

Addressing an anomaly: On stubble burning, burnt-area estimates

The Centre must make burnt-area **estimates** of stubble public

In a statement to Parliament, the Environment Ministry said that Punjab and Haryana had collectively reduced “fire **incidences**” by 90% in 2025 compared to 2022. This is in reference to the burning of farm stubble, a traditional shortcut to quickly **shed** fields of paddy **remnants** and prepare them for a second crop — in this case, wheat — but that has in the last **decade** and a half been linked to **spikes** in air pollution in October-November in Delhi and **surrounding** cities.

As part of steps to address this, the Centre and the State governments have been **employing a carrot-and-stick approach** — fining farmers but, simultaneously, also providing **subsidised** farm equipment, combine harvesters and tractors as well as **incentivising** them to collect stubble and sell them to thermal plants for co-firing. There is little direct evidence to show that these measures have reduced the contribution of stubble burning to Delhi’s post-monsoon air quality. That would require using mass-**spectrograph** measures to analyse the chemical make-up of pollutants over time and trace the weightage of stubble burning. That analysis is unavailable and so the government has been using **proxies** such as counting whether **the number of** active fires visible by satellites **have** been declining to evaluate this **metric**. Since 2020 there has been a decline in fires in Punjab and Haryana, **prompting** the government to **take credit**. It **turns out** that this was a **pyrrhic victory**. When **images** from a different satellite **were** used to **compute** another **parameter** called ‘burnt area’ — the actual land area that had been burned — the reduction was a more **gradual** 30%: from about 31,500 square kilometres in 2022 to 19,700 sq.km in 2025 (as of November 25, this year), an independent research **outfit** has found. Using data from another set of satellites called Meteosat, **unambiguous** evidence emerged that farm fires had shifted towards the evening. **Unlike** the other satellites, which **orbit** the poles, this one is ‘geostationary’, meaning it continuously looks at the same spot. The Centre has been using fire count-reduction based on polar-satellite data, which passes through India between 10 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. Since 2022, reports had been emerging that farmers had shifted their burning towards evening **precisely** to avoid detection by these satellites. **The Supreme Court of India**, when **apprised of** this in 2024, **had** expressly told Environment Ministry bodies to **ascertain** ‘burnt area’ to **gauge** stubble burning trends. **Moreover, given** that satellites have different resolution powers, there is no knowing what the true count of fires is at present. The Centre, however, has still not made year-wise burnt-area estimates public. Being **disingenuous** with data will only **accelerate** the **erosion** of public confidence in the government’s claim on tackling air pollution. The Centre must immediately move to address this.

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

[Practice Exercise]

Vocabulary

1. **Address** (verb) – tackle, deal with, handle, confront, attend to निपटना
2. **Anomaly** (noun) – irregularity, deviation, abnormality, oddity, inconsistency विसंगति
3. **Stubble burning** (noun) – the practice of setting fire to leftover crop residue after harvest. पराली जलाना
4. **Estimate** (noun) – approximation, assessment, calculation, evaluation, projection अनुमान
5. **Incidence** (noun) – occurrence, frequency, rate, prevalence, happening घटना/दर
6. **Shed** (verb) – remove, discard, get rid of, cast off, drop छुटकारा पाना
7. **Remnant** (noun) – leftover, residue, remainder, remains, fragment अवशेष
8. **Decade** (noun) – ten-year period, ten years, period दशक
9. **Spike** (noun) – sharp increase, surge, rise, jump, escalation अचानक वृद्धि
10. **Surrounding** (adjective) – adjacent, nearby, neighboring, encircling, bordering आसपास के
11. **Employ** (verb) – use, utilize, apply, deploy, adopt प्रयोग करना
12. **A carrot-and-stick approach** (phrase) – a policy combining rewards and punishments. प्रोत्साहन और दंड नीति
13. **Subsidise** (verb) – financially support, fund, underwrite, sponsor, aid सब्सिडी देना
14. **Incentivise** (verb) – encourage, motivate, stimulate, spur, reward प्रोत्साहित करना
15. **Spectrograph** (noun) – An instrument that analyzes the spectrum of light or particles. स्पेक्ट्रोग्राफ
16. **Proxy** (noun) – substitute, indicator, measure, surrogate, alternative प्रतिनिधि/संकेतक
17. **Metric** (noun) – measure, standard, parameter, indicator, gauge मापदंड
18. **Prompt** (verb) – cause, induce, provoke, lead to, stimulate प्रेरित करना
19. **Take credit** (phrase) – to claim recognition or praise for something. श्रेय लेना
20. **Turn out** (phrasal verb) – prove to be, transpire, emerge, result, happen निकल कर आना
21. **A pyrrhic victory** (phrase) – a success that comes at a devastating cost. भारी कीमत वाली जीत
22. **Compute** (verb) – calculate, determine, work out, reckon, measure गणना करना

