

Sleeping deathtraps: On the Kurnool sleeper bus fire

Modifications at body shops **make** sleeper buses **vulnerable**

The accident in Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh, in the early hours of October 24, 2025, involving a “luxury” bus from Hyderabad to Bengaluru with 46 passengers, **was** one that **mirrored** previous such **tragedies**. It was **apparently triggered** by a fuel leak after the bus **collided** with a bike that had been **knocked to the ground** earlier in a hit-and-run incident. The accident **claimed** 20 lives including the bike rider; the survivors **barely managed** to escape through broken windows. Some 10 days earlier, 20 people were burnt alive when an air-conditioned bus from Jaisalmer to Jodhpur, with 57 passengers, caught fire. There have been several **eerily** similar fires such as in 2023, on a Nagpur-Mumbai bus.

Typically, most of these buses carry the names of well-known brands but the fact is that only the engine and the chassis are purchased from these OEMs. The chassis is then made into a full bus in body-building shops. While **there is a case** that increasingly advanced electronics, electrical and the air-conditioning systems used **carry the risk** of electric fires, **rigorous** safety standards are **typically** followed while designing and installing these systems. But what is not rigorous is body installation and modifications made at the body shops. **The Automotive Industry Standards** (AIS) developed by the Road Transport Ministry **do lay down** the structural and fire safety requirements for bodies as well, but these are **seldom** followed. Often, the body is made of poor quality composite material that is highly **flammable**. There is **hardly** any crash testing. At the body shop, unsafe modifications are sometimes made such as installing an extra fuel tank. The sleeper **arrangements** on board **restrict** passenger movement. Soft, highly flammable materials are used for curtains and other **barricades**. Recent regulations specify that there must be four exits on such buses — two main doors and two **collapsible** windows — with no seat or sleeper **obstructing** them. But these do not apply to the **existing fleet**. The drivers are **often** not trained to handle emergencies. It would enhance safety to **mandate** that the emergency exit **arrangements** are explained to passengers as they are on a flight. **Crash testing** of the entire bus assembly **must** be mandated to enhance safety during **collisions**. Though current standards mandate fire detection and safety systems that would detect and give audible and visual warnings in a fire followed by the activation of firefighting devices, these are seldom followed at the body shops. What is needed is a more **comprehensive** AIS that **takes into account** risks in sleeper buses followed by strict implementation and regular **monitoring**. **[Practice Ex.]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Vulnerable** (adjective) – susceptible, exposed, at risk, endangered, defenseless
असुरक्षित
2. **Mirror** (verb) – reflect, echo, imitate, replicate, parallel दोहराना
3. **Tragedy** (noun) – disaster, calamity, catastrophe, misfortune, devastation
त्रासदी
4. **Apparently** (adverb) – seemingly, evidently, ostensibly, supposedly, on the face of it ज़ाहिरा तौर पर
5. **Trigger** (verb) – cause, prompt, set off, spark, initiate उकसाना
6. **Collide** (verb) – crash, smash, bump, hit, ram टकराना
7. **Knock to the ground** (phrase) – to hit someone or something so that they fall to the ground. ज़मीन पर गिराना
8. **Claim** (verb) – take, cause (loss of life), result in, exact ले लेना (जीवन का)
9. **Barely** (adverb) – hardly, scarcely, only just, narrowly, just मुश्किल से
10. **Manage** (to) (verb) – succeed, be able, contrive, achieve, accomplish कामयाब होना
11. **Eerily** (adverb) – strangely, uncannily, spookily, oddly, mysteriously भयावह रूप से
12. **There is a case** (phrase) – there is an argument or valid reason for a particular view. एक तर्क है
13. **Carry the risk** (phrase) – to have the potential for danger or a negative outcome. जोखिम रखना
14. **Rigorous** (adjective) – strict, stringent, thorough, exacting, severe सख्त
15. **Typically** (adverb) – usually, normally, generally, commonly, as a rule आम तौर पर
16. **Lay down** (phrasal verb) – to formally establish or set rules, principles, or procedures. निर्धारित करना
17. **Seldom** (adverb) – rarely, infrequently, hardly ever, occasionally, scarcely कभी-कभार
18. **Inflammable** (adjective) – flammable, combustible, ignitable, incendiary
ज्वलनशील
19. **Hardly** (adverb) – barely, scarcely, only just, almost not मुश्किल से
20. **Barricade** (noun) – barrier, obstruction, blockade, fence, hurdle अवरोध
21. **Collapsible** (adjective) – foldable, retractable, folding, telescopic, compact
खुलने और बंधनेवाला

22. **Obstruct** (verb) – block, hinder, impede, hamper, bar बाधा डालना
23. **Existing** (adjective) – current, present, available, extant, operational मौजूदा
24. **Fleet** (noun) – collection of vehicles, group, inventory, pool, lineup बेड़ा
25. **Often** (adverb) – frequently, repeatedly, regularly, commonly, habitually अक्सर
26. **Mandate** (verb) – require, compel, command, order, make compulsory अनिवार्य बनाना
27. **Arrangement** (noun) – provision, plan, system, setup, measure इंतज़ाम
28. **Collision** (noun) – crash, accident, impact, smash, bump टक्कर
29. **Comprehensive** (adjective) – thorough, complete, exhaustive, all-inclusive, extensive व्यापक
30. **Take into account** (phrase) – to consider or include something when making a judgment or decision. ध्यान में रखना
31. **Monitoring** (noun) – observation, supervision, tracking, surveillance, oversight निगरानी

Summary of the Editorial

1. A tragic bus fire in Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh, on October 24, 2025, killed 20 people, including a bike rider.
2. The incident occurred when a Hyderabad–Bengaluru sleeper bus collided with a bike that had fallen due to a hit-and-run accident.
3. Survivors escaped only by breaking windows, showing poor emergency preparedness.
4. A similar tragedy happened just 10 days earlier in Rajasthan when 20 passengers were burnt alive in a Jaisalmer–Jodhpur bus.
5. Such recurrent bus fires have been reported earlier too, including one in Nagpur–Mumbai (2023).
6. Most “luxury” buses use engines and chassis from branded manufacturers, but the bus bodies are built in local workshops.
7. These body-building shops often ignore Automotive Industry Standards (AIS) that define fire and structural safety norms.
8. Many bus bodies are made from cheap, highly inflammable materials, increasing fire risk.
9. Unsafe modifications such as adding extra fuel tanks are commonly done without safety checks.
10. Sleeper designs restrict movement, making evacuation difficult during emergencies.
11. Curtains and interior materials used are often soft and flammable, worsening fire hazards.
12. Regulations now require four exits (two doors, two collapsible windows) in sleeper buses, but these rules don’t apply to older fleets.
13. Drivers lack training in handling emergency situations and in guiding passengers during fires.
14. The editorial suggests mandating pre-trip safety briefings, similar to those in flights, and enforcing crash testing for entire bus assemblies.
15. It calls for a comprehensive revision of AIS, stricter implementation, regular monitoring, and accountability to prevent future disasters.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, what is identified as the primary systemic failure leading to the severity of bus fire accidents?** [Editorial page]
 - A. The design of the engine and chassis by the original manufacturers (OEMs).
 - B. The use of advanced electronics and air-conditioning systems.
 - C. The poor standards and unsafe modifications at the body-building shops.
 - D. The lack of training for passengers on how to handle emergencies.
2. **The passage suggests that a significant safety risk in sleeper buses, which is not adequately addressed by current regulations for the existing fleet, is:**
 - A. The absence of fire detection systems.
 - B. The obstruction of emergency exits by seats and sleeper arrangements.
 - C. The poor quality of the engine and chassis.
 - D. The lack of audible and visual warning systems.
3. **Based on the author's argument, which solution would directly address the core problem of safety standard non-compliance in the bus body-building industry?**
 - A. Purchasing buses directly from well-known brands instead of using body shops.
 - B. Mandating crash testing of the entire bus assembly and ensuring strict implementation of rules.
 - C. Installing softer materials for curtains to make the passenger compartment more comfortable.
 - D. Reducing the number of passengers allowed on each bus to improve mobility.
4. **The author draws a specific comparison to air travel to suggest an improvement in bus safety. What is it?**
 - A. Mandating that all buses undergo safety checks similar to aircraft before every journey.
 - B. Using fire-resistant materials in bus construction similar to those used in airplanes.
 - C. Training drivers to handle emergencies with the same rigor as airline pilots.
 - D. Explaining the emergency exit arrangements to passengers at the start of the journey.
5. **According to the passage, what is a key reason why the "luxury" buses involved in fires are often more dangerous than they appear?**
 - A. The well-known brands they are named after have a poor safety record.
 - B. Their design prioritizes passenger comfort over all safety considerations.
 - C. They are built on chassis that are inherently flawed and prone to fuel leaks.
 - D. Their branded exterior belies a body built with poor safety standards and highly inflammable materials.
6. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Agile."**
 - A. Nimble
 - B. Lethargic
 - C. Robust
 - D. Diligent
7. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that arranges the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
 - A. However, he was forced to lift the ban after China retaliated with its own ban on rare earth exports to US.

- B. The latter had been halted by Trump in April as part of his trade tussle with Beijing.
C. This effectively makes US govt a business partner to Nvidia and AMD, and comes after Washington allowed resumption of chip sales to China.
D. The chip war between US and China is back on the table with Washington reportedly working out a deal to take 15% from the sale of Nvidia's and AMD's AI chips to China.
A. D, C, B, A
B. D, A, B, C
C. B, D, C, A
D. A, B, C, D
8. **Direction: Each question below contains a long description of a person/thing. Choose the single word from the given options that best represents it.**
A lengthy and elaborately written document that is composed by a person expressing deep grief and sorrow over the loss of a loved one, intended not merely as a private letter but as a carefully constructed piece of writing to be preserved for posterity and read as a public reflection of mourning, is called:
A. Memoir
B. Elegy
C. Epitaph
D. Obituary
9. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Bar."**
A. Permit
B. Forbid
C. Suppress
D. Prohibit
10. **Select the correct spelling of the highlighted word in the following sentence.**
A requisite skill for this job is coding proficiency.
A. requesite
B. requisit
C. requizite
D. requisite
11. **Select the idiom/phrase from the options that best completes the sentence meaningfully in the given context.**
Despite multiple warnings about the collapsing real estate market, the young investor spent his entire fortune on luxury apartments, believing he would become a billionaire overnight. His friends often remarked that he was _____.
A. Crying over spilt milk
B. Building castles in the air
C. Living in a fool's paradise
D. Carrying coals to Newcastle
12. **Select the idiom/phrase from the options that best completes the sentence meaningfully in the given context.**
During the investigation of the financial fraud, the CEO realized that his years of reckless decisions had finally caught up with him. His board members, furious and disappointed, refused to support him anymore, leaving him with no choice but _____.

- A. To burn the candle at both ends
B. To lie in the bed one has made
C. To let sleeping dogs lie
D. To throw in the towel
13. **Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that gives their correct logical sequence and forms a meaningful sentence.**
India's strong stand / its approach(P)/ at SCO underlines (Q)/ foreign policy posture(R)/ to terrorism signalling its assertive (S).
A. P, S, R, Q
B. P, R, S, Q
C. R, Q, P, S
D. Q, P, S, R
14. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Provenance."**
A. Destination
B. Ancestry
C. Genesis
D. Lineage
15. **Find the misspelled word in the following sentence:**
The committee's decision to **supersede** the previous policy was met with **acrimonious** debates and **concensus** among the senior **members**.
A. Supersede
B. Acrimonious
C. Concensus
D. Members
16. **Select the most appropriate option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
The helper threw the trash in the dustbin.
A. The trash was thrown in the dustbin by the helper.
B. The trash has been thrown in the dustbin by the helper.
C. The trash had been thrown in the dustbin by the helper.
D. The trash is thrown in the dustbin by the helper.
17. **Direction: Each question below contains a long description of a person/thing. Choose the single word from the given options that best represents it.**
A person who, despite possessing an extraordinary ability to solve the most complex mathematical problems with great speed and accuracy, prefers to live in complete isolation away from society, spending most of their time in silent contemplation and refusing all public recognition, can best be described as:
A. Recluse
B. Savant
C. Erudite
D. Prodigy
18. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
Who is making such a loud noise?
A. By whom has such a loud noise been made?
B. By whom is such loud noise made?

- C. By whom was such loud noise being made?
D. By whom is such a loud noise being made?
19. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Facilitate."**
- A. Obstruct
B. Confine
C. Expedite
D. Dishearten
20. **Parts of sentences are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful paragraph.**
- A. They think there are some bitter learning experiences
B. Which, over a period of time, guide them to take a good path
C. Many successful people believe that
D. There is no failure in anybody's life
- A. CBAD
B. BDAC
C. CBDA
D. CDAB

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.

The stray dog population is _____1_____ in the country. If this is not acted upon with concrete plans, the number of dogs may _____2_____ the human population as there is no reliable head count as yet of stray dogs. The argument that animal welfare activists _____3_____, that _____4_____ the stray dog population will _____5_____ an increase in the rat population, is illogical. Cats are the major predators of rats. As birth control methods on dogs have not made much of an impact on the canine population, it is our bounden duty to protect human lives.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
- A. atrophying
B. eviscerating
C. evolving
D. enervating
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
- A. overwhelms
B. overwhelm
C. overwhelming
D. overwhelmed
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
- A. put forth
B. Put off
C. Put down
D. Put aside
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
- A. curtail

- B. curtailed
 - C. curtails
 - D. curtailng
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
- A. confide in
 - B. lead to
 - C. dwell on
 - D. entrust with

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanation

- C) The poor standards and unsafe modifications at the body-building shops.**
 The passage explicitly states that while systems like electronics and AC are designed with safety standards, the body-building process is "not rigorous." It highlights issues like the use of highly inflammable materials, lack of crash testing, unsafe modifications (e.g., extra fuel tanks), and the failure to follow existing AIS rules at these shops.
- B) The obstruction of emergency exits by seats and sleeper arrangements.**
 The passage notes that recent regulations specify no seat or sleeper should obstruct the four required exits, but it crucially adds, "these do not apply to the existing fleet." This creates a major loophole and risk for buses already on the road.
- B) Mandating crash testing of the entire bus assembly and ensuring strict implementation of rules.**
 The author concludes by calling for a "more comprehensive AIS... followed by strict implementation and regular monitoring." Mandating crash testing and ensuring rules are followed directly targets the core problem of non-compliance and poor construction practices at the body shops.
- D) Explaining the emergency exit arrangements to passengers at the start of the journey.**
 The passage explicitly states, "It would enhance safety to mandate that the emergency exit arrangements are explained to passengers as they are on a flight." This is a direct comparison to a standard procedure in air travel.
- D) Their branded exterior belies a body built with poor safety standards and highly inflammable materials.**
 The passage makes a clear distinction between the branded image and the reality of construction: "Typically, most of these buses carry the names of well-known brands but the fact is that only the engine and the chassis are purchased from these OEMs. The chassis is then made into a full bus in body-building shops." It then details how the body is often made of "poor quality composite material that is highly inflammable."
- A) Agile (adjective) – Able to move or think quickly and easily; flexible, adaptable. चुस्त**
Synonym: Nimble (adjective) – Quick and light in movement or action. फुर्तीला
 - Lethargic (adjective) – Sluggish or inactive. सुस्त**
 - Robust (adjective) – Strong and healthy. सशक्त**
 - Diligent (adjective) – Careful and hardworking. परिश्रमी**
- A) D, C, B, A**
 D starts the paragraph because it introduces the main subject—"The chip war between US and China"—and sets the context for the discussion. It also mentions the US govt's deal regarding chip sales, which becomes the central theme
 A follows D because it provides a contrast ("However") to the initial situation described in D, explaining how the US had to backtrack on its ban due to China's retaliation

B comes after A because it refers back to "the ban" mentioned in A, explaining what the ban was (Trump's halt on chip sales in April). This creates a logical flow from the retaliation to the original action.

C concludes the paragraph by connecting to B and D, explaining the current situation (US govt becoming a business partner) after the resumption of chip sales

In Hindi:

- D पहले आता है क्योंकि यह main subject (chip war) और US-China deal को introduce करता है, जो paragraph का central theme है।
- A, D के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह "However" से contrast देता है, बताता है कि US को अपना ban हटाना पड़ा क्योंकि China ने rare earth exports पर ban लगा दिया।
- B, A के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह "the latter" (ban) को refer करता है, जिससे पता चलता है कि Trump ने April में chip sales पर रोक लगाई थी।
- C last में आता है क्योंकि यह current scenario बताता है—अब US govt, Nvidia और AMD का business partner बन गया है, जो D में बताए गए deal से connect होता है।

8. B) Elegy

- **Elegy** (noun) – A poem or piece of writing expressing deep sorrow for someone's death. शोकगीत/शोक-काव्य
- **Memoir** (noun) – A written account of personal experiences; not necessarily about grief. संस्मरण, आत्मकथा
- **Epitaph** (noun) – Words inscribed on a tombstone to honor the dead. समाधिलेख, कब्र पर लिखा गया शिलालेख
- **Obituary** (noun) – A published notice or announcement of someone's death. मृत्युलेख

9. A) Bar (verb) – To prevent, ban, or exclude. रोकना / निषेध करना

Antonym: **Permit** (verb) – To allow, authorize, or give consent. अनुमति देना / स्वीकृति देना

- **Forbid** (verb) – To order someone not to do something. मना करना
- **Suppress** (verb) – To put an end to forcibly. दबाना
- **Prohibit** (verb) – To formally forbid by law. प्रतिबंधित करना

10. D) The correct spelling of 'requisite' is 'requisite' which means "required, necessary, or mandatory" आवश्यक, अनिवार्य।

11. C) To live in a fool's paradise (idiom) – To be happy based on false hope or unrealistic beliefs. झूठी उम्मीदों या कल्पनाओं में खुश रहना ✓

- **To cry over spilt milk** (idiom) – To waste time regretting something that has already happened. बीती बात पर पछताना
- **To build castles in the air** (idiom) – To make unrealistic plans or dreams. हवा में महल बनाना/अव्यावहारिक सपने देखना
- **To carry coals to Newcastle** (idiom) – To do something that is unnecessary or redundant. बेकार का काम करना

12. B) To lie in the bed one has made (idiom) – To suffer the consequences of one's own actions or decisions. अपने किए का फल भोगना ✓

- **To burn the candle at both ends** (idiom) – To overwork oneself by using energy or resources recklessly. खुद को थका देना/अत्यधिक काम करना
- **To let sleeping dogs lie** (idiom) – To avoid interfering in a situation that might create trouble. पुराने मुद्दे न छेड़ना
- **To throw in the towel** (idiom) – To surrender or give up a struggle. हार मान लेना

13. D) **Q, P, S, R**

Q starts the sentence because it introduces the action ("underlines") performed by the subject ("India's strong stand").

P follows Q because it introduces the object ("its approach") of the verb "underlines," explaining what is being underlined.

S (to terrorism signalling its assertive) modifies "approach" and introduces the descriptor.

R concludes the sentence by completing the noun phrase ("foreign policy posture"), which is connected to "its assertive" (from S).

In Hindi:

- Q पहले आता है क्योंकि यह verb "underlines" को introduce करता है, जो subject ("India's strong stand") से जुड़ता है।
- P, Q के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह object ("its approach") को add करता है, जिसे underline किया गया है।
- S, P के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह prepositional phrase ("to terrorism...") को जोड़ता है, जो "approach" को describe करता है।
- R अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह noun phrase ("foreign policy posture") को complete करता है, जो "its assertive" से connected है।

14. A) **Provenance** (noun) – Place of origin or source of something. उत्पत्ति

Antonym: Destination (noun) – The final place to which something is sent or travels. गंतव्य

- **Ancestry** (noun) – One's lineage or family origin. वंशावली
- **Genesis** (noun) – The beginning or origin. आरंभ
- **Lineage** (noun) – Descent from an ancestor. कुल

15. C) **Concensus** (wrong spelling) – Correct spelling: Consensus (सर्वसम्मति, आम राय)

- **Supersede** – To replace something with authority. प्रतिस्थापित करना
- **Acrimious** – Bitter or harsh in speech or debate. कटु/कड़वा
- **Members** – Individuals of a group. सदस्य

16. A) **The trash was thrown in the dustbin by the helper.**

Active वाक्य: The helper threw the trash in the dustbin. Active वाक्य का Subject है "The helper," Verb है "threw" (Past Simple Tense में), और Object है "the trash"। Passive वाक्य में Object "the trash" को Subject बनाया जाता है, और Verb को Past Simple Tense के Passive रूप में बदल दिया जाता है। Passive Voice में Past Simple के लिए "was/were + past participle" का प्रयोग किया जाता है। इसलिए, "The trash was thrown in the dustbin by the helper." सही उत्तर है।

- Active Sentence: The helper threw the trash in the dustbin.

In the active sentence, the subject is "The helper," the verb is "threw" (in Past Simple Tense), and the object is "the trash." In the passive voice, the object "the trash" becomes the subject, and the verb is transformed into its passive form in the Past Simple Tense. The structure for Past Simple Passive is "was/were + past participle." Thus, "The trash was thrown in the dustbin by the helper" is the correct answer.

17. B) **Savant** (noun) – A person of great learning or natural ability, especially in a specific field.

अत्यंत ज्ञानी या विशिष्ट प्रतिभा वाला व्यक्ति ✓

- **Recluse** (noun) – A person who lives in seclusion and avoids people. एकांतवासी, समाज से दूर रहने वाला व्यक्ति ✗
- **Erudite** (adjective) – Learned or scholarly; showing great knowledge from study. विद्वान, पुस्तकीय ज्ञान वाला ✗
- **Prodigy** (noun) – A young person with exceptional abilities or talents. विलक्षण प्रतिभाशाली बच्चा ✗

18. D) **By whom is such a loud noise being made?**

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Active वाक्य में "Who" (Subject), "is making" (Verb in Present Continuous), और "such a loud noise" (Object) है। Passive वाक्य में Object "such a loud noise" Subject बन गया है, Verb को Present Continuous Passive ("is being made") में बदला गया है, और "by whom" के रूप में प्रयोग किया गया है।

सही वाक्य: "By whom is such a loud noise being made?" इस वाक्य में सही Tense और Passive Structure का उपयोग हुआ है।

- To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence. In the active sentence, "Who" (Subject), "is making" (Verb in Present Continuous), and "such a loud noise" (Object) are given. In the passive sentence, the object "such a loud noise" becomes the subject, the verb is transformed into the Present Continuous Passive ("is being made"), and "by whom" is used as the question phrase. Correct Sentence: "By whom is such a loud noise being made?" This sentence uses the correct tense and passive structure.

19. C) **Facilitate** (verb) – To make an action or process easier; assist or promote. सुविधाजनक बनाना / सहायता करना

Synonym: **Expedite** (verb) – To make a process happen faster or more efficiently. शीघ्र करना / सुगम बनाना

- **Obstruct** (verb) – To block or hinder. बाधा डालना
- **Confine** (verb) – To limit or restrict. सीमित करना
- **Dishearten** (verb) – To cause someone to lose confidence. निरुत्साहित करना

20. D) **CDAB**

- C is the starting point as it introduces the subject, "Many successful people believe that."
- D logically follows C because it completes the belief, "There is no failure in anybody's life."

- A follows D as it elaborates on why they think there is no failure, mentioning "bitter learning experiences."
 - B concludes the paragraph, explaining how these experiences guide people towards a better path.
21. C) '**Evolving**' का use होगा क्योंकि "evolving" का अर्थ होता है धीरे-धीरे विकसित होना या बढ़ना। passage में mention किया गया है कि stray dog population बढ़ रही है, इसलिए 'evolving' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Atrophying' का अर्थ है सिकुड़ना या कमजोर होना, 'Eviscerating' का अर्थ है अंदरूनी भाग निकाल देना, और 'Enervating' का अर्थ है कमजोर करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- '**Evolving**' will be used because it means gradually developing or increasing. The passage mentions that the stray dog population is growing, so 'evolving' fits here. Whereas, 'Atrophying' means shrinking or weakening, 'Eviscerating' means removing internal parts, and 'Enervating' means weakening, which do not fit in this context.
22. B) '**Overwhelm**' का use होगा क्योंकि "overwhelm" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को अधिक मात्रा में घेर लेना या दबा देना। यहाँ sentence में mention किया गया है कि अगर stray dogs की population पर control नहीं किया गया, तो उनकी संख्या human population से अधिक हो सकती है, इसलिए 'overwhelm' यहाँ सही है। 'Overwhelms' (singular verb) subject 'number of dogs' (singular) के साथ agree नहीं करता क्योंकि modal verb 'may' के बाद base form ('overwhelm') आता है। 'Overwhelming' (adjective/gerund) और 'overwhelmed' (past tense) इस context में grammatically incorrect हैं।
- '**Overwhelm**' will be used because it means to overpower or surpass in quantity. The sentence states that if stray dog population is not controlled, their numbers may exceed the human population, making 'overwhelm' correct here. 'Overwhelms' (singular verb) doesn't agree with the modal verb 'may', which requires the base form ('overwhelm'). 'Overwhelming' (adjective/gerund) and 'overwhelmed' (past tense) are grammatically incorrect in this context.
23. A) '**Put forth**' का use होगा क्योंकि "put forth" का अर्थ होता है प्रस्तुत करना या सामने रखना। यहाँ sentence में mention किया गया है कि animal welfare activists अपना argument प्रस्तुत करते हैं, इसलिए 'put forth' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Put off' का अर्थ है टालना, 'Put down' का अर्थ है दबाना या नीचा दिखाना, और 'Put aside' का अर्थ है अलग रखना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- '**Put forth**' will be used because it means to present or propose something. The sentence mentions that animal welfare activists present their argument, making 'put forth' correct here. Whereas, 'Put off' means to postpone, 'Put down' means to suppress or criticize, and 'Put aside' means to set aside, which do not fit in this context. "Put forth" is a phrasal verb that correctly matches the action of presenting an argument.
24. D) '**curtailing**' का use होगा क्योंकि "curtailing" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को कम या सीमित करना। यहाँ sentence में mention किया गया है कि stray dog population को कम करने से rat population बढ़ेगी, इसलिए 'curtailing' (कम करने की क्रिया) यहाँ सही है। यह gerund form है

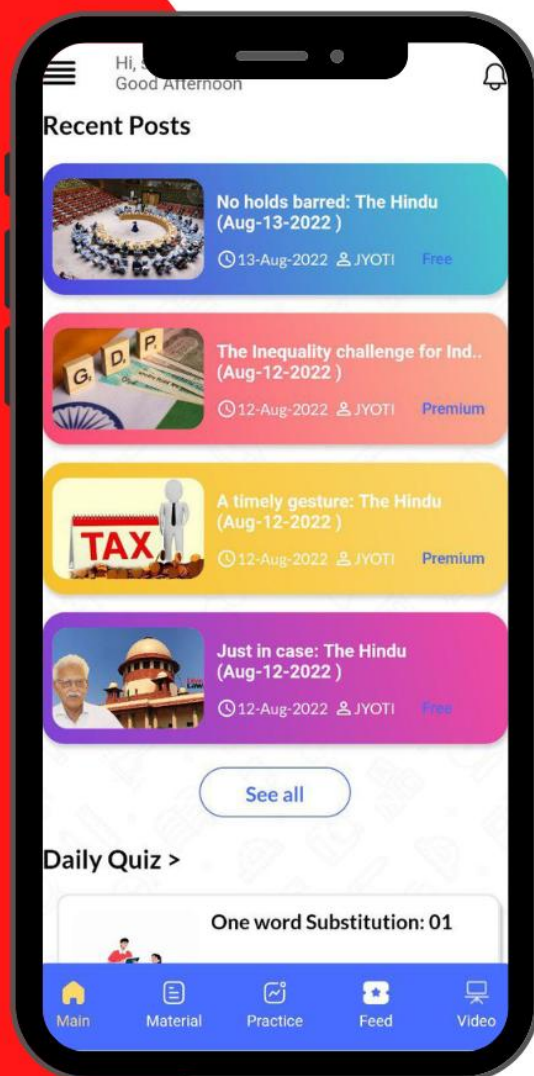
जो 'that' के बाद clause के subject के रूप में काम करता है। A. curtail (कम करना) – यह base verb form है, जो यहाँ subject के रूप में नहीं लग सकता।

curtailed (कम किया हुआ) – यह past participle है, जो passive voice में काम आता है, यहाँ active sense चाहिए। curtails (कम करता है) – यह singular present tense है, जो subject-verb agreement के हिसाब से यहाँ गलत है क्योंकि हमें एक noun (क्रिया का रूप) चाहिए।

- **'curtailing'** will be used because it means to reduce or limit something. The sentence states that reducing the stray dog population will increase the rat population, so 'curtailing' (the act of reducing) fits here. It is in the gerund form, functioning as the subject of the clause after 'that'. curtail – It's the base verb form and cannot act as a subject here. curtailed – It's the past participle, used in passive voice, but here we need an active sense. curtails – It's singular present tense, which doesn't fit grammatically as we need a noun (gerund) here.

25. B) **'Lead to'** का use होगा क्योंकि "lead to" का अर्थ होता है किसी परिणाम या स्थिति की ओर ले जाना। passage में mention किया गया है कि stray dogs की संख्या को कम करने से rats की संख्या में वृद्धि हो सकती है, इसलिए 'lead to' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Confide in' का अर्थ है किसी पर विश्वास करना, 'Dwell on' का अर्थ है किसी बात पर बार-बार विचार करना, और 'Entrust with' का अर्थ है किसी को कुछ सौंपना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **'Lead to'** will be used because it means to result in or cause something. The passage mentions that reducing the stray dog population may cause an increase in the rat population, making 'lead to' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Confide in' means to trust someone, 'Dwell on' means to think repeatedly about something, and 'Entrust with' means to assign responsibility, which do not fit in this context.



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