Sent messages: On Jammu and Kashmir post Pahalgam terror attack

New Delhi must act **in concert** with Srinagar to **isolate** terrorists

In the aftermath of the **gruesome** terror incident in Pahalgam, India must hear clearly the message **emanating from** those who committed the **heinous** crimes. By targeting tourists by religion and killing them in **cold blood**, the terrorists have **sought** to **undermine** India's **plurality** and what the country **stands** for. By killing a local Kashmiri who tried to help the **hapless** tourists, and by targeting people in a popular location that benefits the Kashmiri economy, the attackers have **grievously** harmed the **livelihoods** of thousands of Kashmiris dependent on tourism. By choosing to attack unarmed tourists at a time when the U.S. Vice-President was visiting India, they have also sought to undermine the perception that economic activities had returned to **normalcy** after the **tumultuous** period **following** the **abrogation** of special status for Jammu and Kashmir. The tragic **by-product** of the killings **is** now fear of the possibility that such attacks on tourists may **recur**, and of the economic pain that this would cause ordinary Kashmiris. New Delhi's and Srinagar's responses must keep these in mind and work towards the **mitigation** of fear and send a clear message — the people of India, including Kashmiris, are united against terror.

Following the attacks, New Delhi has sought to use strong **diplomatic** measures available in its **arsenal** against Pakistan, as it is well known that such terror attacks are almost always **carried out** by **radicalised** elements who are trained by Islamabad's **covert** agencies. As it **turns out**, the **mere absence** of **spectacular** violence **cannot** be **termed** normalcy. Normalcy is a relative term and it is better experienced than announced. While the **large-scale** violence and **militancy** that was seen in the 1990s never happened despite the unpopularity of these decisions, the **uneasy** calm was **reflected** in the **sporadic** incidents of terrorism targeting Kashmiri Pandits, **migrants**, and security forces in new areas that were **hitherto bereft of** militancy. With significant **curbs on** political activity, there was little **outlet** even for demands related to governance for the **citizenry**. The **conduct** of Lok Sabha elections and the Supreme Court-mandated Assembly election process **allowed** for some expression of voices in the Valley, but it is a **stretch** to say that this was "normalcy". The Union government must work in concert with the Jammu and Kashmir government, **empower** Jammu and Kashmir by **restoring Statehood**, and **assert** this **cohesion** to **isolate radical** and violent elements threatening the livelihoods of Kashmiris and the lives of tourists visiting the **serene** valley.   **[Practice Exercise]**

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.
- **Covert** (adjective) – Secret, clandestine, concealed, hidden, furtive गुप्त

Vocabulary

1. **In concert** (phrase) – together, jointly, in coordination, cooperatively, collaboratively मिलकर

2. **Isolate** (verb) – separate, detach, segregate, quarantine, cut off अलग करना

3. **In the aftermath of** (phrase) – following, as a result of, subsequent to, after, post के बाद

4. **Gruesome** (adjective) – horrifying, ghastly, grim, appalling, macabre भयानक / डरावना

5. **Emanate** (from) (verb) – originate, arise, radiate, emerge, issue से निकलना / उत्पन्न होना

6. **Heinous** (adjective) – atrocious, wicked, vile, evil, monstrous जघन्य

7. **Cold blood** (noun) – cruelty, ruthlessness, brutality, callousness, heartlessness निर्ममता

8. **Seek** (verb) – pursue, strive, attempt, aim, endeavour प्रयास करना

9. **Undermine** (verb) – weaken, sabotage, erode, subvert, impair कमजोर करना

10. **Plurality** (noun) – diversity, multiplicity, variety, heterogeneity, manifoldness बहुलता

11. **Stand for** (verb) – represent, signify, advocate, symbolize, support प्रतिनिधित्व करना / दर्शाना

12. **Hapless** (adjective) – unfortunate, unlucky, ill-fated, miserable, cursed दुर्भाग्यशाली

13. **Grievously** (adverb) – seriously, severely, painfully, terribly, tragically गंभीर रूप से

