

Self-inflicted wound: On higher education and Trump administration's move

The U.S. **stands to** lose a lot by **defunding** higher education

President Donald Trump's **threat** to **revoke** the **tax-exempt** status of Harvard University as an educational institution **will** have **far-reaching** consequences not only for the wider student community but also for corporate America and the military-industrial complex. The administration also indicated that it would block the admission of foreign students, who **make up** nearly a third of Harvard's student body. The university has refused to accept **intrusive** federal government control over its activities based on the **premise** that the government is providing **hefty grants**. The **ostensible reason** for the Trump administration's move **is** the **so-called "leftwing, antisemitic"** protests against the Gaza War that **broke out** at Harvard and Columbia, which have the image of being left-liberal. The Trump administration seems to be playing to its 'Make America Great Again' (MAGA) base which has **nursed** historical **grievances** against northeastern **elites** and their universities, **exemplified** in the **Ivy Leagues**. These institutions are **indeed** elite in terms of academic standards but Harvard admits students from a socio-economic **spectrum** through **generous** scholarships. The Trump administration opposes Diversity, Equity and Inclusion principles ideologically and Harvard could also have been targeted for this reason. But Harvard has deep **pockets** and has **heft** in the **corridors** of power to **outlast** Mr. Trump.

Mr. Trump's **slashing** of government research funds **has** also affected several public universities, including in deep-red States such as Alabama. Public **universities**, **barring** a few such as in Michigan, Texas, and California that have built a sizeable **endowment**, **depend** on state support and are under increasing political control. America's government-induced crisis in higher education threatens a key **edifice** of American strength and power. It **strikes** at a **long-standing** belief in that nation, which is **borne out** by data, that getting a college degree is a surer path towards **prosperity**. Mr. **Trump**, formerly a Democrat, **is** only part of a long-term global mega-trend in politics. The big picture is that America is only a late **entrant** in defunding public higher education. **The U.K.**, under Margaret Thatcher, **was** an early starter. India **joined the stream** long ago with the NDA government only deepening the **cutbacks**. Australia, Singapore, Germany and the Scandinavian countries are **holding out** among the developed nations. It is no **coincidence** that China's **ascent** has paralleled continued public funding of higher education. Much like the U.S. universities of the past, Chinese higher education institutions are building a knowledge base on other nations and regions. Future **generations** of Americans **will** see this as a self-inflicted wound. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Self-inflicted** (adjective) – self-imposed, self-caused, self-induced, voluntary, internal स्वयं की लायी हुई
2. **Stand** (to) (verb) – be likely to, be expected to, be positioned to, be in line to, be poised to संभावना होना
3. **Defund** (verb) – withdraw funding, cut finances, remove support, stop backing, deprive funds धन रोकना
4. **Revoke** (verb) – cancel, annul, repeal, rescind, withdraw रद्द करना
5. **Tax-exempt** (adjective) – non-taxable, tax-free, untaxed, exempted, duty-free कर-मुक्त
6. **Far-reaching** (adjective) – extensive, sweeping, profound, broad, significant दूरगामी
7. **Make up** (phrasal verb) – constitute, comprise, form, compose, consist of बनाना
8. **Intrusive** (adjective) – invasive, meddlesome, pushy, interfering, obtrusive दखल देने वाला
9. **Premise** (noun) – assumption, proposition, basis, foundation, thesis आधार / पूर्व धारणा
10. **Hefty** (adjective) – large, substantial, heavy, massive, considerable बहुत अधिक
11. **Grant** (noun) – funding, subsidy, allowance, endowment, donation अनुदान
12. **Ostensible** (adjective) – apparent, supposed, professed, outward, seeming दिखावटी / कथित
13. **So-called** (adjective) – alleged, supposed, self-styled, ostensible, pretended तथाकथित
14. **Leftwing** (adjective) – liberal, progressive, socialist, radical, reformist वामपंथी
15. **Antisemitic** (adjective) – anti-Jewish, racist (towards Jews), discriminatory (against Jews), bigoted, prejudiced यहूदी-विरोधी
16. **Break out** (phrasal verb) – erupt, begin suddenly, flare up, explode, commence शुरू हो जाना
17. **Nurse** (verb) – harbor, bear, foster, hold, brood पालना (जैसे भावना या शिकायत)
18. **Grievance** (noun) – complaint, resentment, injustice, objection, dissatisfaction शिकायत
19. **Elite** (noun) – upper class, aristocracy, high society, the best, privileged विशिष्ट वर्ग
20. **Exemplify** (verb) – illustrate, demonstrate, typify, represent, symbolize उदाहरण देना / दर्शाना

