

Faiths and fences: On reservation benefits, religious groups

Limiting reservation benefits to specific religious groups **is** appropriate

The Supreme Court of India has **reiterated** a long-held, yet **contested**, principle of India's anti-**discrimination jurisprudence** — that protections and special provisions for Scheduled Caste (SC) communities will be available only to those who practise Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism. The March 24 Court judgment arose from a Christian **pastor** who **sought** protections under the SC/ST (Prevention of **Atrocities**) Act, in Andhra Pradesh. The Court **upheld** a High Court decision that any member of the SC community who has converted out of the three religions specified in the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, issued under Article 341, **ceases** to be an SC member. The original definition of SC included only Hindus, but was extended to Sikhs (1956) and Buddhists (1990). India's founding **leaders**, including first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, **were** clear that the extreme **form** of discrimination **manifested** in **untouchability was** unique to Hindu society. But political and social realities forced **amendments** later. SC communities began using religious conversion itself as an act of **assertion** and **autonomy**. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar himself led a mass conversion of SC members to Buddhism. **Notably**, he converted to Buddhism in 1956, the year when **all SC communities** practising the Sikh religion **were** brought under special **provisions**, including reservation.

There are **theological** and legal arguments for this **distinction reiterated** by the Court. It is **often** argued that in Christianity and Islam, there is no **theological** defence of **discrimination** based on social **stratification**. **That** Sikhism and Buddhism are part of the **civilisational** universe of Hinduism **is** an argument which has gained political and constitutional **legitimacy**. Under Explanation II to Article 25(2) of the Constitution, the definition of Hindu includes the Sikh, Buddhist and Jain faiths. Neither the **theological** nor the constitutional **arguments** for the exclusion of converts to Islam and Christianity from special protections **are** logically or **empirically watertight**, and hence the question continues to **fester**. Christian or Muslim converts continue to face discrimination, including untouchability, even within their new religious world. After all, discrimination needs no theological **sanction**. But the **question** of their inclusion **remains** a politically **surcharged** topic, with a commission headed by former Chief Justice of India K.G. Balakrishnan **examining** this. Many Dalit **activists** oppose the inclusion of converts within the **existing quantum** of reservation. Many **members** of SC communities who have converted to Christianity or Islam **receive** benefits under provisions meant for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes under Article 15(4) of the Constitution. The Court's decision is appropriate under the existing legal and constitutional scheme, and any change can only come through a political process and the legislative route. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Fence** (noun) - barrier, pale, railing, enclosure, boundary बाड़/सीमा
2. **Limit** (verb) - restrict, curb, check, confine, cap सीमित करना
3. **Reiterate** (verb) - repeat, restate, retell, recapitulate, echo बार-बार दोहराना
4. **Contested** (adjective) - disputed, debated, argued, contended, litigated विवादास्पद
5. **Discrimination** (noun) - prejudice, bias, bigotry, intolerance, inequity भेदभाव
6. **Jurisprudence** (noun) - the study or theory of law विधि-शास्त्र
7. **Pastor** (noun) - priest, clergyman, minister, parson, cleric पादरी
8. **Seek** (verb) - solicit, request, pursue, ask, desire मांगना/तलाश करना
9. **Atrocity** (noun) - cruelty, outrage, horror, abomination, enormity अत्याचार
10. **Upheld** (verb) - sustain, support, maintain, validate, confirm सही ठहराना/बरकरार रखना
11. **Cease** (verb) - stop, halt, terminate, end, desist समाप्त होना/रुकना
12. **Manifest** (verb) - display, exhibit, show, demonstrate, reveal प्रकट करना/दिखाना
13. **Untouchability** (noun) - a social practice of ostracizing a minority group by segregating them from the mainstream छुआछूत/अस्पृश्यता
14. **Amendment** (noun) - alteration, modification, revision, change, correction संशोधन
15. **Assertion** (noun) - declaration, contention, statement, affirmation, claim दृढ़ता से कहना/दावा
16. **Autonomy** (noun) - the ability to make one's own decisions and act independently स्वायत्तता
17. **Notably** (adverb) - remarkably, significantly, particularly, especially, strikingly विशेष रूप से
18. **Provision** (noun) - clause, condition, term, requirement, stipulation प्रावधान
19. **Theological** (adjective) - religious, scriptural, doctrinal, divine, canonical धार्मिक/धर्मशास्त्र संबंधी
20. **Distinction** (noun) - difference, contrast, variance, discrepancy, divergence अंतर/भेद
21. **Often** (adverb) - frequently, repeatedly, regularly, habitually, commonly अक्सर
22. **Stratification** (noun) - classification, layering, grouping, ranking, organization स्तरीकरण
23. **Civilisational** (adjective) - relating to a human society that has a highly developed culture and way of life सभ्यता संबंधी
24. **Legitimacy** (noun) - legality, validity, lawfulness, authenticity, rightfulness वैधता
25. **Empirically** (adverb) - experimentally, factually, practically, observationally, realistically अनुभवजन्य रूप से
26. **Watertight** (adjective) - foolproof, flawless, impeccable, irrefutable, solid त्रुटिहीन/अकाट्य

