

Fire and fury: On the ill-conceived war on Iran

Donald Trump's **miscalculation** in Iran **is** hurting the whole world

Benjamin Netanyahu and Donald Trump have **brought death** and destruction to Asia and economic **havoc** on the whole world by launching an ill-conceived, illegal war on Iran on February 28. Twenty days on, Iran continues to fire missiles and drones at Israel and neighbouring Persian Gulf countries **hosting** U.S. bases. Iran's **closures** of the Strait of Hormuz, along with **retaliatory strikes** on oil and gas **facilities** in the Gulf countries, **have driven up** energy prices, **threatening** the global economy. The **irony** is **stark**: **Mr. Trump**, who won the presidency twice, campaigning on opposing America's "forever wars", **has** now led the U.S., **at Israel's behest**, into another **disastrous** conflict. After the initial **window** for **regime** change closed, Mr. Trump sent mixed signals. He said he had authorised talks; when Iran refused, he ordered a strike on Kharg Island, the country's main energy export terminal. Israel then **escalated** the conflict further by **assassinating** Ali Larijani, Iran's Security Council Secretary and a key link between the Revolutionary Guards, who are leading the war effort, and the political **establishment**, as well as Iran's Intelligence Minister and the commander of the Basij paramilitary force. On Wednesday, Israel crossed another red line by attacking Iran's South Pars gas field, **triggering** Iranian strikes on energy sites in Qatar, the UAE and Saudi Arabia.

Many had warned even before the war began that an **all-out** attack on Iran could **trigger** a regional crisis. **Mr. Trump**, who until recently **sought** the Nobel Peace Prize, **went ahead regardless**. With over a dozen American soldiers killed, more than a hundred wounded, U.S. bases under attack, and rising oil, gas, and fertilizer prices, he now faces growing political **backlash at home**. On March 17, Joe Kent resigned as Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, claiming that the U.S. entered the war "due to pressure from Israel and its powerful American **lobby**". It is now clear that Mr. Trump did not **anticipate** such a **prolonged** conflict. Even if Mr. Trump wants to declare victory and end the bombing, he faces two hurdles: Iran can continue attacking targets in the Gulf and Israel; and the Strait of Hormuz remains shut. If Mr. Trump prefers further **escalation**, he could **end up** sending ground **troops** to Iran, an extremely risky **gamble**, or expanding the war to the region's energy infrastructure, a move that could **cripple** the global economy. The only **viable** option is **diplomacy**. Mr. Trump should engage Iran through a **mediator** with access to all sides and pursue a **mutually workable** deal. Tehran should stop **holding the global economy hostage** and reopen the Hormuz Strait as part of a **ceasefire**. A deal could still be possible if the U.S. offers **credible** guarantees against future American or Israeli **aggression**.

[Practice Exercise]

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.
- **Cripple** (verb) – cause severe and disabling damage to बिगाड़ना, खराब करना

Vocabulary

1. **Fury** (noun) - rage, wrath, anger, ire, ferocity प्रकोप
2. **Ill-conceived** (adjective) - misguided, imprudent, injudicious, faulty, reckless अविचारपूर्ण
3. **Miscalculation** (noun) - error, blunder, slip-up, lapse, misjudgment गलत अनुमान
4. **Brought death** (phrase) - to cause the end of life on a large scale मृत्यु का कारण बनना
5. **Havoc** (noun) - devastation, destruction, chaos, disorder, carnage तबाही
6. **Host** (verb) - accommodate, entertain, receive, house, welcome मेजबानी करना
7. **Closure** (noun) - blockage, obstruction, stoppage, shutdown, occlusion बंदी
8. **Retaliatory** (adjective) - revengeful, vengeful, vindictive, reciprocal, punishing प्रतिशोधात्मक
9. **Strike** (noun) - attack, assault, raid, onslaught, blitz आक्रमण
10. **Facility** (noun) - establishment, center, unit, institution, amenity संस्थान/सुविधा
11. **Drive up** (phrasal verb) - to cause the price or value of something to increase prices तेजी से बढ़ाना
12. **Threaten** (verb) - endanger, imperil, jeopardize, menace, intimidate डराना/खतरे में डालना
13. **Irony** (noun) - paradox, sarcasm, mockery, incongruity, satire विडंबना
14. **Stark** (adjective) - sharp, distinct, blunt, severe, grim स्पष्ट/कठोर
15. **At somebody's behest** (phrase) - because someone has requested or ordered it किसी के आदेश पर
16. **Disastrous** (adjective) - catastrophic, calamitous, ruinous, tragic, devastating विनाशकारी
17. **Window** (noun) - opportunity, opening, chance, slot, interval अवसर
18. **Regime** (noun) - a method or system of government, especially one that has not been elected in a fair way शासन
19. **Escalate** (verb) - intensify, mount, soar, spiral, expand तीव्र होना
20. **Assassinate** (verb) - murder, execute, slay, eliminate, dispatch हत्या करना
21. **Establishment** (noun) - institution, foundation, firm, facility, enterprise तंत्र/प्रतिष्ठान
22. **Trigger** (verb) - activate, initiate, spark, precipitate, cause सक्रिय करना
23. **All-out** (adjective) - total, complete, thorough, vigorous, maximum पूर्ण/भरपूर
24. **Sought** (verb) - search, pursue, hunt, explore, solicit तलाश करना
25. **Regardless** (adverb) - anyway, nonetheless, notwithstanding, despite, anyhow परवाह किए बिना
26. **Backlash** (noun) - reaction, repercussion, counterblast, resentment, retaliation प्रतिक्रिया
27. **At home** (phrase) - within one's own country or domestic region अपने देश में

