Old and unsafe: on the Hyderabad fire

Cities must **undertake** fire safety **audit** for their old buildings

Mixing history, tradition and commerce, the old city **neighbourhoods** of India's **metropolises** **have** a unique **vibrancy**, colour and feel. Some of the **hardiest** entrepreneurs, talented craftsmen and **canny** businesspeople have set shop there, along with the working classes, that help **turn the wheels** of the economy. These neighbourhoods are home to narrow lanes, **crumbling** commercial structures, and **pigeon holes** that serve as residences. Packed with people, these **bustling** neighbourhoods create **well-knit** communities too. Built well before modern fire safety norms evolved, most of these buildings are also major fire **hazards**. **A stone's throw away** from the Charminar in Hyderabad, a building in Gulzar Houz housed a large joint family engaged in the jewellery business from the time of the Nizam, as well as several shops. As is common in old cities, a tunnel-like entrance near the shops led to a **passage** and then a **courtyard** around which there were shops on the ground floor and living areas above. A skylight above the courtyard permitted light, but no air. On Sunday morning, a fire **devastated** the family killing 17, eight of them children. There was only one staircase to the living areas, a common feature in such accidents. A few seconds of **inhaling** smoke can **trigger** panic. Brain death happens in a few minutes. The dead had literally no **means** of escape once the fire took over the narrow passage. Photographs taken hours after the **blaze** was **put out** still showed smoke **obscuring** the insides.

Gulzar Houz-type buildings are a common sight across India's inner cities, and are standing fire hazards. In Hyderabad, the street was wide enough for firefighters to access but that is not the case elsewhere. A fire safety audit would **establish** key **deficiencies** of each building and **perhaps** suggest solutions. But there are millions of such buildings and this would be a **humongous** task. Communities can be engaged by city planners to create awareness and promote safety. Too often, a building is built for a certain electric load, and over time, the load increases **multi-fold** with air-conditioners becoming **must-haves**. Fire safety **takes a hit** right there. **Creating** more access and exit points and **training** residents to escape fires **are** **eventually** the most effective fire safety measures. Each neighbourhood could have volunteer fire **champions** who would **advocate** for fire safety. While policy and government action can initiate change, communities will have to **be in the forefront** of ensuring fire safety.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Undertake** (verb) – begin, assume, commence, initiate, embark on कार्य आरंभ करना

2. **Audit** (noun) – inspection, examination, review, assessment, evaluation निरीक्षण

3. **Neighbourhood** (noun) – locality, area, district, community, vicinity पड़ोस / इलाका

4. **Metropolises** (noun) – cities, urban centers, municipalities, megalopolises, conurbations महानगर

5. **Vibrancy** (noun) – liveliness, energy, dynamism, spirit, brightness जीवंतता / ऊर्जा

6. **Hardiest** (adjective) – toughest, strongest, most resilient, bravest, most enduring सबसे मजबूत

7. **Canny** (adjective) – clever, shrewd, smart, astute, sharp चतुर / चालाक

8. **Turn the wheel** (phrase) – keep things running, drive progress, power activity, enable movement, operate system अर्थव्यवस्था या कामकाज को चलाना

9. **Crumbling** (adjective) – decaying, deteriorating, falling apart, breaking down, collapsing जर्जर / टूटता हुआ

10. **Pigeon holes** (phrase) – small compartments, cubicles, nooks, tiny rooms, enclosures छोटी कोठरियाँ

11. **Bustling** (adjective) – lively, busy, crowded, energetic, dynamic चहल-पहल वाला

12. **Well-knit** (adjective) – closely connected, tight-knit, united, integrated, cohesive संगठित / जुड़े हुए

13. **Hazard** (noun) – danger, risk, threat, peril, menace खतरा

14. **A stone's throw away** (phrase) – nearby, very close, in proximity, within reach, a short distance बहुत पास

15. **Passage** (noun) – corridor, hallway, walkway, alley, route गलियारा / रास्ता

16. **Courtyard** (noun) – yard, quadrangle, patio, open area, compound – आँगन

17. **Devastate** (verb) – destroy, ruin, wreck, demolish, shatter तबाह करना

18. **Inhale** (verb) – breathe in, sniff, draw in, suck in, inspire सांस लेना

19. **Trigger** (verb) – cause, spark, activate, provoke, initiate उत्पन्न करना

20. **Means** (noun) – method, way, measure, resource, tool साधन

21. **Blaze** (verb) – burn, flame, flare, ignite, catch fire जलना

22. **Put out** (phrasal verb) – extinguish, douse, quench, snuff out, suppress आग बुझाना

