Escalation spiral: on the Israel-Iran conflict

Global powers must **persuade** Israel to end its **reckless** war

Israel's **unprovoked aggression** against Iran **has** not only **plunged** West Asia into its gravest regional crisis since the 1973 Arab-Israeli war but also pushed the Jewish nation into an **unprecedented** security **calamity**. If Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expected the June 13 attack on Iran, hitting its nuclear facilities and **assassinating** its top generals and nuclear scientists, to **cripple** Tehran — like how Israel destroyed the Egyptian air force on June 5, 1967 during the Six-Day War — he appears to have made a mistake. **Iran**, in a **swift** and forceful response, **rained** ballistic missiles on Israeli cities. Until Monday morning, it had fired over 370 missiles, hitting an oil refinery in Haifa, a top research institute in Rehovot near Tel Aviv and even residential areas. At least 24 Israelis have been killed and over 500 wounded. While Israel has established air **supremacy** in Iran, it has not **managed to** destroy Iran's nuclear programme, which is **dispersed** and buried across the country. Israel keeps targeting Iran's military and intelligence leadership, with the aim of weakening the government. On Sunday, Mr. Netanyahu said **regime** change in Iran could be one of the outcomes of Israel's attack. But every time Israel hits Iran, Tehran fires dozens of ballistic missiles back. While Israel is trying to take escalation **dominance**, Iran is trying to establish **deterrence** through offence. The result is an escalation spiral.

Mr. Netanyahu should have carefully considered the consequences and avoided launching this reckless, illegal war. The Israeli attack came just days before the United States and Iran were to hold the sixth round of nuclear talks. The war has practically killed the possibility of a diplomatic solution to the nuclear crisis. This also raises questions about Israel's endgame. If Israel is not able to completely **dismantle** Iran's nuclear programme, it may, as Mr. Netanyahu has suggested, **push for** a state **collapse** or **regime** change in Tehran. Nobody knows what comes next. U.S. President Donald Trump has said that he is still open to a deal with Iran. But Mr. Trump wants Tehran to completely **abandon** its **nuclear enrichment** programme, which Iranian leaders are not ready to do — not yet. This **deadlock** only makes the conflict more dangerous. If the war **drags on**, the **risk** of U.S. involvement **increases**. And If Iran **retaliates** by bombing American bases in the Persian Gulf, **shutting down** the Strait of Hormuz or targeting tankers in the Gulf of Oman, it could **trigger** a security and economic **catastrophe**. This is another reason why a **ceasefire** between Iran and Israel is urgently needed. **Global powers**, particularly the U.S., Israel's chief **patron**, and Russia, an Iranian **ally**, **must** play a more **proactive** role in **mediation** and peacemaking. If Mr. Trump is really a man of peace, as he claims to be, this is his moment to **take the lead** in **restoring** order in West Asia.   **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Escalation spiral** (noun) – a situation where a conflict or disagreement intensifies, with each party responding to the other's actions with increasingly hostile or severe measures बढ़ती हुई तनाव की श्रृंखला

2. **Persuade** (verb) – convince, influence, coax, urge, prompt राज़ी करना

3. **Reckless** (adjective) – careless, rash, heedless, irresponsible, hasty लापरवाह

4. **Unprovoked** (adjective) – unwarranted, unjustified, baseless, uncalled-for, unnecessary बिना उकसावे के

5. **Aggression** (noun) – attack, hostility, assault, violence, belligerence आक्रामकता

6. **Plunge** (verb) – fall, sink, drop, descend, dive गिर जाना / डुबो देना

7. **Unprecedented** (adjective) – unheard-of, unmatched, extraordinary, exceptional, unparalleled अभूतपूर्व

8. **Calamity** (noun) – disaster, catastrophe, tragedy, misfortune, crisis आपदा

9. **Assassinate** (verb) – murder, kill, execute, eliminate, take out हत्या करना (विशेषतः राजनीतिक कारणों से)

10. **Cripple** (verb) – weaken, disable, paralyze, damage, impair पंगु बना देना

11. **Swift** (adjective) – quick, rapid, prompt, speedy, fast तेज

12. **Rain** (verb) – shower, bombard, pelt, deluge, pour बरसाना / गिराना

13. **Supremacy** (noun) – dominance, superiority, preeminence, control, power सर्वोच्चता

14. **Manage** (to) (verb) – succeed, achieve, accomplish, attain, pull off सफल होना

15. **Disperse** (verb) – scatter, spread out, diffuse, break up, distribute फैलाना / बिखेरना

16. **Regime** (noun) – government, administration, ruling authority, rule, system शासन

17. **Dominance** (noun) – control, superiority, command, rule, authority प्रभुत्व

18. **Deterrence** (noun) – prevention, discouragement, inhibition, hindrance, restraint रोकथाम

19. **Dismantle** (verb) – destroy, take apart, break down, demolish, remove तोड़ देना

20. **Push for** (phrasal verb) – advocate, demand, call for, press, urge ज़ोर देना

21. **Collapse** (noun) – failure, breakdown, downfall, crash, disintegration पतन

22. **Regime** (noun) – (Repeated) government, rule, system of governance शासन

23. **Abandon** (verb) – give up, forsake, relinquish, leave, renounce छोड़ देना

24. **Nuclear enrichment** (noun) – the process of increasing the proportion of a specific isotope (usually Uranium-235) in a sample of uranium परमाणु संवर्धन

25. **Deadlock** (noun) – stalemate, impasse, standstill, gridlock, logjam गतिरोध

26. **Drag on** (verb) – continue, linger, stretch, extend, persist लंबे समय तक चलना

27. **Retaliate** (verb) – respond, hit back, take revenge, counterattack, avenge बदला लेना

28. **Shut down** (phrasal verb) – close, halt, stop, disable, cease बंद करना

29. **Trigger** (verb) – cause, provoke, initiate, spark, set off शुरू करना / भड़काना

30. **Catastrophe** (noun) – disaster, calamity, devastation, tragedy, ruin तबाही

31. **Ceasefire** (noun) – truce, peace agreement, halt in fighting, armistice, suspension of hostilities युद्धविराम

32. **Patron** (noun) – supporter, sponsor, backer, benefactor, protector संरक्षक / सहायक

33. **Ally** (noun) – partner, supporter, associate, collaborator, friend सहयोगी

34. **Proactive** (adjective) – forward-looking, anticipatory, preemptive, dynamic, initiative-taking सक्रिय / पहल करने वाला

35. **Mediation** (noun) – arbitration, negotiation, reconciliation, peacemaking, intercession मध्यस्थता

36. **Take the lead** (phrase) – take initiative, guide, pioneer, spearhead, show the way नेतृत्व करना

37. **Restore** (verb) – reinstate, reestablish, rebuild, recover, bring back पुनः स्थापित करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. Israel's attack on Iran marks an unprovoked escalation, leading to the worst regional crisis in West Asia since the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

2. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's strategy of targeting Iran's nuclear sites and top leaders was intended to cripple Tehran's capabilities.

3. Israel's attack was compared to the 1967 Six-Day War strategy but failed to deliver the same decisive results.

4. Iran responded rapidly and aggressively, firing over 370 ballistic missiles at Israeli cities, including Haifa and Tel Aviv.

5. The attacks caused at least 24 Israeli deaths and left over 500 injured, escalating the human and infrastructural toll.

6. Although Israel achieved temporary air supremacy, it failed to destroy Iran's deeply buried and dispersed nuclear programme.

7. Israel's ongoing targeting of Iranian leadership reflects its intent to weaken the Islamic regime and possibly incite regime change.

8. Iran, instead of being deterred, is establishing deterrence through counteroffensive tactics, leading to a dangerous escalation spiral.

9. Netanyahu's decision to start the war was reckless and poorly calculated, ignoring broader geopolitical consequences.

10. The war disrupted U.S.-Iran nuclear talks, which were expected to begin soon, killing hope for a diplomatic resolution.

11. Israel's long-term goal is unclear — whether it seeks to dismantle Iran's programme or provoke a state collapse.

12. Donald Trump's stance supports a potential deal, but demands Iran abandon nuclear enrichment — a condition Iran resists.

13. The situation is now a dangerous stalemate, increasing the likelihood of prolonged conflict and broader regional involvement.

14. If Iran retaliates against U.S. assets or disrupts the Strait of Hormuz, it could provoke both a security and global economic crisis.

15. Global powers, especially the U.S. and Russia, must intervene diplomatically to prevent further escalation and initiate a ceasefire.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**   **[Editorial Page]**
   A. Celebratory
   B. Critical
   C. Nostalgic
   D. Neutral

2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
   A. The inevitability of nuclear war in the Middle East
   B. The failure of Iran's missile defense system
   C. The dangers of Israel's unilateral military actions and the need for diplomatic intervention
   D. The superiority of Israeli air power over Iran

3. **What was one major consequence of Israel's attack on Iran mentioned in the passage?**
   A. Iran agreed to denuclearize
   B. Israel secured control over Iran's territory
   C. The nuclear diplomatic talks were derailed
   D. The U.S. launched a military operation in Iran

4. **Who is portrayed in the passage as being responsible for escalating the conflict?**
   A. Russia
   B. Benjamin Netanyahu
   C. Donald Trump
   D. The United Nations

5. **What can be inferred about the long-term risk if the Israel-Iran conflict continues?**
   A. Iran will likely give up its nuclear ambitions due to mounting casualties
   B. Israel will eventually achieve complete dominance over Iranian nuclear sites
   C. A wider regional war involving global powers could erupt
   D. Netanyahu's government will collapse from internal dissent

6. **From the given options, identify the sentence which is in the positive degree.**
   A. I have a greater idea in this regard.
   B. She is the most beautiful girl of the class.
   C. His brother is an intelligent boy.
   D. They are playing hockey with longer sticks.

7. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
   Contaminate
   A. purify
   B. clean
   C. excel
   D. pollute

8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

From contacting our loved ones to buying groceries for our daily needs, mobile phones fulfilled our every requirement during the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only during the pandemic, but mobile phones have also _____ our needs since the time of their invention

A. incensed

B. served

C. exasperated

D. annoyed

9. **Select the option that will improve the underlined part of the given sentence. In case no improvement is needed, select 'No improvement required'.**

When Shina reached the bus stand, she realised that **she has left her wallet** at home

A. she had been left her wallet

B. she had left her wallet

C. she leaves her wallet

D. no improvement required

10. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given phrase.**

A medicine to counteract the effect of another medicine

A. Antibiotic

B. Antidote

C. Alimony

D. Anticoagulant

11. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word**

It is a **betterment** of his work

A. Worsening

B. Growth

C. Improvement

D. Popularity

12. **Select the option that has an error in the usage of the present perfect tense.**

A. Ravi has completed his project.

B. Ravi has complete his homework.

C. I have completed my task.

D. Rashi has completed her homework.

13. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the given sentence.**

The **ambiguous** statement of the leader raised criticism among the public.

A. Puzzled

B. Confusing

C. Disorganised

D. Clear

14. **Select the option that correctly rectifies the underlined spelling error.**

He received an **honarary** degree for his contributions

A. Honnary

B. Honnorary

C. Honorary

D. Honnaary

15. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains an error.**

I regret / in notify that / the model you want/ is out of stock

A. I regret

B. in notify that

C. is out of stock

D. the model you want

16. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

Skeleton in the cupboard

A. A famous and hidden fact

B. An interesting and thoughtful fact

C. An embarrassing and hidden fact

D. A popular and known fact

17. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.**

The corporator gathered heaps of curses, and his **misdeeds** can never be forgiven by the people

A. Arguments

B. Transgressions

C. Confrontation

D. Consequences

18. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

Sarah said that she hates it when people _____ at her

A. stair

B. steer

C. stare

D. star

19. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

A. Almighty

B. Sculpter

C. Stampede

D. Pursuit

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

As he is not satisfied / with the jury's decision, / he appeal / in the higher court.

A. as he is not satisfied

B. he appeal

C. in the higher court

D. with the jury's decision

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.

It was Saturday evening last week. My parents and younger sister had (1) _____ to my uncle's house to (2) _____ the day. I had stayed back to prepare for a class test. At 5:00 p.m, someone (3) _____ the doorbell. To my shock and dismay, one of my distant relatives, Mr. Sinha (4) _____ standing with his suitcase. I had to call him in most unwillingly. He was a big bore and nothing less than a chatterbox. I asked his preference (5) ____ coffee and tea.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
    A. gone
    B. going
    C. went
    D. go

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
    A. spent
    B. spented
    C. spend
    D. spended

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
    A. rings
    B. rang
    C. ring
    D. rung

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
    A. were
    B. is
    C. been
    D. was

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
    A. between
    B. among
    C. with
    D. for

Answers

1. B   2. C   3.C   4. B   5. C   6.C   7.D   8.B   9. B   10. B   11.A

12. B   13.D   14.C   15.B   16.C   17.B   18.C   19.B   20.B   21.A   22.C

23. B   24.D   25.A   **[Practice Exercise]**

Explanations

1. B) **Critical**

    The passage strongly criticizes Israel's aggression, calling the war "reckless", "illegal," and raising concerns about Netanyahu's decisions. It highlights the escalating violence, risks of broader war, and undermining of peace talks. Such evaluative and disapproving language shows a critical tone.

    A. Celebratory – There is no praise or joy; instead, the passage condemns the events.

    C. Nostalgic – The article doesn't reflect fond memories or longing for the past.

    D. Neutral – The writer clearly takes a side and critiques the war rather than maintaining an impartial tone.

2. **C) The dangers of Israel's unilateral military actions and the need for diplomatic intervention**

    The passage criticizes Israel's decision to launch an unprovoked war, warns of its consequences (escalation, possible U.S. involvement, failed diplomacy), and urges global powers to mediate. It balances blame with calls for peace, making military recklessness vs. diplomatic necessity the central theme.

    A. Incorrect: Though nuclear issues are discussed, inevitability is not claimed — the focus is on preventing escalation.

    B. Incorrect: The passage highlights Iran's retaliation, not failure.

    D. Incorrect: Air supremacy is mentioned, but the focus is not on military bragging but on strategic failure and risks.

3. **C) The nuclear diplomatic talks were derailed**

    The passage clearly states "The Israeli attack came just days before the United States and Iran were to hold the sixth round of nuclear talks. The war has practically killed the possibility of a diplomatic solution."

    A is incorrect: The passage explicitly says Iran is not ready to abandon its nuclear programme.

    B is incorrect: Israel gained air supremacy but did not control territory.

    D is incorrect: The U.S. has not yet launched any military operation, only a risk of involvement is mentioned.

4. **B) Benjamin Netanyahu**

    Netanyahu is directly blamed for launching an "unprovoked aggression" and for not "carefully considering the consequences."

    A is incorrect: Russia is mentioned as an ally of Iran, not responsible for escalation.

    C is incorrect: Trump is portrayed as open to diplomacy and is not initiating the conflict.

    D is incorrect: The UN is not mentioned at all in the passage.

5. **C) A wider regional war involving global powers could erupt**
    The passage warns that continued conflict may lead to "U.S. involvement," Iran possibly bombing "American bases" or "shutting down the Strait of Hormuz," leading to a "security and economic catastrophe." This suggests a larger conflict involving global powers.
    A is incorrect: There is no indication that Iran will surrender; it is instead escalating responses.
    B is incorrect: Israel has not managed to destroy Iran's nuclear program and the war is portrayed as strategically ineffective.
    D is incorrect: No mention is made of Netanyahu's government facing collapse from within; the focus is on foreign policy consequences.

6. C) **His brother is an intelligent boy** positive degree में है क्योंकि "intelligent" अपने base form, में है, जो किसी प्रकार की तुलना को नहीं दर्शाता। Positive degree केवल एक गुण का वर्णन करती है, और यहाँ "intelligent" केवल "उसके भाई" की विशेषता बता रहा है।

    His brother is an intelligent boy is in the positive degree because "intelligent" is in its base form, which does not imply any comparison. Positive degree describes a quality without comparison, and here "intelligent" only attributes a quality to "his brother."

