

## Duty of care: On vaccine injury compensation programmes

The state must not **evade** responsibility when it pushes for vaccination

The Supreme Court of India's **directive** in Rachana Gangu to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to design a no-fault compensation scheme for serious **adverse** events **following** immunisation (AEFI) arising from India's COVID-19 vaccination campaign **marks** a shift from a fault-based liability system to a no-fault one in **state-run** public health programmes. The case arose from **writ** petitions filed in various courts by families **claiming** that their relatives had died or suffered serious injury after receiving COVID-19 vaccines. Rachana Gangu was over the deaths, in 2021, of two women aged 18 and 20, **allegedly** from vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT), a rare **complication** of the Covishield vaccine. Affected families **contended** that India had no dedicated **mechanism** to **compensate** those harmed in a state-run programme. For several years, the government **resisted establishing** a compensation policy because it held that vaccination was voluntary, serious AEFI rates were extremely low, and **aggrieved** citizens could **sue** vaccine manufacturers in civil court — a position the Court has since rejected as being **impractical** for ordinary individuals. The new **ruling** also builds on Jacob Puliyeel (2022), in which the Court rejected challenges to emergency vaccine approvals but **emphasised** the need to make AEFI data publicly available.

In 2024, a few years after scientists had established the same concern in medical literature, AstraZeneca **acknowledged** in a U.K. court document that Covishield could, in rare **instances**, cause VITT. Since most Indians were vaccinated with Covishield, the admission further **undermined** the government's position that links between the vaccine and certain deaths were unproven or **coincidental**. Despite operating one of the world's largest immunisation efforts, India has historically lacked a dedicated national vaccine injury compensation programme. Many **countries**, including the U.S. and the U.K., **have** such vaccine injury compensation programmes where **claimants** need not prove **negligence**, but only a **plausible** link to vaccination. Even the global COVAX facility established a no-fault mechanism for 92 low- and middle-income countries. During the pandemic, the government had reported over 1,100 deaths following vaccination across 219 crore doses **administered**. The Court ruled that for a welfare state, these represent individual human lives and that the **absence** of a formal policy **left** affected families in a legal **vacuum**. It has also been clear that its directive is not based on **adjudicating** whether the vaccines caused specific injuries or deaths nor does it replace all fault-based **liabilities** in public health. However, it **sets an important precedent** for future vaccination **drives**, including the new one for HPV, **affirming** the state's duty of care when **endorsing** medical interventions for the public good. [Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Evade** (verb) - sidestep, dodge, elude, circumvent, avoid टालना/बचना
2. **Directive** (noun) - instruction, order, command, decree, mandate निर्देश
3. **Adverse** (adjective) - unfavorable, harmful, detrimental, hostile, negative प्रतिकूल
4. **Following** (preposition) - after, subsequent to, succeeding, post, in the wake of के बाद
5. **Mark** (verb) - indicate, represent, signify, denote, characterize चिह्नित करना
6. **State-run** (adjective) - government-operated, public, nationalized, state-owned, official सरकारी सहायता प्राप्त
7. **Writ** (noun) - summons, warrant, mandate, court order, judicial command याचिका/लेख
8. **Claim** (verb) - assert, maintain, profess, contend, allege दावा करना
9. **Allegedly** (adverb) - reportedly, supposedly, purportedly, ostensibly, presumably कथित तौर पर
10. **Complication** (noun) - difficulty, obstacle, snag, problem, setback जटिलता
11. **Contend** (verb) - argue, assert, maintain, claim, insist तर्क देना
12. **Mechanism** (noun) - system, procedure, process, apparatus, method तंत्र/प्रणाली
13. **Compensate** (verb) - reimburse, indemnify, remunerate, recompense, repay मुआवजा देना
14. **Resist** (verb) - oppose, withstand, defy, combat, thwart विरोध करना
15. **Establish** (verb) - found, institute, set up, create, inaugurate स्थापित करना
16. **Aggrieved** (adjective) - resentful, wronged, offended, pained, distressed पीड़ित/व्यथित
17. **Sue** (verb) - litigate, take to court, prefer charges, file a suit, prosecute मुकदमा करना
18. **Impractical** (adjective) - unrealistic, unfeasible, non-viable, idealistic, unworkable अव्यवहारिक
19. **Ruling** (noun) - judgment, decree, verdict, pronouncement, adjudication निर्णय
20. **Emphasise** (verb) - stress, highlight, underline, accentuate, underscore जोर देना
21. **Acknowledge** (verb) - admit, concede, grant, recognize, confess स्वीकार करना
22. **Instance** (noun) - example, occurrence, case, occasion, illustration उदाहरण/मामला
23. **Undermine** (verb) - weaken, erode, sabotage, subvert, sap कमजोर करना
24. **Coincidental** (adjective) - accidental, chance, fluke, fortuitous, unintentional इत्तेफाक से/संयोगवश
25. **Claimant** (noun) - petitioner, applicant, appellant, litigant, suitor दावेदार
26. **Negligence** (noun) - carelessness, laxity, dereliction, neglect, remissness लापरवाही
27. **Plausible** (adjective) - credible, believable, reasonable, feasible, tenable विश्वसनीय
28. **Administer** (verb) - dispense, execute, implement, manage, supervise देना
29. **Vacuum** (noun) - void, gap, lacuna, emptiness, hiatus शून्य/खालीपन

