

Marked for life: On acid attack survivors

Acid attack victims deserve better from courts and law enforcement

Shocked that an acid attack **victim** had not got **closure** 16 years after the crime was **committed**, the Supreme Court of India made a **slew** of oral observations early this week calling the slow **pace** a “**mockery** of the system”. The Chief Justice of India (CJI), Justice Surya Kant, said acid attackers must not be shown any **sympathy** by courts, and **called for** the “entire system” to respond against them. Shaheen Malik was 26 and was studying for an MBA degree when she was attacked outside her office in Haryana in 2009. Till 2013, “nothing happened” in her case, she told the CJI. The case was finally transferred to Rohini court in Delhi from Haryana, where the **trial** is pending and “final arguments” are on. Ms. Malik has **undergone** reconstructive surgeries, and in 2021, she **set up** Brave Souls, an NGO which offers medical and legal support to acid attack **survivors**. In fact, she was **knocking at the Court’s door** with a PIL **seeking** formal **recognition** of survivors as persons with specified disabilities under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. She was **bringing the Court’s notice** to those acid attack victims who had been forcibly **fed** acid and were not marked for life like others who had acid thrown at them but **nevertheless** lived with **terrible** suffering.

The CJI asked the Centre to consider bringing an **ordinance**. **Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta**, appearing for the Centre, **said** no respondent could oppose the **cause** of the **petitioners**. **Perpetrators** of acid attacks who leave victims, mostly women and minors, **scarred** inside and outside for the rest of their lives “**must meet** with the same **ruthlessness** as they showed their victims”, he said. The CJI ordered the Registrar-General of the High Courts to provide the number and details of pending trials in acid attack cases; he also **proposed setting up** of special courts to exclusively conduct acid attack cases on a day-to-day basis. In the past, in Laxmi vs Union Of India and Ors., the Court had **directed** the government to ensure that acid attack victims got proper treatment, aftercare and **rehabilitation**, also asking it to **look into** the banning of sale of acid across the counter. Section 124 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita **deals with** acid attacks and the punishment to be **meted out**, but reality **paints a grim picture**, with trials being **long-drawn** and **conviction rates** low. According to latest National Crime Records Bureau data, there were 207 incidents of acid attacks across the country in 2023, with West Bengal **ignominiously** topping the list with 57 cases, followed by Uttar Pradesh (31). **Victims** of acid attacks, one of the worst forms of gender violence imaginable, **deserve** a lot better. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Mark for life** (phrase) – to permanently scar or affect someone. जीवन भर का दाग
2. **Enforcement** (noun) – implementation, execution, administration, imposition प्रवर्तन
3. **Victim** (noun) – survivor, sufferer, casualty, target, prey पीड़ित
4. **Closure** (noun) – resolution, conclusion, finality, end, settlement समापन
5. **Committed** (adjective) – carried out, perpetrated, done, executed किया गया
6. **A slew** (of) (noun) – a large number of, a lot of, a series of, a wave of. ढेर सारे
7. **Pace** (noun) – speed, rate, tempo, momentum, velocity गति
8. **Mockery** (noun) – ridicule, farce, travesty, joke, sham मज़ाक
9. **Sympathy** (noun) – compassion, pity, understanding, empathy, concern सहानुभूति
10. **Call for** (phrasal verb) – demand, require, necessitate, ask for, propose माँग करना
11. **Trial** (noun) – court case, hearing, proceeding, litigation, prosecution मुकदमा
12. **Undergo** (verb) – experience, go through, endure, be subjected to गुजरना
13. **Set up** (phrasal verb) – establish, found, create, institute, start स्थापित करना
14. **Survivor** (noun) – victim who lives, one who endures, sufferer बचा हुआ व्यक्ति
15. **Knock at someone's door** (phrase) – to seek help or attention from someone. मदद माँगना
16. **Seek** (verb) – try, attempt, aim, strive, endeavour कोशिश करना
17. **Recognition** (noun) – acknowledgment, acceptance, validation, credit मान्यता
18. **Bring to someone's notice** (phrase) – to inform or make someone aware of. ध्यान दिलाना
19. **Feed** (verb) – force to ingest, administer, give, supply खिलाना
20. **Nevertheless** (adverb) – however, nonetheless, even so, yet, still फिर भी
21. **Terrible** (adjective) – awful, dreadful, horrible, horrific, atrocious भयानक
22. **Ordinance** (noun) – executive order, decree, regulation, rule, law अध्यादेश
23. **Cause** (noun) – purpose, aim, goal, mission, objective कारण
24. **Petitioner** (noun) – applicant, supplicant, plaintiff, claimant याचिकाकर्ता

