# A regional revival: On the BIMSTEC summit

BIMSTEC **summit** provided a platform for **bilateral** meetings

Last week's Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) **summit** — the sixth — which brought the leaders of seven neighbouring countries to Bangkok at a time of global **turbulence**, **was** an opportunity to **reignite** the regional grouping after years of **stasis**. Originally **cast** as a "bridging" **mechanism** between South Asia's SAARC and South East Asia's ASEAN countries, the grouping has **languished** due to a lack of purpose or due to political **underpinnings**. After the **collapse** of India-Pakistan **ties**, post-2014, SAARC has made little movement, whereas the **micro-grouping** of Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal **ran aground** after the Bhutanese Parliament rejected the Motor Vehicles Agreement between them, as a result of which New Delhi has invested in BIMSTEC. While the **objective** of having a summit every two years **was** derailed by the COVID-19 pandemic, what is important is that the summit was held **in spite of** a possible **derailment** after the earthquake in Myanmar and Thailand. But the summit proved useful, **given** the number of agreements and areas of cooperation. These include a BIMSTEC chamber of commerce and work on the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway that will connect India's North-East region, billed a BIMSTEC "hub", all the way to the Pacific ocean. The BIMSTEC region is **prone to** natural disasters and building a joint mechanism for disaster management is critical. **Negotiating** a **free trade agreement** (FTA) and Customs agreements are among other plans **outlined** in a 'Vision 2030' document that was adopted.

Apart from the **multilateral** outcomes, the summit provided the leaders a rare opportunity for bilateral meetings. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus **put aside** months of **acrimony** and **aired** their **grievances** over the treatment of minorities, border killings and former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's stay in India. Mr. Modi's **advice** that "**rhetoric**" must be avoided between neighbours **is** important, but must be followed in Dhaka and Delhi. Mr. Modi's **meeting** with Nepal leader K.P. Sharma Oli **came** after months of tensions over India's **refusal** to issue Mr. Oli an invite, and it is hoped that these **exchanges** will **lead to** an early visit and the **resolution** of issues. The **inclusion** of Myanmar's Prime Minister General Min Aung Hlaing **was** a special **gesture** by the BIMSTEC grouping, and it is hoped that Mr. Modi's **counsel** to Gen. Min and Mr. Yunus on **restoring** democratic processes in Myanmar and Bangladesh will be **heeded**. While the summit was **productive**, many of its initiatives are **replicas** of agreements once adopted by SAARC, and it is important that member-states focus on the group's **cohesion** and **sustainability** so that BIMSTEC is not allowed to **atrophy** the same way as SAARC did. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

# Vocabulary

1. **Revival** (noun) – renewal, resurgence, comeback, restoration, rebirth पुनरुत्थान

2. **Summit** (noun) – conference, meeting, gathering, assembly, convention शिखर सम्मेलन

3. **Bilateral** (adjective) – two-sided, mutual, reciprocal, involving both sides, joint द्विपक्षीय

4. **Turbulence** (noun) – instability, unrest, turmoil, disturbance, chaos अशांति

5. **Reignite** (verb) – restart, renew, revive, rekindle, resume फिर से आरंभ करना

6. **Stasis** (noun) – stagnation, standstill, inactivity, pause, inertia स्थिरता / जड़ता

7. **Cast** (verb) – portray, represent, depict, describe, designate प्रस्तुत करना

8. **Mechanism** (noun) – system, process, method, structure, arrangement प्रणाली

9. **Languish** (verb) – weaken, deteriorate, wither, decline, fade कमजोर पड़ना / ठप पड़ना

10. **Underpinning** (noun) – foundation, basis, support, grounding, rationale आधार

11. **Collapse** (verb) – break down, fall apart, disintegrate, fail, crumble टूट जाना

12. **Ties** (noun) – connections, relations, bonds, links, associations संबंध

13. **Run aground** (phrase) – fail, come to a halt, get stuck, collapse, falter विफल होना

14. **Derail** (verb) – disrupt, hinder, obstruct, throw off track, prevent बाधित करना

15. **In spite of** (phrase) – despite, although, regardless of, even though, though इसके बावजूद

16. **Derailment** (noun) – failure, disruption, breakdown, obstruction, collapse बाधा

17. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into account, in view of, based on, due to ध्यान में रखते हुए

18. **Prone** (to) (adjective) – susceptible, vulnerable, inclined, exposed, liable प्रवृत्त / संवेदनशील