14. **Livelihood** (noun) – income, employment, sustenance, means of living, living आजीविका

15. **Normalcy** (noun) – normality, routine, usualness, regularity, stability सामान्य स्थिति

16. **Tumultuous** (adjective) – chaotic, turbulent, noisy, stormy, disorderly उथल-पुथल भरा

17. **Following** (preposition) – after, ensuing, subsequent to, in the wake of, post के बाद

18. **Abrogation** (noun) – repeal, annulment, abolition, cancellation, revocation समाप्ति

19. **By-product** (noun) – side effect, consequence, spin-off, offshoot, outcome उप-उत्पाद / परिणाम

20. **Recur** (verb) – repeat, reappear, return, happen again, persist फिर से होना / दोहराना

21. **Mitigation** (noun) – reduction, alleviation, lessening, easing, relief कमी

22. **Diplomatic** (adjective) – tactful, political, ambassadorial, foreign-policy related, conciliatory कूटनीतिक

23. **Arsenal** (noun) – stockpile, weaponry, armory, resources, collection शस्त्रागार / साधनों का संग्रह

24. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) – execute, perform, implement, conduct, accomplish अंजाम देना / करना

25. **Radicalised** (adjective) – extremist, fanatical, militant, indoctrinated, fundamentalist कट्टरपंथी बना हुआ

26. **Turn out** (phrasal verb) – prove, emerge, end up, develop, result साबित होना

27. **Mere** (adjective) – only, just, simple, bare, sheer मात्र / केवल

28. **Spectacular** (adjective) – impressive, striking, dramatic, stunning, remarkable शानदार

29. **Term** (verb) – label, designate, name, describe, call कहना / नाम देना

30. **Large-scale** (adjective) – extensive, widespread, massive, broad, vast बड़े पैमाने पर

31. **Militancy** (noun) – extremism, terrorism, insurgency, rebellion, belligerence उग्रवाद

32. **Uneasy** (adjective) – tense, nervous, troubled, restless, uncomfortable असहज

33. **Reflect** (verb) – show, mirror, display, represent, express दिखाना

34. **Sporadic** (adjective) – occasional, irregular, infrequent, scattered, erratic छिटपुट

35. **Migrant** (noun) – immigrant, emigrant, traveler, laborer, nomad प्रवासी

36. **Hitherto** (adverb) – until now, so far, as yet, previously, formerly अब तक

37. **Bereft** (of) (adjective) – devoid, lacking, deprived, empty, without से वंचित

38. **Curb** (on) (noun) – restriction, limit, control, check, restraint प्रतिबंध

39. **Outlet** (noun) – channel, expression, release, escape, vent माध्यम

40. **Citizenry** (noun) – population, residents, public, community, people नागरिक

41. **Stretch** (noun) – exaggeration, extension, overstatement, overreach, expansion बढ़ाव

42. **Empower** (verb) – authorize, enable, strengthen, entitle, equip सशक्त करना

43. **Restore** (verb) – reinstate, reestablish, recover, return, revive बहाल करना

44. **Statehood** (noun) – sovereignty, independence, self-governance, autonomy, nationhood राज्य का दर्जा

45. **Assert** (verb) – declare, affirm, maintain, state, claim जोर देना

46. **Cohesion** (noun) – unity, solidarity, connection, togetherness, bonding एकता / जुड़ाव

47. **Radical** (adjective) – extreme, revolutionary, drastic, reformist, progressive कट्टर

48. **Serene** (adjective) – calm, peaceful, tranquil, placid, composed शांत

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Pahalgam terror attack was a brutal act aimed at disrupting India's pluralistic values.

