

New friends: On India and Pakistan's closest allies

India is making efforts to **isolate** Pakistan in the Islamic world

Amidst the shock over the Pahalgam terror attack, the **resultant** diplomatic measures against Pakistan and **the likelihood of** a military **escalation**, New Delhi's **attempts** to **strengthen** ties with three of Pakistan's closest allies **may** have been missed. But **support** from Saudi Arabia, the UAE and the Taliban **regime** in Afghanistan **will** be important to building India's case against the **perpetrators**. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was in Jeddah when he received news of the attack. Although he cut short his visit, he discussed the attack at some length with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. The joint statement recorded their strong **condemnation** of the attack, rejecting any attempt to "link terrorism to any particular race, religion or culture". The wording **marks** the strongest such language used and is the **culmination** of the process begun in 2006 with the India-KSA Delhi Declaration, followed by the 2010 Strategic Partnership agreement that **turned the compass** in the Saudi Kingdom on terrorism. In 2012, Saudi authorities **assisted** India in securing the arrest of Sayed Zabiuddin Ansari alias Abu Jundal, an LeT Indian **co-conspirator** being tried for the 26/11 attacks. The **assistance marked** a **turnaround** in ties, **given** the Kingdom's history of funding Islamist **extremist** groups at madrasas in Pakistan and other countries. Ties have now been transformed with technological cooperation and the promise of \$100 billion Saudi investment.

With the UAE, India has **made strides** in cooperation, boosted by the signing of the Strategic Partnership in 2017, and at least six visits by Mr. Modi, leading to a **stark turnaround** since the 1990s, when India **pleaded** unsuccessfully for the **extradition** of Dawood Ibrahim and in **intervening** in the 1999 hijack of flight IC-814. In April, New Delhi **rolled out the red carpet** for Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and the UAE's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, **cementing** ties with a country that has been one of Pakistan's closest **backers**. Finally, this week saw a surprise visit to Kabul by the MEA's **point-person** for Pakistan-Afghanistan-India and a meeting with Taliban **acting** foreign minister Muttaqi as well as a "**categorical** condemnation" by the Taliban of the Pahalgam killings — **a far cry from** the Taliban's past in targeting Indian interests in Afghanistan in **collaboration** with Pakistani agencies and terror groups. It would not be **pragmatic** to assume a full **change of heart** with the Taliban, but **the support** against terrorism **is** bound to be one more **pressure point** on Pakistan. The **salutary impact** of **well-timed** diplomacy in turning around ties with countries that had refused India cooperation three **decades** ago **is** **noteworthy**.

[Practice Exercise]

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.
- **Categorical** (adjective) – Definite, uncompromising, unconditional, firm सुस्पष्ट

Vocabulary

1. **Ally** (noun) – partner, associate, supporter, confederate, friend मित्र राष्ट्र
2. **Isolate** (verb) – separate, detach, alienate, seclude, exclude अलग करना
3. **Amidst** (preposition) – among, surrounded by, during, in the middle of, amidst के बीच
4. **Resultant** (adjective) – consequent, ensuing, subsequent, following, outcome-based परिणामी
5. **The likelihood of** (noun) – probability, chance, possibility, prospect, risk संभावना
6. **Escalation** (noun) – intensification, increase, rise, aggravation, amplification तनाव बढ़ना
7. **Strengthen** (verb) – reinforce, solidify, fortify, bolster, enhance मजबूत करना
8. **Regime** (noun) – government, administration, rule, system, leadership शासन
9. **Perpetrator** (noun) – offender, criminal, wrongdoer, culprit, assailant अपराधी
10. **Condemnation** (noun) – censure, criticism, denouncement, reproach, disapproval निंदा
11. **Mark** (verb) – signify, denote, indicate, represent, highlight दर्शाना
12. **Culmination** (noun) – climax, conclusion, peak, zenith, end चरमबिंदु / समाप्ति
13. **Turn the compass** (phrase) – shift direction, change stance, alter position, redirect focus, reorient दिशा मोड़ना
14. **Assist** (verb) – help, aid, support, facilitate, contribute सहायता करना
15. **Co-conspirator** (noun) – accomplice, collaborator, partner in crime, associate, conspirator सह-साजिशकर्ता
16. **Assistance** (noun) – help, aid, support, backing, cooperation सहायता
17. **Mark** (verb) – indicate, highlight, show, signify, note दिखाना
18. **Turnaround** (noun) – reversal, shift, change, transformation, improvement बदलाव / सुधार
19. **Given** (preposition) – considering, in view of, taking into account, due to, because of को देखते हुए
20. **Extremist** (adjective) – radical, fanatical, militant, hardline, fundamentalist उग्रवादी
21. **Make stride** (phrase) – progress, advance, move forward, develop, improve प्रगति करना
22. **Stark** (adjective) – sharp, evident, harsh, clear, distinct स्पष्ट / तीव्र