30. **Adjudicate** (verb) - judge, arbitrate, decide, settle, referee न्यायनिर्णयन करना
31. **Liability** (noun) - accountability, responsibility, obligation, debt, burden दायित्व
32. **Set an important precedent** (phrase) - to establish a custom or a legal decision that serves as an example for future similar cases एक महत्वपूर्ण मिसाल कायम करना
33. **Drive** (noun) - campaign, effort, movement, initiative, crusade अभियान
34. **Affirm** (verb) - confirm, ratify, endorse, uphold, validate पुष्टि करना
35. **Endorse** (verb) - support, advocate, champion, sanction, back समर्थन करना

## Summary of the Editorial

1. The **Supreme Court of India** has directed the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** to design a **no-fault compensation scheme** for serious adverse events following immunisation (AEFI) related to the COVID-19 vaccination campaign.
2. This directive marks a **shift from a fault-based liability system to a no-fault system** in state-run public health programmes.
3. The case **Rachana Gangu** arose after families filed petitions claiming deaths or serious injuries following COVID-19 vaccination.
4. The specific case involved the deaths of **two young women aged 18 and 20 in 2021**, allegedly due to **vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT)** linked to the Covishield vaccine.
5. Families argued that **India lacked a dedicated mechanism** to compensate individuals harmed during a state-run vaccination programme.
6. For years, the government **resisted creating a compensation policy**, claiming vaccination was voluntary and serious adverse events were extremely rare.
7. The government also suggested that affected individuals could **file civil lawsuits against vaccine manufacturers**.
8. The Supreme Court rejected this argument, stating that **civil litigation is impractical for ordinary citizens** seeking compensation.
9. The ruling builds upon the **Jacob Puliye (2022) case**, where the Court upheld emergency vaccine approvals but stressed the importance of **public disclosure of AEFI data**.
10. In **2024**, AstraZeneca admitted in a U.K. court document that **Covishield could rarely cause VITT**, confirming concerns earlier raised in medical literature.
11. This admission weakened the government's earlier stance that **links between the vaccine and certain deaths were unproven or coincidental**.
12. Despite running **one of the world's largest vaccination campaigns**, India has historically **lacked a national vaccine injury compensation programme**.
13. Many countries such as the **U.S. and the U.K.** already operate **no-fault vaccine injury compensation systems**, where claimants only need to show a plausible connection to vaccination.
14. During the pandemic, the government reported **over 1,100 deaths following vaccination out of 219 crore doses administered**, which the Court emphasized still represent individual lives.
15. The Court's directive establishes an important precedent, affirming the **state's duty of care when promoting public health interventions**, especially for future vaccination drives such as the **HPV vaccination programme**.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the primary shift in legal liability introduced by the Supreme Court's directive in the Rachana Gangu case?**
  - A. A shift from a government-funded system to a manufacturer-funded system.
  - B. A shift from a fault-based liability system to a no-fault compensation scheme.
  - C. A transition from mandatory vaccination policies to strictly voluntary ones.
  - D. A change from public health management to private civil court adjudication.
2. **Why did the Supreme Court reject the government's earlier position that citizens could simply sue vaccine manufacturers in civil court?**
  - A. Because the court determined that vaccine manufacturers are immune to all civil lawsuits.
  - B. Because civil litigation was deemed impractical for ordinary individuals to pursue.
  - C. Because the government had already paid all necessary damages to the affected families.
  - D. Because the vaccine manufacturers had relocated their headquarters outside of India.
3. **How did AstraZeneca's 2024 court admission in the U.K. impact the Indian government's legal standing?**
  - A. It proved that the government had intentionally hidden data from the general public.
  - B. It justified the government's claim that serious AEFI rates were too low to track.
  - C. It undermined the claim that links between the vaccine and certain deaths were unproven.
  - D. It led to the immediate banning of the Covishield vaccine for all Indian age groups.
4. **What distinction does a "no-fault" mechanism (like those in the U.S. or the U.K.) offer to claimants compared to traditional law?**
  - A. Claimants must prove medical negligence by the doctor who administered the dose.
  - B. Claimants only need to show a plausible link to the vaccination rather than proving negligence.
  - C. Claimants are required to undergo a secondary vaccination to prove their physical sensitivity.
  - D. Claimants must demonstrate that the vaccine manufacturer acted with criminal intent.
5. **According to the passage, the Supreme Court's directive is based on which of the following principles?**
  - A. Determining the scientific cause of every individual injury reported during the pandemic.
  - B. Replacing all fault-based liabilities in every sector of the Indian public health system.
  - C. Affirming the state's duty of care when endorsing medical interventions for the public good.
  - D. Reducing the administrative burden on the Ministry of Health by ending all AEFI reporting.
6. **Directions: Given below are six sentences taken from an editorial. The first and the last sentences are numbered S1 and S6 and are placed in the first and last positions respectively. The other four sentences between them are jumbled up and are numbered A, B, C, and D. Rearrange the jumbled sentences in a logical sequence.**