19. **Negotiate** (verb) – discuss, bargain, settle, mediate, arrange बातचीत करना

20. **Free trade agreement** (noun) – a pact between two or more countries to reduce or eliminate trade barriers, like tariffs, quotas, and other restrictions, to facilitate the free flow of goods and services across borders मुक्त व्यापार समझौता

21. **Outline** (verb) – summarize, describe, present, explain, sketch संक्षेप में बताना

22. **Multilateral** (adjective) – involving many parties, collective, shared, joint, cooperative बहुपक्षीय

23. **Put aside** (phrasal verb) – set aside, disregard, ignore, forget, overlook अनदेखा करना

24. **Acrimony** (noun) – bitterness, hostility, resentment, animosity, ill will कटुता

25. **Air** (verb) – express, voice, declare, communicate, share व्यक्त करना

26. **Grievance** (noun) – complaint, objection, dissatisfaction, resentment, protest शिकायत

27. **Rhetoric** (noun) – speech, language, oratory, discourse, expression बयानबाज़ी

28. **Refusal** (noun) – rejection, denial, declination, non-acceptance, dismissal अस्वीकृति

29. **Exchange** (noun) – interaction, dialogue, communication, discussion, conversation आदान-प्रदान

30. **Lead** (to) (verb) – result in, cause, bring about, give rise to, produce वजह बनना

31. **Resolution** (noun) – solution, settlement, conclusion, decision, agreement समाधान

32. **Gesture** (noun) – act, sign, signal, move, expression संकेत / इशारा

33. **Counsel** (noun) – advice, guidance, recommendation, suggestion, input सलाह

34. **Restore** (verb) – reinstate, reestablish, bring back, recover, renew पुनर्स्थापित करना

35. **Heed** (verb) – pay attention, listen to, consider, follow, obey ध्यान देना

36. **Productive** (adjective) – fruitful, successful, effective, efficient, beneficial उपयोगी / फलदायी

37. **Replica** (noun) – copy, imitation, duplicate, reproduction, clone प्रतिकृति

38. **Cohesion** (noun) – unity, togetherness, solidarity, harmony, bond एकता / सामंजस्य

39. **Sustainability** (noun) – viability, endurance, durability, maintainability, long-term stability स्थिरता

40. **Atrophy** (verb) – decline, weaken, waste away, deteriorate, decay धीरे-धीरे समाप्त होना

## Summary of the Editorial

1. **BIMSTEC Summit Held** – The 6th BIMSTEC summit in Bangkok brought together leaders from seven countries during a time of global instability.
2. **Revival After Stagnation** – The summit aimed to revive BIMSTEC, which had been stagnant due to lack of direction and political issues.
3. **Alternative to SAARC** – With SAARC stalled after the India-Pakistan fallout, India has turned to BIMSTEC as a viable regional platform.
4. **COVID-19 Delays** – While summits were planned every two years, the pandemic caused disruptions until the recent successful gathering.
5. **Summit Despite Earthquake** – The meeting was held despite recent earthquakes in Myanmar and Thailand, showing commitment to the grouping.
6. **Significant Agreements** – Key outcomes included plans for a BIMSTEC Chamber of Commerce and progress on the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway.
7. **Trilateral Highway Significance** – This highway will link India's Northeast to Southeast Asia, enhancing trade and connectivity.
8. **Disaster Management Push** – The region's vulnerability to natural disasters makes the creation of a joint disaster management mechanism crucial.
9. **Vision 2030 Document** – A roadmap was adopted outlining future cooperation, including negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement and Customs pact.
10. **Bilateral Gains** – The summit enabled important bilateral meetings among leaders, fostering dialogue and addressing long-standing issues.
11. **India-Bangladesh Talks** – PM Modi and Bangladesh's Muhammad Yunus discussed sensitive issues like minority treatment and border concerns.
12. **Advice on Rhetoric** – Modi emphasized avoiding inflammatory rhetoric between neighbours—a message needing mutual adherence.
13. **Nepal-India Relations** – Modi's meeting with Nepal's K.P. Sharma Oli signaled a thaw after tensions and lack of official invitations.
14. **Myanmar's Inclusion** – Myanmar's junta leader General Min Aung Hlaing's participation was a special gesture; Modi urged a return to democracy.
15. **Avoiding SAARC's Fate** – Many BIMSTEC initiatives echo old SAARC projects; ensuring cohesion and execution is vital to prevent a similar decline.

## Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**                                    [Editorial Page]
   A. Critical and cynical
   B. Optimistic and analytical
   C. Humorous and sarcastic
   D. Indifferent and neutral

2. **What was a significant outcome of the recent BIMSTEC summit held in Bangkok?**
   A. The dissolution of the SAARC group
   B. Establishment of a regional military alliance
   C. Signing of a Motor Vehicles Agreement with Bhutan
   D. Adoption of a 'Vision 2030' document outlining future plans

3. **Who did Prime Minister Narendra Modi meet at the summit to resolve tensions after not inviting him earlier?**
   A. Sheikh Hasina
   B. Muhammad Yunus
   C. K.P. Sharma Oli
   D. Min Aung Hlaing

4. **What can be inferred about the importance of BIMSTEC in India's regional diplomacy?**
   A. India is replacing SAARC with BIMSTEC to isolate Pakistan.
   B. BIMSTEC is primarily focused on cultural exchange programs.
   C. India sees BIMSTEC as a backup for ASEAN's economic role.
   D. India views BIMSTEC as a vital platform for regional integration and cooperation.

5. **Fill in the blank with the most suitable option:**
   While the summit was productive, many of its initiatives are _____ of agreements once adopted by SAARC.
   A. reflections
   B. stagnation
   C. alternatives
   D. replicas

6. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
   Go down in flames
   A. To fail spectacularly
   B. To destroy completely
   C. To crash and burn
   D. To burn down completely

7. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the given sentence.**
   Only those having **blue blood** can dethrone the evil autocrat and restore equilibrium
   A. Political ideology
   B. Vigilant nature

C. Aristocratic lineage

D. Bitter relations

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

We were driving home when suddenly a deer runs across the road.

A. home

B. We were driving

C. a deer runs across the road

D. when suddenly

9. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

Condemn

A. Uphold

B. Elevate

C. Tolerate

D. Denounce

10. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the underlined group of words.**

Rahul has done **a study of statistics** that contributed to the research

A. Demography

B. Choreography

C. Cartography

D. Cinematography

11. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word**.

A. Disseminate

B. Enterpreneur

C. Dilemma

D. Accommodate

12. **The following sentence has been divided into four segments. Identify the segment that has a grammatical error.**

His energetic attitude / showed that he had / soundly slept / the previous night

A. His energetic attitude

B. showed that he had

C. the previous night.

D. soundly slept

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

The **Cacophony** in the theatre was too much for us.

A. silence

B. smell

C. noise

D. laughter

14. **In the question four alternatives are given for the underlined word in the sentence. Choose the alternative which best expresses the opposite meaning of the word.**

    "Well, what if it is? You are not afraid of anything, you know," returned the boy, looking **Wicked**

    A. Clean
    B. Evil
    C. Righteous
    D. Improper

15. **Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

    Though Kalpana listened to Sheetal carefully, she knew that she should **take it with a grain of salt**

    A. accept it as really useful and worthy
    B. move according to the trend
    C. regard it as exaggerated and not completely true
    D. be do it meticulously as taking salt

16. **Identify the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence and select the option that rectifies the spelling error.**

    Many promote bamboo planting for erosion prevention and to riverse the effects of global warming.

    A. Reverse
    B. Bambboo
    C. Efeccts
    D. Prevension

17. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**

    The doctor who deals with the female reproductive system

    A. Ophthalmologist
    B. Orthodontist
    C. Cardiologist
    D. Gynaecologist

18. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**

    An open space usually rectangular and enclosed in a building

    A. Quadruped
    B. Quinton
    C. Quadrangle
    D. Quintessential

19. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the given sentence.**

    Mr. Satterthwaite was **shrewd** enough to penetrate her meaning.

    A. Aged
    B. Funny
    C. Innocent

D. Smart

20. **Choose the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

At the drop of a hat

A. Consecutively

B. Eventually

C. Certainly

D. Immediately

21. **Identify the meaning of the idiom in the given situation.**

I will always stand by my friend

A. Be in a queue

B. Stand next to

C. Support in difficult situation

D. Work together

**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.**

My father, the most _____1_____ father I've ever seen, _____2_____ marry my mother until he was thirty-six and she was twenty-five. My sister, Margot, was born in Frankfurt in Germany in 1926. I was born on 12 June 1929. I lived in Frankfurt until I was four. My father emigrated to Holland in 1933. My mother, Edith Hollander Frank, went with him to Holland in September, while Margot and I were sent to Aachen to stay with our grandmother. Margot went to Holland in December, and I followed in February, when I was _____3_____ on the table as a birthday present for Margot. I started right away at the Montessori nursery school. I stayed there _____4_____ I was six, at which time I started in the first form. In the sixth form my teacher was Mrs Kuperus, the headmistress. At the end of the year we were both in tears as we said a heartbreaking farewell.

