

## Timing and location: On Bangladesh Chief Adviser's remarks and China visit

Yunus chose the wrong time and place to **push** for regional connectivity

Bangladesh Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus's **remarks**, made during his China visit to attend the Boao Forum for Asia conference, **have sparked sharp** responses in India, **amid** questions about their **underlying intent**. Speaking at a round table, Mr. Yunus **highlighted** the lack of connectivity and trade in the region, referring to the north-eastern Indian States — the “Seven Sisters” — as a “land-locked” area. Ignoring India's **vast** coastline, he **went on to** claim that Bangladesh was the “**guardian** of ocean access” and called on China to view the Indian States, along with Bhutan, Nepal, and Bangladesh, as an “extension of the Chinese economy”, presenting them as a market and a production base. There were other **undertones** to his remarks, which were shared on his social media accounts. This was his first visit to China since taking office **following** the **ouster** of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina last August. Tensions with India have **persisted** over attacks on minorities in Bangladesh and the Yunus government's demands for the **repatriation** of Ms. Hasina from India.

With no invitation **forthcoming** from New Delhi, Mr. Yunus's **decision** to visit China **has** been **perceived** as a diplomatic **snub** — and possibly a sign that Bangladesh may be shifting its foreign **policy orientation**. While the Ministry of External Affairs has declined to comment, political leaders have **weighed in**. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma called the comments “offensive and strongly **condemnable**”, suggesting that the remarks were aimed at highlighting India's strategic **vulnerability via** the “**Chicken's Neck**”. Other regional leaders and members of the Opposition have urged the central government to **convey** its **displeasure** to Dhaka. Mr. Yunus could not have been unaware that the timing and the location of his speech would **provoke** controversy. His remarks **reflected** a lack of sensitivity toward how the countries mentioned might **interpret** statements that appear to support China's economic **hegemony** in the region. While these comments may have been intended to appeal to his hosts or may have **stemmed from** his **advocacy** for regional connectivity, their **substance** could have been more carefully considered. A more suitable platform for such discussions might have been the upcoming **BIMSTEC summit** in Thailand, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi and leaders from South Asia to Southeast Asia will be present. Equally significant is that Mr. Yunus received two letters from India this week: one from President Droupadi Murmu extending Eid-ul-Fitr greetings, and another from Mr. Modi on the anniversary of Bangladesh's Independence Day. Although there has been no formal announcement of a Modi-Yunus meet in Bangkok, it is hoped that both sides will engage **on the sidelines** to **mend** the **strain** in **ties** and **explore** a more **constructive** path. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Remark** (noun) – Comment, Statement, Observation, Declaration, Utterance टिप्पणी
2. **Push for** (phrasal verb) – Advocate, Promote, Campaign, Lobby, Urge दबाव डालना
3. **Spark** (verb) – Trigger, Provoke, Ignite, Stimulate, Generate भड़काना
4. **Sharp** (adjective) – Strong, Harsh, Severe, Pointed, Critical तीखा
5. **Amid** (preposition) – During, In the middle of, Among, In the midst of के बीच
6. **Underlying** (adjective) – Fundamental, Basic, Root, Hidden, Latent अंतर्निहित
7. **Intent** (noun) – Purpose, Aim, Intention, Objective, Goal इरादा
8. **Highlight** (verb) – Emphasize, Spotlight, Feature, Accentuate, Underscore जोर देना
9. **Vast** (adjective) – Extensive, Huge, Enormous, Immense, Massive विशाल
10. **Coastline** (noun) – Shoreline, Seaboard, Coast, Littoral, Beachfront तटरेखा
11. **Go on to** (phrase) – Proceed, Continue, Advance, Progress, Move forward आगे बढ़ना
12. **Guardian** (noun) – Protector, Custodian, Keeper, Defender, Warden संरक्षक
13. **Undertone** (noun) – an underlying quality or feeling. मंद स्वर
14. **Following** (preposition) – After, Subsequent to, In the wake of, As a result of के बाद
15. **Ouster** (noun) – Removal, Expulsion, Deposition, Dismissal, Ejection बर्खास्तगी/ बेदखली
16. **Persist** (verb) – Continue, Endure, Last, Remain, Prevail बने रहना
17. **Repatriation** (noun) – Return, Restoration, Homecoming, Deportation स्वदेश वापसी
18. **Forthcoming** (adjective) – Approaching, Coming, Imminent, Available, Ready आगामी
19. **Perceived** (adjective) – Seen, Viewed, Regarded, Considered, Judged समझा गया
20. **Snub** (noun) – Insult, Rebuff, Slight, Rejection, Disdain अपमान
21. **Policy orientation** (noun) – Strategic direction, Approach, Tendency, Inclination नीतिगत दिशा
22. **Weigh in** (phrasal verb) – to give an opinion or enter a discussion or argument.
23. **Condemnable** (adjective) – Blameworthy, Reprehensible, Deplorable, Disgraceful निंदनीय