S1. A near pristine desert and coastal wilderness in Namibia could soon host a huge hydrogen production facility, raising hopes for jobs but also fears for the unique plant and animal life of the region.

  - A. It is part of the government's ambitious plan to become a green hydrogen superpower and export a clean-burning fuel.

- B. However, the proposal to build these extensive solar and wind farms in Namibia's Tsau ||Khaeb National Park is not supported by environmentalists.
- C. This specific type of fuel is usually produced with fossil fuels, but when renewable energy sources are used instead, it is labelled "green."
- D. To achieve this, a joint venture named Hyphen plans to utilize the country's "world-class" solar and wind power potential for large-scale production.
- S6. These conservationists warn that the massive infrastructure will destroy a sanctuary where a unique richness of flora and fauna has flourished undisturbed for over a century.
- A. ACDB
- B. ADCB
- C. CADB
- D. BACD
7. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word: FESTIVITY**
- A. Silence
- B. Argument
- C. Disappointment
- D. Celebration
8. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word: Recalcitrance**
- A. Defiance
- B. Compliance
- C. Resistance
- D. Rebellion
9. **Choose the correct meaning of idiom: Jump the shark**
- A. To take unnecessary risk
- B. To betray someone close
- C. To betray someone close
- D. To grow rapidly
10. **Choose the correct meaning of idiom: Not in my line**
- A. Beyond my authority
- B. Not related to my area of expertise
- C. Not aligned with my values
- D. Below my status
11. **Find the correct spelling for a word that means calm under pressure.**
- A. Equanimitie
- B. Equanemmity
- C. Equanimity
- D. Equanemity
12. **Spot the correct spelling of a rare literary term**
- A. Palimssst
- B. Palimpsast
- C. Palimpsest
- D. Palimpsist
13. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for: 'A person who hates marriage'**
- A. Misogamist

- B. Misogynist  
C. Philanderer  
D. Celibate
14. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for: Something mysterious or difficult to understand**  
A. Myth  
B. Paradox  
C. Enigma  
D. Anomaly
15. **Select the sentence containing the homonym of the highlighted word:**  
They had to watch the suspect all night.  
A. The guards keep watch during patro  
B. He received a golden watch for his promotion  
C. She stayed up to watch the sunrise  
D. He watches too much television
16. **Fill in the blank with the correctly spelt word.**  
His \_\_\_\_\_ remarks showed a blatant disregard for professional courtesy.  
A. caustic  
B. causeetic  
C. causetic  
D. causticc
17. **Fill in the blanks with the appropriate article.**  
While \_\_\_\_\_ notion of progress remains central to modern discourse, \_\_\_\_\_ definition of what constitutes true advancement varies significantly across cultures.  
A. a, the  
B. the, a  
C. a, a  
D. the, the
18. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**  
Being largely ignored in the early discussions, (1) / the revised charter was again subjected (2) / to reviews by external experts (3) / who had earlier flagged similar inconsistencies. (4)  
A. (1)  
B. (2)  
C. (3)  
D. (4)
19. **Rearrange the following sentences to form a meaningful passage:**  
A. Virtual reality simulates immersive environments.  
B. It is used in therapy, training, and gaming.  
C. VR headsets track motion and adjust visual output.  
D. Rapid tech advancement is reducing hardware costs.  
A. 3 -1 -2 -4  
B. 1 -3 -2 -4  
C. 4 -2 -1 -3  
D. 1 -2 -3 -4
20. **Rearrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph:**

- A. Consequently, these organisms are considered the primary producers in the food chain.
  - B. Autotrophs are organisms that can produce their own food from inorganic substances using light or chemical energy.
  - C. They form the foundation of most ecosystems, providing the energy that is consumed by herbivores and, in turn, by carnivores.
  - D. Plants, algae, and certain bacteria are the most common examples of this type of organism.
- A. 2, 4, 1, 3,
  - B. 4, 2, 1, 3,
  - C. 1, 3, 2, 4,
  - D. 2, 1, 3, 4,

