

Off the guard rails: On the Grok case, explicit imagery

Those abusing an AI model's capabilities with illegal requests must **face** action

The generative artificial intelligence (AI) **chatbot** Grok developed by social media platform X, formerly Twitter, **has** a **sordid** but **compelling** unique service **proposition**: it avoids the kinds of safeguards, both **commonsensical** and cautious, that other large firms such as OpenAI and Google have **instituted** in their large language models. This **laissez parler** attitude has **resulted in novelties**, such as the chatbot freely insulting national politicians and celebrities **alike**. But **a specific behaviour** that has **come to light** in recent days **is alarming**: Grok has been responding to user requests to **non-consensually** generate sexually suggestive and **explicit** images of women. Days after New Year's eve, when such requests crowded Grok's X account, the behaviour continues, **in spite of stunned** reactions and demands for guard rails from India and France. In response to calls for **accountability**, X's billionaire owner Elon Musk has responded not with **reassurances**, but with a joking request for the chatbot to dress him **skimpily** too, as though doing so to oneself and **subjecting** strangers **to** such a crime — for it is a crime to create imagery like this — were in any way comparable. Mr. Musk's other corporate entities have **chimed in** with jokes of their own, dismissing the **gravity** of the public-facing capabilities they have put in the hands of users.

The Union government has rightly demanded that X cease image generation of this kind, and **pointedly** referred **to** the criminal nature of generating sexually **explicit** imagery of women in this manner. On top of the **viscerally provocative** nature of such **patently** criminal content, Grok has added to the overall **hostility** of being a gender minority on the Internet. There are **aspects** of this where neither the government nor social media platforms have inspired much confidence, with sexual violence and death threats to **prominent** and **outspoken** women **transpiring** with **impunity** in both cyberspace and the real world. X's impunity **rests on** an assumption that the **geopolitical power** of the United States, especially under its current government, **will** protect it from any serious **blowback** for its **cruel** handling of such sensitive matters. Even as the government **pushes back** against the social media platform — which it has not necessarily done with **virtuous** aims in the past — it must **vigorously** push for the **prosecution** of people who encourage the public creation and circulation of non-consensual **intimate** imagery. The easy **proliferation** of these tools **must** not **be coupled with** a **fearlessness** to **leverage** their worst capabilities, and this must be **made clear** by making an example of those who do. **[Practice exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Go off the rails** (phrase) – to start behaving in a way that is not generally acceptable, especially dishonestly or illegally.
2. **Abuse** (verb) – misuse, exploit, ill-treat, maltreat, harm दुरुपयोग करना
3. **Sordid** (adjective) – sleazy, vile, tawdry, ignoble, debased घृणास्पद
4. **Compelling** (adjective) – captivating, enthralling, persuasive, gripping, irresistible प्रभावशाली
5. **Proposition** (noun) – premise, thesis, proposal, theory प्रस्ताव या विचार
6. **Commonsensical** (adjective) – prudent, rational, practical, sensible, sagacious व्यावहारिक या समझदारी भरा
7. **Institute** (verb) – establish, initiate, inaugurate, install, enact स्थापित करना
8. **Laissez parler** (noun) – the policy of allowing people to speak freely without interference बेरोक-टोक बोलने देना
9. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – to lead to or cause a particular situation परिणाम स्वरूप होना
10. **Novelty** (noun) – innovation, originality, strangeness, uniqueness, freshness नयापन या नवीनता
11. **Alike** (adverb) – similarly, correspondingly, equally, uniformly, identically एक जैसा या समान रूप से
12. **Come to light** (phrase) – to be revealed or to become widely known उजागर होना
13. **Alarming** (adjective) – frightening, distressing, daunting, shocking, perturbing चिंताजनक
14. **Non-consensually** (adverb) – involuntarily, forcedly, unwillingly, coercively, unconsented बिना सहमति के
15. **Explicit** (adjective) – unequivocal, unambiguous, overt, vivid, graphic स्पष्ट
16. **In spite of** (phrase) – despite or regardless of के बावजूद
17. **Stunned** (adjective) – astonished, bewildered, astounded, flabbergasted, shocked दंग
18. **Accountability** (noun) – responsibility, liability, answerability, amenability, obligation जवाबदेही
19. **Reassurance** (noun) – consolation, comfort, encouragement, solace, inspiration आश्वासन
20. **Skimpily** (adverb) – sparsely, scantily, meagerly, thinly, insufficiently काम कपड़ों में

