

Renewed rivalry: On the India, South Africa first Test, at Eden Gardens

India will be **keen** to move ahead in the new cricket Test cycle

Kolkata's **Eden Gardens**, one of cricket's **hallowed** venues, **will** again host South Africa. Back in 1991, when South Africa was readmitted to cricket **following** the withdrawal of **apartheid** and the **consequent lifting** of a 21-year sporting ban, it was the eastern **metropolis** that **rolled out** the red carpet to Clive Rice and his men. The first ODI was played at a **packed** Eden on November 10, 1991, one in which India **prevailed**, and 34 years later, another **Protean unit** led by Temba Bavuma **will** clash against Shubman Gill's men in the first Test **commencing** on Friday (November 14, 2025). In a fresh cycle, **South Africa**, the **defending champion** in the ICC World Test Championship, **is up against** India, **often** an **indomitable force in its own backyard**. **That** the tour of England was drawn at 2-2 in the longest format and the **subsequent** Tests against the West Indies at home were **swept aside**, **is** a pointer to the form and ability of Gill's unit despite the retirements of Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and R. Ashwin and the continued absence of Mohammed Shami. The first two may still be playing ODIs, but this truly is Gill's **era** and five **tons** in his last seven Tests reveals a batter **finding an extra gear** when given the extra responsibility of captaincy.

This latest cricketing **joust** is like a full-course meal as it **features** two Tests, three ODIs and five T20Is. India can **finesse** its plans and team combinations in all three formats, besides **gaining** further inputs on the form and **relevance** of Rohit and Kohli after their decent run during the recent ODIs in Australia. The T20Is too will have an added layer as India and Sri Lanka will be hosting the ICC T20 World Cup next year. That Rishabh Pant is back **in the mix**, after a **hiatus** following an injury, **augurs well** while the other wicket-keeper Dhruv Jurel may still find his slot as a pure batter **considering** his **exploits** with the India A unit. Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal, K.L. Rahul, Ravindra Jadeja, Pant, Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj constitute the **nucleus** of a **squad** that is **dealing with transition** under coach Gautam Gambhir. South Africa with its **blend** of **doughty** batters and a sharp attack **headlined** by Kagiso Rabada, can be a strong opposition. The visitors also have an adequate blend of spin revealing an Indian origin flavour **thanks to** the presence of Keshav Maharaj and Senuran Muthusamy. Last year, host India was **humbled** by New Zealand and even if it is largely seen as an **aberration**, Bavuma's men could **draw** inspiration from **the Black Caps**. [Practice Exercise]

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.
- Protean unit (noun) – the international cricket team of South Africa
- Up against (phrase) – confronted with. का सामना करना
- **Sweep aside** (phrasal verb) – to completely ignore or dismiss something as unimportant.

Vocabulary

1. **Renewed** (adjective) – revived, refreshed, reinvigorated, restored, resumed नवीकृत
2. **Rivalry** (noun) – competition, contest, contention, struggle, duel प्रतिद्वंद्विता
3. **Keen** (to) (adjective) – eager, enthusiastic, anxious, willing, intent उत्सुक
4. **Hallowed** (adjective) – revered, sacred, honoured, respected, venerated पवित्र
5. **Following** (preposition) – after, subsequent to, as a result of, in the wake of के बाद
6. **Apartheid** (noun) – racial segregation, discrimination, racism, separation रंगभेद
7. **Consequent** (adjective) – resulting, ensuing, subsequent, following, attendant परिणामी
8. **Lifting** (noun) – removal, withdrawal, revocation, cancellation, ending हटाना
9. **Metropolis** (noun) – large city, capital, urban center, mega-city महानगर
10. **Roll out** the red carpet (phrase) – to welcome someone as a very important person or guest स्वागत करना
11. **Packed** (adjective) – crowded, full, jam-packed, filled, overflowing भरा हुआ
12. **Prevail** (verb) – win, triumph, succeed, overcome, conquer जीतना
13. **Commence** (verb) – begin, start, initiate, open, launch शुरू होना
14. **Defending champion** (noun) – titleholder, reigning champion, current winner वर्तमान चैंपियन
15. **Often** (adverb) – frequently, repeatedly, regularly, commonly, habitually अक्सर
16. **Indomitable** (adjective) – invincible, unconquerable, unbeatable, relentless, determined अजेय
17. **In one's own backyard** (phrase) – at home, in familiar conditions, domestically घरेलू मैदान पर
18. **Subsequent** (adjective) – following, ensuing, later, next, succeeding बाद का
19. **Era** (noun) – age, period, time, epoch, generation युग
20. **Ton** (noun) – century, hundred runs, 100 runs शतक
21. **Find an extra gear** (phrase) – to perform even better under pressure. और बेहतर प्रदर्शन करना
22. **Joust** (noun) – contest, battle, duel, clash, encounter मुकाबला
23. **Feature** (verb) – include, contain, present, showcase, comprise शामिल करना