28. **Lobby** (noun) - interest group, pressure group, faction, association, camp प्रभावक समूह
29. **Anticipate** (verb) - expect, foresee, predict, await, envision पूर्वानुमान लगाना
30. **Prolonged** (adjective) - extended, lengthy, protracted, sustained, long लंबा
31. **Escalation** (noun) - intensification, rise, surge, growth, expansion वृद्धि
32. **End up** (phrasal verb) - to reach a particular place or situation eventually अंततः कहीं पहुँचना
33. **Troop** (noun) - soldiers, forces, army, personnel, garrison सेना
34. **Gamble** (noun) - risk, venture, speculation, wager, bet जुआ/जोखिम
35. **Viable** (adjective) - feasible, workable, practical, executable, sustainable व्यावहारिक
36. **Diplomacy** (noun) - the activity of managing relations between different countries कूटनीति
37. **Mediator** (noun) - arbitrator, negotiator, moderator, conciliator, go-between मध्यस्थ
38. **Mutually** (adverb) - jointly, reciprocally, commonly, collectively, together पारस्परिक रूप से
39. **Hold somebody hostage** (phrase) - to control someone by using a threat बंधक बनाना
40. **Ceasefire** (noun) - a temporary or permanent agreement between opposing sides to stop fighting युद्धविराम
41. **Credible** (adjective) - believable, plausible, reliable, trustworthy, dependable विश्वसनीय
42. **Aggression** (noun) - hostility, belligerence, assault, intrusion, pugnacity आक्रमण