2. Tourists were targeted based on religion, and a local Kashmiri who tried to help was also killed.

3. The attack harmed the local economy by targeting a key tourist hub in Kashmir.

4. It was likely timed to coincide with the U.S. Vice-President's visit to undermine India's global image.

5. Fear of recurring attacks may deter tourism and hurt the livelihoods of many Kashmiris.

6. Responses from both New Delhi and Srinagar must focus on countering fear and promoting unity.

7. India must project a strong and united front of all citizens, including Kashmiris, against terrorism.

8. New Delhi has responded with diplomatic measures aimed at Pakistan.

9. Pakistan-based radical elements are often behind such terror activities, aided by covert state agencies.

10. The absence of major violence doesn't equal normalcy; true normalcy is felt, not declared.

11. Despite reduced large-scale violence, sporadic attacks still occur across Kashmir.

12. Targets now include Kashmiri Pandits, migrant workers, and security forces in newer areas.

13. Political expression remains limited due to restrictions, weakening democratic engagement.

14. Elections have offered some space for public voice but cannot alone define normalcy.

15. The Union government must restore **Statehood**, coordinate with the local administration, and isolate extremists to safeguard peace and livelihoods.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What can be inferred as a primary motivation behind the terrorists targeting tourists in Pahalgam?** **[Editorial page]**
   A. To weaken India's secular image and harm local economic stability
   B. To retaliate against the abrogation of Article 370
   C. To protest the visit of the U.S. Vice-President
   D. To incite a war between India and Pakistan

2. **What is the tone of the passage?**
   A. Indifferent
   B. Critical and Concerned
   C. Optimistic
   D. Humorous

3. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
   A. Tourism promotion in Kashmir
   B. Political instability in India
   C. The impact of terrorism on Kashmir's society and the need for united action
   D. U.S. foreign policy in South Asia

4. **Fill in the blank:** *"The mere absence of spectacular violence cannot be termed _____. Normalcy is a relative term and it is better experienced than announced."*
   A. peace
   B. normalcy
   C. progress
   D. instability

5. **According to the passage, what specific steps are recommended for the Indian government in response to the attack?**
   A. Increase military presence in tourist zones only
   B. Isolate Kashmir from the rest of India for safety
   C. Empower J&K by restoring Statehood and isolating radical elements
   D. Focus solely on diplomatic pressure against Pakistan

6. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence.**
   The restaurent's atmosphere was pleasant and inviting
   A. atmosphere
   B. pleasant
   C. inviting
   D. restaurent's

7. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
   Fast
   A. Tardy
   B. Barely

C. Quick

D. Languid

8. **Identify the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the following sentence and select its correct spelling from the given options.**

The teacher assessed the student's flyer for writing

A. flair

B. flare

C. friar

D. fire

9. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**

A famous economist / says that / the government should do more / for create enough jobs

A. a famous economist

B. the government should do more

C. says that

D. for create enough jobs

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

A short stay at a place

A. Topiary

B. Xenophobe

C. Sojourn

D. Embargo

11. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

The athlete's performance was _____, earning him a standing ovation

A. exceptional

B. moderate

C. mediocre

D. average

12. **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'.**

Suman will be fired **if she did not complete the delegated target** set by her boss.

A. if she do not complete the delegated target

B. if she had not complete the delegated target

C. if she does not complete the delegated target

D. no substitution

13. **Select the correct spelling from the given options to fill in the blank.**

I hope you will excuse me for doing what is only my duty, although it may appear _____.

A. impertinent

B. impertiant

C. impertaint

D. impertinant

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

Vacant

A. Empty

B. Brutal

C. Popular

D. Full

15. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word 'Flash' from the given sentence.**

My cousin Zara, who loves to explore outer space in her free time, once noticed or observed a disc-shaped object blinking in the sky.

A. blinking

B. explore

C. observed

D. noticed

16. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical/spelling error.**

Jack along with / his family visited / his aunt living / at America

A. at America

B. Jack along with

C. his family visited

D. his aunt living

17. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**

His skills in programming / are more superior than / most developers / in the company

A. his skills in programming

B. in the company

C. are more superior than

D. most developers

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

Sycophant

A. Uppity

B. Independent

C. Fawner

D. Arrogant

19. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**

(1) Malini's family (2) doesn't know (3) how she bears out (4) the work pressure.

A. the work pressure.

B. how she bears out

C. malini's family

D. doesn't know

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

Mithya's remarkable **generosity** extended to everyone she knew
A. Perfection
B. Awkwardness
C. Cowardice
D. Selfishness

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.

One day we saw Kala Nag. The monsoons had burst with all their fury, and it had rained in the night. The earth, which had lain parched and dry under the withering heat of the summer sun, was teeming ____1____ life. In little pools, frogs croaked. The muddy ground was littered with ____2____ worms, centipedes and velvety lady-birds. Grass ____3____ begun to show and the banana leaves glistened bright and glossy green. The _____4___ had flooded Kala Nag's hole. He sat in an open patch on the lawn. His shiny black hood glistened in the sunlight. He was big, almost six feet in _____5____ and rounded and fleshy, as my wrist. "Looks like a King Cobra. Let's get him."

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
    A. at
    B. before
    C. with
    D. In

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
    A. crawling
    B. singing
    C. talking
    D. reading

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
    A. had
    B. is
    C. was
    D. will

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
    A. snow
    B. clouds
    C. rain
    D. heat

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5**
    A. length
    B. weight
    C. looks
    D. circles

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. **A) To weaken India's secular image and harm local economic stability**

   The passage suggests that by targeting tourists based on religion, killing a local Kashmiri, and striking a key economic area, terrorists aimed to undermine India's pluralism and economic recovery, especially tourism.

   B is incorrect: Though the passage refers to the post-abrogation period, there's no direct evidence that this was the reason for the attack.

   C is incorrect: The timing of the attack during the U.S. visit is mentioned, but not as the primary motivation.

   D is incorrect: There is no mention in the passage of an intent to provoke war between nations.

2. **B) Critical and Concerned**

   The author is critical of the terror attack and the implications it has on India's plurality, Kashmir's economy, and the perception of normalcy. There is also a concerned call for coordinated action by the governments of India and Jammu and Kashmir.

   A: The passage is emotionally charged and clearly not neutral or detached.

   C: The tone doesn't convey hope or positivity; instead, it highlights serious issues and threats.

   D: Given the tragic subject of terrorism and its aftermath, the passage is completely devoid of humor.

3. **C) The impact of terrorism on Kashmir's society and the need for united action**

   The central theme revolves around the terror attack's damage to social harmony and the economy, especially tourism in Kashmir, and calls for a united response from India to counter terror and restore true normalcy.

   A: While tourism is mentioned, it is in the context of being affected negatively by terrorism, not promotion.

   B. The passage focuses more on terrorism and Kashmir, not a broader narrative of instability across India.

   D: The U.S. is briefly mentioned, but it's not central to the theme or argument of the passage.

4. B) **normalcy**

   The sentence discusses the definition of "normalcy" and critiques the assumption that lack of violence equals normalcy. A (peace) is too vague and doesn't capture the nuanced argument.

   C (progress) is not the focus of the sentence.

   D (instability) is not mentioned in passage."

5. **C) Empower J&K by restoring Statehood and isolating radical elements**

The passage directly recommends that the Union government should work with J&K to restore Statehood and assert cohesion to isolate violent elements.

A is incorrect: No mention is made of increasing military presence in tourist zones only.

B is incorrect: The idea of isolation contradicts the passage's emphasis on unity.

D is incorrect: While diplomatic pressure is mentioned, it's not the sole focus or solution recommended

6. D) The **incorrectly spelt** word in the sentence is **'restaurent's'**, and the correct spelling is **'restaurant's'**. भोजनालय

7. C) **Fast** (adjective) – Moving or capable of moving at high speed, swift, rapid, brisk. तेज़, शीघ्र, जल्दी।

   Synonym: **Quick** (adjective) – Moving fast or doing something in a short time, swift, rapid, speedy. शीघ्र, फुर्तीला, तेज।

   - **Tardy** (adjective) – Delaying or delayed beyond the expected time, slow, late. सुस्त, विलंबित।

   - **Barely** (adverb) – Only just, scarcely, hardly. मुश्किल से, थोड़ा।

   - **Languid** (adjective) – Lacking energy, slow, weak, sluggish. थका हुआ, सुस्त

8. A) The incorrectly spelt word in the given sentence is '**flyer'**. The correct spelling of the intended word is 'flair', which means "a natural ability to do something well" or "a distinctive elegance or style" (प्राकृतिक क्षमता या अनोखी शैली).

9. D) '**for creating enough jobs'** का use सही होगा क्योंकि "for" के बाद आने वाले क्रिया (verb) को gerund (verb + ing) में होना चाहिए। यह एक व्याकरणिक नियम है कि preposition "for" के बाद हमेशा verb का gerund रूप (creating) आता है। इसलिए 'for create enough jobs' में त्रुटि है।

   'for creating enough jobs' should be used because after "for," the verb should be in its gerund form (verb + ing). According to grammatical rules, a preposition like "for" must always be followed by a gerund. Hence, the error lies in "for create enough jobs."

10. C) **Sojourn** (noun) – A temporary stay at a place अस्थायी निवास

    - **Topiary** (noun) – The practice or art of clipping shrubs or trees into ornamental shapes पेड़-पौधों की कटाई-छटाई की कला

    - **Xenophobe** (noun) – A person who has an intense or irrational dislike of people from other countries विदेशी लोगों से घृणा करने वाला

    - **Embargo** (noun) – An official ban on trade or other commercial activity with a particular country व्यापार या वाणिज्य पर प्रतिबंध

11. A) **Exceptional'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "असाधारण" या "सर्वश्रेष्ठ।" sentence में mention है कि एथलीट का प्रदर्शन इतना अच्छा था कि उसे दर्शकों से standing ovation मिली। यह दर्शाता है कि प्रदर्शन असाधारण स्तर का था। 'Moderate' का अर्थ है "सामान्य" या "औसत से थोड़ा बेहतर," जो standing ovation जैसे असाधारण प्रतिक्रिया के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Mediocre' का अर्थ है "सामान्य से भी कमजोर" या "औसत से नीचे," जो इस संदर्भ में बिल्कुल उपयुक्त नहीं है क्योंकि यह अच्छे प्रदर्शन का संकेत नहीं देता। 'Average' का अर्थ है "औसत," और यह भी standing ovation जैसे प्रतिक्रिया को सही ठहराने के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है।

'Exceptional' will be used because it means "extraordinary" or "outstanding." The sentence indicates that the athlete's performance was so remarkable that it earned a standing ovation from the audience, signifying an exceptional level of achievement. 'Moderate' means "average" or "slightly better than average," which does not justify the extraordinary reaction of a standing ovation. 'Mediocre' implies "below average" or "of poor quality," which is inappropriate as it contradicts the positive tone of the sentence. 'Average' simply means "ordinary" and cannot justify a standing ovation, which is reserved for exceptional performances.

12. C) 'did not complete' के बदले **'does not complete'** का use होगा क्योंकि Conditional Sentences में, जब Main Clause Future Tense में हो तो 'if' Clause में Present Tense का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— She will fail if she does not work hard.

'does not complete' will be used instead of 'did not complete' because in Conditional Sentences, when the main clause is in Future Tense, the verb in the 'if' clause should be in Present Tense; Like— She will fail if she does not work hard.

13. A) **Impertinent'** का use होगा क्योंकि "impertinent" का अर्थ होता है "बेबाक या अनादरपूर्ण"। Sentence में mention है कि वक्ता ने केवल अपना कर्तव्य निभाया है, भले ही यह असभ्य प्रतीत हो। यह adjective है, जो context के अनुसार वाक्य को सही रूप से पूरा करता है।

'Impertinent' will be used because it means **"rude or not showing proper respect."** The sentence suggests the speaker acknowledges that their action might seem rude, but it was their duty. This adjective fits perfectly with the sentence's context.

14. A) **Vacant** (adjective) – Not occupied, empty, unfilled, uninhabited. खाली

Synonym: **Empty** (adjective) – Containing nothing, unoccupied, hollow. रिक्त

- **Brutal** (adjective) – Cruel, savage, harsh, barbarous. **क्रूर**

- **Popular** (adjective) – Well-liked, admired, famous, widely known. **लोकप्रिय**

- **Full** (adjective) – Containing all it can hold, complete, crowded. **भरा हुआ**

15. A) **Flash** (verb) – To shine brightly and suddenly for a short time, sparkle, blink, glimmer. झपकना/चमकना

    Synonym: **Blinking** (verb) – Shine intermittently or quickly, flicker, twinkle. झपकना/टिमटिमाना

    - **Explore (verb)** – To travel through or search for the purpose of discovery, investigate. **खोज/अन्वेषण करना**
    - **Observed (verb)** – To notice or perceive something and register it as being significant, see, watch. **देखना/पर्यवेक्षण करना**
    - **Noticed (verb)** – To become aware of, perceive, or acknowledge. ध्यान देना /नोट करना

16. A) 'at America' के बदले **'in America'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'at' Preposition का प्रयोग छोटे स्थानों के लिए होता है जबकि देश या बड़े स्थानों के लिए 'in' Preposition का प्रयोग किया जाता है

    The phrase **'at America'** is incorrect because the preposition "at" is used for specific locations, while for a country or large geographical area, the preposition **'in'** is appropriate.

17. C) '**are more superior than'** में error है क्योंकि 'superior' अपने आप में Comparative Degree का adjective है और उसके पहले 'more' का प्रयोग अनावश्यक है। साथ ही, 'superior' के साथ 'than' के बदले 'to' का प्रयोग किया जाता है। अतः इसे सुधारकर 'are superior to' किया जाएगा।

    'are more superior than' is incorrect because 'superior' is already a comparative adjective, and using 'more' is redundant. Additionally, 'superior' is followed by 'to,' not 'than.' Therefore, it should be corrected to 'are superior to.

18. C) **Sycophant** (noun) – A person who acts obsequiously toward someone important to gain advantage; flatterer, toady, bootlicker, hanger-on. चापलूस

    Synonym: **Fawner** (noun) – Someone who seeks favor by excessive flattery or submissive behavior. चापलूस, खुशामदी

    - **Uppity (adjective)** – Self-important, arrogant, behaving as if you are superior. **घमंडी**
    - **Independent (adjective)** – Self-reliant, not influenced or controlled by others. **स्वतंत्र**
    - **Arrogant (adjective)** – Having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's own importance. **घमंडी**

19. B) "**bears out**" का use गलत है। सही phrasal verb "bears up" होना चाहिए क्योंकि "bears out" का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ की पुष्टि करना या समर्थन करना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। इसके विपरीत, "bears up" का अर्थ है दबाव या कठिनाई को सहन करना, जो यहां सही है।

    The phrase "**bears out**" is incorrect in this context. The correct phrase should be "bears up" because "bears out" means to confirm or validate something, which does not fit the context of enduring work pressure. Instead, "bears up" is the correct phrasal verb to describe handling or

20. D) **Generosity** (noun) – The quality of being kind, giving, and selfless. उदारता

    Antonym: **Selfishness** (noun) – The quality of prioritizing one's own needs or desires over others. स्वार्थीपन

    - **Perfection** *(noun)* – The state of being flawless, ideal, or without any fault. **पूर्णता**

    - **Awkwardness** *(noun)* – Lack of grace, skill, or ease; clumsiness. **बेढंगापन**

    - **Cowardice** *(noun)* – Lack of bravery or courage. **कायरता**

21. 'C) **With'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'with' का अर्थ है "साथ में "या" के साथ," जो यहां धरती और जीवन की प्रचुरता के संदर्भ में उपयुक्त है। sentence में mention है कि बारिश के बाद धरती जीवन से भरी हुई थी। 'With' यहां सही preposition है क्योंकि यह दिखाता है कि जीवन प्रचुर मात्रा में था। 'At' का अर्थ है किसी स्थान या समय को व्यक्त करना, जो यहां सही नहीं है। 'Before' समय से संबंधित है, जो वाक्य के संदर्भ में गलत है। 'In' का प्रयोग किसी चीज़ के भीतर होने को दिखाता है, जो यहां "life teeming on earth" के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है।'

