Zero stars: On the Sanchar Saathi app

Mandating Sanchar Saathi app to tackle cybercrime **is** an **overkill**

The growing **sophistication** of cybercrimes, from "digital arrests" to **anonymous**, **large-scale** cross-border scams, **has** made tackling them both urgent and difficult. Cybercriminals have **exploited** a security gap **wherein** user accounts on instant messaging apps remain functional even after the **associated** SIM card has been removed, using this **anonymity** to conduct government **impersonation** fraud. The **rampant use** of **spoofed** or **tampered** IMEI numbers **has** also made tracking **perpetrators** nearly impossible for law **enforcement**. It is **perhaps inevitable** that the government **seeks** sharper tools to **address** these software and hardware **vulnerabilities**, which explains the Department of Telecommunications' **directives** on November 28 and December 1. The first **mandates** "SIM binding" — ensuring that a user's account is disabled if the physical SIM is removed. In the second, smartphone manufacturers must pre-install the Sanchar Saathi app to verify device **authenticity** in all new devices by March 2026. While the first directive is a **security patch** which could **inconvenience** WhatsApp/Internet messaging users, the second is **reminiscent of** the saying, **the road to hell** is **often paved with good intentions. The solution** to the problem of **counterfeit** handsets and spoofed IMEI numbers **is** a cure that could potentially be more damaging than the disease.

The **explicit instruction** in the directive that the app is "readily visible and accessible to the end users at the time of first use or device setup and that its **functionalities** are not disabled or restricted" **would** mean that this app will be given a higher security clearance within the phone's operating system, allowing it more **intrusive** access to features such as camera, phone or SMS access. The **potential** for misuse of this app for state **surveillance** and being utilised by a **malicious** entity after **compromise** to target millions of users **is** very present and clear. This is **no empty fear considering** what the Union government has done with the use of Pegasus software to target the political opposition, journalists and activists. **Notwithstanding** Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia's clarification that users could delete the app, the directive's text mandating that it cannot be disabled suggests that it will function more as a **Panopticon** and less as a simple verification tool. As the Supreme Court's K.S. Puttaswamy (2017) judgment **established**, any state **intrusion** into privacy must satisfy the tests of legality, necessity, and **proportionality**. The government already **possesses** less intrusive means to verify device genuineness. The Sanchar Saathi web portals, SMS-based checks, and USSD codes should **suffice**. By ignoring these less invasive alternatives, **the directive** on Sanchar Saathi **fails** the proportionality standard. **It is little wonder** that privacy-conscious manufacturers such as Apple have **reportedly** refused to **comply with** this order. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Mandate** (verb) – require, compel, command, order, make compulsory अनिवार्य बनाना

2. **Overkill** (noun) – excessive action, too much, unnecessary force आवश्यकता से अधिक

3. **Sophistication** (noun) – complexity, advancement, intricacy, elaborateness परिष्कृति

4. **Anonymous** (adjective) – unnamed, unidentified, unknown, incognito, nameless गुमनाम

5. **Large-scale** (adjective) – extensive, widespread, massive, huge, broad बड़े पैमाने पर

6. **Exploit** (verb) – take advantage of, utilize, manipulate, misuse, abuse शोषण करना

7. **Wherein** (adverb) – in which, where, in what, inside which जिसमें

8. **Associated** (adjective) – connected, linked, related, attached, affiliated संबद्ध

9. **Anonymity** (noun) – namelessness, unidentified state, obscurity, privacy गुमनामी

10. **Impersonation** (noun) – pretending to be someone else, mimicry, fraud प्रतिरूपण/ छद्मरूपण

11. **Rampant** (adjective) – uncontrolled, widespread, pervasive, ubiquitous, rife अनियंत्रित

12. **Spoofed** (adjective) – faked, forged, counterfeit, falsified, manipulated नकली

13. **Tampered** (adjective) – interfered with, altered, meddled with, manipulated छेड़छाड़ किया हुआ

14. **Perpetrator** (noun) – offender, culprit, criminal, wrongdoer, guilty party अपराधी