23. **Turnaround** (noun) – recovery, rebound, improvement, shift, reversal परिवर्तन / बदलाव
24. **Plead** (verb) – appeal, request, beg, implore, entreat निवेदन करना
25. **Extradition** (noun) – surrender, deportation, repatriation, handover, transfer प्रत्यर्पण
26. **Intervene** (verb) – mediate, interfere, intercede, step in, intrude हस्तक्षेप करना
27. **Roll out** (phrasal verb) – launch, unveil, initiate, implement, present शुरू करना
28. **Roll out the Red carpet** (phrase) – to welcome someone as a very important person or guest विशेष स्वागत करना
29. **Cement** (verb) – solidify, strengthen, secure, reinforce, establish मजबूत करना
30. **Backer** (noun) – supporter, sponsor, patron, ally, financier समर्थक
31. **Point-person** (noun) – a person who speaks for another or for a group प्रतिनिधि
32. **Acting** (adjective) – temporary, interim, provisional, substitute, stand-in कार्यवाहक
33. **A far cry from** (phrase) – very different from, unlike, not at all like, remote from, contrasting with बहुत अलग
34. **Collaboration** (noun) – cooperation, partnership, teamwork, alliance, coordination सहयोग
35. **Pragmatic** (adjective) – practical, realistic, sensible, logical, down-to-earth व्यवहारिक
36. **Change of heart** (phrase) – change in attitude, shift in opinion, reversal, reconsideration, turnaround सोच में बदलाव
37. **Pressure point** (noun) – stress point, weak spot, leverage point, sensitive area, vulnerability दबाव बिंदु
38. **Salutary** (adjective) – beneficial, helpful, useful, constructive, positive लाभदायक
39. **Well-timed** (adjective) – timely, opportune, prompt, appropriate, perfectly timed समय पर
40. **Decade** (noun) – Period of ten years दशक
41. **Noteworthy** (adjective) – significant, remarkable, notable, important, outstanding उल्लेखनीय

