

## Decisive intervention: On the Supreme Court order, the Aadhaar card

Including the Aadhaar as the 12th document for voter verification is a significant step

The Supreme Court of India's **decisive intervention**, ordering the Election Commission of India (ECI) to include the Aadhaar card as one of the 12 valid documents for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of Bihar's **electoral rolls**, **is vital course correction**. It is a **resounding** victory for the fundamental right to vote, **reaffirming** the principle that procedural **rigidity** must not **disenfranchise** lakhs of eligible citizens. The ECI adopted **questionable reasoning**, **insisting** that Aadhaar was **merely** proof of residency, not citizenship, and was, therefore, **inadmissible**. The Court rightly **dismantled** this argument by **pointing out** the **glaring inconsistency**: **if nine of the other 11 documents**, save for a passport or birth certificate, **do** not **conclusively** prove citizenship, why **single out** Aadhaar for exclusion? The Court also said that Aadhaar could be used subject to verification of its authenticity. This judicial clarity was urgently needed. **Empirical** evidence **demonstrates** that **excluding Aadhaar**, which is held by nearly 90% of Bihar's population, in favour of documents such as passports (held by a mere 2%) and others, **would** have created **insurmountable** barriers for a **vast** number of genuine voters, particularly among the poor and **the marginalised**. The ECI's rushed SIR exercise had already **resulted in** the exclusion of over 65 lakh electors from the draft roll. A statistical **analysis** by The Hindu of this exclusion **reveals** several **anomalies** — **disproportionate** numbers of women removed, statistically **improbable** death rates in certain areas, and questionable "permanent shifts" of residents, especially migrant workers and married women. These patterns suggest a **flawed** process that prioritised **haste** over accuracy, risking the removal of **legitimate** voters.

The inclusion of Aadhaar **paves the way for** a smoother, more accessible verification process. First, it offered a lifeline to those unfairly **struck off** the rolls among the 65 lakh electors. It also **assists** electors already on the rolls who require document verification. It **vindicates** the **persistent** appeals from political and civil society activists who had warned that the ECI's **stance** was creating a **problematic** situation on the ground where Aadhaar was not accepted as a verification document, contradicting the Court's earlier guidance. Its order, on Monday, forces the ECI to **align** its procedures with the practical realities of identity verification in India today. This ruling has **implications** beyond Bihar, **setting a precedent for** all the other revisions **envisaged** across the country. For the ECI, the **goal** of electoral roll revision **should** be to ensure accuracy and inclusivity, not to rush the process through in a way that could affect citizens' rights. The ECI must now **pivot** toward a more **diligent** and **humane** approach, emphasising thorough house-to-house verification and ensuring that the **foundation** of India's democracy — the electoral roll — **is** both accurate and truly representative of all its people.

[Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Decisive** (adjective) – conclusive, resolute, definitive, crucial, determining निर्णायक
2. **Intervention** (noun) – involvement, mediation, intercession, interference, interposition हस्तक्षेप
3. **Electoral roll** (noun) – a list of people who have enrolled to vote for particular elections in a particular jurisdiction. मतदाता सूची
4. **Vital** (adjective) – essential, critical, pivotal, indispensable, key महत्वपूर्ण
5. **Course correction** (noun) – recalibration, realignment, mid-course adjustment, policy revision, corrective action मार्ग-सुधार
6. **Resounding** (adjective) – emphatic, ringing, sweeping, thunderous, unequivocal जोरदार
7. **Reaffirm** (verb) – reassert, restate, confirm again, reiterate, uphold पुनः पुष्टि करना
8. **Rigidity** (noun) – inflexibility, strictness, stiffness, severity, unyieldingness कठोरता/जड़ता
9. **Disenfranchise** (verb) – deprive of vote, disfranchise, strip voting rights, exclude, bar मताधिकार से वंचित करना
10. **Questionable** (adjective) – dubious, suspect, disputable, shaky, arguable विवादास्पद
11. **Reasoning** (noun) – logic, rationale, argumentation, line of argument, justification तर्क
12. **Insist** (verb) – maintain, assert, demand, press, contend जोर देना
13. **Merely** (adverb) – only, simply, just, purely, nothing more than मात्र
14. **Inadmissible** (adjective) – unacceptable, impermissible, invalid, not allowable, excluded अस्वीकार्य
15. **Dismantle** (verb) – take apart, deconstruct, tear down, disassemble, demolish ध्वस्त करना
16. **Point out** (phrasal verb) – highlight, indicate, note, underscore, draw attention to बताना
17. **Glaring** (adjective) – obvious, blatant, flagrant, conspicuous, egregious स्पष्ट
18. **Inconsistency** (noun) – discrepancy, contradiction, incongruity, mismatch, variance विसंगति
19. **Conclusively** (adverb) – decisively, definitively, finally, convincingly, beyond doubt निर्णायक रूप से
20. **Single out** (phrasal verb) – pick out, target, isolate, select, zero in on अलग से चुनना
21. **Empirical** (adjective) – evidence-based, observed, data-driven, experiential, factual अनुभवजन्य/प्रायोगिक