15. **Enforcement** (noun) – implementation, imposition, execution, administration प्रवर्तन

16. **Perhaps** (adverb) – maybe, possibly, conceivably, perchance शायद

17. **Inevitable** (adjective) – unavoidable, inescapable, certain, sure, destined अनिवार्य

18. **Seek** (verb) – try, attempt, aim, strive, endeavor कोशिश करना

19. **Address** (verb) – tackle, deal with, handle, attend to, confront सुलझाना, निपटाना

20. **Vulnerability** (noun) – weakness, flaw, susceptibility, exposure, fragility भेद्यता

21. **Directive** (noun) – instruction, order, command, guideline, mandate निर्देश

22. **Mandate** (noun) – requirement, command, instruction, order, decree आदेश

23. **Authenticity** (noun) – genuineness, legitimacy, validity, originality, credibility प्रामाणिकता

24. **Security patch** (noun) – a software update to fix a security flaw.

25. **Inconvenience** (noun) – trouble, bother, disruption, difficulty, nuisance असुविधा

26. **Reminiscent** (of) (adjective) – similar to, evocative of, suggestive of, recalling याद दिलाने वाला

27. **The road to hell is paved with good intentions** (phrase) – good intentions can lead to bad outcomes. अच्छे इरादों से बुरे नतीजे

28. **Often** (adverb) – frequently, repeatedly, regularly, commonly, habitually अक्सर

29. **Counterfeit** (adjective) – fake, forged, imitation, bogus, fraudulent नकली

30. **Explicit** (adjective) – clear, direct, definite, unambiguous, straightforward स्पष्ट

31. **Functionality** (noun) – capability, feature, operation, utility, performance कार्यक्षमता

32. **Intrusive** (adjective) – invasive, interfering, obtrusive, nosy, meddling हस्तक्षेप करने वाला

33. **Potential** (noun) – possibility, capability, capacity, prospect, likelihood संभावना

34. **Surveillance** (noun) – monitoring, observation, watch, scrutiny, supervision निगरानी

35. **Malicious** (adjective) – harmful, spiteful, malevolent, vicious, wicked दुर्भावनापूर्ण

36. **Compromise** (noun) – breach, security failure, exposure, hacking समझौता

37. **No empty fear** (phrase) – a legitimate and well-founded fear. सही डर

38. **Considering** (preposition) – in view of, taking into account, given, bearing in mind को देखते हुए

39. **Notwithstanding** (adverb) – despite, in spite of, regardless of, nevertheless के बावजूद

40. **Panopticon** (noun) – a system of total surveillance or control. सर्वदर्शी व्यवस्था

41. **Establish** (verb) – set, determine, prove, confirm, demonstrate स्थापित करना

42. **Intrusion** (noun) – invasion, encroachment, interference, violation, breach घुसपैठ

43. **Proportionality** (noun) – appropriateness, balance, fairness, reasonableness आनुपातिकता

44. **Possess** (verb) – have, own, hold, bear, be endowed with धारण करना

45. **Suffice** (verb) – be enough, be sufficient, be adequate, meet needs पर्याप्त होना

46. **It is little wonder** (phrase) – it is not surprising. कोई आश्चर्य नहीं

47. **Reportedly** (adverb) – allegedly, supposedly, according to reports, apparently कथित तौर पर

48. **Comply** (with) (verb) – obey, adhere to, follow, conform to, observe पालन करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Growing Cybercrime Sophistication:** The editorial highlights the increasing complexity of cybercrimes, including "digital arrests" and cross-border scams, creating an urgent need for effective countermeasures.

2. **Exploiting Security Gaps:** Criminals exploit the loophole where messaging app accounts remain active even after the associated SIM card is deactivated, facilitating anonymous, government-impersonation fraud.

3. **Tampered IMEI Challenge:** The rampant spoofing or tampering of IMEI numbers makes tracking criminals nearly impossible for law enforcement agencies.