7. D) **Contaminate** (verb) – To make something impure or unclean by adding harmful or poisonous substances; pollute; taint. दूषित करना

    SYNONYM: **Pollute** (verb) – To make impure, dirty, or harmful by introducing contaminants or pollutants; contaminate. प्रदूषित करना/ मैला करना

    - **Purify** (verb) – To remove impurities or contaminants; clean, refine. शुद्ध करना
    - **Clean** (verb/adjective) – Free from dirt, marks, or unwanted substances; tidy. साफ़ करना/स्वच्छ
    - **Excel** (verb) – To be exceptionally good at something; surpass. श्रेष्ठ होना

8. B) **Served'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है "सेवा करना या आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करना।" यहाँ sentence में mention है कि मोबाइल फोन ने हमारी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा किया है, इसलिए 'served' उपयुक्त है। जबकि: 'Incensed' का अर्थ है "क्रोधित करना," 'Exasperated' का अर्थ है "खिन्न या हताश करना," 'Annoyed' का अर्थ है "परेशान करना।" ये विकल्प इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

    Served' will be used because it means "to fulfill needs or provide service." The sentence mentions that mobile phones have been fulfilling our needs, making 'served' the most appropriate option. Whereas: 'Incensed' means "to make angry," 'Exasperated' means "to frustrate or irritate," 'Annoyed' means "to bother." These options do not fit the context of the sentence.

9. B) 'she has left her wallet' के बदले 'she had left her wallet' का USE होगा क्योंकि वाक्य Past Tense में है ("When Shina reached the bus stand..."), और इसके बाद की क्रिया उससे भी पहले घटी घटना को दर्शाती है। ऐसे मामलों में Past Perfect Tense (had + V3) का USE किया जाता है।

'she had left her wallet' will be used instead of 'she has left her wallet' because when a sentence is in the Past Tense and refers to an action completed before another past action, the correct tense is Past Perfect; Like— When Shina reached the bus stand, she realised that she had left her wallet at home.

10. B) **Antidote** (noun) – A medicine or substance used to counteract the effects of poison or another medicine. अमृत/प्रतिकारक

   - **Antibiotic** (noun) – A medicine that inhibits the growth of or destroys microorganisms. प्रतिजैविक दवा

   - **Alimony** (noun) – A financial support given to a spouse after separation or divorce. गुजारा भत्ता

   - **Anticoagulant** (noun) – A substance that prevents blood from clotting. रक्त के थक्के जमने से रोकने वाली दवा

11. A) **Betterment** (noun) – Improvement, advancement, progress, refinement. सुधार, उन्नति, प्रगति।

   Antonym:Worsening (noun) – Decline, deterioration, degradation, regression.बिगड़ना, अवनति।

   - **Growth** (noun) – Expansion, increase, development, progress.वृद्धि, विस्तार।

   - **Improvement** (noun) – Betterment, enhancement, refinement, advancement.सुधार, प्रगति।

   - **Popularity** (noun) – Fame, recognition, approval, renown.लोकप्रियता।

12. B) B में Present Perfect Tense का गलत use किया गया है क्योंकि इसमें "complete" verb का base form है। Present Perfect Tense में हमेशा past participle (V3) का use होता है। Like: "Ravi has completed his homework."

   Option B contains an error in the usage of the Present Perfect Tense. In this tense, the verb should always be in its past participle form (V3), but here the verb "complete" is incorrectly used in its base form instead of "completed." Correction: The sentence should be written as: "Ravi has completed his homework

13. D) **Ambiguous** (adjective) – Open to more than one interpretation; not clear or decided. अस्पष्ट, अनिर्णीत

Antonym: **Clear** (adjective) – Easy to understand; free from ambiguity; obvious. स्पष्ट, साफ़

- **Puzzled** (adjective) – Confused or unable to understand. उलझन में

- **Confusing (adjective)** – Difficult to understand or causing confusion. भ्रमित करने वाला

- **Disorganised (adjective)** – Lacking order or structure. अव्यवस्थित

14. C) The correct spelling of the underlined word "**honarary**" is "**Honorary**", which means "conferred as an honor, without the usual requirements or functions." In Hindi, it translates to "सम्मानसूचक" या "मानद".

