

## Rohit Sharma's retirement: A semi-tragic trajectory

Once New Zealand **clean-swept** India in the Test series in October, the first team to achieve the **feat** on home soil, Rohit Sharma's days as captain in the format **seemed** numbered. A **loss** of personal form **hastened** his goodbye from the format. He is an **undisputed** genius in the shorter version, a king of the 50-over format, a nawab of T20s, but in red ball, he was a **commoner**. 4,301 runs in 110 **outings**, an average of 40.57 and 12 hundreds — for someone with his **dazzling** gifts, **determination** and **commitment**, the figures capture the **fits-and-starts** nature of his long-form career.

When he **burst forth** onto the global stage, in white-ball cricket, he was **touted** as the new **torchbearer** of the Mumbai school of batting, the **inheritor** of a heritage **polished** by Vijay Merchant and Vijay Manjrekar, Sunil Gavaskar and Sachin Tendulkar. But he **fell short of embellishing** their **lineage**. There was always a semi-tragic **streak** to his Test career, from a **much-deferred debut owing to** injuries. **Had** he utilised his breaks after his sensational entry into Tests, he could have **ended up** with far more **glittering** numbers and **enriched** batsmanship in the format, as he had in the white-ball **arena**. He **possessed** the most classic of strokes, a **repertoire** that most batsmen could only dream of, **serenity** that is the **hallmark** of legendary players, a bonus second to judge the length of the delivery, and the capacity to **transcend** playing conditions. A late **dazzle** did **redeem** his career **to an extent**, but his talents largely remained unfulfilled.



Similar was his captaincy record in Tests. Whereas he would be **hailed** as one of the greatest in the white-ball **sphere** — he **moulded** the team into an **exhilarating bunch** that **reclaimed** the T20 crown after 27 years and reached the 2023 World Cup final without losing a game — his leadership in Tests had its **flaws**. He won exactly half of the 24 Tests he led — the twin peaks being the series wins over England and Australia in India — but couldn't inspire his team to **overseas** series wins, like his **predecessor** Virat Kohli. The **brand** of captaincy **was** different — Kohli was all **raging fire**, Rohit had **ice in his veins**, the former **wore his emotions on his sleeve**, the latter **resorted to** one-liners and **disenchanted shrugs**. The Kohli comparisons were **inevitable**, and **nowhere** is the **chasm** deeper than in Test cricket. **Whereas** Kohli **gritted his teeth** and made his way to **scale the peaks of** batting, Rohit **retreated** to the **foothills** midway through the **trek**.

[Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Trajectory** (noun) – path, route, course, track, arc प्रक्षेपवक्र
2. **Clean-sweep** (verb) – dominate, overwhelm, rout, thrash, trounce पूरी तरह से जीतना
3. **Feat** (noun) – achievement, accomplishment, exploit, triumph, success कारनामा
4. **Seem** (verb) – appear, look, resemble, give the impression, strike one as प्रतीत होना
5. **Hasten** (verb) – accelerate, quicken, rush, expedite, precipitate तेज़ी लाना
6. **Undisputed** (adjective) – acknowledged, accepted, unquestioned, uncontested, irrefutable निर्विवाद
7. **Commoner** (noun) – ordinary person, layperson, non-elite, civilian, regular person आम आदमी
8. **Outing** (noun) – appearance, performance, match, event, participation प्रदर्शन (खेल से संबंधित)
9. **Dazzling** (adjective) – brilliant, stunning, impressive, radiant, eye-catching चकाचौंध करने वाला
10. **Determination** (noun) – resolve, perseverance, tenacity, dedication, willpower दृढ़ संकल्प
11. **Commitment** (noun) – dedication, devotion, allegiance, promise, responsibility प्रतिबद्धता
12. **Fits-and-starts** (adjective) – irregular, sporadic, inconsistent, intermittent, uneven रुक-रुक कर होने वाला
13. **Burst forth** (phrasal verb) – emerge, erupt, surface, explode, debut suddenly ज़ोर से उभरना
14. **Tout** (verb) – promote, publicize, acclaim, advertise, endorse प्रचार करना
15. **Torchbearer** (noun) – leader, pioneer, forerunner, trailblazer, advocate अग्रदूत
16. **Inheritor** (noun) – successor, heir, beneficiary, descendant, recipient उत्तराधिकारी
17. **Polish** (verb) – refine, improve, hone, cultivate, burnish निखारना
18. **Fall short of** (phrase) – fail to meet, underachieve, miss, be inadequate, lag behind कम रह जाना
19. **Embellish** (verb) – enhance, adorn, beautify, decorate, elaborate सजाना
20. **Lineage** (noun) – ancestry, heritage, descent, bloodline, pedigree वंश
21. **Streak** (noun) – tendency, trace, hint, trait, characteristic प्रवृत्ति