23. **Parameter** (noun) – factor, criterion, variable, limit, boundary मापदंड
24. **Gradual** (adjective) – slow, steady, incremental, progressive, piecemeal क्रमिक
25. **Outfit** (noun) – organization, group, agency, institution, body संस्था
26. **Unambiguous** (adjective) – clear, definite, unequivocal, unmistakable, explicit स्पष्ट
27. **Unlike** (preposition) – in contrast to, different from, as opposed to के विपरीत
28. **Orbit** (verb) – revolve, circle, travel around, encircle, go around परिक्रमा करना
29. **Precisely** (adverb) – exactly, accurately, specifically, just, squarely ठीक ठीक
30. **Apprise** (of) (verb) – inform, notify, tell, advise, acquaint सूचित करना
31. **Ascertain** (verb) – determine, find out, verify, confirm, establish निश्चित करना
32. **Gauge** (verb) – measure, assess, evaluate, judge, estimate आकलन करना
33. **Moreover** (adverb) – furthermore, additionally, besides, also, further इसके अलावा
34. **Given** (preposition) – considering, in view of, taking into account, because of को देखते हुए
35. **Disingenuous** (adjective) – insincere, deceitful, dishonest, hypocritical, deceptive कपटी
36. **Accelerate** (verb) – speed up, hasten, quicken, expedite, precipitate गति बढ़ाना
37. **Erosion** (noun) – gradual destruction, wearing away, undermining, deterioration, decline क्षरण

Summary of the Editorial

1. The editorial examines the **Centre's claim** that **stubble-burning fire incidents fell by 90%** in Punjab and Haryana between **2022 and 2025**.
2. Stubble burning is a **traditional agricultural practice** used to clear paddy fields quickly for wheat cultivation.
3. Over the last **15 years**, this practice has been strongly linked to **severe air pollution in Delhi and nearby regions** during October–November.
4. The government has adopted a **carrot-and-stick approach**, combining fines with subsidies and incentives for farmers.
5. Farmers are encouraged to use **subsidised machinery** and sell stubble to thermal plants for **co-firing**.
6. There is **no direct scientific evidence** showing that these measures have significantly reduced stubble burning's impact on air quality.
7. Accurate assessment would require **chemical analysis of pollutants**, which has not been carried out.
8. Instead, the government relies on **proxy indicators**, mainly **satellite-based fire counts**.
9. Since 2020, a decline in fire counts has been observed, prompting official claims of success.
10. However, independent research using **burnt-area data** shows only a **30% reduction**, not 90%.
11. The burnt area declined from **31,500 sq km in 2022 to 19,700 sq km in 2025**, indicating slower progress.
12. Data from **geostationary Meteosat satellites** shows that fires have shifted to the **evening hours**.
13. Farmers appear to burn stubble later in the day to **avoid detection by polar-orbiting satellites** used by the Centre.
14. The **Supreme Court in 2024** directed authorities to assess **burnt area**, not just fire counts.
15. The Centre's failure to release **year-wise burnt-area estimates** risks **undermining public trust**, making transparency urgent.