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

A. Adorable

B. Susceptible

C. Vulnerable

D. Available

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

A. did

B. does

C. have

D. didn't

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

A. Putting down

B. put down

C. plunked down

D. toned down

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

A.  until
B.  still
C.  too
D.  unless

## Answers

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

## Explanations

1. **B) Optimistic and analytical**

   The author analyses the BIMSTEC summit's significance, challenges, and outcomes in a detailed and thoughtful manner. While acknowledging past failures and political setbacks, the tone remains hopeful about renewed regional cooperation, especially through projects like the Trilateral Highway and Vision 2030.

   A: The author critiques past stagnation but does not express pessimism or distrust; rather, the outlook is forward-looking.

   C: There is no use of humor or irony in the passage; the tone is formal and serious.

   D: The author clearly cares about the regional dynamics and evaluates them thoughtfully; this is not a neutral or dispassionate tone

2. **D) Adoption of a 'Vision 2030' document outlining future plans**

   The passage clearly states that a 'Vision 2030' document was adopted during the summit to outline future cooperation like FTA negotiations and customs agreements

   A) The passage mentions SAARC's inactivity, but there was no dissolution.

   B) No military alliance was discussed.

   C) The Motor Vehicles Agreement failed due to Bhutan's rejection; not a success of this summit.

3. **C) K.P. Sharma Oli**

   The passage says Modi met Nepal's K.P. Sharma Oli after months of tensions over not being invited, hoping for resolution and an early visit.

   A) Sheikh Hasina is only referenced in terms of Muhammad Yunus discussing her stay in India.

   B) Modi met Muhammad Yunus, but that was about Bangladesh-related issues, not an invitation-related tension.

   D) Modi met Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, but not in relation to invitation-related friction.

4. **D) India views BIMSTEC as a vital platform for regional integration and cooperation.**

   The passage highlights India's investment in BIMSTEC after SAARC's stagnation and emphasizes its usefulness for agreements, infrastructure, and diplomacy.

   A) Though SAARC is inactive due to India-Pakistan tensions, the passage does not suggest isolation as the purpose.

   B) The passage focuses on economic and political cooperation, not culture.

   C) ASEAN is only mentioned as part of BIMSTEC's original bridging role, not as a comparison in economic function.

5. **D) replicas**

The passage specifically uses the word "replicas" to suggest that BIMSTEC is reintroducing some initiatives already undertaken by SAARC. "Reflections" is vague and doesn't convey the idea of duplication. "Alternatives" would imply different or new ideas, which is the opposite of what's suggested

6.  A) **Go down in flames** (idiom) – To fail spectacularly बड़ी असफलता

7.  C) **Blue blood** (idiom) – Aristocratic lineage शाही वंशावली

8.  C) 'runs' के बदले 'ran' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि मुख्य Clause 'We were driving' Past Continuous Tense में है अत :Subordinate Clause में भी Verb Past Tense में होगा; जैसे— We were driving home when suddenly a deer ran across the road.
    - ran' will be used instead of 'runs' because the main clause 'We were driving' is in Past Continuous Tense, so in the Subordinate Clause, the Verb will also be in Past Tense; Like— We were driving home when suddenly a deer ran across the road.

9.  **D) Condemn** (verb) – Express complete disapproval of, typically in public; censure. निंदा करना
    Synonym: **Denounce** (verb) – Publicly declare to be wrong or evil; to criticize harshly and publicly. निंदा करना
    - **Uphold** (verb) – To support or defend, typically in an official context. समर्थन करना
    - **Elevate** (verb) – Raise to a higher position or level; to lift up. उन्नत करना
    - **Tolerate** (verb) – To allow the existence or occurrence of something without interference; to endure. सहन करना

10. A) **Demography** (noun) – The study of statistics such as births, deaths, income, or the incidence of disease, which illustrate the changing structure of human populations जनसांख्यिकी
    - **Choreography** (noun) – the sequence of steps and movements in dance or figure skating, especially in a ballet or other staged dance. नृत्य रचना
    - **Cartography** (noun) – the science or practice of drawing maps. मानचित्रण
    - **Cinematography** (noun) – the art of making motion pictures. चलचित्रण

11. **B)** The correct spelling of '**Enterpreneur'** is 'Entrepreneur' which means "a person who sets up a business or businesses, taking on financial risks in the hope of profit" व्यवसायी, उद्यमी.