15. B) 'in notify that' के बदले **'to notify that'** का use होगा। क्योंकि 'regret' के बाद जब किसी कार्य को करने या सूचना देने की बात हो, तो 'to-infinitive' (जैसे: to notify) का use होता है।

उदाहरण: "I regret to inform you that the meeting has been cancelled."

'to notify that' will be used instead of 'in notify that'. This is because after the verb 'regret', when referring to an action that one needs to perform or announce, we use the 'to-infinitive' form (e.g., to notify) Example: "I regret to inform you that the meeting has been cancelled."

16. C) **Skeleton in the cupboard** (idiom): It refers to an embarrassing or shameful secret that someone tries to keep hidden from others. कब्र में कंकाल एक ऐसी बात का प्रतीक है जो शर्मनाक या छिपी हुई होती है और जिसे व्यक्ति दूसरों से छिपाने की कोशिश करता है।

17. B) **Misdeeds** (noun): Wrongful acts, offenses, or immoral actions. गलत काम, अपराध

Synonym: Transgressions (noun) – Violations of laws, moral principles, or duties; offenses. उल्लंघन, अपराध

- **Arguments** (noun) – A set of reasons given to persuade or prove something. तर्क, विवाद

- **Confrontation** (noun) – A hostile or argumentative meeting or situation. सामना, टकराव

- **Consequences** (noun) – Results or effects of an action or condition. परिणाम, असर

18. C) **'Stare'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "टकटकी लगाकर देखना"। sentence में mention है कि सारा ने कहा कि उसे नफरत है जब लोग उसे घूरते हैं। 'Stair' का अर्थ होता है "सीढ़ी", जो इस वाक्य के लिए सही नहीं है। 'Steer' का अर्थ होता है "मार्गदर्शन करना या गाड़ी चलाना", जो यहाँ संदर्भ में नहीं आता। 'Star' का अर्थ होता है "तारा", और यह भी वाक्य में सही नहीं है।

'Stare' will be used because it means "to look fixedly or vacantly at someone or something." The sentence mentions Sarah's dislike for people staring at her, which fits perfectly in this context. c'Stair' refers to "a step in a set of stairs," which is irrelevant to the sentence. 'Steer' means "to guide or direct," which doesn't align with the intended meaning here. 'Star' refers to "a celestial body," which also doesn't fit the sentence context.

19. B) The incorrectly spelt word is '**Sculpter'**. The correct spelling is '**Sculptor'**, which means "a person who makes statues or other works of art by carving or shaping stone, wood, clay, etc." मूर्तिकार.

20. B) 'he appeal' के बदले 'he appeals' का USE होगा क्योंकि Subject 'he' Third Person Singular है अत: Verb भी Singular होगी; जैसे— He goes to school every day.

'he appeals' will be used instead of 'he appeal' because the subject 'he' is third person singular, so the verb will also be singular; Like— He goes to school every day.

21. A) "**gone**" का use होगा क्योंकि वाक्य present perfect tense में है। "had" के साथ हमेशा verb का past participle (third form) आता है। "gone" (past participle) का अर्थ है कहीं चले जाना। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि माता-पिता और छोटी बहन चाचा के घर गए थे। "going" present participle है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है। "went" simple past tense है, जबकि यहाँ past perfect tense का use हुआ है। "go" base form है, जो grammatical रूप से यहाँ फिट नहीं होती।

The word "**gone**" is used because the sentence is in the past perfect tense, indicated by the auxiliary verb "had." "Gone" (past participle) means to have gone somewhere, which fits the context of the parents and younger sister having gone to the uncle's house. "Going" is a present participle, which is incorrect in this context. "Went" is the simple past tense, but the past perfect tense is required here. "Go" is the base form, which does not fit grammatically.