22. **Much-deferred** (adjective) – postponed, delayed, rescheduled, protracted, held off  
बार-बार टला हुआ
23. **Debut** (noun) – first appearance, introduction, launch, premiere, initiation  
प्रारंभ
24. **Owing to** (phrase) – because of, due to, on account of, as a result of, resulting from के कारण
25. **Had** (conjunction) – if, provided, supposing, in case, assuming अगर (काल्पनिक स्थिति में)
26. **End up** (phrasal verb) – result in, turn out, wind up, come to be, finish अंततः होना
27. **Glittering** (adjective) – shining, brilliant, sparkling, illustrious, prestigious चमकदार
28. **Enrich** (verb) – improve, enhance, refine, deepen, cultivate समृद्ध करना
29. **Arena** (noun) – field, domain, sphere, discipline, stage क्षेत्र
30. **Possess** (verb) – have, own, hold, retain, acquire रखना
31. **Repertoire** (noun) – collection, range, inventory, array, set संग्रह (कला या कौशल का)
32. **Serenity** (noun) – calmness, peace, tranquility, composure, stillness शांति
33. **Hallmark** (noun) – trademark, feature, characteristic, symbol, sign विशेषता
34. **Transcend** (verb) – surpass, exceed, go beyond, rise above, outshine पार करना
35. **Dazzle** (noun) – brilliance, sparkle, glamor, magnificence, radiance चमक
36. **Redeem** (verb) – rescue, save, restore, compensate, justify सुधार करना
37. **To an extent** (phrase) – somewhat, partially, in part, moderately, up to a point कुछ हद तक
38. **Hail** (verb) – acclaim, applaud, praise, honour, recognize प्रशंसा करना
39. **Sphere** (noun) – domain, field, area, sector, realm क्षेत्र
40. **Mould** (verb) – shape, form, influence, develop, fashion आकार देना
41. **Exhilarating** (adjective) – thrilling, exciting, energizing, uplifting, stimulating रोमांचक
42. **Bunch** (noun) – group, team, collection, set, cluster समूह
43. **Reclaim** (verb) – recover, regain, retrieve, restore, recapture पुनः प्राप्त करना
44. **Flaw** (noun) – defect, fault, imperfection, shortcoming, error खामी

45. **Overseas** (adjective) – foreign, international, abroad, external, external-national विदेश में
46. **Predecessor** (noun) – forerunner, precursor, antecedent, former holder, prior पूर्ववर्ती
47. **Raging fire** (phrase) – intense passion, fierce drive, burning ambition, ferocity, energy तीव्र जुनून
48. **Ice in one's veins** (phrase) – calmness, composure, self-control, cool-headedness, steadiness ठंडे दिमाग वाला
49. **Wear one's emotions on one's sleeve** (phrase) – be open, be expressive, show feelings openly, be transparent, be vulnerable भावनाएँ प्रकट करना
50. **Resort** (to) (verb) – turn to, fall back on, rely on, make use of, employ सहारा लेना
51. **Disenchanted** (adjective) – disappointed, disillusioned, dissatisfied, let down, fed up मोहभंग हुआ
52. **Shrug** (noun) – gesture, movement, signal, flick, sign कंधे उचकाना
53. **Inevitable** (adjective) – unavoidable, certain, destined, inescapable, bound to happen अनिवार्य
54. **Nowhere** (adverb) – in no place, not anywhere, not at all, absent, lacking कहीं भी नहीं
55. **Chasm** (noun) – gap, gulf, division, split, divide अंतराल
56. **Whereas** (adverb) – while, although, though, on the other hand, however जबकि
57. **Grit one's teeth** (phrase) – endure, persist, bear, struggle on, press forward दृढ़ रहना
58. **Scale the peaks** (phrase) – achieve great success, reach the top, accomplish goals, excel, triumph शिखर तक पहुँचना
59. **Retreat** (verb) – withdraw, pull back, recede, fall back, back away पीछे हटना
60. **Foothill** (noun) – lower slope, hill base, rise, incline, upland पहाड़ी का निचला भाग
61. **Trek** (noun) – journey, hike, expedition, climb, travel यात्रा (विशेषकर कठिन)

