

Meaningless truce: On Netanyahu, the Gaza ceasefire

Netanyahu is making a **mockery** of the ceasefire agreement

When the **U.S.-brokered** ceasefire **took effect** in Gaza on October 10, 2025, **a big question** that **loomed** over all parties was whether Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who accepted the truce under pressure from U.S. President Donald Trump, **would honour** his **commitments** once the **hostages** were released. **Barely** three weeks later, **Mr. Netanyahu**, who had **vowed** to destroy Hamas, **found** a **convenient pretext** to resume **strikes**. He **accused** Hamas **of violating** the ceasefire, and **claimed** that the remains returned by the group were the body parts of a hostage already **retrieved**. Several hostages are believed to have been **buried** under the **ruddle**, while Gaza's officials and Egyptian **excavators** continue struggling to locate and identify bodies of **captives**. On Tuesday, Israel said militants fired anti-tank missiles at soldiers in Rafah, southern Gaza, killing one soldier — Hamas has denied any involvement. Mr. Netanyahu ordered **retaliatory** strikes, killing 104 Palestinians overnight, including 46 children and 20 women. After the **assault**, Israel announced that the ceasefire was back **in effect** — but what kind of a ceasefire is Israel observing if it has the freedom to **carry out** **devastating** attacks on Palestinian civilians?

While the ceasefire offered a **respite** to the Palestinians from daily Israeli **bombardments** and allowed the release of hostages and Palestinian prisoners, the **absence** of any **credible enforcement mechanism** **makes** it extremely **fragile**. Israeli troops still control roughly 55% of Gaza's territory. It would be unrealistic to expect that the **Palestinians**, who were **bombed** and **displaced** repeatedly over 24 months, **would** quietly accept the Israeli military **occupation**. Hamas has **enforced** its control in the rest of Gaza. Within Israel, Mr. Netanyahu's far-right **coalition** allies want the war to continue and Gaza **ethnically cleansed** of Palestinians. Despite the deep mistrust, all sides agreed to the ceasefire largely under U.S. pressure — Hamas needed a reprieve and Israel wanted its hostages back. **The next stage** of Mr. Trump's peace plan **is** even more controversial as it calls for Hamas's **disarmament**, which it has not agreed to. If Mr. Trump is serious about the peace push, he must own his plan and build mechanisms that ensure both sides **adhere to** their commitments. His **boastful** talk about peace will mean little if he allows Israel to continue to kill Palestinian civilians with **impunity**, while claiming that the ceasefire remains **in place**. For any truce to **endure**, Israeli troops must withdraw from Gaza and a new Palestinian administration should be in charge of the **enclave**. What Palestinians in Gaza **desperately** need is assistance for recovery, **resettlement** and reconstruction — not more bombs.

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

[Practice Exercise]

Vocabulary

1. **Meaningless** (adjective) – pointless, futile, empty, senseless, hollow निरर्थक
2. **Truce** (noun) – ceasefire, armistice, cessation of hostilities, peace, suspension युद्धविराम
3. **Ceasefire** (noun) – truce, armistice, suspension of fighting, cessation of hostilities युद्धविराम
4. **Mockery** (noun) – ridicule, travesty, farce, parody, sham मज़ाक
5. **U.S-brokered** (adjective) – negotiated or arranged by the United States. अमेरिका-व्यवस्थित
6. **Take effect** (phrase) – become active, come into force, be implemented, start operating प्रभावी होना
7. **Loom** (verb) – hang over, threaten, impend, be imminent, approach मंडराना
8. **Honour** (verb) – respect, fulfill, abide by, keep, adhere to पालन करना
9. **Commitment** (noun) – promise, pledge, obligation, vow, assurance वचन
10. **Hostage** (noun) – captive, prisoner, detainee, pawn, bargaining chip बंधक
11. **Barely** (adverb) – hardly, scarcely, only just, almost not मुश्किल से
12. **Vow** (verb) – swear, pledge, promise, affirm, commit शपथ लेना
13. **Convenient** (adjective) – suitable, opportune, expedient, advantageous, handy सुविधाजनक
14. **Pretext** (noun) – excuse, pretense, guise, cover, ploy बहाना
15. **Strike** (noun) – attack, assault, raid, offensive, bombardment हमला
16. **Accuse** (of) (verb) – charge, blame, allege, indict, impeach आरोप लगाना
17. **Violate** (verb) – break, breach, infringe, contravene, disregard उल्लंघन करना
18. **Claim** (verb) – assert, declare, state, contend, profess दावा करना
19. **Retrieve** (verb) – recover, get back, regain, reclaim, salvage बरामद करना
20. **Bury** (verb) – inter, entomb, lay to rest, conceal, hide दफनाना
21. **Rubble** (noun) – debris, wreckage, ruins, fragments, remains मलबा
22. **Excavator** (noun) – digger, earthmover, bulldozer, construction equipment उत्खननकर्ता
23. **Captive** (noun) – prisoner, hostage, detainee, internee, POW कैदी

24. **Retaliatory** (adjective) – revengeful, punitive, reciprocal, tit-for-tat, repaying प्रतिशोधी
25. **Assault** (noun) – attack, strike, offensive, onslaught, raid हमला
26. **In effect** (phrase) – active, operational, in force, current, implemented प्रभाव में
27. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) – execute, perform, implement, conduct, fulfill अंजाम देना
28. **Devastating** (adjective) – destructive, catastrophic, ruinous, crippling, shocking विनाशकारी
29. **Respite** (noun) – break, pause, lull, relief, interruption राहत
30. **Bombardment** (noun) – shelling, bombing, barrage, attack, blitz गोलाबारी
31. **Credible** (adjective) – believable, plausible, trustworthy, reliable, convincing विश्वसनीय
32. **Enforcement** (noun) – implementation, imposition, execution, administration, application प्रवर्तन
33. **Mechanism** (noun) – system, procedure, process, method, structure तंत्र
34. **Fragile** (adjective) – delicate, vulnerable, weak, unstable, precarious नाजुक
35. **Bomb** (verb) – attack, blast, shell, bombard, strike बमबारी करना
36. **Displace** (verb) – force out, uproot, evacuate, expel, dislocate विस्थापित करना
37. **Occupation** (noun) – control, takeover, possession, rule, annexation कब्जा
38. **Enforce** (verb) – impose, implement, apply, execute, administer लागू करना
39. **Coalition** (noun) – alliance, partnership, union, bloc, faction गठबंधन
40. **Ethnically** (adverb) – relating to race or cultural background. जातीय रूप से
41. **Cleansed** (adjective) – purified, purged, emptied, rid, cleared साफ किया हुआ
42. **Disarmament** (noun) – decommissioning, demilitarization, laying down arms निरस्त्रीकरण
43. **Adhere** (to) (verb) – stick to, abide by, comply with, follow, observe पालन करना
44. **Boastful** (adjective) – bragging, arrogant, conceited, swaggering, vain डींगमार
45. **Impunity** (noun) – immunity, exemption, freedom from punishment, license दण्डमुक्ति
46. **In place** (phrase) – established, set up, operational, existing, active लागू
47. **Endure** (verb) – last, persist, continue, survive, remain टिकना

48. **Enclave** (noun) – territory, zone, area,
district, sector इलाका

49. **Desperately** (adverb) – urgently, badly,
critically, extremely, acutely सख्त जरूरत से

50. **Resettlement** (noun) – relocation,
rehabilitation, reestablishment, moving
पुनर्वास