25. **Perpetrator** (noun) – offender, culprit, criminal, wrongdoer, guilty party अपराधी
26. **Scar** (verb) – mark, disfigure, damage, traumatize, injure निशान डालना
27. **Meet** (verb) – receive, encounter, face, experience, undergo मिलना
28. **Ruthlessness** (noun) – cruelty, brutality, mercilessness, harshness, severity निर्दयता
29. **Propose** (verb) – suggest, put forward, recommend, advocate, submit प्रस्तावित करना
30. **Set up** (phrasal verb) – establish, found, create, institute, start स्थापित करना
31. **Direct** (verb) – order, instruct, command, mandate, require निर्देश देना
32. **Rehabilitation** (noun) – recovery, restoration, reintegration, therapy पुनर्वास
33. **Look into** (phrasal verb) – investigate, examine, explore, check, inquire जाँच करना
34. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – handle, manage, tackle, address, confront निपटना
35. **Mete out** (phrasal verb) – administer, dispense, impose, deliver, inflict सज़ा देना
36. **Paint a picture** (phrase) – to describe or portray a situation. चित्रण करना
37. **Grim** (adjective) – dreadful, bleak, harsh, dismal, gloomy भयानक
38. **Long-drawn** (adjective) – prolonged, lengthy, extended, protracted, dragged out लंबा खिंचा हुआ
39. **Conviction rate** (noun) – the percentage of cases that result in a guilty verdict. दोषसिद्धि दर
40. **Ignominiously** (adverb) – shamefully, disgracefully, humiliatingly, dishonourably अपमानजनक ढंग से

Summary of the Editorial

1. The editorial discusses the Supreme Court's concern over extreme delay in an acid attack case pending for 16 years.
2. The victim, Shaheen Malik, was attacked in 2009 when she was 26 and pursuing an MBA.
3. For four years after the incident, no major progress was made in her case in Haryana.
4. The case was later moved to a Delhi court where final arguments are still ongoing.
5. The CJI termed such delays a "mockery of the system" and called for swift justice.
6. He also stated that acid attackers must not be given sympathy by courts.
7. Acid attack survivors should receive better support from the legal and justice system.
8. Shaheen Malik has undergone several surgeries, showing the lifelong impact of such crimes.
9. She founded an NGO, Brave Souls, offering medical and legal help to survivors.
10. She filed a PIL seeking formal recognition of survivors under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
11. The CJI urged the Centre to consider passing an ordinance for stronger measures.
12. The Solicitor-General supported strict action, saying offenders deserve equal ruthlessness.
13. Supreme Court asked High Courts to submit data on pending trials and suggested special fast-track courts.
14. Previous directions in Laxmi vs Union of India included rehabilitation and restrictions on acid sale.
15. Data shows high incidence even today (207 cases in 2023), reflecting slow justice and inadequate support for victims, demanding urgent reforms.