### Summary of the Editorial

1. Test Series Defeat Triggered Exit – India's 0–2 Test series loss to New Zealand marked a turning point for Rohit Sharma's role as Test captain.
2. Decline in Personal Form – A dip in batting form accelerated his departure from red-ball cricket.
3. White-Ball Genius – Rohit is widely acknowledged as a master of ODIs and T20s, with unparalleled success in limited-overs formats.
4. Mediocre Test Record – Despite his immense talent, he scored 4,301 runs in 110 innings at an average of 40.57 with 12 centuries — solid but not exceptional.
5. Unfulfilled Potential – His stats in Test cricket do not reflect the extraordinary talent and shot-making ability he possessed.
6. Delayed Debut & Interrupted Journey – Injuries and missed opportunities early in his Test career hindered his progress.
7. Mumbai Batting Legacy – He was expected to carry forward the Mumbai batting tradition of legends like Gavaskar and Tendulkar but didn't quite match up.
8. Brilliant Technique – Rohit had elegant strokes, composure, and the rare gift of extra time to read deliveries.
9. Lack of Consistency in Tests – Despite a late resurgence, his red-ball career remained patchy and incomplete.
10. White-Ball Captaincy Success – As captain, he led India to a T20 World Cup win after 27 years and reached the 2023 ODI World Cup final undefeated until the last game.
11. Test Captaincy Mixed – He won 12 of the 24 Tests as captain, including key series against England and Australia at home.
12. Failure Abroad – Unlike his predecessor Virat Kohli, Rohit couldn't lead India to overseas Test series wins.
13. Contrasting Leadership Styles – Kohli was fiery and passionate; Rohit was calm, witty, and emotionally reserved.
14. Inevitable Comparisons – Kohli's gritty Test success highlighted Rohit's underachievement in the longest format.
15. A Semi-Tragic Tale – Rohit's Test career is seen as a story of brilliance and promise that ultimately went partially unfulfilled.

**Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based****[Editorial Page]**

1. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
  - A. Rohit Sharma's dominance in white-ball cricket
  - B. The comparison between Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli's captaincy
  - C. The unfulfilled potential of Rohit Sharma's Test career
  - D. The history of Mumbai's batting legacy
2. **Based on the data in passage, what is Rohit Sharma's win percentage as a Test captain?**
  - A. 70.5%
  - B. 85.8%
  - C. 50%
  - D. 96.6%
3. **What can be inferred about Rohit Sharma's Test career when compared to his white-ball performance?**
  - A. He achieved greater success in Tests than in T20s
  - B. His Test career was flawless but less appreciated
  - C. His white-ball brilliance overshadowed his inconsistent Test record
  - D. He was equally successful in both Test and limited-overs formats
4. **What prevented Rohit Sharma from having a more successful Test career, despite his immense talent?**
  - A. Lack of support from the team management
  - B. Technical deficiencies against spin bowling
  - C. Inconsistent form and untapped potential due to injuries and missed opportunities
  - D. Poor fitness levels and reluctance to play red-ball cricket
5. **Identify the most appropriate antonym for the highlighted word in the sentence below:**

"A late **dazzle** did redeem his career to an extent, but his talents largely remained unfulfilled."

  - A. Dullness
  - B. Glamour
  - C. Clarity
  - D. Confidence
6. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

She recieved a beautiful surprise from her partner.

