

Beyond test scores: Helping students find meaning

When we read about yet another student suicide, it **calls for** understanding and some action. Not only in India, but also in Japan, US, and countries worldwide, we see that the problem is **severe**.

A friend of mine **shares** the story that during her teens, she **concluded** that life had no meaning and that for her the best **way out** was to **commit** suicide. While waiting for the right moment to act, she was **drawn** to an article by Paramhansa Yogananda.

He mentioned that **suicide**, like other major decisions, **creates** a pattern, and that over a few **incarnations**, it can become habitual. In this cycle, a **soul** will continue to **incarnate** until it can **overcome** the same life lessons that it has **encountered** previously. She had never heard anyone present suicide as a 'bad' habit, something she would need to **break**. She always thought of it as an alternative to the endless **ups and downs** that come from looking for happiness outside oneself. With this new perspective, she was able to accept life's challenges and move forward in facing them.

While studies **point to** a wide variety of causes for student suicide, academic pressure is one of the most common and one of the most preventable. The **intense focus** on high test scores **creates tremendous** stress for students, as evidenced by the fact that **children** as young as seven and eight **are subjected to** hours of after-school tutoring.

The root **cause** of this pressure **is** the **widespread** belief among parents and teachers that high test scores will significantly enhance a student's chances of securing a good job. This **perspective** is **outdated**. Guy Halfteck, CEO, Knack, reports: "**Cognitive ability** is a small fraction of what we measure. We measure everything from creative abilities to emotional and social intelligence, to how you think and make decisions."

It is time for us to **defuse** the **frenzy** around test scores, not only for those who might take their lives, but for all those students who are burdened by these unnecessary and harmful pressures. A more balanced approach is presented in India's National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. Making space for **critical thinking** and more **holistic**, inquiry-based, discovery based, discussion-based, and analysis-based learning.

To shift from student stress to student **enthusiasm**, we need innovative ways to **nurture** the full **potential** of each student. Students can use **meditation** as a **means** of relaxation and connecting with their inner selves. They must be encouraged to share their thoughts and experiences as they investigate a wide variety of life skills that can enhance their sense of **well-being** and happiness. **Perhaps** most importantly, they can learn that they are not alone in facing life's challenges.

These practices can also benefit students in other **settings**, from **kindergarten** through graduate school. Meditation is a **time-honoured** method of disengaging attention from **outward** tensions and redirecting it to the **rejuvenating** experience of inner peace. Students can identify small, achievable steps toward overcoming **debilitating tendencies** like **nervousness**, anger, **melancholy**, and **loneliness**.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Call for** (phrasal verb) – demand, require, necessitate, appeal for, urge अनुरोध करना
2. **Severe** (adjective) – harsh, intense, extreme, serious, grave गंभीर
3. **Conclude** (verb) – deduce, infer, determine, decide, finalize निष्कर्ष निकालना
4. **Way-out** (noun) – escape, solution, exit, alternative, remedy उपाय
5. **Commit** (verb) – perpetrate, carry out, engage in, pledge, devote प्रतिबद्ध होना / करना
6. **Draw** (verb) – attract, pull, invite, entice, elicit आकर्षित करना
7. **Incarnation** (noun) – embodiment, avatar, personification, manifestation, embodiment अवतार
8. **Soul** (noun) – spirit, essence, psyche, self, inner being आत्मा
9. **Incarnate** (verb) – embody, materialize, personify, manifest, realize साकार होना
10. **Overcome** (verb) – conquer, defeat, prevail over, surmount, get over पार पाना
11. **Encounter** (verb) – meet, face, confront, experience, come across सामना करना
12. **Break** (verb) – stop, end, shatter, interrupt, discontinue समाप्त करना
13. **Ups and downs** (phrase) – fluctuations, highs and lows, vicissitudes, instability, turbulence उतार-चढ़ाव
14. **Point to** (phrasal verb) – indicate, suggest, refer to, highlight, allude to संकेत देना
15. **Intense** (adjective) – extreme, acute, severe, strong, deep तीव्र
16. **Tremendous** (adjective) – enormous, huge, immense, massive, incredible अत्यधिक
17. **Subject** (to) (verb) – expose, make vulnerable, impose on, force upon, put through अधीन करना
18. **Widespread** (adjective) – prevalent, common, extensive, universal, rampant व्यापक
19. **Perspective** (noun) – viewpoint, outlook, perception, angle, stance दृष्टिकोण
20. **Outdated** (adjective) – obsolete, antiquated, old-fashioned, expired, passé पुराना
21. **Cognitive ability** (noun) – the mental prowess and competence that allows individuals to think, learn, reason, and solve problems effectively. संज्ञानात्मक क्षमता