4. **Government's New Directives:** In response, the Department of Telecommunications issued two directives in late 2023 to address software and hardware vulnerabilities.

5. **First Directive - SIM Binding:** Mandates linking a user's account (e.g., on WhatsApp) to the physical SIM, disabling the account if the SIM is removed. This is seen as a necessary but potentially inconvenient security patch.

6. **Second Directive - Pre-installed App:** Mandates smartphone manufacturers to pre-install the Sanchar Saathi app in all new devices by March 2026 to verify device authenticity.

7. **Overreach Analogy:** The editorial argues that while the first directive is a targeted fix, the second (the app mandate) is a disproportionate "cure" worse than the disease.

8. **Intrusive Access Mandated:** The directive requires the app to be permanently visible, accessible, and non-disableable, granting it high-level clearance within the phone's operating system.

9. **Heightened Surveillance Risk:** This privileged access (to camera, SMS, etc.) creates a clear potential for misuse by the state for mass surveillance, akin to the Pegasus spyware scandal.

10. **Privacy as a Panopticon:** Despite claims that users can delete the app, the directive's text suggests it functions as an inescapable monitoring tool (a "Panopticon"), not just a verification utility.

11. **Violation of Privacy Standards:** The mandate fails the proportionality test established by the Supreme Court's Puttaswamy judgment (2017), which requires state intrusion to be legal, necessary, and proportional.

12. **Existence of Less Intrusive Alternatives:** The government already has less invasive methods for IMEI verification, such as web portals, SMS checks, and USSD codes, making the app mandate unnecessary.

13. **Failure of Proportionality:** By ignoring these existing alternatives, the Sanchar Saathi app directive fails to meet the required legal standard of proportionality for privacy intrusion.

14. **Manufacturer Resistance:** The editorial notes that privacy-conscious manufacturers like Apple have reportedly refused to comply with this order, underscoring its overreach.

15. **Core Conclusion:** The editorial's summary stance is that mandating the pre-installation of the Sanchar Saathi app is an excessive, privacy-infringing overkill that is disproportionate to the problem of counterfeit handsets and spoofed IMEI numbers.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the main theme of the passage?**   **[Editorial page]**
   A. Advantages of cybercrime detection apps
   B. Government's successful strategy in preventing fraud
   C. Concerns over privacy and overreach in mandated cybersecurity measures
   D. Improvement of smartphone hardware features

2. **Which underlying concern can be most reasonably inferred about the mandate to pre-install Sanchar Saathi?**
   A. It may reduce users' reliance on existing web-based verification options.
   B. It may increase the risk of state-enabled overreach into citizens' private data.
   C. It may force phone manufacturers to redesign hardware for IMEI compatibility.
   D. It may encourage users to switch to foreign-made smartphones.

3. **What can be inferred about the government's approach to cybersecurity from the directives issued?**
   A. It prioritises maximum control even when less intrusive alternatives exist.
   B. It strictly adheres to the proportionality standard set by the Supreme Court.
   C. It relies exclusively on telecom companies for cybercrime mitigation.
   D. It aims to eliminate all instant messaging applications over time.

4. **According to the passage, why is the Sanchar Saathi app seen as potentially dangerous?**
   A. Because it slows down device performance for all users.
   B. Because it encrypts all information without user consent.
   C. Because it completely blocks SMS-based verification methods.
   D. Because it could gain elevated system access allowing intrusive surveillance.

5. **What specific earlier incident does the passage cite to justify fears of misuse of intrusive digital tools?**
   A. The Aadhaar database leak involving private companies
   B. The use of Pegasus spyware against journalists and activists
   C. The Cambridge Analytica data harvesting scandal
   D. The breach of WhatsApp metadata by global hackers

6. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
   Not mince (your) words
   A. State your opinion clearly
   B. Not to have clarity
   C. Eat a lot clumsily
   D. Say words that are confusing

7. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
   Forbid
   A. Prohibit
   B. Close
   C. Encourage
   D. Adieu

8. **Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.**
   A place where coins are manufactured
   A. Mine

B. Mint

C. Warehouse

D. Factory

9. **Direction: Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the highlighted word.**

He was an unwitting accomplice in the scheme, completely unaware of the implications.

A. Debacle

B. Perennial

C. Intentional

D. Belligerent

10. **Select the correct spelling of the highlighted word in the following sentence.**

The chemical showed a high level of toxcity.

A. toxity

B. toxicity

C. toxcity

D. toxecity

11. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in active form.**

A lot of masks have been distributed by the social workers.

A. The social workers are distributing a lot of masks.

B. The social workers had distributed a lot of masks.

C. The social workers would distribute a lot of masks.

D. The social workers have distributed a lot of masks.

12. **Choose the correct indirect narration:**

She said, "Can you tell me where the museum is?"

A. She asked if I can tell her where the museum was.

B. She asked whether I could tell her where the museum was.

C. She asked could I tell her where the museum is.

D. She asked me can I tell her where the museum was.

13. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word**

Vile

A. Crafty

B. Decent

C. Horrid

D. Evil

14. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

DUBIOUS

A. Certain

B. Doubtful

C. Definite

D. Sure

15. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

_____ yourself with the new perfume

A. Pamper

B. Prosper

C. Percolate

D. Purify

16. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Select the option that gives their correct logical sequence.**

A. India and China, having more than 1 billion people each, are front runners to become superpowers, but India has an edge over China as the latter has an autocratic rule, while India follows democracy.

B. Superpower means a super economy that matches demand and supply.

C. That is a welfare economy.

D. More products mean more industries, employment, supply of currency, healthy people, and education.

E. More human development means more purchasing power and more demand for products.

A. DECAB

B. ADEAB

C. ABEDC

D. CBEDA

17. **The given sentence contains a grammatical error. Identify the segment that contains the error.**

My sister prefers tea than coffee in the afternoon after lunch

A. tea than coffee

B. in the afternoon

C. after lunch

D. My sister prefers

18. **Identify the segment in the sentence which contains a grammatical error.**

This is the place here Sudhir found the wallet full of money

A. This is the place

B. here Sudhir

C. found the wallet

D. full of money

19. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

A major advertising _____ was planned to launch the new brand of garments

A. election

B. campaign

C. ambush

D. pension

20. **Select the sentence that best uses the phrasal verb "flesh out."**

A. The committee will flesh out the animals for scientific testing.

B. The committee will flesh out the stones for building walls.

C. The committee will flesh out the wires for installation.

D. The committee will flesh out the proposal before final approval.

Comprehension:

Read the following passage and answer all 5 questions given below.

Population _____1_____is one of the most serious problems of the world today. Studies_____2_____in this area suggest that the world population is further likely to increase by a few more billions. According to many environmental scientists, ecologists, researchers, and other intellectuals, the rise in the population will lead to everal_____3_____consequences. Most significantly, the increasing number of people will____4_____more water, more food, and more energy _____5_____to survive.

21. **Choose the word which fits in the blank labelled 1 and gives appropriate meaning**
    A. reduction
    B. increase
    C. plunge
    D. decrease

22. **Choose the word which fits in the blank labelled 2 and gives appropriate meaning**
    A. conducted
    B. provided
    C. shared
    D. given

23. **Choose the word which fits in the blank labelled 3 and gives appropriate meaning**
    A. pleasant
    B. joyful
    C. unpleasant
    D. delightful

24. **Choose the word which fits in the blank labelled 4 and gives appropriate meaning**
    A. ignore
    B. require
    C. prevent
    D. not require

25. **Choose the word which fits in the blank labelled 5 and gives appropriate meaning**
    A. more people
    B. more technology
    C. more requirement
    D. more energy

Answers

1. C   2. B   3.A   4. D   5. B   6.A   7. A   8. B   9. C   10. B   11.D   12.B

13. B   14.B   15.A   16.C   17.A   18.B   19.B   20.D   21.B   22.A   23.C   24.B

25. D   **[Practice Exercise]**

Explanations

1. C) **Concerns over privacy and overreach in mandated cybersecurity measures**
   The passage argues that although cybercrime is rising, mandating the Sanchar Saathi app is excessive, intrusive, violates privacy, and may lead to surveillance. It discusses legality, proportionality, privacy standards, misuse, and state overreach, making this the central theme.
   - A: Incorrect because the passage highlights dangers rather than advantages.
   - B: Incorrect because the passage criticizes the government's approach, calling it overkill.
   - D: Incorrect because hardware improvements are not the focus; privacy and surveillance concerns are.

2. B) **It may increase the risk of state-enabled overreach into citizens' private data.**
   The passage repeatedly stresses the intrusive access, high security clearance, past misuse of Pegasus, and Panopticon-like surveillance; hence the strongest inference is fear of state overreach into privacy.
   - A: Reduction of reliance on web portals/SMS checks is mentioned, but it is not the main inferred concern.
   - C: No indication that hardware redesign is required.
   - D: The passage never suggests user movement to foreign devices.

3. A) **It prioritises maximum control even when less intrusive alternatives exist**.
   The passage argues that less intrusive options already exist, yet the government chooses more invasive measures, showing a preference for maximum control.
   - B: The passage explicitly says the directive fails the proportionality standard.
   - C: Government action is addressed through DoT and manufacturers; no exclusive reliance on telecom firms.
   - D: No suggestion of eliminating messaging apps.

4. D) **The directive requires the app to be visible, non-disablable, and to receive higher security clearance, granting intrusive access—the danger highlighted.**
   - A: Passage gives no evidence about slowing performance.
   - C: SMS checks are mentioned as existing alternatives, not blocked.
   - D: No mention of forced encryption.

5. B) **The passage directly references Pegasus used to target opposition, journalists, activists, validating concerns about state misuse**.
   - A: Not discussed in the passage.
   - C: No mention of Cambridge Analytica.
   - D: Not referenced anywhere.

6. A) **Not mince (your) words** (idiom) – State your opinion clearly स्पष्ट रूप से अपनी राय व्यक्त करना

7. A) **Forbid** (verb) – To refuse to allow something, to order not to do something, to make impossible. मना करना

Synonym: **Prohibit** (verb) – To formally forbid something by law, rule, or other authority. निषेद करना

- **Close** (B) generally refers to shutting something or ceasing operations, but does not specifically relate to the act of forbidding or prohibiting.
- **Encourage** (C) is the opposite of forbid, as it means to give support, confidence, or hope to someone.
- **Adieu** (D) is a term used to say goodbye, and has no direct relation to forbidding or prohibiting something.

8. B) **Mint** (noun) – A place where coins are manufactured. टकसाल
   - **Mine** (noun) – A type of excavation in the earth from which ore or minerals are extracted. खदान
   - **Warehouse** (noun) – A large building where goods are stored before they are sold. गोदाम
   - **Factory** (noun) – A building or group of buildings where goods are manufactured or assembled. कारखाना

9. C) **Unwitting** (adjective) – Not aware, not intentional, without knowledge, accidental. अनजान/ बेखबर

   Antonym: **Intentional** (adjective) – Done on purpose, deliberate, planned, premeditated. जान-बूझकर
   - **Debacle** (noun) – A complete failure, a fiasco, disaster, collapse. पराजय
   - **Perennial** (adjective) – Lasting for a long time, enduring, persistent, ever-lasting. बहुवर्षी
   - **Belligerent** (adjective) – Hostile, aggressive, combative, warlike लड़ाकू

10. B) The correct spelling of '**toxcity**' is '**toxicity**', which means "poisonousness, harmfulness, virulence" (विषाक्तता)।

11. D) **The social workers have distributed a lot of masks**.

    Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए: Passive वाक्य का Subject Active वाक्य का Object बनता है। Verb को Passive से Active में बदलते समय सही Tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Passive वाक्य में "A lot of masks" Subject है, "have been distributed" Verb (Present Perfect Passive) है, और "by the social workers" Agent है। Active वाक्य में Object "A lot of masks" Active का Object बन गया है। Verb "have been distributed" को Active Voice में "have distributed" (Present Perfect Active) के रूप में बदला गया है। Agent "the social workers" Subject बन गया है। इसलिए Active वाक्य है: The social workers have distributed a lot of masks
    - To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice: The subject of the passive sentence becomes the object in the active sentence. The verb is transformed from the passive form to the active form, ensuring correct tense usage. In the passive sentence, "A lot of masks" is the subject, "have been distributed" is the verb (Present Perfect Passive), and "by the social workers" is the agent. In the active sentence, "A lot of masks" becomes the object, the verb "have been distributed" changes to "have distributed" (Present Perfect Active), and the agent "the social workers" becomes the subject. Thus, the active sentence is: The social workers have distributed a lot of masks.

12. B) **She asked whether I could tell her where the museum was**.
    While changing to indirect speech:

"Can" → "could" (backshift of tense)

"you" → "I" (according to context)

The indirect question does not use question order, so "where the museum is" becomes "where the museum was."

"Can you tell me" → "She asked whether I could tell her."

Indirect Speech में प्रश्नवाचक वाक्य का क्रम बदल जाता है (subject पहले आता है)।

"Can" → "could", "you" → "I", "me" → "her", और "is" → "was" बनता है।

इसलिए सही उत्तर है: She asked whether I could tell her where the museum was.

13. B) **Vile** (adjective) – Extremely unpleasant, wicked, evil, immoral. नीच

Antonym: **Decent** (adjective) – Conforming with generally accepted standards of respectable or moral behavior, respectable, proper, seemly. शालीन

- **Crafty** (adjective) – Clever at achieving one's aims by indirect or deceitful methods, cunning, sly, wily. चालाक
- **Horrid** (adjective) – Causing horror, dreadful, horrible, terrible. भयानक
- **Evil** (adjective) – Profoundly immoral and wicked, malevolent, sinister, malicious. बुराई

14. B) **Dubious** (adjective) – Uncertain, unsure, doubtful, questionable, suspect. संदिग्ध

Synonym: **Doubtful** (adjective) – Uncertain, unsure, hesitant, undecided, skeptical. संदेहपूर्ण

- **Certain** (adjective) – Sure, confident, positive, convinced, definite. निश्चित
- **Definite** (adjective) – Clear, explicit, precise, exact, certain. स्पष्ट
- **Sure** (adjective) – Confident, certain, positive, convinced, assured. निश्चित

15. A) **'Pamper'** का use होगा क्योंकि "pamper" का अर्थ होता है अपने आप को खास महसूस करना या लाड़-प्यार से बहुत ध्यान देना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि आप अपने आप को नई खुशबू से सजावट दे रहे हैं, इसलिए 'Pamper' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Prosper' का अर्थ है सफल होना, 'Percolate' का अर्थ है धीरे-धीरे फैलना, और 'Purify' का अर्थ है शुद्ध करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- Pamper' should be used because it means to indulge oneself or treat oneself with special care or attention. The sentence suggests that you are adorning yourself with a new fragrance, making 'Pamper' the most suitable choice here. Whereas, 'Prosper' means to thrive or succeed, 'Percolate' means to spread gradually, and 'Purify' means to cleanse, which don't fit in this context.

16. C) **ABEDC**

A: Paragraph की starting A से होती है, क्योंकि यह बताता है कि भारत और चीन, दोनों 1 बिलियन से अधिक जनसंख्या वाले देश, सुपरपावर बनने की होड़ में हैं, लेकिन भारत का लोकतांत्रिक शासन (democracy) उसे चीन के अधिनायकवादी शासन (autocratic rule) से आगे रखता है।

B: इसके बाद B आता है, जो superpower की परिभाषा (definition) बताता है—एक ऐसी महान अर्थव्यवस्था (super economy) जो मांग और आपूर्ति (demand and supply) को संतुलित करती है। यह sentence A में बताए गए विषय की व्याख्या करता है।