12. **D) soundly slept'** के बदले 'slept soundly' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि English में adverb 'soundly' का प्रयोग हमेशा verb 'slept' के बाद होता है; जैसे— He slept soundly the previous night.
    Note: The word 'soundly' is an adverb which means the following:
    ➤ **in a way that is secure and reliable.**
    　　**For eg**.- Their houses were soundly built.

➤ **with reference to sleep - deeply and without disturbance.**
> **For eg**.- I slept soundly for the first time since I've been here.

➤ **in a thorough or decisive manner.**
> **For eg**.- Jim was soundly defeated by his old opponent.

➤ **in a way that is based on a valid reason or good judgement**.
> **For eg**.- There is soundly based reason for optimism.

- 'slept soundly' will be used instead of 'soundly slept' because in English, the adverb 'soundly' always comes after the verb 'slept'; Like— He slept soundly the previous night.

13. C) **Cacophony** (noun) – A harsh, discordant mixture of sounds, uproar, din, racket. कर्कश ध्वनि

Synonym: **Noise** (noun) – A sound, especially one that is loud or unpleasant or that causes disturbance, clamor, racket, din. शोर

- **Silence** (noun) – The absence of sound. शांति

- **Smell** (noun) – The sense or sensation of something that comes through the nose. गंध

- **Laughter** (noun) – The sound or act of laughing. हँसी

14. **C) Wicked** (adjective) – Evil, immoral, sinful, malicious. नीच

Antonym: **Righteous** (adjective) – Morally right, virtuous, ethical, good. धर्मिक

- **Clean** (adjective) – Free from dirt, marks, or stains. स्वच्छ

- **Evil** (adjective) – Profoundly immoral and wicked. दुष्ट

- **Improper** (adjective) – Not in accordance with accepted standards, incorrect. अनुचित

15. C) **take it with a grain of salt** – regard it as exaggerated and not completely true
बढ़ा-चढ़ाकर और पूरी तरह से सत्य नहीं समझना

16. A) The correct spelling of 'riverse' is 'reverse' which means "to turn in the opposite direction" उलटना, उलट देना.

17. D) **Gynaecologist** (noun) – The doctor who deals with the female reproductive system. स्त्री रोग विशेषज्ञ

- **Ophthalmologist** (noun) – a specialist in medical and surgical eye problems. नेत्र रोग विशेषज्ञ

- **Orthodontist** (noun) – a dentist specializing in the correction of irregularities of the teeth. दंत विशेषज्ञ

- **Cardiologist** (noun) – a doctor who specializes in the study or treatment of heart diseases and heart abnormalities. हृदय रोग विशेषज्ञ

18. **C) Quadrangle (noun) – An open space usually rectangular and enclosed in a building** चतुर्भुज

   - **Quadruped** (noun) – an animal that has four feet. चार पैर वाला जानवर
   - **Quinton** (noun) – (not commonly used in this context, likely a distractor in this case).
   - **Quintessential** (adjective) – representing the most perfect or typical example of a quality or class. उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण

19. *D) Shrewd* (adjective) – Having or showing sharp powers of judgment; astute, clever, perceptive. चतुर

   **Synonym:** *Smart* (adjective) – Intelligent, astute, clever, bright, perceptive. होशियार

   - **Aged** (adjective) – Old, elderly, senior. बूढ़ा
   - **Funny** (adjective) – Amusing, humorous, comical. मजेदार
   - **Innocent** (adjective) – Pure, naive, guiltless. मासूम

20. D) **At the drop of a hat** (idiom) – Immediately तुरंत

21. C) Support in difficult situation - "I will always stand by my friend" means to support them in difficult situations. सहायता करना मुश्किल परिस्थितियों में

22. A) 'Adorable' का use होगा क्योंकि "adorable" का अर्थ होता है बहुत प्यारा या आकर्षक। passage में बच्चों की बात की गई है और फादर का discusses करते समय यह शब्द उनके स्नेही स्वभाव को दर्शाता है। 'Susceptible', 'Vulnerable', और 'Available' का अर्थ होता है संवेदनशील, आसानी से चोट पहुँचने वाला और उपलब्ध होना, जो कि इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

   'Adorable' will be used because it means very lovable or endearing. The passage discusses the father in a familial context where this word aptly reflects his affectionate nature. The words 'Susceptible', 'Vulnerable', and 'Available' mean prone to being influenced, easily hurt, and available respectively, which do not fit the context here.

