

Dangerous turn: On Russia, Ukraine, escalating attacks

Moscow and Kyiv must **step back** from **escalation** and **push for** peace

Russia's **allegation** that Ukraine launched a massive drone attack on President Vladimir Putin's country residence in the Novgorod region **marks** a deeply **concerning** moment in the nearly four-year-long war. Moscow **claims** that 91 long-range drones targeted the heavily **fortified** protected residence in northwestern Russia, a site previously used by Soviet leaders Joseph Stalin and Nikita Khrushchev. Russia has released a video of what it says is a **downed drone** and **handed** drone data to the U.S. **claiming** that it "proves" that Ukraine targeted Mr. Putin's home. Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has dismissed the allegation as **fabricated**. American media have reported, **citing** CIA officials, that Ukraine did not target the residence. But the CIA is an **ally** of Ukraine in the war and its **assessment** may not be viewed as entirely **impartial**. Ukraine has previously **carried out** **sabotage** operations within and outside Russia. Take, for example, the bombing of the Nord Stream pipelines in September 2022. It was initially blamed on Russia but **led to** the arrest of Ukrainian nationals in Poland and Italy last year. At the same time, it is Russia's responsibility to present **credible** evidence that Ukraine targeted the residence. But **regardless of** where the truth lies, the damage is already done. The **fact** that such **accusations** are being made — and believed by some world leaders — **signals** that the war has entered an **alarmingly volatile** phase.

The **timing** of these allegations **is** also significant. Russia's claim **came close on the heels** of Mr. Zelenskyy's **meeting** with U.S. President Donald Trump in Florida during which Washington **reportedly offered** security guarantees to Ukraine as part of a peace agreement. Mr. Trump had initially proposed a 28-point plan to which Ukraine responded with a 20-point plan. There were marathon talks involving U.S., Russian, European and Ukrainian officials. The **alleged** Ukrainian **attack** in Novgorod **has dealt a blow** to the **fragile** peace effort. Moscow has already said it will **harden** its negotiating position. Meanwhile, on New Year's eve, three Ukrainian drones struck a cafe and a hotel in Khorly in the Russian-held Kherson region, killing at least 27 people, including a child, and injuring over 50 others. Russia has intensified its **strikes** on Ukraine in recent months, leaving the country facing severe power shortages at the peak of winter. **Taken together**, the escalating attacks and the controversy surrounding Mr. Putin's residence should serve as urgent reminders to all parties that **de-escalation** cannot be delayed. If the war **spirals**, it **poses grave** risks to Europe and the world **given** the involvement of nuclear powers on both sides. **The U.S.**, which is **driving** the peace talks, **must** redouble **diplomatic** efforts while maintaining pressure on Moscow and Kyiv to step back. **[Practice]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Step back** (phrasal verb) – to withdraw from a situation or to stop being involved in something in order to consider it more carefully पीछे हटना
2. **Escalation** (noun) – intensification, surge, increase, heightening, amplification तीव्रता या वृद्धि
3. **Push for** (phrasal verb) – to demand or try to influence others to accept or do something जोर देना या प्रयास करना
4. **Allegation** (noun) – accusation, charge, claim, assertion, indictment आरोप
5. **Mark** (verb) – indicate, characterize, denote, signify, identify चिह्नित करना
6. **Concerning** (adjective) – worrying, alarming, disturbing, troubling, distressing चिंताजनक
7. **Claim** (verb) – assert, maintain, contend, profess, allege दावा करना
8. **Fortified** (adjective) – strengthened, secured, reinforced, buttressed, garrisoned किलेबंदी या मजबूत किया हुआ
9. **Downed drone** (noun) – an unmanned aerial vehicle that has been shot down or brought to the ground गिराया गया ड्रोन
10. **Hand** (verb) – deliver, submit, present, pass, transfer सौंपना
11. **Claiming** (verb) – asserting, stating, alleging, maintaining, declaring दावा करते हुए
12. **Fabricated** (adjective) – falsified, concocted, forged, invented, trumped-up मनगढ़ंत या जाली
13. **Cite** (verb) – quote, mention, refer, specify, adduce हवाला देना
14. **Ally** (noun) – partner, associate, confederate, collaborator, friend सहयोगी या मित्र राष्ट्र
15. **Assessment** (noun) – evaluation, appraisal, estimation, judgment, analysis मूल्यांकन
16. **Impartial** (adjective) – unbiased, neutral, objective, disinterested, equitable निष्पक्ष
17. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) – to perform a task or to put a plan into action अंजाम देना या कार्यान्वित करना
18. **Sabotage** (noun) – disruption, destruction, vandalism, subversion, impairment तोड़-फोड़ या नुकसान पहुँचाना
19. **Lead** (to) (verb) – to result in a particular outcome or consequence के कारण होना या ले जाना