E: इसके बाद E आता है, जो बताता है कि अधिक मानव विकास (human development) से अधिक खरीद क्षमता (purchasing power) और उत्पादों की अधिक मांग (demand for products) होती है।
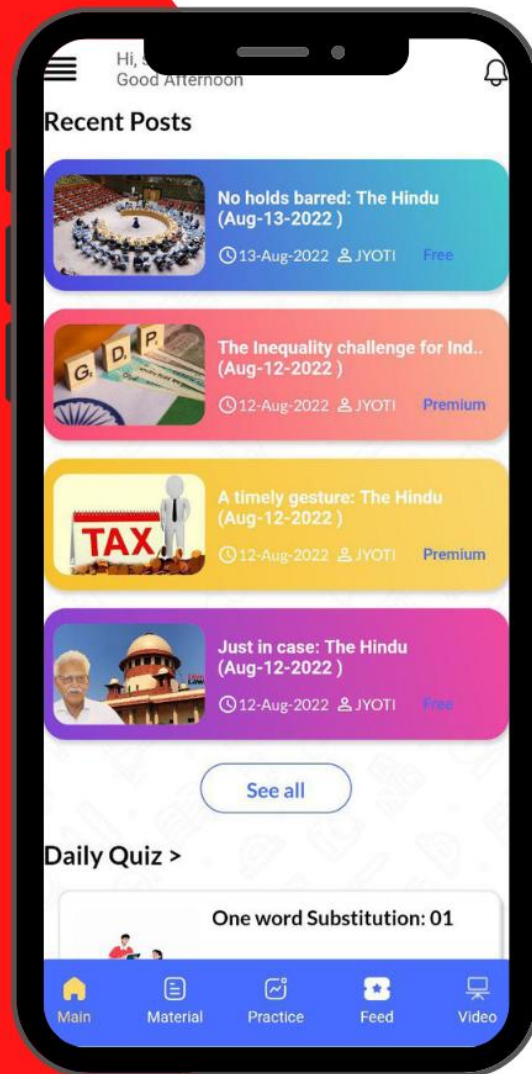
D: इसके बाद D आता है, जो बताता है कि अधिक मांग (more demand) का परिणाम अधिक उत्पादों (more products) के रूप में होता है, जो अर्थव्यवस्था के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों जैसे उद्योग, रोजगार, मुद्रा की आपूर्ति (supply of currency), स्वस्थ लोग, और शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देता है।

C: अंत में C आता है, जो बताता है कि यह पूरा चक्र एक welfare economy कहलाता है।

Explanation in English

- A starts with a clear subject, "India and China," and introduces the main idea.
- B follows grammatically as it introduces the term superpower and provides a definition for it. This links directly to the countries mentioned in A, giving a clear explanation of what being a superpower means.
- E uses a cause-and-effect structure: "More human development means more purchasing power and more demand for products." This structure is logical after B, as it explains what leads to a super economy.
- D elaborates on the effect mentioned in E, providing a list of outcomes resulting from more demand. The sequence "more products mean more industries, employment, supply of currency, healthy people, and education" logically follows E.
- C sums up the entire paragraph with a concluding statement: "That is a welfare economy." It's a short, declarative sentence that serves as a conclusion, tying all previous points together.

17. A) tea than coffee' के बदले **'tea to coffee'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'prefer' के बाद 'to' का प्रयोग होता है ना कि 'than' का। इसलिए इस वाक्य में 'to' का प्रयोग करना चुकि है; जैसे— My sister prefers tea to coffee in the afternoon after lunch.
    - 'tea to coffee' will be used instead of 'tea than coffee' because after 'prefer' the preposition 'to' is used, not 'than'. Therefore, the correct usage in this sentence would be 'to'; Like— My sister prefers tea to coffee in the afternoon after lunch