27. **Fester** (verb) - aggravate, rankle, smolder, intensify, worsen कड़वाहट पैदा करना/सड़ना
28. **Sanction** (noun) - an official approval or a penalty imposed to enforce rules or laws मंजूरी/अनुमति
29. **Surcharge** (verb) - to fill with strong or exaggerated emotion उत्तेजित करना/अत्यधिक भार डालना
30. **Examine** (verb) - inspect, scrutinize, investigate, study, probe जांच करना
31. **Activist** (noun) - campaigner, advocate, reformer, champion, militant कार्यकर्ता
32. **Existing** (adjective) - current, present, extant, prevailing, immediate वर्तमान/मौजूदा
33. **Quantum** (noun) - amount, quantity, portion, measure, quota मात्रा/हिस्सा

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Supreme Court reaffirmed that Scheduled Caste (SC) reservation benefits apply only to Hindus, Sikhs, and Buddhists.
2. The ruling came in a case where a Christian pastor sought protection under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.
3. The Court upheld that conversion outside the specified religions results in loss of SC status.
4. This principle is based on the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 under Article 341.
5. Initially, SC status was limited to Hindus but later extended to Sikhs (1956) and Buddhists (1990).
6. Founding leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru believed untouchability was specific to Hindu social structure.
7. However, social realities led to amendments and recognition of other related religions.
8. Conversion has historically been used by Dalits as a means of social assertion and dignity.
9. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's conversion to Buddhism symbolised resistance against caste discrimination.
10. The Court's reasoning includes theological arguments that Islam and Christianity do not sanction caste discrimination.
11. Constitutional interpretation also groups Sikhism and Buddhism within the broader Hindu framework.
12. However, exclusion of Muslim and Christian converts is not fully logical or empirically justified.
13. Evidence shows that caste-based discrimination persists even after religious conversion.
14. The issue remains politically sensitive, with ongoing examination by a commission led by former CJI K.G. Balakrishnan.
15. Any change in extending reservation benefits to converts must come through legislative and political processes, not judicial reinterpretation.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Why did India's founding leaders, such as Jawaharlal Nehru, originally limit SC protections to Hindu society?** [Editorial page]
 - A. They believed that untouchability was a unique form of discrimination manifested specifically within Hindu society.
 - B. They wanted to encourage SC members to convert to Buddhism as an act of social assertion and autonomy.
 - C. They were following the exact theological guidelines of Islam and Christianity which defend social stratification.
 - D. They intended to ensure that the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act would never apply to the state of Andhra Pradesh.
2. **Which of the following is/are INCORRECT regarding the current status of Dalit converts to Christianity or Islam?**
 1. They currently receive benefits under provisions for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes under Article 15(4).
 2. The Supreme Court has mandated that they must be included in the existing quantum of reservation for Scheduled Castes.
 3. A commission headed by former Chief Justice K.G. Balakrishnan is currently examining the question of their inclusion.
 4. Discrimination and untouchability are entirely non-existent for those who convert to these new religious worlds.
 - A. Only 1 and 3
 - B. Only 2 and 4
 - C. Only 2, 3, and 4
 - D. All are incorrect
3. **Based on your understanding of the passage, what is the significance of the year 1956 in the context of SC protections?**
 - A. It was the year the Supreme Court first ruled that the SC/ST Act applies only to the state of Andhra Pradesh.
 - B. It was the year the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order was first issued to include only the Hindu faith.
 - C. It was the year Dr. B.R. Ambedkar converted to Buddhism and Sikhs were brought under special SC provisions.
 - D. It was the year that the government decided to remove all religious requirements for the definition of Scheduled Castes.
4. **Which of the following best describes the Tone of the passage?**
 - A. Highly Emotional and Jingoistic
 - B. Analytical and Balanced
 - C. Dismissive and Unconcerned
 - D. Purely Religious and Biased
5. **Consider the following statements regarding the legal definition of Scheduled Castes (SC) in India:**
 1. The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, originally included only Hindus in its definition.

2. Special provisions for SC communities were extended to include those practicing Sikhism in 1956 and Buddhism in 1990.
3. Under Explanation II to Article 25(2) of the Constitution, the definition of "Hindu" includes Sikh, Buddhist, and Jain faiths.
4. The Supreme Court recently ruled that SC members who convert to Christianity still retain their SC status under the 1950 Order.

Which of the statements given above are CORRECT?