22. **Demonstrate** (verb) – show, prove, establish, exhibit, illustrate प्रदर्शित करना
23. **Insurmountable** (adjective) – unbeatable, unconquerable, overwhelming, impossible to overcome, formidable दुर्गम
24. **Vast** (adjective) – immense, enormous, extensive, massive, huge विशाल
25. **The marginalised** (noun) – the excluded, the underprivileged, the disadvantaged, the vulnerable, the under-represented वंचित वर्ग
26. **Result in** (phrase) – lead to, cause, bring about, give rise to, culminate in का कारण बनना
27. **Anomaly** (noun) – irregularity, aberration, outlier, deviation, exception विसंगति
28. **Disproportionate** (adjective) – unequal, lopsided, imbalanced, excessive, out of proportion अनुपातहीन
29. **Improbable** (adjective) – unlikely, implausible, doubtful, far-fetched, remote असंभाव्य
30. **Flawed** (adjective) – defective, faulty, unsound, imperfect, deficient त्रुटिपूर्ण
31. **Haste** (noun) – hurry, rush, precipitance, undue speed, hastefulness जल्दबाजी
32. **Legitimate** (adjective) – lawful, valid, rightful, bona fide, justified वैध/वाजिब
33. **Pave the way for** (phrase) – enable, facilitate, prepare the ground for, open the door to, lay the groundwork for मार्ग प्रशस्त करना
34. **Strike off** (phrasal verb) – remove, delete, expunge, drop, strike out नाम काटना
35. **Assist** (verb) – help, aid, support, facilitate, enable सहायता करना
36. **Vindicate** (verb) – justify, validate, uphold, confirm, prove right सही ठहराना
37. **Persistent** (adjective) – continual, constant, relentless, tenacious, dogged लगातार
38. **Stance** (noun) – position, standpoint, viewpoint, posture, attitude रुख
39. **Problematic** (adjective) – troublesome, contentious, vexed, fraught, challenging समस्याग्रस्त
40. **Align** (verb) – harmonise, bring into line, conform, coordinate, sync अनुरूप करना
41. **Implication** (noun) – consequence, ramification, repercussion, inference, upshot निहितार्थ
42. **Set the precedent for** (phrase) – establish a precedent for, provide a model for, be a template for, pave the way for, set a benchmark for मिसाल स्थापित करना
43. **Envisage** (verb) – envision, foresee, imagine, contemplate, project कल्पना करना
44. **Pivot** (verb) – shift, turn, reorient, switch focus, realign दिशा बदलना

45. **Diligent** (adjective) – meticulous, thorough, conscientious, painstaking, hard-working  
परिश्रमी
46. **Humane** (adjective) – compassionate, kind, empathetic, benevolent, merciful मानवीय