Summary of the Editorial

1. India is actively engaging with Pakistan's closest allies — Saudi Arabia, UAE, and the Taliban regime — to isolate Pakistan diplomatically.
2. The outreach follows the Pahalgam terror attack, which triggered both diplomatic and potential military responses.
3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was in Jeddah when the attack occurred and discussed it with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.
4. Their joint statement strongly condemned the attack, using unprecedented language disassociating terrorism from any religion or culture.
5. This marks the culmination of a long-term shift in India-Saudi relations, starting with the 2006 Delhi Declaration and the 2010 Strategic Partnership.
6. A major turning point came in 2012, when Saudi Arabia helped India arrest LeT conspirator Abu Jundal, showcasing real cooperation.
7. Despite its earlier support for Islamist groups, Saudi Arabia has since evolved its stance, aligning more with India on counter-terrorism.
8. The two countries now share deepening ties in technology and economic investment, including a promised \$100 billion Saudi investment in India.
9. India's relationship with the UAE has similarly transformed, especially after the 2017 Strategic Partnership agreement.
10. Modi's six visits to the UAE have helped repair ties that were strained in the 1990s over issues like Dawood Ibrahim's extradition.
11. The recent state visit by Dubai's Crown Prince Sheikh Hamdan to India further cemented bilateral cooperation.
12. The UAE, once a strong backer of Pakistan, is now becoming a strategic ally for India on various fronts.
13. In a surprising move, India held a high-level meeting with the Taliban in Kabul, signaling new diplomatic pragmatism.
14. The Taliban issued a categorical condemnation of the Pahalgam killings, a shift from its earlier alignment with anti-India elements.
15. These strategic diplomatic engagements show how India's persistent efforts are reshaping alliances, increasing pressure on Pakistan, and building international support against terrorism.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. What is the tone of the line “The salutary impact of well-timed diplomacy in turning around ties with countries that had refused India cooperation three decades ago is noteworthy.”?
 - A. Cautionary
 - B. Appreciative
 - C. Critical
 - D. Indifferent
2. What was the significance of Prime Minister Modi's meeting with the Saudi Crown Prince after the Pahalgam terror attack?
 - A. They finalized a new trade agreement on oil supply
 - B. They issued a joint statement condemning the attack and rejecting terrorism linked to any religion or culture
 - C. They discussed military retaliation against Pakistan
 - D. They signed a defense pact with immediate effect
3. Why is India's diplomatic engagement with the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and the Taliban significant in the context of the Pahalgam attack?
 - A. These nations are major economic investors in Indian infrastructure
 - B. These countries were directly involved in mediating the attack
 - C. They are historically close allies of Pakistan, and their support puts pressure on Pakistan
 - D. These countries offered military assistance to India
4. According to the passage, in which year did Saudi Arabia assist India in securing the arrest of a 26/11 co-conspirator?
 - A. 2006
 - B. 2010
 - C. 2017
 - D. 2012
5. Which of the following statements is TRUE based on the passage?
 - A. The UAE refused to engage with India after the 1999 IC-814 hijacking.
 - B. India's ties with Saudi Arabia remain limited to cultural exchange and diplomacy.
 - C. The Taliban's condemnation of the Pahalgam attack indicates some level of shift in their posture.
 - D. Modi's visit to Saudi Arabia was cancelled due to the terror attack.
6. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.
Frisky
 - A. Transient
 - B. Memorable
 - C. Playful
 - D. Loose
7. Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.
 - A. Unreasonable
 - B. Complimentary
 - C. Despondent
 - D. Impertinent

8. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.

Seclusion

- A. Tactics
- B. Readiness
- C. Solitude
- D. Involvement

9. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in indirect speech.

'I have been to Australia,' Amritha told me

- A. Amritha told me that she had been to Australia.
- B. Amritha told me that she had being to Australia.
- C. Amritha tell me that she has being to Australia.
- D. Amritha told me that she has be to Australia

10. Select the option that expresses the following sentence in passive voice.

The insect bit the little baby

- A. The little baby has bitten by the insect.
- B. The little baby was bitten by the insect.
- C. The little baby had bitten by the insect.
- D. The little baby is bitten by the insect

11. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.

Felicity

- A. Function
- B. Happiness
- C. Anguish
- D. Fellow being

12. Select the word which is INCORRECTLY spelt in the given sentence.

The oportunity cost of going with parents back to the village made Naman upset for almost the entire month

- A. parents
- B. oportunity
- C. almost
- D. Village

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

To move into or through something

- A. Transparent
- B. Cross
- C. Perpetuate
- D. Penetrate

14. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.

Renewable energy is energy that is environment-friendly because it is _____ from renewable resources, that are naturally replenished

- A. deduced
- B. derived
- C. construed
- D. Found

15. Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word

- A. Connoisseur
- B. Haphazard
- C. Diffusion
- D. Appropriate

16. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.

Bold

- A. Gallant
- B. Heroic
- C. Timid
- D. Valiant

17. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

All Greek to me

- A. Something that is harmful to all
- B. Something that is not understandable
- C. Something that is ancient and classic
- D. Something that is fancy and classy

18. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.

Troublesome

- A. Soulful
- B. Curious
- C. Planless
- D. Obedient

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

The reasons or intentions that cause a particular set of beliefs or actions

- A. Motive
- B. Practical
- C. Thinkable
- D. Rationale

20. Select the sentence that uses the given idiom correctly.

Eat like a bird

- A. The colonial powers colonised small countries by exploiting them and stealing their resources.
- B. Overeating is the most obvious reason for gaining weight quickly.
- C. Nobody can eat with Jerry at the same table as he is so messy.
- D. Pinky is on a diet so she is too picky about the food she eats

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.