Summary of the Editorial

1. The editorial criticizes the war on Iran as **ill-conceived, illegal, and destabilizing**.
2. It blames **Donald Trump and Benjamin Netanyahu** for triggering widespread destruction and global economic disruption.
3. The war began on **February 28**, escalating tensions across Asia and beyond.
4. Iran has retaliated with **missiles and drone attacks** on Israel and Gulf countries hosting U.S. bases.
5. Iran's closure of the **Strait of Hormuz** has severely disrupted global oil supply.
6. Attacks on Gulf energy infrastructure have led to **rising oil, gas, and fertilizer prices**.
7. The crisis is threatening the **global economy** and increasing inflationary pressures.
8. Trump's actions contradict his earlier stance against **"forever wars."**
9. Initial hopes for regime change failed, leading to **confused and inconsistent U.S. strategy**.
10. The U.S. escalated the conflict by striking **Kharg Island**, Iran's key oil export hub.
11. Israel further intensified tensions by **targeted assassinations of top Iranian officials**.
12. Attacks on the **South Pars gas field** triggered wider regional retaliation, including strikes on Qatar, UAE, and Saudi Arabia.
13. The war has resulted in **American casualties**, damaged military bases, and domestic political backlash in the U.S.
14. Critics argue the U.S. entered the war under **pressure from Israel and its lobby**, showing poor foresight.
15. The editorial concludes that **diplomacy is the only viable solution**, urging ceasefire, reopening of Hormuz, and credible peace guarantees.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Consider the following statements based on the passage:** [Editorial Page]
1. Donald Trump launched the war on Iran on February 28, despite previously campaigning against "forever wars."
 2. The assassination of Ali Larijani was a key escalation that targeted a link between the Revolutionary Guards and the political establishment.
 3. Joe Kent resigned from his position because he believed the U.S. entered the war to secure the South Pars gas field for American companies.
- A. Only 1 and 2 are correct
B. Only 2 and 3 are correct
C. Only 1 and 3 are correct
D. All are correct
2. **According to the author, what was the immediate global economic consequence of Iran closing the Strait of Hormuz?**
- A. A sudden decrease in the demand for fertilizer and natural gas across the Persian Gulf.
 - B. A sharp rise in energy prices that posed a significant threat to the global economy.
 - C. The immediate awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to mediators from the United Nations.
 - D. The total relocation of all U.S. military bases from Israel to the South Pars gas field.
3. **What does the author identify as a major hurdle for Donald Trump if he wishes to end the current bombing?**
- A. The refusal of the Revolutionary Guards to accept any form of American or Israeli diplomacy.
 - B. The fact that Iran can continue attacking targets while the Strait of Hormuz stays shut.
 - C. The resignation of the Director of the National Counterterrorism Center on March 17.
 - D. The lack of credible mediators who have access to both the Israeli and Saudi leadership.
4. **Which of the following best describes the "extremely risky gamble" mentioned in the final part of the passage?**
- A. Attempting to assassinate the commander of the Basij paramilitary force in Tehran.
 - B. Sending American ground troops into Iran to achieve a more decisive military victory.
 - C. Offering credible guarantees to Iran against any future American or Israeli aggression.
 - D. Requesting the Iranian Intelligence Minister to reopen the Strait of Hormuz immediately.
5. **Evaluate the following statements as True or False based on the passage.**
1. Israel's attack on the South Pars gas field triggered retaliatory Iranian strikes on energy sites in Qatar, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia.
 2. The author suggests that the only viable option remaining to resolve the conflict is further military escalation.
- A. 1-True, 2-True
B. 1-False, 2-True
C. 1-True, 2-False
D. 1-False, 2-False
6. **Directions: In the following question, the sentences of a paragraph are jumbled up. Arrange them in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.**
- A. Before the war, about 138 ships passed through this choke point each day, carrying one-fifth of the global oil supply.

- B. While some energy and everyday goods are still moving, this drastic reduction means daily traffic is down about 95% since the conflict began on 28 February.
- C. Just under 100 ships have passed through the Strait of Hormuz since the start of March, despite periodic attacks on shipping in the area by Iranian forces.
- D. Confirming this, data provided by shipping analysts Kpler shows exactly 99 vessels passing the narrow strait so far this month, an average of just 5-6 vessels a day.
- A. CBDA
B. ACDB
C. CDBA
D. DCBA
7. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate idiom:**
After months of subtle manipulation, she finally showed her true colors and _____.
- A. played her cards right
B. stabbed him in the back
C. took the bull by the horns
D. burned the midnight oil
8. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word: Fastidious**
- A. Easygoing
B. Indulgent
C. Meticulous
D. Careless
9. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate idiom:**
The CEO resigned, citing personal reasons, but insiders knew it was just a _____
- A. can of worms
B. slip of the tongue
C. red herring
D. feather in the cap
10. **Which of the following sentences uses the word "rose" with the same meaning as in the following sentence?**
"He gave her a single red rose on their anniversary"
- A. The water level rose quickly after the heavy rain.
B. The smell of the freshly cut rose filled the room.
C. Prices for gasoline rose sharply over the weekend.
D. The sun rose just as we were finishing our hike.
11. **Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: Waxed and waned**
- A. Increased and decreased
B. Grown steadily
C. Expanded and contracted rapidly
D. Became fixed and stable
12. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**
The art of beautiful handwriting.
- A. Calligraphy
B. Orthography
C. Orthography

- D. Etymology
13. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Upright**
- A. Corrupt
 - B. Honest
 - C. Ethical
 - D. Noble
14. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**
A sudden and violent event causing great destruction
- A. Cataclysm
 - B. Earthquake
 - C. Tsunami
 - D. Outbreak
15. **Change the following sentence into the Active form.**
Why had the highly sensitive company report been rejected by the board of directors?
- A. Why had the board of directors rejected the highly sensitive company report?
 - B. Why the board of directors had rejected the highly sensitive company report?
 - C. The board of directors had rejected the highly sensitive company report, why?
 - D. Why did the board of directors reject the highly sensitive company report?
16. **Choose the most suitable option to replace the highlighted part of the sentence:**
The next stage for the banking sector has been set up, with proposed relaxation of normal for foreign direct investment.
- A. To norms
 - B. In normal
 - C. Of norms
 - D. By normal
17. **Choose the correct passive voice transformation of the sentence:**
The chef had prepared the special dish.
- A. The special dish was prepared by the chef.
 - B. The special dish had been prepared by the chef.
 - C. The special dish has been prepared by the chef.
 - D. The special dish is being prepared by the chef.
18. **Rearrange the following sentence parts to form a meaningful and grammatically correct paragraph:**
- P. She selected the ideal candidate for each character by casting the actors.
 - Q. She helped them discover their voices and goals while guiding them through the rehearsal process.
 - R. She collaborated with the set and lighting designers to achieve the ideal ambience.
 - S. She witnessed her actors realise her vision in front of an audience on opening night.
- A. Q, S, R, P
 - B. R, Q, P, S
 - C. P, Q, R, S
 - D. S, Q, R, P
19. **Rearrange the following sentence parts to form a meaningful and grammatically correct paragraph:**

