

## A long list: on the U.S., designation of The Resistance Front group

The **designation** of TRF as a terrorist group **should** put more pressure on Pakistan

The **decision** of the U.S. to **designate** The Resistance Front (TRF) group that **claimed** responsibility for the Pahalgam terror attack in April 2025, as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist **is** a **development** that should **undergird** the global fight against terror. The Ministry of External Affairs has called it “a timely and important step”. For one, the U.S. State Department has **acknowledged** the **severity** of the Pahalgam attack. It also names the TRF as a “front and **proxy**” for the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), which Pakistan claims it has **rendered** “**defunct**”. Even though the U.S. added groups such as the LeT and the Jaish-e-Mohammad to its FTO list in 2001, they have **masterminded** attacks in India since then. The U.S. has also partially **made amends** for the TRF’s name having been kept out of the UN Security Council (UNSC) **resolution condemning** the Pahalgam attack, **apparently at** Pakistan’s **behest**, but with the **concurrence** of the U.S. and other P-5 members. It is hoped that the designation will now help India’s case in designating the TRF at the UNSC, under the 1267 Committee for **sanctions**, also **strengthening** the trans-national legal **pursuit** of those behind the attack.

While this is a positive step, it is necessary to **put** the Trump’s administration’s other actions since the Pahalgam attack **into perspective**. After India launched Operation Sindoor, the U.S. has **countered** India’s **narrative** on the four-day conflict on several **occasions**. **Mr. Trump**, as well as Secretary of State Marco Rubio, **have** repeatedly made the claim that the U.S. negotiated the India-Pakistan **ceasefire**, and **averted** a nuclear conflict by using trade ties as **leverage** — an **equivalence** which Pakistan has been happy to **endorse**. Mr. Trump’s **unprecedented** White House lunch and praise for the Pakistan military chief, Field Marshal Asim Munir, came hours after the government had said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had cleared the picture with Mr. Trump, and **brings into question** just how much pressure the U.S. is willing to put on Pakistan to act against terrorism. The Trump administration had **held out** the promise of doing more to support India in its fight against terrorism by fast-tracking the **extradition**, in April, of Tahawwur Hussain Rana, who was wanted by India for the 2008 Mumbai attacks. It is hoped that the TRF’s listing means that the U.S. is **recommitting** to that objective. **Given** that the real challenge lies more in **credibly** ending Pakistan’s support to these groups, New Delhi must focus on its efforts, **diplomatic** as well as legal, to ensure justice for the **victims** and to prevent further terrorist acts.

### [Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Designation** (noun) – classification, identification, labelling, appointment, nomination नामकरण
2. **Designate** (verb) – appoint, assign, nominate, label, name नामित करना
3. **Claim** (verb) – assert, declare, maintain, allege, profess दावा करना
4. **Development** (noun) – Event, happening, occurrence, change, incident, घटनाक्रम
5. **Undergird** (verb) – support, strengthen, reinforce, bolster, sustain मजबूत आधार देना
6. **Acknowledge** (verb) – admit, recognize, accept, confess, concede स्वीकार करना
7. **Severity** (noun) – seriousness, intensity, harshness, gravity, extremity गंभीरता / तीव्रता
8. **Proxy** (noun) – representative, substitute, delegate, surrogate, stand-in प्रतिनिधि
9. **Render** (verb) – make, cause, provide, deliver, present बनाना
10. **Defunct** (adjective) – obsolete, inactive, nonfunctional, extinct, outdated अप्रचलित / बंद हो चुका
11. **Mastermind** (verb) – plan, orchestrate, engineer, organize, direct योजना बनाना / संचालन करना
12. **Make amends** (phrase) – compensate, atone, apologize, redress, reconcile क्षमा याचना करना
13. **Resolution** (noun) – decision, declaration, determination, proposal, verdict संकल्प / प्रस्ताव
14. **Condemn** (verb) – denounce, criticize, censure, blame, disapprove निंदा करना
15. **Apparently** (adverb) – seemingly, evidently, supposedly, outwardly, allegedly प्रकट रूप से / ऐसा प्रतीत होता है
16. **At someone's behest** (phrase) – at someone's request, order, bidding, command, instruction किसी के आदेश पर
17. **Concurrence** (noun) – agreement, consensus, assent, harmony, unity सहमति / एकरूपता
18. **Sanction** (noun) – penalty, punishment, restriction, ban, injunction प्रतिबंध
19. **Strengthen** (verb) – reinforce, support, bolster, fortify, solidify मजबूत करना
20. **Pursuit** (noun) – quest, chase, endeavour, search, striving अनुसरण / प्रयास