23. **Obscure** (verb) – hide, block, cloud, conceal, blur धुँधला करना

24. **Establish** (verb) – determine, find out, prove, verify, set up स्थापित करना

25. **Deficiency** (noun) – shortcoming, lack, inadequacy, flaw, insufficiency कमी / अभाव

26. **Perhaps** (adverb) – maybe, possibly, conceivably, perchance, feasibly शायद

27. **Humongous** (adjective) – enormous, massive, huge, gigantic, colossal बहुत विशाल

28. **Multi-fold** (adjective) – many times, multiple, increased, manifold, exponentially कई गुना

29. **Must-have** (noun) – essential, necessity, requirement, staple, indispensable item आवश्यक वस्तु

30. **Take a hit** (phrase) – suffer damage, decline, get affected, bear loss, decrease प्रभावित होना

31. **Eventually** (adverb) – ultimately, finally, in the end, after some time, sooner or later अंततः

32. **Champion** (noun) – advocate, supporter, proponent, promoter, defender समर्थक

33. **Advocate** (verb) – support, recommend, promote, campaign for, speak in favour समर्थन करना

34. **Be in the forefront** (phrase) – lead, be proactive, take initiative, be at the front, spearhead नेतृत्व करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. Old city neighborhoods in Indian metropolises are vibrant, blending history, tradition, and commerce.

2. These areas host entrepreneurs, artisans, shopkeepers, and working-class residents who fuel local economies.

3. Buildings in such neighborhoods are often old, poorly maintained, and non-compliant with modern fire safety standards.

4. A recent tragic fire in Gulzar Houz near Charminar, Hyderabad, killed 17 people, including 8 children.

5. The building had a tunnel-like entrance, a single staircase, and no proper ventilation — all common fire hazards in old constructions.

6. Once the fire started, residents had no escape route; smoke inhalation led to rapid fatalities.

7. The aftermath of the fire revealed continued smoke in the interiors, highlighting the intensity of the blaze.

8. Gulzar Houz-type buildings are widespread in India's inner cities and represent constant fire threats.

9. Firefighter access was possible in this case, but in many cities, narrow lanes hinder emergency response.

10. Fire safety audits are crucial to identify risks in such structures but challenging due to the sheer number of buildings.

11. Increased electric loads over time, especially with air-conditioners, worsen fire risks in buildings not designed for them.

12. Simple changes like adding access/exit points can significantly enhance safety.

13. Resident training for fire emergencies is essential for survival during such disasters.

14. Community involvement is vital — neighborhoods can appoint volunteer "fire champions" to promote fire awareness and safety.

15. While policies and government initiatives are necessary, community participation is the key to long-term fire safety in old city areas.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following was a major reason for the tragic loss of lives in the Gulzar Houz fire incident?**
   A. Lack of modern jewellery fireproofing systems
   B. The building was made of wood entirely
   C. There was only one staircase to the living area
   D. Firefighters could not access the building due to a narrow street

2. **Why are buildings in India's inner cities often considered fire hazards?**
   A. They are built only with commercial purposes in mind
   B. Their electric load is perfectly optimized, leading to overheating
   C. They were constructed before modern fire safety norms came into effect
   D. They are made entirely from flammable material like wood and paper

3. **What is suggested as the most effective fire safety measure for these old neighbourhoods?**
   A. Installing air conditioners with safety valves
   B. Rebuilding every structure from scratch
   C. Banning joint families in commercial zones
   D. Creating access and exit points and training residents

4. **What can be inferred about the challenge of improving fire safety in old city neighbourhoods?**
   A. It is primarily a financial problem due to the cost of rebuilding structures
   B. The scale of the problem is vast, requiring both community and administrative efforts
   C. The problem lies solely with outdated government policies
   D. Firefighters are generally untrained to handle urban fires in old cities

5. **What does the passage imply about the living conditions in inner-city buildings like the one in Gulzar Houz?**
   A. They are highly luxurious and spacious
   B. They prioritize commercial expansion over safety
   C. They lack sufficient light and ventilation
   D. Residents are generally well-versed in emergency protocols

6. **Select the most appropriate form of comparative degree that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
   Neha's house is **far from the city than** everyone else's
   A. further from the city than
   B. more far from the city to
   C. far from the city to
   D. farther from the city than

7. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**
   A. Exaggerate
   B. Connoisseur
   C. Perseverence
   D. Camouflage

8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
   Elevation
   A. Creation

B. Demotion
C. Presentation
D. Promotion

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

When I was studying Economics in Delhi University, Ritu was senior than me.