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

1. **What is the overall tone of the passage?**
 - A. Sympathetic and critical
 - B. Humorous and casual
 - C. Neutral and descriptive
 - D. Celebratory and optimistic
2. **Which underlying issue does the passage indirectly highlight regarding the justice system for acid attack cases?**
 - A. The legal system ensures speedy trials in most criminal cases
 - B. Judicial processes for acid attack cases often remain delayed and ineffective
 - C. Most victims choose not to pursue legal remedy after attacks
 - D. The number of acid attacks is decreasing due to strict laws
3. **What can be inferred about the societal attitude toward acid attack survivors from the passage?**
 - A. Survivors receive abundant institutional support without legal hurdles
 - B. Survivors struggle for recognition, rights, and prolonged justice
 - C. Acid attackers are rarely prosecuted due to lack of evidence
 - D. Society largely overlooks issues of women's education
4. **Who heads the NGO Brave Souls, established to support acid attack survivors?**
 - A. Justice Surya Kant
 - B. Tushar Mehta
 - C. Shaheen Malik
 - D. Registrar-General of High Courts
5. **Which state recorded the highest number of acid attack incidents in 2023 as per NCRB data?**
 - A. Uttar Pradesh
 - B. Haryana
 - C. Delhi
 - D. West Bengal
6. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Prestigious."**
 - A. Mundane
 - B. Renowned
 - C. Erratic
 - D. Diligent
7. **Select the correct spelling of the highlighted word in the following sentence.**

Their opinions **varyy** from each other.

 - A. varyy
 - B. verry
 - C. vaary
 - D. vary
8. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**

Ms. Jyothi will finish the task in a week.

 - A. The task will be finished by Ms. Jyothi in a week.
 - B. The task will have been finished by Ms. Jyothi in a week.
 - C. The task is being finished by Ms. Jyothi in a week.

- D. The task was being finished by Ms. Jyothi in a week.
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
Reading ability in young children _____ by speech disorders.
A. effected
B. affected
C. is effected
D. is affected
10. **In the following sentence the underlined part contains as error. Alternatives to the underlined part are given as options. Select the correct alternative.**
Pankaj is a better cook.
A. good
B. goodest
C. more good
D. best
11. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Explicit
A. Verbose
B. Ambiguous
C. Rustic
D. Sporadic
12. **Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the right order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
A. At length the olive tree's branches broke with the snow's weight, at once despoiling it of its beauty and killing the tree.
B. A shower of snow fell upon them and, finding the olive full of foliage, it settled upon its branches.
C. Finding the fig tree without leaves, the snow fell through the branches to the ground and did not injure it at all.
D. The olive tree ridiculed the fig tree because, while she was green all the year round, the fig tree changed its leaves with the seasons.
A. ABCD
B. DBAC
C. ACBD
D. DACB
13. **Find the incorrect part of the sentence:**
Neither Ramesh nor his friends is willing to join.
A. Neither Ramesh nor
B. his friends is
C. willing to join.
D. No error
14. **Identify the number of sentence/s is/are grammatically incorrect and select the option which shows how many sentences are grammatically incorrect. If all the sentences are correct, then select option (D), all are correct.**
(i) His written statement defers in several important respects from his oral statement.

- (ii) I have ordered for three cups of coffee.
(iii) One must not boast of one's own success.
A. 3
B. 2
C. 1
D. All are correct
15. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given phrasal verb.**
Firm up
A. To weaken over time
B. To solidify or strengthen
C. To delay intentionally
D. To divide into parts
16. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for: 'A place where scientific experiments are carried out.'**
A. Cemetery
B. Monastery
C. Observatory
D. Laboratory
17. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
Please bring some milk from _____ refrigerator in the kitchen.
A. the
B. an
C. no article required
D. a
18. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Beat about the bush
A. Explain details very clearly
B. Decide quickly under pressure
C. Avoid coming to point
D. Support others with honesty
19. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Retrospective."**
A. Implicit
B. Pensive
C. Rustic
D. Futuristic
20. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the given word.**
Reinforce
A. Bolster
B. Reprimand
C. Dismantle
D. Dispel
- 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.

Of all the pointless ____1____, the one about age being a ____2____ number might just be ____3____ most trite. Ageism is an ____4____ hardwired in the human DNA, ____5____ spectre sauntering into conversations and commentaries unbidden — and undeterred by the wisdom experience might have wrought or the accomplishments that practice would have garnered.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
- A. cliches
 - B. cohesive
 - C. cooperation
 - D. concoction
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
- A. wrong
 - B. mere
 - C. often
 - D. perhaps
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
- A. with
 - B. a
 - C. an
 - D. the
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4**
- A. affinity
 - B. integrity
 - C. inequity
 - D. vicinity
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5**
- A. its
 - B. their
 - C. there
 - D. it's

Answers

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

Explanation

1. A) Sympathetic and critical

The passage expresses deep concern for acid attack survivors and strongly criticizes the slow justice system and lack of adequate support. It shows sympathy toward victims and disapproval of systemic failure.