The internet has (1) _____ reshaped the way information is accessed and shared. With a vast array of websites and social media platforms, individuals can (2) _____ connect with others globally. However, this digital age also brings (3) _____ challenges. The spread of misinformation has become a (4) _____ issue, as false content can quickly gain traction. It is essential for users to (5) _____ assess the credibility of sources before believing and sharing information. In this era of rapid data dissemination, cultivating media literacy is of utmost importance

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

- A. occasionally
- B. discreetly
- C. gradually
- D. Significantly

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

- A. hesitantly
- B. periodically
- C. seamlessly
- D. Scarcely

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

- A. abstract
- B. intriguing
- C. numerous
- D. Irrelevant

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

- A. dormant
- B. pressing
- C. soothing
- D. Negligible

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

- A. meticulously
- B. impulsively
- C. hesitantly
- D. Reluctantly

Answers

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

Explanations

1. B) Appreciative

The tone is appreciative, as the author is acknowledging the positive impact and effectiveness of India's diplomatic efforts. Words like "salutary impact", "well-timed diplomacy", and "noteworthy" convey admiration and approval.

A: This would suggest a warning or concern, which is not evident in the sentence.

C: There is no negative judgment or critique in the line; instead, it's commendatory.

D: The author is clearly engaged and acknowledges the success, not neutral or disinterested.

2. B) They issued a joint statement condemning the attack and rejecting terrorism linked to any religion or culture

The passage states that Modi and the Saudi Crown Prince discussed the attack at some length and issued a joint statement condemning the attack, rejecting any link between terrorism and religion, race, or culture.

A. No mention of a trade agreement on oil was made in the context of the meeting.

C. Military retaliation was not discussed with the Saudi Crown Prince.

D. A defense pact was not signed; rather, it was a diplomatic condemnation of the attack

3. C) They are historically close allies of Pakistan, and their support puts pressure on Pakistan

The passage emphasizes that Saudi Arabia, UAE, and the Taliban are traditionally close to Pakistan, so their support in condemning the attack adds diplomatic pressure on Pakistan and isolates it internationally.

A. While economic ties exist, the context of this support is diplomatic pressure, not infrastructure investment.

B. These nations were not involved in the attack or its mediation.

D. There is no mention of military assistance being offered by any of these countries.

4. D) 2012

"In 2012, Saudi authorities assisted India in securing the arrest of Sayed Zabiuddin Ansari..."

A. 2006: This was when the India-KSA Delhi Declaration was signed, not the arrest.

B. 2010: Refers to the Strategic Partnership agreement with Saudi Arabia.

C. 2017: This is when India signed a Strategic Partnership with the UAE, not Saudi Arabia.

5. C) The Taliban's condemnation of the Pahalgam attack indicates some level of shift in their posture.

"...a 'categorical condemnation' by the Taliban of the Pahalgam killings - a far cry from the Taliban's past..."

This shows a noteworthy, though cautious, change in Taliban's behavior.

A. Incorrect: The passage says India pleaded unsuccessfully, not that UAE refused to engage.

B. Incorrect: Ties with Saudi Arabia have evolved into technological cooperation and investment, not just cultural.

D. Incorrect: Modi cut short the visit but did not cancel it entirely.

6. C) **Frisky** (adjective) – Playful, lively, full of energy, high-spirited. चंचल

Synonym: **Playful** (adjective) – Fond of games and amusement, lighthearted, fun-loving, lively.
चंचल, खिलाड़ी

- **Transient** (adjective) – Lasting only for a short time, temporary, brief, short-term.
क्षणिक

- **Memorable** (adjective) – Worth remembering, notable, remarkable, unforgettable.
यादगार

- **Loose** (adjective) – Not firmly or tightly fixed in place, relaxed, slack, free. ढीला

7. B) The correct spelling of '**Complimentary**' is 'Complimentary' which means "expressing a compliment; praising or approving" तारीफ करने वाला.