### Comprehension

There is a (1) \_\_\_ at the heart of sibling relationships and it is this: that children raised in the same family are for ever bound by shared experiences, yet have different childhoods. The paradox is partly (and most commonly) explained by the topic of birth order theory – the idea that your position in the family shapes your personality and potential. Oldest children, for example, are born into an adult world, full of grown-up language and behaviour. Governed by anxious, inexperienced but still fresh parents, they (2) \_\_\_ in the glow of undivided attention. Their infancy will be markedly different to that of their little brother or sister who will be born into a family. These second-born children have a toddler as their role model/ally/nemesis, no new clothes, and they also have to share their parents' attention. These parents are a little less fresh and little more (3) \_\_\_. By the time any subsequent children come along, parents are at their most relaxed and most exhausted. Youngest children (4) \_\_\_ a lot (spoken as a true middle sibling). But neat as birth order theory may be, our place in the family roll call cannot fully account for the ways in which we grow up “together apart” as siblings. To do that, we must examine – and in some cases untangle – all of the (5) \_\_\_ underpinning our accepted roles as “responsible firstborns”, “problematic middles” or “spoilt babies”.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (1).**
  - A. tachycardia
  - B. quorum
  - C. mitosis
  - D. paradox
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (2).**
  - A. bask
  - B. amortize
  - C. photosynthesize
  - D. subscribe
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (3).**
  - A. fiduciary
  - B. isothermal
  - C. savvy
  - D. solipsistic
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (4).**
  - A. get through
  - B. get back

- C. get around
  - D. get away
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (5).**
- A. gentrification
  - B. knottiness
  - C. hemodialysis
  - D. usufruct

## Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

## Explanations

- 1. B) A shift from a fault-based liability system to a no-fault compensation scheme.**  
 The passage explicitly states that the directive "marks a shift from a fault-based liability system to a no-fault one in state-run public health programmes."  
 others are incorrect: (A) and (D) contradict the court's stance on state duty. (C) is a point previously argued by the government, not the shift directed by the court.
- 2. B) Because civil litigation was deemed impractical for ordinary individuals to pursue.**  
 The passage mentions that the government's position on suing manufacturers was "rejected as being impractical for ordinary individuals."  
 others are incorrect: (A) is legally incorrect based on the passage. (C) and (D) are not mentioned or supported by the passage.
- 3. C) It undermined the claim that links between the vaccine and certain deaths were unproven.**  
 The passage states that the admission "undermined the government's position that links between the vaccine and certain deaths were unproven or coincidental."  
 others are incorrect: (A) and (D) are not mentioned. (B) is the opposite of the effect the admission had on the state's accountability.
- 4. B) Claimants only need to show a plausible link to the vaccination rather than proving negligence.**  
 The passage states that in such programmes, "claimants need not prove negligence, but only a plausible link to vaccination."  
 others are incorrect: (A) and (D) describe "fault-based" or criminal requirements, which the no-fault scheme seeks to bypass. (C) is not a part of any legal process mentioned.
- 5. C) Affirming the state's duty of care when endorsing medical interventions for the public good.**  
 The final paragraph states the ruling is "affirming the state's duty of care when endorsing medical interventions for the public good."  
 others are incorrect: (A) and (B) are explicitly denied in the passage as the basis for the directive. (D) is the opposite of the "duty of care" principle.
- 6. A) Correct Sequence: S1-A-C-D-B-S6**  
 Sentence A, S1 के तुरंत बाद आता है क्योंकि "It" pronoun सीधे तौर पर S1 में बताई गई "hydrogen production facility" को refer करता है। यह बताता है कि यह facility सरकार के "green hydrogen superpower" बनने के plan का हिस्सा है।  
 Sentence C, Sentence A के बाद आता है क्योंकि "This specific type of fuel" सीधे तौर पर Sentence A के अंत में बताए गए "clean-burning fuel" को refer करता है। यह स्पष्ट करता है कि इसे "green" क्यों कहा जाता है (क्योंकि इसमें renewable energy का इस्तेमाल होता है)।

Sentence D, Sentence C के बाद आता है क्योंकि "To achieve this" उस "green" production की प्रक्रिया को refer करता है जो C में बताई गई है। यह बताता है कि इस energy को बनाने के लिए Hyphen नाम की कंपनी "solar and wind power" का उपयोग करेगी।

Sentence B, Sentence D के बाद आता है और S6 से पहले एक link बनाता है। "these extensive solar and wind farms" सीधे तौर पर Sentence D में mention किए गए "solar and wind power" को refer करता है। "However" का इस्तेमाल करके यह बताता है कि environmentalists इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं। S6 अंत में आता है क्योंकि "These conservationists" सीधे तौर पर Sentence B में बताए गए "environmentalists" को refer करता है, और यह बताता है कि वे इसका विरोध क्यों कर रहे हैं (flora and fauna को बचाने के लिए), जो S1 में जताए गए "fears" को पूरी तरह से conclude करता है।

Sentence A follows S1 immediately because the pronoun "It" clearly refers back to the "hydrogen production facility" introduced in S1. It establishes the broader context, explaining that hosting this facility is part of the government's plan to export a "clean-burning fuel." Sentence C comes next because the phrase "This specific type of fuel" directly links back to the "clean-burning fuel" mentioned at the end of Sentence A. It defines the terminology, explaining what makes this hydrogen "green."