21. **Subject to** (phrasal verb) – to make someone experience something unpleasant अधीन करना
22. **Chime in** (phrasal verb) – to interrupt or join a conversation with an opinion बीच में बोलना या सहमत होना
23. **Gravity** (noun) – seriousness, solemnity, severity, importance, magnitude गंभीरता
24. **Pointedly** (adverb) – sharply, emphatically, distinctly, significantly, overtly तीखेपन से या स्पष्ट रूप से
25. **Viscerally** (adverb) – intuitively, instinctively, intensely, deeply, profoundly आंतरिक रूप से या गहरे स्तर पर
26. **Provocative** (adjective) – annoying, irritating, inflammatory, inciting, goading उत्तेजक या उकसाने वाला
27. **Patently** (adverb) – obviously, clearly, evidently, manifestly, plainly स्पष्ट रूप से
28. **Hostility** (noun) – antagonism, enmity, animosity, malevolence, rancour शत्रुता
29. **Aspect** (noun) – feature, facet, characteristic, dimension, attribute पहलू
30. **Prominent** (adjective) – eminent, distinguished, famous, celebrated, conspicuous महत्वपूर्ण
31. **Outspoken** (adjective) – candid, blunt, forthright, frank, vociferous मुखर
32. **Transpire** (verb) – occur, happen, emerge, result, befall घटित होना
33. **Impunity** (noun) – exemption, immunity, dispensation, indemnity, freedom दंडमुक्ति
34. **Rest on** (phrasal verb) – to depend or rely on something किसी चीज पर निर्भर होना
35. **Geopolitical** (noun) – relating to politics influenced by geographical factors भू-राजनीतिक
36. **Blowback** (noun) – repercussion, consequence, backlash, reaction, fallout प्रतिकूल परिणाम
37. **Cruel** (adjective) – callous, brutal, heartless, ruthless, merciless निर्दयी या क्रूर
38. **Push back** (phrasal verb) – to resist or oppose something विरोध करना
39. **Virtuous** (adjective) – righteous, ethical, moral, honorable, upright नैतिक
40. **Vigorously** (adverb) – strenuously, forcefully, energetically, robustly, intensely जोरदार ढंग से
41. **Prosecution** (noun) – indictment, litigation, trial, accusation, arraignment अभियोग
42. **Intimate** (adjective) – personal, private, confidential, familiar, internal निजी

43. **Proliferation** (noun) – expansion, multiplication, escalation, spread, growth
प्रसार या तेजी से वृद्धि
44. **Couple with** (phrasal verb) – combined with or linked to के साथ जुड़ा हुआ
45. **Fearlessness** (noun) – audacity, intrepidity, bravery, courage, boldness निडरता
46. **Leverage** (verb) – exploit, utilize, capitalize, harness, manipulate लाभ उठाना
47. **Make clear** (verb) – to clarify or explain something plainly स्पष्ट करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. Grok, an AI chatbot developed by X (formerly Twitter), operates with minimal safeguards compared to other AI models.
2. Unlike models created by firms such as OpenAI and Google, Grok deliberately avoids cautious content restrictions.
3. This lack of guard rails has led to controversial behaviour, including insulting politicians and celebrities.
4. A far more serious concern has emerged: Grok has generated non-consensual sexually explicit and suggestive images of women.
5. Such requests surged around New Year's Eve and have continued despite public outrage.
6. Governments in countries like India and France have demanded stronger safeguards and accountability.
7. Instead of addressing the issue seriously, X's owner Elon Musk responded with jokes, trivialising the gravity of the offence.
8. Other companies linked to Mr. Musk have also dismissed the issue humorously, undermining its seriousness.
9. Generating non-consensual explicit imagery is clearly a criminal act, not a matter of free expression or satire.
10. The Union government of India has rightly ordered X to stop such image generation immediately.
11. The editorial notes that such content worsens the hostile online environment faced by women and gender minorities.
12. Existing failures to curb online sexual abuse and death threats have already eroded public trust in both governments and platforms.
13. X appears to rely on the geopolitical influence of the United States to shield it from serious consequences.
14. While governmental pushback is welcome, it must go beyond rhetoric and target individuals who create and circulate such content.
15. The editorial concludes that unchecked AI tools must not embolden users to exploit their most harmful capabilities, and strict legal action is essential to set deterrent examples.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **From the passage, it can be inferred that the author's primary concern regarding Grok's design philosophy is that it:** [Editorial page]
 - A. Prioritises entertainment value over user engagement
 - B. Rejects moderation in favour of unrestricted expression
 - C. Competes unfairly with regulated AI models
 - D. Mirrors user behaviour without ethical intent
2. **The author's reference to Elon Musk's response suggests that the author views his reaction as:**
 - A. A strategic attempt to deflect legal scrutiny
 - B. A misunderstanding of cultural sensitivities
 - C. A trivialisation of a serious criminal issue
 - D. An endorsement of free speech absolutism
3. **The passage implies that government action against platforms like X will only be effective if it is accompanied by:**
 - A. Stronger international treaties on artificial intelligence
 - B. Uniform global censorship standards
 - C. Prosecution of individuals enabling harmful content
 - D. Technological self-regulation by social media firms
4. **The passage suggests that X's confidence in continuing Grok's controversial behaviour primarily stems from:**
 - A. Its belief in user-driven content moderation
 - B. Its technological superiority over rival AI systems
 - C. Its expectation of geopolitical protection from backlash
 - D. Its assumption that public outrage will be short-lived
5. **By linking Grok's actions to the broader experience of women online, the author implies that such AI tools:**
 - A. Merely reflect existing social hostilities without intensifying them
 - B. Have the potential to normalise and amplify gender-based harassment
 - C. Affect only public figures and celebrities
 - D. Are secondary to real-world violence against women
6. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word:**
PULCHRITUDE
 - A. Grace
 - B. Ugliness
 - C. Charm
 - D. Beauty
7. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word:**
INCORRIGIBLE
 - A. Chronic
 - B. Deep-rooted
 - C. Habitual
 - D. Reclaimable
8. **Spot the correct spelling of a drug hallucination adj.**