A. senior than me
B. Ritu was
C. in Delhi University
D. when I was studying Economics

10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blanks.**

Chocolate can be _____ without milk; mix cocoa butter, sugar and a puree of fermented, roasted cocoa beans, and you _____ a perfectly respectable dark chocolate

A. made; has
B. made; have
C. making; have
D. make; have

11. **Select the correct spelling of the underlined word in the given sentence.**

<u>Scince</u> explores and explains the natural world through observation and experimentation.

A. sceince
B. science
C. scinece
D. sience

12. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

A. Occassionaly
B. Pursuit
C. Obliterate
D. Synopsis

13. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM for the underlined word.**

My teacher is very **<u>diligent</u>**.

A. Kind
B. Hardworking
C. Idle
D. Skilful

14. **Based on the context of the given sentence, select the most appropriate idiom to fill in the blank.**

After spending hours working non-stop on the project, the team decided to _____ and go home.

A. run out of steam
B. hit the books
C. call it a day

D. take it easy

15. **Select the option that changes the degree of comparison in the given sentence from superlative to positive without changing the meaning of the sentence.**

Kalpana Ahuja is the tallest girl in the colony

A. Many girls in the colony are taller than Kalpana Ahuja.

B. No other girl in the colony is as tall as Kalpana Ahuja.

C. No other girl in the colony is as taller as Kalpana Ahuja.

D. Kalpana Ahuja is as tallest as other girls of the colony

16. **Select the option that will improve the underlined part of the given sentence.**

Swati came here with the intent **of insulting me**.

A. for insulting me

B. from insulting me

C. to insult me

D. off insulting me

17. **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.**

It is a fact that / girls' hair is usually / long than the boys' hair

A. It is a fact that

B. long than the boys' hair

C. girls' hair is usually

D. no error

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

Congenial

A. Trivial

B. Ethical

C. Ignorant

D. Pleasant

19. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word given in brackets to fill in the blank.**

In an _____ (endeavour) to improve the environment of their society, they planted many trees surrounding the parking area.

A. ecstasy

B. epitome

C. aim

D. axiom

20. **Select the sentence that has a grammatical error.**

A. She usually walks her dog in the park every morning.

B. They play chess together on weekends.

C. The train leaves the station at 8:00 a.m. every day.

D. He don't like spicy food.

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.

That was a jolly story _____1_____ Arthur Ransome told the other day in one of his messages from Petrograd, a place in Russia. A stout old lady was walking ___2___ her basket down the middle of a street to the _____3_____ confusion of the traffic and with no small peril to herself. It was pointed _____4_____ to her that the _____5_____ was the place for the foot passengers, but she replied, "I'm going to walk where I like. We've got liberty now."

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
    A. about
    B. off
    C. which
    D. form

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
    A. at
    B. with
    C. in
    D. beside

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
    A. greet
    B. garret
    C. grate
    D. great

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
    A. in
    B. so
    C. by
    D. out

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
    A. market
    B. bay
    C. road
    D. pavement

Answers

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

Explanations

1. **C) There was only one staircase to the living area**

   The passage explicitly mentions: "There was only one staircase to the living areas, a common feature in such accidents."

   This structural flaw left no alternate escape route, trapping residents and resulting in high casualties.

   A is incorrect because there's no mention of jewellery fireproofing systems being relevant to the cause.

   B is incorrect since the material of the building isn't described as wooden.

   D is incorrect because it says: "In Hyderabad, the street was wide enough for firefighters to access…"

2. **C) They were constructed before modern fire safety norms came into effect**

   The passage clearly states: "Built well before modern fire safety norms evolved, most of these buildings are also major fire hazards."

   A is incorrect because the buildings are mixed-use (residential + commercial), not only commercial.