    With' will be used because it means "together with" or "accompanied by," which is appropriate in the context of the earth teeming with life. The sentence highlights how life flourished after the rains, and 'with' fits perfectly. 'At': Indicates location or time, which is incorrect here. 'Before': Relates to time and doesn't suit the context. 'In': Suggests containment, which doesn't align with the meaning here.

22. A) **'Crawling'** का use होगा क्योंकि "crawling" का अर्थ है रेंगने वाला। sentence में mention है कि कीचड़ भरी जमीन पर कीड़े-मकोड़े जैसे केंचुए और सेंटिपीड हैं, जो आमतौर पर रेंगते हैं। इसलिए 'crawling' सही उत्तर है। Crawling' यहाँ एक adjective के रूप में use हुआ है, जो "worms" का वर्णन करता है। यह वाक्य के संदर्भ में पूरी तरह उपयुक्त है। Singing" का अर्थ है गाना। कीड़े या मकोड़े गाना नहीं गा सकते। Talking" का अर्थ है बात करना। यह कीड़े-मकोड़ों के संदर्भ में गलत है। Reading" का अर्थ है पढ़ना। यह जीव-जंतुओं के लिए अप्रासंगिक है।

    will be used because it means "moving slowly on the ground." The sentence describes the muddy ground filled with worms and centipedes, which naturally "crawl." Thus, 'crawling' fits perfectly. 'Crawling' acts as an adjective modifying "worms," describing their movement, making it contextually correct. Singing' means producing musical sounds, which is irrelevant in the context of worms and centipedes. Talking' means communicating with words, which is not applicable to these creatures. 'Reading' means interpreting text, which is illogical for worms and centipedes.

23. A) यहाँ **'Had'** का use सही है क्योंकि वाक्य एक ऐसी घटना का वर्णन कर रहा है जो अतीत में हुई थी। 'Begun' शब्द 'begin' का past participle है और यह past perfect tense बनाने के लिए 'Had' की

आवश्यकता करता है। sentence यह बता रहा है कि बारिश के बाद घास उगना शुरू हो चुकी थी, जो अतीत में पूरी हुई क्रिया है। पूरा वाक्य: "Grass had begun to show" grammatically सही है क्योंकि यह पहले पूरी हुई घटना को दर्शाता है। Is' present tense है और वाक्य के past context से मेल नहीं खाता है। Was' से past continuous का बोध होता है, जबकि यहाँ एक पूरी हुई क्रिया का वर्णन है। Will' future tense है और वाक्य के अतीत संदर्भ के लिए बिल्कुल अनुपयुक्त है।

