

Holistic approach: On dealing with North India's stubble burning

India needs a **multi-pronged** strategy to deal with stubble burning

The Supreme Court of India has **broached** the possibility of **prosecuting** farmers, caught **setting fire** to their fields, to prepare for winter **sowing** or rabi crop. 'Stubble burning' is a major contributor to air pollution in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, particularly in October and November, when the southwest monsoon has **receded** and **adverse** meteorological conditions trap **toxic particulate matter emissions** from vehicles, industry, garbage burning and agricultural waste. While **the causes and the ways** to reduce particulate matter pollution from agriculture **are** known, the efforts by the Centre to tackle the **long-standing** problem have been **half-hearted**. The **creation** of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), a central body with the power to **reach out** across the borders of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, **was** a positive step and an **acknowledgement** that air pollution in one State cannot be tackled without the cooperation of others. However, the four-year-old statutory body has failed to **exercise** its powers in a manner that is independent of political pressure. Take the example of its recent order to ban the sale of petrol and diesel in the National Capital Region to 'end-of-life' vehicles, from July 1. A public **outcry** in Delhi and its political leaders — largely on technical **grounds** — and the Court's **intervention**, forced its implementation to November this year, that too beginning with parts of the NCR that are not a part of the Delhi municipalities. In stubble burning too, the CAQM has not been able to **impress upon** the judiciary that stubble burning was due to **recalcitrant** farmers, limited **enforcement** by Punjab and Haryana and the structure of agricultural economics that left the average, **debt-ridden** farmer with little choice. In recent years, it has emerged that Punjab has been **claiming** a reduction in farm fires when it was in fact increasing. The CAQM chose not to disclose this.

In the absence of a **transparent mechanism** to **evaluate** and **address** an issue and being **cowed down** by imagined political **repercussions**, it is not surprising that **suggestions** such as to "jail farmers" to act as a **deterrent** to others **are** being **banded about**. While **no section** of citizens — farmer or industrialist — **can** be considered to be above the law, creating better incentives, **enforcing existing** laws and being transparent about what is realistically achievable are more advisable steps than 'carrot and stick' approaches.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Holistic** (adjective) – comprehensive, integrated, inclusive, all-encompassing, complete समग्र
2. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – to manage, handle, or tackle a problem or situation सामना करना
3. **Stubble** (noun) – the cut stalks of cereal plants left sticking out of the ground after the grain is harvested. पराली
4. **Multi-pronged** (adjective) – multifaceted, many-sided, varied, diversified, broad-based बहुआयामी
5. **Broach** (verb) – raise, introduce, mention, propose, bring up मुद्दा उठाना
6. **Prosecute** (verb) – sue, indict, try, arraign, litigate मुकदमा करना
7. **Set fire** (phrase) – to ignite, burn, or cause something to catch fire आग लगाना
8. **Sowing** (noun) – planting, seeding, cultivation, germination, propagation बुआई
9. **Recede** (verb) – withdraw, retreat, diminish, abate, subside पीछे हटना / कम होना
10. **Adverse** (adjective) – unfavourable, harmful, detrimental, negative, hostile प्रतिकूल
11. **Toxic** (adjective) – poisonous, noxious, deadly, hazardous, harmful विषैला
12. **Particulate matter** (noun) – fine solid or liquid particles in the air प्रदूषक कण
13. **Emission** (noun) – discharge, release, outflow, exhalation, effusion उत्सर्जन
14. **Long-standing** (adjective) – enduring, persistent, continuing, established, old दीर्घकालीन
15. **Half-hearted** (adjective) – unenthusiastic, reluctant, lukewarm, indifferent, insincere आधे मन से / अनिच्छुक
16. **Reach out** (phrasal verb) – to extend help, make contact, or communicate संपर्क करना
17. **Acknowledgement** (noun) – recognition, admission, acceptance, appreciation, concession मान्यता
18. **Exercise** (verb) – apply, practice, employ, wield, implement प्रयोग करना
19. **Outcry** (noun) – protest, uproar, objection, dissent, clamour हंगामा
20. **Ground** (noun) – basis, foundation, reason, justification, cause आधार
21. **Intervention** (noun) – interference, involvement, mediation, intrusion, intercession हस्तक्षेप

22. **Impress** (upon) (verb) – to stress, emphasize, instill, make clear, convince
समझाना / ज़ोर देकर बताना
23. **Recalcitrant** (adjective) – stubborn, defiant, resistant, uncooperative, obstinate
हठी
24. **Enforcement** (noun) – implementation, execution, application, imposition, policing
प्रवर्तन
25. **Debt-ridden** (adjective) – overburdened with loans, insolvent, bankrupt, financially strained, encumbered कर्ज़ में डूबा हुआ
26. **Claim** (verb) – assert, declare, maintain, allege, profess दावा करना
27. **Transparent** (adjective) – clear, open, honest, explicit, evident पारदर्शी
28. **Mechanism** (noun) – system, process, method, framework, machinery तंत्र
29. **Evaluate** (verb) – assess, appraise, judge, examine, analyze मूल्यांकन करना
30. **Address** (verb) – deal with, tackle, resolve, manage, attend to समाधान करना
31. **Cow down** (phrasal verb) – to frighten, intimidate, or subdue डराना / दबाना
32. **Repercussion** (noun) – consequence, result, aftermath, outcome, impact परिणाम
33. **Deterrent** (noun) – hindrance, discouragement, obstacle, preventative, restraint रोक
34. **Bandy about** (phrasal verb) – to circulate, spread, talk about carelessly इधर-उधर कहना
35. **Enforce** (verb) – implement, apply, impose, uphold, compel लागू करना
36. **Existing** (adjective) – present, current, available, in force, operative वर्तमान
37. **Carrot and stick** (phrase) – a policy of offering rewards (carrot) for compliance and punishments (stick) for disobedience इनाम और सज़ा की नीति

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Supreme Court suggested prosecuting farmers involved in stubble burning to prepare fields for rabi crops.
2. Stubble burning is a major source of air pollution in Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh during October-November.
3. Adverse weather conditions trap pollutants from vehicles, industry, garbage, and crop residue in these months.
4. The causes of particulate matter pollution from agriculture are well known, but government efforts remain weak.
5. The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) was set up as a central body to coordinate between states.
6. CAQM was meant to overcome interstate barriers in tackling pollution.
7. However, the four-year-old body has failed to act independently of political pressure.
8. Example: CAQM's order to ban petrol and diesel sales to end-of-life vehicles in NCR was delayed due to political pushback.
9. The judiciary also intervened, leading to diluted implementation starting November in limited areas.
10. On stubble burning, CAQM has failed to convince courts that farmers burn fields due to economic compulsions, not defiance.
11. Debt-ridden farmers often have no alternative because of the structure of agricultural economics.
12. Punjab even falsely claimed a reduction in farm fires when they were actually rising, and CAQM ignored this.
13. Lack of transparency and fear of political repercussions have weakened CAQM's credibility.
14. Harsh measures like "jailing farmers" are being floated as deterrents but may be counterproductive.
15. A holistic approach with better incentives, stronger enforcement, and transparency is needed rather than a mere carrot-and-stick policy.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Who has suggested the possibility of prosecuting farmers for stubble burning?** [Editorial pg.]
 - A. The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)
 - B. The Supreme Court of India
 - C. The Central Government
 - D. The Delhi political leaders
2. **What is the main reason farmers resort to stubble burning according to the passage?**
 - A. Debt and structure of agricultural economics
 - B. Lack of political will in Delhi
 - C. Opposition by environmental activists
 - D. Ban on diesel and petrol vehicles
3. **Identify the grammatically correct sentence based on the passage's content.**
 - A. Punjab have been claiming reduction in farm fires.
 - B. Punjab has been claiming a reduction in farm fires.
 - C. Punjab is claiming reductions in farm fire.
 - D. Punjab was claiming a reductions in farm fire.
4. **What can be inferred about CAQM from the passage?**
 - A. It works independently without political pressure.
 - B. It has been transparent in its functioning.
 - C. It has failed to exercise its powers effectively.
 - D. It successfully solved the stubble burning issue
5. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Optimistic
 - B. Critical
 - C. Humorous
 - D. Sympathetic
6. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph**
 - A) The exodus of a large chunk of Gurugram's industrial workforce following the recent communal clashes is a huge setback to this commercial hub of North India.
 - B) The communal tension has not only exposed the religious fault-lines but also put the booming industry in a precarious position.
 - C) As businesses and companies come to grips with an atmosphere of distrust, both the Haryana and the Central governments have a challenging task at hand to restore public confidence.
 - D) At a time when New Delhi is going all out to seek more investment, the violence sends out all the wrong signals.
 - E) Safety concerns need to be addressed on priority. Any delay on this count or allowing activities that could be detrimental to peace and security will adversely affect the business sentiment and the hard-won economic gains.
 - A. CABDE
 - B. ABDCE
 - C. ABCED
 - D. CBEDA

7. **Directions:** Each sentence has three underlined parts labelled (a), (b), and (c). Find out whether there is an error in any underlined part and indicate your answer accordingly. If you find no error, your answer should be (d).
- (a) For times immemorial,/ (b) sea shells have been used by man/(c) in many ways./ (d) No error.
- A. For times immemorial,
B. sea shells have been used by man
C. in many ways.
D. No error.
8. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
- An incidence causing damage or suffering
- A. Apostrophe
B. Philanthropy
C. Catastrophe
D. Commencement
9. **Directions:** Each item consists of a word or group of words in CAPITAL letters, followed by four options. Select the option most similar in meaning to the CAPITAL word(s).
- FRAIL
- A. Unhealthy
B. Weak
C. Ugly
D. Tender
10. **Select the correct spelling of the highlighted word in the following sentence.**
- The king was assassinate by his enemies.
- A. assassinate
B. assassinete
C. asassinate
D. assassinate
11. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment without changing its meaning in the given sentence.**
- The resort manager planned to welcome the guests with open arms when they arrived.
- A. in a secretive way
B. in a melancholy spirit
C. without any delay
D. in a cordial manner
12. **Directions:** Each item consists of a word or group of words in CAPITAL letters, followed by four options. Select the option most similar in meaning to the CAPITAL word(s).
- HOBNOB
- A. Nagging
B. Friendly chat
C. Quarrel
D. Pestering manner
13. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.**
- The questions were framed by the content creators just to assess the skills of the test takers.

- A. The content creators were framing the questions just to assess the skills of the test takers.
B. The content creators could frame the questions just to assess the skills of the test takers.
C. The content creators had framed the questions just to assess the skills of the test takers.
D. The content creators framed the questions just to assess the skills of the test takers.
14. **For the four-sentence (S1 to S4) paragraph below, sentences S1 and S4 are given. From the options P, Q, R and S select the appropriate sentences for S2 and S3, respectively.**
S1) The news about China's economic slowdown has caused mixed reactions.
P) China's sovereignty and maritime claims based on the nine-dotted line on the map are "invalid," said the statement, which cited Pham Thu Hang, the spokesperson for Vietnam's foreign affairs ministry
Q) China released the map so publishers, companies and others have an official version to reference.
R) China, for long, had been worried about fears of a slowdown and a middle-income trap.
S) Now, there are fears of deflation which may bring bad news for China and the rest of the world.
S4) Thus, understanding the causes and the magnitude of China's present-day economic challenges is essential.
A. P and Q
B. P and R
C. R and S
D. Q and S
15. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A secret agreement especially in order to do something dishonest or deceive people
A. Collision
B. Collocation
C. Colloquy
D. Collusion
16. **Select the correct spelling of the highlighted word in the following sentence.**
The king gave a special **dispansation**.
A. dispensation
B. dispansation
C. desponsation
D. dispinsation
17. **Select the most appropriate idiom that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
Though the speaker used flowery expressions to convince the audience, they were intelligent enough to find out his ulterior intentions
A. to read between the lines
B. to be under somebody's thumb
C. to cast pearls before swine
D. to not judge a book by its cover
18. **Directions: Each sentence has three underlined parts labelled (a), (b), and (c). Find out whether there is an error in any underlined part and indicate your answer accordingly. If you find no error, your answer should be (d).**

(a) I have found that he is/(b) neither willing/(c) or capable./ (d) No error.

A. I have found that he is

B. neither willing

C. or capable.

D. No error.

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

P) Recently, there was a function to release a book written by an architect in Kerala.

Q) Written in an easy style, the book was a pleasure to read.

R) The book was a collection of memories of the author's travels to exotic places and about his blissful moments watching nature.

S) There was nothing about his personal background or achievements in life.

A. RPSQ

B. PRSQ

C. RPQS

D. PSQR

20. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.

Stones were thrown at the dog

A. They had been throwing stones at the dog.

B. They throw stones at the dog.

C. They threw stones at the dog.

D. They were throwing stones at the dog.

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 a country as diverse and populous as India, with its ____1____ socio-economic challenges, the need for innovative ____2____ to education and skill development ____3____ never been more pressing. Microcredit courses emerge as ____4____ beacon of hope, offering a transformative pathway towards enhancing both learning and employability among the ____5____.

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

A. Conscious

B. Myriad

C. Facet

D. Insight

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

A. Approaches

B. Promotes

C. Stimulates

D. Validate

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

A. Has

B. Had

C. Has been

D. Had been

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

A. A

B. An

C. The

D. No article required

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

A. Assess

B. Masses

C. Processes

D. Enormous

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) The Supreme Court of India

B is correct because the passage clearly states that "The Supreme Court of India has broached the possibility of prosecuting farmers..."

A is incorrect because CAQM is mentioned as a body dealing with air pollution but did not make this suggestion.

C is incorrect because the Central Government's efforts are described as "half-hearted" but no such proposal came from them.

D is incorrect because Delhi political leaders opposed CAQM's fuel-related order, not suggested prosecuting farmers.

2. A) Debt and structure of agricultural economics

A is correct because the passage highlights that debt-ridden farmers and the agricultural structure leave them with little choice.

B is incorrect because political will is linked to CAQM and governance, not the farmer's reason.

C is incorrect because activists are not mentioned as a cause.

D is incorrect because the ban on vehicles is a separate issue, not related to stubble burning reasons.

3. B) Punjab has been claiming a reduction in farm fires.

The singular subject "Punjab" takes "has" and the correct noun phrase is "a reduction in farm fires."

A is incorrect because "Punjab" is singular and should not take "have."

C is incorrect because "reductions" (plural) and "fire" (singular) are mismatched.

D is incorrect because "a reductions" is grammatically wrong (article + plural noun mismatch).

4. C) It has failed to exercise its powers effectively.

C is correct because the passage states CAQM has failed to use its powers independently and has not disclosed true data.

A is incorrect because it is said to be under political pressure.

B is incorrect because it is criticized for lack of transparency.

D is incorrect because stubble burning still remains unresolved.

5. B) Critical

The passage criticizes the government's half-hearted efforts, the CAQM's failure, lack of transparency, and political pressures. Hence the overall tone is critical.

A. Optimistic → Wrong because the passage highlights failures and lacks hopeful outlook.

C. Humorous → Wrong because the subject is serious (pollution, governance) and no humor is used.

D. Sympathetic → Wrong because the author is not pitying farmers or citizens; instead, the tone is evaluative and judgmental of policies.

6. B) ABDCE

"A" appears to introduce the problem (the exodus) and its cause (communal clashes). It sets the tone for the paragraph. Hence, "A" is a suitable starting sentence.

"B" elaborates on the communal tension and its impact on the industry which is a direct consequence of the communal clashes mentioned in "A". Hence, "B" follows "A".

From the options, only B and C have the sequence "AB". We can eliminate options A and D.

After discussing the communal tension in "B", "D" speaks about the larger implication it has at a time when New Delhi is seeking investments, thus the violence being a negative factor.

Hence, "D" follows "B".

Option C has "C" following "B" which doesn't connect well, so it's eliminated.

Hence, the sequence should be "ABDCE", which matches option B.

7. A) 'times' के बदले '**time**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि सही वाक्यांश "for time immemorial" होता है, न कि "for times immemorial"। यहाँ 'time immemorial' एक idiomatic expression है जिसका अर्थ है "since ancient times" या "बहुत प्राचीन काल से"।

- 'time' will be used instead of 'times' because the correct idiomatic expression is "for time immemorial," not "for times immemorial." This phrase means "since ancient times" or "बहुत प्राचीन काल से"।

8. C) **Catastrophe** (noun) – Disaster, calamity, cataclysm, tragedy विपत्ति

- **Apostrophe** (noun) – A punctuation mark (') used to indicate either possession (e.g., Harry's book; boys' coats) or the omission of letters or numbers (e.g., can't; he's; 1'0"; class of '99). मालिकाना चिन्ह
- **Philanthropy** (noun) – The desire to promote the welfare of others, expressed especially by the generous donation of money to good causes. परोपकार
- **Catastrophe** (noun) – An event causing great and often sudden damage or suffering; a disaster. विपत्ति
- **Commencement** (noun) – The beginning or start. शुरुआत

9. B) **Frail** (adjective) – Weak, delicate, feeble, fragile, infirm कमजोर, दुर्बल

Synonym: **Weak** (adjective) – Lacking physical strength or energy, not strong. अशक्त

- **Unhealthy** (adjective) – Not in good health, sick, diseased. अस्वस्थ
- **Ugly** (adjective) – Unpleasant to look at, unattractive. बदसूरत
- **Tender** (adjective) – Soft, gentle, delicate. कोमल

10. D) The correct spelling of '**assasinate**' is '**assassinate**' which means "murder (political), kill secretly" – हत्या करना, राजनीतिक रूप से मार डालना।

11. D) "with open arms" का अर्थ है किसी का गर्मजोशी और मित्रता के साथ स्वागत करना। अतः विकल्प "in a cordial manner" इस phrase का सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प है।

- The phrase "with open arms" means to welcome someone warmly or in a friendly and enthusiastic manner. Therefore, "in a cordial manner" is the most appropriate substitution:

12. B) **HOBNOB** :- spending time in informal, friendly association with someone, often important or influential. मित्रतापूर्ण

Synonym: **Friendly** chat (noun) – Informal talk, light conversation, social interaction मित्रतापूर्ण बातचीत

- **Nagging** (verb) – Persistently annoying or finding fault. लगातार तंग करना
- **Quarrel** (noun) – Heated argument or disagreement. झगड़ा, विवाद
- **Pestering** manner (noun phrase) – An irritating or bothering way. परेशान करने का तरीका

13. D) **The content creators framed the questions just to assess the skills of the test takers.**

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए: Passive वाक्य में "The questions" Subject है, "were framed" Verb (Past Simple Passive) है, और "by the content creators" Agent है। Active में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य का Subject "The questions" Object बन जाता है। Verb को Passive से Active में बदलते समय सही Tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Passive वाक्य का Verb "were framed" (Past Simple Passive) है, जो Active में "framed" (Past Simple Active) बन जाता है। "The content creators" Passive वाक्य के Agent को Active वाक्य का Subject बनाया गया है।

- To change from Passive to Active Voice: In the passive sentence, "The questions" is the subject, "were framed" is the verb (Past Simple Passive), and "by the content creators" is the agent. In the active voice, the subject becomes the agent, and the object of the passive sentence ("The questions") becomes the object of the active sentence. The verb "were framed" (Past Simple Passive) is transformed into "framed" (Past Simple Active). Hence, "The content creators" is the subject in the active voice, and the sentence becomes:

14. C) **R and S**

Based on the theme set by S1 and S4, sentences R and S (Option C) seem to be the most appropriate choices for S2 and S3 respectively. They provide context about China's longstanding concerns and the potential implications, fitting in with the theme of the economic slowdown.

P: This sentence speaks about maritime claims, which does not fit the theme of economic slowdown.

Q: This sentence also discusses a map release but does not directly relate to China's economic conditions.

R: This sentence is about China's fears of an economic slowdown, which directly relates to the theme.

S: This sentence discusses the potential economic consequences (deflation) for China and globally, which again fits the theme.

15. D) **Collusion** (noun) - Secret agreement or cooperation especially for an illegal or deceitful purpose.

- **Collision** (noun) - An instance of one moving object or person striking violently against another. टक्कर
- **Collocation** (noun) - The habitual juxtaposition of a particular word with another word or words with a frequency greater than chance.
- **Colloquy** (noun) - A high-level, serious discussion; formal conversation or dialogue.

16. A) The correct spelling of 'dispansation' is 'dispensation' which means "special arrangement, allowance, concession" (विशेष व्यवस्था)।

17. A) **To read between the lines** – To understand hidden or underlying meanings (छिपे हुए या अंतर्निहित अर्थ को समझना)

- **To be under somebody's thumb** (idiom) – To be under someone's control. किसी के नियंत्रण में होना
- **To cast pearls before swine** (idiom) – To offer something valuable to someone who does not appreciate it. अनमोल वस्तु को उसके महत्व को न समझने वाले को देना
- **To not judge a book by its cover** (idiom) – To not form opinions based on outward appearances. बाहरी दिखावे के आधार पर राय न बनाना

18. C) 'or' के बदले 'nor' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'neither...nor' एक correlative conjunction pair है और इसे हमेशा साथ में ही प्रयोग किया जाता है। यहाँ केवल 'neither' दिया गया है, इसलिए इसके साथ 'nor' आना चाहिए।

- 'nor' will be used instead of 'or' because 'neither...nor' is the correct correlative conjunction pair and must always be used together. Here, only 'neither' is given, so it should be followed by 'nor'.

19. B) **PRSQ**

P: Sentence P begins with the word "Recently", indicating a starting point or introduction to an event. This suggests that P is the beginning of the paragraph.

R: "The book" in R refers back to "a book" in P, making it clear that R should follow P.

S: The pronoun "his" in S refers to "the author" in R, indicating that S should come after R to maintain the noun-pronoun relationship.

Q: This is more of a judgment or a review about the book and makes sense to come after all the contents and what the book does or doesn't cover have been discussed. R and S pair is only in B option.

20. C) **They threw stones at the dog**

Active वाक्य में "Mr. Suman" Subject है, "opened" Verb (Past Simple) है, और "the door" Object है। Passive वाक्य में Object "the door" Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Past Simple Passive में बदलने के लिए "was opened" का प्रयोग किया गया है, और "by Mr. Suman" को Agent के रूप में जोड़ा गया है।

- In the active voice, "Mr. Suman" (Subject), "opened" (Verb in Past Simple), and "the door" (Object) transform into the passive voice where "the door" becomes the subject, the verb changes to "was opened" (Past Simple Passive), and "by Mr. Suman" acts as the agent.

21. B) **'Myriad'** का use होगा क्योंकि 'myriad' का अर्थ होता है "अनेक या असंख्य", जो इस संदर्भ में सही है। sentence में यह mention है कि भारत एक विविध और जनसंख्या-बहुल देश है, जहाँ विभिन्न सामाजिक-आर्थिक चुनौतियाँ हैं। इसलिए, 'myriad' यहाँ इन अनेक चुनौतियों को व्यक्त करने के लिए उपयुक्त शब्द है। जबकि 'Conscious' का अर्थ है "जागरूक", 'Facet' का अर्थ है "पहलू", और 'Insight' का अर्थ है "अंतरदृष्टि", जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

- **'Myriad'** will be used because it means "numerous or countless," which suits the context here as the sentence describes India as a diverse and populous country facing various socio-economic challenges. Therefore, 'myriad' aptly conveys these numerous

challenges. On the other hand, 'Conscious' means "aware," 'Facet' means "aspect," and 'Insight' means "deep understanding," which don't align with the context here.

22. A) '**Approaches**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'approaches' का अर्थ होता है "समाधान या तरीका," जो इस संदर्भ में सही है। sentence में शिक्षा और कौशल विकास के लिए नवीन तरीकों की आवश्यकता को दर्शाया गया है। इसलिए, 'approaches' यहाँ सही शब्द है। जबकि 'Promotes' का अर्थ है "प्रोत्साहित करना", 'Stimulates' का अर्थ है "उत्तेजित करना", और 'Validate' का अर्थ है "सत्यापित करना", जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

- '**Approaches**' will be used because it means "methods or solutions," which fits well in this context, as the sentence is referring to the need for innovative solutions in education and skill development. Thus, 'approaches' is the suitable choice. On the other hand, 'Promotes' means "encourages," 'Stimulates' means "excites," and 'Validate' means "to confirm or verify," which do not align with the context here.

23. A) '**Has**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'has' का अर्थ है "होना" और यह present tense को व्यक्त करता है। sentence में यह mention है कि शिक्षा और कौशल विकास के लिए समाधान की आवश्यकता present में भी उतनी ही महत्वपूर्ण है। इसलिए, 'has' यहाँ सही विकल्प है। जबकि 'Had' और 'Had been' अतीत काल को व्यक्त करते हैं, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं। 'Has been' का अर्थ भी वर्तमान में जारी रहने वाले कार्य को दिखाता है, लेकिन यहाँ 'has' अधिक सटीक है।

- '**Has**' will be used as it denotes present tense, fitting here to indicate that the need for solutions in education and skill development is currently pressing. The context emphasizes a present urgency, making 'has' the correct choice. In contrast, 'Had' and 'Had been' indicate past tense, which doesn't align with the ongoing nature implied here. While 'Has been' also indicates a continued state, 'has' is more precise in this context.

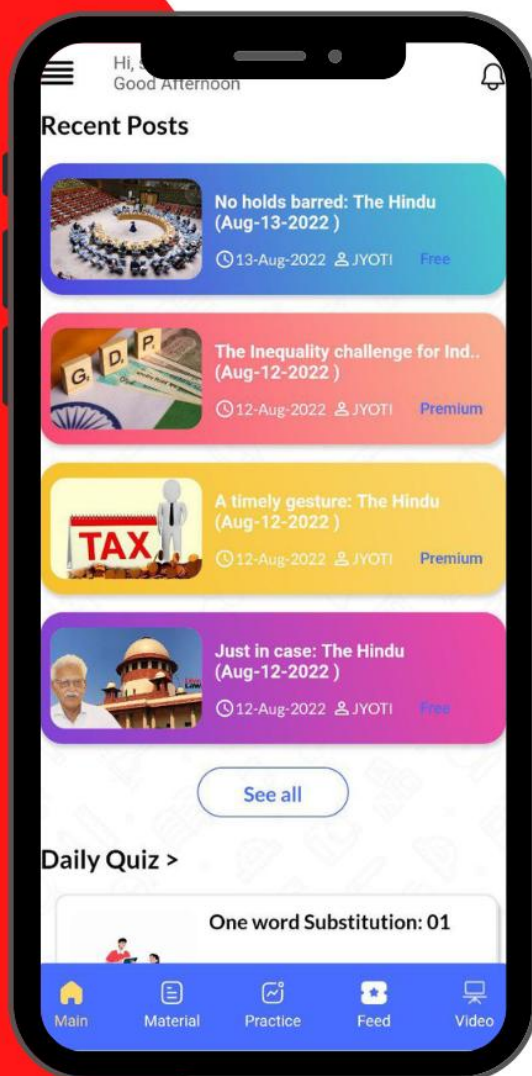
24. A) '**A**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'a' एक indefinite article है, जो एक सामान्य संज्ञा या किसी भी एक वस्तु को दर्शाने के लिए प्रयोग किया जाता है। sentence में 'beacon of hope' का उल्लेख एक सामान्य मार्गदर्शक के रूप में किया गया है, इसलिए 'a' यहाँ उपयुक्त है। जबकि 'An' का उपयोग स्वर ध्वनियों से पहले होता है, और 'The' एक definite article है, जो किसी विशिष्ट वस्तु को इंगित करता है, जो यहाँ संदर्भ में नहीं है।

- '**A**' will be used as it is an indefinite article used to denote any single instance or a general noun. In the sentence, 'beacon of hope' is referenced as a general guide or support, making 'a' the correct choice. In contrast, 'An' is used before vowel sounds, 'The' is a definite article pointing to something specific, which isn't implied here.

25. B) '**Masses**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'masses' का अर्थ है "जनता या बड़ी आबादी," जो इस संदर्भ में सही है। sentence में माइक्रोक्रेडिट कोर्स के लाभों का उल्लेख समाज के बड़े हिस्से को ध्यान में रखते हुए किया गया है, इसलिए 'masses' यहाँ उपयुक्त है। जबकि 'Assess' का अर्थ है "मूल्यांकन करना," 'Processes' का अर्थ है "प्रक्रियाएँ," और 'Enormous' का अर्थ है "विशाल," जो इस संदर्भ में फिट नहीं बैठते।

- '**Masses**' will be used as it means "the people or a large population," which fits well in this context where the benefits of microcredit courses are discussed in relation to

society at large. In contrast, 'Assess' means "to evaluate," 'Processes' means "methods or procedures," and 'Enormous' means "huge," none of which align with the intended meaning here.



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