21. **Put something into perspective** (phrase) – clarify, contextualize, explain, interpret, assess सही संदर्भ में देखना / समझना
22. **Counter** (verb) – oppose, respond, retaliate, refute, challenge प्रतिक्रिया देना / विरोध करना
23. **Narrative** (noun) – story, account, portrayal, version, depiction कथा / विवरण
24. **Occasion** (noun) – instance, moment, event, occurrence, situation अवसर / घटना
25. **Ceasefire** (noun) – truce, armistice, suspension of hostilities, peace, pause युद्धविराम
26. **Avert** (verb) – prevent, avoid, deter, fend off, ward off टालना / रोकना
27. **Leverage** (noun) – influence, power, control, advantage, authority प्रभाव / लाभ
28. **Equivalence** (noun) – equality, parity, sameness, similarity, likeness समानता / तुल्यता
29. **Endorse** (verb) – approve, support, back, advocate, confirm समर्थन करना / अनुमोदन करना
30. **Unprecedented** (adjective) – unmatched, exceptional, extraordinary, unheard-of, novel अभूतपूर्व / अनोखा
31. **Bring into question** (phrase) – cast doubt, challenge, dispute, interrogate, criticize संदेह में डालना / प्रश्न उठाना
32. **Hold out** (phrasal verb) – offer, present, extend, promise, resist वादा करना / टिके रहना
33. **Extradition** (noun) – deportation, handover, repatriation, rendition, transfer प्रत्यर्पण
34. **Recommit** (verb) – re-engage, reaffirm, renew, reinvest, dedicate again फिर से प्रतिबद्ध होना
35. **Given** (preposition) – considering, in view of, taking into account, owing to, assuming ध्यान में रखते हुए / चूंकि
36. **Credibly** (adverb) – convincingly, believably, reliably, plausibly, trustworthily विश्वसनीय रूप से
37. **Diplomatic** (adjective) – tactful, political, suave, discreet, strategic राजनयिक / कूटनीतिक
38. **Victim** (noun) – casualty, sufferer, target, prey, injured party पीड़ित / शिकार