18. B) here' के बदले **'where'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'here' एक Adverb है जबकि हमें Relative Adverb की आवश्यकता है जो कि स्थान को दर्शाता है; जैसे— This is the place where Sudhir found the wallet full of money
    - where' will be used instead of 'here' because 'here' is an Adverb while we need a Relative Adverb that indicates a place; Like— This is the place where Sudhir found the wallet full of money

19. B) **Campaign'** का use होगा क्योंकि "campaign" का अर्थ होता है एक योजनाबद्ध प्रयास जो विशेष उद्देश्य को पूरा करने के लिए किया जाता है। sentence में mention किया गया है कि एक प्रमुख विज्ञापन की योजना नए वस्त्र ब्रांड को लॉन्च करने के लिए थी, इसलिए 'campaign' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Election' का अर्थ है चुनाव, 'Ambush' का अर्थ है आक्रमण या छापा, और 'Pension' का अर्थ है पेंशन, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
    - **'Campaign'** should be used because it refers to an organized effort for a specific purpose. The sentence mentions that a major advertising effort was planned to introduce a new brand of garments, making 'campaign' fitting here. Whereas, 'Election' refers to a voting process, 'Ambush' means a surprise attack, and 'Pension' is a regular payment made after retirement, which don't fit in this context.

20. D) **Flesh out** – To add detail or substance; elaborate. विस्तार से बताना

21. B) **Increase'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, passage विश्व की जनसंख्या की बढ़ोतरी की समस्या पर चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "Population _____1_____ is one of the most serious problems of the world today" के माध्यम से उस बढ़ती जनसंख्या को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जो विश्व में गंभीर समस्या बन चुकी है। इसलिए, "increase" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- 'Increase' should be used because in the entire context, the passage is discussing the problem of the rising world population. Here, through "Population _____1_____is one of the most serious problems of the world today", it portrays that increasing population, which has become a serious issue globally. Thus, "increase" would be the most appropriate choice.

22. A) **Conducted'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence जनसंख्या के अध्ययन के बारे में चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "Studies (2)_____ in this area suggest that the world population is further likely to increase by a few more billions" के माध्यम से यह दर्शाया जा रहा है कि अध्ययन किए गए हैं और उनके परिणामों के आधार पर विश्व की जनसंख्या के बढ़ने की संभावना है। इसलिए, "conducted" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

   - 'Conducted' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing studies related to population. Here, through "Studies (2)_____ in this area suggest that the world population is further likely to increase by a few more billions", it portrays that studies have been carried out and based on their results, the world population is likely to increase. Thus, "conducted" would be the most appropriate choice.

23. C) **Unpleasant'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence जनसंख्या वृद्धि के प्रभावों पर चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "rise in the population will lead to several (3)_____ consequences" के माध्यम से उन नकारात्मक परिणामों को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिनका सामना दुनिया को करना पड़ेगा। इसलिए, "unpleasant" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

   - 'Unpleasant' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the impacts of population growth. Here, through "rise in the population will lead to several (3)_____ consequences," it portrays the negative consequences the world will face. Thus, "unpleasant" would be the most appropriate choice.

24. B) **Require'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence मानव आबादी की बढ़ती जरूरतों की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "the increasing number of people will (4)" के माध्यम से उस आवश्यकता को दर्शाया जा रहा है, जिसमें अधिक पानी, अधिक भोजन, और अधिक ऊर्जा की जरूरत है। इसलिए, "require" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

   - 'Require' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the increasing needs of the human population. Here, through "the increasing number of people will (4)", it portrays the need for more water, more food, and more energy to survive. Thus, "require" would be the most appropriate choice.

25. D) **'more Energy'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में, sentence बढ़ती आबादी के प्रभावों की चर्चा कर रहा है। यहाँ "more energy 5__ to survive" के माध्यम से उस आवश्यकता को दर्शाया जा रहा है जो बढ़ती जनसंख्या को जीवित रहने के लिए चाहिए। इसलिए, "energy" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

   - 'more Energy' should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is discussing the impacts of the growing population. Here, through "more energy 5__ to survive," it portrays the necessity that the increasing population will need to survive. Thus, "energy" would be the most appropriate choice.