- A. Only 1 and 2
 - B. Only 2 and 4
 - C. Only 1, 2, and 3
 - D. All are correct
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. Opposing this request, prosecutors strongly argued that the pair had plundered the country's wealth and should not be permitted to use state money for personal legal fees.
 - B. US forces recently seized ex-Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro and his wife from their Caracas compound and brought them to New York to face severe narco-terrorism allegations.
 - C. However, the presiding judge appeared sympathetic to the couple's financial plight, noting that while he wouldn't dismiss the case entirely, "the right to defence is paramount."
 - D. Facing these charges, their attorneys asked the judge to dismiss the case because US sanctions have blocked them from using Venezuelan government funds for their defence.
- A. DABC
 - B. BDAC
 - C. ACBD
 - D. CBDA
7. **Find the incorrect part in the given sentence:**
"If I was you, I wouldn't do this."
- A. If I
 - B. was you
 - C. I wouldn't
 - D. do this
8. **Identify the error in the given sentence:**
"He denied to attend the meeting citing personal reasons."
- A. He denied
 - B. to attend
 - C. the meeting
 - D. citing personal reasons
9. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate verb:**
After months of silence, the author finally _____ the controversy in a detailed blog post.
- A. addressed
 - B. suppressed
 - C. diverted
 - D. evaded

10. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word: Turgid**
- A. Concise
 - B. Inflated
 - C. Simple
 - D. Plain
11. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word: PALIMPSESTIC**
- A. Simplistic
 - B. Erased
 - C. Layered
 - D. Empty
12. **Choose the correctly spelt word:**
- A. innocient
 - B. insocant
 - C. insouciant
 - D. linsociant
13. **Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: Every nook and cranny**
- A. Every small corner or hidden part
 - B. Every important detail
 - C. Every visible place
 - D. Every large space or open area
14. **Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: Tread on your toes**
- A. Be overly protective of yourself
 - B. Act with extreme caution
 - C. Offend or annoy someone
 - D. Help someone with their task
15. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**
A person who studies rocks and minerals
- A. Cartographer
 - B. Mineralogist
 - C. Archaeologist
 - D. Paleontologist
16. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**
A person who works with gemstones
- A. Gemologist
 - B. Jeweler
 - C. Silversmith
 - D. Metallurgist
17. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Chicanery**
- A. Deceit
 - B. Honesty
 - C. Trickery
 - D. Subterfuge
18. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Intimate**
- A. Distant

- B. Close
- C. Familiar
- D. Personal

19. **One of these words is spelled incorrectly. Which one is it?**

- A. Torpor
- B. Penury
- C. Zealot
- D. rancoros

20. **One of these words is spelled incorrectly. Which one is it?**

- A. Connoisseur
- B. Priviledge
- C. Surveillance
- D. Endeavour

Comprehension

I (1) ___ my aunt Eleanor a few days ago and asked her to help with an experiment. "It's for an article," I said. I had explained I was going to call her back and she'd either be talking to the real me or an AI deepfake. Could someone who's known me my whole life tell the difference? At first, my aunt wasn't buying that any AI was involved. "Well, it sounds like you," she said. "I think a real person uses a lot more (2) ___ than I would expect an AI-generated voice to use." That might be true, I told her, but AI is getting pretty advanced. There was a long pause. "I was like 90% sure," she said, hesitating. "But that sounded more (3) ___." When we talk about deepfakes, the typical concern is about you getting tricked. Rightly so. AI fakery has been used to (4) ___ people out of large sums of money, spread misinformation and even attempt to (5) ___ elections. But what if the shoe was on the other foot? What if someone accuses you of being a deepfake? How do you prove you're real?

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

- A. called in
- B. call on
- C. called up
- D. call forth

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

- A. vocabulary
- B. punctuation
- C. acoustics
- D. inflection

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

- A. fictitious
- B. superficial
- C. forged
- D. artificial

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

- A. scam
- B. embezzle

- C. extort
 - D. rob
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (5).**
- A. lobby
 - B. sway
 - C. negotiate
 - D. persuade

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. A) **They believed that untouchability was a unique form of discrimination manifested specifically within Hindu society.**

The passage states, "India's founding leaders... were clear that the extreme form of discrimination manifested in untouchability was unique to Hindu society."

others are wrong: (B) refers to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's later actions, not the original intent of the leaders mentioned; (C) is the opposite of the passage (those religions have no theological defense for it); (D) is not mentioned.

2. B) **Only 2 and 4.**

Statement 2 is incorrect because the Court upheld their exclusion, stating any change must come through the legislative route.

Statement 4 is incorrect because the passage says converts "continue to face discrimination, including untouchability," in their new religions.

Similarity to Passage: Statements 1 and 3 are directly mentioned as the current reality and the role of the Balakrishnan commission.