   B is incorrect. The passage states the electric load increases over time, not that it's optimized.

   D is incorrect because no material composition like wood/paper is mentioned.

3. **D) Creating access and exit points and training residents**

   As stated in the passage: "Creating more access and exit points and training residents to escape fires are eventually the most effective fire safety measures."

   A is incorrect because air conditioners are part of the problem, increasing electric load.

   B is impractical and not suggested. The passage emphasizes audits and community engagement, not total rebuilding.

   D is not mentioned or implied and irrelevant to fire safety.

4. **B) The scale of the problem is vast, requiring both community and administrative efforts**

   The passage says: "There are millions of such buildings and this would be a humongous task… While policy and government action can initiate change, communities will have to be in the forefront…"

   This supports the inference that collaborative efforts (from both community and government) are necessary.

   A is wrong: financial issues aren't the only concern mentioned.

   B is wrong: the passage does not blame outdated policies alone; community role is emphasized.

   D is wrong: there is no suggestion that firefighters are untrained, only that access is often an issue.

5. **C) They lack sufficient light and ventilation**

   The text mentions: "A skylight above the courtyard permitted light, but no air."

   This hints at poor ventilation and possibly minimal natural light, implying substandard living conditions.

   A is incorrect because the passage paints a picture of cramped pigeon-hole residences, not luxury.

   B is partially true but not the main inference here

   D is incorrect because the lack of training and preparation in emergencies is a concern raised.

6. D) 'far from the city than' के बदले 'farther from the city than' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'far' की comparative degree 'farther' होती है, जब दूरी (distance) को व्यक्त किया जाता है; जैसे— This village is farther from the river than that one.
    'farther from the city than' will be used instead of 'far from the city than' because the comparative degree of 'far' is 'farther' when expressing distance; Like— This village is farther from the river than that one

7. C) The **incorrectly spelt word** is **C. Perseverence**. The correct spelling is **Perseverance** "धैर्य, दृढ़ता या लगातार प्रयास।"

8. B) **Elevation** (noun) – The act of raising something or someone to a higher position or level; rise, upliftment, promotion. उन्नति, ऊंचाई पर ले जाना, पदोन्नति।
    Antonym: **Demotion** (noun) – The act of lowering someone to a less important position, status, or rank; downgrade, reduction, relegation. पदावनति, नीचे गिराना।

    - **Creation** (noun) – The act of bringing something into existence; innovation, formation, generation. निर्माण, सृजन।
    - **Presentation** (noun) – The act of showing, displaying, or introducing something formally; exhibition, display, demonstration. प्रस्तुति, प्रदर्शन।
    - **Promotion** (noun) – The act of raising someone to a higher position or rank; advancement, upgrading, elevation. पदोन्नति, उन्नति।

9. A) 'senior than me' के बदले **'senior to me'** का useहोगा क्योंकि 'senior', 'junior', 'superior', 'inferior', आदि Adjectives के साथ 'to' Preposition का use किया जाता है, न कि 'than' का।

    जैसे— He is senior to me in this office.

    'senior to me' will be used instead of 'senior than me' because the adjectives like 'senior', 'junior', 'superior', 'inferior', etc., are followed by the preposition 'to' and not 'than'.
    For example— He is senior to me in this office.

10. B) "**made**" का use होगा क्योंकि यह sentence passive voice में है। यहाँ chocolate "can be made" बताता है कि chocolate को बिना दूध के बनाया जा सकता है। Passive voice में "be" के बाद verb की तीसरी form (past participle) का इस्तेमाल होता है। "making" (Option C) incorrect है क्योंकि यह gerund है और passive construction में फिट नहीं बैठता। "make" (Option D) active voice है, जबकि sentence passive में है। "made" एक सही passive verb form है जो sentence को grammatically और contextually सही बनाता है।

"have" का use सही है क्योंकि यहाँ "you have" एक सामान्य present tense structure है, जिसका अर्थ है "you get" या "you possess" (a perfectly respectable dark chocolate)। "has" (Option A) गलत है क्योंकि "you" subject के साथ plural verb "have" का इस्तेमाल होता है। "have" (Option B) सही है क्योंकि subject "you" के साथ "have" ही grammatical रूप से सही है।

"made" is used because the sentence is in the passive voice. "Chocolate can be made" means that chocolate can be created without milk. In passive constructions, we use "be + past participle (V3)" for the main verb. "making" (Option C) is incorrect because it is a gerund and does not fit the structure of a passive sentence. "make" (Option D) is active voice, whereas the sentence requires a passive construction. Thus, "made" is the correct choice as it matches the grammar and context.

"have" is correct because "you have" indicates possession or an outcome in the present tense. The verb "have" aligns with the subject "you," which requires the plural form of the verb. "has" (Option A) is incorrect because "has" is used with singular subjects, but "you" is plural.

11. B) The correct spelling of '**Scince'** is '**Science'**, which means "a systematically organized body of knowledge on a particular subject or the study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment." विज्ञान

12. A) The correct answer is **A. Occassionaly**, which is **incorrectly spelt**. The correct spelling is **Occasionally**. समय- समय पर

13. C) **Diligent** (adjective) – Hardworking, industrious, careful, and persistent in work or effort. मेहनती, परिश्रमी

    Antonym: **Idle** (adjective) – Not active, lazy, avoiding work, or lacking effort. आलसी

    - **Kind** (adjective) – Caring, compassionate, and considerate. दयालु
    - **Hardworking** (adjective) – Showing effort and commitment to work. परिश्रमी
    - **Skilful** (adjective) – Showing great ability or expertise. कुशल

14. C) **Call it a day** – (Idiom) To decide to stop working for the day and go home. काम बंद करके घर जाना

    - **Run out of steam** (Idiom) – To lose energy, enthusiasm, or momentum ऊर्जा या उत्साह खो देना
    - **Hit the books** (Idiom) – To start studying seriously. पढ़ाई शुरू करना
    - **Take it easy** (Idiom) – To relax and avoid hard work or stress. आराम करना

15. B) 'tallest' के बदले **'as tall as'** का use होगा क्योंकि वाक्य को Superlative Degree से Positive Degree में बदलते समय 'as + Positive Degree of Adjective + as' का useहोता है। इस नियम के अनुसार 'tallest' के स्थान पर 'as tall as' का use किया जाएगा; जैसे— Ravi is the fastest boy in the class को Positive Degree में बदलने पर यह होगा— No other boy in the class is as fast as Ravi.

as tall as' will be used instead of 'tallest' because when converting a sentence from Superlative Degree to Positive Degree, the structure 'as + Positive Degree of Adjective + as' is used. According to this rule, 'tallest' will change to 'as tall as'; Like— Ravi is the fastest boy in the class changes to No other boy in the class is as fast as Ravi.

16. C) **'to insult me'** का use होगा क्योंकि "intent" के बाद preposition 'to' का use सही है, जब किसी उद्देश्य को प्रकट किया जा रहा हो। 'To + Verb' (infinitive) का useसही संरचना है। जैसे— He came with the intent to help others.

to insult me' will be used because after the noun "intent" ,the correct preposition is 'to' when expressing purpose or intention. The structure "intent + to + base form of verb" (infinitive) is the grammatically correct form. For example: He came with the intent to help others.

17. B) 'long than the boys' hair' में 'long' के बदले **'longer'** का useहोगा क्योंकि यह Comparative Degree का वाक्य है। Comparative Degree के वाक्यों में 'than' के साथ Adjective या Adverb की Comparative Form का useहोता है। 'Long' एक Positive Degree का रूप है, जबकि 'Longer' उसकी Comparative Degree है।

In the given sentence, "long" is incorrect because it does not follow the correct grammar rule for comparative sentences. The word 'than' indicates a comparison, and therefore the Comparative Degree of the adjective 'long', which is **'longer'**, must be used.

18. D) **Congenial** (adjective) – Suitable, agreeable, or pleasant because of compatibility in temperament, interests, or character. अनुकूल

Synonym: **Pleasant** (adjective) – Giving a sense of happy satisfaction or enjoyment, agreeable, delightful. सुखद, आनंददायक

- **Trivial** (adjective) – Of little value or importance, insignificant, petty. तुच्छ, नगण्य
- **Ethical** (adjective) – Morally right, principled, righteous. नैतिक, सैद्धांतिक
- **Ignorant** (adjective) – Lacking knowledge, unaware, uninformed. अज्ञानी, अनभिज्ञ

19. **C) Endeavour** *(noun) – An attempt or effort to achieve a goal*, strive, undertaking, effort. प्रयास

Synonym: **Aim** (noun) – A goal, purpose, or target towards which one directs effort. उद्देश्य

- **Ecstasy** (noun) – A state of overwhelming joy or happiness; extreme delight. परमानन्द

- **Epitome** (noun) – A perfect example of a particular quality or type. साकार रूप / प्रतिमान
- **Axiom** (noun) – A statement or principle that is self-evidently true. स्वयंसिद्ध तथ्य

20. D) don't' के बदले **'doesn't'** का use होगा क्योंकि Subject 'He' Third Person Singular का Pronoun है और इसके साथ Present Simple Tense में Verb की Third Person Singular form लगती है। 'do' की Third Person Singular form 'does' होती है। उदाहरण के लिए— He doesn't like spicy food.

    'doesn't' will be used instead of 'don't' because the subject 'He' is a Third Person Singular Pronoun, and in Present Simple Tense, the verb agrees with the Third Person Singular subject. The correct auxiliary verb for 'He' is 'does.' For example— He doesn't like spicy food.

21. C) '**Which'** का use होगा क्योंकि "which" एक relative pronoun है, जिसका use किसी noun को qualify करने के लिए किया जाता है। यहाँ sentence में "That was a jolly story which Arthur Ransome told..." का अर्थ है "वह एक मजेदार कहानी थी जो Arthur Ransome ने बताई थी।" इसलिए 'which' यहाँ सही है। जबकि: 'About' का अर्थ "के बारे में" होता है, लेकिन यह यहाँ relative clause को introduce नहीं करता है। 'Off' का अर्थ "दूर होना" है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है। 'Form' का अर्थ "रूप" या "संरचना" होता है, जो यहाँ पूरी तरह से असंगत है।

    'Which' will be used because it is a relative pronoun that connects and qualifies the noun 'story'. The sentence describes a "jolly story" that Arthur Ransome told, and 'which' introduces this relative clause correctly. Whereas: 'About' means "relating to," but does not introduce a relative clause. 'Off' indicates separation, which doesn't fit here. 'Form' means structure or shape, which has no logical relevance in this context.

22. B) **'With'** का useहोगा क्योंकि "with" का अर्थ होता है साथ में या किसी वस्तु को साथ लेकर चलना। Sentence में बताया गया है कि एक old lady अपने basket के साथ सड़क पर चल रही थी, इसलिए 'with' सही विकल्प है। जबकि: 'At' का अर्थ है स्थान पर होना, जो यहाँ संदर्भित नहीं है। 'In' का अर्थ है अंदर, लेकिन महिला के साथ basket का जिक्र है, न कि अंदर होने का। 'Beside' का अर्थ है बगल में, लेकिन यहाँ "साथ में" का भाव व्यक्त करना है, जो 'with' से बेहतर स्पष्ट होता है

    'With' will be used because it means to carry or have something along with you. The sentence describes that the old lady was walking with her basket, making 'with' the most appropriate choice. Whereas: 'At' refers to location, which is irrelevant here. 'In' implies being inside, not carrying something. 'Beside' means next to, not having something along.

23. D) **Great'** का use होगा क्योंकि "great" का अर्थ है 'बड़ा' या 'महत्वपूर्ण', और यह sentence में "confusion" को modify करता है। यहाँ phrase "to the great confusion of the traffic" स्थिति की गंभीरता और बड़े पैमाने पर हुए confusion को दर्शाता है।'Greet' का अर्थ है स्वागत करना या अभिवादन करना, जो इस

context में सही नहीं है। 'Garret' का अर्थ है अटारी या ऊपरी कमरा, जो sentence के अर्थ से मेल नहीं खाता। 'Grate' का अर्थ घिसना या जाली होता है, जो इस context में अनावश्यक है।

'Great' will be used because it means large or important and here it modifies the noun "confusion". The phrase "to the great confusion of the traffic" highlights the seriousness or magnitude of the confusion caused. Whereas: 'Greet' means to welcome, which doesn't fit this context. 'Garret' means an attic or small upper room, irrelevant here. 'Grate' means to rub or a framework of bars, which makes no sense in this sentence