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| 24. Finesse (verb) – refine, perfect, polish, hone, improve परिष्कृत करना | 34. Deal with (phrasal verb) – handle, manage, address, tackle, cope with निपटना |
| 25. Gain (verb) – obtain, acquire, get, secure, gather प्राप्त करना | 35. Transition (noun) – change, shift, transformation, conversion, passage परिवर्तन |
| 26. Relevance (noun) – significance, importance, pertinence, applicability, bearing प्रासंगिकता | 36. Blend (noun) – mixture, combination, mix, amalgamation, fusion मिश्रण |
| 27. In the mix (phrase) – included, involved, in contention, in the running शामिल होना | 37. Doughty (adjective) – brave, courageous, determined, resolute, valiant बहादुर |
| 28. Hiatus (noun) – break, pause, gap, interruption, interval अंतराल | 38. Headline (verb) – lead, star, feature prominently, be the main attraction प्रमुख होना |
| 29. Augur well (phrase) – to be a good sign for the future. शुभ संकेत होना | 39. Thanks to (phrase) – because of, due to, as a result of, owing to की वजह से |
| 30. Consider (verb) – think about, regard, view, deem, judge विचार करना | 40. Humble (verb) – defeat soundly, crush, overwhelm, trounce, subdue शिकस्त देना |
| 31. Exploit (noun) – achievements, accomplishments, deeds, feats, successes उपलब्धियां | 41. Aberration (noun) – anomaly, exception, irregularity, deviation, oddity विसंगति |
| 32. Nucleus (noun) – core, heart, center, foundation, backbone मुख्य आधार | 42. Draw (verb) – take, derive, get, obtain, gain लेना |
| 33. Squad (noun) – team, group, unit, contingent, roster दल | 43. The Black Caps (noun) – the New Zealand cricket team. न्यूजीलैंड की क्रिकेट टीम |

Summary of the Editorial

1. The first Test between India and South Africa will be held at Kolkata's iconic Eden Gardens starting November 14, 2025.
2. The venue holds historical significance — in 1991, it welcomed South Africa back into international cricket after the apartheid ban.
3. That 1991 ODI at Eden Gardens, won by India, marked South Africa's official return to global cricket.
4. Now, 34 years later, South Africa led by Temba Bavuma will face India under Shubman Gill's captaincy.
5. This Test marks the beginning of a new ICC World Test Championship cycle.
6. South Africa enters the series as the defending Test champion, while India remains a dominant force at home.
7. India's recent Test performances — a 2-2 draw in England and a clean sweep against the West Indies — show their strong form.
8. Despite the retirements of Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, and R. Ashwin, and Mohammed Shami's absence, India has adapted well.
9. Gill's leadership era has begun strongly, with five centuries in his last seven Tests reflecting his maturity.
10. The India–South Africa tour will include 2 Tests, 3 ODIs, and 5 T20Is, allowing India to refine its team balance across formats.
11. The upcoming ICC T20 World Cup (2026), to be co-hosted by India and Sri Lanka, adds importance to the limited-overs games.
12. Rishabh Pant's return after injury is a major boost, while Dhruv Jurel may also play as a specialist batter.
13. The current Indian core under coach Gautam Gambhir includes Gill, Jaiswal, Rahul, Jadeja, Pant, Bumrah, and Siraj.
14. South Africa presents a balanced side with resilient batters and a potent pace attack led by Kagiso Rabada.
15. Their spin duo Keshav Maharaj and Senuran Muthusamy, both of Indian origin, adds depth — and they could draw motivation from New Zealand's upset win over India last year.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based**[Editorial Page]**

1. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Nostalgic
 - B. Analytical
 - C. Humorous
 - D. Pessimistic
2. **Where did South Africa play its first ODI after readmission to international cricket?**
 - A. Lord's, London
 - B. Eden Gardens, Kolkata
 - C. Newlands, Cape Town
 - D. Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai
3. **When was that first post-readmission ODI (at Eden Gardens) played?**
 - A. November 14, 2025
 - B. November 14, 1991
 - C. November 10, 1994
 - D. November 10, 1991
4. **What type of pronoun is the word "its" in the sentence:**
"India can finesse its plans and team combinations in all three formats..."
 - A. Relative pronoun
 - B. Reflexive pronoun
 - C. Possessive pronoun
 - D. Demonstrative pronoun
5. **Identify the sentence with correct subject-verb agreement :**
 - A. The first ODI were played at a packed Eden on November 10, 1991.
 - B. That the tour of England was drawn at 2-2 and the subsequent Tests were swept aside, is a pointer to the team's form.
 - C. South Africa with its blend of doughty batters and a sharp attack are a strong opposition.
 - D. Gill along with his teammates have been preparing for the series.
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.**
 - P) Except for too many curves and bends that the driver had to negotiate, it, otherwise, was a pleasant evening to drive back home
 - Q) It was an hour before the fall of the dusk
 - R) We were driving back home through picturesque hilly tracts embellished with evergreen forest of the Western Ghats
 - S) To negotiate, it, otherwise, was a pleasant evening to drive back home
 - A. QPSR
 - B. QRPS
 - C. SRPQ
 - D. SQRP
7. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active voice.**

A farewell party for me has been organised by my office colleagues.

 - A. My office colleagues are going to organise a farewell party for me.
 - B. My office colleagues have organised a farewell party for me.

- C. My office colleagues are organising a farewell party for me.
D. A farewell party for me is about to be organised by my office colleagues
8. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
_____ his illness, he could not finish the work on time.
A. Subsequent for
B. As a consequence of
C. In consequence to
D. On account
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
He raised several questions _____ the future of the organisation.
A. concern to
B. concerned for
C. concerning
D. concemed with
10. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error**
He reached quickly because / five miles were not / a long distance for / a young man like him.
A. He reached quickly because
B. a long distance for
C. five miles were not
D. a young man like him
11. **Select the correct homonym/homophone from the given options to fill in the blank.**
They organized the _____ of Mr Cordes on his way to the airport
A. abduction
B. abdication
C. addiction
D. adoration
12. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the highlighted idiom.**
He turned down the new assignment; he felt that he already had too many irons in the fire.
A. Having involvement in illegal activities
B. Having problems in completing tasks
C. Having financial hurdles
D. Having multiple tasks to complete
13. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution required'.**
He feels that he has been taken in it
A. No substitution required
B. taken for granted
C. taken for ease
D. taken as granted
14. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A piece of a living tissue or plant that is transplanted surgically
A. Gratis
B. Gourmet

- C. Gracious
D. Graft
15. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer**
While driving, Satheesh always / switches off his mobile phone / and kept it in the dashboard.
A. No error
B. While driving, Satheesh always
C. and kept it in the dashboard
D. switches off his mobile phone
16. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**
A. Embarrass
B. Hierarchy
C. Flourescent
D. fiery
17. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
_____ his illness, he could not finish the work on time.
A. Subsequent for
B. As a consequence of
C. In consequence to
D. On account
18. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**
He was rebuked for his infraction of the discipline.
A. transgression
B. observance
C. breach
D. acceptance
19. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**
The horror and abomination of the system of Sati in India was condemned thoroughly.
A. abhorrence
B. termination
C. adoration
D. detestation
20. **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) A landslide led to the destruction of many buildings in Krishnanagar area and left two dead.
Q) Landslides around Shimla have damaged roads and brought life to a standstill.
R) Rains have recently wreaked havoc in Himachal Pradesh, particularly Shimla.
S) Heavy precipitation in the Summer Hill area of the State capital resulted in flash floods and the collapse of a temple which claimed over 15 lives.
A. RSPQ
B. SQPR
C. QRPS
D. PSQR

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 biggest ____ (1) ____ of society today is that, despite being self-proclaimed progressives, we live in a burnout society, in the words of philosopher Byung Chul Han. This is one that ____ (2) ____ excess positivity borne out of a culture of overproduction and ____ (3) ____ achievement, and marked by a deficit in understanding psychological and emotional health. This ____ (4) ____ is felt most in the education ecosystem. The ____ (5) ____ is that we are a part of the educational process, and the further we return to the classroom and the curriculum, the higher the burnout .

21. What should come in the place of 1.

- A. verity
- B. certainty
- C. fallacy
- D. discrepancy

22. What should come in the place of 2.

- A. Thrive on
- B. Thriving on
- C. Throve on
- D. Thrives on

23. What should come in the place of 3.

- A. compassionate
- B. relentless
- C. cloaked
- D. equanimous

24. What should come in the place of 4.

- A. discrepancy
- B. mutual
- C. concord
- D. guile

25. What should come in the place of 5.

- A. munificence
- B. resolution
- C. tenacity
- D. dilemma

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) Analytical

The passage evaluates India–South Africa cricket prospects, compares past performances, discusses players, formats, team combinations, and future tournaments. The writer analyzes the cricketing context with factual assessment.

- Nostalgic: Although it briefly recalls 1991, the dominant tone is evaluation and analysis, not emotional longing.
- Humorous: No jokes, light-hearted remarks, or playful tone appear. The passage is serious and factual.
- Pessimistic: The passage does not express negativity; instead, it highlights strengths, opportunities, and team form.

2. B) Eden Gardens, Kolkata.

The passage says the first ODI after South Africa's readmission was played at a packed Eden Gardens on November 10, 1991.

- A — Lord's, London: Not mentioned in the passage; the match described took place in Kolkata.
- C — Newlands, Cape Town: Newlands is in South Africa, but the passage specifically names Eden Gardens.
- D — Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai: Also not mentioned; the passage names Eden Gardens as the venue.

3. D) November 10, 1991.

The passage explicitly states the first ODI was played on November 10, 1991.

- A — November 14, 2025: This date in the passage refers to the start of the Test (34 years later), not the 1991 ODI.
- B — November 14, 1991: The correct 1991 date given is November 10, not the 14th.
- C — November 10, 1994: The year is wrong; the passage gives 1991 as the year of readmission's first ODI.

4. C) Possessive pronoun

"its" shows ownership/possession of "plans" and "team combinations," so it is a possessive pronoun.

- Relative pronoun – Words like who, which, that; "its" is not used to link clauses.
- Reflexive pronoun – Would be itself; used when the subject and object are the same.
- Demonstrative pronoun – Refers to this, that, these, those; "its" does not indicate pointing or demonstrating.

5. B) That the tour of England was drawn at 2-2 and the subsequent Tests were swept aside, is a pointer to the team's form.

The subject is the entire clause "That the tour... were swept aside", which is singular, so it correctly takes the singular verb "is".

- Incorrect: "The first ODI" is singular, so it should be "was played," not "were played."