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

1. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The economic benefits of stubble burning for farmers in india
 - B. The technological limitations of satellite monitoring
 - C. The need for transparent and accurate assessment of stubble-burning impact
 - D. The success of government incentives in reducing air pollution
2. **Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the passage regarding the Centre's claim of a 90% reduction in fire incidences?**
 - A. The reduction conclusively proves that air quality in Delhi has significantly improved
 - B. The reduction may not accurately reflect the real extent of stubble burning
 - C. The reduction is supported by comprehensive chemical analysis of pollutants
 - D. The reduction resulted solely from strict penalties imposed on farmers
3. **Why does the passage argue that counting satellite-detected fire incidences is an inadequate method to assess stubble burning?**
 - A. Because satellites cannot detect agricultural fires
 - B. Because farmers have reduced stubble burning entirely
 - C. Because fire counts do not measure the actual land area burned and can be manipulated
 - D. Because satellite data is banned for environmental monitoring and measuring from last year
4. **Direction: Choose the option that correctly states whether the given statement is True or False**

Statement: The Supreme Court directed the Environment Ministry in 2024 to rely only on polar-orbiting satellite fire counts to assess stubble burning.

 - A. True — because polar satellites provide the most reliable data
 - B. False — because the Court asked for burnt-area estimation instead
 - C. True — because geostationary satellites were found unreliable
 - D. False — because the Court asked to stop satellite monitoring entirely
5. **Which of the following best explains why the article calls the reported decline in fire incidences a "pyrrhic victory"?**
 - A. The financial cost of monitoring exceeded the benefits
 - B. The reduction led to increased crop residue prices
 - C. The victory caused political disagreement between States and districts
 - D. The apparent success masked a much smaller real reduction in burnt area
6. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

Reinforce

 - A. Bolster
 - B. Supersede
 - C. Reproach
 - D. Allay
7. **Select the correct option to fill in the blank.**

The sudden political _____ left the nation divided and uncertain about the future.

 - A. Ethical
 - B. Creed
 - C. Turmoil
 - D. Abundance

8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Apt."**
- A. Inappropriate
 - B. Verbose
 - C. Tangible
 - D. Sporadic
9. **Identify the word with the incorrect spelling.**
- A. Resilience
 - B. Concelation
 - C. Robustness
 - D. Deficiency
10. **Select the correct spelling of the highlighted word in the following sentence.**
He is trying to **hoan** his communication skills.
- A. hone
 - B. hoan
 - C. honn
 - D. heon
11. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for: 'A person who expects the worst to happen.'**
- A. Realist
 - B. Pessimist
 - C. Optimist
 - D. Analyst
12. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
It is time to have tea.
- A. Time must be taken to prepare tea.
 - B. It is time for tea to be had.
 - C. Tea is to be taken by it.
 - D. Tea is to be had
13. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
It is nothing else your pride which makes you say such a thing.
- A. else your pride which make
 - B. else but your pride which make
 - C. else but your pride which makes
 - D. else your pride that makes
14. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Agony."**
- A. Euphoria
 - B. Chronicle
 - C. Artisan
 - D. Malady
15. **He was kept under strict _____ due to security concerns.**
- A. Oversight
 - B. Euphoria
 - C. Mirage
 - D. Odyssey

16. The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error

Rafael Nadal is a player whom made sweat, toil, endurance and (A)/ sheer effort look fascinating. (B) Watching him run around the court, from (C)/ one extremity to another, was often demanding. (D)

- A. (C)
- B. (B)
- C. (D)
- D. (A)

17. Examine the four jumbled sentences. Out of the given options, pick the one that gives their correct order.

- A. We found both to be very quiet and subdued.
- B. Later when we became good friends, they told us about their tragic loss.
- C. The Mehrahs were newcomers to the neighbourhood.
- D. My wife and I called on them to ask if they needed any help.

- A. CDAB
- B. ACDB
- C. BDAC
- D. DBAC

18. Select the most appropriate meaning of the highlighted idiom.

With the final exams in the offing, students started to devote more time to their studies.

- A. In the distant future
- B. Happening soon
- C. No longer happening
- D. In the past

19. Select the option that will improve the underlined part of the given sentence.

He was the most cleverest man I ever knew.