20. **Credible** (adjective) – believable, plausible, reliable, trustworthy, dependable विश्वसनीय

21. **Regardless** (of) (adverb) – without being influenced by any other events or conditions की परवाह किए बिना

22. **Accusation** (noun) – charge, allegation, indictment, complaint, arraignment आरोप

23. **Signal** (verb) – indicate, suggest, signify, denote, herald संकेत देना

24. **Alarmingly** (adverb) – shockingly, frighteningly, disturbingly, perilously, terrifically चिंताजनक रूप से

25. **Volatile** (adjective) – unstable, unpredictable, explosive, erratic, capricious अस्थिर

26. **Come close on the heels** (phrase) – to follow very soon after something else तुरंत बाद होना

27. **Reportedly** (adverb) – allegedly, supposedly, purportedly, ostensibly, seemingly कथित तौर पर

28. **Alleged** (adjective) – purported, supposed, claimed, ostensible, suspected कथित

29. **Deal a blow** (phrase) – to cause harm or to be a setback to something गहरा झटका देना

30. **Fragile** (adjective) – delicate, tenuous, flimsy, weak, brittle नाजुक

31. **Harden** (verb) – tough, stiff, strength, solidify, reinforce सख्त करना

32. **Strike** (noun) – attack, onslaught, assault, raid, bombardment प्रहार या हमला

33. **Taken together** (phrase) – when considered as a group or as a whole कुल मिलाकर

34. **De-escalation** (noun) – reduction, moderation, abatement, curtailment, lessening तनाव कम करना

35. **Spiral** (verb) – escalate, mushroom, proliferate, burgeon, rocket तेजी से बढ़ना

36. **Pose** (verb) – present, constitute, create, produce, cause प्रस्तुत करना

37. **Grave** (adjective) – serious, severe, critical, somber, acute गंभीर

38. **Given** (preposition) – considering, providing, granting, assuming, noting देखते हुए

39. **Drive** (verb) – spearhead, lead, direct, manage, control प्रेरित करना

40. **Diplomatic** (adjective) – tactical, strategic, political, suave, polite राजनयिक

Summary of the Editorial

1. Russia has alleged that Ukraine launched a large-scale drone attack on President **Vladimir Putin**'s country residence in the Novgorod region.
2. Moscow claims that as many as 91 long-range drones targeted the heavily protected site.
3. The residence is historically significant, having been used by Soviet leaders **Joseph Stalin** and **Nikita Khrushchev**.
4. Russia has released video footage of a downed drone and shared technical data with the U.S. to support its claim.
5. Ukraine's President **Volodymyr Zelenskyy** has rejected the accusation, calling it fabricated.
6. U.S. media, citing officials from the **CIA**, reported that Ukraine did not carry out the attack.
7. However, the CIA's assessment may be seen as partial because the U.S. is a key ally of Ukraine.
8. Ukraine has previously conducted sabotage operations inside and outside Russia, which complicates assessments of credibility.
9. The 2022 bombing of the **Nord Stream pipelines** is cited as an example where initial blame later shifted after arrests of Ukrainian nationals.
10. Russia nevertheless bears responsibility for presenting convincing and verifiable evidence for its claims.
11. Regardless of the truth, the accusations themselves indicate that the war has entered a highly volatile and dangerous phase.
12. The timing is critical, as the allegation followed Mr. Zelenskyy's meeting with U.S. President **Donald Trump** during ongoing peace discussions.
13. The alleged attack has weakened fragile peace efforts, prompting Moscow to harden its negotiating stance.
14. Meanwhile, both sides have intensified attacks, causing civilian deaths and worsening Ukraine's power shortages during winter.
15. The editorial urges urgent de-escalation, warning that continued escalation risks wider global consequences, especially with nuclear powers involved, and calls on the U.S. to intensify diplomatic efforts.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **From the passage, it can be reasonably inferred that the controversy over the alleged drone attack has primarily** **[Editorial page]**
 - A. exposed the fragility of existing peace negotiations
 - B. confirmed Ukraine's responsibility beyond dispute
 - C. strengthened trust among the negotiating parties
 - D. shifted global focus away from the war entirely
2. **The author's discussion of intelligence assessments involving CIA suggests that**
 - A. intelligence agencies are neutral arbiters in wars
 - B. intelligence reports may be influenced by strategic alliances
 - C. intelligence findings always prevent escalation
 - D. intelligence sharing eliminates diplomatic mistrust
3. **Considering the timing of the allegations after talks involving Donald Trump and Volodymyr Zelenskyy, the passage implies that the accusations may**
 - A. undermine diplomatic momentum toward de-escalation
 - B. have no bearing on military or political strategy
 - C. accelerate agreement on a comprehensive peace
 - D. reduce the likelihood of further military action
4. **The author's reference to past incidents such as the Nord Stream pipeline bombing mainly serves to**
 - A. minimize the significance of the present drone allegations
 - B. conclusively establish Ukraine's guilt in covert operations
 - C. justify Russia's current military escalation
 - D. suggest that allegations in the war are often contested and complex
5. **From the passage, it can be inferred that continued escalation in the conflict involving Vladimir Putin and Volodymyr Zelenskyy could**
 - A. pose global risks due to the involvement of nuclear powers
 - B. remain confined to regional diplomatic disagreements
 - C. strengthen Europe's long-term security framework
 - D. reduce the urgency of international mediation
6. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word.**
Soporific
 - A. Stimulating
 - B. Drowsy
 - C. Sleep-inducing
 - D. Sedative
7. **Change the following from active to passive:**
 Did the analysts anticipate the sudden market downturn?
 - A. Was the sudden market downturn anticipated from the analysts?
 - B. Had the sudden market downturn been anticipated by the analysts?
 - C. Was the sudden market downturn anticipated by the analysts?
 - D. Is the sudden market downturn being anticipated by the analysts?
8. **Choose the correct one-word substitution for:**
 'A person who opposes official policy'.

- A. Activist
- B. Agitator
- C. Dissident
- D. Atheist

9. Choose the correct meaning of idiom:

Tooth and nail

- A. With full force or vigour
- B. Without planning
- C. Secretly and quietly
- D. Half-heartedly

10. Choose the right collocation:

The article offers a _____ critique of contemporary educational paradigms.

- A. thorough going
- B. through-going
- C. thorough-go
- D. go-through

11. Which is the correct spelling for a word meaning 'a very large number'?

- A. Myriad
- B. Myriod
- C. Miriad
- D. Mirriad

12. Choose the correct meaning of idiom:

Steal a march on

- A. Surrender unexpectedly
- B. Gain an advantage by acting before others do
- C. Betray one's allies
- D. Escape punishment

13. Select the sentence containing the homonym of the highlighted word:

The monk carried a carved crosier into the sanctuary.

- A. The florist added white crosiers to the bouquet.
- B. The bishop's crosier gleamed under the candlelight.
- C. The museum displayed a gilded 14th-century crosier.
- D. The abbot's ceremonial crosier was stolen.

14. Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word.

- Obsequious
- A. Assertive
- B. Submissive
- C. Flattering
- D. Servile

15. Choose the correct one-word substitute for:

'Excessive self-importance or over-confidence.'

- A. Prudence
- B. Humility
- C. Arrogance

D. Modesty

16. Select the correct option:

The discovery, ___ was unexpected, altered the trajectory of the entire study.

- A. that
- B. which
- C. what
- D. whose

17. Spot the correct spelling of an autism-linked speech echo.

- A. Echolallia
- B. Echolalia
- C. Echollalia
- D. Echolaliah

18. Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:

Not only does the report fail to address the structural gaps, (1)/ but also it overlooks the more pressing issue (2)/ of community exclusion which, according to activists, (3)/ have been systematically ignored for years. (4)

- A. (1)
- B. (2)
- C. (3)
- D. (4)

19. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word:

IMPLACABLE

- A. Soft
- B. Unyielding
- C. Flexible
- D. Gentle

20. Convert the sentence provided below from its passive voice structure to an active voice structure:

The ministers were being briefed about the situation by the intelligence officers.

- A. The intelligence officers briefed the ministers about the situation.
- B. The intelligence officers had briefed the ministers.
- C. The ministers were briefed by the intelligence officers.
- D. The intelligence officers were briefing the ministers.

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.

In March 2024, the Indian government issued revised guidelines under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act, 2016. These guidelines provide a framework for assessing the ___ (1) ___ of disability of people with two copies of the sickle cell gene, or with both sickle cell and beta thalassaemia, or Hb D. Sickle cell disease (SCD) is a painful, progressive, and disabling blood disorder, disproportionately affecting ___ (2) ___ communities. Recognition under the Act was expected to provide reservations in the allotment of agricultural land and housing, poverty ___ (3) ___ and development schemes, and education, work, and healthcare for those with the disease. The RPWD Act, 2016 extends reservations in public

sector employment under the 4% quota for persons with vision and hearing loss, locomotor disabilities, and intellectual disabilities. However, individuals with SCD and other blood disorders are not included in the _____ (4) _____. This decision has _____ (5) _____ disappointment and criticism.

21. **What should come in the place of 1.**

- A. betterment
- B. candor
- C. debacle
- D. extent

22. **What should come in the place of 2.**

- A. illustrious
- B. marginalised
- C. distinguished
- D. sidelined

23. **What should come in the place of 3.**

- A. fallacy
- B. alleviation
- C. ignominy
- D. kudos

24. **What should come in the place of 4.**

- A. moderation
- B. respite
- C. quota
- D. hubris

25. **What should come in the place of 5.**

- A. spark
- B. sparking
- C. sparked
- D. sparks

Answers:

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

[Practice Exercise]**Explanations:**

1. A) exposed the fragility of existing peace negotiations
 - A is correct because the allegations have already hardened positions and disrupted ongoing talks, showing how delicate the peace process is.
 - B is incorrect as the passage stresses disputed claims and lack of conclusive evidence.
 - C is incorrect since mutual suspicion has increased rather than trust.
 - D is incorrect because the issue has intensified, not reduced, global attention.
2. B) intelligence reports may be influenced by strategic alliances
 - B is correct as the passage questions impartiality due to alliances with Ukraine.
 - A is incorrect because neutrality is explicitly doubted.
 - C is incorrect since escalation is shown to be increasing.
 - D is incorrect as mistrust among parties clearly persists.
3. A) undermine diplomatic momentum toward de-escalation
 - A is correct because the claims have already led Moscow to harden its stance, weakening diplomacy.
 - B is incorrect since both military strikes and negotiations are affected.
 - C is incorrect as peace efforts are described as fragile and damaged.
 - D is incorrect because attacks on both sides are escalating.
4. D) suggest that allegations in the war are often contested and complex
 - D is correct because the example highlights how responsibility in such acts is often unclear and disputed.
 - B is incorrect since the passage does not present the incident as definitive proof of guilt.
 - C is incorrect as escalation is criticized, not justified.
 - A is incorrect because the author treats the present allegations as highly consequential.
5. A) pose global risks due to the involvement of nuclear powers
 - A is correct because the author explicitly warns that escalation threatens Europe and the world given nuclear involvement.
 - B is incorrect as the risks are described as global, not regional.
 - C is incorrect since instability, not security, is emphasized.
 - D is incorrect because the passage calls for intensified, not reduced, diplomacy.
6. A) **Soporific** (adjective) – Sleep-inducing, sedative, drowsy, hypnotic, tranquilizing **निद्राजनक**
Antonym: **Stimulating** (adjective) – Encouraging interest or activity, energizing, invigorating, inspiring. **उत्तेजक**
 - **Drowsy** (adjective) – Sleepy, lethargic, sluggish, somnolent. **उर्णीदा**
 - **Sleep-inducing** (adjective) – Causing sleep, soporific, sedative. **नींद लाने वाला**
 - **Sedative** (adjective) – Calming, tranquilizing, soothing, narcotic. **शांत करने वाला**

7. C) Was the sudden market downturn anticipated by the analysts?

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Active वाक्य में "the analysts" Subject है, "did anticipate" Verb (Past Indefinite) है और "the sudden market downturn" Object है। Passive में बदलने पर Object "the sudden market downturn" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "was anticipated" (Past Indefinite Passive) में बदला गया है और "by the analysts" के रूप में प्रयोग किया गया है।

- To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence. The verb is changed from active to passive while maintaining the same tense. Here, "the analysts" (Subject), "did anticipate" (Verb in Past Indefinite), and "the sudden market downturn" (Object) from the active voice have been transformed into "The sudden market downturn" (Subject), "was anticipated" (Passive Verb in Past Indefinite), and "by the analysts".

8. C) **Dissident** (noun) – A person who opposes official policy सरकारी नीति का विरोध करने वाला व्यक्ति

- **Activist** (noun) – A person who campaigns to bring about political or social change. सामाजिक या राजनीतिक परिवर्तन के लिए अभियान चलाने वाला व्यक्ति
- **Agitator** (noun) – A person who urges others to protest or rebel. भड़काने वाला या आंदोलन चलाने वाला व्यक्ति
- **Atheist** (noun) – A person who does not believe in the existence of God. नास्तिक

9. A) **Tooth and nail** (idiom) – With full force or vigour पूरी ताकत और जोश के साथ

10. A) 'thorough going' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह एक established collocation है, जिसका अर्थ होता है completely thorough, exhaustive, and detailed.

"The article offers a thorough-going critique..." का अर्थ है कि लेख में समकालीन शैक्षिक प्रतिमानों की गहराई से और पूरी तरह जाँच-परख की गई है, जो अकादमिक संदर्भ में बिल्कुल उपयुक्त है।

- 'Thorough-going' should be used because it is a standard adjective meaning extremely thorough or comprehensive. The collocation "a thorough-going critique" is widely accepted in formal and academic English.

11. A) The correct spelling of 'a very large number' is 'Myriad' which means "a countless or extremely great number" असंख्य, बहुत बड़ी संख्या.

12. B) **Steal a march on** (idiom) – Gain an advantage by acting before others do बढ़त हासिल करना / दूसरों से पहले कदम उठाना

13. A) The florist added white crosiers to the bouquet.

वाक्य में 'crosier' का अर्थ है – एक बिशप या एबॉट द्वारा धारण की जाने वाली छड़ी या राजदंड (a bishop's pastoral staff or rod)।

अब हमें ऐसा वाक्य ढूँढ़ना है जिसमें 'crosier' का समान उच्चारण वाला लेकिन अलग अर्थ वाला शब्द (homonym) प्रयोग हुआ हो।

विकल्प A में 'crosiers' का अर्थ है फर्न (fern) पौधे की कुंडलीदार नई पत्तियाँ (coiled fern fronds), जो पुष्प सज्जा (floral arrangement) में प्रयुक्त होती हैं।

दोनों शब्दों का उच्चारण समान है, पर अर्थ अलग हैं — इसलिए यह homonym का उदाहरण है।

- In the highlighted sentence, crosier means a bishop's staff or pastoral rod, symbolizing ecclesiastical authority.
- In option A, crosiers refers to the curled fronds of ferns, often used in floral decorations.
- Though spelled and pronounced the same, their meanings differ — making them homonyms.

14. A) **Obsequious** (adjective) — Overly obedient, servile, fawning, flattering, submissive चापलूस

Antonym: **Assertive** (adjective) — Confident and self-assured, showing firm belief in one's opinions, forceful, bold वृद्धनिश्चयी

- **Submissive** (adjective) — Meek, compliant, yielding, obedient आजाकारी
- **Flattering** (adjective) — Complimentary, praising, sycophantic चापलूसी करने वाला
- **Servile** (adjective) — Slavish, humble, subservient, deferential दासभाव वाला

15. C) **Arrogance** (noun) — Excessive self-importance or over-confidence घमंड, अहंकार

- **Prudence** (noun) — the quality of being cautious and showing good judgment. सावधानी, विवेक
- **Humility** (noun) — the quality of having a modest or low view of one's importance. विनम्रता
- **Modesty** (noun) — the quality of being unassuming or moderate in the estimation of one's abilities. सादगी, नम्रता

16. B) 'which' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ एक non-defining relative clause बनाया जा रहा है जो "The discovery" के बारे में अतिरिक्त जानकारी दे रहा है। "which was unexpected" वाक्यांश यह स्पष्ट करता है कि खोज अप्रत्याशित थी। इसलिए "which" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प है।

- 'which' should be used because the sentence forms a non-defining relative clause giving extra information about "The discovery." The phrase "which was unexpected" clarifies that the discovery was unforeseen. Hence, "which" is the most appropriate choice.

17. B) The correct spelling of 'Echolalia' is 'Echolalia' which means "meaningless repetition of another person's spoken words, often associated with autism" दूसरे व्यक्ति के बोले हुए शब्दों की बिना अर्थ दोहराव (अक्सर ऑटिज्म से जुड़ा होता है)।

18. D) 'have' के बदले 'has' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'community exclusion' एक Singular Subject है। इसलिए Singular Subject के साथ Singular Verb 'has' का प्रयोग किया जाएगा।

- 'has' will be used instead of 'have' because the subject 'community exclusion' is singular. Hence, a singular subject takes the singular verb 'has'

19. B) **Implacable** (adjective) – Unforgiving, relentless, merciless, unappeasable, inexorable अडिग / कठोर

Synonym: **Unyielding** (adjective) – Not giving way to pressure, firm, determined, resolute दृढ़ / अटल

- **Soft** (adjective) – Gentle, mild, tender, delicate कोमल
- **Flexible** (adjective) – Bendable, adaptable, adjustable लचीला
- **Gentle** (adjective) – Kind, mild, tender, compassionate नम्र

20. D) The intelligence officers were briefing the ministers.

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। यहाँ वाक्य Passive Voice में है — "The ministers were being briefed about the situation by the intelligence officers." इस वाक्य में "The ministers" Subject है (जो वास्तव में Object था), "were being briefed" Verb है (Past Continuous Passive) और "by the intelligence officers" Agent है। Active में बदलने पर "The intelligence officers" Subject बन जाएगा, Verb को Passive से Active में बदलते हुए "were briefing" (Past Continuous Active) का प्रयोग होगा, और Object "the ministers" रहेगा। अतः Active वाक्य होगा — "The intelligence officers were briefing the ministers about the situation."

- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the subject of the passive sentence (original object) becomes the object of the active sentence, and the agent (introduced by "by") becomes the new subject. Here, "The ministers" is the subject, "were being briefed" is the verb in Past Continuous Passive, and "by the intelligence officers" is the agent.

When converted to Active, "The intelligence officers" becomes the subject, the verb changes to "were briefing" (Past Continuous Active), and "the ministers" becomes the object. Hence, the active voice sentence is — "The intelligence officers were briefing the ministers about the situation."

21. D) 'Extent' का use होगा क्योंकि "extent" का अर्थ होता है सीमा/ऐमाना, और यहाँ guidelines का उद्देश्य है disability की "extent of disability" यानी कितनी गंभीर या कितनी बड़ी है, उसका आकलन करना। यह व्याकरणिक और सन्दर्भ के हिसाब से बिल्कुल सही है। जबकि 'Betterment' (सुधार) assessment के साथ fit नहीं होता, 'Candor' (साफगोई/इमानदारी) disability से जुड़ा माप नहीं दर्शाता, और 'Debacle' (विफलता/आपदा) भी negative और असंगत है।

- 'Extent' will be used because it means "degree/level," and the guidelines aim to assess the "extent of disability," i.e., how severe the disability is. This fits both grammatically and contextually. Whereas 'Betterment' means improvement, which cannot be assessed in this framework, 'Candor' means frankness, unrelated here, and 'Debacle' means failure, which is incorrect in this context.

22. B) 'marginalised' का use होगा क्योंकि "marginalised" का अर्थ होता है "हाशिए पर रखा गया/अल्पसंख्यक और पीछे रह गए लोग"। sentence में mention किया गया है कि Sickle cell disease disproportionately प्रभावित करती है ऐसे communities को जो अक्सर समाज में पिछड़े या कम प्रतिनिधित्व वाले होते हैं, इसलिए 'marginalised' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Illustrious' (प्रसिद्ध/प्रतिष्ठित) का अर्थ यहाँ असंगत है, 'Distinguished' (उल्लेखनीय/प्रतिष्ठित) भी context में फिट नहीं बैठता, और 'Sidelined' (पार्श्व में रखा गया) आमतौर पर active neglect को दर्शाता है, इसलिए यहाँ सही नहीं है।

- 'Marginalised' will be used because it means "placed at the margins/underrepresented or disadvantaged." The sentence mentions that Sickle cell disease disproportionately affects communities that are often socially or economically disadvantaged, making 'marginalised' fitting here. Whereas 'Illustrious' means famous, 'Distinguished' means notable or eminent, and 'Sidelined' implies being pushed aside, none of which fit the context.

23. B) 'alleviation' का use होगा क्योंकि "alleviation" का अर्थ होता है "कम करना/सुविधा प्रदान करना/निवारण करना"। sentence में mention किया गया है कि recognition under the Act provide करता है सहायता या schemes में लाभ, जैसे poverty alleviation and development schemes, इसलिए 'alleviation' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Fallacy' (भ्रम/गलत धारणा) अर्थ में irrelevant है, 'Ignominy' (अपमान) contextually गलत है, और 'Kudos' (प्रशंसा) भी fitting नहीं बैठता।

- 'Alleviation' will be used because it means "reduction/relief." The sentence mentions that recognition under the Act provides benefits in schemes like poverty alleviation and development, making 'alleviation' fitting here. Whereas 'Fallacy' means a mistaken belief, 'Ignominy' means disgrace, and 'Kudos' means praise, none of which fit the context.

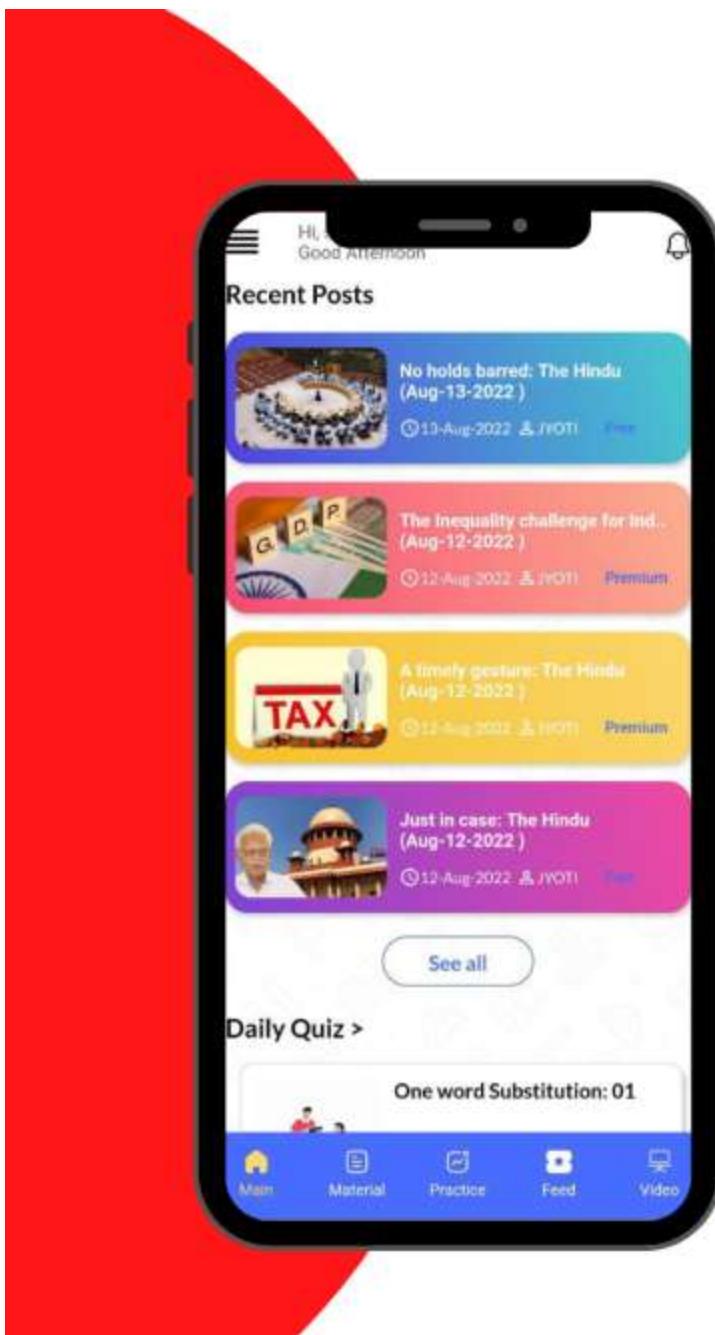
24. C) 'Quota' का use होगा क्योंकि "quota" का अर्थ होता है "निर्धारित हिस्सेदारी/आरक्षण"। sentence में mention किया गया है कि individuals with SCD and other blood disorders are not included in the public sector employment 4% quota, इसलिए 'quota' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Moderation' (मध्यस्थिता/संतुलन) context में फिट नहीं है, 'Respite' (आराम/अंतराल) अर्थ बदल देता है, और 'Hubris' (अहंकार/घमंड) बिल्कुल असंगत है।

- 'Quota' will be used because it means "allotted share/reservation." The sentence mentions that individuals with SCD and other blood disorders are not included in the 4% quota for public sector employment, making 'quota' fitting here. Whereas 'Moderation' means balance, 'Respite' means relief, and 'Hubris' means excessive pride, none of which fit in this context.

25. C) 'sparked' का use होगा क्योंकि "sparked" का अर्थ होता है "उत्पन्न किया/प्रेरित किया" और यहाँ sentence में past event की बात की जा रही है कि इस decision ने disappointment और criticism उत्पन्न किया। इसलिए 'sparked' व्याकरण और context दोनों में सही है। जबकि 'Spark' (verb base form) subject-verb agreement के अनुसार गलत है, 'Sparking' (present participle) continuous

action दिखाता है जो यहाँ contextually गलत है, और 'Sparks' (third person singular) भी tense के हिसाब से fitting नहीं है।

- 'Sparked' will be used because it means "caused/triggered," and the sentence refers to a past event where the decision caused disappointment and criticism, making 'sparked' grammatically and contextually correct. Whereas 'Spark' is the base verb form, 'Sparking' is a continuous tense form, and 'Sparks' is third-person singular present tense, none of which fit here.



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