### Summary of the Editorial

1. TRF Designated as Terrorist Group – The U.S. has officially designated The Resistance Front (TRF) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist.
2. India's Response – India's Ministry of External Affairs welcomed this move, calling it a "timely and important step".
3. Pahalgam Attack Recognition – The designation acknowledges the severity of the April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack, claimed by the TRF.
4. Link to LeT – The U.S. recognized TRF as a proxy for Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), which Pakistan falsely claims to have dismantled.
5. Historical Context – LeT and Jaish-e-Mohammad were designated FTOs in 2001 but continued to carry out attacks in India.
6. UNSC Resolution Gap – TRF was excluded from the UN Security Council's condemnation of the Pahalgam attack, likely due to Pakistan's lobbying and P-5 consensus, including the U.S.
7. Potential for UN Action – This new U.S. designation might bolster India's attempt to have TRF listed under UNSC 1267 sanctions.
8. Legal Implications – It strengthens international legal avenues to pursue those responsible for the Pahalgam attack.
9. US Policy Contradictions – Despite this designation, the U.S. has made ambiguous and contradictory moves since the attack.
10. Narrative Undermined – After India's Operation Sindoor, the U.S. frequently countered India's version of the conflict.
11. Ceasefire Claim – Trump and Secretary Marco Rubio asserted that the U.S. negotiated the ceasefire, claiming it prevented nuclear war, a narrative embraced by Pakistan.
12. Controversial Diplomacy – Trump hosted Pakistan's army chief, Field Marshal Asim Munir, praising him even after Modi claimed the issue was clarified with Trump.
13. Doubt on US Pressure on Pakistan – These diplomatic gestures raise concerns about how seriously the U.S. is pressuring Pakistan to crack down on terror.
14. Rana Extradition – The U.S. extradited Tahawwur Rana to India in April (accused in 2008 Mumbai attacks), signaling support for India's anti-terror agenda.
15. India's Diplomatic Strategy – India must continue legal and diplomatic efforts to ensure accountability and prevent future attacks by eliminating Pakistan-backed terrorism.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What can be inferred about the U.S. approach towards Pakistan's role in terrorism based on the passage?**
  - A. The U.S. consistently pressures Pakistan to act against terror groups.
  - B. The U.S. treats India and Pakistan as equally responsible for regional tensions.
  - C. The U.S. ignores Pakistan's support for terror organizations.
  - D. The U.S. has completely aligned itself with India's counterterrorism goals.
2. **What step did the U.S. take that may strengthen India's case at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)?**
  - A. Listing Jaish-e-Mohammad as a terror organization in 2001
  - B. Launching Operation Sindoor jointly with India
  - C. Designating TRF as a Foreign Terrorist Organization
  - D. Convincing China to support India's stance on Pakistan
3. **Why does the editorial express skepticism about the U.S. commitment to counterterrorism cooperation with India?**
  - A. Because the U.S. has refused to designate any Pakistani-based groups as terrorists
  - B. Because the U.S. removed the TRF from the UNSC resolution condemning the attack
  - C. Because the U.S. made public claims equating India and Pakistan's roles post-conflict
  - D. Because the U.S. denied the extradition of Tahawwur Rana to India
4. **Which of the following best captures the meaning of the idiom "put into perspective" as used in the sentence: "While this is a positive step, it is necessary to put the Trump's administration's other actions since the Pahalgam attack into perspective"?**
  - A. To analyze a situation objectively with proper context
  - B. To exaggerate the importance of something
  - C. To criticize an action with harsh judgment
  - D. To highlight the benefits of a particular action
5. **Choose the word that is the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "concurrence" as used in:**  
**"...but with the concurrence of the U.S. and other P-5 members."**
  - A. Agreement
  - B. Approval
  - C. Dissent
  - D. Harmony

#### 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.**

For man to change radically, fundamentally, there must be a \_\_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_\_ in the very brain cells of his mind. And that has been going on; people have said you must change, you must act, you must change your mind, your heart, you must be something totally different. This has been \_\_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_\_ for thousands of years by men who \_\_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_\_ serious, very earnest, as well as by charlatans who were out to exploit people. And we have reached a point when we have no time at all. Please understand this. We haven't time to make this

change gradually. \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the world have realised this, that man is on the edge of a \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_, that he is going to destroy himself. No religions, no gods, no saviours, no masters, are going to prevent it. Intellectuals say we must invent a new, golden drug that will bring about a complete chemical change; and scientists are probably going to find such a drug.

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

- A. Remnant
- B. Delusion
- C. Enunciation
- D. Mutation

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

- A. Preached
- B. Enriched
- C. Detached
- D. Promoted

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

- A. Was
- B. Were
- C. Is
- D. Are

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

- A. Intellectuals
- B. Promotions
- C. Seclusions
- D. Violations

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

- A. precipice
- B. prosperity
- C. precarious
- D. prophecy

**11. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**

- a. Its report is expected to address various concerns, including cultural sensitivities, socioeconomic factors and the potential impact on women's rights and personal freedoms. The HP decision to act independently is both progressive and precipitous.
- b. HIMACHAL Pradesh's move to raise the legal age of marriage for girls from 18 to 21 years through the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Himachal Pradesh Amendment) Bill 2024 has sparked a debate, particularly given the ongoing national discussions on this issue.
- c. With the Central Government's Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill still under review by a parliamentary panel, HP's law raises questions about the implications of pre-empting the panel's findings.

d. The panel, tasked with examining the Central Bill that also raised the girls' age for marriage to 21, is deliberating on the matter.

- A. d, b, a, c
- B. b, d, c, a
- C. b, c, d, a
- D. a, c, b, d

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

He benevolently offered to drop me all the way home after the office party got over in the wee hours of the morning

- A. Humanely
- B. Unkindly
- C. Selflessly
- D. Tenderly

**13. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**

Teenu wrote a congratulatory letter

- A. A congratulatory letter is written by Teenu.
- B. A congratulatory letter was written by Teenu.
- C. A congratulatory letter had been written by Teenu.
- D. A congratulatory letter written by Teenu.

**14. Select the MISSPELT word**

- A. Logarithm
- B. Lagitimate
- C. Library
- D. Lexicon

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

The new software offers a plethora of features to enhance productivity

- A. a scarcity of
- B. a consequence of
- C. an abundance of
- D. a shortage of

**16. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in reported speech.**

'Do you have a fair copy of this document?' The editor asked the reporter

- A. The editor asked the reporter whether did he have a fair copy of that document.
- B. The editor asked the reporter whether had he had a fair copy of that document.
- C. The editor asked the reporter whether he had a fair copy of that document.
- D. The editor asked the reporter whether he had had a fair copy of that document

**17. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.**

Shah called Saeed a hard nut to crack, and described him as cool, but intelligent.

- A. Someone with good will
- B. Moderate person
- C. Someone who is difficult to deal with
- D. Considerate person

**18. Select the MISSPELT word.**

- A. Escalade
- B. Assence
- C. Ascend
- D. Exhale

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

We have four seasons because the earth doesn't sit up straight; it's \_\_\_\_\_ on its axis. As it orbits the sun, the planet's slight slouch \_\_\_\_\_ more or less of the northern and southern hemisphere to the sun depending on the time of the year

- A. sloped; reveal
- B. tilted; exposes
- C. inclined; uncover
- D. slanted; show

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

Eccentricity

- A. Regularity
- B. Deception
- C. Jeopardy
- D. Mannerism

**21. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

Stop beating around the bush and tell me what is expected out of me

- A. avoiding to talk about the issue
- B. revealing a secret to everyone
- C. misunderstanding the situation
- D. getting the conversation going

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

Addiction is a \_\_\_\_\_ process that requires the addict's friends and family's assistance at various addiction levels such as mentally, physically, psychologically, and emotionally

- A. abbreviated
- B. curtailed
- C. protracted
- D. condensed

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

Control

- A. Purchase
- B. Embrace
- C. Fold
- D. Grip

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

Impediment

- A. Benefit



- B. Experiment
- C. Obstacle
- D. Pedestrian

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

Inscription on a person's grave

- A. Prologue
- B. Epitaph
- C. Epistle
- D. Monograph

## Answers

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

**[Practice Exercise]**

## Explanations

1. **B) The U.S. treats India and Pakistan as equally responsible for regional tensions.**

The passage highlights how Trump and Rubio claimed credit for mediating peace using trade leverage and put India and Pakistan on the same footing ("an equivalence which Pakistan has been happy to endorse"). This implies a diplomatic balancing act, not a fully pro-India stance.

A. Incorrect – The passage clearly questions how much pressure the U.S. puts on Pakistan, indicating it does not pressure consistently.

C. Incorrect – The U.S. did designate TRF and extradited Rana; hence, it does not completely ignore Pakistan's role.

D. Incorrect – The U.S. has taken steps but also hosted Pakistan's military chief, showing it hasn't completely aligned with India.

2. **C) Designating TRF as a Foreign Terrorist Organization**

The passage clearly states that the TRF's designation by the U.S. may help India's case at the UNSC's 1267 Committee and aid legal efforts.

A. Incorrect – That occurred in 2001, and the passage notes it hasn't fully prevented attacks since.

B. Incorrect – India launched Operation Sindoor, not jointly with the U.S.

D. Incorrect – There's no mention of China's stance or influence being changed by the U.S.

3. **C) Because the U.S. made public claims equating India and Pakistan's roles post-conflict**

The passage emphasizes the U.S. narrative of having negotiated peace and used leverage on both sides, which created an equivalence and benefited Pakistan's position, raising doubts about the U.S.'s sincerity.

A. Incorrect – The U.S. has designated LeT, JeM, and TRF, so this is false.

B. Incorrect – The TRF was kept out of the UNSC resolution, but the passage blames Pakistan's influence, not solely the U.S.

D. Incorrect – The U.S. did fast-track Rana's extradition in April, which is seen as a positive step, not skepticism-inducing.

4. **A) To analyze a situation objectively with proper context**

The idiom "put into perspective" means to view or assess something in a more accurate or realistic context, often to avoid overreaction or bias.

In the passage, the author is urging readers to consider the entire range of U.S. actions, not just the designation of TRF.

5. **C) Dissent**

"Concurrence" means agreement or approval. Its antonym is dissent, which means disagreement or opposition.

6. **D) 'Mutation' का use होगा क्योंकि "mutation" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ में मौलिक या जड़ से परिवर्तन। इस sentence में कहा गया है कि मनुष्य के दिमाग की कोशिकाओं में एक मौलिक बदलाव होना चाहिए ताकि वह मूल रूप से बदल सके। इसलिए, 'mutation' यहाँ सही option है। जबकि**

'Remnant' का अर्थ है अवशेष, जो sentence के context में फिट नहीं बैठता क्योंकि यहाँ किसी बदलाव की बात हो रही है, न कि किसी चीज़ के बचे हुए हिस्से की। 'Delusion' का अर्थ है भ्रम, जो इस sentence में एक मानसिक स्थिति को दर्शाता है, लेकिन यह वह बदलाव नहीं है जिसका यहाँ जिक्र है। 'Enunciation' का अर्थ है उच्चारण, जो इस sentence के संदर्भ में बिल्कुल भी उपयुक्त नहीं है क्योंकि यहाँ बदलाव की बात की जा रही है, न कि किसी चीज़ के स्पष्ट उच्चारण की।

'Mutation' will be used because it means a fundamental or radical change in something. The sentence states that there must be a radical change in the brain cells of the human mind for a fundamental transformation. Hence, 'mutation' is the correct choice here. Whereas, 'Remnant' means a leftover part, which does not fit the context as the sentence talks about a change, not something remaining. 'Delusion' means a false belief, which refers to a mental state but not the kind of change mentioned in the sentence. 'Enunciation' means the act of pronouncing words clearly, which is entirely irrelevant to the context, as the focus here is on transformation, not articulation.

7. A) 'Preached' का use होगा "preached" का अर्थ होता है उपदेश देना या किसी विचारधारा का प्रचार करना। sentence में mention है कि हजारों वर्षों से लोगों से कहा जा रहा है कि उन्हें बदलना चाहिए, जिसका अर्थ है कि इस विचारधारा को बार-बार प्रचारित किया गया है। इसलिए 'Preached' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Enriched' का अर्थ होता है समृद्ध करना, जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं बैठता है क्योंकि यह विचारधारा के प्रचार के बजाय किसी चीज़ को बेहतर बनाने का संकेत देता है। 'Detached' का अर्थ होता है अलग करना या असम्बद्ध करना, जो इस संदर्भ में बिल्कुल गलत है क्योंकि यहाँ विचारधारा को फैलाने का संदर्भ है। 'Promoted' का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को बढ़ावा देना, लेकिन यहाँ विचारधारा को सिखाने का अर्थ है, न कि केवल इसे बढ़ावा देना।