Sentence D follows because "To achieve this" refers to the production of the green energy described in C. It introduces the method, explaining that a company will use the country's "solar and wind power" to generate this fuel.

Sentence B comes next because the phrase "these extensive solar and wind farms" is a direct reference to the "solar and wind power" introduced in Sentence D. Using "However," it introduces the conflict: environmentalists oppose building these farms in the National Park. S6 concludes the passage perfectly because "These conservationists" is a direct synonym and reference to the "environmentalists" mentioned in Sentence B. It brings the paragraph full circle by explaining the exact nature of the "fears" first mentioned in S1.

7. D) **Festivity** (noun) – Celebration, merriment, rejoicing, jubilation, gaiety उत्सव, खुशी का अवसर  
Synonym: **Celebration** (noun) – An occasion of joy, festivity, or special observance उत्सव, समारोह
- **Silence** (noun) – Absence of sound or speech मौन
  - **Argument** (noun) – A verbal disagreement or dispute बहस
  - **Disappointment** (noun) – Sadness caused by unmet expectations निराशा
8. B) **Recalcitrance** (noun) – Stubborn resistance to authority or control; obstinate disobedience.  
हठ / अवज्ञा  
Antonym: **Compliance** (noun) – Willingness to obey rules, orders, or requests; cooperation.  
आज्ञापालन / अनुपालन
- **Defiance** (noun) – Open resistance or disobedience. विरोध / अवज्ञा
  - **Resistance** (noun) – Refusal to accept or comply. प्रतिरोध
  - **Rebellion** (noun) – Open or violent opposition to authority. विद्रोह
9. C) **Jump the shark** (idiom) – To reach a peak and begin to decline, especially when something resorts to gimmicks after its best phase शिखर पर पहुँचने के बाद गिरावट शुरू होना / स्तर गिर जाना
10. B) **Not in my line** (idiom) – Not related to my area of expertise मेरे कार्य-क्षेत्र / विशेषज्ञता से संबंधित नहीं

11. C) The correct spelling of 'Equanimitie' is '**Equanimity**', which means calmness and composure, especially in a difficult situation (शांतचित्तता, मानसिक संतुलन)
12. C) **Palimpsest** — The correct spelling of the rare literary term is Palimpsest, which means a manuscript on which later writing has been superimposed on erased earlier writing प्राचीन पांडुलिपि जिस पर पुराना लेख मिटाकर नया लिखा गया हो.
13. A) **Misogamist** (noun) – A person who hates marriage विवाह से घृणा करने वाला व्यक्ति
- **Misogynist** (noun) – A person who dislikes or despises women स्त्री-द्वेषी
  - **Philanderer** (noun) – A man who has casual romantic relationships with many women स्त्रियों के साथ छिछले प्रेम-संबंध रखने वाला पुरुष
  - **Celibate** (noun) – A person who abstains from marriage and sexual relations ब्रह्मचारी / अविवाहित रहने वाला व्यक्ति
14. C) **Enigma** (noun) – Something mysterious, puzzling, or difficult to understand रहस्य / पहेली
- **Myth** (noun) – A traditional story, especially one concerning early history or explaining natural or social phenomena. मिथक
  - **Paradox** (noun) – A statement or situation that seems self-contradictory or absurd but may be true. विरोधाभास
  - **Anomaly** (noun) – Something that deviates from what is standard, normal, or expected. असामान्यता

**15. B) He received a golden watch for his promotion**

वाक्य में 'watch' का अर्थ है — किसी पर नज़र रखना / देखना (to observe)।

अब हमें ऐसा वाक्य चुनना है जिसमें 'watch' का समान उच्चारण वाला लेकिन अलग अर्थ वाला शब्द (homonym) प्रयुक्त हुआ हो।

विकल्प B में 'watch' का अर्थ है — घड़ी / कलाई घड़ी (a timepiece)।

दोनों का उच्चारण और वर्तनी समान है, लेकिन अर्थ पूरी तरह भिन्न हैं — इसलिए यह homonym का सही उदाहरण है।

In the highlighted sentence, watch means to observe or keep an eye on someone.

In option B, watch refers to a timekeeping device (wristwatch).

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

16. A) 'caustic' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह शब्द तीखे, कटु या व्यंग्यात्मक शब्दों के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है, जो यहाँ "professional courtesy" के प्रति उपेक्षा को स्पष्ट करता है। अन्य विकल्पों में वर्तनी त्रुटि है, इसलिए वे गलत हैं।

'Caustic' should be used because it correctly means sharp, biting, or sarcastic in tone, which fits the context of remarks showing disregard for professional courtesy. The other options are misspellings, hence incorrect.