  - A. Surprise
  - B. Partner
  - C. Beautiful
  - D. Received
7. **Change the following sentence into positive degree.**

Mercury is the smallest planet in the solar system

- A. Mercury is smaller than any other planet in the solar system.  
B. The most smallest planet in the solar system is mercury.  
C. Mercury is the smallest planet than any other one.  
D. No other planet is as small as Mercury in the Solar System
8. **Select the sentence that has a grammatical error**  
A. She asked an easy question, and I took an hour to crack it.  
B. After a tiring day, I had a cup of coffee with Sudhir.  
C. She saw an excellent episode of the series.  
D. There is a man sitting beside cat
9. **Select the most appropriate option with the correct usage of the preposition to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**  
World Press Freedom Day will be dedicated to the importance of journalism and freedom in expression in the context of the current global environmental crisis.  
A. freedom on expression  
B. freedom at expression  
C. freedom from expression  
D. freedom of expression
10. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**  
Dolphins are named among the intelligent animals on earth  
A. intelligentest  
B. more intelligent  
C. most intelligent  
D. intelligenter
11. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**  
The allowance that is given by a husband to his wife on separation  
A. Affianced  
B. Matrimonial  
C. Dowry  
D. Alimony
12. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**  
The teacher asked us to \_\_\_\_\_ our homework by tomorrow  
A. completes  
B. completed  
C. completing  
D. complete
13. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**  
The library books were long \_\_\_\_\_, their pages bearing the weight of the passage of time.  
A. overdate

- B. overdue  
C. overdrew  
D. overdo
14. **The bat flew silently through the night, searching for insects to eat. The bat in this context refers to \_\_\_\_\_.**  
A. mammal known for nocturnal flight and insect consumption  
B. a measurement unit in digital information systems  
C. a wooden tool utilised in sports like baseball or cricket  
D. the act of delivering a forceful strike or hit
15. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.**  
Thousands of people were killed by the train accident that took place last Wednesday  
A. killed in  
B. killed of  
C. killed from  
D. killed to
16. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**  
I will try to \_\_\_\_\_ because he is a good friend of mine  
A. show him the door  
B. stop him in his tracks  
C. avoid him like the plague  
D. get him off the hook
17. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.**  
Samira is a lady who needs extrinsic motivation and will not work on her own.  
A. Amicable  
B. Intriguing  
C. Outward  
D. Adventurous
18. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the given sentence.**  
He was not able to answer as the question was ambiguous.  
A. Clear  
B. Unsuitable  
C. Deep  
D. Superficial
19. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**  
Caught in a time warp  
A. To make extra effort  
B. To remain unchanged from a time in the past  
C. To be extremely happy  
D. To avoid talking about what's important



20. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.

In the beauty contest, Parul won the award for being the beautiful one.

- A. less beautiful
- B. more beautiful
- C. least beautiful
- D. most beautiful

**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.

Forests provide essential ecosystem services (1)\_\_\_\_\_ benefit both the environment and human society. One crucial service is carbon sequestration, as forests absorb and store large amounts of carbon dioxide, helping mitigate climate change. Additionally, forests regulate water cycles (2)\_\_\_\_\_ influencing precipitation patterns and maintaining water quality. (3)\_\_\_\_\_, forests offer recreational opportunities, cultural significance, and economic benefits through timber production and (4)\_\_\_\_\_. Thus, preserving and sustainably managing forests is imperative for maintaining the (5)\_\_\_\_\_ ecosystem services.

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

- A. that
- B. then
- C. this
- D. than

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

- A. about
- B. by
- C. off
- D. between

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

- A. As long as
- B. Though
- C. Whatever
- D. Moreover

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

- A. industrialisation
- B. deforestation
- C. ecotourism
- D. degradation

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

- A. Vitalise
- B. vitality
- C. vital
- D. vitally

## Answers

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

**[Practice Exercise]**

## Explanations

### 1. C) The unfulfilled potential of Rohit Sharma's Test career

The central focus is on Rohit's Test career being underwhelming despite his talent, with repeated emphasis on "semi-tragic streak," "fits-and-starts nature," and "talents largely remained unfulfilled."

A) While his white-ball success is mentioned, it serves as a contrast, not the main theme.

B) Kohli comparison is a sub-point, not the primary discussion.

D) Mumbai's batting legacy is referenced briefly but isn't the core idea.

### 2. C) 50%

The passage says he led India in 24 Tests and won exactly half, which means:

12 wins out of 24 Tests = 50% win percentage.