### Summary of the Editorial

1. The Supreme Court ordered the Election Commission of India (ECI) to include Aadhaar as one of the 12 valid documents for Bihar's electoral roll revision.
2. This intervention protects the fundamental right to vote and prevents procedural rigidity from disenfranchising citizens.
3. The ECI had excluded Aadhaar, arguing it was proof of residency, not citizenship.
4. The Court highlighted the inconsistency: most other documents (except passports/birth certificates) also don't prove citizenship conclusively.
5. Aadhaar's inclusion is subject to verification of authenticity, ensuring safeguards.
6. Nearly 90% of Bihar's population holds Aadhaar, making it a practical verification tool.
7. By contrast, passports are held by only 2%, making Aadhaar far more accessible.
8. Excluding Aadhaar would have created serious barriers for poor and marginalised voters.
9. The rushed SIR exercise had already led to 65 lakh electors being excluded from draft rolls.
10. Analysis of exclusions revealed anomalies like disproportionate removal of women and improbable death rates.
11. Many "permanent shifts" of residents (like migrant workers and married women) seemed questionable.
12. Aadhaar inclusion provides a lifeline to those unfairly removed and helps existing voters with verification needs.
13. The Court's order also validates long-standing concerns of political and civil society groups.
14. The ruling sets a precedent for future electoral roll revisions across India.
15. The ECI must now prioritise accuracy, inclusivity, and careful house-to-house verification over rushed processes, to safeguard India's democracy.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the central argument advanced by the passage?** [Editorial Page]
- A. Aadhaar should replace all other documents nationwide to conclusively establish citizenship for voters
- B. The Supreme Court's inclusion of Aadhaar corrects the ECI's flawed, exclusionary SIR process and sets a precedent, urging a more accurate and inclusive roll-revision approach
- C. The Hindu's statistical analysis proves Aadhaar is the only credible identity document for elections
- D. Electoral anomalies in Bihar are inevitable during revisions; strict document filters must therefore be tightened further
2. **Which inference is most defensible from the passage regarding the Supreme Court's direction to include Aadhaar in Bihar's SIR?**
- A. The Court's primary aim was to establish a strict hierarchy of citizenship-proof documents.
- B. The Court sought to prevent procedural barriers from diluting the right to vote, given Aadhaar's near-universal reach and the rushed exclusions.
- C. The ruling declares Aadhaar a definitive proof of Indian citizenship for all electoral purposes.
- D. Speedy completion of SIR deadlines was prioritized over correcting exclusion errors.
3. **Select the most appropriate word to fill the blank, in line with the passage's stance: "The Court's direction serves as a \_\_\_\_\_ precedent for future roll revisions, compelling the ECI to align procedure with ground realities."**
- A. salutary
- B. parochial
- C. perfunctory
- D. equivocal
4. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the sentence from the passage:**  
"The Supreme Court of India's decisive intervention ... is vital course correction."
- A. Resolute
- B. Tentative
- C. Determined
- D. Conclusive
5. **Identify the correct type of sentence used in the line from the passage:**  
"Why single out Aadhaar for exclusion?"
- A. Assertive/Declarative sentence
- B. Imperative sentence
- C. Interrogative sentence
- D. Exclamatory sentence
6. **Choose the option most similar in meaning to the underlined word(s).**  
The two executioners approached the tree with a red-mark on its side.
- A. executive engineers
- B. explorers
- C. experimenters
- D. those who inflict capital punishment

7. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the right order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.
- A. The festival is named after the Indian Hornbill.  
B. The Hornbill festival is the most anticipated cultural carnival of this state.  
C. Located in Northeast India, Nagaland is very a beautiful and an ethnically diverse state.  
D. The Hornbill is often displayed on the traditional tribal headgears worn during Naga festivities
- A. CBAD  
B. ABCD  
C. BCAD  
D. ACBD
8. Select the most appropriate phrase that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.
- The question paper was very easy to complete
- A. the last straw  
B. fair and square  
C. a piece of cake  
D. a snowball effect
9. Choose the option most similar in meaning to the underlined word(s).
- For better health we must refrain from smoking.
- A. dissuade  
B. desist  
C. prevent  
D. curb
10. The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.
- (a) These are the ideas and ideals/ (b) which have shaped/(c) our economic thought in the past/(d) No error.
- A. These are the ideas and ideals  
B. which have shaped  
C. our economic thought in the past.  
D. No error
11. Choose the option most opposite in meaning to the underlined word(s).
- Reckless driving causes accidents.
- A. careful  
B. slow  
C. good  
D. correct
12. Choose the option most opposite in meaning to the underlined word(s).
- Poisonous gases emitted from factories contaminate the air we breathe in.
- A. sanctify  
B. invigorate  
C. taint