- Incorrect: The main subject is "South Africa" (singular team name), so it should be "is a strong opposition."
- Incorrect: With "along with," the verb agrees with the first subject "Gill" (singular). It should be "has been preparing."

6. B) QRPS

- Q: Q comes first because it sets the time context "an hour before the fall of the dusk."
- R: R should follow Q since it's the next logical progression. After mentioning the time, the narration moves to describe the action taking place during that time - driving back home through the Western Ghats
- P: P comes after R. The first part of P ("Except for too many curves and bends that the driver had to negotiate") provides additional details about the journey mentioned in R.
- S: Sentence S is a fragment or is incorrectly transcribed because "To negotiate, it, otherwise, was a pleasant evening to drive back home" is an incomplete thought and largely redundant when compared to sentence P.

7. B) My office colleagues have organised a farewell party for me.

'Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object, Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Active से Passive में बदलते समय सही Tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। इस वाक्य में "A farewell party for me" (Object) है, "has been organised" (Verb in Present Perfect Passive) है और "by my office colleagues" (Agent) है। Active Voice में बदलते समय, "My office colleagues" (Subject) वाक्य की शुरुआत में आएगा, "have organised" (Present Perfect Active) Verb होगा और "a farewell party for me" (Object) के रूप में रहेगा।

- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the object of the passive sentence becomes the subject of the active sentence. The verb is transformed from the passive form to the active form while ensuring correct tense usage. In this sentence, "A farewell party for me" (Subject in Passive), "has been organised" (Verb in Present Perfect Passive), and "by my office colleagues" (Agent) are given. When converting to Active Voice, "My office colleagues" (Subject) comes first, "have organised" (Present Perfect Active) is the verb, and "a farewell party for me" (Object) remains at the end.

8. B) 'As a consequence of' का use होगा क्योंकि "as a consequence of" का अर्थ होता है किसी कारण से। Sentence में इसे इस तरह use किया जा रहा है कि किसी कारण से (उसकी बीमारी के चलते) उसने काम समय पर पूरा नहीं किया। इसलिए 'As a consequence of' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Subsequent for' का अर्थ होता है बाद में के लिए, 'In consequence to' grammatically सही नहीं है, और 'On account' अधूरा और असंगत है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- 'As a consequence of' should be used because it means due to a particular reason. The sentence is implying that due to a reason (his illness), he could not complete the work on time. Therefore, 'As a consequence of' is the correct choice here. Whereas, 'Subsequent for' means later for, 'In consequence to' is not grammatically correct, and 'On account' is incomplete and out of context, making them inappropriate for this sentence.

