

Bullying tactics: On Trump targeting Europe

Trump's **weaponisation** of tariffs over Greenland could **undermine** NATO

The Trump administration has **vowed** to **slap** a **raft** of European countries with a 10% tariff on "any and all goods" beginning on February 1 which is then **set to** increase to 25% on June 1, until an agreement is reached on the U.S. demand to purchase or otherwise acquire the Denmark-administered Arctic territory of Greenland. The latest **round** of tariffs **will add to existing** 15% U.S.-**imposed** trade duties on the countries targeted by the White House, which include Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. While French President Emmanuel Macron described the U.S. action as "unacceptable", U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer said the move was "completely wrong". The targeted nations have sent a small number of troops to Greenland for what they have called a **reconnaissance** mission, essentially for military exercises that signal and reinforce Europe's collective **commitment** to defending the **autonomous** Arctic territory. Such **emphasis** by the European Union (EU) clearly **reflects** concern **stemming from** the fact that American troops recently entered Venezuela and kidnapped and transported its President Nicolás Maduro to the U.S., and Mr. Trump has since gone on record effectively warning that he might consider intervention — for different purposes and in different circumstances — in Colombia, Cuba, Mexico and Iran next.

Leaving aside the **neo-imperialist impulse** that is **implicit** in the Trump administration's plans to control **non-allied** nations' territories based on the threat of military action, or to **bully** allies by **weaponising** tariffs against them, such actions are **tantamount to a violation** of international law, and in the case of the EU, risk **degrading** years of progress made on **transatlantic** trade agreements. First, there is a serious issue of no legislative **backing** by the U.S. Congress and legal basis for the **unilateral** action taken by the Trump administration in targeting Denmark and other European countries. Second, the Trump administration is likely to face, this week, a judicial ruling against its use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act to **impose** tariffs **across the board**. Third, European nations may **bring into force** what is known as the "**anti-coercion** instrument", a **counter-tariff** facility that would limit the trade of major U.S. tech firms and related service providers that conduct significant business in the EU. Whatever the **denouement** of this Trump-made conflict, it will likely take years, if not **decades** to **heal** the **worsening** transatlantic **rift** that has **beset** the region. **Meanwhile** a weakened NATO will **stand** less able to **assist** Ukraine in facing off against the **depredations** of an aggressive Russia on the eastern **front**. **The need of the hour** is enlightened leadership, **a far cry from** what is presently on offer in Washington.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Bullying tactics** (noun) – coercive methods, intimidation strategies, aggressive maneuvers, pressuring techniques, browbeating actions डराने-धमकाने की रणनीति
2. **Weaponisation** (noun) – exploitation, manipulation, capitalization, instrumentalization, mobilization हथियार के रूप में उपयोग
3. **Tariff** (noun) – duty, tax, levy, toll, excise सीमा शुल्क या कर
4. **Undermine** (verb) – weaken, erode, sabotage, subvert, impair कमज़ोर करना
5. **NATO** (noun) – North Atlantic Treaty Organization; a military alliance of European and North American democracies उत्तर अटलांटिक संधि संगठन
6. **Vow** (verb) – pledge, swear, undertake, resolve, commit शपथ लेना या संकल्प करना
7. **Slap** (verb) – impose, inflict, levy, foist, enjoin थोपना
8. **Raft** (noun) – abundance, plethora, multitude, host, slew बड़ी संख्या या ढेर
9. **Set (to)** (noun) – to be ready or about to start doing something; scheduled to begin शुरू होने के लिए तैयार
10. **Add to** (phrasal verb) – to increase or augment something in size, quantity, or intensity वृद्धि करना या बढ़ाना
11. **Existing** (adjective) – current, present, prevailing, extant, contemporary वर्तमान
12. **Impose** (verb) – enforce, inflict, levy, dictate, foist लागू करना या थोपना
13. **Reconnaissance** (noun) – investigation, inspection, survey, exploration, probe टोही अभियान या सैन्य निरीक्षण
14. **Commitment** (noun) – dedication, obligation, loyalty, pledge, adherence प्रतिबद्धता
15. **Autonomous** (adjective) – self-governing, independent, sovereign, self-ruling, free स्वायत्त या स्वतंत्र
16. **Emphasis** (noun) – stress, priority, importance, prominence, weightage ज़ोर देना
17. **Stem from** (phrasal verb) – to originate or develop as a result of something else से उत्पन्न होना
18. **Neo-imperialist** (adjective) – relating to modern policies that use economic or political pressure to control other countries नव-साम्राज्यवादी