B) The topic is serious; no humor or casual language is used.

C) The writer takes a strong stance, not a neutral one.

D) There is no celebration or optimism; the tone is serious and demanding reform.

2. B) The passage states that the case remained unresolved for 16 years and calls this delay a "mockery of the system," implying slow and ineffective justice delivery.

A – Opposite of text; slow pace is criticised.

C – No evidence victims avoid legal remedies.

D – No trend of decline mentioned; only current statistics given.

3. B) The victim waited 16 years, had to file a PIL for rights, and created an NGO to support others — showing survivors face long struggles and inadequate support.

A – Completely opposite; lack of support is emphasized.

C – No claim about evidence shortage; delays mentioned.

D – The issue is acid attack & justice, not women's education broadly.

4. C) Shaheen Malik

The passage clearly states Shaheen Malik set up Brave Souls in 2021 to support survivors.

A – CJI making observations, not NGO founder.

B – Solicitor-General representing Centre.

D – Role limited to reporting pending case details.

5. D) West Bengal

The last paragraph states West Bengal topped the list with 57 cases in 2023.

A – 31 cases, not the highest.

B – No data showing highest cases.

C – Mentioned only regarding case transfer, not top in record

6. B) Prestigious (adjective) – Highly respected; esteemed, distinguished, acclaimed. प्रतिष्ठित

Synonym: Renowned (adjective) – Known and admired by many; celebrated, famous. प्रसिद्ध /

मशहूर

• **Mundane** – Ordinary, dull. सामान्य

• **Erratic** – Unpredictable. अस्थिर

• **Diligent** – Hard-working. परिश्रमी

7. D) The correct spelling of 'varyy' is 'vary' which means "differ, fluctuate, modify" भिन्न होना, अलग होना।

8. A) The task will be finished by Ms. Jyothi in a week

Active वाक्य में "Ms. Jyothi" (Subject), "will finish" (Verb in Future Simple) और "the task" (Object) है। Active से Passive Voice में बदलते समय Object "the task" (Subject) बन जाता है और Verb को "will be finished" (Future Simple Passive) में बदला जाता है। "by Ms. Jyothi" को Passive वाक्य में Subject के बाद जोड़ा गया है।

In the active voice sentence, "Ms. Jyothi" is the subject, "will finish" is the verb in Future Simple, and "the task" is the object. To change to Passive Voice, the object "the task" becomes the subject, and the verb is transformed into "will be finished" (Passive form of Future Simple). "by Ms. Jyothi" is added after the verb.