### 3. C) His white-ball brilliance overshadowed his inconsistent Test record

The passage highlights that Rohit Sharma was an "undisputed genius" in limited-overs cricket (ODIs and T20s) but only a "commoner" in Test cricket. It also mentions that despite having the tools of a legendary Test player, his performance lacked consistency, hence his Test legacy remained underwhelming compared to his white-ball success.

A. Incorrect – The passage clearly states the opposite: his Test career was weaker than his white-ball career.

B. Incorrect – His Test career was not flawless; it was inconsistent and unfulfilled.

D. Incorrect – There's no indication of equal success; the contrast between formats is central to the narrative.

### 4. C) Inconsistent form and untapped potential due to injuries and missed opportunities

The passage clearly states that Rohit's Test career had a "fits-and-starts nature", with his "much-deferred debut owing to injuries" and unutilized "breaks after his sensational entry into Tests." These led to his talents remaining largely unfulfilled, despite his classical batting skills.

A. Not mentioned anywhere in the passage.

B. Spin bowling weakness is never discussed; in fact, his strokeplay is praised.

D. There's no reference to poor fitness or reluctance towards red-ball cricket.

### 5. A) Dullness

"Dazzle" means brightness, brilliance, or impressiveness. Its opposite is dullness, which implies a lack of sparkle, impact, or shine.

### 6. D) The incorrect spelling in the sentence is 'Recieved', which should be correctly spelled as 'Received'. It means "to be given, presented with, or paid something" प्राप्त करना.

7. D) **No other planet is as small as Mercury in the Solar System**

**No other planet is as small as Mercury'** का use होगा क्योंकि Positive Degree में तुलना करते समय "No other" के साथ "as + adjective + as" का प्रयोग होता है और वाक्य का अर्थ भी वही रहता है; जैसे—  
No other city is as beautiful as Jaipur.

No other planet is as small as Mercury' will be used because, in the Positive Degree, "No other" is used with "as + adjective + as" for comparison, and the meaning of the sentence remains the same; Like— No other city is as beautiful as Jaipur.

8. D) **'There is a man sitting beside cat'** में "cat" के पहले "the" का प्रयोग होना चाहिए, क्योंकि किसी विशेष वस्तु का उल्लेख करने के लिए "the" का उपयोग होता है। cat' एक countable noun है और इसके पहले article का प्रयोग आवश्यक है; जैसे— There is a man sitting beside the cat.

In "There is a man sitting beside cat", the article "the" is needed before "cat" because we are referring to a specific object. So, the correct sentence should be— "There is a man sitting beside the cat."

9. D) **'freedom in expression'** के बदले **'freedom of expression'** का use होगा क्योंकि **'freedom of expression'** is standard phrase है जिसका अर्थ है 'अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता'; जैसे— Everyone has the right to freedom of expression.

'freedom of expression' will be used instead of 'freedom in expression' because 'freedom of expression' is a standard phrase meaning 'the right to express one's opinions'; Like— Everyone has the right to freedom of expression.

10. C) **'most intelligent'** के बदले **'most intelligent'** का प्रयोग सही रहेगा क्योंकि **'intelligent'** एक polysyllabic adjective है और जब इसकी superlative तुलना की जाती है, तो **'most'** का प्रयोग किया जाता है; जैसे— Dolphins are named among the most intelligent animals on earth.

'most intelligent' will be used because 'intelligent' is a polysyllabic adjective, and for its superlative form, 'most' is used; Like— Dolphins are named among the most intelligent animals on earth.

11. D) **Alimony** (noun) – The allowance that is given by a husband to his wife on separation. भरण-पोषण

- **Affianced** (adjective) – Engaged to be married. मंगेतर
- **Matrimonial** (adjective) – Relating to marriage or the relationship between husband and wife. वैवाहिक
- **Dowry** (noun) – Property or money brought by a bride to her husband on their marriage. दहेज

12. D) '**Complete**' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर teacher ने कहा है कि हमें homework कल तक पूरा करना है, जो कि एक सामान्य आदेश या निर्देश है। 'Complete' यहाँ verb की base form है, जो इस context में सही है।

वहीं, 'Completes' का अर्थ है 'वह पूर्ण करता है', जो subject के लिए सही नहीं है, 'Completed' past tense है, जो यहाँ समय के संदर्भ में ठीक नहीं है, और 'Completing' verb का gerund form है, जो भी इस context में सही नहीं है।

'**Complete**' will be used because the teacher is giving a general instruction to complete the homework by tomorrow. 'Complete' is the base form of the verb, making it the correct choice here. 'Completes' refers to a third-person singular action, 'Completed' is past tense, which doesn't match the context, and 'Completing' is the gerund form, which doesn't fit here.

