Deaths in school: On the state of government schools

Infrastructure of government schools **needs** urgent attention

On July 25, 2025, tragedy **awaited** students of Classes 6 and 7 at the Piplodi Government School in Rajasthan's Jhalawar district as they **assembled** for prayer. **A part** of their school building **gave way leading to** the deaths of seven and injuries to several others. Most of the students were from tribal communities. The school is in the southeastern part of the State bordering Madhya Pradesh. There was a similar incident the next day in Nagaur district but the school was closed being a holiday. There has been much public anger in the State over the **incidents** which, quite rightly, **have thrown the spotlight on** the **state** of government schools. As in UDISE 2023-24 data, there are more than 70,000 government schools in Rajasthan serving nearly 84 lakh students, especially from the poorer and **marginalised** sections. Of these, some 8,000 schools have been **estimated** by the Education Department to be in a poor condition. The Jhalawar school was not among the schools identified as being in a poor state, indicating the **extent** of the problems. Some ₹650 crore had been **allocated** in the past two State budgets for **boosting** the infrastructure but **inefficiencies** in government have ensured that the measures did not **make much difference**. **Fixing** the infrastructure of government schools **should** be a priority for the State's Bharatiya Janata Party government.

The tragedy in Rajasthan should serve as **a wake-up call** across India, **given** the current policy **defocus** on government-owned education institutions. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 had **called for** an immediate increase in spending on education, from some 4.6% of GDP to 6%, identifying one-time spends on infrastructure as the lead priority besides identifying other sectors for a boost in support. Five years into the NEP, there is little to suggest that this has been a focus area for governments, Union or State. Policy **thrusts** have been more towards reducing government support, self-financing, and encouraging private sector contribution. While these may be applicable to higher education, basic school education is a primary duty of the government — as it is across the world including in the most developed nations. **Setting up** model schools and funding them to serve as **exemplars** cannot be **at the cost of** mass school education. **Foundational Literacy** and **Numeracy** has been identified as a **critical** area for boosting workforce **productivity** and **reaping** the **demographic dividend** that will soon **run its course** as India's population ages. But the **discourse** on pathways towards achieving them **is** more on **pedagogy**, non-formal teaching and so on than the **essentials** — an infrastructure boost and teacher recruitment and training.   **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Infrastructure** (noun) – framework, structure, facilities, system, foundation संरचना

2. **Await** (verb) – wait for, expect, anticipate, look forward to, be ready for प्रतीक्षा करना

3. **Assemble** (verb) – gather, congregate, collect, convene, cluster इकट्ठा होना

4. **Give way** (phrase) – collapse, fall apart, break down, crumble, yield टूट जाना / ध्वस्त होना

5. **Lead** (to) (verb) – result in, cause, bring about, contribute to, culminate in वजह बनना

6. **Throw the spotlight on** (phrase) – highlight, focus on, draw attention to, underscore, bring to light ध्यान आकर्षित करना

7. **State** (noun) – condition, situation, position, circumstance स्थिति

8. **Marginalised** (adjective) – excluded, oppressed, neglected, disadvantaged, alienated वंचित लोग

9. **Estimate** (verb) – assess, approximate, evaluate, gauge, appraise अनुमान लगाना

10. **Extent** (noun) – range, degree, scope, scale, magnitude सीमा / स्तर

11. **Allocate** (verb) – assign, distribute, allot, apportion, earmark आवंटित करना

12. **Boost** (verb) – increase, raise, improve, enhance, uplift बढ़ावा देना

13. **Inefficiency** (noun) – incompetence, wastefulness, incapacity, ineffectiveness, unproductiveness अक्षमता

14. **Make much difference** (phrase) – have impact, be effective, influence, matter, bring change फर्क डालना

15. **A wake-up call** (noun) – alert, warning, eye-opener, caution, signal चेतावनी / चेतावनी देने वाली घटना

16. **Given** (preposition) – considering, in view of, taking into account, bearing in mind, due to ध्यान में रखते हुए

17. **Defocus** (noun) – distraction, loss of focus, deviation, neglect, dilution ध्यान हटना

18. **Call for** (phrasal verb) – demand, require, urge, necessitate, appeal for मांग करना

19. **Thrust** (noun) – emphasis, focus, push, drive, direction जोर / बल

20. **Set up** (phrasal verb) – establish, build, create, launch, found स्थापित करना

21. **Exemplar** (noun) – model, ideal, standard, prototype, archetype आदर्श उदाहरण

22. **Be at the cost of** (phrase) – sacrifice, trade-off, compromise, at the expense of, result in loss कीमत पर होना

23. **Foundational** (adjective) – basic, essential, fundamental, core, primary बुनियादी

24. **Literacy** (noun) – reading ability, education, knowledge, proficiency, learning साक्षरता

25. **Numeracy** (noun) – mathematical ability, arithmetic skills, quantitative skills, number sense, calculation ability गणनात्मक योग्यता

26. **Critical** (adjective) – crucial, vital, essential, important, decisive महत्वपूर्ण

27. **Productivity** (noun) – efficiency, output, performance, yield, production उत्पादकता

28. **Reap** (verb) – harvest, gain, obtain, receive, derive लाभ उठाना / काटना

29. **Demographic dividend** (noun) – population bonus, youth advantage, labor advantage, workforce benefit, age-structure benefit जनसांख्यिकीय लाभांश

30. **Run one's course** (phrase) – come to an end, finish naturally, expire, play out, conclude समाप्त होना

31. **Discourse** (noun) – discussion, debate, dialogue, conversation, narrative विमर्श / संवाद

32. **Pedagogy** (noun) – teaching method, instructional strategy, education technique, learning approach, didactics शिक्षाशास्त्र

33. **The Essential** (noun) – necessity, requirement, fundamental, basic, indispensable thing आवश्यक वस्तु

Summary of the Editorial

1. Tragic incident in Rajasthan: On July 25, 2025, a school building collapsed during morning prayers at Piplodi Government School, Jhalawar, Rajasthan, killing seven students and injuring several others.

2. Victims were tribal students: Most of the affected students belonged to tribal communities, highlighting the vulnerability of marginalized groups.

3. Second similar incident: A similar building collapse occurred the next day in Nagaur district, but casualties were averted as the school was closed for a holiday.

4. Public outrage: These incidents triggered widespread anger and protests across the State, demanding accountability and reform.

5. Poor infrastructure highlighted: The condition of government school infrastructure is now under renewed scrutiny due to these tragedies.

6. Large network of schools: According to UDISE 2023-24, Rajasthan has over 70,000 government schools, serving 84 lakh students, mostly from poor and marginalized communities.

7. Widespread structural issues: Around 8,000 schools have been officially marked as in poor condition, yet the Jhalawar school wasn't on the list — showing flaws in inspection and classification.

8. Budget allocation insufficient: Although ₹650 crore was allocated in the last two State budgets for school infrastructure, government inefficiencies prevented effective use.

9. Urgent need for reform: Fixing school infrastructure must be a top priority for the BJP-led Rajasthan government to prevent further tragedies.

10. National relevance: The incident is a wake-up call for all Indian states, reflecting a nationwide neglect of public school infrastructure.

11. NEP 2020 goals ignored: The National Education Policy 2020 had recommended raising education spending to 6% of GDP, especially for infrastructure, but implementation is lacking.

12. Policy neglect evident: Five years after NEP, basic infrastructure remains poor, and school safety is still not a core agenda.

13. Wrong policy focus: Governments have focused on privatization and self-financing in education, ignoring the needs of mass school education.

14. Need for foundational education: Basic schooling — including literacy, numeracy, teacher recruitment, and training — is essential to workforce productivity and demographic advantage.

15. Call for action: The editorial urges a shift in focus from superficial or elitist education policies to core investments in infrastructure and government schooling, as foundational public education is a government's basic responsibility.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**   [Editorial Page]
   A. Celebratory
   B. Alarmed
   C. Optimistic
   D. Detached

2. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
   A. Rising private investment in Indian education
   B. Curriculum innovation under NEP 2020
   C. Government neglect and the urgent need for infrastructure reform in public schools
   D. Comparative study of tribal education in India

3. **What does the incident at Piplodi Government School most critically highlight about the current condition of government schools in Rajasthan?**
   A. The need for more advanced digital learning tools
   B. The lack of teacher attendance and training
   C. The unsafe physical infrastructure in many schools
   D. The increasing dropout rates among tribal students

4. **Why does the passage argue that foundational literacy and numeracy cannot be improved without focusing on infrastructure and teacher recruitment?**
   A. Because non-formal teaching methods have failed in all rural areas
   B. Because India's demographic dividend depends on advanced research skills
   C. Because essential inputs like buildings and teachers are being ignored
   D. Because pedagogy is more effective in private schools

5. **Fixing the infrastructure of government schools should be a priority for the State's Bharatiya Janata Party government, especially in light of the recent _____ events that have triggered public outrage.**
   A. catastrophic
   B. serendipitous
   C. monotonous
   D. clandestine

6. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
   I have a _____ for reading and want to become a writer when I grow up.
   A. tallow
   B. unity
   C. passion
   D. dream

7. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
   Excessive
   A. Moderate

B. Desirable

C. Inordinate

D. Flow

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

The coaches decided to _____ the regulations more strictly because the candidates were not paying attention during their training sessions

A. provide

B. enjoy

C. enforce

D. supply

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

The scientist made an **appauling** discovery about the environmental impact of the drug.

A. appawling

B. apalling

C. appalling

D. appaulling

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

There has been / an increase of the number / of road / accidents recently.

A. accidents recently

B. an increase of the number

C. of road

D. there has been

11. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined words in the given sentence.**

Solving the riddle given by our teacher is **farther** beyond our capacity.

A. farthest

B. far

C. fare

D. fair

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

I checked the _____ to see if it will be rain or sunshine

A. wither

B. whether

C. wether

D. weather

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

He was constantly / gazing on the / crime scene to / find some clues.

A. crime scene to

B. he was constantly

C. find some clues

D. gazing on the

14. **Select the option that has used the correct tense.**
    A. Yesterday, we are painting the door when a neighbour stop by to say hello.
    B. Yesterday, we were painting the door when a neighbour stopped by to say hello.
    C. Yesterday, we will be painting the door when a neighbour stops by to say hello.
    D. Yesterday, we was painting the door when a neighbour stopping by to say hello.

15. **Select the most appropriate option that can replace the underlined segment in the given sentence.**

    No sooner had they left **their home that it started** raining heavily
    A. their home that it start
    B. their home than it starts
    C. their home than it started
    D. there home than it started

16. **Select the word that is OPPOSITE in meaning to the underlined word in the given sentence.**

    The name should also be **beneficial** to a strong, long-lasting marketing campaign.
    A. Detrimental
    B. Advantageous
    C. Causal
    D. Desirable

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

    Although she is **virtuous** in her deeds, people misinterpret her because of her open and bold nature
    A. wicked
    B. commendable
    C. sane
    D. moral

18. **Select the option that rectifies the error in the usage of the future tense in the given sentence.**

    Shivani go to school tomorrow for prize distribution
    A. Shivani had gone to school tomorrow for prize distribution.
    B. Shivani goes to school tomorrow for prize distribution.
    C. Shivani will go to school tomorrow for prize distribution.
    D. Shivani has gone to school tomorrow for prize distribution

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

    Osmium is **heavy** metal in the periodic table.
    A. the most heavy
    B. heavier
    C. more heavy
    D. the heaviest

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

    Something that has the quality of being easily broken

    A. Damage
    B. Brittle
    C. Broken
    D. Hard

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 just before noon on June 26, 1975, and my friend and I were out exploring the bustling by-lanes of Delhi's Karol Bagh, unaware that the Emergency had been declared, and that it would change our lives in ways we could have never ___1___. Though Indira Gandhi had herself announced the Emergency in a national broadcast at 8 am, IST, the news took its own time to reach the common people who went about their business as always. However, two hours into our outing, we ___2___ something was wrong. The pavement shops began to thin out as we watched and the bigger outlets too looked ready to ___3___; many of them worked behind half-downed shutters. We were young but fancied ourselves as political animals, which at the time was shorthand for being passionately anti-Congress and anti-Indira. There was no way we were going to head home without knowing what had happened.

There was already considerable excitement in our small friends' circle over two ___4___ developments: the June 12, 1975 Allahabad high court ruling unseating Indira for electoral malpractices and the Congress's unexpected defeat in the State election in Gujarat. The Supreme Court had allowed Indira to continue as prime minister but that did not ___5___ our joy; it was a technical reprieve that did not lessen the political blow she had received.

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

    A. undermined
    B. targeted
    C. betrothed
    D. imagined

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

    A. received
    B. sensed
    C. created
    D. feigned

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

    A. open up
    B. pop up
    C. wrap up
    D. chicken out

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

    A. mistakes

    B. landmark

    C. production

    D. flaws

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

    A. adopted

    B. dampen

    C. magnified

    D. diminished

Answers

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

Explanations

1. B) **Alarmed**

   The passage expresses deep concern and urgency over the collapse of school infrastructure, the death of children, and the government's inefficiency in addressing such issues. Words like tragedy, public anger, wake-up call, and inefficiencies in government clearly show an alarmed and critical tone.

   A. Incorrect; there's no praise or celebration; the passage deals with a tragic incident.

   C. Incorrect; the passage highlights failures and neglect, with little to no hope conveyed.

   D. Incorrect; the tone is emotionally invested and critical, not neutral or emotionally distant.

2. **C) Government neglect and the urgent need for infrastructure reform in public schools**

   The entire passage focuses on the collapse of a government school building, the poor condition of school infrastructure, and lack of effective implementation of NEP 2020 goals. It highlights that education infrastructure in public schools is neglected, and the government must act urgently.

   A.Incorrect; the passage only mentions private sector in passing, not as the focus.

   B.Incorrect; the emphasis is not on curriculum but on infrastructure and government spending.

   D. Incorrect; while tribal students are mentioned, the passage does not compare educational status among communities.

3. **C) The unsafe physical infrastructure in many schools**

   The passage explicitly discusses how a school building collapsed, causing deaths and injuries, and mentions that 8,000 government schools are in poor condition, showing the infrastructure is a key concern.

   A is incorrect because digital tools are not mentioned or implied.

   B is incorrect as teacher attendance/training is mentioned only in general, not as a cause here.

   D is incorrect because dropout rates are not discussed in this passage.

4. **C) Because essential inputs like buildings and teachers are being ignored**

   The passage says foundational literacy and numeracy are critical but current discourse focuses more on pedagogy and non-formal methods instead of the essentials — infrastructure and teacher support.

   A is incorrect because non-formal methods are not said to have failed, just that they're overemphasized.

   B is misleading; the passage ties literacy to workforce productivity, not research skills.

   D is incorrect — private schools are not compared in terms of pedagogy here.

5. A) **catastrophic**

The passage describes deadly school building collapses — which are tragic and disastrous — thus catastrophic fits best.

B (serendipitous) means fortunate accidents, which is the opposite tone.

C (monotonous) means boring or repetitive, which doesn't match the serious context.

D (clandestine) means secretive, and these events were public and shocking, not hidden.

6. C) **Passion'** का use होगा। क्योंकि "passion" का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ के प्रति गहरी रुचि या उत्साह। sentence में यह बताया गया है कि व्यक्ति को पढ़ने में रुचि है और वह लेखक बनना चाहता है। यह दर्शाता है कि व्यक्ति में गहरी रुचि या जुनून है, इसलिए 'passion' सही है। 'Tallow' का अर्थ होता है पशु वसा, जो इस संदर्भ में अप्रासंगिक है। 'Unity' का अर्थ है एकता, जो यहां फिट नहीं बैठता क्योंकि यह किसी व्यक्तिगत रुचि को व्यक्त नहीं करता। 'Dream' का अर्थ है सपना, लेकिन यह यहां फिट नहीं बैठता क्योंकि 'dream' में गहरी रुचि या जुनून नहीं दिखता, जबकि 'passion' करता है।

    'Passion' is grammatically and contextually correct because it refers to a strong interest or enthusiasm for something. The sentence mentions a deep interest in reading and a desire to become a writer, which aligns with the meaning of 'passion.' 'Tallow' means animal fat, irrelevant in this context. 'Unity' means togetherness, which doesn't align with the idea of personal interest. 'Dream' refers to an aspiration but lacks the depth of strong interest or enthusiasm that 'passion' conveys, making it less suitable here.

7. A) **Excessive** (adjective) – More than is necessary, normal, or desirable; immoderate, extreme. अत्यधिक

    Antonym: **Moderate** (adjective) – Average in amount, intensity, quality, or degree; not excessive, balanced. मध्यम, संतुलित

    *   **Desirable** (adjective) – Worth having or seeking; pleasing, attractive. वांछनीय, आकर्षक
    *   **Inordinate** (adjective) – Excessively large, unrestrained, disproportionate. अतिकाल्पनिक, अत्यधिक
    *   **Flow** (noun/verb) – A steady, continuous stream of something; to move continuously. प्रवाह, बहना

8. C) **'Enforce'** सही answer है क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है नियमों या कानूनों का पालन सुनिश्चित करना। वाक्य में संदर्भ यह है कि कोच ने नियमों को सख्ती से लागू करने का निर्णय लिया क्योंकि उम्मीदवार प्रशिक्षण सत्रों के दौरान ध्यान नहीं दे रहे थे। 'Provide' का अर्थ है देना या उपलब्ध कराना, जो यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Enjoy' का अर्थ है आनंद लेना, जो इस संदर्भ में अप्रासंगिक है। 'Supply' का अर्थ है कुछ उपलब्ध कराना, जो नियम लागू करने की भावना के अनुरूप नहीं है।

Enforce' is correct because it means to ensure compliance with laws, rules, or regulations. The context indicates that the coaches decided to implement the rules more strictly as the candidates were not paying attention during training sessions. 'Provide' means to give or supply, which does not fit as the sentence refers to implementing rules. 'Enjoy' means to take pleasure in something, which is irrelevant here. 'Supply' means to make something available, which does not align with the idea of implementing or imposing regulations.

9. C) The correct spelling of '**appauling'** is '**appalling'** which means "very bad or shocking" भयानक, भयावह.

10. B) 'an increase of the number' के बदले 'an increase in the number' का use होगा क्योंकि 'increase' के साथ 'in' Preposition का use किया जाता है, न कि 'of'; जैसे— There has been an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases.
    'an increase in the number' will be used instead of 'an increase of the number' because the preposition 'in' is used with 'increase,' not 'of'; Like— There has been an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases.

11. B) यहाँ **'farther'** का use गलत है क्योंकि 'farther' का उपयोग मुख्यतः भौतिक दूरी (physical distance) को व्यक्त करने के लिए होता है। वाक्य के संदर्भ के अनुसार, विचारों की या समझ की अमूर्त दूरी (abstract distance) की बात हो रही है। ऐसे में 'far' का उपयोग करना सही होगा। जैसे— This task is far beyond my abilities.
    The word **'farther'** is incorrect here because it is generally used to indicate physical distance. In the given sentence, the context is about an abstract distance of understanding or capacity. Therefore, the appropriate word is 'far.' For example: This task is far beyond my abilities

12. D) **Weather'** सही answer है क्योंकि यह "मौसम की स्थिति" को दर्शाता है, जैसे बारिश या धूप। 'Wither' का अर्थ है "मुरझाना," 'Whether' conjunction है, और 'Wether' एक बधिया भेड़ के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है, जो यहाँ अप्रासंगिक है। 'Wither': यह verb है और यहाँ noun की आवश्यकता है। 'Whether': यह conjunction है और यहाँ noun की जगह पर fit नहीं होगा। 'Wether': यह noun है लेकिन इसका अर्थ वाक्य से मेल नहीं खाता।

    'Weather' is correct because it refers to the condition of the atmosphere, such as rain or sunshine, which the speaker wants to check. 'Wither' means to dry up, 'Whether' is a conjunction indicating choices, and 'Wether' is a term for a castrated ram, all of which are irrelevant to the context Wither': This is a verb, while the sentence requires a noun, making it grammatically incorrect. 'Whether': This is a conjunction and does not function as a noun.
    'Wether': Although it is a noun, it refers to an animal and is contextually incorrect

13. D) 'gazing on the' के बदले **'gazing at the'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'gaze' के बाद सही preposition 'at' होता है जब किसी चीज़ की ओर ध्यानपूर्वक देखने की बात होती है। जैसे— The boy was gazing at the stars in the night sky.

gazing on the' should be replaced with **'gazing at the'** because the correct preposition after 'gaze' is 'at' when referring to looking intently at something. For example— The boy was gazing at the stars in the night sky.

14. B) Yesterday, we were painting the door when a neighbour stopped by to say hello.

'were painting' का use सही है क्योंकि यह Past Continuous Tense को दर्शाता है, जो एक क्रिया (painting) को अतीत में चल रही स्थिति में दिखाता है। 'stopped' का प्रयोग Past Simple Tense में सही है क्योंकि यह क्रिया उस समय पूरी हो चुकी थी और ongoing action को बाधित कर रही थी। 'yesterday' Past Tense का संकेत देता है, अतः पूरा वाक्य Past Tense में होना चाहिए।

were painting' is correct as it indicates Past Continuous Tense, describing an ongoing action in the past. 'stopped' is correct in Past Simple Tense as it refers to a completed action that interrupted the ongoing action. 'yesterday' signals the use of the Past Tense, so the entire sentence must follow this tense structure.

15. C) that' के बदले **'than'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'No sooner' के बाद हमेशा 'than' का प्रयोग किया जाता है। sentence structure इस प्रकार होती है: No sooner had + subject + past participle + than + subject + verb (past tense) अतः 'that it started' को 'than it started' से बदलना होगा।

The word 'than' will be used instead of 'that' because 'No sooner' is always followed by 'than.' The correct sentence structure is:
No sooner had + subject + past participle + than + subject + verb (past tense)
Therefore, 'that it started' should be replaced with 'than it started.'

16. A) **Beneficial** (adjective) - Advantageous, helpful, favorable, or profitable. लाभकारी, उपयोगी, अनुकूल

    Antonym: **Detrimental** – Harmful, damaging, or disadvantageous. हानिकारक, नुकसानदेह

    - Adva**n**tageous (adjective): Beneficial, favorable, providing an advantage. लाभकारी, अनुकूल
    - **Causal** (adjective): Relating to a cause or reason. कारण से संबंधित
    - **Desirable** (adjective): Wanted, wished for, or pleasing. वांछनीय, इच्छित

17. A) **Virtuous** (adjective) – Having or showing high moral standards, righteous, good, ethical. नैतिक, धार्मिक

    Antonym: **Wicked** (adjective) – Evil or morally wrong, mischievous, naughty, roguish.

दुष्ट, पापी

- **Commendable** (adjective): Praiseworthy, deserving approval or admiration. प्रशंसनीय

- **Sane** (adjective): Mentally sound, rational, sensible. विवेकी, समझदार

- **Moral** (adjective): Concerned with right and wrong behavior; ethical. नैतिक

18. C) "Shivani will go to school tomorrow for prize distribution" सही है क्योंकि 'will go' Future Indefinite Tense में है, वाक्य में "tomorrow" दिया गया है, जो भविष्य काल (Future Tense) का संकेत करता है। अतः वाक्य में Future Indefinite Tense का प्रयोग होना चाहिए।

"Shivani will go to school tomorrow for prize distribution" is correct because 'will go' is in Future Indefinite Tense, The sentence contains "tomorrow," which indicates a future action. Thus, the verb should be in Future Indefinite Tense.

19. D) '**The heaviest'** का use होगा क्योंकि Superlative Degree का use किया जाता है जब किसी समूह में से किसी एक की तुलना की जाती है। यहाँ Osmium को पूरे periodic table के सभी metals से तुलना की जा रही है। Superlative Degree के साथ 'the' का प्रयोग किया जाता है; जैसे— Gold is the most precious metal.

'the heaviest' is the correct answer because the Superlative Degree is used when comparing one entity to the rest of a group. Here, Osmium is being compared to all other metals in the periodic table. The Superlative Degree always takes 'the'; for example— Gold is the most precious metal.

20. B) **Brittle** (adjective) – Something that has the quality of being easily broken. भंगुर

- **Damage** (noun) – Harm or injury caused to something, making it less valuable, useful, or functional. क्षति

- **Broken** (adjective) – Reduced to fragments or not functioning; having been fractured or damaged. टूटा हुआ

- **Hard** (adjective) – Firm, solid, and not easily broken or bent. कठोर

21. D) '**Imagined'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका का अर्थ होता है "कल्पना करना"। वाक्य का संदर्भ यह बताता है कि लेखक और उसके मित्र ने कभी नहीं सोचा था कि आपातकाल उनके जीवन को इस तरह बदल देगा। इसलिए 'imagined' यहाँ सही है। 'Undermined' का अर्थ है "कमजोर करना या नीचा दिखाना," जो यहां संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होता क्योंकि यह जीवन को बदलने की कल्पना के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Targeted' का अर्थ है "लक्ष्य बनाना," जो यहां बिल्कुल असंगत है क्योंकि यहां कल्पना की बात हो रही है, न कि किसी को निशाना बनाने की। 'Betrothed' का अर्थ है "सगाई करना," जो यहां पूरी तरह से असंबंधित है।

Imagined' is correct because it means "to think of or conceive something in one's mind." The sentence context indicates that the author and their friend could have never imagined how the Emergency would change their lives. Therefore, 'imagined' fits perfectly. 'Undermined' means "weakened or diminished," which doesn't align with the idea of imagining life changes. 'Targeted' means "aimed at or focused on," which is irrelevant in the context of imagining life impacts. 'Betrothed' means "engaged to be married," which is entirely out of context.

22. B) **'Sensed'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "महसूस करना या यह समझ पाना कि कुछ गलत है।" यहाँ sentence में mention है कि उन्हें यह अहसास हुआ कि कुछ गलत हो रहा है, जैसे कि दुकानें बंद हो रही थीं और माहौल बदल रहा था। इसलिए 'sensed' यहाँ सही विकल्प है। 'Received' का अर्थ है "प्राप्त करना," जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है क्योंकि यहाँ यह समझने या महसूस करने की बात हो रही है, न कि किसी चीज़ को प्राप्त करने की। 'Created' का अर्थ है "निर्माण करना," जो पूरी तरह से संदर्भ से बाहर है। 'Feigned' का अर्थ है "झूठमूठ का दिखावा करना," जो वाक्य के भाव से मेल नहीं खाता।

Sensed' will be used because it means "to feel or perceive that something is wrong." The sentence describes how they realized something unusual was happening, like shops shutting down and the atmosphere changing. Hence, 'sensed' is the correct choice. 'Received' means "to get or obtain," which doesn't fit here as the context is about realizing something, not receiving it. 'Created' means "to make or construct," which is irrelevant in this context. 'Feigned' means "to pretend or fake," which doesn't align with the intended meaning of the sentence.

23. C) **Wrap up'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को समाप्त करना या बंद करना।

यह sentence में उपयुक्त है क्योंकि संदर्भ में बताया गया है कि दुकानों ने आधे शटर गिरा लिए थे और वे बंद होने के लिए तैयार दिख रहे थे। 'Wrap up' का मतलब यहां सही बैठता है। Open up' का अर्थ है खुलना, जो यहां उपयुक्त नहीं है क्योंकि संदर्भ में दुकानों के बंद होने की बात हो रही है। 'Pop up' का अर्थ है अचानक प्रकट होना। यह संदर्भ में गलत है क्योंकि दुकानों के बंद होने की बात हो रही है। Chicken out' का अर्थ है डर के कारण पीछे हट जाना।
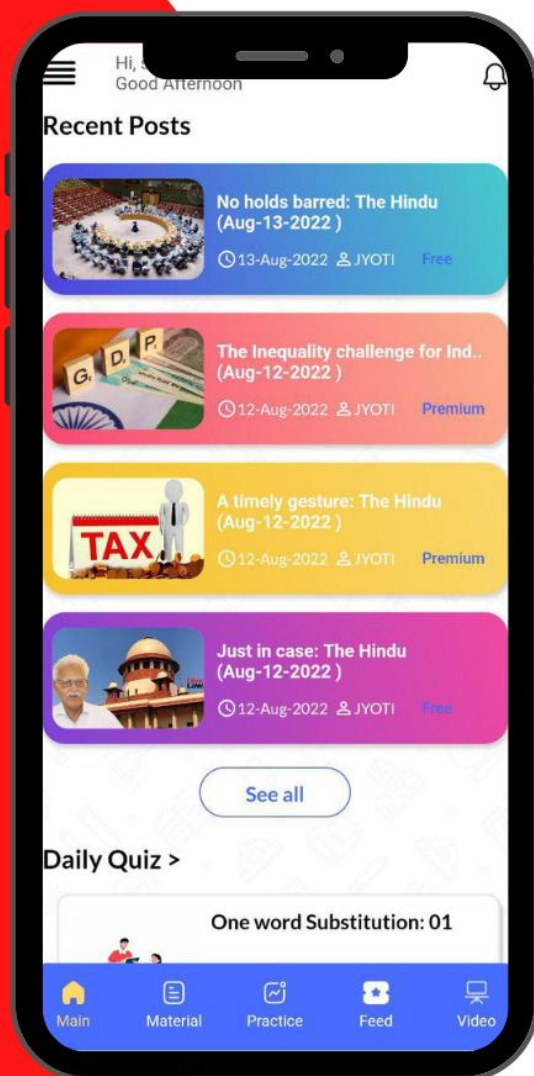
Wrap up' means to finish or end something, and it perfectly aligns with the sentence's context where the shops were ready to close down due to the ongoing Emergency situation. It conveys the idea of bringing activities to a halt. 'Open up' means to start or open something, which is inappropriate in this context since the narrative talks about shops preparing to close, not open. 'Pop up' means to appear suddenly, which does not fit the context because the shops are shutting down rather than appearing suddenly. 'Chicken out' means to back out due to fear, which is unrelated to the described scenario. The shops are not backing out from fear but are shutting due to the situation's practical demands.

24. B) **Landmark'** का use होगा क्योंकि "landmark" का अर्थ है कोई ऐसा महत्वपूर्ण घटना या निर्णय जो इतिहास में एक मील का पत्थर साबित हो। यहाँ संदर्भ 1975 में इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय के ऐतिहासिक फैसले और गुजरात में कांग्रेस की अप्रत्याशित हार की ओर है, जो उस समय के प्रमुख घटनाक्रम थे। जबकि 'Mistakes' का अर्थ है गलतियाँ, 'Production' का अर्थ है उत्पादन, और 'Flaws' का अर्थ है दोष, जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं होते हैं।

'Landmark' will be used because it refers to a significant event or decision that stands out as a milestone in history. The context highlights the 1975 Allahabad High Court ruling and the Congress's unexpected defeat in Gujarat, both of which were significant developments of that time. Whereas, 'Mistakes' means errors, 'Production' means creation or manufacturing, and 'Flaws' means defects, none of which align with the context.

25. B) **'dampen'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है किसी भावना, उत्साह, या प्रभाव को कम करना। sentence में mention है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने इंदिरा गांधी को प्रधानमंत्री बने रहने की अनुमति दी थी, लेकिन इसने उनकी राजनीतिक हार की गंभीरता को कम नहीं किया। 'dampen' यहाँ सही है क्योंकि यह "हमारी खुशी को कम करना" को दर्शाता है। 'Adopted' (गोद लेना या अपनाना) का उपयोग इस संदर्भ में गलत है क्योंकि यहाँ किसी नीति या विचार को अपनाने की बात नहीं है। 'Magnified' (बढ़ाना) वाक्य के अर्थ के विपरीत है, क्योंकि यहाँ खुशी कम होने की बात हो रही है। 'Diminished' (कम होना) भी गलत है क्योंकि यह 'joy' के लिए सही क्रिया नहीं बनता, बल्कि यह अक्सर किसी भौतिक चीज़ के संदर्भ में उपयोग होता है।

Dampen' is correct because it means to reduce the intensity or effect of something, particularly emotions or enthusiasm. The sentence indicates that although the Supreme Court allowed Indira to continue as prime minister, it did not reduce the joy felt by the speaker and their friends. 'Adopted' is incorrect as it means to take up or accept something, which doesn't fit the context of reduced emotions. 'Magnified' is the opposite of what the sentence conveys, as it means to increase something. 'Diminished' is incorrect as it is more suited to physical or measurable reductions and doesn't properly collocate with 'joy' in this context.

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