19. **Impulse** (noun) – urge, instinct, drive, whim, tendency प्रेरणा

20. **Implicit** (adjective) – inherent, underlying, unspoken, tacit, latent अंतर्निहित

21. **Non-aligned** (adjective) – unaligned, neutral, independent, unaffiliated, detached गैर-संबद्ध या गुटनिरपेक्ष

22. **Bully** (verb) – intimidate, browbeat, coerce, harass, hector धमकाना

23. **Weaponise** (verb) – use, exploit, adapt, transform, convert हथियार बनाना

24. **Tantamount** (to) (adjective) – equivalent in value, significance, or effect to something else के बराबर या समान

25. **Violation** (noun) – breach, infringement, transgression, contravention, defiance उल्लंघन

26. **Degrade** (verb) – debase, demean, diminish, deteriorate, corrupt मूल्य घटाना

27. **Transatlantic** (adjective) – relating to the relationship or trade between Europe and America अटलांटिक महासागर के आर-पार (यूरोप-अमेरिका संबंधी)

28. **Backing** (noun) – support, endorsement, advocacy, patronage, sponsorship समर्थन

29. **Unilateral** (adjective) – one-sided, independent, solitary, non-consensual, partisan एकतरफा

30. **Impose** (verb) – inflict, enforce, levy, dictate, foist थोपना या लागू करना

31. **Across the board** (phrase) – applying to all people or things in a group or situation broad; universally व्यापक रूप से

32. **Bring into force** (phrase) – to make a law, rule, or system start being used or applied लागू करना या प्रभाव में लाना

33. **Anti-coercion** (adjective) – measures designed to prevent or counter the use of pressure or force by another party जबरदस्ती विरोधी

34. **Counter-tariff** (noun) – a duty or tax imposed by a country in retaliation for a tariff imposed by another country जवाबी सीमा शुल्क

35. **Denouement** (noun) – outcome, result, resolution, conclusion, climax परिणाम

36. **Decade** (noun) – a period of ten years दशक

37. **Heal** (verb) – mend, repair, reconcile, restore, fix सुधारना या ठीक करना

38. **Worsening** (adjective) – deteriorating, declining, exacerbating, degenerating, regressing बदतर होता हुआ

39. **Rift** (noun) – split, breach, division, chasm, rupture अनबन या दरार

40. **Beset** (verb) – plague, harass, afflict, trouble, dog परेशान करना

41. **Meanwhile** (adverb) – simultaneously, concurrently, meantime, during, interval इसी बीच

42. **Stand** (verb) – remain, exist, persist, continue, stay बने रहना या होना

43. **Assist** (verb) – help, aid, support, abet, succour सहायता करना

44. **Depredation** (noun) – plundering, pillage, devastation, ravage, looting लूटपाट

45. **Front** (noun) – boundary, sector, zone, line, vanguard मोर्चा या क्षेत्र

46. **The need of the hour** (idiom) – something that is extremely necessary at a particular point in time समय की मांग या आवश्यकता

47. **Enlightened** (adjective) – wise, informed, aware, educated, sophisticated प्रबुद्ध या समझदार

48. **A far cry from** (idiom) – very different from something else से बिल्कुल अलग