13. B) '**Overdue**' का use होगा क्योंकि "overdue" का अर्थ होता है जो समय पर नहीं हुआ हो, जैसे किसी चीज़ का समय पूरा हो चुका हो। यहाँ पर यह संदर्भ पुस्तकें हैं जो समय पर नहीं लौटाई गईं और उनका पृष्ठ समय की दबाव को सहन कर रहा है, इसलिए 'overdue' सही है। जबकि 'Overdate' का कोई अर्थ नहीं है, 'Overdrew' का अर्थ है अधिक पैसे खींचना, और 'Overdo' का अर्थ है अधिक करना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

'**Overdue**' will be used because it means something that is past its expected time, like books that were not returned on time, and their pages are bearing the weight of time. In this context, 'overdue' fits best. 'Overdate' has no meaning, 'Overdrew' means to take out more money than is available, and 'Overdo' means to do something excessively, which is not applicable here.

14. A) '**mammal known for nocturnal flight and insect consumption**' का use होगा क्योंकि "bat" का अर्थ एक स्तनधारी प्राणी होता है जो रात में उड़ता है और कीड़े खाता है। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि "The bat flew silently through the night, searching for insects to eat," जो इस प्राणी के संदर्भ में है।

'**mammal known for nocturnal flight and insect consumption**' will be used because the word "bat" refers to a mammal that flies at night and feeds on insects. The sentence mentions "The bat flew silently through the night, searching for insects to eat," which clearly refers to the animal, making A the correct choice.

15. A) killed by' के बदले '**killed in**' का use होगा क्योंकि किसी दुर्घटना या घटना में मारे जाने पर 'in' का प्रयोग होता है। 'by' का प्रयोग किसी व्यक्ति या कारण से मारे जाने पर होता है। यहां पर दुर्घटना का संदर्भ है, अतः 'in' सही होगा

'**killed in**' will be used instead of 'killed by' because when referring to a death caused by an event or accident, we use 'in'. 'By' is used when referring to death caused by a person or a specific cause. Since the context refers to an accident, 'in' is the correct preposition.

16. D) **Get him off the hook** (phrase)- To free someone from blame, responsibility, or difficulty किसी को दोष, ज़िम्मेदारी, या कठिनाई से मुक्त कर देना।

When someone is “off the hook,” it means they are no longer responsible for a problem or trouble they were previously involved in.

17. C) **Extrinsic** (adjective) – External, coming from outside, not inherent. बाहरी, बाह्य

**Synonym:** **Outward** (adjective) – Directed or moving toward the outside; external. बाहरी

- **Amicable** (adjective) – Friendly, peaceable. दोस्ताना
- **Intriguing** (adjective) – Arousing curiosity or interest; fascinating. दिलचस्प
- **Adventurous** (adjective) – Willing to take risks or try out new things; daring. साहसी

18. A) **Ambiguous** (adjective) – Unclear, open to more than one interpretation, vague, confusing, uncertain. अस्पष्ट

**Antonym:** **Clear** (adjective) – Easy to understand, free from confusion, transparent, definite. स्पष्ट

- **Unsuitable** (adjective) – Not appropriate or fitting for a particular purpose, improper. अनुपयुक्त
- **Deep** (adjective) – Having a great depth, profound, intense. गहरा
- **Superficial** (adjective) – Shallow, lacking depth or thoroughness, surface-level. सतही

19. B) **Caught in a time warp** (idiom) – To remain unchanged from a time in the past

Stuck in an outdated or old-fashioned way of thinking, living, or behaving, as if time has not moved forward. (पुरानी या पारंपरिक सोच, जीवनशैली, या व्यवहार में फँसा हुआ, जैसे समय आगे नहीं बढ़ा हो।)