- A. cleverer
- B. cleverest
- C. most cleverer
- D. more clever

20. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.

Uptick

- A. Vigilance
- B. Resurgence
- C. Impetus
- D. Increment

Comprehension:

In the following passage some words have been deleted. Fill in the blanks with the help of the alternatives given. Select the most appropriate option for each blank.

An earthquake is the shaking of the ground caused by the sudden breaking and (1)_____ of large sections of the Earth's rocky outer shell. Scientists estimate that there (2)_____ more than 8,000 minor earthquakes each day. Of these, only about 1,000 are strong (3)_____ to be felt. At least 40 moderate earthquakes cause damage somewhere (4)_____ the world each

year. A really powerful earthquake only occurs, on average, once every two years, (5)_____ when it does, the results can be devastating

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.1.**
- A. pushing
 - B. hanging
 - C. bringing
 - D. shifting
22. **Q. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.2.**
- A. is
 - B. has
 - C. are
 - D. have
23. **Q. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.3.**
- A. adequate
 - B. enough
 - C. sufficient
 - D. capable
24. **Q. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.4.**
- A. on
 - B. in
 - C. into
 - D. at
25. **Q. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank No.5.**
- A. whereas
 - B. but
 - C. while
 - D. As

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

- C) The need for transparent and accurate assessment of stubble-burning impact**
 The passage primarily argues that relying on selective satellite data is misleading and stresses the urgent need to make comprehensive burnt-area estimates public to accurately assess stubble burning and its pollution impact.
 A: Incorrect as this is mentioned only as background, not the central concern.
 B: Incorrect because this supports the argument but is not the main theme itself.
 D: Incorrect since the passage questions, rather than confirms, their effectiveness.
- B) The reduction may not accurately reflect the real extent of stubble burning**
 B is correct because the passage highlights that fire counts alone are misleading and that burnt-area data shows only a 30% reduction, suggesting the claim may not reflect reality.
 A is incorrect because the passage explicitly states there is little direct evidence linking these measures to improved air quality.
 C is incorrect because mass-spectrograph analysis is said to be unavailable.
 D is incorrect because the approach described is carrot-and-stick, not penalties alone.
- C) Because fire counts do not measure the actual land area burned and can be manipulated**
C is correct as the passage explains that fire counts miss the actual burnt area and that farmers shifted burning times to evade detection.
 A is incorrect because satellites do detect fires; the issue is timing and resolution.
 B is incorrect since only a partial reduction is shown, not elimination.
 D is incorrect because satellite data is actively used by the government.
- B) False — because the Court asked for burnt-area estimation instead**
 B is correct as the passage clearly states the Supreme Court asked authorities to ascertain burnt area, not rely only on fire counts.
 A is incorrect because the Court questioned reliance on polar satellites.
 C is incorrect since geostationary satellites provided clearer evidence.
 D is incorrect because the Court did not ask to stop satellite monitoring.
- D) The apparent success masked a much smaller real reduction in burnt area**
 D is correct because despite a sharp fall in detected fires, burnt-area data shows only a gradual reduction, undermining the claimed success.
 A is incorrect as financial cost is not discussed.
 C is incorrect since inter-state politics is not the focus.
 B is incorrect because crop residue pricing is not mentioned
- A) Reinforce (verb) – Strengthen, support, fortify. मजबूत करना**
 Synonym: **Bolster (verb) – Support, strengthen, boost. मज़बूत करना**

 - Supersede (verb) – Replace, take the place of. प्रतिस्थापित करना**
 - Reproach (verb) – Blame, criticize. ताना देना**
 - Allay (verb) – Reduce fear or worry. शांत करना**
- C) Turmoil (noun) – Confusion, chaos, disorder, upheaval. अशांति**

- Creed – Religious belief
- Abundance – Plenty
- Ethical – Moral / principled

8. A) **Inappropriate**

Apt (adjective) – suitable, fitting, relevant. उपयुक्त

Antonym: **Inappropriate** – not suitable, improper. अनुपयुक्त

- **Verbose** (adjective) – using too many words. शब्दाडंबरपूर्ण
- **Tangible** (adjective) – clearly perceptible, touchable. प्रत्यक्ष
- **Sporadic** (adjective) – occurring irregularly. छिटपुट

9. B) **Concelation**

The correct spelling is **Consolation** (comfort, solace; सांत्वना).

- **Resilience** – Ability to recover.
- **Robustness** – Strength.
- **Deficiency** – Lack.

10. A) The correct spelling of 'hoan' is '**hone**' which means "refine or perfect (something) over a period of time" — निखारना।11. B) **Pessimist** – A person who always sees the negative side of things निराशावादी

- **Realist** – One who accepts things as they are यथार्थवादी
- **Optimist** – One who expects good outcomes आशावादी
- **Analyst** – One who studies data विशेषज्ञ

12. B) **It is time for tea to be had.**

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए: Active वाक्य में "It is time to have tea" एक प्रकार का सामान्य वाक्य है, जिसमें "to have tea" क्रिया (Verb) के रूप में प्रयुक्त हुआ है। Passive Voice में, "tea" को मुख्य Subject बनाया जाता है, और "to be had" Passive Form में बदलता है। Active वाक्य में: "to have tea" मुख्य क्रिया है। Passive वाक्य में: "tea" Object से Subject बन गया है और "to be had" Passive Voice में बदल गया है। इसलिए सही उत्तर है: "It is time for tea to be had."

To change from Active to Passive Voice:

- The active sentence "It is time to have tea" is a general statement where "to have tea" acts as the verb phrase. In the passive voice, "tea" becomes the subject, and "to have" is transformed into its passive form "to be had." In Active Voice: "to have tea" is the main verb. In Passive Voice: "tea" becomes the subject, and "to have" changes to "to be had" to form the correct passive structure. Thus, the correct answer is: "It is time for tea to be had."

13. C) **else but your pride which makes**

else your pride which makes के बदले 'else but your pride which makes' का use होगा क्योंकि 'nothing else but' एक सही phrase है जो एक विशेष जोर देने के लिए उपयोग किया जाता है। 'Makes' सही verb है क्योंकि यह 'pride' के अनुसार है, जो singular है। जैसे— "It is nothing else but hard work that brings success."

- 'else but your pride' will be used instead of 'else your pride' because 'nothing else but' is a correct phrase used to emphasize. 'Makes' is the correct verb as it agrees with 'pride,' which is singular. For example— "It is nothing else but hard work that brings success."

14. A) **Euphoria**

Agony (noun) – extreme pain, suffering, torment. तीव्र पीड़ा

Antonym: **Euphoria** – strong feeling of happiness or excitement. उल्लास

- **Chronicle** (noun) – historical account of events. वर्णन
- **Artisan** (noun) – skilled worker/craftsman. कारीगर
- **Malady** (noun) – disease or ailment. रोग

15. A) **Oversight**

Oversight (noun) – supervision, monitoring. निरीक्षण

- **Euphoria** (noun) – intense joy. अत्यधिक खुशी
- **Mirage** (noun) – illusion. मृगतृष्णा
- **Odyssey** (noun) – long adventure. लंबी यात्रा

16. D) 'whom' के बदले '**who**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'who' एक subject pronoun है, जबकि 'whom' object pronoun के रूप में इस्तेमाल होता है। यहां 'Rafael Nadal' subject के रूप में है, इसलिए 'who' का प्रयोग सही है; जैसे— "She is the one who made the decision."

- 'who' will be used instead of 'whom' because 'who' is a subject pronoun, whereas 'whom' is used as an object pronoun. In this case, 'Rafael Nadal' is the subject, so 'who' is appropriate; Like— "She is the one who made the decision."

17. A) **CDAB**

C starts the sentence by introducing the subject "The Mehras" and their status as newcomers to the neighborhood. This sets the context for the rest of the sentences.

D follows C because it introduces the action taken by the narrator and his wife ("called on them"), which logically follows after mentioning the new neighbors.

A comes next as it describes their observation ("both to be very quiet and subdued") after visiting the Mehras.

B concludes the sequence by providing the reason ("told us about their tragic loss") for the Mehras' subdued behavior, which was observed in A.

In Hindi:

- C sentence की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह "The Mehras" को introduce करता है और बताता है कि वे पड़ोस में नए हैं। यह context set करता है।
- D, C के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह narrator और उसकी wife के action ("called on them") को बताता है, जो logically तब होगा जब नए पड़ोसी आए हों।
- A, D के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह उनकी observation ("quiet and subdued") describe करता है, जो visit के बाद हुई।
- B sequence को conclude करता है क्योंकि यह reason ("tragic loss") बताता है, जिससे Mehras का subdued behavior (A) समझ आता है।

18. B) **In the offing** (phrase) – It refers to something that is likely to happen or appear soon. निकट भविष्य में होना

19. B) 'most cleverest' के स्थान पर केवल '**cleverest**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'cleverest' स्वयं ही Superlative डिग्री है और इसे 'most' के साथ दोहराना grammatically रूप से गलत है। जब Superlative डिग्री का प्रयोग किया जाए, तो Double Superlative (जैसे 'most cleverest') का उपयोग करना गलत होता है।

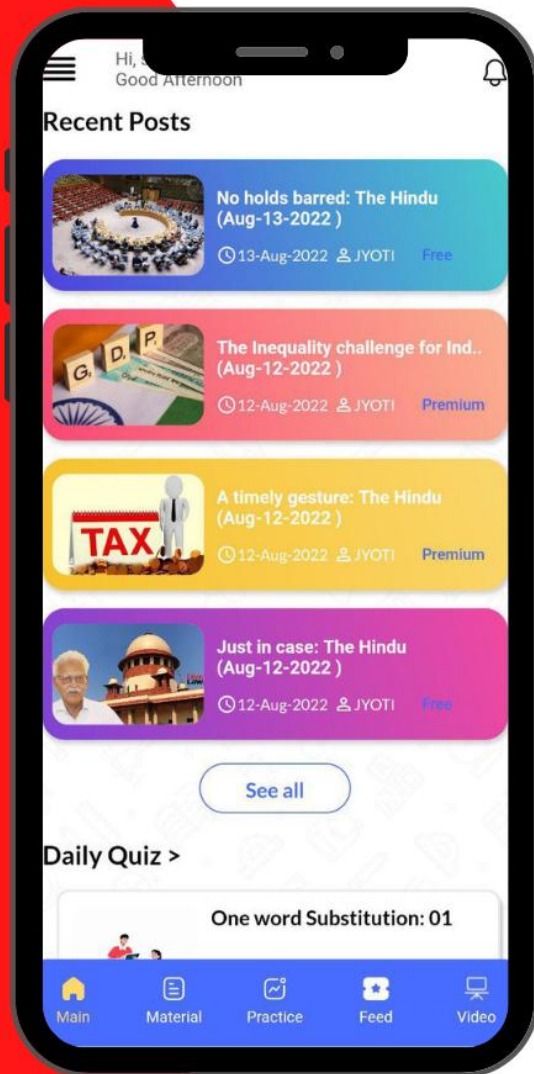
सही वाक्य: He was the cleverest man I ever knew.