8. C) **Seclusion** (noun) – The state of being private and away from other people; isolation, solitude, privacy. एकांत

Synonym: **Solitude** (noun) – The state of being alone, often by choice; isolation, privacy, withdrawal. एकांत

- **Tactics** (noun) – The art of arranging and maneuvering forces in combat; strategies, methods, plans. रणनीति

- **Readiness** (noun) – The state of being fully prepared for something; preparedness, willingness, promptness. तत्परता

- **Involvement** (noun) – The fact or condition of being involved with or participating in something; engagement, participation, association. संलिप्तता

9. A) Amritha told me that she had been to Australia

10. B) The little baby was bitten by the insect

11. B) **Felicity** (noun) – Intense happiness, joy, bliss, delight. खुशी

Synonym: **Happiness** (noun) – The state of being happy, contentment, joy, pleasure. खुशी

- **Function** (noun) – An activity or purpose natural to or intended for a person or thing, role, task. कार्य

- **Anguish** (noun) – Severe mental or physical pain or suffering, distress, agony. पीड़ा

- **Fellow being** (noun) – A person regarded as sharing a common humanity or membership of a group, compatriot, peer. सह मानव

12. B) The correct spelling of '**oportunity**' is 'opportunity,' which means "a set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something" अवसर.

13. D) **Penetrate** (verb) – To move into or through something प्रवेश करना

- **Transparent** (adjective) – allowing light to pass through so that objects behind can be distinctly seen. पारदर्शी
- **Cross** (verb) – to move across from one side to the other. पार करना
- **Perpetuate** (verb) – to cause something to continue indefinitely. बनाए रखना

14. B) **Derived** (from) का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा और उसके स्रोतों के बारे में चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "renewable energy is energy that is environment-friendly because it is (9) _____ from renewable resources" के माध्यम से यह दिखाया जा रहा है कि नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा ऐसे स्रोतों से प्राप्त होती है जो स्वाभाविक रूप से पुनःपूर्ति किए जाते हैं। इसलिए, "derived" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- **'Derived' (from)** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing renewable energy and its sources. Here, through "renewable energy is energy that is environment-friendly because it is (9) _____ from renewable resources," it shows that renewable energy is obtained from sources that are naturally replenished. Thus, "derived" would be the most appropriate choice.

15. B) The correct spelling of '**Haphazard**' is 'Haphazard' which means "lacking any obvious principle of organization" अव्यवस्थित, अनियमित.

16. C) **Bold** (adjective) – Confident, courageous, daring, fearless, brave. निर्भीक

Antonym: **Timid** (adjective) – Lacking in courage or self-confidence, shy, fearful, faint-hearted. डरपोक

- **Gallant** (adjective) – Brave, heroic, chivalrous, courteous. वीर
- **Heroic** (adjective) – Brave, courageous, daring, valiant. वीर
- **Valiant** (adjective) – Possessing or showing courage, brave, heroic, bold. वीर

17. B) **All Greek to me** (idiom) – Something that is not understandable समझ में न आने वाली चीज

18. D) **Troublesome** (adjective) – Causing difficulty or annoyance, bothersome, inconvenient. परेशानी देने वाला

Antonym: **Obedient** (adjective) – Complying or willing to comply with orders or requests, dutiful, compliant. आज्ञाकारी

- **Soulful** (adjective) – Expressing deep feelings, emotional, heartfelt. भावपूर्ण
- **Curious** (adjective) – Eager to know or learn something, inquisitive, interested. जिज्ञासु
- **Planless** (adjective) – Without a plan, aimless, unorganized. योजनाविहीन

19. D) **Rationale** (noun) – The reasons or intentions that cause a particular set of beliefs or actions.
तर्क

- **Motive** (noun) – a reason for doing something, especially one that is hidden or not obvious. उद्देश्य
- **Practical** (adjective) – concerned with the actual doing or use of something rather than with theory and ideas. व्यावहारिक
- **Thinkable** (adjective) – capable of being thought of or imagined; conceivable.
विचारणीय

20. D) **Eat like a bird** (idiom) – Eat very little **बहुत कम खाना**

21. D) '**Significantly**' का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence इंटरनेट के माध्यम से जानकारी तक पहुंचने और साझा करने के तरीके में हुए बड़े बदलाव की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "The internet has (1) _____ reshaped the way information is accessed and shared" के माध्यम से उस महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन को दर्शाया जा रहा है। इसलिए, "significantly" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- '**Significantly**' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the major changes in how information is accessed and shared through the internet. Here, through "The internet has (1) _____ reshaped the way information is accessed and shared," it portrays that significant transformation. Thus, "significantly" would be the most appropriate choice.