20. 'D) 'beautiful' के बदले 'most beautiful' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर 'award' की बात की जा रही है, जो कि सर्वोत्तम का संकेत करता है, और comparative degree (जैसे 'more beautiful') और superlative degree (जैसे 'most beautiful') में फर्क होता है। इस मामले में, हम superlative degree का प्रयोग करेंगे, क्योंकि प्रतियोगिता में किसी एक व्यक्ति को सबसे सुंदर घोषित किया गया है।

'most beautiful' will be used instead of 'beautiful' because the sentence talks about the award, which refers to the best or the highest in comparison. In this case, we will use the superlative degree 'most beautiful,' as the contest declares one person to be the most beautiful

21. A) **That** का use होगा क्योंकि यह एक relative pronoun है जो किसी चीज़ को जोड़ता है, जैसा कि यहाँ 'essential ecosystem services' के बारे में बात हो रही है जो 'benefit both the environment and human society' को स्पष्ट रूप से जोड़ता है। 'Then' का अर्थ है उस समय, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'This' का अर्थ है यह, लेकिन यहाँ एक linking शब्द की आवश्यकता है, 'Than' का उपयोग तुलना करने के लिए होता है, जो इस context में उपयुक्त नहीं है।

'That' is used because it is a relative pronoun that connects the clause describing "essential ecosystem services" to the benefit they provide to both the environment and human society. 'Then' means at that time, which does not fit in this context. 'This' means referring to something close, but here, a linking word is needed, and 'that' works better. 'Than' is used for comparisons, which is not appropriate in this context.

22. B) **By** का use होगा क्योंकि "by" यह दर्शाता है कि जल चक्र का विनियमन किसी माध्यम (forests) के द्वारा किया जाता है। वाक्य में कहा गया है कि वन वर्षा के पैटर्न को प्रभावित करते हैं और जल की गुणवत्ता बनाए रखते हैं, इसलिए 'by' सही विकल्प है। जबकि 'about' का अर्थ होता है "के बारे में", जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Off' का अर्थ होता है "अलग या दूर", जो जल चक्र के संदर्भ में गलत होगा। 'Between' का अर्थ होता है "दो या अधिक चीज़ों के बीच", लेकिन यहां जल चक्र के विभिन्न घटकों के बीच संबंध की बात नहीं हो रही है, इसलिए यह भी गलत है।

'By' will be used because it indicates the means through which an action occurs. The sentence states that forests regulate water cycles by influencing precipitation patterns and maintaining water quality, making 'by' the correct choice. Whereas, 'About' means "regarding," which does not fit the context. 'Off' means "away from," which does not relate to the regulation of water cycles. 'Between' means "in the space separating two things," but the sentence does not discuss a direct comparison between two entities, so it is incorrect.

23. D) **Moreover** का use यहाँ सही है क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है 'इसके अतिरिक्त' और यह एक विचार को जोड़ने के लिए प्रयोग किया जाता है। यहाँ पर वनों के दूसरे लाभ के बारे में बताया जा रहा है, जैसे कि मनोरंजन, सांस्कृतिक महत्व और आर्थिक लाभ, इसलिए 'Moreover' का use उपयुक्त है। 'As long as' का अर्थ है 'जब तक', जो यहाँ के संदर्भ में फिट नहीं बैठता। 'Though' का अर्थ है 'हालाँकि', जो इस स्थान पर कोई विरोध या तुलना नहीं देता, इसलिए गलत है। 'Whatever' का अर्थ है 'जो भी', जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है क्योंकि यह एक सामान्य बात को व्यक्त करता है, जबकि यहाँ हम एक अतिरिक्त लाभ की बात कर रहे हैं।

'Moreover' is the correct choice because it means "in addition" or "furthermore," and it is used to add another point to the idea. In the sentence, it introduces additional benefits of forests like

recreational opportunities, cultural significance, and economic benefits, making 'Moreover' the most suitable option. 'As long as' means "until" or "while," which doesn't fit the context of adding another benefit. 'Though' means "however," which implies contrast or opposition, but there is no contrast here, so it's incorrect. 'Whatever' means "anything" or "everything," which doesn't align with the structure of the sentence and would make the meaning unclear.