- P. It soon became a very important tool for long-distance information communication.
- Q. The invention of the telegraph was one of the most remarkable technological advances of the 19th century.
- R. In linking cities and even continents with its cable and signal networks, it transformed the rhythm of life.
- S. This rate of communication had a revolutionary effect on the conduct of politics, business, and warfare.
- A. Q, P, R, S
- B. S, P, R, Q
- C. P, Q, R, S
- D. R, P, Q, S

20. **What is the correct meaning of the idiom "Crack of dawn"?**

- A. Late night
- B. Afternoon
- C. Evening
- D. Very early morning

Comprehension

In 1805, a little-known English artist and (1) ___ ainting instructor did what no woman before her ever had: publish a book on the subject of colour theory. Though (2) ___ few details of the life and career of Mary Gartside have survived, her unprecedented volume *An Essay on Light and Shade, on Colours, and on Composition in General* (3) ___ evidence of extraordinary creative genius. Modestly introduced by its (4) ___ author as little more than a guidebook to "the ladies I have been (5) ___ to instruct in painting", Gartside's study is accompanied by a series of strikingly abstract images unlike any produced previously by a writer or artist of any gender.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (1).**

- A. layman
- B. apprentice
- C. pedestrian
- D. amateur

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (2).**

- A. marginally
- B. frustratingly
- C. abundant
- D. scarcely

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (3).**

- A. reveals
- B. revealed
- C. consist
- D. portray

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (4).**

- A. anonymous
- B. clandestine
- C. concealed

D. obscure

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (5).**

A. called upon

B. called out

C. called off

D. call for

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. A) Only 1 and 2 are correct

Statement 1 is Correct: The passage explicitly states that Trump launched the war on February 28 and notes the irony because he campaigned against "forever wars."

Statement 2 is Correct: The passage describes the assassination of Ali Larijani as a "red line" and a targeted strike on a "key link" between military and political branches.

Statement 3 is Incorrect: Joe Kent's reason for resigning was not about the gas field; he cited "pressure from Israel and its powerful American lobby."

2. B) A sharp rise in energy prices that posed a significant threat to the global economy.

The author directly links the closure of the Strait and strikes on facilities to driving up energy prices and "threatening the global economy."

others are incorrect: (A) is the opposite of the passage; (C) and (D) are not mentioned in the passage.

3. B) The fact that Iran can continue attacking targets while the Strait of Hormuz stays shut.

The passage explicitly lists two hurdles: Iran's ability to continue attacks and the fact that the Strait "remains shut."

others are incorrect: (A), (C), and (D) are details in the passage but are not described as the specific "hurdles" to ending the conflict.

4. B) Sending American ground troops into Iran to achieve a more decisive military victory.

This is a direct quote. The author states that further escalation could lead to sending ground troops to Iran, which is "an extremely risky gamble."

others are Incorrect: The other options (assassinations or diplomacy) are either events that already happened or are recommended as solutions, rather than being described as the "risky gamble" of escalation.

5. C) 1-True, 2-False

Statement 1 is True: This is directly mentioned in the middle of the passage regarding the "red line."

Statement 2 is False: The author explicitly states, "The only viable option is diplomacy," and argues against further escalation.

6. C) Correct Sequence: C-D-B-A

Sentence C सबसे पहले आएगा क्योंकि यह paragraph का main topic introduce करता है। यह हाल ही की एक घटना (current event) बताता है कि मार्च की शुरुआत से Strait of Hormuz से 100 से भी कम जहाज़ (under 100 ships) गुज़रे हैं। यह पूरे paragraph का base set करता है।

Sentence D, Sentence C के तुरंत बाद आएगा क्योंकि "Confirming this" (इसकी पुष्टि करते हुए) और "99 vessels" सीधे तौर पर Sentence C में बताए गए "under 100 ships" का सटीक डेटा (exact data) देते हैं। यह बताता है कि रोज़ाना औसतन सिर्फ 5-6 जहाज़ ही निकल रहे हैं।

Sentence B, Sentence D के बाद आएगा क्योंकि "this drastic reduction" (यह भारी गिरावट) सीधे तौर पर Sentence D में बताए गए रोज़ाना 5-6 जहाज़ों के आंकड़े को refer करता है। यह स्पष्ट करता है कि इस छोटे से नंबर का मतलब है कि 28 फरवरी से ट्रैफ़िक में 95% की कमी आई है।

Sentence A आखिर में आएगा क्योंकि यह Sentence B में बताए गए 95% की गिरावट (drop) का कारण या background बताता है। "this choke point" उसी Strait of Hormuz को refer करता है। यह बताता है कि युद्ध से पहले रोज़ाना 138 जहाज़ गुज़रते थे, जो इस 95% गिरावट के आंकड़े को पूरी तरह justify करके paragraph को conclude करता है।

- Sentence C comes first because it acts as the topic sentence, introducing the current situation. It establishes the primary subject: the fact that "just under 100 ships" have passed through the Strait of Hormuz recently due to attacks.
- Sentence D follows immediately because the phrase "Confirming this" directly links to the claim made in C. It provides the exact statistical evidence—"99 vessels"—to support the "just under 100" figure mentioned in the opening sentence, breaking it down to 5-6 vessels a day.
- Sentence B comes next because the phrase "this drastic reduction" is a direct reference to the mere "5-6 vessels a day" mentioned in Sentence D. It translates that low daily number into a broader percentage, stating that traffic is down by 95%.
- Sentence A comes last because it provides the historical baseline necessary to understand the 95% drop mentioned in Sentence B. It explains that before the war, the normal traffic was 138 ships a day, which brings the paragraph to a logical, fully explained conclusion.

7. B) **stabbed him in the back** – to betray someone धोखा देना / पीठ में छुरा घोंपना
- **played her cards right** – acted wisely to achieve success समझदारी से काम करना
 - **took the bull by the horns** – faced a difficult situation boldly कठिन परिस्थिति का साहस से सामना करना
 - **burned the midnight oil** – worked late into the night देर रात तक मेहनत करना
8. C) **Fastidious** (adjective) – Very attentive to detail, precise, demanding, difficult to please; fussy, particular, meticulous, exacting, perfectionist. अत्यधिक चुस्त / सूक्ष्मता-प्रिय
Synonym: **Meticulous** (adjective) – Showing great attention to detail; careful, precise. सूक्ष्मता से कार्य करने वाला
- **Easygoing** (adjective) – Relaxed, tolerant, not easily upset. निश्चिंत / सरल स्वभाव
 - **Indulgent** (adjective) – Lenient, permissive. लाड़ करने वाला
 - **Careless** (adjective) – Negligent, inattentive. लापरवाह
9. C) **red herring** – something said to distract from the real issue असली बात से ध्यान हटाने वाली चाल
- **can of worms** – a complicated or troublesome situation जटिल परेशानी
 - **slip of the tongue** – accidental spoken mistake ज़बान फिसलना
 - **feather in the cap** – an achievement to be proud of गर्व करने योग्य उपलब्धि
10. B) **Highlighted** वाक्य में 'rose' का अर्थ है – एक फूल (flower)।
विकल्प B में भी 'rose' उसी अर्थ में प्रयोग हुआ है – कटी हुई गुलाब की सुगंध।
इसलिए यह same meaning का सही उदाहरण है।
In the highlighted sentence, 'rose' refers to the flower.

Option B also uses 'rose' as the flower.

Thus, option B matches the same meaning.