9. D) 'is affected' सही passive है: "ability ... is affected". 'effected' (cause/bring about) का अर्थ अलग है; 'affected' अकेला अधूरा है; 'is effected' गलत अर्थ देता है।
'is affected' is the correct passive. 'effected' means 'brought about', 'affected' alone is incomplete, and 'is effected' misstates the meaning.
10. A) 'better' के बदले 'good' का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ किसी तुलना का भाव नहीं है, बल्कि Pankaj के स्वभाव या गुण (cooking skills) का सामान्य वर्णन किया जा रहा है। Positive Degree ('good') का प्रयोग तब होता है जब किसी व्यक्ति या वस्तु की विशेषता बिना तुलना के बताई जाती है। जैसे— She is a kind woman.
B. goodest → Grammatically incorrect; 'good' का Superlative Form 'best' होता है।
C. more good → 'Good' की Comparative Degree 'better' होती है, 'more good' अशुद्ध प्रयोग है।
D. best → Superlative Degree है, जो तब use होता है जब एक व्यक्ति/वस्तु की समूह के सभी सदस्यों से तुलना की जाती है (जैसे— Pankaj is the best cook among all). यहाँ ऐसा कोई संदर्भ नहीं है।
'good' will be used instead of 'better' because there is no sense of comparison here; rather, Pankaj's inherent quality (cooking skills) is being described in a general sense. The Positive Degree ('good') is used when describing a characteristic without comparison. Like—She is a kind woman.
11. B) **Explicit** (adjective) – Clear, direct, definite, unambiguous. स्पष्ट
Antonym: Ambiguous (adjective) – Unclear, open to multiple meanings. अस्पष्ट
- **Verbose** (adjective) – Using too many words. शब्दबहुल
 - **Rustic** (adjective) – Rural, simple. ग्रामीण
 - **Sporadic** (adjective) – Irregular. अनियमित
12. B) DBAC
D starts the paragraph by introducing the subject "The olive tree" and its action of ridiculing the fig tree. This sets the context for the comparison between the two trees.
B follows D as it introduces the next event—a shower of snow falling on them. The pronoun "them" refers back to the olive and fig trees mentioned in D, maintaining coherence.
A comes after B because it describes the consequence of the snow settling on the olive tree's branches, leading to its destruction. The phrase "At length" indicates a progression of events after the snow has fallen.

C logically concludes the paragraph by showing the contrasting fate of the fig tree, which remained unharmed because it had no leaves. This completes the comparison introduced in D. In Hindi:

- D paragraph की शुरुआत करता है, क्योंकि यह subject "The olive tree" को introduce करता है और उसके द्वारा fig tree का मज़ाक उड़ाने की घटना बताता है। यह दोनों पेड़ों के बीच तुलना का संदर्भ देता है।
- B, D के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह अगली घटना—बर्फ़बारी को introduce करता है। Pronoun "them" पिछले sentence (D) में mentioned olive और fig trees को refer करता है, जिससे coherence बनी रहती है।
- A, B के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह olive tree की शाखाओं पर बर्फ़ के जमने के परिणाम को दर्शाता है, जिससे वह नष्ट हो जाता है। "At length" से पता चलता है कि यह घटना बर्फ़बारी के बाद घटित हुई।
- C paragraph को logically समाप्त करता है, क्योंकि यह fig tree के साथ अलग परिणाम दिखाता है, जो बिना पत्तियों होने के कारण सुरक्षित रहता है। यह D में शुरू हुई तुलना को पूरा करता है।

13. B) 'is' के बदले 'are' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Neither...nor में verb हमेशा nearest subject के अनुसार होता है और यहाँ nearest subject friends (plural) है; जैसे—

Neither he nor his brothers are present.

- 'are' will be used instead of 'is' because in Neither...nor, the verb agrees with the closest subject, which is friends (plural); Like—

Neither he nor his brothers are present.

14. B) 2

(i) Error

- 'defers' के बदले 'differs' होगा; 'differ' का pattern है differ in ... from सही— His written statement differs in several important respects from his oral statement.

Use 'differs' (not 'defers'). The idiom is differ in ... from Correct: His written statement differs in several important respects from his oral statement.

(ii) Error

- 'order' transitive verb है; इसलिए 'ordered for' नहीं, सिर्फ 'ordered' होगा. सही— I have ordered three cups of coffee.

'Order' is transitive; drop 'for'. Correct: I have ordered three cups of coffee.

(iii) No error

- वाक्य सही है; 'boast of/about' दोनों चलती हैं. सही— One must not boast of one's own success.

Grammatically correct; boast of/about are both acceptable. Correct: One must not boast of one's own success.