- D. purify
13. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the right order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.
- A. Then I took him by the hand and led him across the street.  
B. I was going to the market when I saw a blind man trying to cross the street.  
C. He expressed his gratitude with folded hands.  
D. I walked across to the blind man.
- A. CBDA  
B. BDAC  
C. ABCD  
D. DABC
14. Choose the option most similar in meaning to the underlined word(s).  
Mass murder is very often a result of communal frenzy.
- A. patricide  
B. fratricide  
C. regicide  
D. genocide
15. The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.
- At the / annual function of the school / the principal advised to the students to be ideal citizens. / No error
- A. At the  
B. annual function of the school  
C. the principal advised to the students to be ideal citizens.  
D. No error
16. In the given question, a pair of sentences are given in which the keywords have been underlined. Identify the sentence in which the underlined words have been used correctly in the context.
- More than one person was killed in the accident.
- A. were killed  
B. are killed  
C. have been killed  
D. No improvement
17. Select the most appropriate idiom to fill in the blank.
- We hear the judges from their \_\_\_\_\_ that only CNG buses should run in Delhi
- A. look sharp  
B. square meal  
C. melting pot  
D. ivory tower
18. In the given question, a pair of sentences are given in which the keywords have been underlined. Identify the sentence in which the underlined words have been used correctly in the context.
- Not a word they spoke to the unfortunate wife about it.

- A. did they speak  
B. they will speak  
C. they had spoken  
D. No improvement
19. **Choose the option most similar in meaning to the underlined word(s).**  
Valiant Vicky used to boast of his bravery to his beloved wife.  
A. cry  
B. abuse  
C. hate  
D. brag
20. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the right order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**  
A. I was shocked to find my house unlocked.  
B. To my astonishment, I found that my son, who had a spare key, had come in my absence.  
C. Last Sunday I returned home late at night.  
D. I ran inside in fear that my house has been robbed.  
A. CDAB  
B. BCDA  
C. CADB  
D. ABCD

**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.**

In August, as part of a group of 500 scientists and academics, we \_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_ the International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) regarding Israel's participation. The IOAA, held in Mumbai \_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_ 11-21 August with 63 countries participating, \_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_ one of the major science Olympiads designed to identify talented high-school students. The Olympiads are a matter of significant national \_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_ in Israel and the government \_\_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_ the performance of its teams as evidence of scientific progress.

21. **What should come in the place of 1.**  
A. repudiated  
B. debilitated  
C. petitioned  
D. flustered
22. **What should come in the place of 2.**  
A. from  
B. above  
C. around  
D. behind
23. **What should come in the place of 3.**  
A. are  
B. was  
C. were  
D. is

24. **What should come in the place of 4.**

- A. obloquy
- B. candor
- C. prestige
- D. hubris

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

- A. showcased
- B. showcasing
- C. showcase
- D. showcases

## Answers

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

**[Practice Exercise]**

## Explanations

- B) The Supreme Court's inclusion of Aadhaar corrects the ECI's flawed, exclusionary SIR process and sets a precedent, urging a more accurate and inclusive roll-revision approach. The passage frames the order as "vital course correction," highlights mass exclusions (65 lakh) and anomalies under the rushed SIR, notes Aadhaar's broad penetration, and concludes with a call for "accuracy and inclusivity" and careful house-to-house verification, with implications beyond Bihar.

A: The passage never argues Aadhaar should replace all documents or that it proves citizenship; it supports inclusion subject to verification.

C: Misreads the role of analysis—the data exposes exclusionary effects of the SIR; it doesn't crown Aadhaar as the sole "credible" ID.

D: Opposite of the author's stance—the piece rejects haste/rigidity and advocates humane, diligent verification rather than tighter exclusionary filters.
- B) The Court sought to prevent procedural barriers from diluting the right to vote, given Aadhaar's near-universal reach and the rushed exclusions.

The passage stresses inclusivity and avoiding disenfranchisement ("procedural rigidity must not disenfranchise...", Aadhaar held by ~90%, 65 lakh draft exclusions, anomalies affecting women/migrants). The Court's move targets barriers that would otherwise remove legitimate voters.

A — Incorrect: The passage rejects document "purity" logic and focuses on inclusion, not a strict hierarchy.

C — Incorrect: It explicitly says Aadhaar may be used "subject to verification," and notes Aadhaar isn't citizenship proof per se.

D — Incorrect: The passage criticizes rushing; accuracy and inclusivity are prioritized over speed.
- A) **salutary**

Salutary means beneficial and corrective—matching the passage's view that the ruling is a needed course correction with nationwide implications.

A — Parochial (narrow/limited) contradicts the nationwide precedent suggested.

C — Perfunctory (superficial, merely routine) clashes with the "decisive intervention" and substantive correction described.