'Preached' will be used because it means to deliver a message or spread a particular ideology. The sentence mentions that for thousands of years, people have been told that they must change, which implies that this ideology has been frequently preached. Therefore, 'Preached' is appropriate here. Whereas, 'Enriched' means to make something richer or improve it, which doesn't fit in this context because the passage is about spreading ideology, not improving something. 'Detached' means to separate or disassociate, which is entirely incorrect here as the context involves the dissemination of an ideology. 'Promoted' means to encourage or support, but here the emphasis is on teaching or preaching an ideology, not merely promoting it.

8. B) 'Were' का use होगा क्योंकि यह plural subject 'men' के साथ past tense में आता है। sentence में mention है कि "men who were serious" यानी वे पुरुष जो गंभीर थे, इसका मतलब है कि यह sentence past में है और subject भी बहुवचन (plural) है, इसलिए 'were' सही option है। 'Was' का अर्थ है "था", और यह singular subject के साथ प्रयोग होता है। चूंकि यहां subject 'men' plural है, इसलिए 'was' यहां incorrect है। 'Is' और 'Are' दोनों present tense में आते हैं, जबकि इस वाक्य का context भूतकाल (past tense) में है, इसलिए ये विकल्प भी गलत हैं।

'Were' will be used because it is the correct past tense form that agrees with the plural subject 'men.' The sentence mentions "men who were serious," which indicates a past event involving multiple people, making 'were' the appropriate choice. 'Was' is the singular past tense form, used with a singular subject. Since the subject here is plural ('men'), 'was' is incorrect in this context. 'Is' and 'Are' are in the

present tense, which does not fit the past tense context of the sentence, making them incorrect as well.

9. A) Intellectuals का use होगा क्योंकि "intellectuals" का अर्थ होता है वे लोग जो अपने विचारों और तर्कों से समाज को समझते और मार्गदर्शन करते हैं। यहाँ वाक्य में mention है कि पूरी दुनिया में लोगों को समझ आ रहा है कि मनुष्य विनाश के कगार पर है, इसलिए 'intellectuals' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Promotions' का अर्थ है प्रचार, 'Seclusions' का अर्थ है एकांत, और 'Violations' का अर्थ है उल्लंघन करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

'Intellectuals' will be used because it refers to people who understand and guide society through their thoughts and reasoning. The sentence mentions that people around the world are realizing that man is on the verge of destruction, making 'intellectuals' fitting here. Whereas, 'Promotions' means publicity, 'Seclusions' means isolation, and 'Violations' implies breaking rules, which don't fit in this context.

10. A) Precipice' का use होगा क्योंकि "precipice" का अर्थ होता है एक खतरनाक स्थिति या किनारे पर होना, जहाँ से गिरने का जोखिम हो। sentence में mention है कि मनुष्य विनाश के कगार पर है, जो "precipice" को सही विकल्प बनाता है। जबकि 'Prosperity' का अर्थ है समृद्धि, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Precarious' का अर्थ होता है अस्थिर या जोखिम भरा, जो स्थिति को वर्णित तो करता है, लेकिन 'precipice' की तुलना में यह उतना सटीक नहीं है। 'Prophecy' का अर्थ है भविष्यवाणी, जो कि यहाँ sentence के संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

Precipice' will be used because it means a dangerous situation or a point where a fall is likely, which matches the context that man is on the verge of destruction, making 'precipice' the correct choice. 'Prosperity' means wealth or success, which doesn't fit this context. 'Precarious' means unstable or risky, which describes the situation but isn't as precise as 'precipice'. 'Prophecy' means a prediction, which doesn't fit the context here.

11. C) b, c, d, a

b: Sentence b introduces the primary subject (Himachal Pradesh's move) and provides the main context for the paragraph.

c: Sentence c logically follows sentence b because it delves deeper into the implications of HP's decision by highlighting the ongoing national discussions and the Central Government's Bill.

d: Sentence d gives detailed information about the panel mentioned in sentence c, making it a natural follow-up. Sentence d contains the phrase "The panel," referring to the panel mentioned in c

a: Sentence a comes last because it reflects on the potential outcomes and implications of the HP decision. It discusses the expected report from the panel and addresses broader concerns.

12. B) Benevolently (adverb) – In a manner that shows a desire to do good; kindly, generously. सद्भावना से  
Antonym: Unkindly (adverb) – In a manner that shows a lack of sympathy or kindness; harshly, cruelly.  
निर्दयता से

- Humanely (adverb) – In a manner that shows compassion or benevolence; kindly, mercifully.  
मानवीयता से
- Selflessly (adverb) – In a manner that shows unselfish concern for the welfare of others;  
altruistically. निःस्वार्थी रूप से

- **Tenderly** (adverb) – In a manner that shows gentleness and concern; softly, lovingly. कोमलता से
13. B) A congratulatory letter was written by Teenu
14. B) The correct spelling of '**Lagitimate**' is 'Legitimate' which means "conforming to the law or to rules" वैध, कानूनी.
15. C) **A plethora of** (noun) – an abundance of की अधिकता
16. C) The editor asked the reporter whether he had a fair copy of that document.
17. C) **A hard nut to crack** (idiom) – Someone who is difficult to deal with जिससे निपटना मुश्किल है
18. B) The correct spelling of 'Assence' is 'Essence' which means "the intrinsic nature or indispensable quality of something" सार, तत्व.
19. B) **Tilted** का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे context में, sentence पृथ्वी के अक्ष पर झुके होने की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "it's \_\_\_\_\_ on its axis" के माध्यम से उस तात्विक संबंध को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें पृथ्वी का झुकाव और सूर्य के चारों ओर उसकी परिक्रमा है। इसलिए, "tilted" सबसे appropriate option होगा। और 'exposes' का use होगा क्योंकि "the planet's slight slouch \_\_\_\_\_ more or less of the northern and southern hemisphere to the sun" phrase में, 'exposes' सबसे appropriate verb है जो यह दर्शाती है कि पृथ्वी का झुकाव किस प्रकार उत्तरी और दक्षिणी गोलार्ध को सूर्य के प्रति अधिक या कम उजागर करता है।
- '**Tilted**' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the earth's tilt on its axis. Here, through "it's \_\_\_\_\_ on its axis," it portrays that elemental relationship between the earth's tilt and its orbit around the sun. Thus, "tilted" would be the most appropriate choice. Additionally, 'exposes' should be used because in the phrase "the planet's slight slouch \_\_\_\_\_ more or less of the northern and southern hemisphere to the sun," 'exposes' is the most fitting verb to describe how the earth's tilt affects the exposure of the northern and southern hemispheres to the sun.
20. D) **Eccentricity** (noun) – The quality of being unconventional and slightly strange, peculiarity, oddity, unconventionality. नियम/ सनक  
Synonym: **Mannerism** (noun) – somebody's particular way of speaking or a particular movement he/she often does; idiosyncrasy, peculiarity, quirk. ढंग/ किसी व्यक्ति के व्यवहार की विचित्रता (बोलने या अन्य कामों में), व्यक्तिगत व्यवहार - वैचित्र्य
- **Regularity** (noun) – The state or quality of being regular; uniformity, consistency, routine. नियमितता
  - **Deception** (noun) – The act of deceiving someone; trickery, deceit, fraud. धोखा
  - **Jeopardy** (noun) – Danger of loss, harm, or failure; peril, risk, hazard. संकट
21. A) **Beat around the bush (phrase)** – avoiding to talk about the issue घुमा-फिराकर बात करना
22. C) **Protracted** का use होगा क्योंकि पूरे context में, sentence नशे के दीर्घकालिक और जटिल प्रक्रिया की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "Addiction is a \_\_\_\_\_ process that requires the addict's friends and family's assistance at various addiction levels such as mentally, physically, psychologically, and emotionally" के

माध्यम से उस विस्तृत और लंबे समय तक चलने वाली प्रक्रिया को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें नशेड़ी को विभिन्न स्तरों पर सहायता की आवश्यकता होती है। इसलिए, "protracted" सबसे उपयुक्त option होगा।

- **'Protracted'** should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the long-term and complex process of addiction. Here, through "Addiction is a \_\_\_\_\_ process that requires the addict's friends and family's assistance at various addiction levels such as mentally, physically, psychologically, and emotionally," it portrays that extensive and prolonged process that requires assistance at various levels. Thus, "protracted" would be the most appropriate choice.

23. D) **Control** (verb) – To exercise restraint or direction over; dominate; command. नियंत्रण करना

Synonym: **Grip** (verb) – To hold firmly; to seize or hold fast. पकड़ना

- **Purchase** (verb) – To acquire by the payment of money or its equivalent; buy. खरीदना
- **Embrace** (verb) – To take or clasp in the arms; press to the bosom; hug. गले लगाना
- **Fold** (verb) – To bend (cloth, paper, etc.) over upon itself. मोड़ना

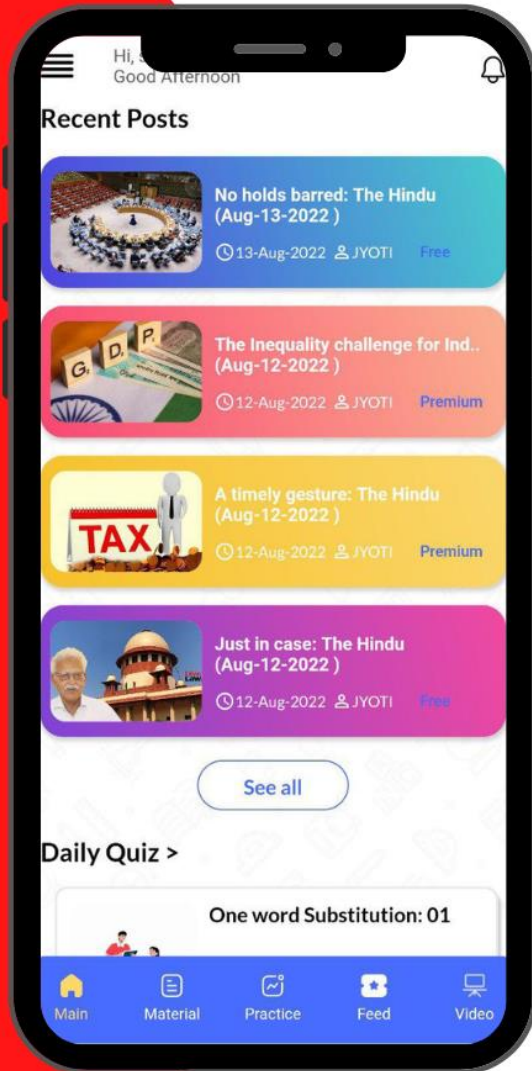
24. C) **Impediment** (noun) – A hindrance or obstruction in doing something. बाधा

Synonym: **Obstacle** (noun) – A thing that blocks one's way or prevents or hinders progress. अवरोध

- **Benefit** (noun) – An advantage or profit gained from something. लाभ
- **Experiment** (noun) – A scientific procedure undertaken to make a discovery, test a hypothesis, or demonstrate a known fact. प्रयोग
- **Pedestrian** (noun) – A person walking rather than travelling in a vehicle. पैदल यात्री

25. B) **Epitaph** (noun) – Inscription on a person's grave समाधि लेख

- **Prologue** (noun) – a separate introductory section of a literary, dramatic, or musical work. प्रस्तावना
- **Epistle** (noun) – a letter, especially a formal or didactic one. पत्र
- **Monograph** (noun) – a detailed written study of a single specialized subject or an aspect of it. एकविषयक ग्रन्थ



# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

**English Madhyam**