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Trump administration has threatened tariffs on several European countries unless they agree to U.S. demands related to Greenland.
2. A 10% tariff on imports from Denmark, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, the UK, the Netherlands, and Finland will begin on February 1, 2026, rising to 25% by June 1 if there's no agreement.
3. These tariffs are being used as leverage to push the sale or transfer of control of Greenland to the U.S..
4. European leaders see this as economic coercion and intimidation against NATO allies.
5. President Emmanuel Macron has publicly called the tariff threat "unacceptable".
6. U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer described the use of tariffs against allies as "completely wrong" and contrary to shared security goals.
7. The European Union is discussing measures of response, and an emergency meeting of member states is being organised.
8. Europe has considered retaliatory tariffs and may use its "anti-coercion instrument" against U.S. firms if needed.
9. Tariff threats have already led to protests in Copenhagen and Greenland opposing U.S. pressure on the territory's future.
10. The dispute has paused the ratification process of a broader EU-U.S. trade agreement, weakening economic cooperation.
11. Experts warn the political fallout could be far greater than the economic damage, risking long-term transatlantic mistrust.
12. Critics argue the tariff strategy lacks clear legal backing and may face judicial challenges under U.S. law. (original editorial point)
13. There is a risk that weaponising tariffs harms years of progress in transatlantic trade relations. (original editorial point)
14. The conflict could weaken NATO's unity, reducing its effectiveness against threats like Russia. (original editorial point)
15. The editorial argues that such aggressive tactics reflect poor leadership and destabilise alliances that have underpinned Western security for decades.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the main theme of the passage?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. Europe pursuing Arctic exploration
 - B. U.S. tariffs weakening NATO unity
 - C. Greenland's tourism development plans
 - D. Denmark blocking American investments
2. **Why does the passage suggest that the European Union views the U.S. tariff threats with heightened concern?**
 - A. Because recent American military actions in Venezuela raised alarms
 - B. Because earlier European negotiations with America repeatedly collapsed
 - C. Because ongoing NATO disputes already weakened allied coordination
 - D. Because earlier tariff rounds permanently damaged European industries
3. **What potential response may European nations adopt to counter the unilateral U.S. tariff measures?**
 - A. Strengthen diplomatic treaties supporting American demands
 - B. Implement the anti-coercion instrument restricting U.S. tech
 - C. Launch military exercises inside major American territories
 - D. Increase economic aid directed toward vulnerable U.S. regions
4. **Which of the following conjunctions is NOT used in the passage?**
 - A. While
 - B. Until
 - C. Although
 - D. Whatever
5. **The Trump administration will impose new tariffs on Europe in June.**
 - A. Will the Trump administration impose new tariffs on Europe in June?
 - B. Will impose the Trump administration new tariffs on Europe in June?
 - C. Will in June the Trump administration impose new tariffs on Europe?
 - D. Will Europe the Trump administration impose new tariffs in June?
6. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word: AWRY**
 - A. Straight
 - B. Correct
 - C. Askew
 - D. Proper
7. **Choose the correct meaning of idiom: Break one's duck**
 - A. Abandon a hobby
 - B. Spoil a good start
 - C. Achieve a first success after previous failures
 - D. Undergo bankruptcy
8. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**
 Most of the feedbacks received from senior scholars (1)/ were overwhelmingly in favour (2)/ of increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary research (3)/ as opposed to segmented evaluation models. (4)
 - A. (1)
 - B. (2)

C. (3)
D. (4)

9. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word “Budge.”**
A. Capitulate
B. Contemplate
C. Corroborate
D. Compensate

10. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for: 'An inoffensive word used in place of a blunt one'.**
A. Allusion
B. Euphemism
C. Analogy
D. Allegory

11. **Fill in the blanks with the appropriate article.**
In _____ absence of comprehensive data and _____ presence of conflicting anecdotal evidence, policy decisions often rest on precarious assumptions.
A. an, a
B. the, the
C. an, the
D. a, a

12. **Choose the correct meaning of idiom: Cut me dead**
A. Ignored me deliberately
B. Insulted me openly
C. Misunderstood me accidentally
D. Praised me sarcastically

13. **Change the following from active to passive:**
They will not have finalized the merger documents by midnight.
A. The merger documents will not be finalized by them by midnight.
B. The merger documents will not have been finalized by them by midnight.
C. The merger documents have not been finalized by them by midnight.
D. The merger documents would not have been finalized by them by midnight.

14. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Hazard
A. Rarity
B. Equity
C. Veracity
D. Safety

15. **Rearrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph:**

1. This requires a strong understanding of both hardware and software, as well as an appreciation for human-centered design.
2. Robotics is an interdisciplinary field of engineering and computer science that deals with the design, construction, and operation of robots.
3. The ultimate goal is to create machines that can assist humans by automating tasks that are either repetitive, hazardous, or require a level of accuracy beyond human capability.

4. The field is continuously evolving, driven by advancements in artificial intelligence and sensor technology.

- 2, 3, 1, 4
- 1, 3, 2, 4
- 4, 1, 2, 3
- 3, 1, 2, 4

16. **Choose the most suitable option to replace the highlighted part of the sentence:**
 The officer **ordered to the soldiers to march ahead.**

- ordered the soldiers for marching
- ordered the soldiers to march ahead
- gave order the soldiers to march
- ordered to soldiers to march

17. **Select the correct option for the Direct Speech conversion of the sentence below.**
 She noted that, had the literary trope not been overused, the metaphor might still have resonated with the audience.