"**Had**" is correct because the sentence describes an event that occurred in the past. The word "begun" is the past participle form of "begin," and it requires the auxiliary verb "had" to form the past perfect tense. The sentence talks about the grass starting to grow after the rains, indicating a completed action in the past."Grass had begun to show" makes grammatical sense because the action of grass beginning to grow happened before the narrative's present "Is" is present tense and does not match the past context of the passage. Was" indicates a **past continuous** state, not a completed action, which doesn't fit here. "Begun" requires a helping verb for the past perfect tense. "Will" is future tense and is completely irrelevant in the past context of the passage.
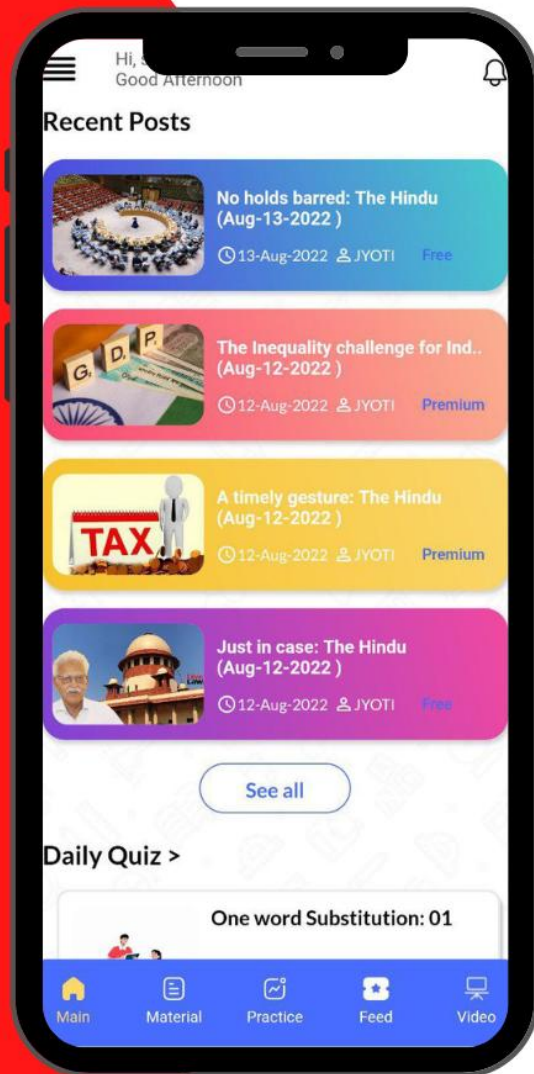
24. C) Rain' का use होगा क्योंकि passage में पहले से ही 'monsoons' और 'rained in the night' का ज़िक्र है। यह संदर्भ देता है कि बारिश ने Kala Nag के hole को भर दिया। बारिश (rain) की वजह से उसका छेद पानी से भर गया, इसलिए 'rain' इस context में सही है। **Snow'** का अर्थ है बर्फ, जो monsoon और बारिश के संदर्भ में फिट नहीं बैठता। यहाँ बर्फ के गिरने का कोई उल्लेख नहीं है। **Clouds'** का अर्थ है बादल, लेकिन बादल hole को भर नहीं सकते। यहाँ context में rain की बात हो रही है। **Heat'** का मतलब गर्मी है, जो पहले की सूखी ज़मीन के लिए सही हो सकता है, लेकिन hole को भरने के लिए rain का ज़िक्र किया गया है।

'Rain' will be used because the passage already mentions "monsoons" and "rained in the night." This sets the context that rain caused Kala Nag's hole to flood. Hence, 'rain' is contextually correct. **Snow'** means ice or snowfall, which does not fit the monsoon and rain context of the passage. There is no mention of snowfall. **Clouds'** mean clouds in the sky, but clouds cannot fill a hole. The context clearly refers to rain. **Heat'** means warmth or high temperature, which could describe the previously parched earth but does not fit the context of flooding the hole.

25. A) **'Length'** का use होगा क्योंकि "six feet" स्पष्ट रूप से एक माप का संकेत देता है। यहां काले नाग (सांप) के शारीरिक माप का वर्णन किया जा रहा है। "six feet in length" सांप की लंबाई का सही विवरण है।'Weight' का अर्थ है "वजन"। हालांकि यहां सांप के वजन का उल्लेख नहीं है, इसलिए यह गलत है। 'Looks' का अर्थ है "दिखावट," लेकिन sentence में सांप के दिखावे का संदर्भ नहीं है, इसलिए यह भी गलत

है। 'Circles' का अर्थ है "घेराव या घेरे," जो यहां फिट नहीं होता क्योंकि यह सांप के आकार का वर्णन नहीं करता।

'Length' is correct because "six feet" clearly refers to a measurement. The sentence describes the snake's physical dimensions, and "six feet in length" is appropriate for indicating the size of the snake. 'Weight' means the measure of heaviness, but the sentence does not discuss the snake's weight, making it incorrect. 'Looks' refers to appearance, but the context is not about how the snake looks. Hence, it is also incorrect. 'Circles' refers to rounds or loops, which does not fit the description of the snake's size.