11. A) **Waxed and waned** (idiom)- Increased and decreased कभी बढ़ना कभी घटना / उतार-चढ़ाव आना
12. A) **Calligraphy** (noun) – the art of beautiful handwriting सुन्दर लेखन कला
- **Orthography** (noun) – correct spelling प्रणाली सही वर्तनी प्रणाली
 - **Lexicography** (noun) – the practice of compiling dictionaries शब्दकोश निर्माण कला
 - **Etymology** (noun) – the study of word origins शब्द-व्युत्पत्ति विज्ञान
13. A) **Upright** (adjective) – Morally good, honest, ethical, and honorable; virtuous, just, principled, ethical, righteous. सत्यनिष्ठ / ईमानदार
Antonym: **Corrupt** (adjective) – Dishonest or immoral; willing to act wrongly for personal gain. भ्रष्ट / अनैतिक
- **Honest** (adjective) – Truthful, sincere. ईमानदार
 - **Ethical** (adjective) – Morally right, principled. नैतिक
 - **Noble** (adjective) – Honorable, dignified, virtuous. उदार / श्रेष्ठ
14. A) **Cataclysm** (noun) – a sudden and violent event causing massive destruction विनाशकारी विपदा / महाविपत्ति
- **Earthquake** (noun) – shaking of the earth पृथ्वी का कम्पन / भूकंप
 - **Tsunami** (noun) – large sea waves caused by disturbance सुनामी
 - **Outbreak** (noun) – sudden start of something unpleasant (disease/violence) अचानक फैलाव
15. A) **Why had the board of directors rejected the highly sensitive company report?**
Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए Passive वाक्य का Subject (जो असल में Object होता है) Active वाक्य में Object बन जाता है और Passive वाक्य का Agent (by + subject) Active वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Passive वाक्य में "had been rejected" (Past Perfect Passive) है, जिसे Active में "had rejected" (Past Perfect Active) में बदला गया है। Passive वाक्य में "the highly sensitive company report" Object है और "the board of directors" Agent है, इसलिए Active में "the board of directors" Subject बना और "the highly sensitive company report" Object बना।
To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the subject of the passive (which is originally the object) becomes the object in the active form, while the agent (introduced by "by") becomes the subject. The verb is transformed from passive form "had been rejected" (Past Perfect Passive) into active form "had rejected" (Past Perfect Active). Here, "the highly sensitive company report" functions as the object in the active sentence, and "the board of directors" functions as the subject.
16. C) **normal** की जगह 'norms' का प्रयोग होगा और उसके पहले 'of' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ बात FDI के नियमों में ढील (relaxation of norms) की हो रही है। अतः "relaxation of norms for FDI" सही वाक्य संरचना है।
- 'of norms' will be used instead of 'normal' because the context refers to easing the rules/regulations (norms) for foreign direct investment. Therefore, the correct structure is "relaxation of norms for FDI."
17. B) . **The special dish had been prepared by the chef.**

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 chef” Subject है, “had prepared” Verb (Past Perfect Tense) है और “the special dish” Object है। Passive में बदलने पर Object “The special dish” Subject बन गया है, Verb को “had been prepared” (Past Perfect Passive) में बदला गया है और “by the chef” 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 transformed from the active form to the passive form, ensuring correct tense usage. In this case, “The chef” (Subject), “had prepared” (Verb in Past Perfect), and “the special dish” (Object) from the active voice have been transformed into “The special dish” (Subject), “had been prepared” (Passive Verb in Past Perfect), and “by the chef”.

18. C) P, Q, R, S

She selected the ideal candidate for each character by casting the actors. She helped them discover their voices and goals while guiding them through the rehearsal process. She collaborated with the set and lighting designers to achieve the ideal ambience. She witnessed her actors realise her vision in front of an audience on opening night.

P paragraph की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह theatre production की initial stage को दिखाता है। Actors का casting करना सबसे पहला जरूरी step है, क्योंकि सही characters के लिए सही actors चुनने के बाद ही आगे का काम possible होता है।

Q, P के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह rehearsal process को दिखाता है। Actors को उनके roles समझने में help करना और उनकी voices और goals discover कराना, casting के बाद naturally होता है।

R, Q के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह technical collaboration को दर्शाता है। Set और lighting designers के साथ काम करना rehearsals के साथ और उसके बाद होता है, ताकि play का सही ambience बन सके।

S paragraph का conclusion है क्योंकि यह final outcome दिखाता है। Opening night पर audience के सामने director का vision realize होते देखना पूरे process का natural end है।

P starts the paragraph because it shows the initial stage of a theatrical production. Casting actors is the first major step, as selecting the right people for each role lays the foundation for everything that follows.

Q comes after P because it describes the rehearsal phase. Guiding actors to discover their voices and goals naturally happens only after they have been selected for their roles.

R follows Q because it highlights technical collaboration. Working with set and lighting designers usually takes place alongside and after rehearsals, helping shape the overall ambience of the play.

S concludes the paragraph because it shows the final outcome. Opening night, where the director sees her vision realised in front of an audience, is clearly the ending of the entire process.

Therefore, the correct order is P → Q → R → S, which corresponds to Option 3.

19. A) Q, P, R, S

The invention of the telegraph was one of the most remarkable technological advances of the 19th century. It soon became a very important tool for long-distance information communication. In linking cities and even continents with its cable and signal networks, it transformed the rhythm of life. This rate of communication had a revolutionary effect on the conduct of politics, business, and warfare.