- She said, "If the literary trope was not overused, the metaphor may still resonate with the audience."
- She said, "Had the literary trope not been overused, the metaphor might still have resonated with the audience."
- She said, "Had the literary trope not been overused, the metaphor must still resonate with the audience."
- She said, "If the literary trope had not been overused, the metaphor will still resonate with the audience."

18. **Fill in the blank with the correctly spelt word.**
 The professor emphasized the _____ nature of literary interpretation.

- subjectif
- subgjective
- subjective
- subjuctive

19. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
 Devastation

- Restoration
- Aversion
- Attribution
- Resonance

20. **Spot the correct spelling of the study of butterflies & moths.**

- lepidopetrology
- lepidopterology
- lepidopteralogy
- lepidopterlogy

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 Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, is sending shock waves through India's investment ecosystem, far beyond the online gaming sector. Parliament passed the new law with just a brief discussion, without _____(1)_____ -public or industry consultations. This sets a dangerous _____(2)_____ that could _____(3)_____ business confidence across industries.

In imposing a blanket ban _____(4)_____ all forms of "online money gaming" (commonly understood as real-money gaming) including its advertising and financial transactions, the government has moved away from a light-touch approach introduced through self-regulatory bodies in 2023. It ignored a judicially recognised _____(5)_____ between games of skill and chance in the process. This move will kill a globally competitive sunrise sector in India, and drive bad actors and practices underground — a harm purportedly sought to be prevented by the Act in the first place.

21. What should come in the place of 1.

- A. measly
- B. stringent
- C. adequate
- D. stuck

22. What should come in the place of 2.

- A. precedent
- B. posterity
- C. novelty
- D. dubious

23. What should come in the place of 3.

- A. derailing
- B. derail
- C. derailed
- D. derails

24. What should come in the place of 4.

- A. at
- B. for
- C. to
- D. on

25. What should come in the place of 5.

- A. resemblance
- B. distinction
- C. compliance
- D. furore

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. B) U.S. tariffs weakening NATO unity

The passage mainly discusses how Trump's tariff threats over Greenland could harm transatlantic relations, undermine NATO solidarity, and produce long-term geopolitical risks, making this the central theme.

A. Europe pursuing Arctic exploration → too narrow; military missions are mentioned only contextually.
 C. Greenland's tourism development plans → unrelated; tourism is not discussed.
 D. Denmark blocking American investments → inaccurate; issue is about U.S. coercive acquisition, not investment.

2. A) Because recent American military actions in Venezuela raised alarms

The passage states that EU concern increases due to U.S. troops entering Venezuela and abducting Maduro, signaling America's willingness to intervene elsewhere. • B Incorrect: Passage does not mention repeated negotiation collapses with the EU.

C Incorrect: Passage notes NATO weakening as a consequence, not as the reason for EU concern.

D Incorrect: Passage does not state European industries were permanently damaged by earlier tariffs.

3. B) Implement the anti-coercion instrument restricting U.S. tech

Passage explicitly states that Europe may activate the "anti-coercion instrument", imposing counter-tariffs on major U.S. tech companies.

• A Incorrect: No part of the passage suggests the EU will support U.S. demands.
 • C Incorrect: Passage mentions troops in Greenland, not military action in U.S. land.
 • D Incorrect: Passage gives no indication of economic aid to U.S. regions as a countermeasure.

4. C) Although

The passage does not contain the conjunction "although", hence this option is correct.

B. Until an agreement — The passage contains the clause: "until an agreement is reached...", so it is used.

A. While French President — The passage begins a clause with "While French President Emmanuel Macron...", so it is present.

D. Whatever the denouement — The passage includes: "Whatever the denouement of this Trump-made conflict...", so it appears in the passage.

5. A) Will the Trump administration impose new tariffs on Europe in June?

A correctly places the auxiliary verb "will" before the subject and keeps adverbial placement natural.

B: Incorrect subject-auxiliary inversion order.

C: Incorrect adverbial position causing ungrammatical interrogation.

D: Object is wrongly placed before the subject.