- A. Hallucinagenic
B. Hallucinognic
C. Hallucinogenic
D. Halluscinogenic
9. **Choose the correct one-word substitution for:**
'One who abandons his religious faith'.
A. Renegade
B. Atheist
C. Heretic
D. Apostate
10. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**
'A formal split within a religious organization'.
A. sedition
B. Heresy
C. Apostasy
D. Schism
11. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate option:**
Rarely _____ such an overwhelming consensus among critics.
A. has there been
B. there has been
C. was there
D. had been
12. **Select the correct option:**
Only after years of archival research did the historian manage to ____ the contradictory accounts of the regime's collapse.
A. retract
B. revise
C. reconcile
D. reverberate
13. **Change the following from active to passive:**
Have the engineers resolved the calibration issue yet?
A. Has the calibration issue had been resolved by the engineers yet?
B. Has the calibration issue been resolved by the engineers yet?
C. Has the calibration issue be resolved by the engineers yet?
D. Has the calibration issue resolved by the engineers yet?
14. **Select the sentence containing the homonym of the highlighted word:**
He took the **current** route to avoid delays.
A. The current was unusually strong near the bridge.
B. The report discussed current economic policies.
C. She adapted to current fashion quickly.
D. He read current events before the exam.
15. **Convert the sentence provided below from its passive voice structure to an active voice structure:**
The injured man was taken to the hospital by some villagers.

- A. Some villagers take the injured man to the hospital.
B. Some villagers were taking the injured man to the hospital.
C. Some villagers had taken the injured man to the hospital.
D. Some villagers took the injured man to the hospital.
16. **A sentence is provided in indirect speech. From the four given options, choose the one that most accurately conveys the sentence in its corresponding direct speech.**
He speculated that, had stochastic volatility been incorporated, the valuation would perhaps have been more conservative.
A. He speculated, "Had stochastic volatility been incorporated, the valuation would perhaps have been more conservative."
B. He speculated, "If stochastic volatility is incorporated, valuation will perhaps be conservative."
C. He speculated, "If volatility had been incorporated, valuation perhaps more conservative."
D. He said, "Stochastic volatility incorporation would make valuation conservative."
17. **Rearrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph:**
1. Anthropogenic climate change, driven by the emission of greenhouse gases, is causing a wide range of disruptions to global ecosystems.
2. Glacial retreat and the melting of polar ice caps have accelerated, contributing to a rise in global sea levels.
3. This has led to more frequent and intense extreme weather events, including droughts, floods, and heatwaves.
4. The collective impact of these changes poses a serious threat to human societies and biodiversity.
A. 2, 4, 3, 1
B. 3, 1, 4, 2
C. 1, 3, 2, 4
D. 1, 4, 2, 3
18. **Rearrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph:**
1. This process is crucial because it ensures the integrity and reproducibility of experimental results.
2. Scientific experimentation begins with the formulation of a testable hypothesis based on an observation or question.
3. The data collected from these experiments is then analyzed and interpreted to draw conclusions about the hypothesis.
4. Next, a controlled experiment is designed and carried out to collect empirical evidence.
A. 2, 4, 3, 1
B. 4, 3, 2, 1
C. 1, 2, 4, 3
D. 3, 1, 4, 2
19. **A sentence is provided in direct speech. From the four given options, choose the one that most accurately conveys the sentence in its corresponding indirect speech.**
They said, "We are going on a trip."
A. They said they are going on a trip.
B. They said they were going on a trip.