24. D) '**Out**' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ "pointed out" का phrasal verb है। 'point out' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को स्पष्ट रूप से इंगित करना या ध्यान आकर्षित करना। sentence में mention है कि महिला को यह स्पष्ट रूप से बताया गया था कि फुटपाथ पैदल यात्रियों के लिए है। in' स्थान दर्शाता है, लेकिन यहाँ वाक्य में "pointed" के साथ सही ढंग से मेल नहीं खाता। 'so' कारण और परिणाम को जोड़ने का काम करता है, लेकिन यहाँ "pointed" के साथ इसे सही से नहीं जोड़ा जा सकता। by' किसी कार्य के कर्ता या साधन को दर्शाता है। लेकिन यहाँ 'pointed' क्रिया के लिए यह गलत है
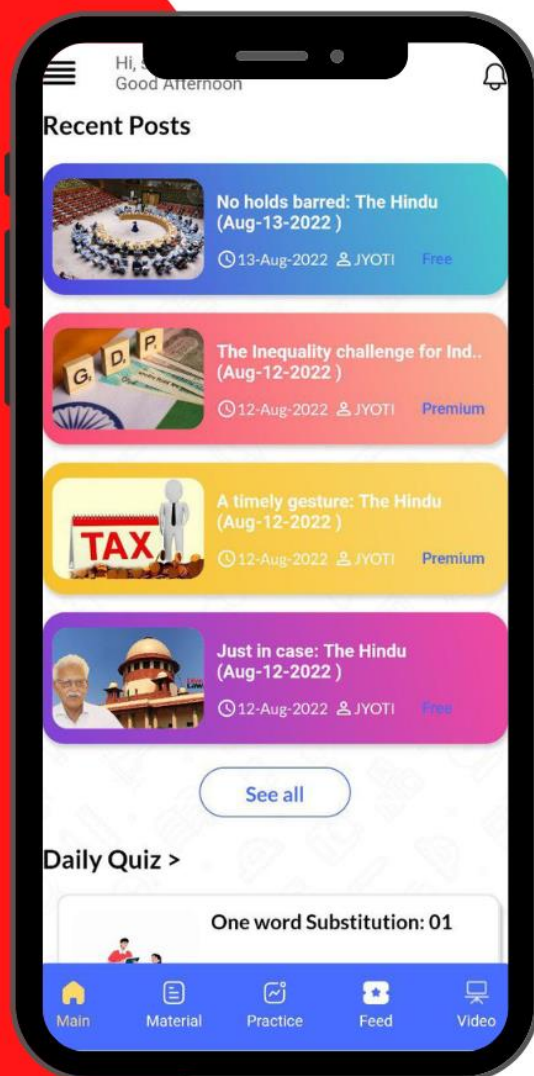
The phrase "pointed **out**" is a phrasal verb that means to draw attention to something or make someone aware of a fact. In the sentence, it is being said that the old lady was informed (or had it pointed out to her) that the pavement was meant for pedestrians. Therefore, the correct word to complete the sentence is "out". "In" is used to denote location or position, which does not fit the structure of the phrasal verb "pointed out." "So" is used as a conjunction to show cause and effect, but it does not fit here because the sentence is about pointing something out, not linking actions. By" indicates an agent or means of doing something. It is not grammatically correct with "pointed" in this context.

25. D) **'Pavement'** का use होगा क्योंकि "pavement" का अर्थ होता है पैदल चलने वालों के लिए बनी जगह। sentence में यह बताया गया है कि एक महिला को सलाह दी गई कि foot passengers के लिए निर्धारित जगह पर चलना चाहिए। पैदल चलने के लिए सही स्थान pavement होता है। 'Market' का अर्थ बाजार है, जो यहाँ संदर्भ से मेल नहीं खाता क्योंकि महिला को चलने की जगह की बात की गई है, न कि किसी बाजार की। 'Bay' का अर्थ खाड़ी या स्थान होता है, जो यहाँ संदर्भ में सही नहीं बैठता। 'Road' का अर्थ है सड़क, जबकि महिला को सड़क छोड़कर pavement पर चलने के लिए कहा गया था।

'Pavement' will be used because it refers to the path designated for foot passengers. The sentence mentions that the woman was advised to walk where foot passengers are supposed to, which is the pavement. 'Market' means a place for trade, which doesn't fit here. 'Bay' refers to a harbor or area, irrelevant in this context. 'Road' is where vehicles move, but the woman was asked to use the pavement, not the road.