**17. D) Option 4 the, the**

The first blank uses "the" because "notion of progress" refers to a specific and commonly understood idea in modern discourse, not just any random notion. When a noun represents a particular or well-known concept, the definite article "the" is used.

The second blank also uses "the" because "definition of what constitutes true advancement" is specific and limited by the clause that follows it. Since we are talking about a particular definition whose meaning varies across cultures, it becomes definite.

Therefore, both blanks correctly take “the.”

पहले blank में “the” आएगा क्योंकि “notion of progress” यहाँ किसी सामान्य विचार की नहीं बल्कि एक विशेष और well-known concept की बात कर रहा है, जो modern discourse में central माना जाता है। ऐसे मामलों में definite article “the” का प्रयोग किया जाता है।

दूसरे blank में भी “the” आएगा क्योंकि “definition of what constitutes true advancement” एक specific definition है, जिसे आगे आने वाला clause और ज्यादा स्पष्ट कर देता है। जब noun limited या particular हो, तो “the” का प्रयोग होता है।

#### 18. A) (1) ‘Being largely ignored in the early discussions’

‘Being’ का use हम तब करते हैं जब दो काम एक साथ होते हैं ( being का use simultaneous action के लिए करते हैं

जैसे -

1. Being tired, she went to bed early.
2. It being very late, they decided to stay overnight.

So, यहाँ question में ‘being largely ignored in the early discussions’ This is a participial phrase. Such a phrase must clearly describe the subject that comes immediately after it.

Now see the main subject:

“...the revised charter was again subjected...” This creates a problem because:

A charter (document) cannot ignore anything. People ignore things, not documents acting by themselves.

So the phrase “Being largely ignored...” has no proper logical subject. It can be made logical by introducing perfect participle

(Perfect Participle) :

Example - Having drink, he left for the airport ( Incorrect)

क्योंकि यहाँ drink पीने का action, और airport के लिए निकलने का काम एक साथ नहीं हो सकता है वह drink पीते पीते airport के लिए नहीं निकला है बल्कि यहाँ एक action complete होने के बाद दूसरा action हुआ है, drink पीने के बाद वह airport के लिए निकला है ऐसे sentences में perfect participle का use किया जाता है , Perfect Participial का structure active voice के लिए (Having+ Verb III ) और Passive voice के लिए ( Having + been + Verb III )

सही sentence होगा है - Having taken drink, he left for the airport

उपरोक्त sentence में revised charter, को early discussions में पहले तो ignore किया गया लेकिन फिर से इसे दोबारा review के लिए भेजा गया , इसका मतलब यह charter पहली बार में ignore हो चुका था जिससे यह clear होता है कि reject होने का काम पहले हो चुका था जिससे इसको perfect participle में लिखना सही रहेगा और यहाँ पर having ignored का भी use नहीं करेंगे क्योंकि revised charter ने किसी को ignore नहीं किया है बल्कि इसे ignore किया गया है इसलिए इसे passive voice ( having been ignored) में लिखना सही रहेगा

So finally correct sentence - Having been largely ignored in the early discussions', the revised charter was again subjected to reviews by external experts who had earlier flagged similar inconsistencies.

#### 19. B) 1 -3 -2 -4

Virtual reality simulates immersive environments VR headsets track motion and adjust visual output It is used in therapy, training, and gaming Rapid tech advancement is reducing hardware costs

Sentence 1 starts the passage because it introduces the main subject “Virtual reality”, clearly defining what the topic is about. It lays the foundation by explaining that VR simulates immersive environments.

Sentence 3 logically follows sentence 1 because it explains how Virtual Reality works. Here, “VR headsets” act as a related noun, and the verbs “track” and “adjust” describe the mechanism behind the immersive experience introduced earlier.

Sentence 2 comes after sentence 3 because the pronoun “It” refers back to Virtual Reality mentioned in sentence 1. This sentence explains the applications or uses of VR, such as therapy, training, and gaming, making the passage practically complete.

Sentence 4 comes at the end because it adds additional supporting information. It talks about “Rapid tech advancement,” which explains why VR is becoming more accessible by reducing hardware costs. This works as a concluding sentence, expanding on the future and growth of VR.

- Sentence 1 से passage की शुरुआत होती है क्योंकि यह main subject “Virtual reality” को introduce करता है और बताता है कि VR क्या करता है — immersive environments simulate करता है।
- Sentence 3, sentence 1 के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह समझाता है कि Virtual Reality काम कैसे करती है। यहाँ “VR headsets” noun है और “track” तथा “adjust” verbs यह बताते हैं कि immersive experience कैसे possible होता है।
- Sentence 2, sentence 3 के बाद logically fit होता है क्योंकि इसमें pronoun “It” का प्रयोग हुआ है, जो sentence 1 में आए “Virtual Reality” को refer करता है। यह sentence VR के uses/applications (therapy, training, gaming) को बताता है।
- Sentence 4 सबसे अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह extra supportive information देता है। “Rapid tech advancement” यह बताता है कि technology के कारण hardware सस्ता हो रहा है, जिससे VR ज्यादा accessible बन रहा है। यह passage को logically conclude करता है।

#### 20. D) 2, 1, 3, 4,

Autotrophs are organisms that can produce their own food from inorganic substances using light or chemical energy. Consequently, these organisms are considered the primary producers in the food chain. They form the foundation of most ecosystems, providing the energy that is consumed by herbivores and, in turn, by carnivores. Plants, algae, and certain bacteria are the most common examples of this type of organism.

Sentence 2 starts the paragraph because it introduces the main subject “Autotrophs” and defines what they are—organisms that produce their own food from inorganic substances using light or chemical energy. This sets the foundation for the topic.

Sentence 1 logically follows sentence 2 because it uses the connector “Consequently” to show a result of the definition: since autotrophs produce their own food, they are considered primary producers in the food chain. Here, the verb phrase “are considered” links back to the subject “these organisms.”

Sentence 3 comes after sentence 1 because the pronoun “They” refers back to autotrophs/primary producers. This sentence expands on their ecological role, explaining that they form the foundation of ecosystems and provide energy to herbivores and carnivores.

Sentence 4 naturally comes at the end because it gives specific examples (“Plants, algae, and certain bacteria”) of the general category introduced in sentence 2. This completes the paragraph with concrete illustration, rounding off the logical flow.

- Sentence 2 से paragraph की शुरुआत होती है क्योंकि यह main topic “Autotrophs” को introduce करता है और बताता है कि ये क्या हैं—ऐसे organisms जो light या chemical energy की मदद से अपना खाना खुद बनाते हैं। यह topic की foundation तैयार करता है।
- Sentence 1, sentence 2 के बाद आता है क्योंकि connector “Consequently” दिखाता है कि यह definition का परिणाम है। चूँकि autotrophs अपना खाना खुद बनाते हैं, इसलिए वे food chain के primary producers माने जाते हैं। यहाँ “are considered” verb phrase subject “these organisms” को link करता है।
- Sentence 3, sentence 1 के बाद logically fit होता है क्योंकि pronoun “They” वापस autotrophs/primary producers को refer करता है। यह बताता है कि ये ecosystem की foundation बनाते हैं और energy provide करते हैं herbivores और carnivores को।
- Sentence 4 अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह general category को specific examples (“Plants, algae, and certain bacteria”) के माध्यम से complete करता है। इससे paragraph logically और naturally खत्म होता है।

21. D) '[paradox]' सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब एक विरोधाभास (contradiction) होता है—एक ऐसी बात जो सुनने में उल्टी लगे लेकिन सच हो (जैसे एक ही घर में पलकर भी बचपन अलग होना)। इसके अलावा, अगले ही वाक्य में "The paradox is..." लिखा है, जो एक बहुत बड़ा hint है। 'tachycardia' एक medical शब्द है जिसका मतलब दिल की धड़कन का बहुत तेज़ होना होता है। 'quorum' का मतलब किसी मीटिंग के लिए ज़रूरी सदस्यों की कम से कम संख्या होता है। 'mitosis' बायोलॉजी में कोशिका विभाजन (cell division) को कहते हैं।

- '[paradox]' is correct because it means a situation or statement that seems to contradict itself but is actually true (having the same parents but different childhoods). Furthermore, the very next sentence gives a massive clue by stating, "The paradox is partly... explained". 'tachycardia' is a medical term for an abnormally fast heart rate. 'quorum' is the minimum number of members needed to conduct a valid meeting. 'mitosis' is a biology term for cell division.

22. A) '[bask]' सही है क्योंकि "bask in the glow" एक आम idiom (मुहावरा) है जिसका मतलब किसी चीज़ की गर्माहट या आनंद लेना होता है (यहाँ माता-पिता के पूरे ध्यान और प्यार का आनंद लेना)। 'subscribe' का मतलब किसी चीज़ की सदस्यता लेना होता है और इसके साथ 'to' आता है। 'amortize' एक financial शब्द है जिसका मतलब कर्ज़ को धीरे-धीरे चुकाना होता है। 'photosynthesize' एक biological शब्द है जिसका इस्तेमाल पौधों द्वारा धूप से खाना बनाने के लिए होता है।

- '[bask]' is correct because "bask in the glow" is a standard English idiom meaning to relax and enjoy the warmth of something (like the sun, or in this case, the undivided attention of parents). 'subscribe' means to arrange to receive something regularly, and it requires the preposition 'to'. 'amortize' is a financial term meaning to gradually pay off a debt. 'photosynthesize' is the biological process by which plants make their own food using sunlight.

23. C) '[savvy]' सही है क्योंकि यह एक adjective है जिसका मतलब अनुभवी (experienced) या समझदार होना होता है। दूसरे बच्चे के जन्म तक माता-पिता का अनुभव बढ़ जाता है और वे ज़्यादा समझदार (savvy)

हो जाते हैं। 'fiduciary' एक legal/financial शब्द है जो पैसों के लेन-देन में भरोसे से जुड़ा है। 'isothermal' Physics का शब्द है जिसका मतलब एक समान तापमान (constant temperature) होता है। 'solipsistic' Philosophy का शब्द है जिसका मतलब सिर्फ खुद को ही सच मानना या बेहद आत्मकेंद्रित होना होता है।

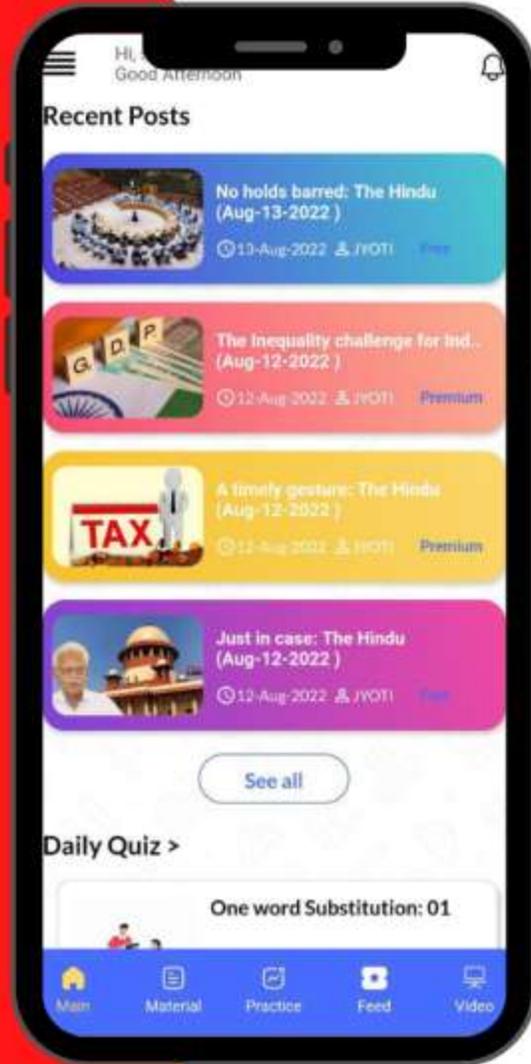
- '[savvy]' is correct because it is an adjective meaning experienced, knowledgeable, and showing practical understanding. By the time the second child is born, parents are less "fresh" (inexperienced) and more "savvy" (experienced). 'fiduciary' is a legal or financial term involving trust, especially regarding money. 'isothermal' is a physics term meaning having a constant temperature. 'solipsistic' is a philosophical adjective describing someone who believes only their own mind is sure to exist (extremely self-absorbed).

24. D) [**get away**] सही है क्योंकि यहाँ इसका अर्थ बिना सज़ा या डांट सुने किसी काम से बच निकलना है (get away with a lot)। घर के सबसे छोटे बच्चे अक्सर गलतियाँ करके भी आसानी से बच जाते हैं। 'get through' का मतलब किसी मुश्किल समय को पार करना या गुज़ारना होता है। 'get back' का मतलब वापस आना या बदला लेना होता है। 'get around' का मतलब बहुत घूमना या किसी नियम से बचने का रास्ता निकालना होता है।

- '[get away]' is correct because in this context, it is part of the phrasal verb "get away with" (implied here as getting away with a lot), which means to escape blame, punishment, or criticism for doing something wrong. Youngest children often avoid strict rules. 'get through' means to endure or survive a difficult experience. 'get back' means to return to a place or retaliate against someone. 'get around' means to travel to many places or to find a way to avoid a rule.

25. B) [**knottiness**] is correct because it is a noun that metaphorically refers to complexity, complications, or a tangled situation (like a literal knot). We have to untangle the "knottiness" (complexity) of family roles to understand siblings. 'usufruct' is a legal term for the right to enjoy the use and advantages of another's property. 'gentrification' is an urban planning term for renovating a poor neighborhood, which often displaces its original residents. 'hemodialysis' is a medical procedure used to filter blood when the kidneys fail.

- '[knottiness]' सही है क्योंकि यह एक noun है जिसका मतलब उलझन या जटिलता (complexity) होता है। भाई-बहनों के रिश्तों को समझने के लिए हमें इन उलझनों (knottiness) को सुलझाना होगा। 'usufruct' एक कानूनी शब्द है जिसका मतलब किसी दूसरे की संपत्ति का इस्तेमाल करने का अधिकार होता है। 'gentrification' एक शहरी विकास (urban development) का शब्द है जहाँ गरीब इलाकों को अमीर लोगों के लिए विकसित किया जाता है। 'hemodialysis' एक medical शब्द है जो किडनी खराब होने पर खून साफ करने की प्रक्रिया के लिए आता है।



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