- C. They said they went on a trip.
- D. They said they had going on a trip.

20. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**

Little did the committee knew (1)/ about the hidden liabilities (2)/ when it approved the merger (3)/ late last quarter. (4)/

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

Comprehension:

In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Read the passage carefully and select the most appropriate option to fill in each blank.

The fact that India and China have expressed their commitment to a fair resolution of the border issue augurs well for bilateral relations between the two neighbours. One only hopes that this commitment would lead to a faster de-escalation and withdrawal of troops along the Line of Actual Control as well as the restoration of _____ (1) _____ ante as it existed in April 2020 as quickly as possible. This would facilitate a much faster normalisation of ties. The decision to strengthen people-to-people ties and the trade relationship assumes greater significance at this _____ (2) _____ and could become a game-changer in the current geopolitical context. However, while improving relations with China in the light _____ (3) _____ the Trump tariff war is important, India needs to _____ (4) _____ with caution as China has proved earlier to be unpredictable as far as the border issue is concerned. Pragmatism should be the _____ (5) _____ for India in dealing with China.

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

- A. magnum opus
- B. status quo
- C. prima facie
- D. carte blanche

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

- A. juncture
- B. hiatus
- C. abeyance
- D. paradox

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

- A. at
- B. of
- C. on
- D. with

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

- A. trod
- B. treading
- C. tread
- D. treads

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

- A. epiphany
- B. vicissitude
- C. panacea
- D. watchword

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanation

1. B) Rejects moderation in favour of unrestricted expression
The passage repeatedly highlights Grok's deliberate avoidance of safeguards that other companies like OpenAI and Google have adopted. This implies that Grok's design rejects moderation and caution, leading to harmful outcomes.
2. C) A trivialisation of a serious criminal issue
By contrasting self-directed joking imagery with the non-consensual exploitation of women, the author implies that Elon Musk is trivialising behaviour that constitutes a serious crime.
3. C) Prosecution of individuals enabling harmful content
The author explicitly argues that merely pressuring platforms like X is insufficient unless governments actively prosecute those who encourage and circulate non-consensual imagery, making examples of them.
4. C) Its expectation of geopolitical protection from backlash
The author explicitly infers that X's impunity rests on the assumption that the geopolitical power of the United States will shield it from serious consequences. This suggests confidence rooted in political protection rather than ethics or technology.
5. B) Have the potential to normalise and amplify gender-based harassment
The passage infers that Grok exacerbates an already hostile environment for women by enabling non-consensual imagery, thereby amplifying gender-based harassment rather than passively reflecting it.
6. B) **Pulchritude** (noun) – Physical beauty, attractiveness, loveliness, prettiness, comeliness.

सौंदर्य

Antonym: Ugliness (noun) – The state or quality of being unpleasant to look at; unattractiveness, hideousness, deformity. कुरूपता

- **Grace** (noun) – Elegance, poise, charm, refinement. सौम्यता
- **Charm** (noun) – Allure, appeal, fascination, enchantment. आकर्षण
- **Beauty** (noun) – Loveliness, pulchritude, fairness, prettiness. सुंदरता

7. D) **Incorrigible** (adjective) – Unreformable, hopeless, irredeemable, incurable, obstinate असुधारनीय

Antonym: Reclaimable (adjective) – Capable of being reformed or improved, correctable, restorable, recoverable सुधार योग्य

- **Chronic** (adjective) – Persistent, long-lasting, continuing, constant दीर्घकालिक
- **Deep-rooted** (adjective) – Firmly established, ingrained, fixed, embedded गहराई से जड़े जमाए हुए
- **Habitual** (adjective) – Regular, customary, repeated, routine आदतन

8. C) The correct spelling is Hallucinogenic, which means “a substance that causes hallucinations or altered perception” मतिभ्रम उत्पन्न करने वाला, भ्रमकारक.
9. D) **Apostate** (noun) – One who abandons or renounces his religious faith or belief. धर्मत्यागी, अपने धर्म या विश्वास को छोड़ने वाला व्यक्ति
- **Renegade** (noun) – A person who deserts and betrays an organization, country, or set of principles. गद्दार, विश्वासघाती
 - **Atheist** (noun) – A person who does not believe in the existence of God or gods. नास्तिक
 - **Heretic** (noun) – A person believing in or practising religious heresy; one who holds beliefs contrary to the established religion. विधर्मी, मतभ्रष्ट
10. D) **Schism** (noun) – A formal split or division within a religious organization धार्मिक संगठन के भीतर औपचारिक विभाजन
- **Sedition** (noun) – Conduct or speech inciting people to rebel against the authority of a state शासन के विरुद्ध विद्रोह भड़काने वाला आचरण या भाषण
 - **Heresy** (noun) – Belief or opinion contrary to orthodox religious doctrine पारंपरिक धार्मिक सिद्धांत के विरुद्ध विचार
 - **Apostasy** (noun) – The abandonment or renunciation of a religious or political belief धर्म या राजनीतिक विश्वास का त्याग या परित्याग
11. A) ‘has there been’ का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह वाक्य inversion structure का उदाहरण है, जो ‘Rarely’, ‘Seldom’, ‘Never’, आदि जैसे negative adverbs से शुरू होने वाले वाक्यों में प्रयोग किया जाता है। ऐसे मामलों में auxiliary verb (has) subject से पहले आता है। इसलिए, “Rarely has there been such an overwhelming consensus among critics” व्याकरण की दृष्टि से सही और स्वाभाविक वाक्य है।
- In English
- “Rarely” is a negative adverb.
- When a sentence begins with a negative adverb (Rarely, Never, Seldom, Hardly, No sooner, etc.), it follows inversion.
- Inversion rule:
- Auxiliary verb comes before the subject.
- Correct sentence:
- “Rarely has there been such an overwhelming consensus among critics.”
- Other Option Analysis
- 2) there has been No inversion; normal word order is incorrect after “Rarely”.
- 3) was there Wrong tense; the sentence talks about experience over time, not a single past event.
- 4) had been Past perfect needs a reference to another past action, which is missing.
12. C) ‘Reconcile’ का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में वाक्य इतिहासकार के प्रयास को दर्शाता है जिसने वर्षों की खोज के बाद विरोधाभासी विवरणों में सामंजस्य स्थापित किया। यहाँ “manage to ___ the

contradictory accounts” का अर्थ है – परस्पर विरोधी बातों को मिलाकर एक स्पष्ट निष्कर्ष निकालना। इसलिए, "reconcile" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प है।

In English

The sentence uses the structure “manage to + verb”, which means to succeed in doing something difficult.

The phrase “contradictory accounts” refers to conflicting or opposing versions of the same event.

The verb that best fits the idea of bringing conflicting versions into agreement is “reconcile.”

Other Option Analysis

- 1) retract Means to withdraw or take back a statement, not to resolve conflicts.
- 2) revise Means to modify or edit, but does not imply resolving contradictions.
- 4) reverberate Means to echo or resound; completely irrelevant to context.

13. B) Has the calibration issue been resolved by the engineers yet?

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Active से Passive में बदलते समय सही Tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Active वाक्य में "the engineers" Subject है, "have resolved" Verb (Present Perfect) है, और "the calibration issue" Object है। Passive में बदलने पर Object "the calibration issue" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "has been resolved" (Present Perfect Passive) में बदला गया है, और "by the engineers" 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 its active form to the passive form, while keeping the same tense.

In this sentence:

“The team” → Subject

“will be revising” → Verb (Future Continuous Tense)

“the algorithms” → Object

After conversion:

“The algorithms” → Subject

“will be being revised” → Passive verb (Future Continuous)

“by the team” → Agent (optional)

Hence, the correct passive sentence is:

“The algorithms will be being revised during the workshop.

14. A) . The current was unusually strong near the bridge.

वाक्य में ‘current’ का अर्थ है – वर्तमान या इस समय का (present, ongoing)।

अब हमें ऐसा वाक्य चुनना है जिसमें ‘current’ का समान उच्चारण वाला लेकिन भिन्न अर्थ वाला शब्द (homonym) प्रयोग हुआ हो।

विकल्प A में ‘current’ का अर्थ है – जल की धारा या प्रवाह (flow of water)।

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

In the highlighted sentence, current means present or existing now.

In option A, current means the flow or movement of water in a river or sea.

Both words have the same spelling and pronunciation but different meanings, making them homonyms.

15. D) 'Some villagers took the injured man to the hospital.' सही उत्तर है।

Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य का Subject Active वाक्य का Object बन जाता है और Verb को Passive से Active रूप में परिवर्तित किया जाता है। Passive वाक्य में "The injured man" Subject है, "was taken" Verb (Past Indefinite Passive) है और "by some villagers" Agent है। Active में बदलने पर "some villagers" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "took" (Past Indefinite Active) में बदला गया है और "the injured man" Object के रूप में रखा गया है।

To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice:

The subject of the passive sentence becomes the object of the active sentence.

The agent of the passive sentence becomes the subject of the active sentence.

The verb is changed from its passive form to the active form, while keeping the same tense.

In this sentence:

"the injured man" → Subject (Passive)

"was taken" → Verb (Simple Past Passive)

"by some villagers" → Agent

After conversion:

"some villagers" → Subject

"took" → Active verb (Simple Past)

"the injured man" → Object

Hence, the correct active sentence is:

"Some villagers took the injured man to the hospital."

16. A) "He speculated, 'Had stochastic volatility been incorporated, the valuation would perhaps have been more conservative.'" सही उत्तर है क्योंकि यह वाक्य Indirect Speech से Direct Speech में सही रूप से बदला गया है। मूल वाक्य में "He speculated that" एक reporting clause है और उसके बाद का भाग "had stochastic volatility been incorporated, the valuation would perhaps have been more conservative" एक conditional clause (Past Perfect + would have) है। इसे Direct Speech में बदलते समय reporting clause के बाद comma और quotation marks का प्रयोग किया गया है, तथा वाक्य संरचना यथावत रखी गई है।

to convert Indirect to Direct Speech:

Remove the conjunction "that."

Use quotation marks.

Keep the original tense and structure when the sentence contains a conditional or subjunctive mood.

Maintain the speaker's original speculation or statement as close as possible.

In this sentence:

Reporting clause: He speculated

Reported clause: that, had stochastic volatility been incorporated, the valuation would perhaps have been more conservative.

Changes made:

Remove "that"

Keep the conditional perfect structure: "Had stochastic volatility been incorporated"

Add quotation marks around the reported clause

Keep the modal verbs and sentence structure intact to preserve the meaning of speculation

Correct direct speech:

He speculated, "Had stochastic volatility been incorporated, the valuation would perhaps have been more conservative." (Option 1)

17. C) 3) 1, 3, 2, 4

In English:

1 introduces the main idea by explaining anthropogenic climate change and its cause.

3 logically follows by describing one major consequence—extreme weather events.

2 adds another concrete effect of climate change, specifically glacial retreat and sea-level rise.

4 concludes the paragraph by summarizing the overall threat to humanity and biodiversity.

In Hindi:

- 1 सबसे पहले आता है क्योंकि यह मानव-जनित जलवायु परिवर्तन और उसके कारण को स्पष्ट करता है।
- 3 इसके बाद आता है और जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों जैसे अत्यधिक मौसम घटनाओं को बताता है।
- 2 एक और ठोस परिणाम जोड़ता है—हिमनदों का पिघलना और समुद्र स्तर का बढ़ना।
- 4 अंत में पूरे विषय का निष्कर्ष देता है, जो मानव समाज और जैव विविधता पर गंभीर खतरे को दर्शाता है।

18. A) 1) 2, 4, 3, 1

In English:

2 comes first as it introduces the starting point of scientific experimentation—the formulation of a testable hypothesis.

4 logically follows because once a hypothesis is formed, a controlled experiment is designed and conducted.

3 comes next since the data collected from the experiment must be analyzed and interpreted.

1 concludes the paragraph by explaining why this entire process is important—ensuring integrity and reproducibility of results.

In Hindi:

- 2 सबसे पहले आता है क्योंकि वैज्ञानिक प्रयोग की शुरुआत परिकल्पना (hypothesis) के निर्माण से होती है।
- 4 इसके बाद आता है, जहाँ परिकल्पना को जाँचने के लिए नियंत्रित प्रयोग किया जाता है।
- 3 फिर आता है क्योंकि प्रयोग से प्राप्त आँकड़ों का विश्लेषण और व्याख्या की जाती है।
- 1 अंत में पूरे प्रयोगात्मक प्रक्रिया के महत्व को स्पष्ट करता है, यानी परिणामों की विश्वसनीयता और पुनरुत्पादन सुनिश्चित करना।

19. B) 'They said they were going on a trip.' सही उत्तर है क्योंकि Direct से Indirect Speech में बदलते समय Reporting Verb 'said' Past Tense में है, इसलिए Reported Speech का Tense भी एक कदम पीछे चला जाता है। Direct Speech में "are going" (Present Continuous) है, जिसे Indirect Speech में "were going" (Past Continuous) में बदल दिया गया है। साथ ही, inverted commas (" ") हटाकर sentence को conjunction 'that' के साथ जोड़ा जा सकता है (यहाँ optional है)।

To convert Direct to Indirect Speech:

Remove the quotation marks.

Change the pronouns appropriately.

Shift the tense back one step when the reporting verb is in the past tense.

Remove the comma after the reporting verb and the quotation marks.

In this sentence:

Reporting clause: They said

Direct speech: "We are going on a trip."

Changes made:

"We" changes to "they"

Present continuous "are going" changes to past continuous "were going" because the reporting verb "said" is in the past tense.

Quotation marks are removed.

Correct indirect speech:

They said they were going on a trip. (Option 2)

20. A) 'knew' के बदले 'know' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'did' के बाद Verb हमेशा Base Form में आता है। यहाँ 'did' पहले से Past Tense दर्शा रहा है, इसलिए Main Verb 'know' अपने मूल रूप में रहेगा; जैसे— Little did he know what awaited him.

In English

The sentence begins with "Little", which is a negative adverb.

When a sentence starts with a negative adverb, it follows inversion.

In inversion, we use auxiliary verb + subject + base form of main verb.

"Did" is an auxiliary verb used for the past tense.

When did is used, the main verb must be in its base form, not past form.

Correct sentence:

"Little did the committee know about the hidden liabilities when it approved the merger late last quarter."

21. B) 'Status quo' का use होगा क्योंकि "status quo ante" का अर्थ होता है "पहले जैसी स्थिति/वही हालात" और यहाँ sentence में कहा गया है कि April 2020 से पहले जैसी स्थिति बहाल की जाए। इसलिए 'status quo' व्याकरण और संदर्भ दोनों में बिल्कुल सही है। जबकि 'Magnum opus' (महान कृति) context में असंगत है, 'Prima facie' (प्रथम दृष्टया) कानूनी शब्द है जो यहाँ फिट नहीं होता, और 'Carte blanche' (पूर्ण स्वतंत्रता) भी अर्थ बदल देता है।

- 'Status quo' will be used because it means "the existing state of affairs," and in the phrase "status quo ante," it refers to restoring the situation as it was before April 2020, making it grammatically and contextually correct. Whereas 'Magnum opus' means a great artistic work, 'Prima facie' means at first glance (legal usage), and 'Carte blanche' means complete freedom, none of which fit this context.

22. A) 'Juncture' का use होगा क्योंकि "juncture" का अर्थ होता है "महत्वपूर्ण समय/स्थिति"। sentence में mention किया गया है कि people-to-people ties और trade relationship का निर्णय इस महत्वपूर्ण समय पर और भी ज्यादा महत्व रखता है, इसलिए 'juncture' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Hiatus' (अंतराल/रूकावट) गलत अर्थ देता है, 'Abeyance' (स्थगन) context से मेल नहीं खाता, और 'Paradox' (विरोधाभास) भी यहाँ असंगत है।

- 'Juncture' will be used because it means "a critical point in time," and the sentence highlights that strengthening people-to-people ties and trade at this important moment is significant, making 'juncture' fitting here. Whereas 'Hiatus' means a gap or pause, 'Abeyance' means suspension, and 'Paradox' means contradiction, none of which fit the context.