6. C) Awry (adverb/adjective) – Crooked, twisted, askance, amiss, off-center **टेढ़ा / बिगड़ा हुआ**

Synonym: **Askew** (adverb/adjective) – Not straight, tilted to one side, uneven, lopsided तिरछा / एक ओर झुका हुआ

- **Straight** (adjective) – Not curved, direct, aligned सीधा
- **Correct** (adjective) – Accurate, right, true सही
- **Proper** (adjective) – Suitable, appropriate, fitting उचित

7. C) **Break one's duck** (idiom) – Achieve a first success after previous failures पहली सफलता हासिल करना, खासकर कई बार असफल होने के बाद
8. A) (1) में feedbacks के बदले feedback का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि feedback एक uncountable noun है और इसका plural रूप नहीं बनाया जाता। सही प्रयोग: Most of the feedback received...

“Feedback” is an uncountable noun in standard English.

Uncountable nouns do not take plural forms (no -s / -es).

Therefore, “feedbacks” is grammatically incorrect.

Correct Sentence: Most of the feedback received from senior scholars were overwhelmingly in favour of increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary research as opposed to segmented evaluation models.

9. A) **Budge** (verb) – To make the slightest movement; to change an opinion or yield under pressure. (झुकना या हिलना)

Synonym: **Capitulate** (verb) – To cease to resist an opponent or an unwelcome demand; to surrender or yield. (आत्मसमर्पण करना / हार मान लेना)

- **Contemplate** (verb): To look thoughtfully for a long time at something; to think deeply. (चिंतन करना)
- **Corroborate** (verb): To confirm or give support to a statement, theory, or finding. (पुष्टि करना)
- **Compensate** (verb): To give someone something, typically money, in recognition of loss, suffering, or injury. (मुआवजा देना)

10. B) **Euphemism** (noun) – An indirect or mild expression used in place of one considered harsh or blunt, शिष्टोक्ति / विनम्र शब्द

- **Allusion** (noun) – An indirect reference to something, संकेत
- **Analogy** (noun) – A comparison between two things for explanation, उपमा
- **Allegory** (noun) – A story with a hidden moral or political meaning, रूपक कथा

11. C) **an, the** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि absence vowel sound से शुरू होता है इसलिए उसके पहले an आएगा, और presence एक specific स्थिति को दर्शा रहा है इसलिए उसके पहले the का प्रयोग सही है। वाक्य नीति-निर्माण की उस विशेष परिस्थिति की बात कर रहा है जहाँ डेटा की कमी और एक खास तरह के विरोधाभासी साक्षों की मौजूदगी है, इसलिए article का चयन संदर्भ आधारित है।

- “an” will be used before absence because it begins with a vowel sound, and “the” will be used before presence because it refers to a specific, context-defined situation. The sentence discusses a particular condition in policy-making where there is lack of

comprehensive data and the existence of conflicting anecdotal evidence; hence these articles are contextually appropriate.

12. A) **Cut me dead** (idiom) – Ignored me deliberately जानबूझकर नज़रअंदाज़ करना / अनदेखा कर दे

13. B) **The merger documents will not have been finalized by them by midnight.**

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Passive में बदलते समय सही Tense का ध्यान रखा जाता है। यहाँ Active वाक्य Future Perfect Tense (will have finalized) में है, इसलिए Passive Voice में यह will have been + past participle बन जाता है। Active वाक्य में "They" Subject है, "will not have finalized" Verb है और "the merger documents" Object है। Passive Voice में Object "The merger documents" Subject बन जाता है, Verb "will not have been finalized" में बदलता है और अंत में "by them" का प्रयोग किया जाता 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:

"They" → Subject

"will not have finalized" → Verb (Future Perfect, Negative)

"the merger documents" → Object

"by midnight" → Time expression

After conversion:

"The merger documents" → Subject

"will not have been finalized" → Passive verb (Future Perfect Passive, Negative)

"by midnight" → Time expression

"by them" → Agent (optional)

Hence, the correct passive sentence is:

The merger documents will not have been finalized by them by midnight.

Correct option: (2)

Other options Analysis:

Option (1): "will not be finalized" → Future Simple, tense changes.

Option (3): "have not been finalized" → Present Perfect, tense mismatch.

Option (4): "would not have been finalized" → Conditional Perfect, changes modality.