Summary of the Editorial

1. The U.S.-brokered ceasefire in Gaza took effect on October 10, 2025, after intense pressure from U.S. President Donald Trump on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.
2. A major concern was whether Netanyahu would respect the ceasefire once Israeli hostages were released.
3. Within three weeks, Netanyahu resumed strikes on Gaza, accusing Hamas of violating the ceasefire.
4. Israel claimed that the remains Hamas returned were body parts of a hostage already recovered earlier.
5. Many hostages remain missing, possibly buried under the rubble, with Palestinian and Egyptian rescuers still searching.
6. Israel reported that militants fired anti-tank missiles in Rafah, killing one soldier, but Hamas denied involvement.
7. Netanyahu ordered retaliatory airstrikes, which killed 104 Palestinians, including 46 children and 20 women.
8. After the deadly assault, Israel declared the ceasefire was back, raising doubts about the credibility of such a truce.
9. The ceasefire, though a temporary relief, lacks any credible enforcement mechanism, making it fragile.
10. Israeli troops still occupy 55% of Gaza, making it unrealistic for Palestinians to accept continued military control.
11. Hamas controls the remaining areas of Gaza, deepening the territorial division and mistrust.
12. Netanyahu's far-right coalition allies favor continuing the war and ethnically cleansing Gaza of Palestinians.
13. Both sides agreed to the ceasefire mainly due to U.S. pressure — Hamas wanted respite; Israel wanted hostages back.
14. Trump's next phase of the peace plan demands Hamas's disarmament, which the group has rejected.
15. For any lasting peace, Israel must withdraw troops, allow a new Palestinian administration in Gaza, and focus on recovery, resettlement, and reconstruction instead of more bombings.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **From the author's perspective, which inference best captures the nature of the ceasefire described in the passage?** [Editorial page]
 - A. It is effectively unenforceable, letting Israel strike while still claiming a truce.
 - B. It is durable because both sides trust each other and U.S. guarantees are binding.
 - C. It is on firm ground since Hamas has agreed to disarm under the peace plan.
 - D. It is stabilizing because Israel relinquished control of most of Gaza.
2. **According to the passage, which sequence of events and figures is stated as having occurred after Israel said militants fired anti-tank missiles at soldiers in Rafah?**
 - A. Netanyahu ordered strikes that killed 104 Palestinians, including 46 children and 20 women; afterward, Israel said the ceasefire was back in effect.
 - B. Israel launched air raids causing 55 Palestinian deaths; then U.S. pressure restored the ceasefire within hours.
 - C. Hamas claimed responsibility for the missile attack; Israel responded with limited artillery fire and no reported civilian casualties.
 - D. Egyptian excavators confirmed all hostages' remains; Israel then paused operations pending identification.
3. **In the passage, the ceasefire is portrayed as "extremely fragile" primarily because _____.**
 - A. Hamas rejected the release of all Israeli hostages outright
 - B. there is no credible enforcement mechanism to ensure adherence
 - C. Egypt refused to assist with locating captives' remains
 - D. the U.N. declared Gaza to be fully demilitarized
4. **Why does the author question "what kind of a ceasefire" Israel is observing?**
 - A. Because Israel withdrew from more than 55% of Gaza immediately
 - B. Because Hamas publicly accepted full disarmament under the U.S. plan
 - C. Because Israel resumed strikes while still asserting the ceasefire was in effect
 - D. Because all hostages were safely released and identified
5. **Identify the part of speech of the underlined word in the sentence:**
"Within Israel, Mr. Netanyahu's far-right coalition allies want the war to continue and Gaza **ethnically** cleansed of Palestinians."
 - A. Noun
 - B. Adjective
 - C. Adverb
 - D. Preposition
6. **Select the best express Synonym of the given italicize word.**
Her performance set a new **benchmark** for excellence in public speaking.
 - A. Abnormality
 - B. Standard
 - C. Deviation
 - D. Irregularity
7. **In the following sentence, four words are underlined out of which one word is misspelt. Identify the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

She began to **floundar** (A) during the **interview** when unexpected questions arose. Her confidence (B) began to falter and she lost her **composure** (C), though she **recovered** later (D).

- A. B
- B. A
- C. D
- D. C

8. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

Bend over backwards

- A. To express sudden shock
- B. To exert a lot of effort towards some end
- C. To end all activities
- D. To confess to a crime

9. **Select the most appropriate Antonym of the given word.**

The turbulence in the stock market caused investors to panic and withdraw their funds.

- A. Abhor
- B. Calm
- C. Detest
- D. Condemn

10. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**

A young child just beginning to walk

- A. Toddler
- B. Cub
- C. Joey
- D. Kid

11. **Select the correct spelling of the underlined word in the following sentence.**

The report contains some manipulation of the original data.

- A. manupulation
- B. manipalation
- C. manipulation
- D. manipullation

12. **Select the most appropriate word from the options to fill in the blank.**

Adithya ordered a juicy _____ cooked to perfection at the highway restaurant.

- A. steak
- B. stake
- C. stoke
- D. stink

13. **Select the best express Synonym of the given italicize word.**

Due to an **oversight** in the audit process, several financial errors went unnoticed for months.

- A. Supervision
- B. Blunder
- C. Vision
- D. Neglect

14. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**

We have reorganised the department over the last year.

- A. The department has been reorganised over the last year.
B. Last year, the department was reorganised.
C. The department is reorganised by me.
D. The department is being reorganised over the last year.
15. **Select the most appropriate Antonym of the given word.**
The new program aims to **empower** women by providing them with the resources and tools they need to succeed.
A. Embezzlement
B. Weaken
C. Enormous
D. Misappropriation
16. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
She is not rich / and that is why, she cannot afford to / buy a expensive bungalow /near the sea-side.
A. and that is why, she cannot afford to
B. buy a expensive bungalow
C. She is not rich
D. near the sea-side
17. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
Gandhi's ways of life, if followed in their entirety, will aid us in the creation of a society of peace and _____.
A. discord
B. agitation
C. harmony
D. cacophony
18. **Q. The question consists of six sentences of a passage. The first and sixth sentences are given as S1 and S6. The middle four sentences in each have been jumbled up and labelled as P, Q, R and S. You are required to find the proper sequence of the four sentences.**
S1: A licensee who wants to surrender his license shall apply in Form X to the licensing officer.
P: This shall not entitle the licensee to any compensation by way of license fee in any form.
Q: If the licensing officer is satisfied, he may accept the surrender.
R: The license shall be deemed to have been terminated from the date of such acceptance.
S: The application shall be accompanied by a declaration of stock in Form V.
S6: The licensee who has surrendered his license shall be allowed to sell the antiquities declared to another licensee or a recognized museum in India.
A. PQRS
B. SRQP
C. SQRP
D. SQPR
19. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
(A) If the department had responded swiftly to the earlier warnings, / (B) the crisis could be avoided / (C) and the damage would have been far less extensive. / (D) No error

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D

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 India-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement (FTA), called the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), has been lauded by the Union Commerce and Industry Minister, Piyush Goyal, as the 'gold standard' for all India's trade deals. Mr. Goyal has _____1_____ that no compromise _____2_____ in any sensitive sector. Evidently, the Minister _____3_____ to be counting only agriculture and labour-intensive manufacturing as sensitive sectors — which they are. But remarkably, despite the wide coverage the FTA has received, the impact _____4_____ India's other, highly sensitive digital sector, which permeates every sphere of national activity and holds the key to our future, _____5_____ without official comment or media scrutiny.

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

- A. refuted
- B. contradicted
- C. rebutted
- D. asserted

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

- A. made
- B. makes
- C. was made
- D. make

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

- A. seemed
- B. vanished
- C. seems
- D. faded

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

- A. at
- B. on
- C. for
- D. to

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

- A. has gone
- B. went
- C. gone
- D. is going

25. Select the meaning of the given highlighted phrasal verb.

The new manager will take over the department from next week.

- A. Assume charge

- B. Resign
- C. Vacate
- D. Abdicate

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. A) **It is effectively unenforceable, letting Israel strike while still claiming a truce.**
 The author stresses the lack of an enforcement mechanism and questions “what kind of a ceasefire” it is if Israel can conduct devastating attacks while the truce is “in effect.”
 - B: The passage highlights deep mistrust and says U.S. pressure, not trust, pushed parties to accept the truce.
 - C: It explicitly states Hamas has not agreed to disarm.
 - D: Israel still controls roughly 55% of Gaza, so it has not relinquished most control.
2. A) **Netanyahu ordered strikes that killed 104 Palestinians, including 46 children and 20 women; afterward, Israel said the ceasefire was back in effect.**
 Matches the passage after the Rafah incident (which Hamas denied), Netanyahu ordered retaliatory strikes killing 104, including 46 children and 20 women; after the assault, Israel announced the ceasefire was back “in effect.”
 - B: Numbers are wrong (55 vs 104) and the passage does not say U.S. pressure restored the ceasefire “within hours.”
 - C: Hamas denied involvement; also there were devastating strikes with heavy civilian deaths reported.
 - D: The passage says officials/excavators are struggling to locate and identify remains; it does not say all remains were confirmed, nor that Israel paused operations for that reason.
3. B) **there is no credible enforcement mechanism to ensure adherence**
 The passage states that the absence of any credible enforcement mechanism makes the ceasefire extremely fragile.
 - A: The passage says Hamas needed a reprieve and agreed to the ceasefire; it does not say they outright rejected releases.
 - C: Egyptian excavators are helping; no refusal is mentioned.
 - D: No claim of U.N. declaring full demilitarization appears in the passage.
4. C) **Because Israel resumed strikes while still asserting the ceasefire was in effect**
 The author notes retaliatory strikes that killed civilians, followed by an announcement that the ceasefire was still in effect—hence questioning the nature of the ceasefire.
 - A: The passage says Israeli troops still control roughly 55% (not withdrew).
 - B: Hamas has not agreed to disarmament.
 - D: Several hostages are believed buried under rubble; full safe release/identification is not claimed.
5. C) **Adverb**
 “Ethnically” modifies the implied participle “cleansed” by specifying the manner/type of cleansing; as a -ly form modifying a verb/participle, it functions as an adverb.
 - A: It does not name a person/place/thing/idea; not a noun.

- B: The adjective form would be “ethnic,” but here the -ly form modifies a verbal idea.
 - D: It does not show a relationship like “in,” “at,” “from,” etc.; not a preposition.
6. B) **Benchmark** (noun) – standard, reference point, criterion, measure, yardstick मापदंड
Synonym: **Standard** (noun) – Accepted level or model (मानक)
- **Abnormality** (noun) – Something unusual (असामान्यताएँ)
 - **Deviation** (noun) – Departure from the usual course (विचलन)
 - **Irregularity** (noun) – An inconsistency (अनियमितता)
7. B) The incorrectly spelt word is ‘floundar’, which should be corrected to ‘flounder’, meaning “to struggle or waver clumsily” (संघर्ष करना या लड़खड़ाना).
8. B) **Bend over backwards** (idiom) – To exert a lot of effort towards some end किसी उद्देश्य की ओर बहुत प्रयास करना
9. B) **Turbulence** (noun) – Unrest, instability, turmoil, disturbance अशांति, उथल-पुथल
Antonym: **Calm** (noun) – Peace, tranquility, quietness, serenity. शांति
- **Abhor** (verb) – Regard with disgust and hatred, detest, loathe. घृणा करना
 - **Detest** (verb) – Dislike intensely, hate, abhor. नफरत करना
 - **Condemn** (verb) – Express complete disapproval of, criticize, denounce. निंदा करना
10. A) **Toddler** (noun) – A young child who is just beginning to walk. छोटा बच्चा जो चलना सीख रहा हो
- **Cub** (noun) – A young animal, such as a young bear, lion, fox, etc. शावक
 - **Joey** (noun) – A young kangaroo. केंगारू का बच्चा
 - **Kid** (noun) – A young person or child. बच्चा
11. C) The correct spelling of ‘manipuletion’ is ‘**manipulation**’, which means “control, tampering, or exploitation” – हेरफेर.
12. A) **'Steak'** का use होगा क्योंकि "steak" का अर्थ है मांस का एक मोटा टुकड़ा, जिसे आमतौर पर ग्रिल या फ्राई किया जाता है। sentence में बताया गया है कि आदित्य ने एक जूसी (रसदार) और परफेक्शन से पकाया हुआ ऑर्डर दिया, जो खाने की चीज की ओर इशारा करता है। Stake का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ में दांव लगाना या हिस्सा। Stoke का अर्थ है किसी चीज़ को जलाए रखना या उत्साह बढ़ाना। यह खाना या ऑर्डर से संबंधित नहीं है। Stink का अर्थ है बदबू आना। वाक्य में यह अर्थ बिल्कुल भी फिट नहीं होता है।
- 'Steak' will be used because it refers to a thick slice of meat, typically grilled or fried. The sentence mentions that Adithya ordered something juicy and perfectly cooked, indicating food. Hence, 'steak' is the correct choice. 'Stake' means a risk or share in something, not related to food, and does not fit the sentence context. Stoke means to fuel or encourage something, not related to food or ordering. 'Stink' means a bad smell, which does not fit the context of the sentence at all.
13. A) **Oversight** (noun) – supervision, monitoring, control, management, regulation निगरानी
Synonym: **Supervision** (noun) – Act of overseeing (देखरेख)
- **Blunder** (noun) – A serious mistake (भूल)

- **Vision** (noun) – Imagination or foresight (दृष्टिकोण)
- **Neglect** (noun) – Lack of care (लापरवाही)

14. A) **The department has been reorganised over the last year.**

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Active वाक्य में "We" Subject है, "have reorganised" Verb (Present Perfect) है, और "the department" Object है। Passive Voice में बदलने पर "the department" (Object) Subject बन गया है। Verb को Passive में बदलते समय Present Perfect Tense में "has been reorganised" का प्रयोग किया गया है। "by us" को अंत में जोड़ा जा सकता है, लेकिन यह वाक्य के अर्थ को प्रभावित नहीं करता।

- 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, "We" is the subject, "have reorganised" is the verb (Present Perfect), and "the department" is the object.
In the passive sentence, "the department" (Object) becomes the subject. The verb is transformed into "has been reorganised" (Present Perfect Passive). Adding "by us" is optional and does not alter the meaning of the sentence.

15. B) **Empower** (verb) – Enable, authorize, equip, strengthen, give power सशक्त बनाना

Antonym: **Weaken** (verb) – Make or become weaker in power, reduce, diminish. कमजोर करना

- **Embezzlement** (noun) – The act of fraudulently appropriating money or property entrusted to one's care but actually owned by someone else. गबन
- **Enormous** (adjective) – Extremely large in size or amount, vast, immense. विशाल
- **Misappropriation** (noun) – The action of misappropriating something; embezzlement. दुरुपयोग

16. B) 'a expensive' के बदले '**an expensive**' का use होगा क्योंकि 'expensive' एक vowel sound से शुरू होता है, और vowel sound वाले शब्दों से पहले 'an' का प्रयोग किया जाता है। उदाहरण— She bought an umbrella for the rainy season.

- 'an expensive' will be used instead of 'a expensive' because 'expensive' begins with a vowel sound, and before words with a vowel sound, 'an' is used. Example— She bought an umbrella for the rainy season.

17. C) '**Harmony**' का use सही है क्योंकि इसका अर्थ होता है शांति, सौहार्द्र या सामंजस्य, जो गांधीजी के जीवन दर्शन के अनुसार एक शांतिपूर्ण और आदर्श समाज के निर्माण का संदर्भ देता है। यहाँ 'peace' (शांति) और 'harmony' एक दूसरे के पूरक हैं। Discord: इसका अर्थ होता है विवाद या असहमति, जो 'peace' के विपरीत है। इस संदर्भ में यह पूरी तरह से अनुचित है। Agitation: इसका अर्थ होता है व्याकुलता या अशांति, जो 'peace' के बिल्कुल विपरीत है। यह शब्द वाक्य की भावनात्मक और संदर्भगत संगति को बिगाड़ देता है। Cacophony: इसका अर्थ होता है कर्णकटु शोर या अव्यवस्थित ध्वनि, जो 'peace' के विपरीत अर्थ रखता है।

- '**Harmony**' is the correct choice because it means a state of peaceful coexistence and agreement, which aligns with the idea of a peaceful and ideal society as described in the sentence. The word "peace" and "harmony" complement each other, making this

option contextually appropriate. Discord: It means disagreement or conflict, which is the opposite of "peace" and does not fit the positive tone of the sentence. Agitation: It refers to unrest or disturbance, which contradicts the concept of "peace" and is inappropriate here. Cacophony: It means a harsh, discordant noise, which again opposes the idea of a peaceful society.

18. C) SQRP

S starts with "The application", which refers directly to the application mentioned in S1 (Form X application). This establishes a clear noun connection: the application in S1 requires an attachment (Form V) as stated in S.

Q follows S as it introduces the subject "the licensing officer" (who receives the application) and the verb "may accept", which describes the action taken on the application submitted with Form V. This creates a subject-verb relationship: the licensing officer may accept.

R follows Q as it begins with "The license", which is the object being surrendered, and the verb "shall be deemed" explains the consequence of the acceptance in Q. The phrase "such acceptance" directly refers back to the acceptance in Q.

P follows R as it starts with "This", which refers to the entire surrender process (termination of license in R), and the verb "shall not entitle" states the rule regarding compensation after termination.

Finally, S6 naturally follows P, as it talks about what the licensee is allowed to do after surrender (sell antiquities), which contrasts with no compensation (P).

In Hindi:

- S sentence S1 के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह "The application" (जिसका S1 में mention है) के साथ जुड़ने वाले document (Form V) को specify करता है। यह logical sequence बनाता है: apply करने के बाद documents attach करने हैं।
- Q, S के बाद आता है क्योंकि इसमें subject "the licensing officer" introduce होता है, जो application receive करता है, और verb "may accept" बताता है कि officer क्या action लेता है। यह S1 और S में mentioned application process को आगे बढ़ाता है।
- R, Q के बाद naturally fit होता है क्योंकि यह "The license" (main object) को refer करता है और verb "shall be deemed" बताता है कि acceptance (Q में mentioned) की date से license terminate मानी जाएगी। "Such acceptance" directly Q को refer करता है।
- P, R के बाद आता है क्योंकि "This" (यह) surrender और termination (R में described) को collectively refer करता है, और verb "shall not entitle" compensation के rule को बताता है। यह termination के after effect है।
- S6 then P के बाद आता है, क्योंकि यह बताता है कि compensation नहीं मिलेगा, लेकिन antiquities बेचने की allowance है।

19. B) 'could be avoided' के बदले 'could have been avoided' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह एक third conditional sentence है जिसमें past unreal condition दी गई है। इसमें दोनों Clauses में Past Perfect (had + V3) और would/could have + V3 का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे—If he had studied well, he would have passed the exam.

- 'could have been avoided' will be used instead of 'could be avoided' because this is a third conditional sentence (unreal condition in the past). The correct structure is:

If + had + V3, then would/could have + V3; Like—If he had studied well, he would have passed the exam.

20. D) '**Asserted**' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है दृढ़ता से कहना या बताना। यहाँ sentence में Minister के द्वारा एक दृढ़ बयान दिए जाने का संकेत है, जिसमें कोई समझौता नहीं होगा। 'Asserted' इस context के लिए सही है। जबकि 'Refuted' (खंडन करना), 'Contradicted' (विरोध करना), और 'Rebutted' (जवाब देना) नकारात्मक अर्थ देते हैं, जो यहाँ fit नहीं होते।

- 'Asserted' will be used because it means to state firmly or declare. The sentence indicates a strong statement by the Minister that there will be no compromise, making 'asserted' the correct choice. Whereas, 'Refuted' means to deny, 'Contradicted' means to oppose, and 'Rebutted' means to counter, which do not fit this positive declaration context.

21. C) '**Was made**' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ passive voice की आवश्यकता है। sentence में बताया गया है कि "कोई समझौता नहीं किया गया" (no compromise was made), जो past tense और passive form में सही है। 'Made' (A) और 'make' (D) passive structure में नहीं हैं, जबकि 'makes' (B) present tense में है, जो context के अनुसार गलत है।

- 'Was made' will be used because the sentence requires passive voice. It indicates that "no compromise was made" in any sensitive sector, which is grammatically correct in past tense and passive form. 'Made' (A) and 'make' (D) are not in passive structure, while 'makes' (B) is in present tense, making it incorrect for this context.

22. A) '**Seemed**' का use होगा क्योंकि यह past tense में है और context के अनुसार, Minister के द्वारा किए गए कथन या कार्य को दर्शाता है जो पहले ही हो चुका है। यहाँ 'seemed' (प्रतीत हुआ) सही है क्योंकि यह बताता है कि Minister ने संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों को केवल कृषि और श्रम-गहन विनिर्माण तक सीमित रखा प्रतीत हुआ। अन्य विकल्प 'vanished' (गायब हो गया), 'seems' (प्रतीत होता है - present tense), और 'faded' (फीका पड़ गया) context के अनुरूप नहीं हैं।

- 'Seemed' will be used because it is in the past tense and aligns with the context, indicating the Minister's apparent action or statement that has already occurred. Here, 'seemed' (appeared) is correct as it suggests that the Minister appeared to count only agriculture and labour-intensive manufacturing as sensitive sectors. Other options—'vanished' (disappeared), 'seems' (present tense), and 'faded' (lost significance)—do not fit the context grammatically or logically.

23. B) '**On**' का use होगा क्योंकि "impact on" एक fixed prepositional phrase है जिसका अर्थ होता है "पर प्रभाव"। यहाँ sentence में digital sector पर FTA के प्रभाव की बात हो रही है, इसलिए 'on' सही है। जबकि 'at' (पर), 'for' (के लिए), और 'to' (को) इस context में grammatically incorrect हैं क्योंकि वे "impact" के साथ सही तरीके से नहीं जुड़ते।

- 'On' will be used because "impact on" is a fixed prepositional phrase meaning "प्रभाव पड़ना." Here, the sentence talks about the effect of the FTA on the digital sector, making 'on' correct. Whereas, 'at' (at a point), 'for' (purpose), and 'to' (direction) are grammatically incorrect here as they don't collocate properly with "impact."

24. A) '**Has gone**' का use होगा क्योंकि यह present perfect tense है जो past के action को present से जोड़ता है। यहाँ digital sector के impact के बारे में बात हो रही है जो past में हुआ और अभी तक relevant है, इसलिए 'has gone' सही है। 'Went' (simple past) यहाँ present relevance नहीं दिखाता, 'gone' (past participle) auxiliary verb के बिना अधूरा है, और 'is going' (present continuous) यहाँ context के अनुसार गलत है।

- 'Has gone' will be used because it is in the present perfect tense, connecting a past action to the present. The sentence discusses the impact on India's digital sector, which happened in the past but remains relevant now, making 'has gone' correct. 'Went' (simple past) doesn't show present relevance, 'gone' (past participle) is incomplete without an auxiliary verb, and 'is going' (present continuous) doesn't fit the context.

25. A) **Take over** (phrasal verb) – assume charge, take the helm, step in, assume office, take command पदभार ग्रहण करना

Synonym: **Assume charge** (verb) – Begin responsibility (जिम्मेदारी लेना)

- **Resign** (verb) – Quit, leave position (इस्तीफा देना)
- **Vacate** (verb) – Leave empty (खाली करना)
- **Abdicate** (verb) – Renounce, give up power (त्यागना)