9. C) **Concerning** का use होगा क्योंकि "concerning" का अर्थ होता है 'संबंधित' या 'विषय में'। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि उसने संगठन के भविष्य से संबंधित कई प्रश्न उठाए, इसलिए 'concerning' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'concern to' और 'concerned for' का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ के प्रति चिंता, और 'concerned with' का अर्थ है किसी विषय में रुचि रखना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **'Concerning'** should be used because it means 'related to' or 'about'. The sentence mentions that he raised several questions related to the future of the organisation, making 'concerning' fitting here. Whereas, 'concern to' and 'concerned for' imply worry or care about something, and 'concerned with' means to be interested in a subject, which don't fit in this context.
10. C) **'were'** का प्रयोग गलत है क्योंकि 'five miles' यहां पर संख्या के रूप में प्रयुक्त हुई है और यह सिंगुलर माना जाता है। इसलिए, 'was' का प्रयोग होना चाहिए। जैसे— Five miles is not a long distance.
- **'were'** is used incorrectly because 'five miles' is considered singular when referring to a distance. Therefore, 'was' should be used. Like— Five miles is not a long distance. When discussing distance, amount, money, etc., and considering them as a collective unit or a whole, they are treated as singular and thus, the verb used with them should be singular.
11. A) **'Abduction'** का use होगा क्योंकि "abduction" का अर्थ होता है जब किसी व्यक्ति को जबरदस्ती लेजाया जाता है। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि Mr Cordes को उसके airport जाने के रास्ते में एक संगठन द्वारा _____ किया गया, इसलिए 'abduction' यहाँ सही है। 'Abdication' का अर्थ है सिंहासन छोड़ना, 'Addiction' का अर्थ है आदत या लत, और 'Adoration' का अर्थ है पूजा या प्रशंसा करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **Abduction** should be used because it means the act of forcibly taking someone away against their will. The sentence mentions that Mr. Cordes was organized to be _____ by a group on his way to the airport, making 'abduction' fitting here. Whereas, 'Abdication' means to renounce the throne, 'Addiction' refers to a habit or dependency, and 'Adoration' means deep love or respect, which don't fit in this context.
12. D) **Irons in the fire** (idiom) – Having multiple tasks to complete एक समय में कई कार्यों में प्रतिबद्ध होना
13. B) **'taken for granted'** का use होगा क्योंकि "taken for granted" का अर्थ होता है किसी को समझना कि वे हमेशा वहाँ होंगे और उनकी value को ignore कर देना। Sentence में "He feels that he has been" के बाद आने वाला phrase यही sentiment express करता है, इसलिए 'taken for granted' यहाँ सही है। 'No substitution required', 'taken for ease', और 'taken as granted' इस context में सही नहीं हैं। "Taken for ease" और "taken as granted" का clear meaning नहीं है, और "No substitution required" इसलिए गलत है क्योंकि underlined segment में grammatical error है।
- **'taken for granted'** should be used because it means to undervalue someone by assuming that they will always be there and not appreciating them. The sentence "He

feels that he has been" requires a phrase that conveys this sentiment, making 'taken for granted' the correct choice here. 'No substitution required', 'taken for ease', and 'taken as granted' are incorrect in this context. 'Taken for ease' and 'taken as granted' don't have a clear meaning, and 'No substitution required' is incorrect because the underlined segment has a grammatical error.

14. D) **Graft** (noun) – A piece of living tissue or plant that is transplanted surgically अंश प्रत्यारोपण
- **Gratis** (adjective) – without charge or payment; free निःशुल्क
 - **Gourmet** (noun) – a connoisseur of good food; a person with a discerning palate. श्रेष्ठ खाद्य प्रेमी
 - **Gracious** (adjective) – courteous, kind, and pleasant. कृपालु
15. C) **'kept'** का प्रयोग गलत है क्योंकि पूरे वाक्य में Present Tense का प्रयोग हो रहा है। इसलिए 'keeps' होना चाहिए, जैसे— "While driving, Satheesh always switches off his mobile phone and keeps it in the dashboard."
- The usage of 'kept' is incorrect because the entire sentence is in Present Tense. It should be 'keeps', like— "While driving, Satheesh always switches off his mobile phone and keeps it in the dashboard."
16. C) The incorrectly spelt word is 'Flourescent'. The correct spelling is '**Fluorescent**' which means "emitting light as a result of being heated" रोशनी उत्पन्न करनेवाला, प्रकाशमान.
17. B) **'As a consequence of'** का use होगा क्योंकि "as a consequence of" का अर्थ होता है किसी कारण से। Sentence में इसे इस तरह use किया जा रहा है कि किसी कारण से (उसकी बीमारी के चलते) उसने काम समय पर पूरा नहीं किया। इसलिए 'As a consequence of' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Subsequent for' का अर्थ होता है बाद में के लिए, 'In consequence to' grammatically सही नहीं है, और 'On account' अधूरा और असंगत है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- 'As a consequence of' should be used because it means due to a particular reason. The sentence is implying that due to a reason (his illness), he could not complete the work on time. Therefore, 'As a consequence of' is the correct choice here. Whereas, 'Subsequent for' means later for, 'In consequence to' is not grammatically correct, and 'On account' is incomplete and out of context, making them inappropriate for this sentence.
18. B) **Infraction** (noun) – A violation or infringement of a law, agreement, or set of rules. उल्लंघन
Antonym: **Observance** (noun) – The practice of obeying or adhering to a law, rule, or custom. अनुपालन
- **Transgression** (noun) – An act that goes against a law, rule, or code of conduct; an offense. अतिक्रमण/ अपराध
 - **Breach** (noun) – An act of breaking or failing to observe a law, agreement, or code of conduct. उल्लंघन
 - **Acceptance** (noun) – The action of consenting to receive or undertake something offered; not specifically an antonym in the context of the sentence. स्वीकृति
19. C) **Abomination** (noun) – Something that causes disgust or hatred, atrocity, horror, outrage. घृणा
Antonym: **Adoration** (noun) – Deep love and respect, worship, veneration, esteem. आदर की भावना

