

## Rational response: On U.S.'s tariffs and statements, India's response

India has opted for **level-headed** action in the wake of U.S. tariffs

The Government of India has **so far** handled the issue of the 50% tariffs **imposed** by the U.S. with **maturity** and **pragmatism**. Despite **provocative** statements by senior U.S. government officials, India has **refrained from** being **baited** and has instead **stuck to** its **established** position. So, while U.S. Trade Adviser Peter Navarro called the Russia-Ukraine war “Modi’s war”, India has remained calm and has instead been preparing on how to **deal with** the new reality of 50% tariffs. At the same time, Indian officials have said that **negotiations** on a trade deal with the U.S., though paused, **are** not **off the table**. Even the additional 25% ‘penalty’ **tariff** imposed on India **is** not a **deal breaker**, they have said, even though it **renders** any trade deal **inconsequential**. This is an **eminently** practical approach. A **knee-jerk** **cessation** of trade talks with the U.S. **would** hurt India further, but the **gains** from any **potential** trade deal **will** also be **undone** if these penalty tariffs remain **in place**. The **messaging** by the government to industry, too, **has** not been of **denial** but of **reassurance**: they know there is pain coming, and a plan is **in the works** to **alleviate** it. The solutions seem to be looked at from a suitability point of view, and not for **optics**. Rather than announce **flashy fiscal incentives**, the government has **demonstrated** awareness that such incentives would **hardly make a dent in the face of** the 50% tariffs for India while competitors face less than half that. Instead, the government is focusing on what it can effectively **address**, such as the **impending liquidity crunch** exporters are going to face.

The Centre has been **reasonably pragmatic** about how to secure the overall economy from the tariff impact as well. Exports **make up** about one-fifth of India’s GDP. The U.S. **accounts for** about one-fifth of that, and even within that, about 40% of India’s exports to the U.S. will not be affected by the 50% tariffs. So, even though the sectoral impact of the tariffs could be quite **severe** for some sectors, the **macroeconomic** impact is **likely** to be limited. **The dual approach** of **rekindling** dialogues with China, while also trying to **propel** domestic consumption through GST rate cuts **should**, therefore, **go a long way** in **mitigating** the hit. There is some talk in the government about **easing** the norms **laid out** in the COVID-19-era Press Note 3, which **curtails** Chinese foreign direct investment in India. This should be encouraged, with adequate **guardrails** to ensure national security. The Centre and States must also cooperate next week to ensure that the GST rate cuts **go through**, without **compromising** too much on the States’ fiscal health. Now is the time for level-headed action, not emotional **outbursts**.

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where ‘red’ denotes ‘subject’ and ‘blue’ denotes ‘verb’.
- **Be in the works** (phrase) – being planned, worked on, or produced.

[Practice Exercise]

## Vocabulary

1. **Rational** (adjective) – reasonable, logical, sound, judicious, sensible तर्कसंगत
2. **Level-headed** (adjective) – calm, composed, even-keeled, prudent, balanced संतुलित
3. **In the wake of** (phrase) – following, after, in the aftermath of, subsequent to, as a result of के बाद
4. **So far** (phrase) – till now, to date, hitherto, up to now, thus far अब तक
5. **Impose** (verb) – levy, enforce, enact, institute, inflict लगाना
6. **Maturity** (noun) – wisdom, prudence, sagacity, judiciousness, soberness परिपक्वता
7. **Pragmatism** (noun) – practicality, realism, hard-headedness, down-to-earthness, expediency व्यावहारिकता
8. **Provocative** (adjective) – inflammatory, inciting, goading, antagonistic, incendiary उकसाने वाला
9. **Refrain** (from) (verb) – abstain, desist, hold back, forbear, avoid बचना
10. **Bait** (verb) – provoke, goad, taunt, lure, entice उकसाना
11. **Stick** (to) (verb) – adhere to, keep to, abide by, hold to, remain with पर टिके रहना
12. **Established** (adjective) – settled, well-known, recognized, time-tested, longstanding स्थापित
13. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – handle, address, tackle, manage, contend with निपटना
14. **Negotiation** (noun) – talks, dialogue, bargaining, parley, discussions वार्ता
15. **Off the table** (phrase) – not under consideration, withdrawn, shelved, ruled out, postponed विचाराधीन नहीं
16. **Deal breaker** (noun) – nonstarter, red line, stumbling block, showstopper, veto point समझौता रोकने वाली शर्त
17. **Render** (verb) – make, cause to be, turn, reduce to, deliver बना देना
18. **Inconsequential** (adjective) – trivial, negligible, insignificant, immaterial, moot तुच्छ
19. **Eminently** (adverb) – highly, notably, decidedly, especially, remarkably अत्यंत
20. **Knee-jerk** (adjective) – (used about a reaction) made automatically, without any serious thought (प्रतिक्रिया) स्वाभाविक, बिना सोचे समझे
21. **Cessation** (noun) – halt, stoppage, discontinuation, suspension, termination विराम

22. **Potential** (adjective) – possible, prospective, likely, latent, conceivable  
संभावित
23. **Undo** (verb) – reverse, negate, nullify, roll back, counteract निरस्त करना
24. **In place** (phrase) – in effect, existing, operational, instituted, set up लागू
25. **Denial** (noun) – refusal, rejection, repudiation, negation, dismissal इन्कार
26. **Reassurance** (noun) – comfort, solace, encouragement, confidence-boost, assurance आश्वस्ति
27. **Alleviate** (verb) – ease, mitigate, lessen, reduce, relieve कम करना
28. **Optics** (noun) – public perception, image, appearance, PR angle, presentation छवि
29. **Flashy** (adjective) – showy, ostentatious, glitzy, gaudy, loud भड़कीला
30. **Fiscal** (adjective) – budgetary, financial, revenue-related, treasury, public-finance राजकोषीय
31. **Incentive** (noun) – inducement, stimulus, spur, motivation, sweetener प्रोत्साहन
32. **Demonstrate** (verb) – show, display, illustrate, evidence, prove दिखाना
33. **Hardly** (adverb) – scarcely, barely, rarely, seldom, scarcely at all मुश्किल से
34. **Make a dent** (phrase) – have an impact, move the needle, make headway, make inroads, bite असर डालना
35. **In the face of** (phrase) – despite, amid, confronted by, against, in spite of के बावजूद
36. **Address** (verb) – tackle, deal with, attend to, resolve, confront सुलझाना
37. **Impending** (adjective) – imminent, looming, forthcoming, upcoming, approaching आसन्न
38. **Liquidity crunch** (noun) – a situation where a lack of readily available cash नकदी संकट
39. **Reasonably** (adverb) – fairly, quite, sufficiently, moderately, sensibly काफी हद तक
40. **Pragmatic** (adjective) – practical, realistic, hard-nosed, down-to-earth, commonsensical व्यावहारिक
41. **Make up** (phrasal verb) – constitute, comprise, form, account for, compose का हिस्सा होना
42. **Account for** (phrasal verb) – constitute, represent, make up, explain, be responsible for का योगदान होना
43. **Severe** (adjective) – acute, grave, serious, harsh, stringent गंभीर

44. **Macroeconomic** (adjective) – economy-wide, aggregate, national-level, broad-economic, systemic व्यापक आर्थिक
45. **Likely** (adjective) – probable, expected, plausible, liable, apt संभावित
46. **Rekindle** (verb) – revive, renew, reignite, reawaken, resuscitate पुनर्जीवित करना
47. **Propel** (verb) – drive, push, spur, boost, power आगे बढ़ाना
48. **Go a long way** (phrase) – greatly help, significantly aid, be very effective, make a big difference, contribute substantially काफी मदद करना
49. **Mitigate** (verb) – lessen, reduce, ease, moderate, soften कम करना
50. **Ease** (verb) – relax, reduce, lighten, alleviate, loosen ढील देना
51. **Lay out** (phrasal verb) – set out, spell out, detail, outline, stipulate विस्तार से बताना
52. **Curtail** (verb) – limit, restrict, cut back, reduce, rein in सीमित करना
53. **Guardrail** (noun) – safeguard, protective barrier, safety rail, check, constraint सुरक्षा-उपबंध
54. **Go through** (phrasal verb) – be approved, pass, get cleared, proceed, be enacted मंजूर होना
55. **Compromise** (verb) – undermine, weaken, impair, jeopardise, dilute क्षति पहुँचाना
56. **Outburst** (noun) – flare-up, eruption, outcry, tirade, burst of anger भड़ास

### Summary of the Editorial

1. The U.S. has imposed a 50% tariff on Indian exports, creating trade tensions.
2. India has responded with maturity, pragmatism, and restraint rather than emotional reactions.
3. Despite provocative U.S. statements, such as calling the Russia-Ukraine war “Modi’s war,” India has avoided being baited.
4. Trade negotiations with the U.S. are paused but not completely abandoned.
5. Even the extra 25% “penalty” tariff is seen as damaging but not a total deal breaker.
6. India’s approach is practical — avoiding knee-jerk suspension of talks that would harm its own interests.
7. The government has reassured industries, acknowledging challenges but promising a plan to mitigate them.
8. Flashy fiscal incentives have been avoided, as they would not offset the tariff disadvantages.
9. The focus is instead on tackling exporters’ liquidity crunch and addressing real pain points.
10. At the macroeconomic level, impact is limited — exports form 20% of GDP, the U.S. takes 20% of that, and 40% of exports there are unaffected.
11. Severe impact is expected only in certain sectors, not across the entire economy.
12. The government is following a dual strategy: reopening dialogues with China while boosting domestic consumption.
13. GST rate cuts are being considered to support demand, though fiscal balance with States must be maintained.
14. Relaxation of COVID-era restrictions on Chinese FDI (Press Note 3) is under discussion, with safeguards for national security.
15. The central message: India must continue with *level-headed, pragmatic measures* instead of emotional or symbolic reactions to U.S. tariffs.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What stance does the Indian government take toward U.S. trade talks and the extra 25% “penalty” tariff, and why does the passage call this stance “practical”?** [Editorial Page]  
A. Talks will resume only after India imposes retaliatory tariffs; the U.S. has already waived the penalty.  
B. Talks are cancelled; the penalty is a red line, and a hard stop signals strength to markets.  
C. Talks are accelerated; the penalty can be ignored because optics matter more than impact.  
D. Talks are paused but not off the table; the penalty isn’t a deal-breaker yet it would nullify most gains, so ending talks now would hurt India more
2. **Choose the Corre appropriate word**  
Statement: India has already announced large, flashy fiscal incentives to offset the 50% U.S. tariffs.  
A. True  
B. False  
C. Cannot be determined from the passage  
D. Partly true
3. **What is the tone of the passage?**  
A. Pragmatic  
B. Alarmist  
C. Indignant  
D. Fatalistic
4. **Direction: Choose the most appropriate word to fill the blank**  
Sentence: “The messaging by the government to industry has been of \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledging the pain ahead and indicating that a plan is in the works to alleviate it.”  
A. retrenchment  
B. reassurance  
C. retaliation  
D. resignation
5. **Which rationale best explains the Centre’s choice to prioritize liquidity support over “flashy fiscal incentives”?**  
A. Incentives would almost certainly violate WTO rules, whereas liquidity measures would not.  
B. Liquidity support tackles imminent cash-flow stress that exporters will face, while splashy incentives would be too small to offset a 50% tariff disadvantage and thus poor value.  
C. Liquidity support communicates diplomatic defiance to U.S. officials without escalating.  
D. Incentives would automatically trigger retaliation from China, worsening supply chains.
6. **Choose the sentence that uses a homonym of the underlined word:**  
He swung the (bat) with all his strength.  
A. A bat fluttered beneath the rafters.  
B. His wooden bat cracked on impact.  
C. She gripped the bat tightly before the pitch.  
D. The bat felt heavier than usual today.

7. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct order.**  
A) What can we do to avoid anger and provocation?  
B) Anger and tension are prevalent due to conflicts arising out of these differences.  
C) The society is full of people who think and act differently.  
D) We need to develop in ourselves the capacity for conversion to turn negative experiences into positive thinking.  
A. ACBD  
B. CBAD  
C. CADB  
D. ABDC
8. **Select the most appropriate Antonym of the highlighted word in the given sentence.**  
The scientist searched for an **optimal** solution to the crisis.  
A. Prime  
B. Inferior  
C. Ideal  
D. Optimum
9. **Select the best express Synonym of the given highlighted word.**  
There is enough room for improvement in the project.  
A. Constraint  
B. Limit  
C. Restriction  
D. Scope
10. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**  
Something causing shock or dismay  
A. frivolous  
B. appalling  
C. mischievous  
D. remarkable
11. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the idiom**  
Memory like sieve  
A. Being healthy  
B. Poor memory  
C. Feeling ill  
D. Remembering everything
12. **Select the best express Synonym of the given highlighted word.**  
From the evidence, the detective could easily **deduce** the truth.  
A. Ignore  
B. Overlook  
C. Misinterpret  
D. Infer
13. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct order.**  
A) Only the fittest creatures can survive while competing for food.  
B) Why do some species survive and others become extinct?  
C) His answer was that there is ceaseless struggle for life among all creatures.

- D) This was the question that Darwin asked himself.  
A. ADCB  
B. ABDC  
C. BDCA  
D. BCDA
14. **Choose the sentence that uses a homonym of the underlined word:**  
She tied a (bow) around the gift.  
A. He drew the bow and released the arrow.  
B. The ribbon bow matched the wrapping paper.  
C. She placed a neat bow on the bouquet.  
D. The dress had a satin bow at the waist.
15. **Select the most appropriate Antonym of the highlighted word in the given sentence.**  
The new law was designed to put a **curb** on corruption.  
A. Restraint  
B. Cap  
C. License  
D. Control
16. **Select the most appropriate word for the given group of words.**  
A dome-shaped shelter built from blocks of solid snow used by Eskimos  
A. wigwam  
B. yurt  
C. tepee  
D. Igloo
17. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**  
The candidate blamed the persistent traffic jam as reason of his being late and the interviewer believed him though he was not convinced.  
A. gave the benefit of doubt  
B. changed his tune  
C. thought err is human and to forgive is divine  
D. did not judge the book by its cover
18. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**  
The team with a high motivation level succeeded in its project despite of the challenges it faced.  
A. despite of the challenges it faced.  
B. a high motivation level  
C. the team with  
D. succeeded in its project
19. **Choose the sentence that uses a homonym of the underlined word:**  
He sat on the (bank) of the river to sketch the bridge.  
A. The bank approved her loan application.  
B. The children slid down the grassy bank into the water.  
C. They picnicked on the river bank at sunset.  
D. The kayak got stuck near the muddy bank.



20. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct order.**
- A) However, new research shows that taking the dog for a walk can have its downsides for seniors.
  - B) Dogs are great companions and provide a healthy excuse to go for a walk and get a bit of exercise.
  - C) It once seemed common sense to believe that having and walking a dog was good for older people.
  - D) A report published in an American medical journal says injuries among seniors related to dog-walking are becoming increasingly prevalent
- A. ABCD
  - B. CBAD
  - C. CABD
  - D. ADCB

**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.**

India imports over 85% of its crude oil and more than 50% of its natural gas. This is not just an economic figure. It belongs in our national risk register. As conflict zones multiply, sea lanes narrow and supply chains fragment, every imported barrel becomes a liability. In this landscape, Russian oil has become India's biggest swing factor. \_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_ 2022, Russia has \_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_ as the country's single largest supplier, \_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_ roughly 35%-40% of total crude imports in 2024-25 — up from barely 2% before the Ukraine war. While discounted barrels have offered temporary relief to the import bill, the heavy concentration also \_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_ the vulnerability of relying too much \_\_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_ one geopolitical partner. Diversification, not substitution, is the real currency of sovereignty.

21. **What should come in the place of 1.**
- A. Unless
  - B. Since
  - C. After
  - D. Even if
22. **What should come in the place of 2.**
- A. emerge
  - B. emerged
  - C. been emerged
  - D. emerging
23. **What should come in the place of 3.**
- A. accounting for
  - B. account against
  - C. account in
  - D. account upon
24. **What should come in the place of 4.**
- A. to underscore
  - B. underscoring
  - C. underscored

D. underscores

25. **What should come in the place of 5.**

A. at

B. with

C. on

D. of

## Answers

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

**[Practice Exercise]**

## Explanations

- D) Talks are paused but not off the table; the penalty isn't a deal-breaker yet it would nullify most gains, so ending talks now would hurt India more**

The passage says talks are "paused, not off the table," and officials note the extra 25% isn't a deal-breaker though it makes any deal "inconsequential"; a knee-jerk halt would hurt India further—hence "practical."

A: No mention of linking talks to Indian retaliation or of any U.S. waiver.  
 B: Passage explicitly rejects a knee-jerk cessation and never calls the penalty a red line.  
 C: The passage stresses substance over optics; it does not say the penalty can be ignored.
- B) False**

The passage says the government avoided "flashy fiscal incentives" and is instead focusing on addressing exporters' impending liquidity crunch.

A (True): Contradicts the passage.  
 C (Cannot be determined): It is explicitly stated; so it can be determined.  
 D (Partly true): No element supports "partly"; it's clearly false.
- A) Pragmatic**

The passage consistently praises calm, practical, level-headed steps (avoiding knee-jerk reactions, focusing on liquidity, GST cuts, guarded China dialogue).

B. Alarmist: The piece downplays macro panic, noting limited macro impact.  
 C. Indignant: It doesn't rage at U.S. officials; it counsels restraint.  
 D. Fatalistic: It argues mitigation is possible, not that outcomes are inevitable.
- B) reassurance**

The passage states "not ... denial but reassurance," matching the sentence's sense of calming, forward-looking communication.

A (retrenchment): Means cost-cutting/contraction, not the tone of messaging.  
 C (retaliation): Implies aggressive counter-measures; opposite tone.  
 D (resignation): Suggests passive acceptance, not supportive assurance.
- B) Liquidity support tackles imminent cash-flow stress that exporters will face, while splashy incentives would be too small to offset a 50% tariff disadvantage and thus poor value.**

The passage says incentives would "hardly make a dent" versus 50% tariffs and that government focus is on the "impending liquidity crunch"—i.e., address fixable cash-flow pain rather than optics.

A introduces WTO concerns not mentioned; C imputes a signaling motive not stated; D claims automatic Chinese retaliation, unsupported by the passage.
- A) A bat fluttered beneath the rafters.**

Homonym: same spelling/pronunciation, different meaning.  
 In the question, bat = sports equipment (baseball/cricket).  
 In option 1, bat = flying mammal → different meaning, so this is correct.  
 Options 2, 3, 4 use bat in the same sports-equipment sense as the question.

Hindi (संक्षेप):

Homonym: एक जैसी उच्चारण, पर अलग अर्थ।

प्रश्न में bat = खेल का डंडा; विकल्प 1 में bat = चमगादड़ (जानवर) → अर्थ अलग, इसलिए यही सही उत्तर।

विकल्प 2, 3, 4 में वही खेल वाला अर्थ है।

7. B) **CBAD**

C starts the paragraph by stating a general fact about society: "The society is full of people who think and act differently." This introduces the subject.

B follows C as it explains the negative outcome of the differences mentioned in C: "Anger and tension are prevalent due to conflicts arising out of these differences." The pronoun "these differences" refers directly to the differences in thinking and acting described in C.

A follows B as it poses a logical question based on the problem stated in B: "What can we do to avoid anger and provocation?" This question seeks a solution to the prevalence of anger and tension.

D follows A as it provides the answer to the question in A: "We need to develop in ourselves the capacity for conversion..." This sentence suggests a method to address the issue.

Explanation in Hindi:

C paragraph की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह society के बारे में एक general fact introduce करता है:

"समाज ऐसे लोगों से भरा है जो अलग तरह से सोचते और act करते हैं।" यह context set करता है।

B, C के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह "these differences" (C में mentioned differences) का reference देता है और बताता है कि इन differences के कारण conflicts होते हैं, जिससे anger and tension prevalent हो जाती है।

A, B के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह problem (B में described anger and tension) के solution के बारे में question pose करता है: "हम anger और provocation से avoid करने के लिए क्या कर सकते हैं?"

D, A के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह question का answer देता है: "हमें अपने अंदर negative experiences को positive thinking में convert करने की capacity develop करनी चाहिए।"

8. B) **Optimal** (adjective) – best, ideal, most efficient, most suitable, optimum सर्वोत्तम

Antonym: **Inferior** (adjective) – lower in quality, substandard, second-rate, deficient, mediocre हीन

- **Prime** (adjective) – most important, foremost, chief, principal प्रमुख
- **Ideal** (adjective) – perfect, exemplary, flawless, supreme आदर्श
- **Optimum** (adjective) – most favorable, best, most advantageous सर्वोत्तम

9. D) **Room** (noun) – scope, leeway, latitude, space, margin गुंजाइश

Synonym: **Scope** (noun) – extent of possibility (सीमा / अवसर)

**Constraint** (noun) – limitation (बंधन)

**Limit** (noun) – boundary (सीमा)

**Restriction** (noun) – imposed control (प्रतिबंध)

10. B) **Appalling** (adjective) – Causing shock or dismay; horrifying. भयानक

- **Frivolous** (adjective) – Not having any serious purpose or value; carefree and not serious. तुच्छ
- **Mischievous** (adjective) – Causing or showing a fondness for causing trouble in a playful way. शरारती
- **Remarkable** (adjective) – Worthy of attention; striking. असाधारण

11. B) **Memory** like sieve (idiom) – Poor memory खराब स्मृति

12. D) **Deduce** (verb) – infer, derive, conclude, reason out, extrapolate निष्कर्ष निकालना

Synonym: **Infer** (verb) – draw conclusion (निष्कर्ष निकालना)

**Ignore** (verb) – neglect, disregard (अनदेखा करना)

**Overlook** (verb) – fail to notice (नज़रअंदाज़ करना)

**Misinterpret** (verb) – misunderstand (गलत अर्थ निकालना)

13. C) **BDCA**

B starts the paragraph with a question: "Why do some species survive and others become extinct?" This sets the topic.

D follows B because it directly refers to "this question" (the one asked in B) and introduces Darwin as the one who asked it. The pronoun "this" connects back to the question in B.

C follows D as it begins with "His answer" (referring to Darwin from D) and explains that there is a "ceaseless struggle for life."

A follows C because it elaborates on the "ceaseless struggle" by specifying how only the fittest survive while competing for food. It provides the details of the answer.

Explanation in Hindi:

B paragraph की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह एक question pose करता है: "Why do some species survive and others become extinct?" जो topic set करता है।

D, B के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह "this question" (B में पूछे गए question) को refer करता है और बताता है कि Darwin ने खुद से यह question पूछा। Pronoun "this" grammatically B से connect होता है।

C, D के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह "His answer" (D में mentioned Darwin) से start होता है और बताता है कि सभी creatures के बीच life के लिए एक ceaseless struggle होती है।

A, C के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह "ceaseless struggle" को elaborate करता है: बताता है कि केवल fittest creatures ही food के लिए compete करते हुए survive कर पाते हैं। यह answer का detailed part है।

14. A) He drew the bow and released the arrow.

Homonym: same spelling/pronunciation, different meaning.

In the question, bow = ribbon decoration on a gift.

In option 1, bow = a weapon for archery → different meaning, so it's the correct homonym use.

Options 2, 3, 4 use bow in the same ribbon sense.

Hindi (संक्षेप):

Homonym: एक ही उच्चारण, अलग अर्थ।

प्रश्न में bow = रिबन की गाँठ; विकल्प 1 में bow = तीर-कमान (हथियार) → अर्थ अलग, इसलिए यही सही उत्तर है।

विकल्प 2, 3, 4 में वही रिबन-वाला अर्थ है।

15. C) **Curb** (noun) – restriction, restraint, limit, control, cap रोक

Antonym: **License** (noun) – authorization, permission, liberty, sanction अनुमति

• **Restraint** (noun) – restriction, constraint, limitation, control नियंत्रण

• **Cap** (noun) – upper limit, ceiling, restriction, maximum सीमा

• **Control** (noun) – command, regulation, authority, management नियंत्रण

16. D) **Igloo** (noun) – A dome-shaped shelter built from blocks of solid snow, typically used by Inuits or Eskimos. इगलू

• **Wigwam** (noun) – A dome-shaped dwelling previously used by certain Native American tribes, constructed of arched poles covered with bark, hides, or woven rush mats. विगवाम

• **Yurt** (noun) – A circular, tent-like dwelling with a conical roof, traditionally used by nomadic people in Central Asia, made of a wooden framework covered with felt or skins. यूर्ट

• **Tepee** (noun) – A cone-shaped tent traditionally used by many Native American tribes, made of wooden poles covered with hides or canvas. टीपी

17. A) **Gave the benefit of doubt** (idiom) - Accepting someone's statement or explanation despite having doubts about its veracity. संदेह का लाभ देना

• **Changed his tune** (idiom) - Altered one's opinion or approach towards something. अपनी धारणा या दृष्टिकोण को बदल देना

• **Thought err is human and to forgive is divine** (idiom) - Recognizing that people make mistakes and forgiving them is a noble quality. भूलना मानवीय है और क्षमा करना दिव्य है

• **Did not judge the book by its cover** (idiom) - Not forming an opinion about someone or something based solely on appearance. केवल दिखावे पर आधारित नहीं करना

18. A) despite of" के बदले केवल "despite" का use होगा क्योंकि "despite" का अर्थ होता है "के बावजूद" और यह Preposition के रूप में काम करता है। "of" का use "despite" के साथ नहीं होता है। सही वाक्य होगा: The team with a high motivation level succeeded in its project despite the challenges it faced.

despite of" should be replaced with "despite" because "despite" itself is a preposition meaning "in spite of." Adding "of" after "despite" is grammatically incorrect.

19. A) The bank approved her loan application.

Homonym meaning: A homonym is a word with the same spelling/pronunciation but a different meaning.

In the question, bank = the riverbank (land beside a river).

In option 1, bank = a financial institution → different meaning, so it correctly uses a homonym. Options 2, 3, 4 all use bank in the same "riverbank" sense as the question, so they don't show a different meaning.

Hindi (संक्षेप में):

Homonym वह शब्द है जिसका उच्चारण एक जैसा हो लेकिन अर्थ अलग हो।

प्रश्न में bank = नदी का किनारा; विकल्प 1 में bank = बैंक/वित्तीय संस्था → अर्थ अलग, इसलिए यही सही उत्तर है।

विकल्प 2, 3, 4 में bank वही नदी किनारा अर्थ में है, अतः वे सही नहीं।

#### 20. B) CBAD

C starts the paragraph by introducing the past common-sense belief: "It once seemed common sense to believe that having and walking a dog was good for older people." This sets the topic. B follows C as it elaborates on the positive aspects mentioned in C: "Dogs are great companions and provide a healthy excuse..." It supports the belief with reasons.

A follows B with the contrastive adverb "However," indicating a shift to the downsides: "new research shows that taking the dog for a walk can have its downsides for seniors." This directly contrasts the positive view in B.

D follows A as it provides concrete evidence for the downsides: "A report published in an American medical journal says injuries..." This report is part of the "new research" mentioned in A.

Explanation in Hindi:

C paragraph की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह past common-sense belief को introduce करता है: "यह मानना common sense था कि older लोगों के लिए dog रखना और walk करना अच्छा है।" यह context set करता है।

B, C के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह positive aspects को elaborate करता है: "Dogs great companions हैं और walk के लिए healthy excuse provide करते हैं..." यह belief को support करता है।

A, B के बाद आता है क्योंकि contrastive adverb "However" से start होकर downsides की ओर shift करता है: "new research shows कि seniors के लिए dog walk करने के downsides हो सकते हैं।" यह B के positive statement के विपरीत है।

D, A के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह specific evidence देता है: "एक American medical journal में publish की गई report कहती है कि seniors में dog-walking related injuries increasingly prevalent हो रही हैं..." यह A में mentioned "new research" का हिस्सा है।

#### 21. B) 'Since' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ समय की शुरुआत (from 2022 onwards) को दिखाना है।

Sentence कहता है कि 2022 से Russia भारत का सबसे बड़ा supplier बन गया है। इसलिए "Since 2022"

सही है। जबकि 'Unless' (जब तक नहीं) शर्तीय स्थिति बताता है, 'After' (के बाद) sequence दिखाता है लेकिन यहाँ लगातार जारी स्थिति चाहिए, और 'Even if' (भले ही) concessive clause के लिए होता है। ये context और grammar में फिट नहीं बैठते।

'Since' will be used because it refers to the starting point of time (from 2022 onwards). The sentence conveys that Russia has emerged as India's largest supplier beginning in 2022, so "Since 2022" is correct. Whereas 'Unless' indicates a condition, 'After' suggests sequence but not continuity, and 'Even if' is concessive. None of these fit the intended meaning here.

22. B) '**Emerged**' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ sentence है "Since 2022, Russia has emerged as the country's single largest supplier." Present Perfect tense ("has + past participle") चाहिए और 'emerged' इसका सही past participle रूप है। जबकि 'Emerge' base form है और 'has' के बाद नहीं आ सकता, 'Been emerged' passive गलत structure है, और 'Emerging' present participle है जो tense और meaning दोनों में गलत है।

'Emerged' will be used because the sentence is in Present Perfect tense: "has + past participle." The correct construction is "has emerged." Whereas 'Emerge' is a base form and cannot follow "has," 'Been emerged' is a wrong passive usage, and 'Emerging' is a present participle that does not fit in this tense or context.

23. A) '**Accounting for**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "किसी चीज़ का हिस्सा होना या किसी मात्रा में योगदान देना।" Sentence है: "Russia has emerged as the country's single largest supplier, accounting for roughly 35%-40% of total crude imports..." यहाँ यह perfectly fit बैठता है क्योंकि Russia के हिस्से को बताना है। जबकि 'Account against' का अर्थ होता है विरोध में दर्ज करना, 'Account in' कोई सही phrase नहीं है, और 'Account upon' भी standard English usage में नहीं आता।

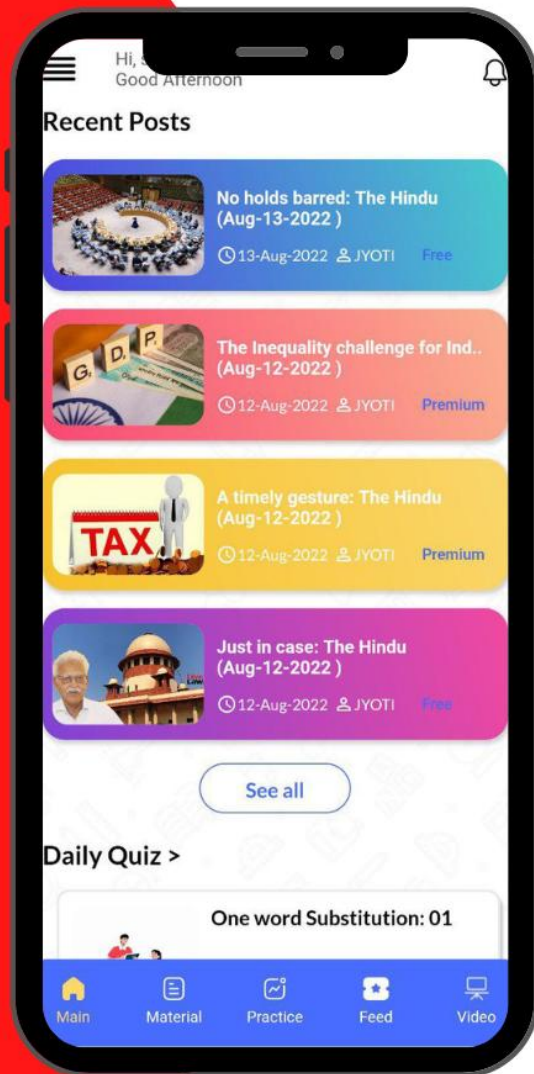
'Accounting for' will be used because it means "to constitute or make up a portion of something." The sentence is: "Russia has emerged as the country's single largest supplier, accounting for roughly 35%-40% of total crude imports..." which is correct as it shows Russia's share. Whereas, 'Account against' means to record opposition, 'Account in' is not a valid collocation, and 'Account upon' is not idiomatic in English, so they don't fit the context.

24. D) '**Underscores**' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence है: "the heavy concentration also underscores the vulnerability of relying too much on one geopolitical partner." यहाँ subject "the heavy concentration" singular है, और उसके साथ simple present verb "underscores" fit होता है। जबकि 'To underscore' infinitive है जो यहाँ structure को तोड़ देगा, 'Underscoring' participle है जो यहाँ सही clause नहीं बनाएगा, और 'Underscored' past tense है जबकि sentence general truth (present fact) बता रहा है।

'Underscores' will be used because the subject "the heavy concentration" is singular, so the verb must be in the simple present tense: "underscores." The sentence expresses a present fact. Whereas, 'To underscore' (infinitive) breaks the sentence structure, 'Underscoring' (participle) would not form a proper clause here, and 'Underscored' (past tense) shifts the meaning to the past, which is not intended.



25. C) 'On' का use होगा क्योंकि सही phrase है "rely on somebody/something" यानी "किसी पर निर्भर होना।" Sentence है: "the vulnerability of relying too much on one geopolitical partner." जबकि 'At' जगह या समय को दिखाने के लिए होता है, 'With' association या साथ को दर्शाता है, और 'Of' possession (स्वामित्व) के लिए होता है। इसलिए ये context में सही नहीं हैं।
- 'On' will be used because the correct collocation is "rely on," meaning to depend upon someone/something. The sentence is: "the vulnerability of relying too much on one geopolitical partner." Whereas, 'At' indicates place/time, 'With' shows association, and 'Of' shows possession, none of which fit this grammatical structure.



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