15. B) **Firm up** (phrasal verb) – Strengthen, stabilize, solidify, become firm. मजबूत होना / मजबूत करना

16. D) **Laboratory** – A place equipped for scientific testing प्रयोगशाला

- **Cemetery** – A burial ground कब्रिस्तान
- **Monastery** – A residence for monks मठ
- **Observatory** – A place for observing stars वेधशाला

17. A) 'The' का use होगा क्योंकि यह "refrigerator" को specify करता है कि यह वही refrigerator है जो रसोईघर में है। 'The' का उपयोग विशेषकर तब किया जाता है जब हम किसी specific चीज़ के बारे में बात कर रहे हों। 'An' का उपयोग तब होता है जब किसी singular noun की बात की जाए जो vowel sound से शुरू होता है। लेकिन यहाँ 'refrigerator' vowel sound से शुरू नहीं होता। 'No article required' गलत है क्योंकि 'refrigerator' के पहले article आवश्यक है। 'A' का उपयोग तब होता है जब हम किसी unspecific singular noun की बात करते हैं। यहाँ refrigerator specific है, इसलिए 'A' गलत होगा।

- The 'will be used because it specifies "refrigerator" as the one located in the kitchen. 'The' is used when we talk about something specific. 'An' is used before singular nouns starting with a vowel sound. However, 'refrigerator' does not begin with a vowel sound. 'No article required' is incorrect because an article is necessary before 'refrigerator'. 'A' is used for nonspecific singular nouns. Here, the refrigerator is specific, making 'A' inappropriate.

18. C) **Beat about the bush** (idiom) – Avoid coming to point मुद्दे पर न आना / बात को घुमाना

19. D) **Retrospective** (adjective) – Looking back on or reviewing the past. पूर्वव्यापी / अतीत-संबंधी

Antonym: **Futuristic** (adjective) – Ahead of its time; relating to the future. भविष्यवादी

- **Pensive** – Deep in thought. चिंतनशील
- **Rustic** – Rural or simple. देहाती
- **Implicit** – Implied, not expressed directly. निहित

20. A) **Reinforce** (verb) – Strengthen, support, fortify. मजबूत करना

Synonym: **Bolster** (verb) – Support, strengthen, uphold. सुदृढ़ करना

- **Reprimand** (verb) – Scold or criticize. डांटना
- **Dismantle** (verb) – Take apart. विघटित करना
- **Dispel** (verb) – Drive away (fears/doubts). दूर करना

21. A) 'Cliches' का use होगा क्योंकि "cliches" का अर्थ होता है बार-बार दोहराई जाने वाली बातें या विचार जो नए और रोचक नहीं होते। sentence में कहा गया है कि सभी बेकार बातों में से, उम्र के बारे में कही गई बात सबसे उबाऊ है, इसलिए 'cliches' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'cohesive' का अर्थ है एकसमान और जुड़ा हुआ, 'cooperation' का अर्थ है सहयोग, और 'concoction' का अर्थ है मिश्रण, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं हैं।

- 'Cliches' will be used because it refers to overused expressions or ideas that are no longer interesting or original. The sentence mentions pointless phrases, making 'cliches'

appropriate here. In contrast, 'cohesive' means something that is united or connected, 'cooperation' refers to working together, and 'concoction' means a mixture, which are not suitable in this context.

22. B) 'Mere' का use होगा क्योंकि "mere" का अर्थ होता है केवल या मामूली, जो यहाँ आयु को केवल एक संख्या के रूप में प्रस्तुत करने के लिए उपयुक्त है। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि उम्र को केवल एक संख्या के रूप में बताना एक तुच्छ धारणा है, इसलिए 'mere' सही है। जबकि 'wrong' का अर्थ है गलत, 'often' का अर्थ है अक्सर, और 'perhaps' का अर्थ है शायद, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

- 'Mere' will be used because it means only or insignificant, which fits well to describe age as just a number. The sentence suggests that describing age as just a number is a trivial concept, making 'mere' appropriate. In contrast, 'wrong' means incorrect, 'often' means frequently, and 'perhaps' means maybe, which do not suit this context.

