Bridge too far: On the bridge collapse in Vadodara

A regular **audit** of all major **infrastructure** projects **is** a **must**

On July 9, 2025, a **span** of a 40-year-old bridge in Vadodara in Gujarat <u>caved in</u>, sending half-a-dozen vehicles into the Mahisagar river below. On Thursday (July 10, 2025), 18 people were confirmed dead. Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has ordered an investigation into the **cause**, which locals have **alleged** to be the **long-standing neglect** by local authorities. On June 15, 2025, an iron **pedestrian bridge** over the Indrayani river in Pune district **collapsed** due to overloading, leaving four dead. In May, a **concrete slab** being **hoisted** by a crane at the site of the construction of a bridge over the Kathajodi river in Cuttack **fell** on workers below, killing three. Similarly, in 2024, the Ghatkopar **hoarding** collapse in Mumbai **resulted in** 17 **fatalities**. And in 2023, there were more accidents — a **girder** failure at an under-construction railway bridge in Mizoram left 26 workers dead; a rooftop billboard collapse killed two women in Lucknow; and a pillar collapse at a metro construction site in Bengaluru killed a mother and her **toddler**. In 2022, the Morbi suspension bridge over the Machchhu river, again in Gujarat, failed, killing more than 140 people. These are only some of the hundreds of incidents involving the **catastrophic** failure of public **infrastructure**. They are **accompanied** by road accidents and deadly fires in **crowded** areas, both of which regularly **claim** many lives.

Even if they are **isolated**, they are not **entirely** accidental: they are symptoms of India's **ageing** infrastructure that is being tested, especially in **peri-urban** areas, as industrial growth and urban populations expand. **Facilities** such as bridges, roads and hospitals that were designed for some number of users, **are** progressively giving way under the weight of more. So also are the departments responsible for their **upkeep**, many of which remain underfunded, understaffed or **complacent**. While the authorities have ordered investigations into these incidents, few have **yielded** failure analysis reports into the public **domain**. Some also **prompted** audits but they were restricted to infrastructure of the same type. **Given** the **evident ubiquity** of the problem, India must modify asset-creating initiatives such as the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund to have additional priorities and adjust the incentives of **rehabilitative** schemes such as the Atal Mission for **Rejuvenation** and Urban Transformation to help regularly maintain ageing urban assets in all centres, with greater frequency in those peopled by 10 lakh or more. Second, while **baseline** audit **frameworks** for municipal bridges **exist**, they must be **enforced** more uniformly and transparently. Finally, until then, accidents must **trigger** a **probe** by a **statutory** body plus a mandatory audit of all major infrastructure, and States must **endeavour** to publish the **findings at the earliest**.   **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **A bridge too far** (phrase) – overreach, excessive risk, overambitious move, unrealistic attempt, unfeasible step अव्यावहारिक या असंभव प्रयास

2. **Collapse** (noun) – breakdown, fall, crash, failure, disintegration ढह जाना

3. **Audit** (noun) – inspection, review, assessment, examination, evaluation लेखा जांच

4. **Infrastructure** (noun) – facilities, framework, foundation, public systems, base संरचना / आधारभूत सुविधा

5. **Must** (noun) – necessity, requirement, obligation, essential, imperative अनिवार्यता

6. **Span** (noun) – an arch or part of a bridge between piers or supports. हिस्सा

7. **Cave in** (phrasal verb) – collapse, fall in, give way, break down, crumple ढह जाना

8. **Cause** (noun) – reason, source, origin, basis, grounds कारण

9. **Alleged** (adjective) – claimed, supposed, suspected, reported, stated कथित

10. **Long-standing** (adjective) – enduring, chronic, persistent, long-term, extended लंबे समय से चला आ रहा

11. **Neglect** (noun) – disregard, inattention, carelessness, omission, oversight उपेक्षा

12. **Pedestrian** (adjective) – for walkers, walking-related, footpath-related पैदल चलने वालों से संबंधित

13. **Concrete** (adjective) – cement-based, solid, hardened, material-specific ठोस

14. **Slab** (noun) – flat piece, block, panel, plate, sheet स्लैब

15. **Hoist** (verb) – lift, raise, elevate, heave, haul ऊपर उठाना

16. **Hoarding** (noun) – billboard, poster board, display board, advertisement panel विज्ञापन पट्ट

17. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – cause, lead to, bring about, give rise to परिणामस्वरूप होना

18. **Fatality** (noun) – death, casualty, demise, loss of life मृत्यु

19. **Girder** (noun) – beam, support, joist, framework, truss सपोर्ट बीम

20. **Toddler** (noun) – young child, baby, infant, little one छोटा बच्चा

21. **Catastrophic** (adjective) – disastrous, devastating, ruinous, tragic, calamitous विनाशकारी

22. **Accompany** (verb) – go with, come with, attend, coincide with, follow साथ होना

23. **Crowded** (adjective) – packed, congested, full, jammed, overpopulated भीड़-भाड़ वाला

24. **Claim** (verb) – take, cause death, assert, demand, result in मौत या हानि का कारण बनना

25. **Isolated** (adjective) – single, occasional, rare, sporadic, infrequent अलग / अकेला

26. **Entirely** (adverb) – completely, totally, fully, wholly, altogether पूरी तरह

27. **Ageing** (adjective) – old, deteriorating, weakening, declining, maturing बूढ़ा होता हुआ / पुराना

28. **Peri-urban** (adjective) – surrounding urban areas, urban fringe, semi-urban शहरी सीमांत क्षेत्र

29. **Upkeep** (noun) – maintenance, care, preservation, servicing, repair रखरखाव

30. **Complacent** (adjective) – self-satisfied, indifferent, negligent, unconcerned, lazy आत्मसंतुष्ट / लापरवाह

31. **Yield** (verb) – produce, result in, lead to, generate, give rise to देना / परिणामस्वरूप होना

32. **Domain** (noun) – field, area, sector, realm, territory क्षेत्र

33. **Prompt** (verb) – cause, trigger, provoke, initiate, lead to प्रेरित करना / कारण बनना

34. **Given** (preposition) – considering, in view of, based on को देखते हुए

35. **Evident** (adjective) – clear, obvious, apparent, visible, noticeable स्पष्ट

36. **Ubiquity** (noun) – omnipresence, commonness, prevalence, pervasiveness, universality सर्वव्यापकता

37. **Rehabilitative** (adjective) – restorative, reformative, recuperative, healing पुनर्वासात्मक

38. **Rejuvenation** (noun) – revival, renewal, regeneration, restoration, revitalization पुनरुत्थान

39. **Baseline** (noun) – standard, starting point, foundation, benchmark आधार रेखा / प्रारंभिक मानक

40. **Enforce** (verb) – implement, apply, impose, execute, uphold लागू करना

41. **Trigger** (verb) – start, initiate, spark, cause, provoke शुरू करना

42. **Probe** (noun) – investigation, inquiry, examination, inspection, scrutiny जांच

43. **Statutory** (adjective) – legal, legislated, mandated, regulated, lawful वैधानिक

44. **Endeavour** (noun) – effort, attempt, try, undertaking, venture प्रयास

45. **Finding** (noun) – result, outcome, conclusion, discovery, determination निष्कर्ष

46. **At the earliest** (phrase) – as soon as possible, without delay, quickly यथाशीघ्र / तुरंत

Summary of the Editorial

1. Tragic Incident: On July 9, 2025, a 40-year-old bridge in Vadodara, Gujarat collapsed, causing 18 deaths after vehicles fell into the Mahisagar river.

2. Official Response: Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has ordered an investigation, amid allegations of neglect by local authorities.

3. Pattern of Failures: Recent months have seen multiple infrastructure collapses — in Pune, Cuttack, and Mumbai, each resulting in fatalities.

4. Previous Incidents: Earlier tragedies include collapses in Mizoram (2023), Lucknow (2023), Bengaluru (2023), and Morbi, Gujarat (2022), which alone killed over 140.

5. Recurring Disasters: These events reflect a wider crisis in public infrastructure, with road accidents and fires also being common and deadly.

6. Root Cause: The ageing infrastructure across India, especially in peri-urban areas, is being overburdened by rapid urbanisation and industrial growth.

7. Underprepared Systems: Many bridges, roads, and facilities were not designed to handle current levels of usage, leading to increased stress and failures.

8. Administrative Gaps: Departments responsible for maintenance are often underfunded, understaffed, or complacent, contributing to the neglect.

9. Lack of Transparency: Despite investigations being ordered, failure analysis reports are rarely made public, hindering accountability.

10. Limited Audits: Post-incident audits are often narrow in scope, targeting only the specific infrastructure type involved in the accident.

11. Policy Adjustment Needed: The Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF) must be reoriented to prioritize maintenance and safety of older structures.

12. Mission AMRUT: Schemes like the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation should focus more on rehabilitating ageing infrastructure.

13. Focus on Large Urban Centres: Areas with populations of 10 lakh+ should have more frequent maintenance cycles due to higher stress on infrastructure.

14. Audit Frameworks Exist: Municipal bridge audit guidelines already exist but are poorly enforced and lack transparency.

15. Call to Action: Each major accident must lead to a mandatory audit and a statutory investigation, with findings published quickly to prevent recurrence.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**   **[Editorial page]**
   A. Optimistic and celebratory
   B. Critical and concerned
   C. Humorous and satirical
   D. Indifferent and neutral

2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
   A. The economic growth of urban India
   B. The need for better maintenance and auditing of public infrastructure
   C. The history of bridge construction in India
   D. The role of local communities in infrastructure development

3. **What is identified as a primary cause behind the repeated infrastructure failures across Indian cities, as per the passage?**
   A. Natural disasters due to climate change
   B. Ageing infrastructure combined with poor maintenance
   C. Lack of technological advancement in construction
   D. Corruption in local political bodies

4. **Why does the editorial recommend changes to schemes like the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund and AMRUT?**
   A. To expand funding for smart city digital projects
   B. To promote privatization of infrastructure management
   C. To focus more on regular maintenance and rehabilitation of ageing assets
   D. To divert resources to rural areas from urban centres

5. **What can be inferred about the current system of infrastructure audits in India?**
   A. It is applied selectively and lacks transparency in implementation
   B. It is robust and ensures nationwide safety through preventive checks
   C. It is primarily dependent on foreign expertise for execution
   D. It operates efficiently through private contractors

6. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word**
   A. Mediterranean
   B. Peculliar
   C. Miscellaneous
   D. Parallel

7. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
   Hollow
   A. Crafty
   B. Arched
   C. Worthwhile
   D. Spurious

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

   My son, who is a cricketer too, is a M.A. from Delhi University.

   A. is a M.A.
   B. from Delhi University
   C. my son, who is
   D. a cricketer too

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

   A person who eats too much

   A. Glutton
   B. Fatalist
   C. Misogamist
   D. Sycophant

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

    Personally, Ramesh was _____ to his villagers than his elder brother.

    A. more helpful
    B. helped
    C. helpfuller
    D. most helpful

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

    As technology evolves, consumers increasingly _____ products with enhanced features and greater efficiency.

    A. demand
    B. has demanded
    C. were demanding
    D. might demand

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

    Knuckle down

    A. To engage in street fighting
    B. To crush someone to the extent that they cannot get up
    C. To start working or studying hard
    D. To make others do their share of hard work using power

13. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word**

    A. Until
    B. Vacuum
    C. Separate
    D. Weired

14. **Select the most appropriate idiom that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

    The comedian's jokes were so funny that the audience was **laughing uncontrollably.**

    A. in stitches

B. on the ball

C. as easy as pie

D. in bits and pieces

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

Exclusion of someone from a common group harms the human society

A. Admission

B. Inclination

C. Submission

D. Prohibition

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

The gift of the gab

A. Life full of quarrels

B. The ability to speak easily and confidently

C. Just at the last moment

D. Impossible

17. **The given sentence is divided into four segments. Select the option that has the segment with a grammatical error.**

She forbade / him not / to enter that / room.

A. room.

B. to enter that

C. him not

D. she forbade

18. **The following sentence has been split into four parts. Identify the part that contains a grammatical error.**

Jack probably/ strained his back/ as the box was/ too heavier

A. Jack probably

B. strained his back

C. too heavier.

D. as the box was

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

Because the politician's speech was **high-flown and pretentious**, it gained popularity.

A. schematising

B. bombastic

C. mnemonic

D. austere

20. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined word.**

There are so many **flies** on the food.

A. Various types of bacteria

B. To hover up in the sky

C. To move from one place to another

D. Insects with wings

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.

The standard of living of any country means the average (1)_____ share of the goods and services which the country produces. A country's standard of living, therefore, (2)_____ first and foremost on its capacity to produce wealth. 'Wealth', in this sense, is not money, for we do not live (3)_____ money but on things that money (4)_____ buy; 'goods' such as food and clothing and 'services' such as transport and entertainment. A country's capacity to produce wealth depends upon many factors, most of which have an effect on one another. Wealth depends to a great extent (5)_____ a country's natural resources, such as coal, gold and other minerals, water supply and so on.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 1.**
    A. person's
    B. person
    C. persons'
    D. per son

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 2.**
    A. depends
    B. dependent
    C. depended
    D. depending

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 3**
    A. on
    B. into
    C. by
    D. In

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 4.**
    A. ought
    B. must
    C. should
    D. can

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 5.**
    A. upon
    B. over
    C. with
    D. in

Answers

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

Explanations

1. **B) Critical and concerned**

   The passage highlights repeated infrastructure failures, negligence by authorities, and lack of proper maintenance, reflecting a critical stance.

   The concern is evident in the call for systemic reforms, audits, and better governance to prevent future tragedies.

   A) Incorrect, as the passage does not praise any progress but rather points out failures.

   C) Incorrect, as the tone is serious, not mocking.

   D) Incorrect, as the author expresses clear concern and criticism rather than neutrality.

2. **B) The need for better maintenance and auditing of public infrastructure**

   The passage discusses multiple infrastructure collapses due to neglect, poor maintenance, and lack of audits, emphasizing the need for systemic reforms and stricter enforcement of safety measures.

   A) Incorrect, as the focus is on infrastructure failures, not economic progress.

   C) Incorrect, as the passage is not a historical account but a critique of current issues.

   D) Incorrect, as the passage blames authorities, not communities, for negligence.

3. **B) Ageing infrastructure combined with poor maintenance**

   The passage clearly states that many of these incidents are "symptoms of India's ageing infrastructure" and poor upkeep by departments that are "underfunded, understaffed or complacent."

   A. Incorrect – The passage doesn't mention natural disasters or climate-related causes.

   C. Incorrect – While technology isn't discussed in depth, the issue highlighted is more about maintenance and overload, not lack of technology.

   D. Incorrect – The term "neglect" is used, but corruption isn't mentioned as a specific or primary reason.

4. **C) To focus more on regular maintenance and rehabilitation of ageing assets**

   The passage says India must "modify asset-creating initiatives" and "adjust the incentives of rehabilitative schemes… to help regularly maintain ageing urban assets," especially in areas with larger populations.

   A. Incorrect – No mention is made of smart city digital technology.

   B. Incorrect – The passage does not discuss privatization.

   D. Incorrect – The focus remains on urban (not rural) centres, especially those with 10 lakh+ population.

5. **A) It is applied selectively and lacks transparency in implementation**

The passage criticizes that while audit frameworks exist, they are not enforced uniformly or transparently. Many investigations do not yield public reports, and audits are often restricted to one type of infrastructure.

B. Incorrect – The opposite is implied: lack of uniform enforcement and transparency.

C. Incorrect – There is no mention of foreign expertise being used.

D. Incorrect – Private contractors are not discussed as part of the audit system in the passage.

6. B) The incorrect spelling in the given options is "**Peculliar**", and the correct spelling is "**Peculiar**", which means "strange or unusual" (अजीब, असामान्य).

7. C) **Hollow** (adjective): Having a space or empty inside; lacking real value or meaning. खोखला, अंदर से खाली

   ANTONYM: Worthwhile (adjective) – Having value, importance, or meaning; worthy of time and effort. सार्थक, मूल्यवान

   - **Crafty** (adjective): Clever in a deceitful or manipulative way. चालाक, धूर्त
   - **Arched** (adjective): Curved in shape, like an arch. मेहराबदार
   - **Spurious** (adjective): False or fake; not genuine. नकली, झूठा

8. A) **is a M.A.'** में 'a M.A.' के स्थान पर 'an M.A.' का use होगा क्योंकि 'M.A.' को पढ़ने पर पहला अक्षर 'M' का उच्चारण स्वर ('ए' की ध्वनि) से होता है। अतः, स्वर ध्वनि के पहले 'a' की बजाय 'an' का प्रयोग किया जाता है।

   In the phrase 'is a M.A.,' 'a M.A.' should be replaced with 'an M.A.' because the pronunciation of 'M' begins with a vowel sound ('em'), and before a vowel sound, we use 'an' instead of 'a.'

9. A) **Glutton** (noun) – A person who eats too much. पेटू

   - **Fatalist (noun)** – A person who believes that all events are predetermined and inevitable. भाग्यवादी
   - **Misogamist (noun)** – A person who hates marriage. विवाह से घृणा करने वाला
   - **Sycophant (noun)** – A person who flatters someone important to gain favor. चापलूस

10. A) '**More helpful'** का use सही है क्योंकि वाक्य में दो व्यक्तियों (Ramesh और उसके बड़े भाई) की तुलना की जा रही है। Comparative degree (more helpful) का उपयोग तुलना के लिए किया जाता है। 'Helped' (सहायता की) सही नहीं है क्योंकि यह verb है, जबकि यहाँ adjective की आवश्यकता है। 'Helpfuller' अत्यधिक सहायक गलत है क्योंकि यह एक गलत शब्द है; comparative degree बनाने के लिए "more" का उपयोग होता है। 'Most helpful' सबसे सहायक superlative degree है, जो तब use होती है जब तीन या अधिक की तुलना की जाती है, लेकिन यहाँ केवल दो की तुलना हो रही है।

'More helpful' is correct because the sentence is comparing two individuals (Ramesh and his elder brother). The comparative degree ('more helpful') is used for such comparisons. 'Helped' is incorrect as it is a verb, but an adjective is required here. 'Helpfuller' is incorrect because it is not a valid word; "more" is used to form the comparative degree. 'Most helpful' is incorrect as it is the superlative degree used for comparisons among three or more, but here only two are being compared.

11. A) **Demand'** का use सही है क्योंकि यह एक सामान्य सत्य (general truth) और वर्तमान आदत (present habit) को व्यक्त करता है, जिसमें बताया गया है कि जैसे-जैसे तकनीक विकसित होती है, उपभोक्ता बेहतर सुविधाओं और अधिक कार्यक्षमता वाले उत्पादों की मांग करते हैं। 'Has demanded' गलत है क्योंकि यह वर्तमान आदत के बजाय अतीत में पूरी हुई क्रिया (completed action in the past) को व्यक्त करता है। 'Were demanding' गलत है क्योंकि यह अतीत में जारी प्रक्रिया (past continuous action) को व्यक्त करता है, जो यहाँ प्रासंगिक नहीं है।'Might demand' गलत है क्योंकि यह संभाव्यता (possibility) को व्यक्त करता है, जबकि वाक्य एक सामान्य सत्य को व्यक्त करता है।

Demand' is correct because it expresses a general truth or present habit, indicating that as technology evolves, consumers seek products with better features and efficiency.
'Has demanded' is incorrect because it refers to a completed action in the past, which does not align with the ongoing trend described. 'Were demanding' is incorrect as it denotes a past continuous action, which is irrelevant here. 'Might demand' is incorrect because it implies possibility rather than a general truth.

12. **C) Knuckle down** (idiom) – To begin to work or study seriously and with determination ध्यान लगाकर और मेहनत से काम शुरू करना या पढ़ाई करना

13. **D)** The correct spelling of '**Weired'** is '**Weird**', which means "strange or unusual" अजीब, असामान्य।

14. **A)** I**n stitches** – (Idiom) – Laughing uncontrollably **जोर जोर से हंसना**

15. D) **Exclusion** (noun) – The act of keeping out or removing someone or something from a group or place. अपवर्जन, बाहर निकालना।

    Synonym: **Prohibition** -The act of forbidding or banning something. रोक।

    - **Admission** – This is the correct answer because it is the direct antonym of exclusion प्रवेश

    - **Inclination** – A natural tendency or preference towards something.

    - **Submission**- The act of yielding or surrendering to authority. आत्मसमर्पण।

16. B) **The gift of the gab** (idiom) – The ability to speak easily and confidently (सुविचारित और आत्मविश्वासपूर्वक बोलने की क्षमता)

17. C) "**him not"** में 'not' का प्रयोग गलत है। जब 'forbade' (past tense of 'forbid') का उपयोग किया जाता है, तो इसके साथ 'not' का प्रयोग नहीं होता है क्योंकि 'forbade' में नकारात्मक अर्थ पहले से निहित होता है। अत: सही वाक्य होगा: "She forbade him to enter that room."

"Him not" is incorrect because when the verb "forbade" is used, it inherently carries a negative meaning. Therefore, adding "not" is redundant and grammatically incorrect. The correct structure should be:

18. C) यहां **sentence** में **'too heavier'** का use किया गया है जो गलत है। 'too' एक intensifier है, जिसके साथ adjective का positive degree (जैसे 'heavy') आता है। Comparative degree ('heavier') का प्रयोग 'too' के साथ नहीं किया जाता।

The phrase 'too heavier' is incorrect because 'too' is an intensifier that must be followed by the positive degree of an adjective, such as 'heavy.' A comparative degree like 'heavier' cannot be used with 'too.'

19. B) **Bombastic** (adjective) – High-flown and pretentious language used to impress people. आडंबरपूर्ण भाषा

- **Schematising (noun)** – The act of forming a plan or scheme. **योजना बनाना**
- **Mnemonic** (noun) – A device or pattern of letters, ideas, or associations that assists in remembering something. स्मरण-सहायक
- **Austere (adjective)** – Severe or strict in manner, attitude, or appearance. **सादगीपूर्ण**

20. D) 'flies' का अर्थ 'insects with wings' होगा क्योंकि यह वाक्य भोजन पर उपस्थित छोटे पंखों वाले कीड़ों का संदर्भ देता है। 'flies' एक noun है जो कीड़ों की ओर इशारा करता है ।

'flies' will mean 'insects with wings' because the sentence refers to small winged insects present on the food. Other options cannot be correct because: 'flies' is a noun referring to insects, and there is no context of its verb usage here.

21. 'A) **Person's** का use सही होगा क्योंकि sentence में "average person's share" का तात्पर्य एक औसत व्यक्ति के हिस्से से है। यह अधिकार (possessive singular) को व्यक्त करता है, और sentence के संदर्भ में यह सही है क्योंकि औसत को आम तौर पर एक व्यक्ति के आधार पर मापा जाता है। 'Persons'' (plural possessive) का use गलत है क्योंकि यहाँ "एक व्यक्ति के औसत हिस्से" की बात हो रही है, न कि सभी व्यक्तियों के हिस्से की। 'Person' singular गलत है क्योंकि यह अधिकार (possessive) को व्यक्त नहीं करता। 'Per son' व्याकरणिक और संदर्भ के अनुसार असंगत है।

Person's' is correct because the sentence refers to the average share of goods and services per individual in the country. The singular possessive is appropriate as it measures the standard of living based on the share attributed to a single person. 'Persons'' (plural possessive) is incorrect because it implies the collective share, which is not the focus of the sentence. 'Person' (singular) is incorrect as it does not convey possession. 'Per son' is grammatically and contextually irrelevant.

22. A) यहाँ "**depends**" का use सही है क्योंकि वाक्य present tense में है, और "A country's standard of living" third-person singular है। यह वाक्य एक सामान्य सत्य (general truth) को दर्शा रहा है, इसलिए वर्तमान काल का उपयोग किया गया है।अन्य option गलत हैं क्योंकि: "dependent" एक adjective है, और यहाँ verb की आवश्यकता है। "depended" past tense का रूप है, जो वाक्य के वर्तमान संदर्भ से मेल नहीं खाता। "depending" present participle है, जिसका उपयोग चल रहे कार्य या विशेषण के रूप में होता है, लेकिन यहाँ main verb की आवश्यकता है।

The word "de**p**ends" is grammatically correct here because the sentence is in the present tense, and "depends" is the third-person singular form of the verb, which matches the subject "A country's standard of living." The sentence is explaining a general truth, which is why the present tense is used. The other options are incorrect because: "dependent" is an adjective, not a verb, and does not fit in the blank where a verb is required. "depended" is the past tense form, which does not align with the general truth or present context of the sentence. "depending" is the present participle, which is used to show ongoing action or as a modifier, not as the main verb here.

23. A) **On'** का use सही होगा क्योंकि यह सही preposition है जब बात "live on" (किसी चीज़ पर निर्भर करना या जीना) की होती है। यह sentence में mention है कि हम पैसे पर नहीं जीते बल्कि उन चीज़ों पर जो पैसे से खरीदी जा सकती हैं। 'Into' (के भीतर), 'By' (द्वारा), और 'In' (में) का इस संदर्भ में कोई अर्थ नहीं बनता क्योंकि ये "निर्भरता" या "जीने" के सही preposition के रूप में सही नही हैं।
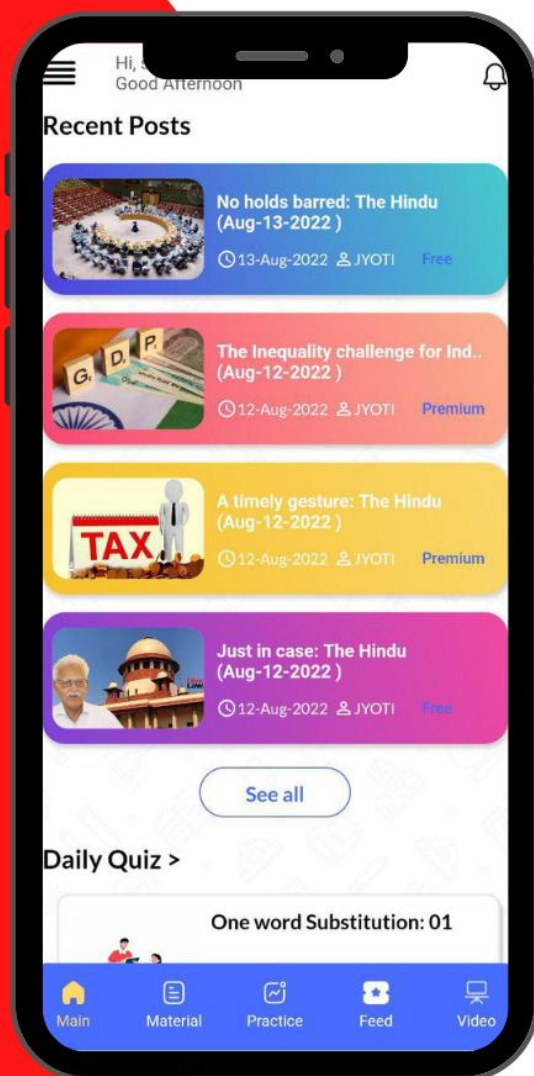
'On' is correct because it is the appropriate preposition used with "live on," which means to depend or sustain life on something. The sentence mentions that we do not live on money but on the things money can buy. 'Into' (inside), 'By' (through), and 'In' (inside) are irrelevant in this context as they do not convey the idea of dependency appropriately.

24. D) **Can'** का use सही होगा क्योंकि यह क्षमता या संभावना को व्यक्त करता है। sentence में mention है कि पैसा उन वस्तुओं और सेवाओं को खरीदने में सक्षम है जिन पर जीवन आधारित है। इसलिए, 'can' संदर्भ के अनुरूप है। 'Ought' (चाहिए) का use नैतिक दायित्व या कर्तव्य व्यक्त करने के लिए होता है, जो इस वाक्य में फिट नहीं होता। 'Must' (जरूर) अनिवार्यता या बाध्यता व्यक्त करता है, जो इस संदर्भ में बहुत कठोर है। 'Should' (चाहिए) सलाह या सुझाव को व्यक्त करता है, जो यहां उपयुक्त नहीं है।

Can' is correct because it expresses the ability or possibility. The sentence explains that money is capable of buying goods and services, aligning perfectly with the context. 'Ought' indicates moral obligation, which does not fit the context here. 'Must' implies necessity, which is too strong for this context. 'Should' denotes advisability, which is not appropriate for expressing factual capability.

25. A) **'Upon'** का use सही है क्योंकि यह preposition उस आधार या निर्भरता को दर्शाता है जिस पर कुछ आधारित होता है। यहाँ sentence में देश की उत्पादन क्षमता और उसके प्राकृतिक संसाधनों के बीच निर्भरता की बात हो रही है। 'Upon' सही रूप से इस संबंध को व्यक्त करता है। 'Over' का use प्रायः सतह पर होने या ऊपर की स्थिति के लिए किया जाता है, जो यहाँ के संदर्भ में सही नहीं है। 'With' का उपयोग साधन या कंपनी को व्यक्त करने के लिए होता है, जो प्राकृतिक संसाधनों पर निर्भरता को व्यक्त करने के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'In' स्थान या स्थिति को दर्शाने के लिए उपयोग होता है, लेकिन यहाँ निर्भरता के संबंध में यह सही नहीं है।

'Upon' is correct because it is a preposition that denotes dependency or basis for something. In this sentence, the relationship between a country's production capacity and its natural resources is being discussed. 'Upon' accurately conveys this dependency. 'Over' is typically used to indicate position above or across something, which does not fit the context here. 'With' is used to indicate accompaniment or means, which does not suit expressing dependency on natural resources In' is used to denote location or position, but it does not correctly express the dependency in this context.