- **Abhorrence** (noun) – A feeling of revulsion; repugnance, detestation, loathing. घृणा
- **Termination** (noun) – The action of bringing something or coming to an end, conclusion, cessation. समाप्ति
- **Detestation** (noun) – Intense dislike, abhorrence, loathing, hatred. घृणा

20. A) RSPQ

- R: This sentence provides the overarching context for the whole paragraph - the havoc caused by rains in Himachal Pradesh and specifically in Shimla.
- S: The term "heavy precipitation" aligns with the "rains" mentioned in sentence R. This sentence continues from the general topic of havoc caused by rains in Shimla by giving a specific example of where and how the havoc manifested itself – in the Summer Hill area leading to flash floods and the collapse of a temple.
- P: After describing the effects of heavy precipitation in the Summer Hill area (sentence S), it's logical to move to another impact of the rain in a different part of Shimla, Krishnanagar in this case.
- Q: Sentence P introduced the topic of landslides with a specific example in Krishnanagar. Sentence Q broadens that to discuss landslides around Shimla in general. Hence, there's a progression from the specific to the general regarding landslides, making it logical to put Q after P.

21. C) Fallacy' का use होगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ है "भ्रम या गलत धारणा।" Sentence है: "The biggest fallacy of society today is that... we live in a burnout society." यहाँ बात एक गलत विश्वास की हो रही है, इसलिए 'fallacy' सही है। जबकि 'Verity' (सत्य), 'Certainty' (निश्चितता) और 'Discrepancy' (अंतर/विरोधाभास) इस context में अर्थ नहीं देते।

- 'Fallacy' will be used because it means a "false belief or misconception." The sentence is: "The biggest fallacy of society today is that... we live in a burnout society," which fits as it talks about a mistaken notion. Whereas, 'Verity' means truth, 'Certainty' means something definite, and 'Discrepancy' means inconsistency, none of which convey the idea of a mistaken belief here.

22. D) 'Thrives on' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence present tense में है: "This is one that thrives on excess positivity..." यहाँ subject "one" singular है, इसलिए verb भी singular form "thrives" होगा। जबकि 'Thrive on' base form है जो बिना auxiliary fit नहीं होता, 'Thriving on' participle form है जो यहाँ structure तोड़ देगा, और 'Throve on' past tense है जबकि sentence present truth बता रहा है।

- 'Thrives on' will be used because the sentence is in present tense: "This is one that thrives on excess positivity..." The subject "one" is singular, so the singular verb "thrives" is required. Whereas, 'Thrive on' (base form) cannot be used without an auxiliary, 'Thriving on' (participle) breaks the sentence structure, and 'Throve on' (past tense) shifts the meaning to the past, which is not intended here.