14. D) **Hazard** (noun) – Danger, risk, threat. खतरा

Antonym: **Safety** (noun) – Protection, security, freedom from danger. सुरक्षा

- **Rarity** – Something uncommon. दुर्लभता

- **Equity** – Fairness. न्याय

- **Veracity** – Truthfulness. सत्यता

15. A) 2, 3, 1, 4

2 starts the paragraph by defining robotics as an interdisciplinary field of engineering and computer science concerned with the design, construction, and operation of robots.

3 follows by stating the ultimate goal of the field—to create machines that assist humans by automating repetitive, hazardous, or highly precise tasks.

1 comes next, where “This” refers to achieving that goal and explains that it requires a strong understanding of hardware, software, and human-centered design.

4 concludes the paragraph by noting that the field is continuously evolving due to advancements in artificial intelligence and sensor technology.

- 2 paragraph की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह रोबोटिक्स को एक बहुविषयक क्षेत्र के रूप में परिभाषित करता है, जो रोबोट के डिज़ाइन, निर्माण और संचालन से जुड़ा है।
- 3 इसके बाद आता है जो इस क्षेत्र का अंतिम उद्देश्य बताता है—ऐसी मशीनें बनाना जो मनुष्यों की सहायता करें, खासकर दोहरावदार, खतरनाक या अत्यधिक सटीकता वाले कार्यों में।
- 1 फिर आता है जहाँ “This” इसी उद्देश्य को संदर्भित करता है और बताता है कि इसके लिए हार्डवेयर, सॉफ्टवेयर और मानव-केंद्रित डिज़ाइन की गहरी समझ आवश्यक है।
- 4 end में आता है जो दर्शाता है कि कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता और सेंसर तकनीक में प्रगति के कारण यह क्षेत्र लगातार विकसित हो रहा है।

16. B) ordered to the soldiers to march ahead' के बदले 'ordered the soldiers to march ahead' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'order' verb के बाद indirect object (the soldiers) बिना preposition 'to' के सीधे आता है, और इसके बाद to + verb (to march) प्रयोग होता है। इसलिए सही संरचना है: ordered + object + to + V1 |

Incorrect part: “ordered to the soldiers to march ahead”

The verb “order” does not take the preposition “to” before its object.

Correct structure:

order + object + to + base verb

- ordered the soldiers to march
- ordered him to leave

“the soldiers” is the direct object.

“to march” is the infinitive showing the commanded action.

The structure is grammatically correct and natural.

Other Options Analysis:

- ordered the soldiers for marching — wrong preposition and verb form.
- gave order the soldiers to march — missing article (gave an order).
- ordered to soldiers to march — incorrect placement of “to”.

17. B) She said, "Had the literary trope not been overused, the metaphor might still have resonated with the audience."

Indirect से Direct Speech में बदलते समय, reporting verb (noted) को साधारण past reporting verb (said) में बदलकर, original clause को उसके natural conditional स्वरूप में वापस लाया जाता है। Indirect वाक्य में "had the literary trope not been overused" एक inverted third conditional clause है, जिसे Direct Speech में बिना tense बदले उसी रूप में रखा जाता है, क्योंकि यह पहले से ही सही और पूर्ण रूप में उपयोग हुआ है। Indirect में "might still have resonated" भी उसी रूप में Direct में बना रहता है, क्योंकि conditional meaning और समय दोनों समान रहते हैं।

To convert Indirect to Direct Speech:

- Remove the conjunction "that".
- Retain the conditional structure and modality.
- Preserve the tense and perfect aspect.
- Use quotation marks with an appropriate reporting verb.
- Keep the meaning unchanged (possibility, not certainty).

In this sentence:

- Reporting clause: She noted that
- Indirect speech: had the literary trope not been overused, the metaphor might still have resonated with the audience
 - This is a third conditional (past unreal condition).
 - Modal might expresses possibility and must be retained.
 - Past perfect had been overused and have resonated remain unchanged in direct speech.

Changes made:

- Remove "that".
- Keep inverted conditional had ... not been.
- Maintain modal might and perfect infinitive have resonated.

Correct direct speech:

Option 2:

She said, "Had the literary trope not been overused, the metaphor might still have resonated with the audience."