23. D) 'The' का use होगा क्योंकि "the" एक definite article है, जो एक विशिष्ट संज्ञा (noun) को इंगित करने के लिए प्रयोग किया जाता है। sentence में यह बताया गया है कि "उम्र केवल एक संख्या है" वाली धारणा सबसे उबाऊ है, इसलिए 'the' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'with' का अर्थ है साथ, 'a' और 'an' दोनों अनिश्चित निर्धारक (indefinite articles) हैं, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

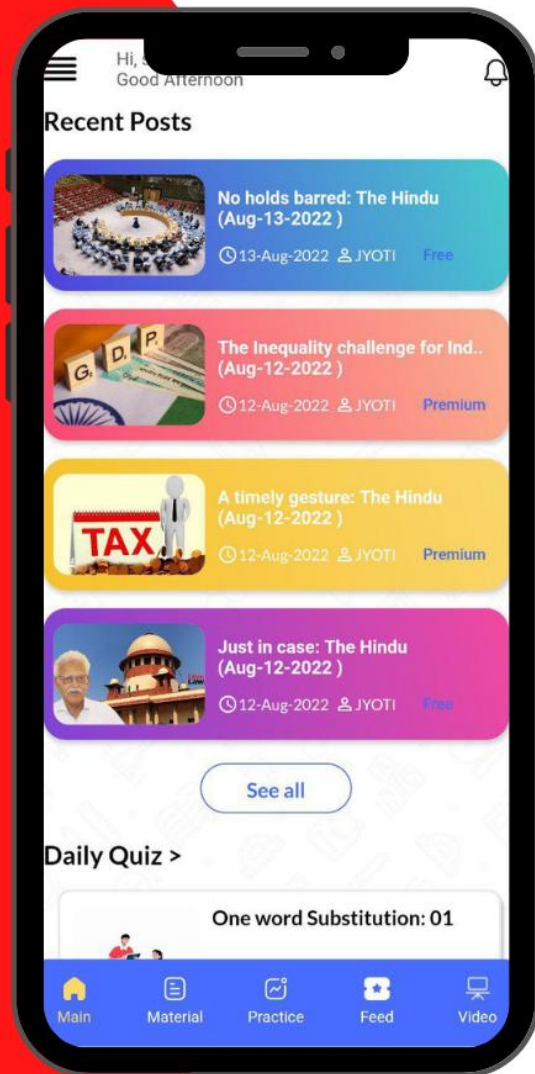
- 'The' will be used because "the" is a definite article, used to specify something known or mentioned before. The sentence is referring to the idea about age as the most trite, making 'the' appropriate. In contrast, 'with' means along or together with, and 'a' and 'an' are indefinite articles, which do not fit in this context.

24. C) 'Inequity' का use होगा क्योंकि "inequity" का अर्थ है अन्याय या असमानता, जो इस संदर्भ में उम्र के प्रति पक्षपात को दर्शाने के लिए उपयुक्त है। sentence में mention है कि उम्रवाद मानव डीएनए में गहराई से जुड़ा हुआ है, इसलिए 'inequity' सही option है। जबकि 'affinity' का अर्थ है लगाव या सामीप्य, 'integrity' का अर्थ है ईमानदारी या अखंडता, और 'vicinity' का अर्थ है निकटता या आसपास का क्षेत्र, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

- 'Inequity' will be used because it means unfairness or inequality, which appropriately describes ageism as a deeply embedded bias. The sentence mentions ageism being ingrained in human DNA, making 'inequity' fitting. In contrast, 'affinity' means a natural liking, 'integrity' means honesty or wholeness, and 'vicinity' means the surrounding area, which do not fit in this context.

25. A) 'Its' का use होगा क्योंकि "its" एक possessive pronoun है, जो उस स्थिति या चीज़ को संदर्भित करता है जो पहले बताई गई हो। यहाँ, 'spectre' (भूत/आभास) के स्वामित्व को दिखाने के लिए 'its' उपयुक्त है। जबकि 'their' बहुवचन के लिए प्रयोग होता है, 'there' स्थान को इंगित करता है, और 'it's' "it is" का संक्षिप्त रूप है, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- 'Its' will be used because "its" is a possessive pronoun that refers to something previously mentioned. Here, 'spectre' (a ghostly figure or presence) requires the possessive 'its' to show ownership. In contrast, 'their' is used for plural nouns, 'there' refers to a place, and 'it's' is the contraction for "it is," which are incorrect in this context.



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