23. B) 'Relentless' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence है: "a culture of overproduction and relentless achievement." यहाँ बात लगातार, कभी न रुकने वाली उपलब्धि की हो रही है, जो burnout society की पहचान है। जबकि 'Compassionate' (दयालु) meaning से मेल नहीं खाता, 'Cloaked'

(छिपा हुआ) context से असंबंधित है, और 'Equanimous' (संतुलित/शांतचित्त) इसका उल्टा अर्थ देता है।

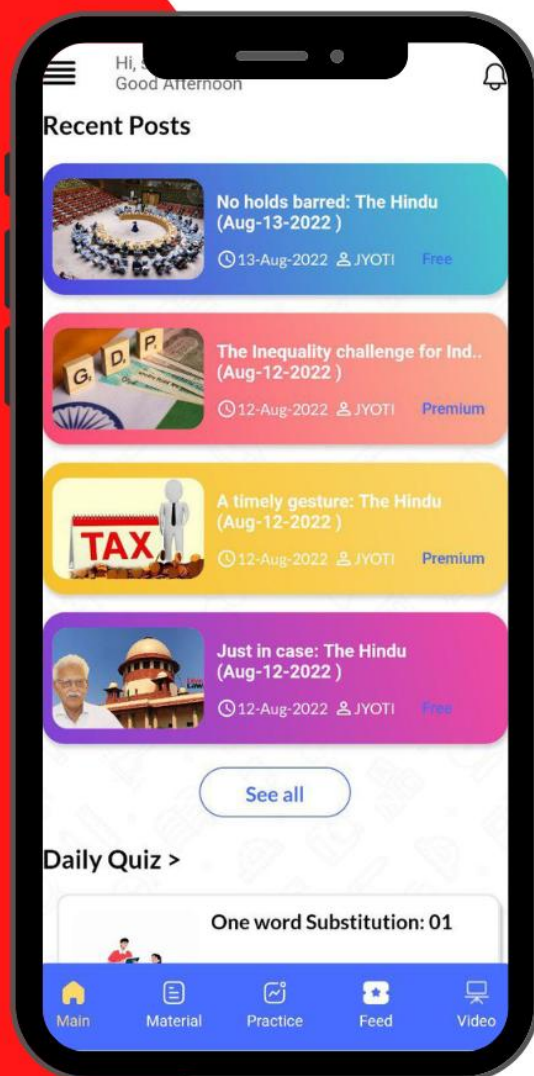
- 'Relentless' will be used because the sentence is: "a culture of overproduction and relentless achievement," meaning continuous and never-ceasing pursuit of success, which leads to burnout. Whereas, 'Compassionate' means kind, 'Cloaked' means hidden, and 'Equanimous' means calm/balanced—none of which fit the context of excessive pressure and achievement.

24. A) '**Discrepancy**' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence है: "This discrepancy is felt most in the education ecosystem." यहाँ 'discrepancy' का मतलब है अंतर या असंगति, जो burnout society और education system में अनुभव किया जाता है। जबकि 'Mutual' (पारस्परिक) relation बताता है, 'Concord' (सहमति/मेल) positive meaning देता है, और 'Guile' (चतुराई/धोखाधड़ी) context से बिल्कुल unrelated है।

- 'Discrepancy' will be used because the sentence is: "This discrepancy is felt most in the education ecosystem," referring to the gap or inconsistency experienced. Whereas, 'Mutual' refers to something reciprocal, 'Concord' means harmony, and 'Guile' means deceit—none of which fit the context of imbalance or inconsistency here.

25. D) '**Dilemma**' का use होगा क्योंकि sentence है: "The dilemma is that we are a part of the educational process..." यहाँ 'dilemma' का अर्थ है कठिन स्थिति या जटिल समस्या, जो burnout और शिक्षा प्रणाली के बीच संबंध को व्यक्त करता है। जबकि 'Munificence' (उदारता/प्रसाद), 'Resolution' (संकल्प/निर्णय) और 'Tenacity' (दृढ़ता/अडिगता) context में अर्थहीन हैं और situation को व्यक्त नहीं करते।

- 'Dilemma' will be used because the sentence is: "The dilemma is that we are a part of the educational process..." highlighting the complex or difficult situation caused by burnout in education. Whereas, 'Munificence' means generosity, 'Resolution' means determination/decision, and 'Tenacity' means persistence—none of which convey the idea of a problematic.



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