21. **The Ivy League** (noun) – a group of long-established universities in the eastern US having high academic and social prestige. It includes Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and Columbia. अमेरिका के प्रमुख विश्वविद्यालयों का समूह
22. **Indeed** (adverb) – in fact, truly, actually, certainly, surely वास्तव में
23. **Spectrum** (noun) – range, span, scale, scope, array सीमा / विविधता
24. **Generous** (adjective) – liberal, charitable, bountiful, kind, open-handed उदार
25. **Pocket** (noun) – financial reserve, fund, wealth, resources, purse संसाधन / निधि
26. **Heft** (noun) – influence, weight, clout, power, force – प्रभाव / ताकत
27. **Corridor** (noun) – hallway (literal), domain, field, area, arena (figurative) गलियारा / क्षेत्र
28. **Outlast** (verb) – survive, endure, surpass, outlive, remain ज्यादा समय तक टिके रहना
29. **Slashing** (noun) – cutting, reduction, decrease, deduction, trimming कटौती
30. **Barring** (preposition) – except for, apart from, excluding, save, but को छोड़कर
31. **Endowment** (noun) – donation, gift, grant, fund, bequest दान / निधि
32. **Edifice** (noun) – structure, institution, system, foundation, framework भवन / ढांचा
33. **Strike** (verb) – hit, attack, affect, impact, harm प्रभावित करना
34. **Long-standing** (adjective) – established, enduring, lasting, time-honored, persistent दीर्घकालिक
35. **Borne out** (phrasal verb) – confirmed, validated, substantiated, supported, proven सिद्ध होना
36. **Prosperity** (noun) – success, wealth, affluence, growth, well-being समृद्धि
37. **Entrant** (noun) – newcomer, participant, competitor, joiner, newcomer नया प्रवेश करने वाला
38. **Join the stream** (phrase) – follow the trend, become part of, get involved, align with, conform प्रवृत्ति से जुड़ना
39. **Cutback** (noun) – reduction, decrease, downsizing, shrinkage, rollback कटौती
40. **Hold out** (phrasal verb) – resist, endure, last, withstand, survive डटे रहना
41. **Coincidence** (noun) – chance, happenstance, concurrence, fortuity, synchronicity संयोग
42. **Ascent** (noun) – rise, advancement, growth, elevation, climb चढ़ाई / उत्थान

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Trump's Threat to Harvard** – President Trump threatened to revoke Harvard University's tax-exempt status, citing leftwing protests.
2. **Foreign Students Targeted** – His administration also indicated a move to block foreign student admissions, who make up a significant part of Harvard's population.
3. **Autonomy vs. Control** – Harvard resists federal interference despite receiving substantial government grants, defending its institutional autonomy.
4. **Political Motivation** – The crackdown is linked to protests against the Gaza War and is seen as politically motivated, catering to Trump's MAGA base.
5. **Anti-Elite Sentiment** – There's a longstanding MAGA resentment towards elite northeastern institutions like those in the Ivy League.
6. **Ideological Opposition** – The Trump administration's opposition to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) may also explain the targeting of Harvard.
7. **Harvard's Resilience** – Despite the pressure, Harvard is financially robust and politically influential enough to weather such threats.
8. **Public Universities Affected** – Trump's cuts to government research funding have hurt public universities across the U.S., including in Republican-leaning states.
9. **Funding Crisis** – Most public universities rely heavily on state funding and are vulnerable to increasing political interference.
10. **Strategic Damage** – Defunding higher education threatens a core pillar of American global influence and long-term strength.
11. **Education and Prosperity** – Historically, the U.S. has viewed higher education as a reliable path to economic prosperity.
12. **Global Trend** – The defunding of public education isn't unique to the U.S.; it's part of a wider global trend over recent decades.
13. **Comparative Global Cases** – The UK started this under Thatcher; India followed suit, while countries like Germany and the Nordics continue strong support.
14. **China's Rise** – China's ascent is closely tied to sustained public investment in higher education and research.
15. **Long-term Consequences** – The editorial argues that such policies in the U.S. are a "self-inflicted wound" that future generations will regret.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Why has the Trump administration threatened to revoke Harvard University's tax-exempt status?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. Because it failed to meet academic standards
 - B. Because of student protests and ideological differences
 - C. Because it admitted too many foreign students
 - D. Because Harvard refused to pay back government grants
2. **What does the passage suggest about public universities in the U.S. compared to those in other countries like China?**
 - A. Public universities in the U.S. are better funded than Chinese universities
 - B. Chinese universities are declining in global reputation
 - C. U.S. universities are facing a funding crisis, while Chinese ones are expanding knowledge bases
 - D. China and the U.S. have equally reduced public spending on higher education
3. **According to the passage, approximately what proportion of Harvard's student body comprises foreign students?**
 - A. One-fifth
 - B. Half
 - C. Nearly one-third
 - D. Two-thirds
4. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Optimistic and encouraging
 - B. Critical and concerned
 - C. Humorous and satirical
 - D. Neutral and indifferent
5. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The benefits of private funding in higher education
 - B. The global decline in public funding for universities and its consequences
 - C. The superiority of Chinese higher education over American institutions
 - D. The positive impact of Trump's policies on Ivy League universities
6. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM for the underlined word.**
They want to bifurcate the states.
 - A. Combine
 - B. Examine
 - C. Support
 - D. Divide
7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
He is an intelligent person who always thinks before he _____.
 - A. acting

- B. acts
C. act
D. acted
8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word:**
Grapple
A. Clasp
B. Release
C. Wrestle
D. Grumble
9. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**
Ravi said that / his red jacket is / the cheaper than all other jackets.
A. ravi said that
B. no error
C. his red jacket is
D. the cheaper than all other jackets.
10. **Select the option that corrects the Phrasal Verb (appearing in bold letters) in the given sentence.**
The burglarsbroke offmy neighbour's house when they were away.
A. broke into
B. broke down
C. broke with
D. broke away
11. **Rectify the sentence by selecting the correct spelling from the options.**
After the storm passed, the sun emarged from behind the clouds
A. emerged
B. amergad
C. amarged
D. emerged
12. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Straight from the horse's mouth
A. Directly eating from the provider
B. Giving no expression at all
C. Rumours begin at home
D. Directly from the person ilnvolve
13. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the following sentence.**
Don't fight over such a trivial issue.
A. Complex
B. Insignificant
C. Controversial

- D. Tricky
14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
The author's use of vivid imagery _____ the reader's senses, making the story come alive.
- A. confuses
 - B. actions
 - C. heightens
 - D. dulls
15. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the given sentence.**
He is a complete novice when it comes to driving a car.
- A. Swindler
 - B. Amateur
 - C. Expert
 - D. Zealous
16. **Select the appropriate option that can substitute the underlined word in the following sentence to make it grammatically correct.**
Smart watches are the last gadgets used by younger generations.
- A. later
 - B. the later
 - C. latest
 - D. the latest
17. **Select the meaningful and correctly spelt word from the given options to fill in the blank.**
The oceans cover more than 70% of the Earth's surface, making them the largest _____ on the planet.
- A. habit
 - B. hybrid
 - C. habitude
 - D. habitat
18. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
My brother plays the guitar _____ than I do.
- A. well
 - B. good
 - C. best
 - D. better
19. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
The way Sonam performs live on stage can be called the _____ one.
- A. more perfect
 - B. mostly perfect
 - C. most perfect
 - D. perfectable

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'.

The pineapple dessert was so delicious that we couldn't help eat it.

- A. so delicious that we couldn't helping eat it
- B. No substitution
- C. so delicious that we couldn't help eating it
- D. so that delicious we couldn't help eating it

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:

In the realm of literature, words are the (1) _____ of creation, and authors are the (2) _____ of meaning. They skillfully weave stories with (3) _____ narratives that can (4) _____ the depths of human emotion. A well-crafted novel can (5) _____ readers into its world, making them forget the passage of time.

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

- A. isolate
- B. convey
- C. tools
- D. mundane

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

- A. keepers
- B. direction
- C. coward
- D. vibrators

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

- A. mundane
- B. vivid
- C. defrost
- D. convey

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

- A. pilot
- B. teacher
- C. banker
- D. sailor

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

- A. repel
- B. isolate
- C. captivate
- D. immerse

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) Because of student protests and ideological differences

The passage states that the Trump administration's threat is linked to the "leftwing, antisemitic" protests against the Gaza War and Harvard's ideological stance that aligns with Diversity, Equity and Inclusion principles. These factors fuel ideological differences with the MAGA base.

A: Harvard is described as elite in academic standards, not deficient.

C: While foreign student admissions are mentioned, they are not the reason for the threat.

D: The university is criticized for refusing control, not for grant repayment

2. C) U.S. universities are facing a funding crisis, while Chinese ones are expanding knowledge bases

The passage clearly notes that U.S. public universities are suffering from cutbacks and a government-induced crisis, whereas China continues to publicly fund its institutions and is building a global knowledge base like old American universities.

A: This is directly contradicted by the passage.

B: The passage says Chinese institutions are rising, not declining.

D: Only the U.S. is said to have reduced spending; China is doing the opposite.

3. C) Nearly one-third

The passage explicitly states that foreign students make up nearly a third of Harvard's student population.

A: One-fifth is less than the actual figure given.

B: Half is an overstatement.

D: Two-thirds is far above the data.

4. B) Critical and concerned

The passage expresses disapproval of the Trump administration's policies and highlights the negative consequences of defunding higher education, indicating a critical tone. It also shows concern about the long-term impact on American universities and global competitiveness.

A) Incorrect, as the passage does not express hope or positivity; rather, it warns of damaging consequences.

C) Incorrect, as the passage does not use irony or mockery; it takes a serious stance on the issue.

D) Incorrect, as the passage clearly takes a position against the policies discussed.

5. B) The global decline in public funding for universities and its consequences

The passage primarily discusses how governments, including the U.S., U.K., and India, are reducing public funding for higher education, which harms academic institutions and national progress. It emphasizes that this trend is weakening American universities while countries like China continue to invest heavily in education.

A) Incorrect, as the passage criticizes reduced government funding rather than praising private alternatives.

C) Incorrect, as China is mentioned only as a contrast, not the main focus.

D) Incorrect, as the passage opposes Trump's policies, calling them harmful.

6. A) **Bifurcate** (verb) – To divide into two branches or parts; split; separate. विभाजित करना

Antonym: Combine (verb) – To join or merge to form a single unit or substance; unite; amalgamate. संयोजित करना

- **Examine** (verb) – To inspect or scrutinize carefully; analyze; study. जाँचना

- **Support** (verb) – To bear all or part of the weight of; hold up; assist; back up. समर्थन करना

- **Divide** (verb) – To separate or be separated into parts; split; partition. विभाजित करना

7. B) 'Acts' का use होगा क्योंकि "acts" एक present tense verb है जो singular subject ("he") के साथ agree करती है। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि वह एक बुद्धिमान व्यक्ति है जो हमेशा सोचता है फिर काम करता है, इसलिए 'acts' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Acting' एक gerund/infinitive form है, 'act' plural subject के लिए है, और 'acted' past tense है जो present context में fit नहीं होता।

'Acts' will be used because it is a present tense verb agreeing with the singular subject ("he"). The sentence states that he is an intelligent person who always thinks before doing something, making 'acts' correct here. Whereas, 'Acting' is a gerund/infinitive, 'act' is for plural subjects, and 'acted' is past tense, which does not fit the present context.

8. B) **Grapple** (verb) – To struggle, wrestle, or seize in a firm grip, especially in a physical or mental sense. जूझना, संघर्ष करना।

Antonym: Release (verb) – To let go, free, or set loose; to stop holding something.

छोड़ना, मुक्त करना।

- **Clasp** (verb) – To hold tightly, grip, or embrace. कसकर पकड़ना

- **Wrestle** (verb) – To engage in a physical struggle or fight, often similar to grappling कुश्ती लड़ना, संघर्ष करना

- **Grumble** (verb) – To complain or murmur in dissatisfaction. शिकायत करना, बड़बड़ाना।

9. D) 'the cheaper' के बदले '**cheaper**' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ Comparative Adjective का use हो रहा है, और तुलनात्मक विशेषण के साथ article 'the' का use नहीं होता जब तक कि पहले 'of' न हो। उदाहरण के लिए— He has a faster car than any other in the neighborhood.

'cheaper' will be used instead of 'the cheaper' because here a comparative adjective is used, and with comparative adjectives, the article 'the' is not used unless preceded by 'of'. For example— He has a faster car than any other in the neighborhood.

10. A) '**Broke into**' का use होगा क्योंकि '**break into**' का अर्थ है जबरदस्ती किसी जगह में प्रवेश करना, जैसे चोरी के उद्देश्य से। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि चोर पड़ोसी के घर में उस समय जबरदस्ती घुस गए जब वे घर पर नहीं थे, इसलिए 'broke into' यहाँ सही phrasal verb है। जबकि: 'Broke off' का अर्थ है अचानक से किसी चीज़ को रोक देना। 'Broke down' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ का खराब हो जाना, जैसे मशीन या भावनात्मक रूप से टूट जाना। 'Broke with' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ या व्यक्ति के साथ संबंध तोड़ लेना। 'Broke away' का अर्थ है भाग जाना या अलग हो जाना।

'**Broke into**' will be used because '**break into**' means to enter a place forcefully, usually with the intent to commit a theft or other unlawful act. The sentence describes burglars entering the neighbor's house while they were away, making 'broke into' the correct phrasal verb. 'Broke off' means to suddenly stop or terminate something. 'Broke down' means to stop functioning, as in a machine, or to break emotionally. 'Broke with' means to end a relationship or association. 'Broke away' means to escape or separate.

11. A) The correct spelling of the word '**emarged**' is '**emerged**' which means "to become visible or known, or to come into view". भरना, दिखाई देना, या सामने आना।
12. D) **Straight from the horse's mouth (idiom)** – Directly from the person involved सीधे संबंधित व्यक्ति से (जानकारी प्राप्त करना)

13. B) **Trivial** (adjective) – Of little value or importance; insignificant; unimportant. तुच्छ

Synonym: Insignificant (adjective) – Too small or unimportant to be worth consideration; trivial; negligible. महत्वहीन

- **Complex** (adjective) – Consisting of many different and connected parts; complicated; intricate. जटिल
- **Controversial** (adjective) – Giving rise or likely to give rise to public disagreement; debatable; disputable. विवादास्पद
- **Tricky** (adjective) – Requiring care and skill because difficult or awkward; cunning; crafty. कठिन

14. C) **Heightens** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को बढ़ाना या तीव्र करना। sentence में बताया गया है कि लेखक का जीवंत कल्पना का use readers की इंद्रियों को जागृत करता है और कहानी को जीवंत बनाता है, इसलिए 'heightens' सही है। जबकि 'Confuses' का अर्थ है भ्रमित करना, 'Actions' का अर्थ है कार्यवाही करना, और 'Dulls' का अर्थ है सुस्त करना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

'Heightens' will be used because it means to increase or intensify something. The sentence states that the author's use of vivid imagery engages the reader's senses, making the story

come alive, so 'heightens' is the correct fit here. Whereas, 'Confuses' means to perplex, 'Actions' implies taking steps or performing tasks, and 'Dulls' means to make something less intense, all of which are inappropriate in this context.

15. B) **Novice** (noun) – A person new to and inexperienced in a job or situation; beginner, learner, newcomer. नौसिखिया

Synonym: **Amateur** (noun) – A person who engages in a pursuit, a beginner or non-professional. शौकिया

- **Swindler** (noun) – A person who uses deception to deprive someone of money or possessions; fraudster, cheat. ठग
- **Expert** (noun) – A person who is very knowledgeable about or skillful in a particular area; specialist, authority. विशेषज्ञ
- **Zealous** (adjective) – Having or showing zeal; fervent, passionate, enthusiastic. उत्साही

16. D) 'The latest' का use होगा क्योंकि "latest" का अर्थ होता है "नवीनतम" या सबसे हाल का। Sentence में बात हो रही है कि स्मार्टवॉच younger generations द्वारा इस्तेमाल किए जाने वाले सबसे नए gadgets हैं, इसलिए 'the latest' सही है। 'The' का use इसलिए किया जाता है क्योंकि हम एक specific group (younger generations) के बारे में बात कर रहे हैं। 'later' (बाद में) – यह समय (time) को दर्शाता है, gadgets की नवीनता को नहीं। 'the later' (बाद वाला) – यहाँ comparative sense में use होता है, जो इस context में fit नहीं है। 'latest' (बिना 'the' के) – Article 'the' का absence grammatical रूप से गलत है क्योंकि हम specific gadgets (नवीनतम gadgets) की बात कर रहे हैं।

'The latest' will be used because it means "most recent" or newest. The sentence talks about smartwatches being the newest gadgets used by younger generations, so 'the latest' fits. 'The' is used because we are referring to a specific group (younger generations). 'later' – Refers to time, not the newness of gadgets. 'the later' – Used in a comparative sense, which doesn't fit here. 'latest' (without 'the') – Grammatically incorrect because we need the definite article 'the' for specificity.

17. D) **Habitat** का use होगा क्योंकि 'Habitat' का अर्थ है किसी जीव का प्राकृतिक आवास या पर्यावरण। Sentence में कहा गया है कि महासागर पृथ्वी की सतह का 70% से अधिक भाग कवर करते हैं, जिससे वे ग्रह का सबसे बड़ा प्राकृतिक आवास बन जाते हैं। इस संदर्भ में 'Habitat' सही शब्द है। 'Habit' का अर्थ है आदत, जो यहाँ अप्रासंगिक है। 'Hybrid' का अर्थ है मिश्रित प्रकार या दो भिन्न चीजों का संयोजन, जो इस संदर्भ में गलत है। 'Habitude' का अर्थ है स्वभाव या आदत, जो इस वाक्य के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है।

'Habitat' will be used because it refers to the natural home or environment of a living organism. The sentence states that the oceans cover more than 70% of Earth's surface, making them the largest natural environment on the planet, which makes 'Habitat' appropriate here.

'Habit' means a regular practice or routine, which is irrelevant in this context. 'Hybrid' refers to a mix of two different things, which does not fit the context.

'Habitude' means a habitual tendency or disposition, which is also unsuitable here.

18. D) **Better** का use होगा क्योंकि "better" एक comparative adjective है, जिसका use दो लोगों या वस्तुओं की तुलना करने के लिए किया जाता है। वाक्य में "my brother" और "I" की तुलना की जा रही है कि कौन गिटार बेहतर बजाता है। इसलिए 'better' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'well' एक adverb है, जो इस वाक्य में गलत है। 'Good' एक adjective है, लेकिन यहाँ comparative degree की जरूरत है, इसलिए यह सही नहीं है। 'Best' superlative degree है, जिसका use तीन या अधिक की तुलना में होता है, जो इस context में गलत है।

Better will be used because "better" is a comparative adjective used to compare two people or things. In the sentence, "my brother" and "I" are being compared regarding who plays the guitar better, making 'better' appropriate here. Whereas, 'well' is an adverb, which is incorrect in this sentence. 'Good' is an adjective, but the comparative degree is required here, so it doesn't fit. 'Best' is the superlative degree, which is used for comparisons involving three or more, making it incorrect in this context.

19. C) **'Most perfect'** का use होगा क्योंकि "perfect" एक ऐसा adjective है जो अपने आप में सर्वोच्च स्थिति को दर्शाता है। इसके साथ 'most' का use इसे superlative बनाता है। यहाँ वाक्य का अर्थ है कि सोनम का मंच पर प्रदर्शन सर्वोत्तम (सबसे परिपूर्ण) है। more perfect: 'Perfect' का comparative रूप 'more' के साथ असंगत है क्योंकि 'perfect' पहले से ही एक पूर्ण अवस्था को दर्शाता है। mostly perfect: 'Mostly perfect' का अर्थ होता है "ज्यादातर परिपूर्ण," जो वाक्य के अर्थ को कमजोर बनाता है। Perfectable: 'Perfectable' का अर्थ है "सुधार योग्य," जो यहाँ के संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होता।

Most perfect will be used because "perfect" is an adjective that inherently conveys a sense of completeness. Adding 'most' makes it a superlative, which is appropriate here as the sentence implies that Sonam's live stage performance is the best. more perfect: Using 'more' with 'perfect' is inconsistent since 'perfect' already denotes an absolute state. mostly perfect: 'Mostly perfect' implies "almost perfect," which weakens the intended meaning of the sentence. Perfectable: 'Perfectable' means "capable of being improved," which doesn't fit the context here.

20. C) 'so delicious that we couldn't help eating it' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "couldn't help" के बाद gerund (verb + ing) का प्रयोग होता है, न कि base form (eat)। यह एक fixed structure है जो अनियंत्रित क्रिया को दर्शाता है। Example:

Incorrect: We couldn't help laugh at the joke.

Correct: We couldn't help laughing at the joke.

'so delicious that we couldn't help eating it' will be used because after "couldn't help," a gerund (verb + ing) is used, not the base form (eat). This is a fixed structure indicating an uncontrollable action.

21. C) **Tools** का use यहाँ होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है ऐसे उपकरण या साधन जिनका use किसी चीज़ को हासिल करने के लिए किया जाता है। इस संदर्भ में, शब्दों को साहित्यिक सृजन के उपकरण के रूप में रूपक रूप में संदर्भित किया गया है। यह इस बात को दर्शाता है कि लेखक कैसे शब्दों का use कहानियों को बनाने के लिए करते हैं। 'Isolate' का अर्थ है अलग करना, जो "creation" के संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Convey' का अर्थ है व्यक्त करना या संप्रेषित करना, जो यहाँ पर शब्दों की भूमिका के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Mundane' का अर्थ है साधारण या नीरस, जो साहित्य की रचनात्मकता के विचार के विपरीत है।

'Tools' will be used here because it refers to instruments or means used to achieve something, and in this context, words are metaphorically referred to as tools for literary creation. This fits the context of how authors use words to craft stories. 'Isolate' means to separate, which does not fit the context of "creation." 'Convey' means to express or communicate, which does not suit the role words play as instruments here. 'Mundane' means ordinary or dull, which is opposite to the idea of creativity in literature.

22. A) **Keepers** का use यहाँ सही है क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "रक्षक" या "संरक्षक," और इस संदर्भ में लेखक अर्थ के संरक्षक के रूप में वर्णित हैं। बाकी विकल्प इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होते। 'Direction' का अर्थ है दिशा, जो यहाँ प्रासंगिक नहीं है। 'Coward' का अर्थ है कायर, जो बिल्कुल भी मेल नहीं खाता। 'Vibrators' इस संदर्भ में पूरी तरह से अनुपयुक्त है।

'Keepers' is the correct choice as it means "guardians" or "protectors," and in this context, authors are described as the keepers of meaning. The other options don't fit in this context. 'Direction' means guidance, which is not relevant here. 'Coward' means someone lacking courage, which is completely irrelevant. 'Vibrators' is entirely inappropriate in this context.

23. B) **Vivid** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "ज्वलंत" या "स्पष्ट और जीवंत"। यह शब्द दर्शाता है कि लेखक की कहानियां इतनी स्पष्ट और प्रभावशाली होती हैं कि वे पाठकों की भावनाओं को गहराई तक छू सकती हैं। यहाँ context में "narratives" का जिक्र है, जो जीवंत और आकर्षक होने चाहिए। जबकि: 'Mundane' का अर्थ है "साधारण या नीरस", जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Defrost' का अर्थ है "जमा हुआ पिघलाना", जो यहाँ बिल्कुल अप्रासंगिक है। 'Convey' का अर्थ है "संदेश या भाव को व्यक्त करना", जो इस संदर्भ में मुख्य विचार को व्यक्त नहीं करता।

'Vivid' will be used because it means "clear, lively, or vibrant." It perfectly conveys the idea that the narratives woven by authors are so striking and impactful that they touch the depths of human emotions. In this context, "narratives" must be vivid to engage readers deeply.

