

Alarming shift: on the U.S. government and free speech rights

Donald Trump's executive **overreach** calls for judicial **intervention**

Secretary of State Marco Rubio has confirmed that there is an ongoing programme in the United States to **revoke** the visas of foreign students who are “taking activities that are **counter** to our national interest, to our foreign policy”. Reports suggest that several hundred visas have been revoked, which include those held by Indian students. These reports also indicate that the U.S. government is using **surveillance** of social media activity as a basis for these **revocations**. Mr. Rubio also referenced the more troubling **aspects** of the Gaza war protests — Jewish students were **reportedly harassed** or university buildings were occupied. In his view, if an action would justify denying a visa at the application stage, it is **grounds** for revocation after issuance. However, this development raises concerns about the U.S. government's **stance** on the free speech rights of foreign nationals who reside in the country legally. Not all those affected by these visa revocations have been **disruptive**. The **right** to free speech **is enshrined in** the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Although the **amendment explicitly** restricts Congress from **curtailing** speech, it has long been interpreted **broadly**. It protects “people”, not just “citizens” — though the **distinction** may have been less defined at the time of its writing.

Whether this right extends to foreign nationals legally present in the U.S. remains a **grey area**. Various **laws** — from those of the late 18th century to more recent regulations **concerning** the impact on U.S. foreign policy — **have** placed limits on such expression. Yet, historically, foreign students have often been **vocal critics** of U.S. domestic and foreign policies without facing **punitive** action. And, university administrations have generally defended the free speech rights of students and academics. Despite its **imperfections** — both historic, such as the **internment** of Japanese Americans during the Second World War, and ongoing, such as systemic **racial inequalities** — the U.S. has been a **beacon** of liberal values and due process. These are principles **admired** around the world, often more than its **material wealth** or professional opportunities. For many, it is the commitment to values such as free speech that makes the U.S. exceptional. **That** commitment now **appears** to be at risk. The U.S. **system** of **checks and balances**, which **guards** against the abuse of power, **should assert** itself — **perhaps** through judicial intervention — to **rein in** the overreach by the Trump administration and **preserve** the freedoms that define American democracy and **inspire** large parts of the world. [\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

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

Vocabulary

1. **Alarming** (adjective) – Worrisome, Disturbing, Frightening, Troubling, Shocking चिंताजनक
2. **Shift** (noun) – Change, Move, Transition, Adjustment, Transformation परिवर्तन
3. **Overreach** (noun) – the act of doing more than your authority allows अतिक्रमण
4. **Call for** (phrasal verb) – Demand, Require, Necessitate, Request, Advocate मांग करना
5. **Intervention** (noun) – Interference, Mediation, Involvement, Intrusion, Arbitration हस्तक्षेप
6. **Revoke** (verb) – Cancel, Withdraw, Repeal, Rescind, Annul रद्द करना
7. **Counter** (adjective) – Opposing, Contrary, Adverse, Conflicting, Antagonistic विपरीत
8. **Surveillance** (noun) – Monitoring, Observation, Scrutiny, Watch, Supervision निगरानी
9. **Revocation** (noun) – Cancellation, Withdrawal, Repeal, Nullification, Abolition रद्दीकरण/निरसन
10. **Aspect** (noun) – Feature, Element, Facet, Characteristic, Angle पहलू
11. **Reportedly** (adverb) – Allegedly, Supposedly, Purportedly, Ostensibly, Apparently कथित तौर पर
12. **Harass** (verb) – Persecute, Intimidate, Bully, Torment, Oppress परेशान करना
13. **Ground** (noun) – Basis, Reason, Justification, Foundation, Rationale आधार
14. **Stance** (noun) – Position, Attitude, Standpoint, Viewpoint, Posture रुख
15. **Disruptive** (adjective) – Disturbing, Troublesome, Unsettling, Rowdy, Disorderly विघटनकारी
16. **Enshrine** (in) – (verb) – Protect, Preserve, Safeguard, Cherish, immortalize संरक्षित करना
17. **Amendment** (noun) – Modification, Revision, Change, Adjustment, Alteration संशोधन
18. **Explicitly** (adverb) – Clearly, Plainly, Directly, Unambiguously, Specifically स्पष्ट रूप से
19. **Curtail** (verb) – Reduce, Limit, Restrict, Diminish, Cut back कम करना
20. **Broadly** (adverb) – Generally, Widely, Extensively, Comprehensively, Liberally व्यापक रूप से
21. **Distinction** (noun) – Difference, Contrast, Disparity, Differentiation, Variation अंतर

22. **Grey area** (noun) – a situation that is not clear or where the rules are not known
अस्पष्ट क्षेत्र
23. **Concerning** (preposition) – Regarding, About, Relating to, Pertaining to, With respect to के संबंध में
24. **Vocal** (adjective) – Outspoken, Articulate, Expressive, Frank, Blunt मुखर
25. **Critics** (noun) – Reviewers, Commentators, Analysts, Evaluators, Opponents आलोचक
26. **Punitive** (adjective) – Penal, Disciplinary, Retributive, Corrective, Punishing दंडात्मक
27. **Imperfection** (noun) – Flaw, Defect, Fault, Shortcoming, Weakness त्रुटि
28. **Internment** (noun) – Confinement, Detention, Imprisonment, Incarceration, Custody नजरबंदी
29. **Racial** (adjective) – Ethnic, Cultural, National, Tribal, Ancestral नस्लीय
30. **Inequality** (noun) – Disparity, Imbalance, Injustice, Discrimination, Bias असमानता
31. **Beacon** (noun) – a good example that gives people hope or encouragement
32. **Admire** (verb) – Respect, Esteem, Appreciate, Revere, Honor प्रशंसा करना
33. **Material wealth** (noun) – It means that a person owns a significant amount of money or owns possessions of significant monetary value. भौतिक संपदा
34. **Checks and balances** (noun) – a system that allows each branch of a government to amend or veto acts of another branch so as to prevent any one branch from having too much power
35. **Guard** (verb) – Protect, Defend, Shield, Secure, Preserve रक्षा करना
36. **Assert** (verb) – Declare, Affirm, State, Maintain, Insist दृढ़ता से कहना
37. **Perhaps** (adverb) – Maybe, Possibly, Conceivably, Perchance, Potentially शायद
38. **Rein in** (phrasal verb) – Restrain, Control, Curb, Check, Limit नियंत्रण करना
39. **Preserve** (verb) – Protect, Maintain, Conserve, Safeguard, Uphold संरक्षित करना
40. **Inspire** (verb) – Motivate, Encourage, Stimulate, Influence, Galvanize प्रेरित करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Visa Revocations** – The U.S. is revoking visas of foreign students engaged in activities deemed against its "national interest" or foreign policy.
2. **Indian Students Affected** – Reports indicate several hundred visa cancellations, including those of Indian students.
3. **Social Media Surveillance** – The U.S. government is allegedly using social media monitoring to justify these revocations.
4. **Rubio's Justification** – Secretary of State Marco Rubio links visa cancellations to protests over the Gaza war, including harassment of Jewish students.
5. **Free Speech Concerns** – The policy raises fears about the erosion of free speech rights for foreign nationals legally residing in the U.S.
6. **First Amendment Protections** – The U.S. Constitution's First Amendment protects free speech for "people," not just citizens, but its application to non-citizens is unclear.
7. **Historical Precedents** – Foreign students have historically criticized U.S. policies without facing visa repercussions.
8. **University Defenses** – U.S. universities have traditionally defended free speech rights for students and academics.
9. **Legal Ambiguity** – While free speech is a core U.S. value, laws allow restrictions on foreign nationals affecting foreign policy.
10. **U.S. as a Liberal Beacon** – Despite past flaws (e.g., Japanese internment, racial inequality), the U.S. has been admired for liberal values like free speech.
11. **Erosion of Democratic Values** – The current policy risks undermining the principles that make the U.S. a global symbol of freedom.
12. **Trump Administration's Overreach** – The executive actions suggest excessive government control over dissent.
13. **Need for Judicial Intervention** – The U.S. system of checks and balances should curb this overreach, possibly through court rulings.
14. **Global Implications** – The U.S.'s commitment to free speech inspires democracies worldwide; weakening it could have far-reaching consequences.
15. **Call to Protect Freedoms** – The editorial urges safeguarding constitutional freedoms to preserve American democracy's integrity.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Curious
 - B. Celebratory
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Concerned
2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The significance of cultural exchange in universities
 - B. The potential violation of free speech rights of foreign nationals in the U.S.
 - C. The impact of social media on academic freedom
 - D. The historical relevance of the First Amendment
3. **Who confirmed that there is an ongoing programme in the United States to revoke the visas of certain foreign students on grounds of national interest?**
 - A. Secretary of State Marco Rubio
 - B. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin
 - C. U.S. President Joe Biden
 - D. Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy
4. **Why does the U.S. government's approach to revoking foreign students' visas raise concerns about free speech rights?**
 - A. The Constitution clearly allows the government to revoke all visas without reason.
 - B. The First Amendment has been broadly interpreted to protect "people," not just citizens.
 - C. Foreign students never criticize U.S. policy or partake in protests.
 - D. The U.S. government no longer follows any rule of law or checks and balances.
5. **Which of the following statements are accurate based on the passage?**
 - i. Several hundred visas have been revoked, including those held by Indian students.
 - ii. The U.S. government is using social media monitoring as part of the basis for visa revocations.
 - iii. All foreign nationals in the U.S. are unequivocally protected by the First Amendment.
 - A. i only
 - B. ii only
 - C. i and ii
 - D. i, ii, and iii
6. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**
 - A. etiquette
 - B. rationalisation
 - C. elopement
 - D. occasion
7. **The following sentence has been divided into four segments. One of them contains an error. Select the segment that contains the error from the given options.**

I am understanding; / you like her/ because she has /a generous nature

 - A. you like her
 - B. I am understanding;
 - C. a generous nature

- D. because she has
8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**
The repetitive and monotonous task of data entry made the work seem incredibly long and tedious
- A. Pious
B. Interesting
C. Precarious
D. Threatening
9. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains a spelling error.**
Joe was so tired that he could scarcely stand
- A. he could
B. so tired that
C. scarcely stand.
D. Joe was
10. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A woman having more than one husband at the same time
- A. Endogamy
B. Polymathy
C. Polyandry
D. Monogamy
11. **Select the most appropriate idiom for the underlined part in the given sentence:**
Sohan was very much perplexed to find that his younger brother Mohan had taken poison
- A. At any rate
B. At his wit's end
C. At logger heads
D. At his disposal
12. **Select the most suitable expression that can substitute the underlined part of the sentence without any change in meaning.**
Planning to go for a movie just before the final-year examination is nothing but Skating on thin ice
- A. doing hard work
B. being in a risky situation
C. enjoying the moment
D. going to hill stations
13. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**
A society or company provides these convenient features
- A. Equipment
B. Facilitate
C. System
D. Amenities
14. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the given sentence.**
The speaker delivered a profound speech that left the audience deeply moved.
- A. Deep
B. Inventive

- C. Shallow
D. Occult
15. Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the following sentence.
He behaved ruthlessly with his junior, to say the least
- A. Unexpectedly
B. Inhumanly
C. Weirdly
D. Politely
16. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the highlighted word
The worker is known to exert himself a lot.
- A. crouch
B. emerge
C. relax
D. stress
17. Select the most appropriate segment to substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.
The referee declared that the participant who will score the highest points in the tally will take away the cash prize of ₹50 lakh.
- A. who can score the highest point
B. who scores the highest point
C. who could score the highest point
D. who settles scores the highest point
18. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.
My friends are on a trip to the world
- A. in the world
B. by the world
C. within the world
D. around the world
19. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.
Yeoman's service
- A. Excellent work done
B. A thankless and tedious job
C. Working under a cruel master
D. Fraudulent service
20. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.
The Government must strive to provide a/an fair and square deal to the citizen of its country.
- A. exclusive and unreal
B. honest and straightforward
C. violent and immoral
D. forward and backward

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.

Superheroes are fictional characters with 1) _____ powers who use their powers to fight crime and protect the public. Some popular superheroes include Superman, Batman, Spider-Man and Wonder

Woman. Superheroes often have backstories that 2) _____ how they have gained their powers, 3) _____ being born with special powers, being bitten by a radioactive spider or being exposed to cosmic radiation. They usually have a specific outfit or clothing that they wear to hide their identity and protect 4) _____ while fighting crime. Superheroes have been a staple of popular culture 5) _____ decades, appearing in comics, movies, television shows, and video games.

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

- A. extraordinary
- B. pragmatic
- C. hereditary
- D. Familiar

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

- A. explaining
- B. was explain
- C. explain
- D. had explain

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

- A. therefore
- B. subsequently
- C. instead
- D. such as

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

- A. themselves
- B. ourselves
- C. herself
- D. Himself

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

- A. for
- B. on
- C. under
- D. Above

Answers

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

Explanations

1. D) Concerned

The passage expresses worry and disapproval over the U.S. government's policy of revoking visas based on foreign students' activities and speech. Words like "alarming shift" and references to "overreach" and "concerns" reflect a concerned and cautionary tone.

A: The passage does not merely inquire or speculate; it presents a critical stance.

B: The passage does not celebrate or praise any policy; it warns against potential violations of rights.

C: The passage clearly takes a stance and shows worry, not neutrality or lack of interest.

2. B) The potential violation of free speech rights of foreign nationals in the U.S.

The passage focuses on how foreign students' speech and activities (especially related to protests) are leading to visa revocations, raising concerns about free speech protections for non-citizens. This underscores the potential violation of free speech rights for foreign nationals legally residing in the U.S.

A: Although foreign students are mentioned, the passage deals primarily with free speech and visa policies, not cultural exchange.

C: While social media monitoring is mentioned, the core issue is about free speech rights under the law, not just academic freedom.

D: The passage does reference the First Amendment, but it does so to illustrate how current government actions may conflict with established free speech principles, rather than focusing on its historical development.

3. A) Secretary of State Marco Rubio

Marco Rubio, as stated in the passage, confirmed that the U.S. government is revoking visas of foreign students allegedly engaging in activities counter to U.S. national interests.

B: The passage does not mention the Secretary of Defense as having made such an announcement.

C: The passage specifies Marco Rubio, not the President, made the direct confirmation.

D: The passage does not reference the Speaker of the House in relation to visa revocations.

4. B) The First Amendment has been broadly interpreted to protect "people," not just citizens.

The concern arises because the First Amendment's protection of free speech has historically extended to "people" broadly, including non-citizens. Revoking visas over lawful expression could undermine these broader constitutional principles and create a chilling effect on free speech.

A: The passage suggests there must be a national interest basis, not that visas can be revoked arbitrarily without concern for free speech.

C: The passage itself notes that foreign students often have criticized U.S. policies, so this statement is factually incorrect.

D: While there are concerns about overreach, the passage points out that the U.S. system of checks and balances still exists and might intervene—this choice is an overgeneralization.

5. C) i and ii

i: True. The passage explicitly notes that "several hundred visas have been revoked," including those of Indian students.

ii: True. The passage indicates that the U.S. government uses surveillance of social media activity in making these revocation decisions.

iii: False. The passage underscores that First Amendment protection for foreign nationals is a “grey area” and not guaranteed without limits.

6. A) The correct spelling of '**ettiquete**' is 'etiquette' which means "the customary code of polite behavior in society or among members of a particular profession or group" शिष्टाचार, सदाचार.

7. B) '**am understanding**' के बदले 'understand' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'understand' एक Stative Verb है जो कि Present Continuous Tense में प्रयुक्त नहीं होता है; जैसे— I understand you like her because she has a generous nature.

Note: Stative verbs often relate to: thoughts and opinions: **agree, believe, doubt, guess, imagine, know, mean, recognise, remember, suspect, think, understand.**

- 'understand' will be used instead of 'am understanding' because 'understand' is a Stative Verb which is not used in Present Continuous Tense; Like— I understand you like her because she has a generous nature.

8. B) **Monotonous** (adjective) – Dull, tedious, and repetitious; lacking in variety and interest. नीरस

Antonym: Interesting (adjective) – Arousing curiosity or interest; holding or catching the attention.

दिलचस्प

- **Pious** (adjective) – Devoutly religious. धार्मिक
- **Precarious** (adjective) – Not securely held or in position; dangerously likely to fall or collapse. अस्थिर
- **Threatening** (adjective) – Having a hostile or deliberately frightening quality or manner. धमकी भरा

9. C) '**scarely**' के बदले 'scarcely' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'scarely' का spelling गलत है; जैसे— Joe was so tired that he could scarcely stand.

- 'scarcely' will be used instead of 'scarely' because 'scarely' is a spelling error; Like— Joe was so tired that he could scarcely stand.

10. C) **Polyandry** (noun) – A woman having more than one husband at the same time. बहुपतित्व

- **Endogamy** (noun) – The custom of marrying within one's own community or tribe. अंतर्विवाह
- **Polymathy** (noun) – Knowledge of many subjects. बहुज्ञता
- **Monogamy** (noun) – The practice of being married to one person at a time. एकपत्नी प्रथा

11. B) **At his wit's end** (idiom) – Very much perplexed अत्यधिक उलझन में

- **At any rate** (phrase) – Regardless of circumstances, anyway, in any case, nevertheless, anyhow किसी भी हाल में
- **At loggerheads** (phrase) – In conflict, in disagreement, at odds, quarrelling, in opposition मतभेद में

- **At his disposal** (phrase) – Available for use, accessible, ready to use, on hand, at one's command उपलब्ध होना
12. **B) Skating on thin ice** – being in a risky situation जोखिम भरी स्थिति में होना
13. **D) Amenities** (noun) – A society or company provides these convenient features सुविधाएं
- **Equipment** (noun) – the necessary items for a particular purpose उपकरण
 - **Facilitate** (verb) – to make an action or process easy or easier सुगम बनाना
 - **System** (noun) – a set of things working together as parts of a mechanism or an interconnecting network प्रणाली
14. **C) Profound** (adjective) – Having deep insight or understanding; intense, thorough, meaningful. गहरा
Antonym: **Shallow** (adjective) – Lacking depth of intellect or knowledge; superficial, trivial, simple.
उथला
- **Deep** (adjective) – Extending far down from the top or surface; profound, intense. गहरा
 - **Inventive** (adjective) – Having the ability to create or design new things; creative, imaginative. आविष्कारशील
 - **Occult** (adjective) – Relating to mystical, supernatural, or magical powers or phenomena; hidden, mysterious. गुप्त
15. **B) Ruthlessly** (adverb) – Without pity or compassion for others; cruelly, mercilessly, brutally. निर्मम ढंग से
Synonym: **Inhumanly** (adverb) – In a manner lacking human qualities of compassion and mercy; cruelly, mercilessly. अमानवीय ढंग से
- **Unexpectedly** (adverb) – In a way that is not expected; suddenly, surprisingly. अप्रत्याशित ढंग से
 - **Weirdly** (adverb) – In a strange or unusual way; bizarrely. विचित्र ढंग से
 - **Politely** (adverb) – In a respectful and considerate manner; courteously, kindly. विनम्र ढंग से
16. **C) Exert** (verb) – To make a strenuous physical or mental effort. प्रयास करना
Antonym: **Relax** (verb) – To make or become less tense or anxious, to rest, to take it easy. आराम करना
- **Crouch** (verb) – To bend down low with the limbs close to the body. झुकना
 - **Emerge** (verb) – To come into view or become apparent. उभरना
 - **Stress** (verb) – To experience mental or emotional strain. तनाव देना
17. **B) 'will score' के बदले 'scores' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह एक conditional statement है जो भविष्य की घटना को संदर्भित करता है। मुख्य Clause 'will take away' का उपयोग करता है, इसलिए Relative Clause में Simple Present Tense 'scores' का उपयोग उचित है; जैसे— The referee declared that the participant who scores the highest points in the tally will take away the cash prize of ₹50 lakh.**

- 'scores' will be used instead of 'will score' because it is a conditional statement referring to a future event. The main clause uses a future form 'will take away', so the Simple Present Tense 'scores' is appropriate in the Relative Clause; Like— The referee declared that the participant who scores the highest points in the tally will take away the cash prize of ₹50 lakh.
18. D) **Around the world** (phrase) – Throughout the world; all over the world. विश्व भर में
19. A) **Yeoman's service** (idiom) – Excellent work done उत्कृष्ट कार्य किया
20. B) **fair and square** (idiom) – honest and straightforward ईमानदार और सीधा
21. A) **Extraordinary** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence उन काल्पनिक पात्रों की चर्चा कर रहा है जो असाधारण शक्तियों के साथ आते हैं और अपने इन शक्तियों का उपयोग अपराध से लड़ने और जनता की रक्षा करने के लिए करते हैं। यहाँ "Superheroes are fictional characters with (1) _____ powers" के माध्यम से उन विशेष शक्तियों की बात हो रही है, जो सामान्य से परे हैं। इसलिए, "extraordinary" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा। **'Extraordinary'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing fictional characters who come with exceptional powers and use these powers to fight crime and protect the public. Here, through "Superheroes are fictional characters with (1) _____ powers", it refers to those special powers that are beyond ordinary. Thus, "extraordinary" would be the most appropriate choice.
22. C) **Explain** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence यह बता रहा है कि सुपरहीरोज़ ने अपनी शक्तियाँ कैसे प्राप्त की। यहाँ "Superheroes often have backstories that (2) _____ how they have gained their powers" में यह दिखाया गया है कि उनके पास कहानियाँ हैं जो यह समझाती हैं कि उन्होंने अपनी शक्तियाँ कैसे प्राप्त की। इसलिए, "explain" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा। **'Explain'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing how superheroes gained their powers. Here, through "Superheroes often have backstories that (2) _____ how they have gained their powers," it portrays that they have stories that explain how they acquired their powers. Thus, "explain" would be the most appropriate choice.
23. D) **Such as** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence सुपरहीरो के शक्तियाँ कैसे प्राप्त होती हैं, इसकी विभिन्न संभावनाओं की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "being born with special powers, being bitten by a radioactive spider or being exposed to cosmic radiation" के माध्यम से उन संभावनाओं का उल्लेख किया जा रहा है, जिसमें सुपरहीरो अपनी शक्तियाँ प्राप्त करते हैं। इसलिए, "such as" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा। **'Such as'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the various possibilities of how superheroes acquire their powers. Here, through "being born with special powers, being bitten by a radioactive spider or being exposed to cosmic radiation," it mentions those possibilities in which superheroes gain their powers. Thus, "such as" would be the most appropriate choice.
24. A) **themselves** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence सुपरहीरो की बात कर रहा है जो अपराध से लड़ते समय अपनी पहचान छुपाने और खुद की रक्षा करने के लिए एक विशिष्ट पोशाक या वस्त्र पहनते हैं। यहाँ "protect

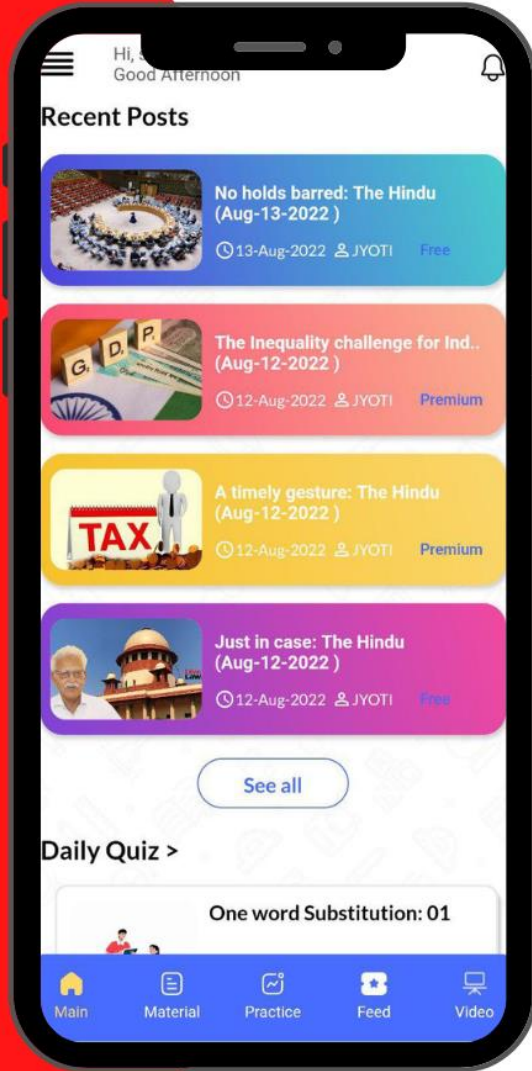
4)_____ while fighting crime" के माध्यम से उस सुरक्षा को दर्शाया जा रहा है जो सुपरहीरो अपने आप को प्रदान करते हैं। इसलिए, "themselves" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

'themselves' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing superheroes who wear specific outfits or clothing to hide their identity and protect themselves while fighting crime.

Here, through "protect 4)_____ while fighting crime," it portrays that protection which superheroes provide to themselves. Thus, "themselves" would be the most appropriate choice.

25. A) **For**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence सुपरहीरोज़ के दशकों से लोकप्रिय संस्कृति में होने की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "Superheroes have been a staple of popular culture (5)_____ decades" के माध्यम से उस लंबे समय की अवधि को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें सुपरहीरोज़ ने कॉमिक्स, मूवीज़, टेलीविजन शो और वीडियो गेम्स में अपनी जगह बनाई है। इसलिए, "for" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

'For' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the presence of superheroes in popular culture for decades. Here, through "Superheroes have been a staple of popular culture (5)_____ decades", it portrays that extended period during which superheroes have established their place in comics, movies, television shows, and video games. Thus, "for" would be the most appropriate choice.



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