Q paragraph की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह telegraph की invention को introduce करता है और इसे 19वीं सदी की एक remarkable technological advance बताता है। यह natural starting point है क्योंकि किसी चीज़ के विकास की चर्चा पहले उसके invention से शुरू होती है।

P, Q के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह बताता है कि telegraph कैसे महत्वपूर्ण tool बन गया, खासकर long-distance information communication के लिए। यह invention के बाद logically आता है।

R, P के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह दिखाता है कि telegraph ने cities और continents को cable और signal networks के जरिए जोड़ा, जिससे जीवन की rhythm बदल गई। यह detail P में बताए उपयोग को expand करता है।

S paragraph का conclusion है क्योंकि यह बताता है कि इस communication की speed ने politics, business, और warfare पर revolutionary effect डाला। यह result या outcome को summarize करता है।

इसलिए सही order है $Q \rightarrow P \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$, यानी Option 1

Q starts the paragraph because it introduces the invention of the telegraph and highlights it as one of the most remarkable technological advances of the 19th century. This is the natural starting point because any discussion about a development begins with its invention.

P comes after Q because it explains how the telegraph soon became an important tool, especially for long-distance information communication. This logically follows the invention.

R follows P because it shows how the telegraph linked cities and continents with its cable and signal networks, transforming the rhythm of life. This expands on the practical impact mentioned in P.

S concludes the paragraph because it describes the effect of this rapid communication on politics, business, and warfare, summarizing the outcome or result of the telegraph's impact. Therefore, the correct order is $Q \rightarrow P \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$, which corresponds to Option 1.

20. D) "**Crack of dawn**" means very early morning – सुबह-सुबह

21. D) [**amateur**] सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब ऐसा इंसान होता है जो कोई काम अपने शौक के लिए करता है, न कि पेशे (profession) या पैसे के लिए। एक "कम जानी-मानी" (little-known) पेंटिंग टीचर के लिए यह एकदम सही शब्द है। layman एक noun है जिसका मतलब ऐसा आम आदमी होता है जिसे किसी विषय की तकनीकी जानकारी न हो, इसलिए यह यहाँ adjective की जगह गलत है। apprentice का मतलब काम सीखने वाला (प्रशिक्षु) होता है। pedestrian का मतलब बहुत ही साधारण या उबाऊ (dull) होता है।

- [**amateur**] is correct because it acts as an adjective describing someone who engages in an activity for passion or pleasure rather than as a fully recognized, paid professional. This perfectly matches the description of a "little-known" painting instructor. layman is a noun referring to a person without professional or specialized knowledge in a particular subject, so it fails grammatically as an adjective here. apprentice is a person actively learning a trade from a skilled employer. pedestrian as an adjective means lacking inspiration or excitement (dull or boring).

22. B) [**frustratingly**] सही है क्योंकि यह एक adverb है जो "few" (कम) के साथ जुड़कर यह निराशा (disappointment) दिखाता है कि उसकी ज़िंदगी के बारे में इतनी कम जानकारी बची है। "Frustratingly few" का मतलब है 'इतनी कम कि निराशा हो'। scarcely का मतलब 'मुश्किल से' (almost not) होता है, जिसे 'few' के साथ लगाना ग्रामर के हिसाब से अजीब और गलत (redundant) है। abundant का मतलब

'प्रचुर' या 'बहुत सारा' होता है, जो 'few' का एकदम उल्टा है और वाक्य का अर्थ बिगाड़ देता है। marginally का मतलब 'मामूली तौर पर' (slightly) होता है, जो 'few' के साथ यहाँ सही अर्थ नहीं देता।

- [frustratingly] is correct because it is an adverb that modifies the word "few" to express disappointment that so little information about her life has survived. The combination "frustratingly few" accurately conveys the exact feeling of wanting more details but not having them. scarcely means "almost not," which creates a redundancy when paired with "few" (saying "almost not few" or "barely few" is grammatically awkward and incorrect). abundant means plentiful or having a large amount, which is the exact opposite of the word "few" right next to it, creating a logical contradiction. marginally means slightly or to a very small extent, which does not pair logically with "few" in this context.