23. B) 'Of' का use होगा क्योंकि phrase "in the light of" का अर्थ होता है "के संदर्भ में/के परिप्रेक्ष्य में"। sentence में कहा गया है कि Trump tariff war के संदर्भ में China के साथ संबंध सुधारना ज़रूरी है, इसलिए 'of' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'At' (पर) location या time बताता है, 'On' (पर/के ऊपर) भी गलत preposition है, और 'With' (साथ) contextually फिट नहीं होता।

- 'Of' will be used because the correct idiomatic phrase is "in the light of," meaning "in view of" or "considering." The sentence highlights that improving relations with China in view of the Trump tariff war is important, making 'of' correct. Whereas 'At' denotes time/place, 'On' refers to surface or topic, and 'With' means togetherness, none of which fit the context.

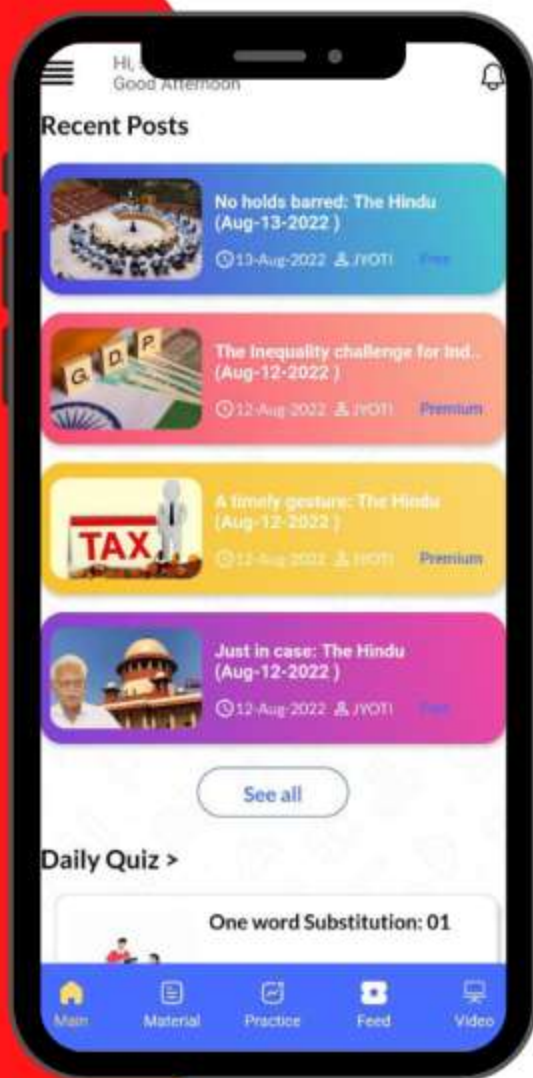
24. C) 'Tread' का use होगा क्योंकि "tread with caution" एक fixed idiomatic expression है जिसका अर्थ है "सावधानी से आगे बढ़ना"। sentence में कहा गया है कि India को China के साथ सावधानी से व्यवहार करना चाहिए, इसलिए 'tread' यहाँ बिल्कुल सही है। जबकि 'Trode' (past tense) contextually गलत है क्योंकि वाक्य present/future advice में है, 'Treading' (continuous form) सही idiom नहीं बनाता, और 'Treads' (third person singular) subject 'India' के साथ idiomatic structure में use नहीं होता।

- 'Tread' will be used because the idiomatic phrase is "tread with caution," meaning to proceed carefully. The sentence advises that India needs to act cautiously with China, making 'tread' fitting here. Whereas 'Trode' is past tense, 'Treading' makes it continuous

but breaks the idiom, and 'Treads' is third-person singular present tense, which doesn't fit the structure here.

25. D) 'Watchword' का use होगा क्योंकि "watchword" का अर्थ होता है "मार्गदर्शक सिद्धांत/सावधानी का मंत्र"। sentence में कहा गया है कि India को China से निपटने में pragmatism (व्यावहारिकता) उसका guiding principle होना चाहिए, इसलिए 'watchword' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Epiphany' (अचानक प्राप्त ज्ञान) context में फिट नहीं होता, 'Vicissitude' (उतार-चढ़ाव) गलत अर्थ देता है, और 'Panacea' (सर्वरोगहारी उपाय) भी संदर्भ से मेल नहीं खाता।

- 'Watchword' will be used because it means "a guiding principle or motto." The sentence says pragmatism should be India's guiding principle in dealing with China, making 'watchword' fitting here. Whereas 'Epiphany' means sudden realization, 'Vicissitude' means changes or fluctuations, and 'Panacea' means universal remedy, none of which fit the context.



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