22. **Defuse** (verb) – calm, reduce, mitigate, neutralize, lessen शांत करना
23. **Frenzy** (noun) – hysteria, madness, agitation, turmoil, commotion उन्माद
24. **Critical thinking** (noun) – the objective analysis and evaluation of an issue in order to form a judgement. समालोचनात्मक चिंतन
25. **Holistic** (adjective) – integrated, comprehensive, whole, inclusive, complete समग्र
26. **Enthusiasm** (noun) – excitement, eagerness, passion, zeal, fervour उत्साह
27. **Nurture** (verb) – cultivate, foster, nourish, encourage, support पोषण करना
28. **Potential** (noun) – capability, possibility, promise, ability, aptitude संभाव्यता
29. **Meditation** (noun) – contemplation, reflection, mindfulness, concentration, introspection ध्यान
30. **Means** (noun) – method, way, tool, mechanism, process माध्यम
31. **Well-being** (noun) – welfare, health, happiness, comfort, prosperity भलाई
32. **Perhaps** (adverb) – maybe, possibly, conceivably, perchance, feasibly शायद
33. **Setting** (noun) – environment, context, background, surroundings, situation परिवेश
34. **Kindergarten** (noun) – preschool, nursery, pre-primary, early education, play school बाल विद्यालय
35. **Time-honoured** (adjective) – traditional, long-established, age-old, respected, customary पारंपरिक
36. **Outward** (adjective) – external, exterior, visible, outer, surface बाहरी
37. **Rejuvenating** (adjective) – refreshing, renewing, reviving, invigorating, restoring पुनर्योजित करनेवाला
38. **Debilitating** (adjective) – weakening, draining, enfeebling, exhausting, crippling दुर्बल करने वाला
39. **Tendency** (noun) – inclination, propensity, disposition, habit, leaning प्रवृत्ति
40. **Nervousness** (noun) – anxiety, tension, unease, restlessness, agitation घबराहट
41. **Melancholy** (noun) – sadness, gloom, sorrow, depression, despair उदासी
42. **Loneliness** (noun) – isolation, solitude, seclusion, aloneness, desolation अकेलापन

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Global Crisis of Student Suicides:** Student suicides are a serious concern worldwide, not just in India, with multiple causes needing urgent attention.
2. **A Personal Story of Hope:** A young girl considering suicide found a new perspective through spiritual insight from Paramhansa Yogananda.
3. **Spiritual View on Suicide:** Yogananda's teaching framed suicide as a recurring pattern across lifetimes, encouraging one to break the habit by confronting life's challenges.
4. **Shift in Perspective:** This reframing helped the girl see life's difficulties as part of a larger journey, empowering her to continue living.
5. **Academic Pressure as a Key Factor:** One of the most preventable causes of student suicides is academic pressure, rooted in an overemphasis on test scores.
6. **Early Burdening of Children:** Even very young children face extreme academic stress through long hours of tutoring and performance expectations.
7. **Parental and Teacher Mindset:** The pressure originates from the belief that high test scores are the only path to career success.
8. **Outdated Beliefs About Success:** This view is outdated, as modern employers assess broader abilities beyond academic scores.
9. **Employers Value Holistic Skills:** According to Guy Halfteck, companies now value creativity, emotional intelligence, and decision-making more than cognitive test scores.
10. **Need for Balanced Education:** There is an urgent need to move away from test-score obsession and adopt a healthier, more supportive educational environment.
11. **Support from NEP 2020:** India's National Education Policy 2020 encourages critical thinking, inquiry-based, and discussion-driven learning over rote learning.
12. **Holistic Development Focus:** Education must nurture the full potential of each student, shifting from stress to curiosity and creativity.
13. **Importance of Inner Well-being:** Meditation is proposed as a tool to help students relax, connect with themselves, and improve mental health.
14. **Life Skills Education:** Students should be taught a variety of life skills that promote emotional resilience and lasting happiness.
15. **Universally Beneficial Practices:** Techniques like meditation and self-reflection can help students of all ages deal with emotions like fear, sadness, and loneliness.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, what fundamental shift does the author suggest to reduce student suicides and academic stress?** [Editorial page]
 - A. Replacing standard exams with online assessments
 - B. Increasing parental involvement in homework and assignments
 - C. Encouraging a more holistic and balanced educational approach
 - D. Offering scholarships to all high-performing students
2. **Why did the article by Paramhansa Yogananda change the perspective of the teenager contemplating suicide?**
 - A. It portrayed life as an endless struggle where suicide is justified.
 - B. It equated suicide with moral weakness and punishment.
 - C. It provided a spiritual mantra to escape worldly problems instantly.
 - D. It framed suicide as a habit carried over lifetimes that must be broken.
3. **What can be inferred about the author's broader view on education and student well-being?**
 - A. Education should prioritize competition and measurable outcomes.
 - B. Emotional and social intelligence are as important as academic scores.
 - C. Early academic tutoring helps children perform better in life.
 - D. High cognitive ability guarantees success in a changing world.
4. **Which of the following best explains why the author references Paramhansa Yogananda's views on suicide in the passage?**
 - i. To highlight that spiritual insights can offer alternative perspectives on life's darkest moments.
 - ii. To argue that reincarnation is a scientifically proven phenomenon.
 - iii. To show how internal shifts in thinking can influence one's decision to live.
 - iv. To criticize the lack of government policy on suicide prevention.
 - A. Only i and iii
 - B. Only ii and iv
 - C. Only i and ii
 - D. Only iii and iv
5. **Which of the following statements are not consistent with the views expressed by the author in the passage?**
 - i. Academic performance is the most reliable predictor of future success in the modern world.
 - ii. NEP 2020 discourages any focus on testing and evaluations.
 - iii. Meditation is viewed as a beneficial practice across all educational stages.
 - iv. Emotional and social intelligence are increasingly valued in modern workplaces.
 - A. Only i and ii
 - B. Only ii and iii
 - C. Only i and iv
 - D. Only iii and iv

6. Select the appropriate option that can substitute the underlined word in the following sentence to make it grammatically correct.

Only the beautiful painting is to be displayed in the exhibition

- A. the most beautiful
- B. beautiful
- C. the much beautiful
- D. more beautiful

7. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blanks.

His dog did not _____ when thieves were slashing the _____ of his precious tree.

- A. stem
- B. shout
- C. bark
- D. claw

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

We / enjoyed lunch / he gave / us.

- A. enjoyed lunch
- B. We
- C. he gave
- D. us

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

The meteorological department predicted heavy rain over the coming days

- A. Light
- B. Plentiful
- C. Drizzly
- D. Rare

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

He couldn't attend the meeting _____ he was sick

- A. so
- B. because
- C. although
- D. but

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

Exactly the same words as were used originally

- A. Verbatim
- B. Precise
- C. Factual
- D. Ornate

12. Select the sentence that has a grammatical error.

- A. I have a lot of work to complete.
- B. A young boy offered her his seat.

- C. I wish I had eraser to erase all the mistakes in my life.
- D. This is a very difficult task to accomplish.

13. Select the option that rectifies the underlined spelling error.

The impacts of climate change on different sectors of society are interelated.

- A. interrilated
- B. interrelated
- C. enterrelated
- D. interrelated

14. Select the correctly spelt word to fill in the blank and make the sentence meaningful.

Sheetal has been studying engineering for five years, _____ countless hours to her coursework

- A. daidicating
- B. deddicating
- C. dedicating
- D. dedecating

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

If you don't have a lump sum to _____ in a fixed deposit, you can surely opt for a long-term recurring deposit.

- A. draw
- B. publish
- C. gather
- D. invest

16. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.

Proficient

- A. Accomplished
- B. Recalcitrant
- C. Glamorous
- D. Callous

17. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.

Fatigued

- A. Tired
- B. Furious
- C. Tricky
- D. Famous

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

A person or entity that is unable to pay debts

- A. Insolvent
- B. Busted
- C. Insurgent
- D. Recluse

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

Rahul speaks fluently English / although he makes / quite a lot of mistakes /while writing.

- A. quite a lot of mistakes
- B. although he makes
- C. rahul speaks fluently English
- D. while writing

20. Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

Despite their differences, the counties found common ground and buried the hatchet.

- A. To continue a conflict
- B. To disagree publicly
- C. To settle a dispute peacefully
- D. To seek revenge in the future

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.

Sniffer dog Tucker uses (1)_____ nose to help researchers find out why a killer whale population off the northwest coast of the United States is (2)_____ the decline. He searches for whale faeces floating on the surface of the water, which are then collected for examination. He is one of the elite team members of detection dogs used by scientists studying a (3)_____ of species including right whales and killer whales. Conservation canines are fast becoming indispensable tools for biologists according to Aimee Hurt, associate director and co-founder of Working Dogs for Conservation, (4)_____ in Three Forks, Montana.

Over the last few years, though, so many new conservation dog projects have sprung up that Hurt can no (5) _____ keep track of them all. Her organisation's dogs and their handlers are fully booked to assist field researchers into 2012.

21. Choose the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 1.

- A. his
- B. her
- C. him
- D. its

22. Choose the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 2.

- A. at
- B. on
- C. off
- D. after

23. Choose the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 3.

- A. number
- B. division
- C. cacophony

D. cadre

24. Choose the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 4.

A. living

B. rested

C. surviving

D. based

25. Choose the most appropriate option to fill in blank no. 5

A. lesser

B. shorter

C. moreover

D. longer

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. C) Encouraging a more holistic and balanced educational approach

The passage strongly supports NEP 2020's emphasis on holistic learning – including critical thinking, discovery-based learning, and emotional well-being. It highlights how reducing the obsession with test scores and adopting a broader educational model can alleviate stress and promote mental health.

A. Nowhere does the passage suggest that online assessments are the solution.

B. Parental involvement is not discussed as a factor to reduce stress, especially in the context of homework.

D. Scholarships are not mentioned as a core recommendation; the problem is not lack of reward but academic pressure.

2. D) It framed suicide as a habit carried over lifetimes that must be broken.

The teen was struck by Yogananda's idea that suicide could become a habit across incarnations and that one would be reborn to face the same lessons repeatedly. This spiritual framing helped her accept life and move forward.

A. This is the opposite of Yogananda's view – he discouraged suicide.

B. The article didn't label suicide as a sin or moral weakness, but as a breakable habit.

C. No specific mantra or escape was promised – the focus was on enduring and growing through life's challenges.

3. B) Emotional and social intelligence are as important as academic scores.

The author quotes Guy Halfteck and aligns with the view that creative, emotional, and social intelligence are essential components of success. The NEP 2020's focus on holistic education also reinforces this.

A. The passage criticizes competition and score-centric education.

C. Early tutoring is shown as a problem, not a solution.

D. The author directly rejects the idea that cognitive ability alone ensures success.

4. A) Only i and iii

i. CORRECT – The author includes the spiritual view to show how unconventional or non-academic sources (like Yogananda) can provide transformative insight that saves lives.

iii. CORRECT – The friend changed her perspective not because her situation changed, but because her mindset did, proving how internal mental reframing can be life-saving.

ii. INCORRECT – Reincarnation is discussed as a belief, not a scientific claim. The passage doesn't assert its scientific validity.

- iv. INCORRECT – Government policy is not criticized anywhere in the story; the tone is more reflective and solution-oriented through education and perspective.
5. **A) Only i and ii**
- i. INCORRECT – The passage challenges this exact assumption, stating that overemphasis on test scores is outdated and harmful.
- ii. INCORRECT – NEP 2020 supports balanced education, not the removal of testing. It promotes holistic learning, not avoidance of evaluations.
- iii. CORRECT – The passage says meditation benefits all students, "from kindergarten through graduate school."
- iv. CORRECT – Supported by the quote from Guy Halfteck: "We measure... emotional and social intelligence..." showing modern value shifts in assessment.
6. A) 'Only the beautiful' के बदले 'the most beautiful' का use होगा क्योंकि 'the' के साथ Superlative Degree का use किया जाता है; जैसे— This is the most difficult question in the exam.
'the most beautiful' will be used instead of 'only the beautiful' because 'the' is used with the Superlative Degree; Like— This is the most difficult question in the exam.
7. C) "bark" का अर्थ होता है कुत्ते का भौंकना। यहाँ वाक्य में यह बताया गया है कि जब चोर उसके कीमती पेड़ की छाल को काट रहे थे, तब कुत्ता भौंका नहीं। दूसरे blank में पेड़ की बाहरी सुरक्षा परत का उल्लेख है, जिसे "bark" (छाल) कहते हैं।
"bark" is the correct verb to use when referring to the sound a dog makes. In the context of the sentence, it means the dog did not make any noise or raise an alarm while the thieves were slashing something. The second blank refers to the outer protective layer of a tree, which is called "bark" as well.
8. A) 'enjoyed lunch' के बदले '**had enjoyed lunch**' का use होगा क्योंकि Main Clause में verb Past Perfect में होनी चाहिए यदि यह किसी अन्य घटना से पहले की क्रिया को व्यक्त कर रही हो। अतः यह Past Perfect Tense में होना चाहिए; जैसे— We had enjoyed lunch before he arrived.
'**had enjoyed lunch**' will be used instead of 'enjoyed lunch' because the main clause should be in Past Perfect Tense when it expresses an action completed before another action. Therefore, it must be in Past Perfect Tense; Like— We had enjoyed lunch before he arrived.
9. A) **Heavy** (adjective) – Large in amount, weight, or intensity; substantial, massive. भारी, ज़्यादा मात्रा में।
Antonym: Light (adjective) – Small in amount, weight, or intensity; not heavy, gentle, slight. हल्का, कम मात्रा में।
- **Plentiful** (adjective) – Existing in or yielding a large amount; abundant, ample. प्रचुर मात्रा में।

- **Drizzly** (adjective) – Light rain falling in very fine drops; misty. फुहार।
- **Rare** (adjective) – Uncommon or infrequent; unusual, extraordinary. दुर्लभ।

10. 'B) **Because**' का use होगा क्योंकि यह "वह बीमार था" के कारण को स्पष्ट करता है कि वह मीटिंग में क्यों नहीं जा सका। वाक्य में कारण और प्रभाव के संबंध को स्पष्ट करने के लिए 'because' उपयुक्त है। 'Because' एक subordinating conjunction है, जो कारण या वजह को दर्शाने के लिए use होता है। यहाँ "he was sick" यह समझाने के लिए है कि उसने मीटिंग में भाग क्यों नहीं लिया, जिससे वाक्य व्याकरणिक रूप से सही बनता है। 'So' का अर्थ होता है "इसलिए।" यह परिणाम व्यक्त करता है, जबकि यहाँ कारण की आवश्यकता है।, " 'Although' विरोधाभास को व्यक्त करता है, लेकिन यहाँ कोई विरोधाभास नहीं है, इसलिए यह उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'But' विरोध या विपरीतता को व्यक्त करता है, जो इस वाक्य में सही नहीं बैठता है

'**Because**' will be used because it explains the reason "he was sick," which is why he couldn't attend the meeting. The sentence requires a cause-and-effect relationship, making 'because' appropriate here. 'Because' is a subordinating conjunction used to indicate cause. The clause "he was sick" justifies the main clause "He couldn't attend the meeting," making it grammatically correct. So: 'So' expresses a result and would fit in a different structure, but it doesn't express the cause in this context.' Although: It introduces contrast or concession, which is not present in the sentence. 'But': It expresses contrast, which doesn't align with the logical flow of this sentence.

11. A) **Verbatim** (adverb/adjective) – In exactly the same words as were used originally. शब्दशः

- **Precise** (adjective) – Marked by exactness and accuracy of expression or detail. सटीक
- **Factual** (adjective) – Concerned with what is actually the case; based on facts. तथ्यात्मक
- **Ornate** (adjective) – Made in an intricate shape or decorated with complex patterns. अलंकृत

12. C) '**an eraser**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'eraser' एक singular countable noun है और इसके पहले article 'an' का होना अनिवार्य है। 'eraser' vowel sound से शुरू होता है, इसलिए इसके साथ article 'an' का उपयोग किया जाएगा।

The article '**an**' should be used before the noun '**eraser**' because it is a singular, countable noun, and nouns of this type require an article. Since '**eraser**' begins with a vowel sound, the correct article is '**an**'

13. B) The correct spelling of '**interelated**' is '**interrelated**', which means "having a mutual or reciprocal relation" – परस्पर संबंधित।

14. C) The correct spelling is "**dedicating**", which means "to devote (time, effort, or oneself) to a particular task or purpose." In Hindi, it translates to "समर्पित करना" or "अर्पित करना".

15. D) '**Invest**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है किसी वित्तीय योजना या योजना में धन लगाना। sentence में mention है कि यदि आपके पास एकमुश्त राशि नहीं है, तो आप एक दीर्घकालिक आवर्ती जमा चुन सकते हैं। यह स्पष्ट रूप से धन निवेश करने की स्थिति को संदर्भित करता है, इसलिए 'Invest' सही है। 'Draw' का अर्थ है धन निकालना या खींचना, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'Publish' का अर्थ है जानकारी या सामग्री प्रकाशित करना, जो यहाँ संदर्भ से मेल नहीं खाता। 'Gather' का अर्थ है इकट्ठा करना, लेकिन यह निवेश के विचार को व्यक्त नहीं करता।

Invest' will be used because it means to put money into a financial plan or scheme. The sentence states that if you don't have a lump sum amount, you can opt for a long-term recurring deposit. This clearly refers to the act of investing money, making 'Invest' the correct choice. 'Draw' means to withdraw money or pull, which is not suitable in this context. 'Publish' means to release information or content, which doesn't align with the context here. 'Gather' means to collect, but it doesn't express the idea of investing money.

16. A) **Proficient (adjective)**: Competent or skilled in doing or using something; expert, adept, capable. कुशल

Synonym: Accomplished (adjective): Highly skilled, talented, or successful in a particular area; expert, proficient. निपुण

- **Recalcitrant (adjective)**: Uncooperative, stubbornly resistant to authority or control. अवज्ञाकारी
- **Glamorous (adjective)**: Having glamour; fascinatingly attractive or stylish. आकर्षक
- **Callous (adjective)**: Showing or having an insensitive and cruel disregard for others; unfeeling, heartless. निर्दयी

17. A) **Fatigued (adjective)** – Extremely tired, exhausted, worn out, weary. थका हुआ

Synonym: Tired (adjective) – Feeling a need for rest or sleep, exhausted, weary, fatigued. थका हुआ

- **Furious (adjective)**: Very angry, enraged, infuriated. क्रोधित
- **Tricky (adjective)**: Difficult to deal with, requiring careful handling. पेचीदा
- **Famous (adjective)**: Known about by many people, celebrated, well-known. प्रसिद्ध

18. A) **Insolvent (noun)** – A person or entity that is unable to pay debts दिवालिया

- **Busted** (adjective) – Broken, ruined, or out of order; not necessarily related to financial inability. टूटा हुआ या बिगड़ा हुआ
- **Insurgent** (noun) – A person who rebels against authority or government. विद्रोही
- **Recluse** (noun) – A person who lives a solitary life and tends to avoid other people. एकांतवासी

19. C) 'fluently English' के बदले **'English fluently'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि adverb 'fluently' को हमेशा verb और उसके object के बीच में रखने की बजाय या तो verb से पहले या sentence के अंत में रखा जाता है; जैसे— Correct Sentence: "Rahul speaks English fluently although he makes quite a lot of mistakes while writing."

'English fluently' will be used instead of 'fluently English' because the adverb 'fluently' should not be placed between the verb 'speaks' and its object 'English'. Proper placement of the adverb is either after the object or at the end of the sentence. For example:

Correct Sentence: "Rahul speaks English fluently although he makes quite a lot of mistakes while writing."

20. C) **Buried the hatchet** (idiom) – To settle a dispute peacefully विवाद को शांति से सुलझाना।

21. A) **'His'** का उपयोग सही है क्योंकि "Tucker" एक sniffer डॉग है और कुत्तों को अक्सर अंग्रेजी में he/his के रूप में संदर्भित किया जाता है। वाक्य का मतलब है कि Tucker अपनी नाक का उपयोग करता है, इसलिए "his nose" सही है। 'Her' गलत है क्योंकि यह किसी मादा (female) का संदर्भ देता है, जबकि यहाँ Tucker (नाम से) नर (male) है। 'Him' गलत है क्योंकि "him" object pronoun है, जबकि हमें यहाँ possessive pronoun (his) की आवश्यकता है। 'Its' भी गलत है क्योंकि "its" का उपयोग निर्जीव वस्तुओं या जानवरों के लिए तब होता है जब उनका लिंग निर्दिष्ट न हो। लेकिन Tucker का जेंडर संदर्भित है।

'His' is correct because Tucker is a sniffer dog, and dogs are commonly referred to as he/his in English. The sentence implies that Tucker uses his nose, making "his" the appropriate and natural choice. 'Her' is incorrect because it refers to a female subject, whereas Tucker (by name) is male. 'Him' is incorrect as it is an object pronoun, whereas a possessive pronoun (his) is required here. 'Its' is incorrect as "its" is used for inanimate objects or animals with unspecified gender. Tucker's gender is implied

22. B) **On** का use होगा क्योंकि "on the decline" एक सामान्य अभिव्यक्ति है जिसका अर्थ है किसी चीज़ के घटने या कम होने की प्रक्रिया। इस sentence में killer whales की population के घटने की बात हो रही है, इसलिए 'on' सही है। जबकि 'at' किसी स्थान या बिंदु को दर्शाता है, 'off' अलगाव या दूरी को व्यक्त करता है, और 'after' क्रम या समय को दर्शाता है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

"On" will be used because "on the decline" is a common expression that means something is in the process of decreasing or deteriorating. The sentence refers to the killer whale population reducing, making "on" appropriate. Whereas, "at" refers to a specific point or location, "off" implies separation, and "after" indicates sequence or time, none of which fit in this context.

23. A) '**Number**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'number' का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ की मात्रा या संख्या। इस वाक्य में प्रजातियों के एक समूह, जैसे कि सही व्हेल और किलर व्हेल, का उल्लेख किया गया है। 'A number of species' एक grammatically सही वाक्यांश है जो प्रजातियों के संग्रह को दर्शाता है। जबकि 'Division' का अर्थ है विभाजन, 'Cacophony' का अर्थ है कठोर और अप्रिय ध्वनि का मिश्रण, और 'Cadre' का अर्थ है प्रशिक्षित व्यक्तियों का समूह।

'**Number**' will be used because it means a quantity or amount of something. In this sentence, it refers to a group of species, such as right whales and killer whales. 'A number of species' is a grammatically correct phrase that represents a collection of species. Whereas, 'Division' means separation, 'Cacophony' refers to a harsh mixture of sounds, and 'Cadre' implies a group of trained individuals, which do not fit in this context.

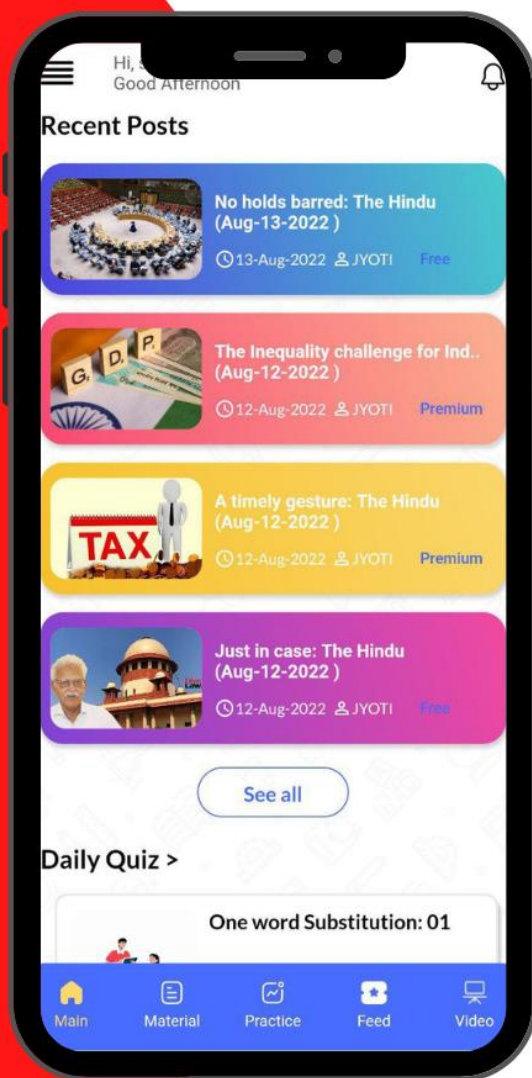
24. D) '**Based**' का use होगा है क्योंकि "based" का अर्थ होता है किसी स्थान पर स्थापित होना। यहाँ पर वाक्य यह बताता है कि "Working Dogs for Conservation" का मुख्यालय Three Forks, Montana में है। इसलिए 'based' इस context में बिल्कुल सही है। जबकि: 'Living' का अर्थ है जीना, जो मुख्यालय के संदर्भ में उचित नहीं है। 'Rested' का अर्थ है विश्राम करना, जो यहां गलत है। 'Surviving' का अर्थ है जीवित रहना या बचना, जो वाक्य के भाव से मेल नहीं खाता।

'**Based**' is used because it means "established in a specific location." The sentence explains that the headquarters of "Working Dogs for Conservation" is located in Three Forks, Montana, making 'based' the correct choice. Whereas: 'Living' means residing or being alive, which doesn't fit the context of headquarters. 'Rested' means taking rest, which is irrelevant here. 'Surviving' means staying alive or enduring, which doesn't align with the intended meaning of the sentence.

25. D) '**longer**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "अब और नहीं" या "अब संभव नहीं।" sentence यह indicate करता है कि इतनी अधिक conservation dog projects शुरू हो गई हैं कि Hurt अब सभी पर नज़र नहीं रख सकती। इसलिए, 'longer' यहाँ सही विकल्प है। 'lesser' का अर्थ है "कम" या "सामान्यतः मात्रा या स्तर को दर्शाता है," जो यहां असंगत है। 'shorter' का अर्थ है "लंबाई या समय में कम," जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं है। 'moreover' का अर्थ है "इसके अलावा," जो यहाँ अनुचित है क्योंकि यह वाक्य के तर्क के साथ मेल नहीं खाता।

'**longer**' will be used because it means "no more" or "not possible anymore." The sentence indicates that so many conservation dog projects have been initiated that Hurt can no longer

keep track of them all. Therefore, 'longer' is the correct choice. 'lesser' means "less" or usually denotes a quantity or degree, which is irrelevant here. 'shorter' implies "less in length or duration," which is unsuitable in this context. 'moreover' means "besides," which does not fit the logical progression of the sentence.



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