- The phrase 'most cleverest' is incorrect because it redundantly uses both 'most' and the superlative form 'cleverest'. Only 'cleverest' should be used to express the superlative degree. double superlatives or double comparatives are incorrect. If a word is already in the superlative or comparative form, adding another modifier like most or more is redundant and grammatically wrong. Correct Sentence: He was the cleverest man I ever knew.
20. D) **Uptick** (noun) – Increase, rise, improvement, boost. उछाल
Synonym: **Increment** (noun) – Increase, growth, addition. वृद्धि
- **Vigilance** (noun) – Alertness, watchfulness. सतर्कता
 - **Resurgence** (noun) – Revival, comeback. पुनरुत्थान
 - **Impetus** (noun) – Driving force, stimulus. प्रेरक शक्ति
21. D) **Shifting** का use होगा क्योंकि "shifting" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज का स्थान बदलना या खिसकना। Sentence में बताया गया है कि भूकंप पृथ्वी की चट्टानी बाहरी परत के अचानक टूटने और खिसकने से होता है, इसलिए 'shifting' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Pushing' का अर्थ है धक्का देना, 'Hanging' का अर्थ है लटकाना, और 'Bringing' का अर्थ है लाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- 'Shifting' should be used because it means to change the position or move something. The sentence explains that an earthquake is caused by the sudden breaking and shifting of large sections of the Earth's rocky outer shell, making 'shifting' appropriate here. Whereas, 'Pushing' means to apply force, 'Hanging' means to suspend, and 'Bringing' means to carry something to a place, which don't fit in this context.
22. C) **Are** का use होगा क्योंकि 'are' का प्रयोग plural subjects के साथ होता है, और यहाँ 'earthquakes' plural है। Sentence में कहा गया है कि प्रतिदिन 8,000 से अधिक छोटे भूकंप होते हैं, इसलिए 'are' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'is' singular subjects के लिए होता है, 'has' और 'have' का प्रयोग possession या existence को दर्शाने के लिए होता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- Are should be used because 'are' is used with plural subjects, and 'earthquakes' is plural here. The sentence states that there are more than 8,000 minor earthquakes each day, making 'are' fitting here. Whereas, 'is' is for singular subjects, and 'has' and 'have' are used to indicate possession or existence, which don't fit in this context.
23. B) **Enough** का चयन किया जाएगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर यह दर्शाया गया है कि केवल लगभग 1,000 भूकंप ही इतने मजबूत होते हैं कि उन्हें महसूस किया जा सके। 'Enough' का अर्थ होता है पर्याप्त, जो यहाँ उपयुक्त है। 'Adequate' और 'Sufficient' का भी अर्थ पर्याप्त होता है, लेकिन ये शब्द इस context में प्रयोग के लिए उतने सहज नहीं हैं। 'Capable' का अर्थ होता है सक्षम, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- Enough' should be chosen because it indicates that only about 1,000 earthquakes are strong enough to be felt. 'Enough' means adequate, which is appropriate here. 'Adequate' and 'Sufficient' also mean enough, but they are not as natural in this context. 'Capable' means able, which is not correct in this context.
24. B) **In** का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ पर स्थान की बात हो रही है और 'in' का अर्थ होता है किसी स्थान के अंदर होना। Sentence में कहा गया है कि कम से कम 40 मध्यम भूकंप हर साल दुनिया में कहीं न कहीं नुकसान पहुंचाते हैं, इसलिए 'in' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'On' का अर्थ होता है किसी सतह पर होना, 'Into' का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ के अंदर प्रवेश करना, और 'At' का अर्थ होता है किसी विशेष स्थान पर होना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- In' should be used because it indicates a location and means being inside a place. The sentence states that at least 40 moderate earthquakes cause damage somewhere in the world each year, making 'in' the correct choice here. Whereas, 'On' means being on a surface, 'Into' means entering something, and 'At' means being at a specific location, which don't fit in this context.

25. B) **But** का use होगा क्योंकि "but" का अर्थ होता है विपरीत या विरोधी जानकारी को जोड़ना। Sentence में यह बताया गया है कि एक शक्तिशाली भूकंप केवल औसतन हर दो साल में होता है, लेकिन जब यह होता है, तो परिणाम विनाशकारी हो सकते हैं। इसलिए 'but' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Whereas' का अर्थ है जबकि, 'While' का अर्थ है जब और 'As' का अर्थ है क्योंकि, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- But' should be used because it means to connect contrasting or opposing information. The sentence indicates that a really powerful earthquake only occurs, on average, once every two years, but when it does, the results can be devastating. Therefore, 'but' fits here. Whereas, 'Whereas' means while, 'While' means during the time that, and 'As' means because, which don't fit in this context.



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