24. **Vulnerability** (noun) – Weakness, Susceptibility, Exposure, Defenselessness  
संवेदनशीलता
25. **Via** (preposition) – Through, By means of, By way of, Using, With the help of के माध्यम से
26. **Chicken's neck** (noun) – It's a common nickname for the Siliguri Corridor in India, a narrow strip of land connecting the northeastern states to the rest of the country
27. **Convey** (verb) – Communicate, Express, Transmit, Impart, Relay व्यक्त करना
28. **Displeasure** (noun) – Dissatisfaction, Annoyance, Irritation, Anger, Discontent नाराज़गी
29. **Provoke** (verb) – Incite, Rile, Anger, Irritate, Aggravate उकसाना
30. **Reflect** (verb) – Indicate, Show, Demonstrate, Reveal, Exhibit प्रकट करना
31. **Interpret** (verb) – Understand, Construe, Decipher, Explain, Translate व्याख्या करना
32. **Hegemony** (noun) – Dominance, Supremacy, Authority, Control, Leadership प्रभुत्व
33. **Stem from** (phrasal verb) – Originate, Arise, Derive, Spring, Result from से उत्पन्न होना
34. **Advocacy** (noun) – Support, Promotion, Championing, Backing, Endorsement समर्थन
35. **Substance** (noun) – Content, Essence, Core, Meaning, Significance सार
36. **BIMSTEC** (noun) – a regional organization of seven South and Southeast Asian nations focused on economic and technical cooperation in the Bay of Bengal region बिम्सटेक
37. **Summit** (noun) – Meeting, Conference, Assembly, Gathering, Talks शिखर सम्मेलन
38. **On the sidelines of** (phrase) – Alongside, Concurrent with, Parallel to, During के साथसाथ
39. **Mend** (verb) – Repair, Fix, Heal, Restore, Improve सुधारना
40. **Strain** (noun) – Tension, Pressure, Stress, Difficulty, Friction तनाव
41. **Ties** (noun) – Relations, Connections, Links, Bonds, Relationships संबंध
42. **Explore** (verb) – Investigate, Examine, Research, Study, Probe जांच करना
43. **Constructive** (adjective) – Positive, Productive, Useful, Helpful, Beneficial रचनात्मक

## Summary of the Editorial

1. **Controversial remarks:** Bangladesh Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus sparked backlash in India by calling Northeast India's "Seven Sisters" a "land-locked" region during a speech in China.
2. **Boao Forum context:** Yunus made these comments at the Boao Forum for Asia conference, his first China visit since taking office after Sheikh Hasina's ouster.
3. **Questionable claims:** He ignored India's coastline, called Bangladesh the "guardian of ocean access," and urged China to treat Northeast India, Bhutan, Nepal, and Bangladesh as an "extension of the Chinese economy."
4. **Diplomatic snub?:** Yunus's China visit, without an Indian invitation, is seen as a possible shift in Bangladesh's foreign policy alignment.
5. **India's silence:** The MEA has not officially responded, but Indian political leaders have strongly criticized Yunus's remarks.
6. **Assam CM's reaction:** Himanta Biswa Sarma called the comments "offensive," suggesting they targeted India's strategic vulnerability (Siliguri Corridor/"Chicken's Neck").
7. **Opposition pressure:** Regional leaders and opposition figures urged the Indian government to formally express displeasure to Dhaka.
8. **Poor timing & location:** Yunus's remarks in China, amid India-Bangladesh tensions, were seen as provocative and insensitive.
9. **Pro-China undertones:** His statements appeared to endorse Chinese economic dominance in South Asia, raising concerns in India.
10. **Possible motives:** The remarks may have been aimed at pleasing China or promoting regional connectivity but lacked diplomatic caution.
11. **Better alternatives:** The upcoming BIMSTEC summit in Thailand would have been a more appropriate platform for such discussions.
12. **India's diplomatic gestures:** Despite tensions, India sent Yunus Eid greetings (from President Murmu) and Independence Day wishes (from PM Modi).
13. **Potential Modi-Yunus meet:** No official confirmation yet, but a sideline meeting at BIMSTEC could help repair relations.
14. **Broader tensions:** India-Bangladesh ties are strained over minority attacks in Bangladesh and Dhaka's demand for Hasina's repatriation from India.
15. **Need for constructive engagement:** Both sides must address misunderstandings and work toward stability in bilateral relations.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What can be reasonably inferred about Bangladesh Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus's intent behind his remarks during the Boao Forum?** [Editorial page]
  - A. He aimed to emphasize Bangladesh's strategic importance to China.
  - B. He intended to foster goodwill with India by promoting connectivity.
  - C. He wanted to diminish the importance of Bhutan and Nepal in regional trade.
  - D. He was unaware of the diplomatic consequences of his statements.
2. **Fill in the blank: Mr. Yunus's speech was seen as controversial due to its \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - A. praise for India's coastal development
  - B. timing and location amid strained India-Bangladesh relations
  - C. neutral tone regarding regional politics
  - D. support for BIMSTEC's expansion
3. **Which of the following did occur according to the passage?**
  - A. The Indian Ministry of External Affairs publicly condemned Yunus's remarks.
  - B. Mr. Yunus was officially invited to New Delhi before his China visit.
  - C. Indian leaders, including Assam's CM, condemned Yunus's comments.
  - D. Mr. Modi announced a bilateral meeting with Mr. Yunus in Bangkok.
4. **What is the most appropriate tone of the passage?**
  - A. Celebratory
  - B. Critical
  - C. Humorous
  - D. Indifferent
5. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
  - A. Economic cooperation between Bangladesh and China
  - B. Internal politics of Bangladesh
  - C. Diplomatic tensions between India and Bangladesh over recent remarks by Mr. Yunus
  - D. China's growing economic power in South Asia
6. **From the given options, identify the sentence which is in the positive degree.**
  - A. I have a greater idea in this regard.
  - B. She is the most beautiful girl of the class.
  - C. His brother is an intelligent boy.
  - D. They are playing hockey with longer sticks.
7. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**  
Contaminate
  - A. purify
  - B. clean
  - C. excel
  - D. pollute
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

From contacting our loved ones to buying groceries for our daily needs, mobile phones fulfilled our every requirement during the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only during the pandemic, but mobile phones have also \_\_\_\_\_ our needs since the time of their invention

- A. incensed
- B. served
- C. exasperated
- D. annoyed

9. **Select the option that will improve the underlined part of the given sentence. In case no improvement is needed, select 'No improvement required'.**

When Shina reached the bus stand, she realised that she has left her wallet at home

- A. she had been left her wallet
- B. she had left her wallet
- C. she leaves her wallet
- D. no improvement required

10. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given phrase.**

A medicine to counteract the effect of another medicine

- A. Antibiotic
- B. Antidote
- C. Alimony
- D. Anticoagulant

11. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word**

It is a betterment of his work

- A. Worsening
- B. Growth
- C. Improvement
- D. Popularity

12. **Select the option that has an error in the usage of the present perfect tense.**

- A. Ravi has completed his project.
- B. Ravi has complete his homework.
- C. I have completed my task.
- D. Rashi has completed her homework.

13. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the given sentence.**

The ambiguous statement of the leader raised criticism among the public.

- A. Puzzled
- B. Confusing
- C. Disorganised
- D. Clear

14. **Select the option that correctly rectifies the underlined spelling error.**

He received an honarary degree for his contributions

- A. Honnary
- B. Honnorary

- C. Honorary  
D. Honnaary
15. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains an error.**  
I regret / in notify that / the model you want/ is out of stock
- A. I regret  
B. in notify that  
C. is out of stock  
D. the model you want
16. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**  
Skeleton in the cupboard
- A. A famous and hidden fact  
B. An interesting and thoughtful fact  
C. An embarrassing and hidden fact  
D. A popular and known fact
17. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.**  
The corporator gathered heaps of curses, and his misdeeds can never be forgiven by the people
- A. Arguments  
B. Transgressions  
C. Confrontation  
D. Consequences
18. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**  
Sarah said that she hates it when people \_\_\_\_\_ at her
- A. stair  
B. steer  
C. stare  
D. star
19. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**
- A. Almighty  
B. Sculpter  
C. Stampede  
D. Pursuit
20. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**  
As he is not satisfied / with the jury's decision, / he appeal / in the higher court.
- A. as he is not satisfied  
B. he appeal  
C. in the higher court  
D. with the jury's decision

**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.

It was Saturday evening last week. My parents and younger sister had (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to my uncle's house to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the day. I had stayed back to prepare for a class test. At 5:00 p.m, someone (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the door bell. To my shock and dismay, one of my distant relatives, Mr. Sinha (4) \_\_\_\_\_ standing with his suitcase. I had to call him in most unwillingly. He was a big bore and nothing less than a chatterbox. I asked his preference (5) \_\_\_\_\_ coffee and tea.

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

- A. gone
- B. going
- C. went
- D. go

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

- A. spent
- B. spented
- C. spend
- D. spended

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

- A. rings
- B. rang
- C. ring
- D. rung

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

- A. were
- B. is
- C. been
- D. was

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

- A. between
- B. among
- C. with
- D. for



## Answers

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

**[Practice Exercise]**

## Explanations

### 1. A) He aimed to emphasize Bangladesh's strategic importance to China.

Yunus's statements such as calling Bangladesh the "guardian of ocean access" and proposing the region as an "extension of the Chinese economy" suggest a deliberate attempt to highlight Bangladesh's geostrategic value, likely to gain favor with China.

B is incorrect: His remarks upset India and were not conducive to goodwill.

C is incorrect: There's no indication he tried to sideline Bhutan or Nepal.

D is incorrect: The passage says "Mr. Yunus could not have been unaware", implying awareness of potential backlash.

### 2. B) timing and location amid strained India-Bangladesh relations

The passage highlights that the timing and location of Yunus's remarks — during a China visit while tensions with India were high — contributed to the controversy.

A is incorrect: He ignored India's coastline entirely.

C is incorrect: His tone was not neutral; it favored China.

D is incorrect: BIMSTEC was only mentioned as a more appropriate forum, not something he supported.

### 3. C) Indian leaders, including Assam's CM, condemned Yunus's comments.

Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma is mentioned as calling the comments "offensive and strongly condemnable," showing a strong reaction from Indian leadership.

A is incorrect: The MEA declined to comment.

B is incorrect: No invitation was sent from New Delhi.

D is incorrect: There's no formal announcement of a Modi-Yunus meeting.

### 4. B) Critical

The passage adopts a critical tone, especially towards Mr. Yunus's remarks during his China visit. It points out his insensitivity, the potential diplomatic consequences, and how his comments may support China's dominance in the region. The tone reflects concern and analytical scrutiny rather than neutrality or praise.

A. Incorrect because the passage is not praising or celebrating any event or individual. It focuses on geopolitical tension and criticism.

C. Incorrect as the language and subject matter are serious and diplomatic, not meant for amusement.

D. Incorrect because the author clearly expresses concern and engagement with the issue rather than detachment.

### 5. C) Diplomatic tensions between India and Bangladesh over recent remarks by Mr. Yunus

The central focus of the passage is on how Mr. Yunus's comments during his China visit have led to diplomatic friction between India and Bangladesh. It discusses reactions from Indian officials, the timing and implications of his speech, and the potential foreign policy shift in Bangladesh.

A. Incorrect because the passage isn't centered on the benefits or specifics of economic cooperation but on the controversy surrounding Mr. Yunus's remarks.

B. Incorrect; while it briefly mentions Sheikh Hasina's ouster, the main focus is not on domestic Bangladeshi politics.

D. Incorrect as the passage only touches on this in context; it is not the primary theme, but rather a background factor in the India-Bangladesh tension.

6. C) **His brother is an intelligent boy** positive degree में है क्योंकि "intelligent" अपने base form, में है, जो किसी प्रकार की तुलना को नहीं दर्शाता। Positive degree केवल एक गुण का वर्णन करती है, और यहाँ "intelligent" केवल "उसके भाई" की विशेषता बता रहा है।

His brother is an intelligent boy is in the positive degree because "intelligent" is in its base form, which does not imply any comparison. Positive degree describes a quality without comparison, and here "intelligent" only attributes a quality to "his brother."

7. D) **Contaminate** (verb) – To make something impure or unclean by adding harmful or poisonous substances; pollute; taint. दूषित करना

**SYNONYM: Pollute** (verb) – To make impure, dirty, or harmful by introducing contaminants or pollutants; contaminate. प्रदूषित करना/ मैला करना

- **Purify** (verb) – To remove impurities or contaminants; clean, refine. शुद्ध करना
- **Clean** (verb/adjective) – Free from dirt, marks, or unwanted substances; tidy. साफ़ करना/स्वच्छ
- **Excel** (verb) – To be exceptionally good at something; surpass. श्रेष्ठ होना

8. B) **Served**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है "सेवा करना या आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करना।" यहाँ sentence में mention है कि मोबाइल फोन ने हमारी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा किया है, इसलिए 'served' उपयुक्त है। जबकि: 'Incensed' का अर्थ है "क्रोधित करना," 'Exasperated' का अर्थ है "खिन्न या हताश करना," 'Annoyed' का अर्थ है "परेशान करना।" ये विकल्प इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

**Served**' will be used because it means "to fulfill needs or provide service." The sentence mentions that mobile phones have been fulfilling our needs, making 'served' the most appropriate option. Whereas: 'Incensed' means "to make angry," 'Exasperated' means "to frustrate or irritate," 'Annoyed' means "to bother." These options do not fit the context of the sentence.

9. B) 'she has left her wallet' के बदले 'she had left her wallet' का USE होगा क्योंकि वाक्य Past Tense में है ("When Shina reached the bus stand..."), और इसके बाद की क्रिया उससे भी पहले घटी घटना को दर्शाती है। ऐसे मामलों में Past Perfect Tense (had + V3) का USE किया जाता है।

'she had left her wallet' will be used instead of 'she has left her wallet' because when a sentence is in the Past Tense and refers to an action completed before another past action, the correct tense is Past Perfect; Like— When Shina reached the bus stand, she realised that she had left her wallet at home.

10. B) **Antidote** (noun) – A medicine or substance used to counteract the effects of poison or another medicine. अमृत/प्रतिकारक

- **Antibiotic** (noun) – A medicine that inhibits the growth of or destroys microorganisms. प्रतिजैविक दवा
- **Alimony** (noun) – A financial support given to a spouse after separation or divorce. गुजारा भत्ता
- **Anticoagulant** (noun) – A substance that prevents blood from clotting. रक्त के थक्के जमने से रोकने वाली दवा

11. A) **Betterment** (noun) – Improvement, advancement, progress, refinement. सुधार, उन्नति, प्रगति।

**Antonym: Worsening** (noun) – Decline, deterioration, degradation, regression. बिगड़ना, अवनति।

- **Growth** (noun) – Expansion, increase, development, progress. वृद्धि, विस्तार।
- **Improvement** (noun) – Betterment, enhancement, refinement, advancement. सुधार, प्रगति।
- **Popularity** (noun) – Fame, recognition, approval, renown. लोकप्रियता।

12. B) B में Present Perfect Tense का गलत use किया गया है क्योंकि इसमें "complete" verb का base form है। Present Perfect Tense में हमेशा past participle (V3) का use होता है। Like: "Ravi has completed his homework."

Option B contains an error in the usage of the Present Perfect Tense. In this tense, the verb should always be in its past participle form (V3), but here the verb "complete" is incorrectly used in its base form instead of "completed." Correction: The sentence should be written as: "Ravi has completed his homework"

13. D) **Ambiguous** (adjective) – Open to more than one interpretation; not clear or decided. अस्पष्ट, अनिर्णीत

**Antonym: Clear** (adjective) – Easy to understand; free from ambiguity; obvious. स्पष्ट, साफ़

- **Puzzled** (adjective) – Confused or unable to understand. उलझन में
- **Confusing (adjective)** – Difficult to understand or causing confusion. भ्रमित करने वाला
- **Disorganised (adjective)** – Lacking order or structure. अव्यवस्थित

14. C) The correct spelling of the underlined word "**honarary**" is "**Honorary**", which means "conferred as an honor, without the usual requirements or functions." In Hindi, it translates to "सम्मानसूचक" या "मानद".

15. B) 'in notify that' के बदले '**to notify that**' का use होगा। क्योंकि 'regret' के बाद जब किसी कार्य को करने या सूचना देने की बात हो, तो 'to-infinitive' (जैसे: to notify) का use होता है।

उदाहरण: "I regret to inform you that the meeting has been cancelled."

'to notify that' will be used instead of 'in notify that'. This is because after the verb 'regret', when referring to an action that one needs to perform or announce, we use the 'to-infinitive' form (e.g., to notify) Example: "I regret to inform you that the meeting has been cancelled."

16. C) **Skeleton in the cupboard** (idiom): It refers to an embarrassing or shameful secret that someone tries to keep hidden from others. कब्र में कंकाल एक ऐसी बात का प्रतीक है जो शर्मनाक या छिपी हुई होती है और जिसे व्यक्ति दूसरों से छिपाने की कोशिश करता है।

17. B) **Misdeeds** (noun): Wrongful acts, offenses, or immoral actions. गलत काम, अपराध

**Synonym: Transgressions** (noun) – Violations of laws, moral principles, or duties; offenses. उल्लंघन, अपराध

- **Arguments** (noun) – A set of reasons given to persuade or prove something. तर्क, विवाद
- **Confrontation** (noun) – A hostile or argumentative meeting or situation. सामना, टकराव
- **Consequences** (noun) – Results or effects of an action or condition. परिणाम, असर

18. C) '**Stare**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "टकटकी लगाकर देखना"। sentence में mention है कि सारा ने कहा कि उसे नफरत है जब लोग उसे घूरते हैं। 'Stair' का अर्थ होता है "सीढ़ी", जो इस वाक्य के लिए सही नहीं है। 'Steer' का अर्थ होता है "मार्गदर्शन करना या गाड़ी चलाना", जो यहाँ संदर्भ में नहीं आता। 'Star' का अर्थ होता है "तारा", और यह भी वाक्य में सही नहीं है।

'**Stare**' will be used because it means "to look fixedly or vacantly at someone or something." The sentence mentions Sarah's dislike for people staring at her, which fits perfectly in this context. 'Stair' refers to "a step in a set of stairs," which is irrelevant to the sentence. 'Steer' means "to guide or direct," which doesn't align with the intended meaning here. 'Star' refers to "a celestial body," which also doesn't fit the sentence context.

19. B) The incorrectly spelt word is 'Sculpter'. The correct spelling is 'Sculptor', which means "a person who makes statues or other works of art by carving or shaping stone, wood, clay, etc." मूर्तिकार.
20. B) 'he appeal' के बदले 'he appeals' का USE होगा क्योंकि Subject 'he' Third Person Singular है अतः Verb भी Singular होगी; जैसे— He goes to school every day.  
'he appeals' will be used instead of 'he appeal' because the subject 'he' is third person singular, so the verb will also be singular; Like— He goes to school every day.
21. A) "gone" का use होगा क्योंकि वाक्य present perfect tense में है। "had" के साथ हमेशा verb का past participle (third form) आता है। "gone" (past participle) का अर्थ है कहीं चले जाना। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि माता-पिता और छोटी बहन चाचा के घर गए थे। "going" present participle है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है। "went" simple past tense है, जबकि यहाँ past perfect tense का use हुआ है। "go" base form है, जो grammatical रूप से यहाँ फिट नहीं होती।  
The word "gone" is used because the sentence is in the past perfect tense, indicated by the auxiliary verb "had." "Gone" (past participle) means to have gone somewhere, which fits the context of the parents and younger sister having gone to the uncle's house. "Going" is a present participle, which is incorrect in this context. "Went" is the simple past tense, but the past perfect tense is required here. "Go" is the base form, which does not fit grammatically.
22. C) 'Spend' का use होगा क्योंकि "spend" का अर्थ होता है समय बिताना और यह verb 'to' के बाद base form (infinitive) में आती है। यहाँ sentence में 'to' के बाद verb की base form 'spend' ही सही है। 'Spent' past tense है, 'spented' और 'spended' grammatically incorrect forms हैं क्योंकि 'spend' का past participle और past tense दोनों 'spent' होता है।  
'Spend' will be used because it means to pass time, and after 'to,' the base form (infinitive) of the verb is required. Here, 'to spend' is grammatically correct. 'Spent' is the past tense, while 'spented' and 'spended' are incorrect forms since the past and past participle of 'spend' is always 'spent.'
23. B) 'Rang' का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि 'rang' क्रिया 'ring' का past tense है और यह sentence past tense में लिखा गया है। जब 5:00 बजे घंटी बजी, तो यह पहले की बात है। 'Rings' present tense है, जो यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Ring' base form है, जिसका use मुख्य क्रिया के रूप में नहीं किया जा सकता। 'Rung' past participle है, जो केवल 'has' या 'had' के साथ use होता है। इसलिए, 'rang' यहाँ सही answer है।  
'Rang' will be used because it is the past tense of the verb 'ring,' and the sentence is written in the past tense. The event of someone ringing the doorbell happened at 5:00 p.m., indicating a

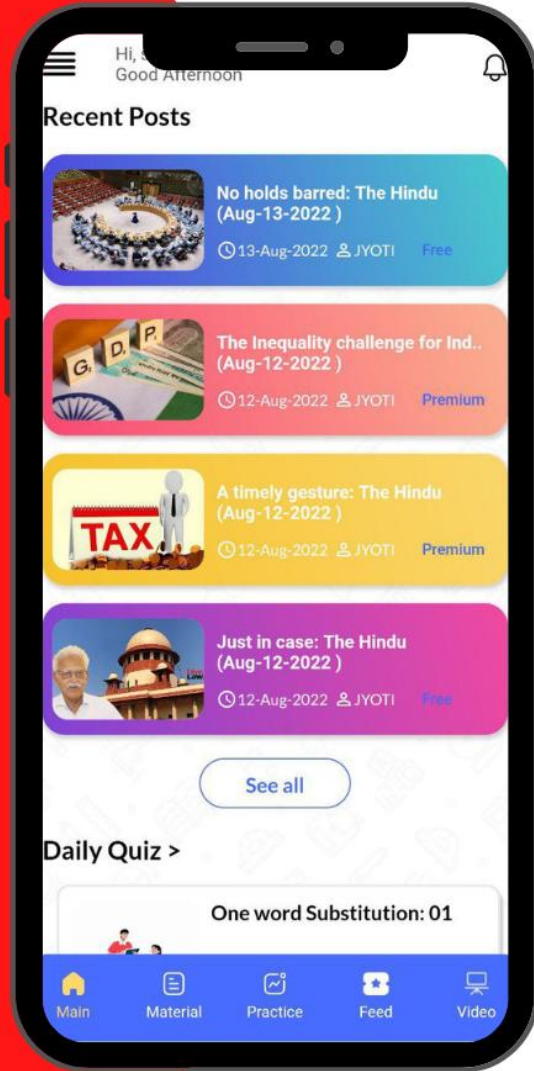
past action. 'Rings' is in the present tense, which does not fit here. 'Ring' is the base form and cannot function as the main verb in this context. 'Rung' is the past participle, used only with 'has' or 'had.' Thus, 'rang' is the correct answer.

24. D) was का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ singular subject "Mr. Sinha" के लिए past tense की verb चाहिए। "Was" singular के साथ correct है, जबकि "were" plural के लिए use होता है, "is" present tense है, और "been" auxiliary verb के बिना अधूरा है।

was will be used because the singular subject "Mr. Sinha" requires a past tense verb. "Was" is correct for singular, while "were" is plural, "is" is present tense, and "been" is incomplete without an auxiliary verb.

25. A) between का use होगा क्योंकि preference दो चीज़ों (coffee और tea) के बीच पूछा जा रहा है। "Between" दो options के लिए use होता है, जबकि "among" तीन या अधिक के लिए, "with" और "for" context के अनुसार ग़लत हैं।

A. between will be used because preference is asked between two things (coffee and tea). "Between" is used for two options, while "among" is for three or more, and "with"/"for" are incorrect here.



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