

## Israel's isolation: On the western world and Gaza

Netanyahu must not be allowed to **get away** with mass murder

**The joint statement** by the leaders of Canada, France and the United Kingdom, and **announcements** by the U.K. and the EU to pause trade talks with Israel **are** proof that the Netanyahu government is growing more **isolated** over its **brutal** campaign on Gaza. Since the **ceasefire** ended on March 18, over 3,000 residents have been killed in the **enclave**, according to the Gaza Health Ministry. Israel's **chokehold** on **aid** and **humanitarian** supplies **has** pushed thousands **to the brink of starvation**, a fact that even Donald Trump, President of Israel's all-time **ally**, the U.S., referred to during a trip to West Asia last week. Mr. Trump's **decision** to skip Israel **was** seen as a **mark** of his **displeasure** with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's policy on the issue. Despite the **rebukes**, Mr. Netanyahu has said Israeli Defence Forces needed to continue to target Hamas **operatives** in the area, and added that Israel would now re-take full "military control" of the Gaza strip, which the IDF had **vacated** in 2005. The comments **provoked** an angry response from the leaders of Canada (Mark Carney), France (Emmanuel Macron), and the U.K. (Keir Starmer), all of whom had **pledged** their support to Israeli actions in response to the October 7, 2023 terror attacks. They called the level of human suffering in Gaza "intolerable" and Israel's **escalation** of **bombardment** a "**disproportionate**" response, **condemned** the Israeli leadership for threatening to **evict** all Palestinians forcibly from the strip, and recommitted to a "two-state solution" for Israel and Palestine, to be discussed at a United Nations conference in June. Significantly, the three countries even threatened **sanctions** against Israel. Mr. Netanyahu's **response**, to **accuse** the three leaders **of** handing Hamas a "huge prize", and **vowing** not **to** stop "until total victory is achieved", **indicates** that he still believes that he can continue without being **checked**.

It is time for the international community to **speak up** so that Mr. Netanyahu does not think he can get away with what international agencies are calling **genocide**. New Delhi has notably **thus far** not issued any statement. This silence may be because of its own **preoccupation** with Pakistan and due to Israel's **unequivocal** support over Operation Sindoor. There is no link or **equivalence** between the two situations, however. Too many lives have been lost in the **incessant** bombardment by Israel of an area of two million people. Despite the **depredations**, Israel has not, with any clarity, **met** its objectives of bringing back the **hostages** or of **wiping out** Hamas's presence there yet. Mr. Netanyahu has tried to frame his government's actions as a "war of civilisation over **barbarism**", but it is he who must consider how much this direction-less war that appears to punish the weakest and most defenceless the most **resembles the latter** more than **the former**, as the **numbers** of supporters for this war **diminish** worldwide.

[Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Isolation** (noun) – separation, detachment, seclusion, segregation, loneliness अलगाव
2. **Get away** (phrasal verb) – escape, avoid, evade, elude, flee बच निकलना
3. **Isolated** (adjective) – secluded, detached, alone, remote, excluded अलग-थलग
4. **Brutal** (adjective) – cruel, savage, harsh, inhumane, ruthless क्रूर
5. **Ceasefire** (noun) – truce, armistice, suspension, halt, stoppage युद्धविराम
6. **Enclave** (noun) – territory, zone, district, region, pocket सीमित क्षेत्र
7. **Chokehold** (noun) – grip, stranglehold, control, dominance, constraint नियंत्रण
8. **Aid** (noun) – help, assistance, relief, support, backing सहायता
9. **Humanitarian** (adjective) – charitable, compassionate, benevolent, philanthropic, kind-hearted मानवतावादी
10. **To the brink of** (phrase) – on the edge of, nearing, approaching, almost at, close to कगार पर
11. **Starvation** (noun) – hunger, malnutrition, famine, deprivation, undernourishment भुखमरी
12. **Ally** (noun) – partner, supporter, associate, confederate, collaborator सहयोगी
13. **Mark** (noun) – sign, indication, symbol, evidence, signal संकेत
14. **Displeasure** (noun) – dissatisfaction, annoyance, resentment, disapproval, irritation नाराज़गी
15. **Rebuke** (noun) – criticism, reprimand, reproach, admonition, condemnation फटकार
16. **Operative** (noun) – agent, worker, spy, member, representative एजेंट / कार्यकर्ता
17. **Vacate** (verb) – leave, evacuate, abandon, relinquish, withdraw खाली करना
18. **Provoke** (verb) – incite, irritate, anger, stir, trigger भड़काना
19. **Pledge** (verb) – promise, commit, vow, guarantee, swear वचन देना
20. **Escalation** (noun) – intensification, rise, increase, aggravation, amplification वृद्धि / उग्रता
21. **Bombardment** (noun) – attack, shelling, barrage, assault, onslaught बमबारी
22. **Disproportionate** (adjective) – excessive, extreme, unequal, unreasonable, inordinate असमानुपातिक / असंगत
23. **Condemn** (verb) – denounce, criticize, censure, blame, decry निंदा करना

24. **Evict** (verb) – expel, remove, eject, displace, oust बेदखल करना
25. **Sanction** (noun) – penalty, punishment, restriction, embargo, deterrent प्रतिबंध
26. **Accuse** (of) (verb) – blame, charge, indict, allege, incriminate आरोप लगाना
27. **Vow** (verb) – pledge, swear, promise, commit, affirm कसम खाना
28. **Check** (verb) – restrain, control, curb, halt, suppress रोकना / नियंत्रण करना
29. **Speak up** (phrasal verb) – express, raise voice, object, voice out, protest खुलकर बोलना
30. **Genocide** (noun) – mass killing, extermination, massacre, ethnic cleansing, holocaust नरसंहार
31. **Thus far** (phrasal verb) – until now, so far, to date, up to this point, as yet अब तक
32. **Preoccupation** (noun) – obsession, focus, involvement, engagement, concern व्यस्तता / चिंता
33. **Unequivocal** (adjective) – clear, unambiguous, explicit, definite, categorical स्पष्ट
34. **Equivalence** (noun) – equality, parity, similarity, sameness, correspondence समानता
35. **Incessant** (adjective) – continuous, unending, relentless, ceaseless, nonstop निरंतर / लगातार
36. **Depredation** (noun) – destruction, devastation, ravage, plunder, ruin लूटपाट / विनाश
37. **Meet** (verb) – fulfill, achieve, accomplish, satisfy, attain पूरा करना
38. **Hostage** (noun) – Captive, prisoner, detainee, inmate, convict, बंधक
39. **Wipe out** (phrasal verb) – eliminate, destroy, eradicate, annihilate, exterminate पूरी तरह मिटा देना
40. **Barbarism** (noun) – savagery, cruelty, brutality, inhumanity, atrocity बर्बरता
41. **Resemble** (verb) – look like, be similar to, reflect, imitate, match समान होना
42. **The latter** (noun) – Here it is referring to 'Hamas'.
43. **The former** (noun) – Here it is referring to 'Israel'.
44. **Diminish** (verb) – reduce, decrease, lessen, shrink, dwindle घटाना / कम होना

## Summary of the Editorial

1. **Western Rebuke:** Canada, France, and the U.K. have criticized Israel's ongoing military offensive in Gaza, reflecting growing global isolation for the Netanyahu government.
2. **Humanitarian Toll:** Since the March 18 ceasefire breakdown, over 3,000 Gazans have been killed, with aid blockades pushing many to the brink of starvation.
3. **U.S. Stance:** Even Donald Trump, traditionally pro-Israel, criticized the humanitarian crisis, notably skipping Israel during a recent West Asia visit.
4. **Netanyahu's Justification:** Despite criticism, Netanyahu insists on continuing military operations against Hamas and announced plans to retake full military control of Gaza.
5. **International Outrage:** Leaders of Canada, France, and the U.K. — once supportive of Israel post-October 7 attacks — now call the situation in Gaza "intolerable" and Israel's actions "disproportionate."
6. **Condemnation of Eviction Plans:** These leaders have condemned Israel's threats to forcibly evict all Palestinians from Gaza.
7. **Call for Two-State Solution:** The international community is recommitting to a two-state solution, to be discussed at a UN conference in June.
8. **Threat of Sanctions:** Canada, France, and the U.K. have gone as far as threatening sanctions against Israel.
9. **Netanyahu's Defiance:** Netanyahu dismissed the criticism, accusing Western leaders of rewarding Hamas and vowed to continue operations until "total victory."
10. **Genocide Allegations:** International agencies have described Israel's actions as potential genocide, prompting calls for global accountability.
11. **India's Silence:** New Delhi has not issued any statement, possibly due to its strategic ties with Israel and domestic concerns regarding Pakistan.
12. **No Equivalence:** The editorial stresses that Israel's situation in Gaza cannot be equated with India's Operation Sindoor.
13. **Mass Civilian Loss:** The editorial highlights the scale of civilian casualties and the lack of clear military or political gains for Israel.
14. **Unmet Objectives:** Despite the violence, Israel has not achieved its stated aims of recovering hostages or eliminating Hamas.
15. **Moral Responsibility:** The editorial questions Netanyahu's framing of the conflict and argues that the brutality inflicted on vulnerable civilians undermines Israel's moral standing globally.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the overall tone of the passage?**
  - A. Laudatory and celebratory
  - B. Condemnatory and critical
  - C. Detached and purely informative
  - D. Nostalgic and sentimental
2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
  - A. The growing international isolation of Israel due to its Gaza campaign
  - B. The success of Israel's military strategy in Gaza
  - C. The humanitarian efforts by Western nations in Gaza
  - D. The historical background of the Israel-Palestine conflict
3. **What can be *reasonably inferred* about Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's attitude toward the rebukes issued by Canada, France, and the U.K.?**
  - A. He is prepared to soften Israel's Gaza strategy in order to mend ties with Western allies.
  - B. He interprets the criticism as handing Hamas a strategic advantage.
  - C. He now believes the United States has abandoned Israel entirely.
  - D. He thinks retaking Gaza will automatically lead to a two-state solution.
4. **Who skipped visiting Israel on a recent trip to West Asia, signalling displeasure with Israeli policy?**
  - A. Keir Starmer
  - B. Donald Trump
  - C. Emmanuel Macron
  - D. Mark Carney
5. **What specific action by the U.K. and the EU demonstrates Israel's increasing diplomatic isolation, according to the passage?**
  - A. Imposing immediate military sanctions on Israel
  - B. Pausing trade talks with Israel
  - C. Officially recognising Palestinian statehood
  - D. Withdrawing their ambassadors from Tel Aviv
6. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

Jurisdiction

  - A. Governance
  - B. Expression
  - C. Descent
  - D. Violation
7. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

Woodcutting involves the removal of useless trees first, \_\_\_\_\_ by medium and finest quality timber trees

  - A. followed
  - B. compared
  - C. adjusted
  - D. enacted

**8. Choose the correctly spelt word to fill in the blank meaningfully.**

His \_\_\_\_\_ is a brilliant student.

- A. sone
- B. sun
- C. son
- D. sune

**9. Select the grammatically correct sentence**

- A. If you want to have an sound working knowledge of Japanese, you must read this book.
- B. If you want to have a sound working knowledge of Japanese, you must read this book.
- C. If you want to have a sound working knowledge of the Japanese, you must read this book.
- D. If you want to have sound working knowledge of the Japanese, you must read this book

**10. Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the following sentence.**

Success demands hard work, diligence and perseverance

- A. Indolence
- B. Trouble
- C. Coolness
- D. Effort

**11. Select the grammatically correct sentence.**

- A. The intricate dance of neurotransmitters in a synaptic cleft plays the crucial role in neural communication.
- B. The intricate dance of neurotransmitters in the synaptic cleft plays a crucial role in neural communication.
- C. An intricate dance of neurotransmitters in a synaptic cleft plays a crucial role in neural communication.
- D. An intricate dance of neurotransmitters in the synaptic cleft plays the crucial role in neural communication

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

A person who travels from place to place, especially for work

- A. Itinerant
- B. Vagrant
- C. Nomad
- D. Pilgrim

**13. Select the correctly spelled sentence**

- A. The audience applauded the muzicians performance.
- B. The audiance applauded the musician's perfomance.
- C. The audiance applauded the musicans performance.
- D. The audience applauded the musician's performance.

**14. Select the word that has the same meaning (SYNONYM) as the underlined word in the given sentence.**

Shylock, the Jewish moneylender, and Antonio, the rich Merchant of Venice loathed each other

- A. lathered

- B. latte
- C. abhorred
- D. admired

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

RK Laxman was well-known for his drawings of people in such a highly exaggerated manner as to cause laughter.

- A. sketches
- B. articles
- C. portraits
- D. caricatures

**16. Select the most appropriate synonym of 'clarify' in the sentence given below.**

The last question of the examination paper confused me when it asked to illustrate the Pythagoras' theorem with the help of examples.

- A. Confused
- B. Illustrate
- C. Last
- D. Help

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

The dancer / performed weird / but the music was / highly enchanting.

- A. The dancer
- B. performed weird
- C. but the music was
- D. highly enchanting.

**18. Select the most appropriate idiom for the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

Sarvana failed in the examination last week and is in extreme depression these days

- A. In the red
- B. In the doldrums
- C. In cold blood
- D. In the lurch

**19. The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains an error in phrasal verb.**

Bindu asked Arya to fill out for / her so that she could / take care of / her sick father.

- A. her sick father
- B. her so that he could
- C. take care of
- D. bindu asked Arya to fill out for

**20. Change the following sentence into positive degree.**

Sushma is one of the smartest girls in the class

- A. Few girls in the class are as smart as Sushma.

- B. Sushma is the smart girl of the class.
- C. No other girl is as smart as Sushma.
- D. Sushma is smarter than any other girls in the class

**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.**

We are familiar with the quote, "If winter comes, can spring be far \_\_\_1\_\_\_?" Winters are depressing, but we bear because we know that it will not \_\_\_2\_\_\_ till perpetuity. Spring \_\_\_3\_\_\_ a new life in us. As the spring begins to set itself, the nights become shorter and the days get longer. Gardens and lawns become colourful, buds \_\_\_4\_\_\_ as flowers, birds chirp and butterflies fly from one flower to another to \_\_\_5\_\_\_ on the sweet nectar. The dullness is taken over by brightness.

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

- A. behind and below
- B. behind and far
- C. far behind
- D. behind

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

- A. last
- B. rest
- C. hold on
- D. hold

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

- A. inculcate
- B. infuses
- C. imbue
- D. immerse

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

- A. come out
- B. take out
- C. fall over
- D. pull out

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

- A. suck
- B. food
- C. gulp
- D. gobble



## Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

## Explanations

### 1. B) Condemnatory and critical

The author repeatedly denounces Israel's actions as "brutal," "disproportionate," and even hints at "genocide," displaying a strongly critical, condemnatory stance.

A: Nothing in the passage praises or celebrates Israel; instead, it reproves the government's conduct, so this is incorrect.

C: While factual details are given, the language is value-laden rather than neutral, so the tone is not detached or purely informative.

D: The passage deals with present diplomatic fallout, not wistful recollections of the past; hence it is neither nostalgic nor sentimental.

### 2. A) The growing international isolation of Israel due to its Gaza campaign

The passage focuses on how Israel is facing increasing criticism and diplomatic backlash from Western nations (Canada, France, U.K., EU) over its military actions in Gaza.

It highlights statements condemning Israel's policies, threats of sanctions, and Netanyahu's defiant response, all pointing to Israel's growing isolation.

B) The success of Israel's military strategy: Incorrect because the passage argues that Israel has not achieved its objectives (hostage return, Hamas elimination) and faces global condemnation.

C) Humanitarian efforts by Western nations: Incorrect as the passage discusses condemnation, not aid efforts.

D) Historical background of the conflict: Incorrect because the passage focuses on current events, not historical context.

### 3. B) He interprets the criticism as handing Hamas a strategic advantage.

The passage notes that Mr. Netanyahu accused the three leaders of giving Hamas a "huge prize" and vowed to keep fighting "until total victory is achieved," showing that he views outside criticism as aid to Hamas.

A – He expressed no intention to soften policy; he promised to continue fighting.

C – Only a trip by U.S. President Trump skipped Israel; no statement says Netanyahu thinks U.S. support is gone.

D – He made no link between military control and achieving a two-state solution; the idea is raised by the critics, not by him.

### 4. C) Donald Trump

The passage states that U.S. President Donald Trump "decided to skip Israel" during his West Asia tour, which was taken as a sign of dissatisfaction.

- A – Keir Starmer criticised Israel but did not take the trip described.  
 B – Emmanuel Macron signed the joint statement but was not the traveller.  
 D – Mark Carney (Canada) likewise issued criticism but is not mentioned as travelling.

5. **B) Pausing trade talks with Israel**

The passage explicitly says the U.K. and the EU announced they would pause trade talks with Israel, highlighting Israel's diplomatic isolation.

- A – Military sanctions are only threatened, not imposed.  
 C – Recognition of Palestine is not mentioned here.  
 D – No recall or withdrawal of ambassadors is reported.

6. A) **Jurisdiction** (noun) – The official power to make legal decisions or judgments; authority, control, dominion. क्षेत्राधिकार

**Synonym: Governance** (noun) – The act of governing, ruling, or having authority over an area. शासन

- **Expression** (noun) – The act of conveying thoughts, ideas, or emotions. अभिव्यक्ति
- **Descent** (noun) – The act of moving downward; ancestry or lineage. उतरना/वंश
- **Violation** (noun) – The act of breaking a law, rule, or agreement. उल्लंघन

7. A) **'Followed'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'followed' का अर्थ है "के बाद", जो sentence के क्रम के अनुसार सही बैठता है। यहाँ बताया गया है कि पहले बेकार पेड़ों को काटा जाता है और फिर मध्यम और अच्छे गुणवत्ता वाले पेड़ों को काटा जाता है। Compared: इसका अर्थ है "तुलना करना"। यहाँ किसी चीज की तुलना नहीं की जा रही है, इसलिए यह गलत है। Adjusted: इसका अर्थ है "समायोजन करना या ठीक करना"। यहाँ पेड़ों के क्रम में कोई समायोजन की बात नहीं की गई है, इसलिए यह भी गलत है। Enacted: इसका अर्थ है "कानून लागू करना या पेश करना"। यहाँ कानून या नीतियों की बात नहीं हो रही है, इसलिए यह विकल्प गलत है।

**'Followed'** is used because it means "to come after," which fits the sequential nature of the sentence. The sentence states that useless trees are removed first, and then medium and finest quality timber trees follow. This sequential order makes 'followed' the most appropriate option. 'Compared' means "to draw a comparison," which is irrelevant here since no comparison is being made. 'Adjusted' means "to make changes or align," but the sentence doesn't talk about adjusting the order of trees. 'Enacted' means "to implement or bring into effect," which is contextually incorrect as no law or policy is mentioned.

8. C) **'son'** का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "son" का अर्थ होता है "उसका बेटा"। Sentence का मतलब है कि "उसका बेटा एक प्रतिभाशाली छात्र है।" 'sone' गलत है क्योंकि यह "son" का सही spelling नहीं है। 'sun' गलत है क्योंकि "sun" का अर्थ सूर्य होता है, जो इस sentence के संदर्भ में बिल्कुल भी उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'sune' भी गलत है क्योंकि यह एक गलत spelling है और इसका कोई अर्थ नहीं निकलता।

**son'** will be used because "son" means 'a male child,' which is the correct and appropriate word here. The sentence implies that "His son is a brilliant student." Other options are incorrect due to spelling errors. **sone'** is incorrect as it is a misspelling of "son." **'sun'** is incorrect because "sun" refers to the star that provides light and heat, which does not fit the sentence. **'sune'** is also incorrect as it is a meaningless word and not a valid spelling.

9. B) **If you want to have a sound working knowledge of Japanese, you must read this book.**

'an sound' के बदले 'a sound' का use होगा क्योंकि 'sound' का उच्चारण एक consonant sound /s/ से शुरू होता है। 'A' का use उन शब्दों के पहले होता है जिनका उच्चारण consonant sound से शुरू होता है और 'an' का use vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u) से शुरू होने वाले शब्दों के पहले होता है। जैसे— "It is a good book"

'an sound' should be replaced with 'a sound' because the word 'sound' begins with a consonant sound /s/. The article 'a' is used before words that begin with a consonant sound, while 'an' is used before words that begin with a vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u).

For example: Correct: "It is a good book."

10. D) **Diligence** (noun) – Careful and persistent work or effort; industriousness, hard work. परिश्रम, लगन

**Synonym: Effort** (noun) – A vigorous or determined attempt, hard work. प्रयास

- **Indolence** (noun) – Laziness, avoidance of work, sloth. आलस्य
- **Trouble** (noun) – Difficulty, problem, disturbance. मुसीबत
- **Coolness** (noun) – Lack of enthusiasm, calm, composure. शांत स्वभाव

11. B) **The intricate dance of neurotransmitters in the synaptic cleft plays a crucial role in neural communication.**

'the crucial role' के स्थान पर 'a crucial role' का use होना चाहिए क्योंकि यह एक सामान्य तथ्य का वर्णन कर रहा है। 'the' का use तब होता है जब किसी विशेष भूमिका (specific role) का उल्लेख किया जाए।

'a synaptic cleft' के स्थान पर 'the synaptic cleft' का use होना चाहिए क्योंकि synaptic cleft एक specific structure को दर्शाता है जो neural anatomy का हिस्सा है। The phrase "crucial role" is describing a general function, not a unique or specific role. Therefore, the correct article is "a" instead of "the." The term "synaptic cleft" refers to a specific part of neural anatomy. When referring to something definite or universally understood, we use "the" instead of "a."

12. A) **Itinerant** (noun) – A person who travels from place to place, especially for work.

स्थान-स्थान पर काम की तलाश में घूमने वाला व्यक्ति।

- **Vagrant** (noun) – A person without a settled home or regular work who wanders from place to place. आवारा व्यक्ति,

- **Nomad** (noun) – A member of a group of people who move from one place to another rather than living in one place all the time. खानाबदोश,
- **Pilgrim** (noun) – A person who travels to a sacred place for religious reasons. तीर्थयात्री,

13. D) "The audience applauded the musician's performance."

'musician's' का use सही है क्योंकि यहाँ पर possessive case का use किया गया है, जो यह दर्शाता है कि 'performance' (प्रदर्शन) musician (संगीतज्ञ) का है। साथ ही, audience और performance सही वर्तनी (spelling) में हैं।

'musician's' is used correctly here because it is in the **possessive case**, showing that the "performance" belongs to the musician. Additionally, the words **audience** and **performance** are spelled correctly.

14. C) **Loathed** (verb) – To feel intense dislike or hatred for something; detest, abhor, despise. घृणा करना

**Synonym: Abhorred** (verb) – To regard with disgust or hatred; loathe, detest, despise. घृणा करना

- **Lathered** (verb) – To produce foam or froth; unrelated to the given context. झाग बनाना
- **Latte** (noun) – A coffee drink mixed with steamed milk; unrelated to the meaning of "loathed."
- **Admired** (verb) – To regard with respect or warm approval; the opposite of loathed. प्रशंसा करना

15. D) **Caricatures** (noun) – A picture, description, or imitation of a person in which certain striking characteristics are exaggerated to create a comic or grotesque effect. हास्यचित्र

- **Sketches** (noun) – A simple, quickly made drawing without much detail. रेखाचित्र
- **Articles** (noun) – A piece of writing included with others in a newspaper, magazine, or journal. लेख
- **Portraits** (noun) – A painting, drawing, or photograph of a person, typically showing only the face or head and shoulders. व्यक्ति का चित्र

16. B) **Clarify** (verb) – To make something clear or easy to understand, explain, simplify. स्पष्ट करना

**Synonym: Illustrate** (verb) – To explain or clarify something using examples, demonstrate, depict. उदाहरण देकर समझाना

- **Confused** (verb/adjective) – Unable to think clearly, baffled, puzzled. उलझन में डालना
- **Last** (adjective) – Coming after all others in time or order, final. अंतिम
- **Help** (verb) – To assist or support someone in doing something, aid. मदद करना

17. B) 'performed weird' के बदले **'performed weirdly'** का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ 'performed' एक Verb है और इसके लिए Modifier के रूप में Adverb का use होना चाहिए, न कि Adjective का। 'Weird' एक Adjective है जबकि 'Weirdly' एक Adverb है। जैसे— She spoke clearly. यहाँ 'clearly' Adverb का कार्य कर रहा है। 'performed weird' should be replaced with **'performed weirdly'** because the verb 'performed' requires an adverb (weirdly) to modify it, not an adjective (weird).

For example— She spoke clearly. Here, 'clearly' is an adverb modifying the verb 'spoke

18. B) **In the doldrums** (idiom) – In extreme depression, low spirits, or inactivity. (अवसाद या उदासी की स्थिति, किसी प्रकार की सुस्ती में होना)

A) **In the red** – In financial debt आर्थिक संकट में

C) **In cold blood** – Without any emotion or pity निर्ममता से

D) **In the lurch** – In a difficult or helpless situation असहाय स्थिति में

19. D) 'fill out for' के बदले **'fill in for'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'fill in for' का अर्थ है "किसी की जगह काम करना या उसकी भूमिका निभाना"। 'Fill out' का अर्थ "फर्म या डॉक्यूमेंट भरना" होता है, जो यहां संदर्भ के अनुसार गलत है। अतः सही वाक्य होगा— "Bindu asked Arya to fill in for her so that she could take care of her sick father."