18. C) 'Subjective' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य साहित्यिक व्याख्या की उस प्रकृति की बात कर रहा है जो व्यक्ति-विशेष की सोच, अनुभव और दृष्टिकोण पर निर्भर करती है। "the _____ nature of literary interpretation" के संदर्भ में, यह गुण subjectivity को दर्शाता है, इसलिए सही वर्तनी वाला शब्द subjective ही उपयुक्त है।

- 'Subjective' should be used because the sentence refers to the nature of literary interpretation that depends on an individual's perspective, experience, and perception. In the context of "the _____ nature of literary interpretation," it indicates subjectivity, hence the correctly spelt word subjective is the most appropriate choice.

19. A) **Devastation** (noun) – Destruction, ruin, damage. विनाश

Antonym: **Restoration** (noun) – Repair, renewal, rebuilding. पुनर्स्थापन

- **Aversion** (noun) – Strong dislike. घृणा
- **Attribution** (noun) – Assigning a cause. आरोपण
- **Resonance** (noun) – Deep sound/impact. गूंज

20. B) **lepidopterology** — The correct spelling is **lepidopterology**, which refers to the scientific study of butterflies and moths.

अर्थ (Hindi): तितलियों और पतंगों का अध्ययन

21. C) **Adequate**' का use होगा क्योंकि "adequate" का अर्थ होता है "पर्याप्त/उचित", और sentence में कहा गया है कि नया कानून बिना adequate public या industry consultations पास किया गया, यानी पर्याप्त परामर्श नहीं हुआ। इसलिए यहाँ सही विकल्प 'adequate' है। जबकि 'Measly' (तुच्छ/बहुत कम) negative slang है और formal legal context में fit नहीं होता, 'Stringent' (कठोर)

consultations describe करने के लिए गलत है, और 'Stuck' (अटका हुआ) व्याकरण और अर्थ दोनों से context में असंगत है।

- 'Adequate' will be used because it means "sufficient/proper," and the sentence implies that the Act was passed without sufficient public or industry consultations. This fits grammatically and logically. Whereas 'Measly' (trivial) is too informal and pejorative for this formal context, 'Stringent' (strict) is incorrect since consultations aren't "strict," and 'Stuck' (stalled) doesn't make sense grammatically here.

22. A) **Precedent**' का use होगा क्योंकि "precedent" का अर्थ होता है "पूर्व उदाहरण/मिसाल", और sentence में कहा गया है कि बिना consultation के कानून पास करना एक खतरनाक precedent (dangerous example) सेट करता है, जो आगे industries के लिए गलत प्रभाव डालेगा। जबकि 'Posterity' (आने वाली पीढ़ियाँ) context से मेल नहीं खाता, 'Novelty' (नवीनता/नई चीज़) अर्थ बिगाड़ देता है, और 'Dubious' (संदिग्ध) एक adjective है जो यहाँ noun की जगह पर grammatically fit नहीं होता।

- 'Precedent' will be used because it means "an earlier example or case that sets a rule for the future," and the sentence conveys that passing the law without consultation sets a dangerous example. Whereas 'Posterity' (future generations) doesn't fit the meaning, 'Novelty' (newness) distorts the intent, and 'Dubious' (doubtful) is an adjective, not a noun, so it is grammatically incorrect here.

23. B) **'Derail'** का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ sentence है: "This sets a dangerous precedent that could _____ business confidence." Modal verb "could" के बाद हमेशा base form verb (V1) आता है, इसलिए सही विकल्प 'derail' है। जबकि 'Derailing' (V-ing form) gerund/participle है और modal verb के बाद नहीं आता, 'Derailed' (past tense/past participle) गलत है, और 'Derails' (singular present tense) भी modal verb के बाद grammatically fit नहीं होता।

- 'Derail' will be used because the sentence is "This sets a dangerous precedent that could derail business confidence." After the modal verb "could," the base form of the verb is required, making 'derail' correct. Whereas 'Derailing' (continuous form) is not used after "could," 'Derailed' (past tense) doesn't fit, and 'Derails' (present tense) is grammatically incorrect here.