D — Equivocal (ambiguous) conflicts with the text's emphasis on "judicial clarity."
- B) **Tentative**

Decisive = firm, conclusive, resolute; its opposite is tentative = hesitant, uncertain.
- C) **Interrogative sentence**

Begins with "Why," ends with a question mark, and is posed to challenge reasoning rather than seek information—hence interrogative (rhetorical).

A. Assertive/Declarative — would make a statement, not ask a question.

B. Imperative — gives a command/request (base verb form), which this isn't.

D. Exclamatory — expresses strong emotion with an exclamation; here the punctuation and structure are interrogative, not exclamatory.

6. D) **Executioners** (noun) – People who carry out a death sentence, hangman, headsman, punisher. जल्लाद

- **Executive engineers** – Government officials engaged in construction/engineering works. अभियंता
- **Explorers** – People who travel to discover new places. अन्वेषक
- **Experimenters** – People who conduct tests or trials. प्रयोगकर्ता

7. A) **CBAD**

C starts the paragraph by introducing the subject "Nagaland," which provides the context for the rest of the sentences. It tells us where the Hornbill festival takes place.

B follows C because it introduces the main topic—the "Hornbill festival"—and connects it to Nagaland (mentioned in C). This establishes a clear link between the state and its most famous festival.

A comes next as it explains the origin of the festival's name ("named after the Indian Hornbill"), which logically follows the introduction of the festival in B.

D concludes the paragraph by providing additional details about the Hornbill's cultural significance, specifically its presence on tribal headgears during festivities. This reinforces the connection between the bird and Naga traditions.

In Hindi

- C paragraph की शुरुआत करता है, क्योंकि यह subject "Nagaland" को introduce करता है, जो Hornbill festival का स्थान बताता है।
- B, C के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह main topic "Hornbill festival" को introduce करता है और Nagaland से जोड़ता है, जिससे state और उसके प्रसिद्ध festival के बीच connection स्थापित होता है।
- A, B के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह festival के नाम की उत्पत्ति ("named after the Indian Hornbill") बताता है, जो festival के introduction के बाद logical है।
- D paragraph को समाप्त करता है, क्योंकि यह Hornbill की cultural importance ("displayed on tribal headgears") के बारे में जानकारी देता है, जो festival और Naga traditions के बीच संबंध को मजबूत करता है।

8. C) **A piece of cake** (Idiom)– Very easy to complete बहुत आसान

- **The last straw** – The final problem that makes a situation unbearable आखिरी और असहनीय समस्या
- **Fair and square** – In an honest and straightforward manner ईमानदारी और निष्पक्षता से
- **A snowball effect** – A situation that rapidly grows bigger or worse एक तेजी से बढ़ती हुई स्थिति

9. B) **Refrain** (verb) – To stop oneself from doing something, abstain, hold back, avoid, withhold. परहेज करना / बचना

- Synonym: **Desist** (verb) – To cease or abstain, stop doing something. रोकना / विराम देना
- **Dissuade** (verb) – To persuade someone not to take a particular course of action. मनाना

- **Prevent** (verb) – To stop something from happening. रोकना
  - **Curb** (verb) – To control or restrain. नियंत्रण करना
10. B) 'have shaped' के बदले '**shaped**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य में 'in the past' (Past Time Expression) दिया गया है। Present Perfect Tense (have/has + V<sup>3</sup>) का प्रयोग Past Time Expression (yesterday, last year, in the past आदि) के साथ नहीं होता। अतः सही वाक्य होगा—  
"These are the ideas and ideals which shaped our economic thought in the past."  
'shaped' will be used instead of 'have shaped' because the sentence contains the Past Time Expression 'in the past'. Present Perfect Tense (have/has + V<sup>3</sup>) is not used with such Past Time Expressions. Therefore, the correct sentence is: "These are the ideas and ideals which shaped our economic thought in the past."
11. A) **Reckless** (adjective) – careless, rash, heedless, negligent, foolhardy लापरवाह
- Antonym: **Careful** (adjective) – exercising caution, attentive, cautious, prudent. सावधान
  - **Slow** (adjective) – not fast, sluggish, unhurried, leisurely. धीमा
  - **Good** (adjective) – morally right, virtuous, excellent, admirable. अच्छा
  - **Correct** (adjective) – accurate, right, proper, exact. सही
12. D) **Contaminate** (verb) – Pollute, infect, foul, dirty, corrupt. प्रदूषित करना  
Antonym: **Purify** (verb) – Cleanse, refine, sanitize, decontaminate. शुद्ध करना
- **Sanctify** (verb) – To make holy, consecrate, bless. पवित्र करना
  - **Invigorate** (verb) – To energize, refresh, strengthen. स्फूर्ति देना
  - **Taint** (verb) – To pollute, spoil, defile, infect. दूषित करना
13. B) **BDAC**  
B starts the sentence with the subject "I," which tells us who performed the action.  
D follows B as it introduces the verb phrase "walked across," which describes what the subject did. This establishes a clear subject-verb relationship: I walked across.  
A comes next as it introduces the transition word "Then," which indicates the sequence of actions. The pronoun "him" connects back to "the blind man" mentioned earlier, maintaining coherence.  
C concludes the sentence by introducing the verb "expressed," which describes the blind man's reaction, completing the logical flow of events.
- In Hindi
- B sentence की शुरुआत करता है, क्योंकि यह subject "I" को introduce करता है, जो बताता है कि action किसने किया।
  - D, B के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह verb phrase "walked across" को introduce करता है, जो यह बताता है कि subject (I) ने क्या किया। इससे एक स्पष्ट subject-verb relationship बनता है: I walked across.
  - A, D के बाद logically fit होता है क्योंकि यह transition word "Then" को introduce करता है, जो sequence of actions को दर्शाता है। Pronoun "him" पिछले sentence में mentioned "the blind man" से जुड़ता है, coherence बनाए रखता है।
  - C sentence को complete करता है, क्योंकि यह verb "expressed" को introduce करता है, जो blind man की reaction को describe करता है, events के logical flow को finish करता है।

14. D) **Genocide** (noun) – The deliberate killing of a large group of people, especially those of a particular nation or ethnic group. सामूहिक नरसंहार
- **Patricide** (noun) – The act of killing one's own father. पितृहत्याकांड
  - **Fatricide** (noun) – The act of killing one's own brother. भ्रातृहत्याकांड
  - **Regicide** (noun) – The act of killing a king. राजहत्या
15. C) 'advised to the students' के बदले 'advised the students' होगा क्योंकि 'advise' transitive verb है और direct object लेता है; 'to' नहीं लगता. (अगर noun 'advice' हो तो: 'gave advice to the students'.)
- Use 'advised the students' (no 'to') since 'advise' takes a direct object; or use the noun: 'gave advice to the students'.
- Like— The teacher advised the players to practise daily.
16. D) **No improvement**
- 'was killed' का प्रयोग सही है क्योंकि Rule के अनुसार "More than one + singular noun + singular verb" का प्रयोग होता है। जैसे— More than one student was present in the class.
- 'was killed' will be correct because according to the rule "More than one + singular noun + singular verb" is used. Like— More than one student was present in the class.
17. D) **Ivory tower** (noun) – A state of privileged seclusion or separation from the real world, often with a lack of practical concern. इसका मतलब है व्यावहारिक दुनिया से दूर, एकांत में रहना और वास्तविक समस्याओं से अनभिज्ञ रहना
- **Look sharp** (idiom) – To be quick or attentive in action. सावधान रहना
  - **Square meal** (noun) – A substantial, satisfying, and nutritious meal. पौष्टिक भोजन
  - **Melting pot** (idiom) – A place where different peoples, styles, theories, etc., are mixed together. सांस्कृतिक संगम
18. A) 'they spoke' के बदले 'did they speak' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ Negative Construction है (Not a word...)। Negative या Restrictive शब्द (never, hardly, seldom, not a word आदि) जब वाक्य की शुरुआत में आते हैं, तो Inversion की आवश्यकता होती है यानी Auxiliary Verb (did) पहले और Subject (they) बाद में आता है; जैसे— Not a word did he say to me.
- 'they spoke' will be replaced by 'did they speak' because this is a Negative Construction (Not a word...). When negative/restrictive adverbs (never, hardly, not a word, seldom etc.) come at the beginning of a sentence, inversion is required, i.e., the Auxiliary Verb (did) comes before the Subject (they); Like— Not a word did he say to me.
19. D) **Boast** (verb) – To talk with pride about something, show off, flaunt, vaunt, brag शेखी बघारना
- Synonym: **Brag** (verb) – Speak too proudly about what you have done or what you own. डींग मारना
- **Cry** (verb) – To weep or shed tears रोना
  - **Abuse** (verb) – To insult or misuse गाली देना / दुरुपयोग करना
  - **Hate** (verb) – To strongly dislike घृणा करना
20. C) **CADB**

C starts the paragraph as it introduces the subject "I" and sets the time frame ("Last Sunday") and situation ("returned home late at night"). This establishes the context for the following events.

A follows C because it logically describes the next action—the narrator's discovery ("I was shocked to find my house unlocked"). The pronoun "I" connects back to the subject introduced in C, maintaining continuity.

D comes after A as it explains the immediate reaction ("I ran inside in fear that my house has been robbed"), which is a natural response to finding the house unlocked. The verb "ran" follows the sequence of actions after the initial shock.

B concludes the paragraph by providing the resolution ("To my astonishment, I found that my son... had come in my absence"). This sentence explains the reason for the house being unlocked, resolving the tension created earlier.

In Hindi:

- C paragraph की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह subject "I" को introduce करता है और समय ("Last Sunday") तथा स्थिति ("returned home late at night") बताता है। यह आगे की घटनाओं के लिए context set करता है।
- A, C के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह narrator की अगली action ("I was shocked to find my house unlocked") को describe करता है। Pronoun "I" पिछले sentence से जुड़ता है, जिससे continuity बनी रहती है।
- D, A के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह narrator की immediate reaction ("I ran inside in fear...") को दर्शाता है, जो घर का दरवाज़ा खुला पाने की प्राकृतिक प्रतिक्रिया है। Verb "ran" घटनाक्रम को आगे बढ़ाता है।
- B paragraph को conclude करता है क्योंकि यह समस्या का समाधान देता है ("my son... had come in my absence")। यह वाक्य बताता है कि घर क्यों खुला था, जिससे पहले बनी tension खत्म होती है।

21. C) '**Petitioned**' का use होगा क्योंकि "petition" का अर्थ होता है किसी प्राधिकरण/संस्था से किसी मुद्दे पर औपचारिक अनुरोध/अर्ज़ी करना। वाक्य में "we \_\_\_ the IOAA regarding Israel's participation" है, जहाँ संस्था (IOAA) से किसी विषय पर निवेदन करना सुसंगत है। साथ ही "In August" समय-सूचक होने से Simple Past ("we petitioned...") व्याकरण की दृष्टि से सही है; क्रिया का सीधा object "the IOAA" है और "regarding" मुद्दा बताता है।

- '**Petitioned**' will be used because it means to make a formal request to an authority/organization. The structure "we petitioned the IOAA regarding ..." correctly uses a transitive verb + direct object, and the time marker "In August" calls for the simple past, making it grammatically apt. Whereas, 'Repudiated' means to reject/deny validity (it would imply rejecting the IOAA, not requesting), 'Debilitated' means to weaken (illogical with "regarding"), and 'Flustered' means to confuse/agitate (semantically and collocationally odd with an institution).

22. A) '**from**' का use होगा क्योंकि "from ... 11–21 August" किसी निश्चित तारीख-सीमा को दर्शाता है, यानी आयोजन मुंबई में 11 से 21 अगस्त तक हुआ। इसलिए 'from' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'above' का अर्थ ऊपर (spatial) होता है, 'around' का अर्थ लगभग/चारों ओर होता है और यह ऐसी

सटीक तारीख-सीमा के साथ नहीं आता, और 'behind' का अर्थ पीछे/देर से होता है—ये इस context में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

- **'from'** will be used because "from ... 11–21 August" marks a specific date range, indicating the event was held in Mumbai from 11 to 21 August. In contrast, 'above' is spatial ("at a higher level"), 'around' means approximately/encircling and doesn't fit a precise range, and 'behind' means at the back/late — none suit this context.

23. D) **'is'** का use होगा क्योंकि "is" verb be का singular present रूप है और subject "The IOAA" एकवचन है। वाक्य सामान्य तथ्य/वर्ग-सदस्यता बताता है—IOAA प्रमुख science Olympiads में से एक है—इसलिए present simple 'is' सही है। जबकि 'are' बहुवचन subject के लिए होता है; 'was' भूतकाल है (सामान्य सत्य के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं); और 'were' बहुवचन/काल्पनिक प्रयोग है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'is'** will be used because it is the singular present form of be and the subject "The IOAA" is singular. The clause states a general fact/class membership—IOAA is one of the major science Olympiads—so present simple fits. Whereas 'are' is for plural subjects; 'was' is past tense (not apt for a general fact here); and 'were' is plural/subjunctive, which don't fit this context.

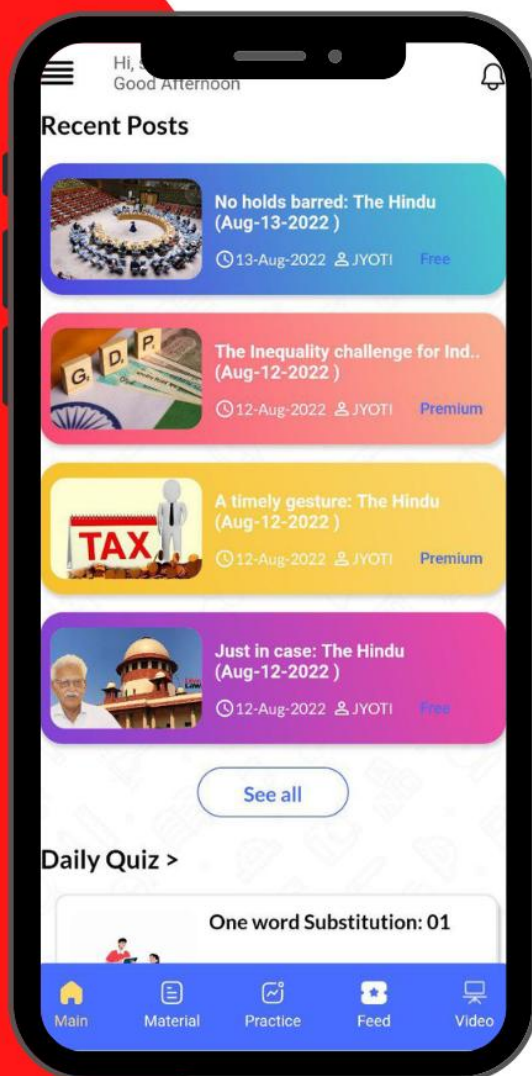
24. C) **'Prestige'** का use होगा क्योंकि "prestige" का अर्थ होता है प्रतिष्ठा/सम्मान, और "a matter of significant national prestige" एक स्वाभाविक कोलोकेशन है; sentence में देश के लिए ओलंपियाड की प्रतिष्ठा की बात हो रही है, इसलिए 'prestige' यहाँ सही है। व्याकरण की दृष्टि से "significant national" के बाद एक uncountable abstract noun चाहिए—'prestige' ठीक बैठता है; जबकि 'obloquy' (अपयश/निंदा), 'candor' (साफगोई), और 'hubris' (अति-अहंकार) अर्थ व टोन दोनों से संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

- **'Prestige'** will be used because it means reputation/honor, and the collocation "a matter of significant national prestige" is idiomatic. Grammatically, after the adjective string "significant national," we need a singular, uncountable abstract noun—'prestige' fits. 'Obloquy' = public disgrace (negative, wrong tone), 'candor' = frankness (trait of speech, not reputation), and 'hubris' = excessive pride (pejorative, not a nation's standing), so they don't fit this context.

25. D) **'Showcases'** का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "प्रदर्शित/दिखाना," और यह वाक्य सरकार की सामान्य/आदतन क्रिया बताता है; इसलिए singular subject 'the government' के साथ Present Simple में -s वाला रूप (showcases) ही सही है। जबकि 'showcased' Past Tense है (समय-संदर्भ गलत), 'showcasing' participle/gerund है जिसे सहायक क्रिया या अलग संरचना चाहिए, और 'showcase' base form है जो singular subject के साथ बिना auxiliary/modal के grammatically गलत है।

- **'Showcases'** will be used because it means "to display," and the sentence states a general/habitual fact; with the singular subject 'the government,' simple present requires the -s form. 'Showcased' is past tense (wrong timeline), 'showcasing' is a participle/gerund needing an auxiliary or different structure, and 'showcase' is the base form, which doesn't agree with a singular subject without an auxiliary/modal.





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