22. C) 'Spend' का use होगा क्योंकि "spend" का अर्थ होता है समय बिताना और यह verb 'to' के बाद base form (infinitive) में आती है। यहाँ sentence में 'to' के बाद verb की base form 'spend' ही सही है। 'Spent' past tense है, 'spented' और 'spended' grammatically incorrect forms हैं क्योंकि 'spend' का past participle और past tense दोनों 'spent' होता है।

'Spend' will be used because it means to pass time, and after 'to,' the base form (infinitive) of the verb is required. Here, 'to spend' is grammatically correct. 'Spent' is the past tense, while 'spented' and 'spended' are incorrect forms since the past and past participle of 'spend' is always 'spent.'

23. B) '**Rang'** का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि 'rang' क्रिया 'ring' का past tense है और यह sentence past tense में लिखा गया है। जब 5:00 बजे घंटी बजी, तो यह पहले की बात है। 'Rings' present tense है, जो यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Ring' base form है, जिसका use मुख्य क्रिया के रूप में नहीं किया जा सकता। 'Rung' past participle है, जो केवल 'has' या 'had' के साथ use होता है। इसलिए, 'rang' यहाँ सही answer है।

'**Rang**' will be used because it is the past tense of the verb 'ring,' and the sentence is written in the past tense. The event of someone ringing the doorbell happened at 5:00 p.m., indicating a
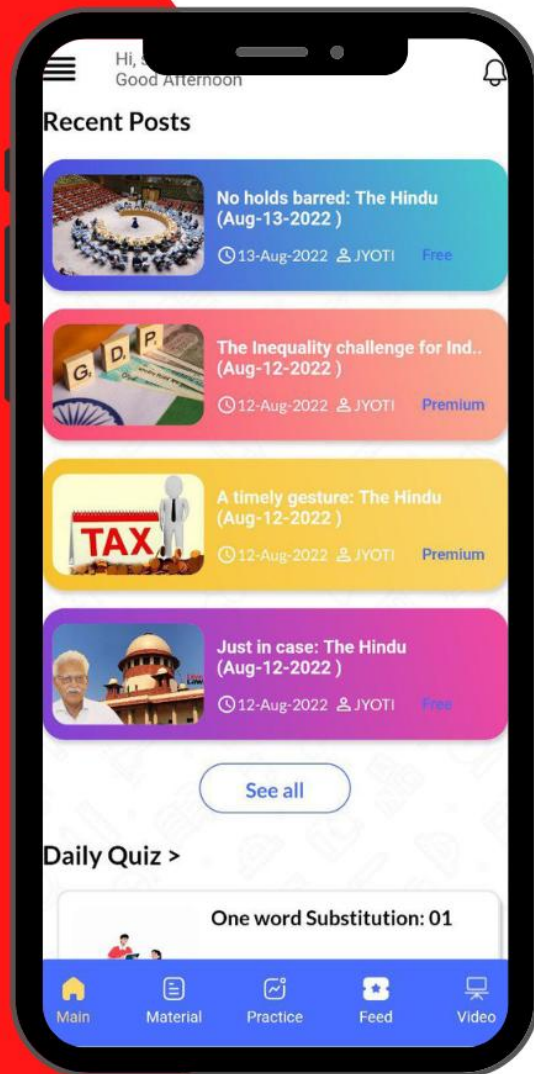
past action. 'Rings' is in the present tense, which does not fit here. 'Ring' is the base form and cannot function as the main verb in this context. 'Rung' is the past participle, used only with 'has' or 'had.' Thus, 'rang' is the correct answer.

24. D) was का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ singular subject "Mr. Sinha" के लिए past tense की verb चाहिए।

"Was" singular के साथ correct है, जबकि "were" plural के लिए use होता है, "is" present tense है, और "been" auxiliary verb के बिना अधूरा है।

was will be used because the singular subject "Mr. Sinha" requires a past tense verb. "Was" is correct for singular, while "were" is plural, "is" is present tense, and "been" is incomplete without an auxiliary verb.

25. A) between का use होगा क्योंकि preference दो चीज़ों (coffee और tea) के बीच पूछा जा रहा है।

"Between" दो options के लिए use होता है, जबकि "among" तीन या अधिक के लिए, "with" और "for" context के अनुसार ग़लत हैं।

Between will be used because preference is asked between two things (coffee and tea). "Between" is used for two options, while "among" is for three or more, and "with"/"for" are incorrect here.

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