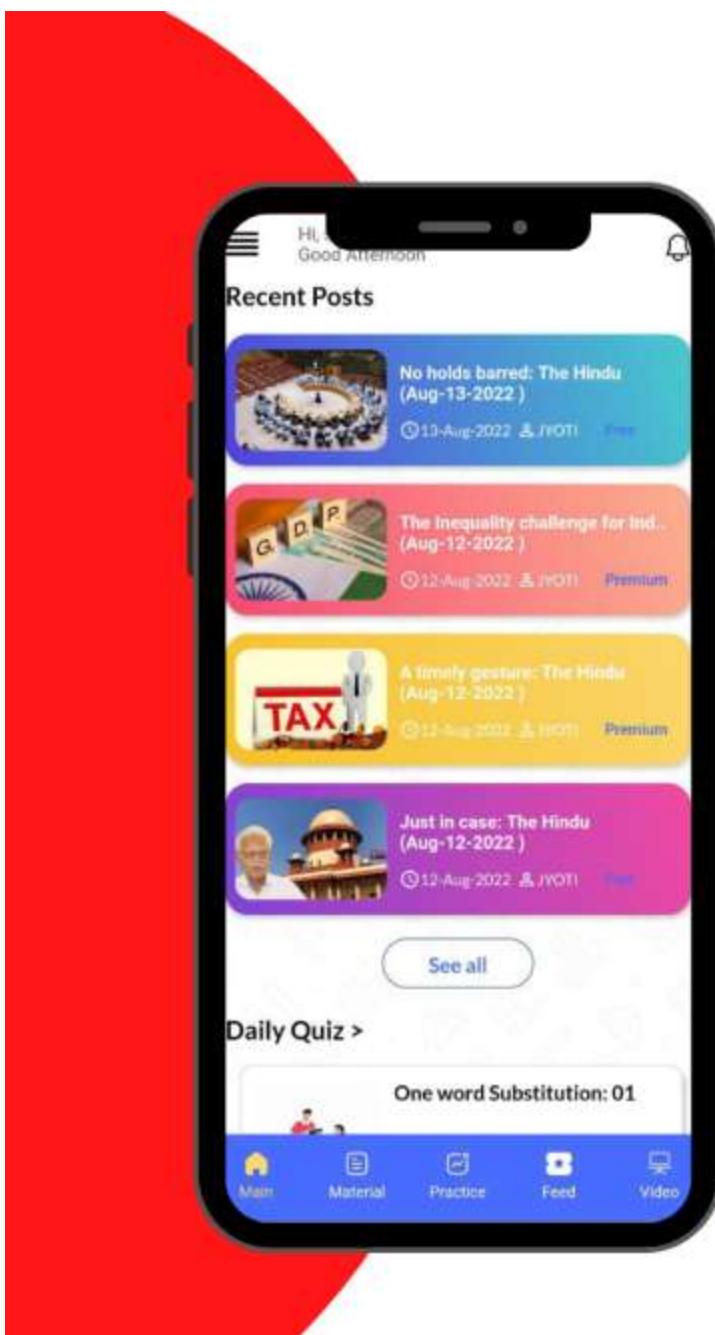
24. D) **On'** का use होगा क्योंकि phrase होता है "a ban on something" यानी किसी चीज़ पर प्रतिबंध। Sentence है: "In imposing a blanket ban on all forms of online money gaming ..." यहाँ सही preposition 'on' है। जबकि 'At' का अर्थ स्थान/समय बताने के लिए होता है, 'For' कारण या उद्देश्य बताने के लिए, और 'To' दिशा या गंतव्य के लिए, इसलिए ये context में सही नहीं हैं।

- 'On' will be used because the correct idiomatic expression is "a ban on something," meaning prohibition of a specific activity. The sentence reads: "a blanket ban on all forms of online money gaming ...," making 'on' correct. Whereas 'At' is used for time/place, 'For' indicates purpose/reason, and 'To' denotes direction/recipient, which don't fit the grammatical and contextual requirement here.

25. B) **Distinction'** का use होगा क्योंकि "distinction" का अर्थ होता है "अंतर/भेद", और sentence में कहा गया है कि सरकार ने "a judicially recognised distinction between games of skill and chance" को नज़रअंदाज़ किया। यानी न्यायालय द्वारा मान्य अंतर को। जबकि 'Resemblance'

(समानता) गलत अर्थ देगा, 'Compliance' (अनुपालन) context में fit नहीं बैठता, और 'Furore' (हंगामा/uproar) भी यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं है।

- 'Distinction' will be used because it means "a difference/contrast," and the sentence refers to the legally recognised difference between games of skill and chance. Whereas 'Resemblance' means similarity (opposite sense), 'Compliance' means following rules (not about difference), and 'Furore' means uproar, none of which fit the meaning or grammar of the sentence.



Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam