematical equation, 'mucolytic' pertains to medicine for thinning mucus, and 'tonetic' is related to tones and accents, none of which fit this context.

22. A) '**Glorious**' का use होगा क्योंकि "glorious" का अर्थ होता है शानदार या अद्भुत, और passage में जीवन के अंतिम समय को तीन शानदार महीनों के संदर्भ में व्यक्त किया गया है। यह दिखाता है कि वह समय सुंदर और यादगार था। जबकि 'Analogous' का अर्थ है समान या तुलनीय, 'Jealous' का अर्थ है ईर्ष्या करना, और 'Anonymous' का अर्थ है गुमनाम, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

Glorious will be used because it means splendid or wonderful, and the passage refers to the end of life in Kashmir after three remarkable months, indicating it was a beautiful and memorable time. Whereas, 'Analogous' means comparable or similar, 'Jealous' means feeling envy, and 'Anonymous' means without a name or unknown, which don't fit in this context.

23. C) '**Perfect**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "संपूर्ण" या "उत्तम," और यहाँ मौन का वर्णन करते हुए इसे सकारात्मक रूप में प्रस्तुत किया गया है। passage में mention है कि होटल तक पहुँचने के दौरान मौन का अनुभव ऐसा था जो उनके भावनात्मक जुड़ाव को दर्शाता है। 'Direct' का अर्थ "सीधा" है, लेकिन यह मौन के संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है क्योंकि यह भावना को व्यक्त नहीं करता। 'Select' का अर्थ "चुनिंदा" है, जो इस संदर्भ में बिल्कुल सही नहीं बैठता। 'Slack' का अर्थ "ढीला" या "शिथिल" है, लेकिन यह मौन के संदर्भ में यहाँ लागू नहीं होता क्योंकि यह एक नकारात्मक स्वरूप देता है, जो कहानी की भावना से मेल नहीं खाता।

Perfect will be used because it means "flawless" or "ideal," which fits the context of describing the silence in a positive and emotional tone. The passage implies that the silence was meaningful and complete, making 'Perfect' appropriate. 'Direct' means "straight," which does

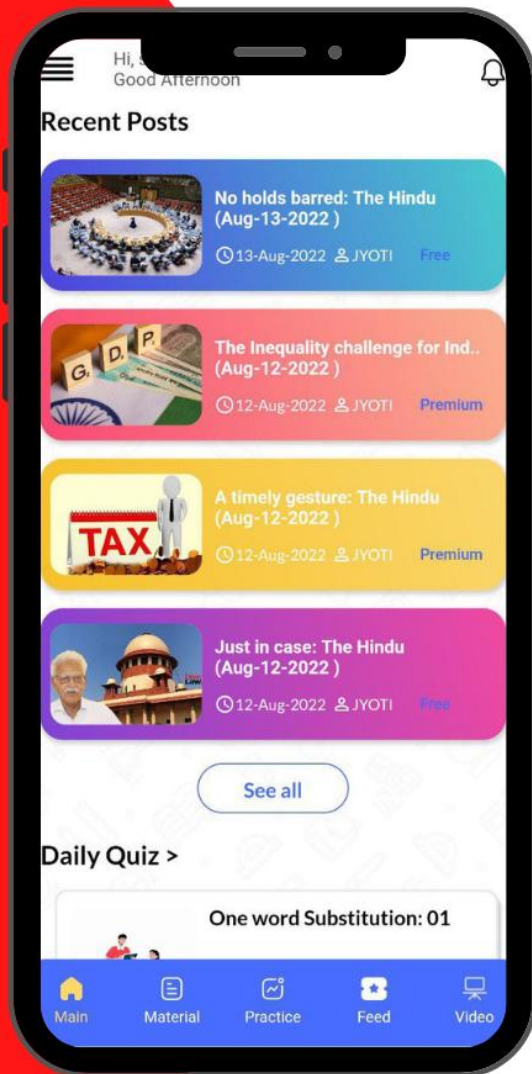
not describe the silence appropriately. 'Select' means "chosen," which is irrelevant in this context. 'Slack' means "loose" or "lacking tension," which conveys a negative tone and does not match the emotional depth of the silence described.

24. B) '**Hardly**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'hardly' का अर्थ होता है 'मुश्किल से' या 'कठिनाई से'। sentence में बताया गया है कि चुप्पी इतनी भारी थी कि वाक्यकर्ता 'मुश्किल से सांस ले पा रहा था।' इसलिए 'hardly' सही answer है। जबकि 'gradually' का अर्थ है 'धीरे-धीरे,' 'loudly' का अर्थ है 'जोर से,' और 'gladly' का अर्थ है 'खुशी से,' जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

Hardly will be used because it means 'with difficulty' or 'barely.' The sentence indicates that the silence was so heavy that the speaker could 'barely breathe,' making 'hardly' the correct answer. Whereas, 'gradually' means 'slowly,' 'loudly' means 'in a loud manner,' and 'gladly' means 'with happiness,' which don't fit in this context.

25. D) '**enough**' का use होगा क्योंकि "enough" का अर्थ होता है पर्याप्त या पर्याप्त मात्रा में। sentence में mention है कि होटल दूर लगता था और फिर भी बहुत दूर नहीं, इसलिए 'enough' इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त है। 'Overweigh' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ का वजन अधिक होना, जो इस संदर्भ में लागू नहीं होता। 'Thorough' का अर्थ है पूर्ण रूप से या अच्छी तरह, जो इस sentence में फिट नहीं होता। 'Clough' एक शब्द है, जिसका अर्थ घाटी या छोटी खाई होता है, जो यहां सही विकल्प नहीं है।

'**enough**' will be used because it means sufficient or adequate. The sentence implies that the hotel seemed far but not too far, making 'enough' appropriate in this context. 'Overweigh' means to weigh excessively, which doesn't fit here. 'Thorough' means completely or fully, which is irrelevant in this context. 'Clough' is an archaic word meaning a valley or small ravine, which doesn't suit this sentence.



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