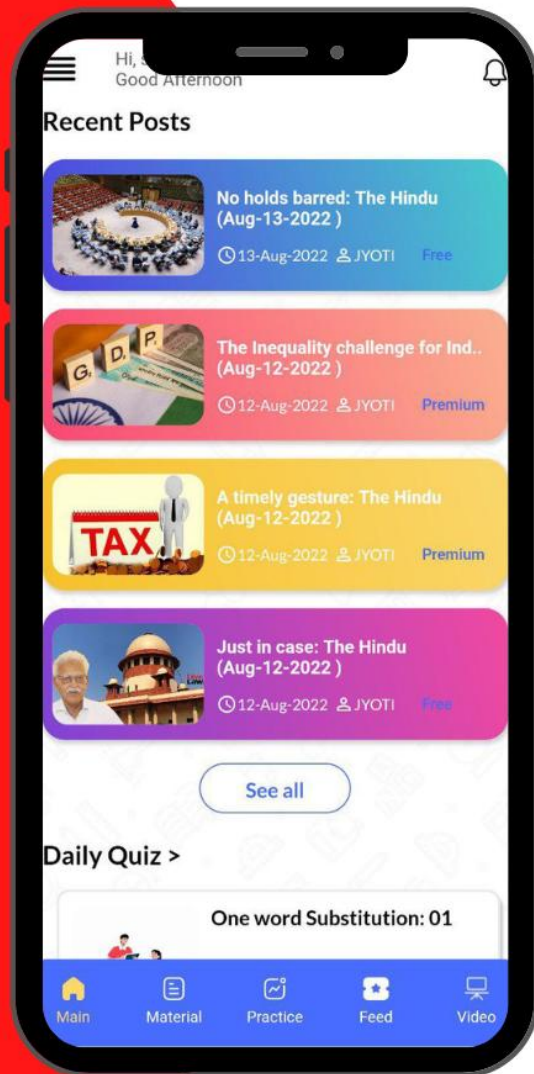
Whereas: 'Mundane' means "ordinary or dull," which does not fit here. 'Defrost' means "to thaw something frozen," which is irrelevant to the context. 'Convey' means "to express or communicate an idea," which does not align with the specific intent of "vivid narratives" in this passage.

24. 'A) **Pilot**' का use सही है क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है "किसी चीज़ को सावधानी से संचालित करना या मार्गदर्शन करना।" यह वाक्य इस संदर्भ में फिट बैठता है क्योंकि यह दर्शाता है कि कथाएँ मानवीय भावनाओं की गहराइयों को सावधानीपूर्वक संचालित करती हैं। 'Teacher' का अर्थ है शिक्षक, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Banker' का अर्थ है बैंकर, जो यहां अप्रासंगिक है। 'Sailor' का अर्थ है नाविक, जो यहां भावनाओं के संचालन के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है।

'Pilot' will be used because it means to carefully guide or navigate something. In this context, it fits as it conveys that narratives carefully navigate the depths of human emotion. 'Teacher' means an instructor, which is not relevant here. 'Banker' means someone who works in banking, which is out of context. 'Sailor' means someone who navigates the sea, which is not appropriate for navigating emotions.

25. D) '**Immerse**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "किसी चीज़ में पूरी तरह डूब जाना या उसमें खो जाना।" sentence में कहा गया है कि एक अच्छी तरह से रचित उपन्यास पाठकों को अपनी दुनिया में खींच ले जाता है और उन्हें समय के बीतने का एहसास नहीं होता। यह दर्शाता है कि पाठक उपन्यास की कहानी में पूरी तरह डूब जाते हैं। जबकि: 'Repel' का अर्थ है "दूर करना या विकर्षित करना," जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Isolate' का अर्थ है "अलग-थलग करना," जो यहां फिट नहीं होता। 'Captivate' का अर्थ है "मोहित करना," लेकिन वाक्य का मुख्य उद्देश्य पाठकों को पूरी तरह उपन्यास में डूबा देना है, न कि केवल मोहित करना।

'Immerse' will be used because it means "to become deeply involved or absorbed in something." The sentence states that a well-crafted novel draws readers into its world, making them lose track of time, which clearly indicates readers are fully immersed in the story. Whereas: 'Repel' means "to drive away or push back," which is incorrect here. 'Isolate' means "to set apart or detach," which doesn't fit the context. 'Captivate' means "to enchant or attract," but the sentence emphasizes complete absorption rather than mere attraction.



Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam