

Injustice in the delay: On the next Census

The **announcement** of the Census **is** welcome, but the delay is **unjust**

India's next **decadal** population **census**, initially delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic, **is** now scheduled to **conclude** by March 2027, after a further delay **apparently fuelled** by political motivations. The Census in 2021 did not **take place** as planned, thus impacting different **aspects** of **governance**, especially social security schemes for **vulnerable** populations that **rely** heavily **on** updated demographic data for effective and **efficient** delivery. For the first time, the Census will be digitally **administered**, enabling faster data gathering and easier accessibility for analysis, **thereby** allowing population-level data to be more dynamic. However, this technological adoption also **heightens** concerns regarding data **theft** and privacy. While the nature of the Census will evolve, **transparency** at all levels will be crucial to building public trust in the exercise. **Preparations** for this massive operation, which will reach every household, **are underway**, with more **logistical** details **anticipated** in the weeks ahead.

India **stands at a demographic crossroads**, facing the challenges of growing populations of the young and the old alongside significant regional **variations** in key indicators. Fresh data from the Census can help **address** many issues. For the first time since 1931, caste categories will be **enumerated**. While more reliable **data** on the socio-economic **standing** of caste groups **can** inform development planning, the **potential** for further social **segmentation** **makes** caste **enumeration a double-edged sword**. A critical aspect of the upcoming Census is its link to the next **delimitation** of Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies, which will redraw India's electoral map. The Constitution **mandates** that the next inter-State delimitation be based on population figures from the first Census after 2026. The current distribution of Lok Sabha seats is based on the 1971 population spread. With the reference date for the Census set as March 1, 2027, for most of the country, this can **pave the way for** the next delimitation exercise. **States** that have experienced lower population growth in recent decades, particularly in the **peninsular** region, **have** expressed concern that their parliamentary representation will **diminish** if population becomes the sole **criterion** for **redistribution**. The Centre has yet to clarify its **stance** on this matter. With the Census now **in motion**, it is **imperative** for the Centre to engage with all **stakeholders** and build **consensus** on the sensitive issue of delimitation. Otherwise, the **delay** in the announcement of the Census **will** be taken to mean as an attempt to ensure that the **ruling** BJP benefits from the increased representation for the Hindi-speaking States.

[Practice Exercise]

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.
- **Logistical** (adjective) – relating to or involving organization and planning.
- **Mandate** (verb) – give (someone) authority to act in a certain way. अधिकार देना

Vocabulary

1. **Census** (noun) – survey, population count, demographic study, enumeration, registration जनगणना
2. **Unjust** (adjective) – unfair, biased, inequitable, prejudiced, wrongful अन्यायपूर्ण
3. **Decadal** (adjective) – ten-yearly, once-in-a-decade, occurring every ten years, ten-year, decade-based दस वर्षीय
4. **Conclude** (verb) – end, finish, complete, terminate, wrap up समाप्त करना
5. **Apparently** (adverb) – seemingly, evidently, supposedly, allegedly, outwardly जाहिर तौर पर
6. **Fuel** (verb) – provoke, intensify, trigger, incite, stimulate बढ़ावा देना
7. **Take place** (phrase) – happen, occur, transpire, unfold, arise होना
8. **Aspect** (noun) – facet, feature, component, element, perspective पक्ष / पहलू
9. **Governance** (noun) – administration, management, leadership, rule, control शासन
10. **Vulnerable** (adjective) – weak, exposed, defenseless, unprotected, susceptible असुरक्षित / कमजोर
11. **Rely** (on) (verb) – depend, count on, trust, bank on, lean on निर्भर होना
12. **Efficient** (adjective) – effective, productive, competent, streamlined, well-organized कुशल
13. **Administer** (verb) – manage, oversee, conduct, operate, execute प्रबंधन करना
14. **Thereby** (adverb) – thus, consequently, hence, as a result, by that इससे / इस तरह
15. **Heighten** (verb) – increase, intensify, elevate, amplify, escalate बढ़ाना
16. **Theft** (noun) – stealing, robbery, burglary, larceny, pilfering चोरी
17. **Transparency** (noun) – openness, clarity, accountability, visibility, honesty पारदर्शिता
18. **Underway** (adjective) – in progress, ongoing, happening, taking place, being done प्रगति पर
19. **Anticipate** (verb) – expect, foresee, predict, await, look forward to उम्मीद करना
20. **Stand** (verb) – remain, exist, be situated, endure, hold होना / खड़ा होना
21. **At a crossroad** (phrase) – at a turning point, in a dilemma, in transition, in a critical situation, at a juncture निर्णायक मोड़ पर

22. **Demographic** (adjective) – population-related, statistical, census-based, societal, group-related जनसंख्या-संबंधी
23. **Variation** (noun) – difference, change, diversity, fluctuation, deviation भिन्नता
24. **Address** (verb) – deal with, tackle, handle, attend to, respond to समाधान करना
25. **Enumerate** (verb) – list, count, name, detail, itemize गिनना / सूची बनाना
26. **Standing** (noun) – status, position, rank, reputation, condition दर्जा
27. **Potential** (noun) – possibility, capability, capacity, promise, prospect संभावना
28. **Segmentation** (noun) – division, partition, categorization, grouping, separation विभाजन
29. **Enumeration** (noun) – listing, counting, census, tally, calculation गणना
30. **A double-edged sword** (phrase) – mixed blessing, two-sided issue, dilemma, benefit with risk, risky advantage दोधारी तलवार
31. **Delimitation** (noun) – redrawing of boundaries, boundary setting, demarcation, partitioning, reorganization परिसीमन
32. **Pave the way for** (phrase) – prepare for, lead to, make possible, enable, facilitate मार्ग प्रशस्त करना
33. **Peninsular** (adjective) – coastal, related to a peninsula, mainland-based, surrounded-by-water, subcontinental प्रायद्वीपीय
34. **Diminish** (verb) – reduce, decrease, lessen, shrink, dwindle घटाना
35. **Criterion** (noun) – standard, benchmark, measure, norm, yardstick मापदंड
36. **Redistribution** (noun) – reallocation, reorganization, rearrangement, apportionment, dispersal पुनर्वितरण
37. **Stance** (noun) – position, viewpoint, opinion, attitude, perspective रुख / दृष्टिकोण
38. **In motion** (phrase) – active, underway, progressing, happening, moving गतिशील / चालू
39. **Imperative** (adjective) – essential, necessary, urgent, crucial, vital अनिवार्य / अत्यावश्यक
40. **Stakeholder** (noun) – participant, contributor, party, member, shareholder भागीदार / हितधारक
41. **Consensus** (noun) – agreement, unanimity, harmony, accord, mutual consent सर्वसम्मति
42. **Ruling** (adjective) – governing, leading, dominant, controlling, incumbent सत्तारूढ़

Summary of the Editorial

1. India's decadal Census, originally due in 2021, has been delayed until March 2027, citing COVID-19 and possible political motives.
2. The delay has harmed governance, especially in social security delivery, which depends on updated demographic data.
3. For the first time, the Census will be digitally administered, allowing for faster data collection and analysis.
4. However, digital operations raise concerns over data privacy and security.
5. Transparency in all stages of the process is essential to ensure public trust in the exercise.
6. Preparations are ongoing, and more logistical details will be revealed soon.
7. India is at a demographic turning point, with regional imbalances in youth and elderly populations.
8. Updated Census data can inform public policies, especially in health, education, and employment sectors.
9. For the first time since 1931, the Census will include caste enumeration.
10. While caste data can support targeted development, it also risks deepening social divisions.
11. The Census will influence the next delimitation of Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies.
12. The Constitution requires post-2026 delimitation to be based on the first Census after that date.
13. Current Lok Sabha seat distribution is based on 1971 population data, creating imbalances.
14. States with lower population growth, mainly in southern India, fear they will lose political representation.
15. The editorial warns that the delay may be seen as politically motivated, potentially benefiting the Hindi-speaking northern States, and urges the Centre to build national consensus on delimitation.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Analytical and cautionary
 - B. Nostalgic
 - C. Celebratory
 - D. Satirical
2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. Economic impact of India's youth bulge on GDP growth
 - B. Political and demographic implications of the upcoming Census and seat-redistribution (delimitation)
 - C. Historical injustices of caste before independence
 - D. Benefits of rising fertility rates for labour markets
3. **Which Census figures does the Constitution require to be used for the next inter-State delimitation of Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies?**
 - A. The 1971 Census
 - B. The 2011 Census
 - C. The first Census conducted after 2026
 - D. The postponed 2021 Census
4. **Which set of Indian States has voiced worry that its parliamentary representation may shrink if seats are re-allocated purely on population growth?**
 - A. Himalayan States such as Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh
 - B. Peninsular States that have experienced lower population growth
 - C. Hindi-speaking northern States
 - D. North-eastern States
5. **Given the discussion in the passage, it can be reasonably inferred that any further delay in officially announcing the Census may chiefly be interpreted by critics as:**
 - A. An attempt to protect low-growth States from losing representation
 - B. A purely administrative necessity following pandemic disruptions
 - C. A strategic move to help the ruling BJP gain from greater seat allotment to Hindi-speaking States
 - D. A safeguard to perfect the methodology of caste enumeration
6. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined word in the given sentence.**

The military operation was part of a conspiracy against national security.

 - A. Enthusiasm
 - B. Plot
 - C. Motivation
 - D. Wilfulness
7. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.**

Ritu is a diligent girl who looks after her aged parents

 - A. innocent
 - B. hardworking
 - C. lethargic

D. stupid

8. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined word in the context of the following sentence.

We should go to the Himalayas this spring

- A. To jump
- B. A water body
- C. A season
- D. Coiled metal

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

Ally

- A. Infamy
- B. Gloomy
- C. Enemy
- D. Dreamy

10. Select the option that correctly rectifies the underlined spelling error in the given sentence.

In the first half century after U.S. independence, a major preportion of the nation's labour force shifted from the agricultural to the manufacturing sector

- A. prepotion
- B. preposion
- C. priposon
- D. proportion

11. Select the most appropriate idiom to replace the underlined segment in the given sentence.

We were asked to vote for the candidates by raising our hands to indicate voting for or against a proposition

- A. getting out of hand
- B. tipping our hands
- C. a show of hands
- D. changing hands

12. Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.

- A. Sacrilege
- B. Exaggeration
- C. Assesment
- D. Committee

13. Select the grammatically correct sentence from the given options

- A. The responsibility was given to each student to keep quiet during the seminar.
- B. The responsibility was give to each student to keep quieter during the seminar.
- C. The responsibility is given to each student to keep quieter during the seminar.
- D. The responsibility was given to each student to keep quieter during the seminar

14. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined word in the given sentence.

I agreed with your assessment

- A. Doubted

- B. Supported
- C. Disagreed
- D. Rejected

15. Select the option with the correctly spelt word to fill in the blank.

The delta of river _____ looks like a bird's foot because a lot of sediment is carried into the calm sea water.

- A. Mississipi
- B. Mississippipi
- C. Mississippi
- D. Mississippi

16. Select the sentence that has a grammatical error.

- A. We came in the meeting room quietly.
- B. He came across an interesting article while researching.
- C. She always comes down with a cold in winter.
- D. The company came up with a brilliant marketing strategy

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

The _____ model who can be selected for this advertisement is Meera Narayan.

- A. most good
- B. best
- C. more better
- D. most best

18. Identify the preposition that needs to be omitted to correct the sentence.

They live near to the park

- A. Near
- B. live
- C. They
- D. To

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

Despite the challenges, / the team is determined to / completed / the project on time and within budget.

- A. Despite the challenges
- B. the team is determined to
- C. completed
- D. the project on time and within budget

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

The irrational fear of snakes

- A. Necrophobia
- B. Nomophobia
- C. Xenophobia
- D. Ophidiophobia

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.

A weed is an untamed plant that (1)_____ where it is not wanted, usually among gardens or crops. The majority of weeds are (2)_____. While some are toxic to horses and cattle, others harm mature crops by (3)_____ them of water, sunlight, soil and minerals. There are various ways that weeds (4)_____. They are (5)_____ transported from one location to another as trash, dust or fodder.

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

- A. spreads
- B. amends
- C. perfects
- D. evolves

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

- A. grace
- B. delicates
- C. vices
- D. dangerous

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

- A. spoiling
- B. relieving
- C. digesting
- D. depriving

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

- A. entertain
- B. propagate
- C. extension
- D. breach

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

- A. every
- B. rare
- C. frequently
- D. consequence

Answers

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

Explanations

1. A) Analytical and cautionary

The writer pieces together factual details (Census schedule, delimitation clauses, regional worries) and warns about possible political fallout if consensus is not built — a blend of analysis plus caution.

B. Nostalgic: No longing for the past; the piece is forward-looking.

C. Celebratory: The passage highlights risks, not triumphs.

D. Satirical: There is no irony or mockery; the language is sober.

2. B) The passage focuses on how the 2027 Census (including caste enumeration) will feed directly into the next delimitation of parliamentary seats, and on the potential regional and political consequences of that linkage.

A. Economic impact of youth bulge: Youth and GDP are not the article's focus.

C. Historical injustices: Past discrimination is not analysed; caste appears only in terms of future enumeration.

D. Fertility-labour benefits: Fertility is mentioned only as population growth; labour-market gains are not explored.

3. C) The passage states that "the Constitution mandates that the next inter-State delimitation be based on population figures from the first Census after 2026."

A (1971): That figure is current basis, not for the next delimitation.

B (2011): Mentioned nowhere as a basis for future redistribution.

D (2021): No such Census was held; the reference date now shifts to 2027.

4. B) Peninsular States that have experienced lower population growth

The passage notes that "States that have experienced lower population growth in recent decades, particularly in the peninsular region, have expressed concern."

A: Himalayan States are not mentioned in this context.

C: Hindi-speaking States would likely gain seats, not lose them.

D: Passage does not discuss the North-East regarding this fear.

5. C) A strategic move to help the ruling BJP gain from greater seat allotment to Hindi-speaking States

The passage warns that "the delay ... will be taken to mean as an attempt to ensure that the ruling BJP benefits from the increased representation for the Hindi-speaking States." This is an inference about perception rather than a literal statement of policy.

A: Passage never claims delay aims to protect low-growth States; their concern is actually the opposite.

B: Administrative reasons (e.g., pandemic) are not proposed here as a current justification for postponement.

D: While caste enumeration is sensitive, the passage links delay specifically to political advantage, not to methodological caution.

6. B) Conspiracy (noun) – A secret plan by a group to do something unlawful or harmful; scheme, plot, intrigue. (पडयंत्र)

Synonym: Plot (noun) – A secret plan or scheme to accomplish some purpose, especially a harmful or illegal one. (साजिश)

- **Enthusiasm** (noun) – Intense and eager enjoyment or interest. (उत्साह)
- **Motivation** (noun) – The reason or reasons one has for acting or behaving in a particular way. (प्रेरणा)
- **Wilfulness** (noun) – The quality of being determined to do what one wants, regardless of the consequences. (जिद)

7. B) **Diligent** (adjective) – Careful, persistent, hardworking, industrious, attentive. मेहनती

Synonym: Hardworking (adjective) – Putting consistent effort into work or duties, industrious, dedicated. परिश्रमी

- **Innocent** (adjective) – Pure, naive, free from guilt, harmless. निर्दोष (Not related to diligence or effort)
- **Lethargic** (adjective) – Lazy, inactive, slow, sluggish. सुस्त (Opposite in meaning to diligent)
- **Stupid** (adjective) – Lacking intelligence, foolish, senseless. मूर्ख (Does not relate to diligence or effort)

8. C) यहाँ 'spring' का अर्थ 'एक ऋतु' (A season) है, क्योंकि वाक्य में 'Himalayas' और 'this spring' का संदर्भ दिया गया है। 'spring' यहाँ वर्ष के एक समय को दर्शाता है, जो कि वसंत ऋतु है।

The word 'spring' here refers to 'a season' (C. A season) because the sentence mentions the Himalayas and 'this spring,' indicating a time of the year, specifically the spring season

9. C) **Ally** (noun) – A friend or supporter, someone who helps or cooperates in achieving a goal. साथी, मित्र

Antonym: Enemy (noun) – A person or group actively opposed or hostile to someone or something. दुश्मन, शत्रु

- **Infamy** (noun) – The state of being well-known for some bad quality or deed; notoriety. बदनामी
- **Gloomy** (adjective) – Dark or poorly lit; feeling distressed or pessimistic. अंधकारमय, उदास
- **Dreamy** (adjective) – Having a magical or unreal quality; lost in thought. खयालों में खोया हुआ

10. D) The correct spelling of 'preportion' is 'proportion', which means "a part, share, or number considered in comparative relation to a whole" (किसी पूरे के संबंध में भाग, हिस्सा या संख्या).

11. C) **A show of hands** (idiom) – Raising hands to vote or indicate approval/disapproval (हाथ उठाकर समर्थन या विरोध दिखाना)

12. C) The incorrectly spelt word is C. **Assesment**. The correct spelling is **Assessment**, which means "the evaluation or estimation of the nature, quality, or ability of someone or something" (मूल्यांकन).
13. A) **The responsibility was given to each student to keep quiet during the seminar.**
 sentence में 'was given' Past Tense में है जो Passive Voice में है और 'to keep quiet' सही Collocation है। 'keep quiet' का अर्थ है "शांत रहना," और यह grammatically सही है।
 This sentence is correct because it uses a grammatically appropriate structure. The phrase "was given" is in the Past Tense, in Passive Voice, and "to keep quiet" is the correct collocation. The phrase 'keep quiet' means "to remain silent," which fits well grammatically in the sentence. Options B, C, and D are incorrect
14. B) **Agreed** (verb): To have the same opinion as someone; consent, accept, or support. सहमत होना, मान लेना
Appropriate meaning:- Supported (verb): To uphold, agree with, or assist someone or something. समर्थन करना, सहारा देना
- **Disagreed** (verb): To have a different opinion; to oppose. असहमति प्रकट करना
 - **Rejected** (verb): To dismiss or refuse to accept. अस्वीकार करना, नकारना
 - **Doubted** (verb): To feel uncertain or unsure; to question. शक करना, संदेह करना
15. C) The correct spelling of 'Mississipi' is '**Mississippi**', which refers to a major river in the United States known for its vast delta resembling a bird's foot due to sediment deposition.
 "अमेरिका की एक प्रमुख नदी जिसका डेल्टा पक्षी के पैर जैसा दिखता है।"
16. A) sentence "**We came in the meeting room quietly**" में 'in' का use गलत है। सही preposition 'into' होगा क्योंकि यह movement को दर्शा रहा है। 'In' का use static position के लिए होता है। सही वाक्य होगा: "We came into the meeting room quietly."
 In the sentence "We came in the meeting room quietly," the preposition 'in' is incorrect. The correct preposition is 'into' because it indicates movement. 'In' is used for a static position. The correct sentence is: "We came into the meeting room quietly."
17. B) '**Best**' का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि 'best' "good" का superlative degree है और यह किसी वस्तु या व्यक्ति को उच्चतम स्तर पर इंगित करता है। वाक्य में यह बताया गया है कि Meera Narayan को चुना जा सकता है, जो कि उच्चतम स्तर की योग्यता को दर्शाता है। 'Most good' गलत है क्योंकि "good" का superlative रूप "best" है। 'More better' गलत है क्योंकि "better" पहले से ही "good" का comparative degree है, और उसके साथ "more" का use व्याकरण की दृष्टि से सही नहीं है। 'Most best' भी गलत है क्योंकि "best" पहले से ही superlative degree में है और उसके साथ "most" जोड़ना अनावश्यक और grammatically wrong है।
'Best' will be used because it is the superlative degree of "good" and indicates the highest level of quality. The sentence mentions that Meera Narayan is being considered as the model, signifying the highest level of suitability. 'Most good' is incorrect as the superlative form of "good" is "best." 'More better' is incorrect because "better" is already a comparative degree,

and adding "more" makes it grammatically invalid. 'Most best' is also incorrect as "best" is already in the superlative form, and "most" is redundant and grammatically incorrect in this context.

18. D) यहाँ 'near to' का use गलत है क्योंकि 'near' पहले से ही एक preposition है और इसे 'to' के साथ use करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। अतः वाक्य को सही करने के लिए 'to' को हटा दिया जाना चाहिए। सही होगा: They live near the park.

The use of 'near to' is incorrect because 'near' is already a preposition and does not require 'to' to complete its meaning. To correct the sentence, 'to' should be omitted. The correct sentence is: They live near the park.

19. C) 'completed' के बदले 'complete' का use होगा क्योंकि 'to' के बाद हमेशा Verb की base form (Infinitive) का use होता है। यहाँ 'determined to' के बाद Verb का base form होना चाहिए। जैसे— The team is determined to complete the task efficiently.

'completed' will be replaced with 'complete' because the base form of the verb (Infinitive) is always used after 'to'. Here, 'determined to' should be followed by the base form of the verb. Like— The team is determined to complete the task efficiently.

20. D) **Ophidiophobia** (noun) – Irrational fear of snakes साँपों का तर्कहीन भय

- **Necrophobia** (noun) – Fear of dead things or death. मृत चीजों या मृत्यु का भय।
- **Nomophobia** (noun) – Fear of being without a mobile phone or being unable to use it. मोबाइल फोन के बिना या उसे इस्तेमाल न कर पाने का भय।
- **Xenophobia** (noun) – Fear or dislike of people from other countries or strangers. विदेशियों या अजनबियों के प्रति भय या नापसंदगी।

21. A) '**Spreads**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है फैलना। यहाँ context यह है कि "a weed" यानी एक खरपतवार ऐसी जगह फैलता है जहाँ उसकी आवश्यकता नहीं होती। यह sentence इस बात को स्पष्ट करता है कि खरपतवार बगीचों या फसलों के बीच फैलता है, इसलिए 'spreads' यहाँ सही उत्तर है। जबकि 'amends' का अर्थ है सुधार करना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Perfected' का अर्थ है किसी चीज को पूर्णता प्रदान करना, जो संदर्भ से मेल नहीं खाता। 'Evolves' का अर्थ है विकास करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है क्योंकि यहाँ फैलने की प्रक्रिया की बात हो रही है।

'Spreads' will be used because it means to expand or extend. The sentence describes that a weed grows or extends in areas where it is not wanted, making 'spreads' the most fitting option. 'Amends' means to correct or improve, which doesn't align with the context. 'Perfected' refers to making something flawless, which is not relevant here. 'Evolves' implies development or gradual change, which doesn't suit the idea of an untamed plant growing in unwanted areas.

22. D) '**Dangerous**' का use होगा क्योंकि "dangerous" का अर्थ होता है खतरनाक, और वाक्य में बताया गया है कि अधिकतर खरपतवार खतरनाक होते हैं। यह संदर्भ "toxic to horses and cattle" और "harm mature crops" के साथ मेल खाता है। जबकि 'Grace' का अर्थ है सुंदरता, 'Delicates' का अर्थ है नाजुक वस्तुएं, और 'Vices' का अर्थ है बुराईयां, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

Dangerous will be used because it means harmful or risky. The sentence mentions that most weeds are harmful, aligning with the context of being "toxic to horses and cattle" and "harm mature crops." Whereas, 'Grace' means elegance, 'Delicates' refers to fragile things, and 'Vices' means immoral or wicked behaviors, none of which fit this context.

23. D) **'Depriving'** का use होगा क्योंकि "depriving" का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को वंचित करना या छीन लेना। sentence में यह mention है कि खरपतवार (weeds) फसलों को पानी, धूप, मिट्टी और खनिजों से वंचित कर देते हैं, इसलिए 'depriving' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'spoiling' का अर्थ है खराब करना, 'relieving' का अर्थ है राहत देना, और 'digesting' का अर्थ है पचाना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

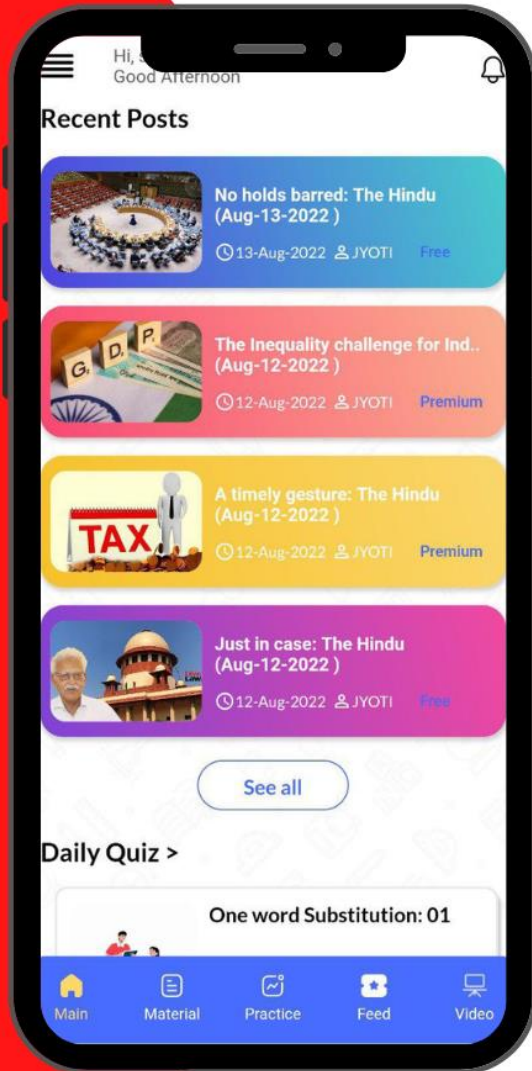
'Depriving' will be used because it means to take something away or deny it. The sentence mentions that weeds harm crops by taking away water, sunlight, soil, and minerals, making 'depriving' the most fitting choice. Whereas, 'spoiling' means to damage, 'relieving' means to provide relief, and 'digesting' means to break down food, none of which fit in this context.

24. B) **'Propagate'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को फैलाना या विस्तार करना। यह sentence में weeds के फैलने के तरीकों को describe कर रहा है, इसलिए 'propagate' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'entertain' का अर्थ है मनोरंजन करना, 'extension' का अर्थ है विस्तार या जोड़, और 'breach' का अर्थ है उल्लंघन, जो इस context में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

'Propagate' will be used because it means to spread or extend something. The sentence is describing the ways weeds spread, making 'propagate' the appropriate choice. Whereas, 'entertain' means to amuse, 'extension' means addition or stretch, and 'breach' means violation, which do not fit in this context.

25. C) **'Frequently'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "अक्सर" या "नियमित अंतराल पर होना।" sentence में यह mention है कि खरपतवार कचरे, धूल या चारे के रूप में एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान पर स्थानांतरित किए जाते हैं, जो नियमितता को दर्शाता है। इसलिए, 'frequently' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Every' का अर्थ है "प्रत्येक," जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Rare' का अर्थ है "दुर्लभ," जो वाक्य के भाव के विपरीत है। 'Consequence' का अर्थ है "परिणाम," जो किसी प्रक्रिया का फल है और यहाँ फिट नहीं होता।

Frequently will be used because it means "happening often" or "at regular intervals." The sentence mentions that weeds are transported from one place to another as trash, dust, or fodder, implying regularity, making 'frequently' the correct choice. Whereas, 'Every' means "each" and is not suitable here. 'Rare' means "uncommon," which contradicts the context. 'Consequence' means "result," which doesn't fit in this scenario.



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