22. C) **Seamlessly** का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence डिजिटल युग में इंटरनेट की भूमिका और उसके द्वारा दी गई सुविधा की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "individuals can (2) _____ connect with others globally" के माध्यम से उस आसानी को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें लोग बिना किसी बाधा के एक दूसरे से जुड़ सकते हैं। इसलिए, "seamlessly" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- '**Seamlessly**' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the role of the internet in the digital age and the convenience it provides. Here, through "individuals can (2) _____ connect with others globally," it portrays that ease with which people can connect with each other without any hindrance. Thus, "seamlessly" would be the most appropriate choice.

23. C) **Numerous** का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence डिजिटल युग में आने वाली चुनौतियों की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "this digital age also brings (3) _____ challenges" के माध्यम से उन चुनौतियों की संख्या और विविधता को दर्शाया जा रहा है। इसलिए, "numerous" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

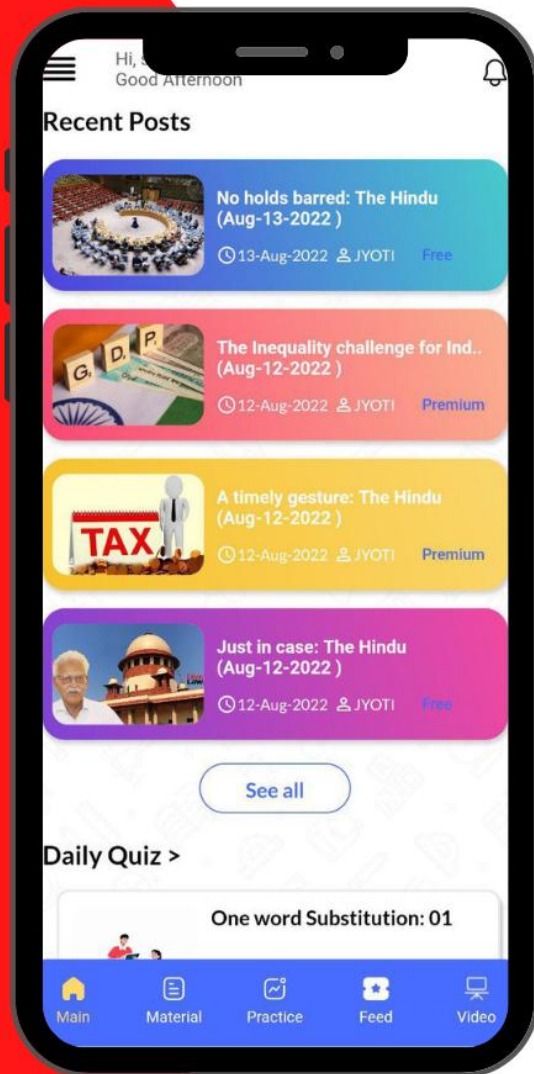
- '**Numerous**' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the challenges brought by the digital age. Here, through "this digital age also brings (3)_____ challenges", it portrays the multitude and variety of these challenges. Thus, "numerous" would be the most appropriate choice.

24. B) **Pressing**' का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence डिजिटल युग में जानकारी के प्रसार और उससे उत्पन्न चुनौतियों की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "The spread of misinformation has become a (4)_____ issue" के माध्यम से उस गंभीर समस्या को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें गलत सूचना का तेज़ी से फैलना शामिल है। इसलिए, "pressing" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- '**Pressing**' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the dissemination of information in the digital age and the challenges that come with it. Here, through "The spread of misinformation has become a (4)_____ issue," it portrays that critical problem where false information can quickly spread. Thus, "pressing" would be the most appropriate choice.

25. A) '**Meticulously**' का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence डिजिटल युग में जानकारी की सटीकता और विश्वसनीयता की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "It is essential for users to (5) _____ assess the credibility of sources before believing and sharing information." के माध्यम से उस तात्त्विक संबंध को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें उपयोगकर्ता को जानकारी की विश्वसनीयता को सावधानीपूर्वक जांचने की आवश्यकता है। इसलिए, "meticulously" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- '**Meticulously**' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the accuracy and reliability of information in the digital age. Here, through "It is essential for users to (5) _____ assess the credibility of sources before believing and sharing information," it portrays the critical need for users to carefully evaluate the credibility of the information. Thus, "meticulously" would be the most appropriate choice.



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