The phrasal verb 'fill out for' is incorrect here. Instead, 'fill in for' should be used. Fill in for means "to do someone's work or role in their absence", which suits the context of Arya substituting for Bindu. Fill out means "to complete a form or document", which is not contextually appropriate.

**Corrected Sentence:** "Bindu asked Arya to fill in for her so that she could take care of her sick father."

20. A) **Few girls in the class are as smart as Sushma**

'as smart as' का use Positive Degree में किया जाता है। यहाँ वाक्य में 'one of the smartest' का अर्थ यह है कि सुषमा कक्षा की सबसे होशियार लड़कियों में से एक है। Positive Degree में इसका सही रूप 'Few girls in the class are as smart as Sushma' होगा। जैसे— Very few students are as intelligent as Ramesh.

'as smart as' is used in Positive Degree. Here, the sentence states that Sushma is one of the smartest girls, which means she is among the top smart girls. In Positive Degree, the correct transformation is 'Few girls in the class are as smart as Sushma.' Like— Very few students are as intelligent as Ramesh.

21. D) **Behind** का use होगा क्योंकि "behind" यहाँ कहावत "If winter comes, can spring be far behind?" का हिस्सा है। "Behind" का अर्थ है "पीछे" या "निकट ही"। यह दर्शाता है कि सर्दियों (कठिन समय) के बाद वसंत (अच्छा समय) जल्द ही आने वाला है। 'Behind and below': यह phrase व्याकरणिक और संदर्भ के हिसाब से सही नहीं है।

'Behind' will be used because it is part of the well-known quote, "If winter comes, can spring be far behind?" Here, "behind" means "close at hand" or "soon to follow," which perfectly fits the context.

22. A) 'Last' का use होगा क्योंकि "last" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ का जारी रहना या लंबे समय तक टिके रहना। Sentence में: यह कहा गया है कि सर्दियां "perpetuity" (सदैव) तक नहीं टिकेंगी। यहाँ पर "last" सबसे उपयुक्त शब्द है, क्योंकि यह "continue for a period" के अर्थ में use होता है। 'Rest' का अर्थ है आराम करना या विश्राम करना, जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं बैठता। 'Hold on' का अर्थ है मजबूती से पकड़ना या टिके रहना, लेकिन यह "continue" के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है 'Hold' का अर्थ है थामे रखना या रोकना, जो "till perpetuity" के साथ सही नहीं बैठता।

'Last' will be used because "last" means to continue or endure for a period of time. The sentence talks about winter not lasting forever (till perpetuity), so "last" is the most appropriate word here. 'Rest' means to relax or pause, which does not fit the context. 'Hold on' means to hold tightly or persist, but it does not convey the idea of continuing over time here. 'Hold' means to grasp or retain something, which does not fit logically with "till perpetuity."

23. B) 'Infuses' का use होगा क्योंकि "infuse" का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ में नई ऊर्जा, जीवन या भावना भरना। यहाँ sentence में कहा गया है कि spring एक नई ज़िंदगी का संचार करता है, इसलिए 'infuses' सही है। 'Inculcate' का अर्थ है किसी आदत या विचार को सिखाना, जो इस sentence के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Imbue' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को गुण या भावना से भरना, लेकिन यह अक्सर साहित्यिक या poetic संदर्भ में उपयोग होता है। 'Immerse' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ में पूरी तरह डूब जाना या शामिल होना, जो यहाँ सही नहीं है।

'Infuses' will be used because it means to fill something with energy, life, or a particular quality. The sentence mentions that spring brings new life into us, making 'infuses' the most appropriate choice here. 'Inculcate' means to instill an idea or habit, which does not fit the context. 'Imbue' means to fill something with a quality or emotion, but it is often used in poetic contexts. 'Immerse' means to submerge or deeply involve oneself, which is incorrect here

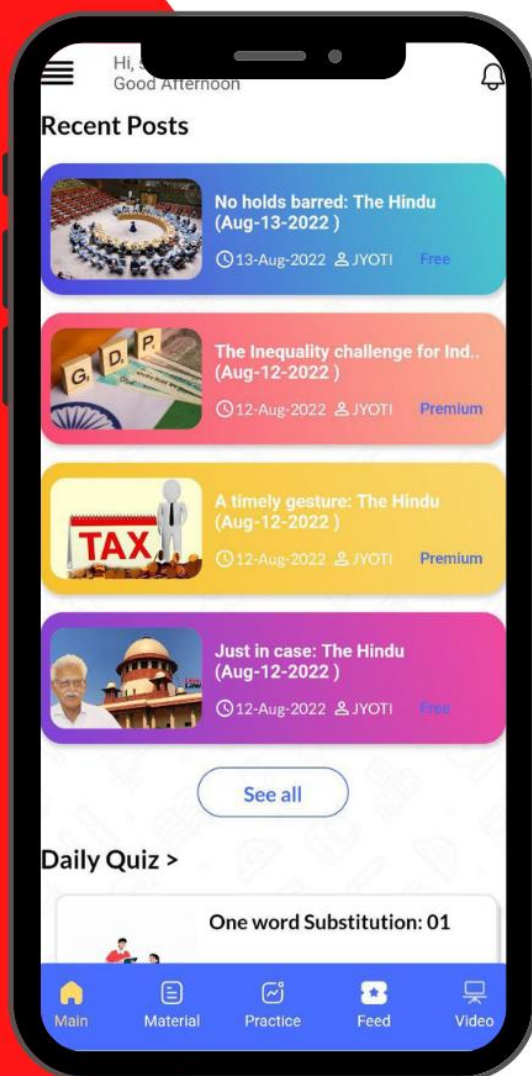
24. A) 'Come out' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है किसी चीज़ का बाहर आना या प्रकट होना। वाक्य में कहा गया है कि कली (buds) फूल के रूप में बाहर आती हैं, जो 'come out' के अर्थ के साथ बिल्कुल सटीक बैठता है। 'Take out' का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को निकालना, जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होता। 'Fall over' का अर्थ है गिर जाना, जो कलियों (buds) के खिलने की प्रक्रिया को दर्शाने के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Pull out' का अर्थ है खींचकर बाहर निकालना, लेकिन यहाँ कलियों का फूलों के रूप में खिलना प्राकृतिक प्रक्रिया है, इसलिए यह सही नहीं है। 'Come out' will be used because it means to emerge or appear. The sentence describes how buds emerge or bloom into flowers, which aligns perfectly with the meaning of 'come out.' 'Take out' means to remove something, which does not fit the context here. 'Fall over' means to collapse or topple, which is irrelevant to the natural blooming of buds. 'Pull out' means to extract or pull

something out, but the blooming process of buds is a natural occurrence, so it does not fit contextually.

25. A) **Suck** का use होगा क्योंकि 'suck' का अर्थ होता है किसी वस्तु से तरल पदार्थ को खींचना या चूसना। Sentence में कहा गया है कि तितलियाँ एक फूल से दूसरे फूल पर जाकर "sweet nectar" (मीठा रस) का सेवन करती हैं। यह एक ऐसी process है जिसमें तितलियाँ फूलों से रस को चूसती हैं, इसलिए 'suck' यहाँ सही है। 'Food' का अर्थ है "भोजन", लेकिन यहाँ विशेष क्रिया का जिक्र है, जिसमें तरल पदार्थ चूसा जाता है। 'Food' इस प्रक्रिया के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। Gulp: 'Gulp' का अर्थ है "जल्दी से निगलना", जो तितलियों के रस चूसने के कार्य के लिए गलत है। तितलियाँ रस को धीरे-धीरे चूसती हैं, न कि निगलती हैं। 'Gobble' का अर्थ है "जल्दी-जल्दी बड़े टुकड़ों में खाना", जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है क्योंकि तितलियाँ फूलों से रस चूसती हैं, उन्हें खाने की क्रिया यहाँ लागू नहीं होती।

'Suck' will be used because it means to draw or extract liquid carefully. The sentence describes butterflies flying from one flower to another to take the sweet nectar. The action butterflies perform is to suck the nectar, making 'suck' the most appropriate verb here. Food: 'Food' is a noun and does not fit the context, as the sentence requires a verb to describe the action of extracting nectar. Gulp: 'Gulp' means to swallow quickly or in large amounts, which does not match the gentle action of butterflies taking nectar. Gobble: 'Gobble' means to eat hurriedly or greedily in large pieces, which is not appropriate here as butterflies carefully sip nectar





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