23. A) [reveals] सही है क्योंकि वाक्य का subject "volume" (किताब) एकवचन (singular) है। चूँकि किताब आज भी मौजूद है और यह सुबूत हमेशा दिखाती है, इसलिए वर्तमान काल (present tense) का एकवचन verb "reveals" ही सही है। revealed past tense में है, जबकि किताब की लिखी बातें हमेशा वर्तमान (present) मानी जाती हैं। consist बहुवचन (plural) है और इसके साथ हमेशा 'of' आता है। portray भी बहुवचन (plural) verb है, इसलिए यह "volume" (singular) के साथ ग्रामर के हिसाब से गलत है।

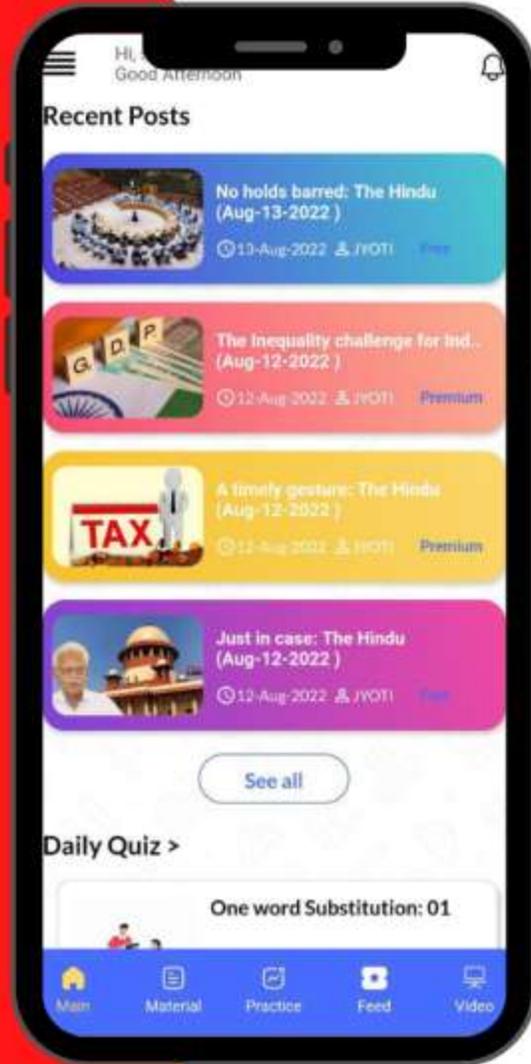
- [reveals] is correct because the subject of the sentence is "volume" (the book), which is a singular noun. Since the book still exists today and its contents are a permanent fact, the present tense singular verb "reveals" is required. revealed is in the past tense, which is less accurate for describing the permanent contents of a published book. consist is a plural verb and must strictly be followed by the preposition "of" (consist of). portray is a plural verb, which does not agree with the singular subject "volume" (it would need to be "portrays").

24. D) [obscure] सही है क्योंकि यह एक adjective है जिसका मतलब गुमनाम या जिसे बहुत कम लोग जानते हों (not well-known) होता है। पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत में ही उसे "little-known" कहा गया है, इसलिए 'obscure' बिल्कुल सटीक शब्द है। anonymous का मतलब बेनाम होता है, लेकिन हमें उसका नाम (Mary Gartside) पता है। clandestine का मतलब किसी गैरकानूनी या गलत काम के लिए छिपकर किया गया काम (secret) होता है। concealed का मतलब भौतिक रूप से (physically) छिपाया हुआ होता है।

- [obscure] is correct because it is an adjective meaning not discovered or known about by many people. The passage already introduced her as a "little-known English artist," making "obscure" the perfect matching description for the author. anonymous means unnamed or unidentified, but we know her name is Mary Gartside. clandestine means kept secret or done secretly, usually for an illicit or illegal reason. concealed means physically hidden from sight.

25. A) [called upon] सही है क्योंकि यह एक phrasal verb है जिसका मतलब किसी खास काम या ज़िम्मेदारी के लिए बुलाया जाना या कहा जाना (invited to do a task) होता है (जैसे यहाँ महिलाओं को पेंटिंग सिखाने के लिए कहा गया)। called off का मतलब किसी कार्यक्रम या योजना को रद्द (cancel) करना होता है। called out का मतलब किसी की गलती पर उसे सबके सामने टोकना या चुनौती देना होता है। call for का मतलब मांग करना होता है, लेकिन यह present tense में है, जो "have been" वाले ग्रामर स्ट्रक्चर में पूरी तरह गलत है।

- [called upon] is correct because it is a phrasal verb meaning to be asked or invited to do a particular task or duty (in this case, being asked to instruct ladies in painting). called off means to cancel an event or agreement. called out means to challenge someone, draw critical attention to someone's actions, or shout loudly. call for means to demand or require something, but it is in the present tense, completely breaking the past participle grammatical structure ("have been [verb+ed]") of the sentence.



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