23. D) 'did not' का use होगा क्योंकि "did not" का अर्थ होता है किसी कार्य को नहीं करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही है। पैसेज में कहा गया है कि पिता ने उस उम्र तक शादी नहीं की थी, इसलिए 'did not' यहाँ फिट बैठता है। 'did', 'does', और 'have' का अर्थ है किया, करता है, और है, जो इस context में उपयुक्त नहीं है।

   'did not' will be used because it means not performing an action, which is correct in this context. The passage mentions that the father did not marry until a certain age, so 'did not' fits here. The other options 'did', 'does', and 'have' imply completed action, present action, and possession, respectively, which are not suitable here.
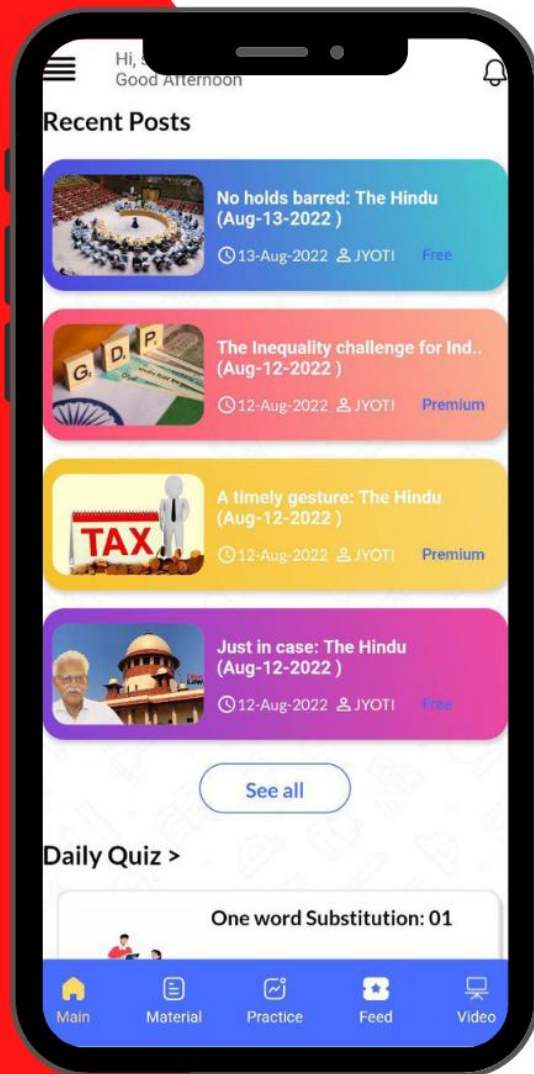
24. C) plunked down' का use होगा क्योंकि "plunked down" का अर्थ होता है ज़ोर से रखना या बैठाना। sentence में mention किया गया है कि मैं बर्थडे प्रेजेंट के रूप में टेबल पर रखी गई

थी, जिसका अर्थ है कि मेरी मौजूदगी अचानक और उत्सव के रूप में थी, इसलिए 'plunked down' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Putting down' का अर्थ है नीचे रखना, 'put down' भी इसी तरह का अर्थ रखता है लेकिन यहाँ ज़ोर की कमी है, और 'toned down' का अर्थ है शांत करना या कम करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

plunked down' will be used because it means to put down with force or suddenly. The sentence describes being presented on the table as a birthday gift, suggesting a sudden and celebratory manner of arrival, making 'plunked down' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Putting down' means to place something down, 'put down' conveys a similar meaning but lacks emphasis needed here, and 'toned down' means to reduce in intensity or importance, which doesn't fit in this context.

25. A) 'Until' का use होगा क्योंकि "until" का अर्थ होता है किसी विशेष समय तक। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि मैंने नर्सरी स्कूल में उस समय तक रहना जारी रखा जब तक मैं छह वर्ष का नहीं हो गया, इसलिए 'until' यहाँ सही है। 'Still' का अर्थ होता है अभी भी, 'Too' का अर्थ होता है भी, और 'Unless' का अर्थ है जब तक नहीं, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

'Until' will be used because it means up to a certain time. The sentence states that I continued at the Montessori nursery school until I was six, making 'until' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Still' implies ongoing action, 'Too' means also, and 'Unless' means unless a condition is met, which do not fit in this context