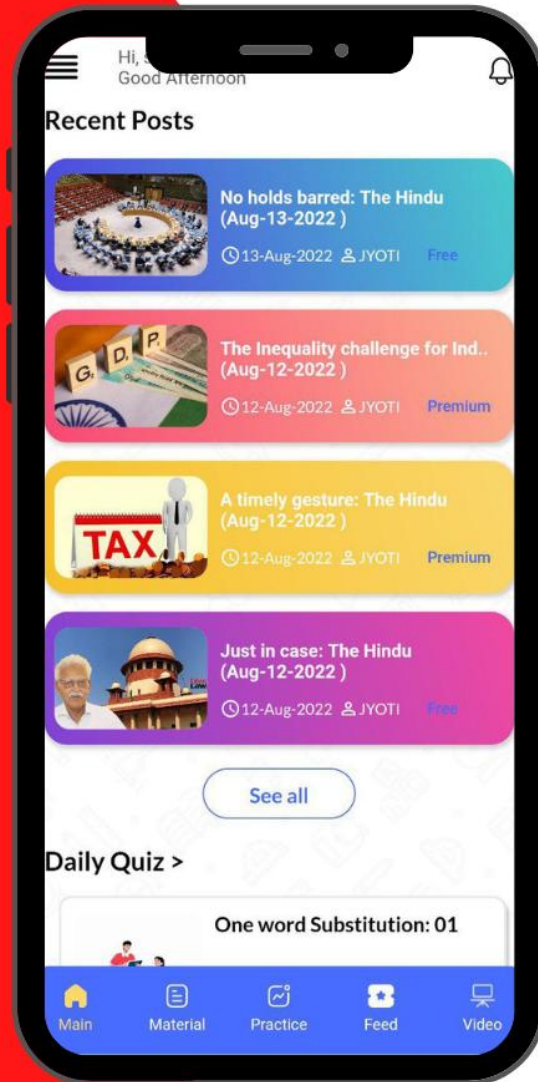
24. C) '**Ecotourism**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'ecotourism' का अर्थ होता है पर्यावरण के प्रति जागरूक यात्रा, जिसमें पर्यावरण संरक्षण और समुदायों को लाभ पहुँचाने के लिए यात्रा की जाती है। इस वाक्य में यह बताया जा रहा है कि जंगल आर्थिक लाभ प्रदान करते हैं, जिसमें 'ecotourism' एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है। 'Industrialisation' का मतलब है औद्योगिकीकरण, जो यहां संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है क्योंकि यह जंगलों के पर्यावरणीय लाभ के साथ मेल नहीं खाता। 'Deforestation' का अर्थ है जंगलों की कटाई, जो न केवल पर्यावरण को नुकसान पहुँचाती है बल्कि इसका उपयोग इस वाक्य में नहीं किया जा सकता क्योंकि यह सकारात्मक संदर्भ में नहीं है। 'Degradation' का अर्थ है गिरावट या नष्ट होना, जो भी इस संदर्भ में अनुपयुक्त है क्योंकि यह जंगलों के संरक्षण के संदर्भ में नकारात्मक है।

'Ecotourism' will be used because it refers to environmentally responsible travel that helps preserve the environment and benefits local communities. In this sentence, it highlights that forests provide economic benefits through timber production and ecotourism. 'Industrialisation' refers to the process of industrial development, which doesn't align with the environmental context here. 'Deforestation' refers to the destruction of forests, which is the opposite of the intended meaning in the sentence. 'Degradation' means deterioration or decline, which would not fit in this context as it has a negative connotation.

25. C) '**Vital**' का use होगा क्योंकि "vital" का अर्थ होता है अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण, जो sentence में आवश्यक पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र सेवाओं के महत्व को व्यक्त करता है। यहां पर 'ecosystem services' का महत्व बताया जा रहा है, इसलिए 'vital' सही option है। 'Vitalise' का अर्थ होता है जीवन देना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Vitality' का अर्थ है जीवन शक्ति, जो यहाँ पर फिट नहीं है। 'Vitality' एक adverb है, जिसका अर्थ है अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण ढंग से, जो यहाँ नहीं आ सकता

'Vital' will be used because it means extremely important, which appropriately conveys the importance of ecosystem services in the sentence. 'Vitalise' means to give life, which doesn't fit the context here. 'Vitality' means life force, which doesn't work in this context. 'Vitality' is an adverb meaning in an extremely important manner, which is incorrect here





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