3. C) **It was the year Dr. B.R. Ambedkar converted to Buddhism and Sikhs were brought under special SC provisions.**

The passage notes, "Ambedkar himself... converted to Buddhism in 1956, the year when all SC communities practising the Sikh religion were brought under special provisions."

others are wrong: (A) is not in the passage; (B) refers to the 1950 Order; (D) is factually incorrect according to the passage.

4. B) **Analytical and Balanced.**

Analytical: The author examines legal precedents, constitutional articles (15, 25, 341), and historical context to explain the current situation.

Balanced: The author presents both sides—acknowledging the Court's legal logic while also noting that the arguments for exclusion are not "logically or empirically watertight" because converts still face discrimination.

5. C) **Only 1, 2, and 3.**

Statements 1, 2, and 3 are explicitly confirmed in the passage. The 1950 Order originally covered Hindus, was amended for Sikhs (1956) and Buddhists (1990), and Article 25(2) groups these together under the "Hindu"

Statement 4 is incorrect because the Court upheld that a member "ceases to be an SC member" upon converting out of the three specified religions.

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

Sentence B comes first because it serves as the introductory topic sentence. It establishes the primary subjects (Nicolás Maduro and his wife) and the foundational context: they were seized and brought to New York to face "narco-terrorism allegations."

Sentence D follows immediately because the phrase "Facing these charges" directly references the "narco-terrorism allegations" introduced in Sentence B. It also introduces the main conflict of the paragraph: the attorneys' request to dismiss the case due to blocked defense funds.

Sentence A comes next because the phrase "Opposing this request" is a direct logical link back to the attorneys' plea to dismiss the case mentioned in Sentence D. It provides the counter-argument from the prosecutors regarding those specific funds.

Sentence C comes last because the transition word "However" and the introduction of the "presiding judge" serve to resolve the argument presented in Sentences D and A. It concludes the paragraph by showing the judge's final reaction to both sides of the funding dispute.

Sentence B सबसे पहले आएगा क्योंकि यह paragraph का main topic introduce करता है। यह मुख्य किरदारों (Nicolás Maduro और उनकी पत्नी) को पेश करता है और एक basic context देता है कि उन्हें गिरफ्तार करके New York लाया गया है ताकि उन पर "narco-terrorism" के आरोपों (allegations) का मुकदमा चल सके।

Sentence D, Sentence B के तुरंत बाद आएगा क्योंकि "Facing these charges" (इन आरोपों का सामना करते हुए) सीधे तौर पर Sentence B में बताए गए "narco-terrorism allegations" को refer करता है। यह इस paragraph की मुख्य समस्या (main conflict) को भी सामने लाता है—कि वकीलों ने केस को खारिज (dismiss) करने की मांग की है क्योंकि US sanctions की वजह से उनके defense funds ब्लॉक कर दिए गए हैं।

Sentence A, Sentence D के बाद आएगा क्योंकि "Opposing this request" (इस मांग का विरोध करते हुए) सीधे तौर पर Sentence D में वकीलों द्वारा की गई केस खारिज करने की मांग को refer करता है। यह बताता है कि prosecutors ने उन पैसों के इस्तेमाल के खिलाफ क्या तर्क (counter-argument) दिया—कि उन्होंने देश का पैसा लूटा है।

Sentence C आखिर में आएगा क्योंकि "However" (हालाँकि) और "presiding judge" की एंट्री Sentence D (वकीलों की मांग) और Sentence A (prosecutors का विरोध) के बीच चल रही बहस का नतीजा (resolution) दिखाती है। यह paragraph को conclude करता है कि जज ने दोनों पक्षों की बात सुनने के बाद क्या फैसला लिया (कि बचाव का अधिकार सबसे ऊपर है, लेकिन केस खारिज नहीं होगा)।

7. B) 'was you' के बदले **'were you'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह imaginary / unreal condition है। ऐसे मामलों में Subjunctive Mood के तहत सभी subjects के साथ 'were' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— If I were you, I would not do this.
 - 'were you' will be used instead of 'was you' because this is an unreal / hypothetical condition. In such cases, under the Subjunctive Mood, 'were' is used with all subjects; Like— If I were you, I would not do this.
8. B) 'to attend' की जगह **'attending'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Verb deny के बाद हमेशा gerund (-ing form) आता है; जैसे — He denied knowing the facts.
 - 'attending' will be used instead of 'to attend' because the verb deny is always followed by a gerund (-ing form); as in — He denied knowing the facts
9. A) **addressed** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि sentence में बताया गया है कि लंबे समय तक चुप रहने के बाद लेखक ने अंततः उस विवाद पर खुलकर बात की। यहाँ संदर्भ "issue को उठाने/बात करने" का है, इसलिए 'addressed' सबसे उपयुक्त है।
 - 'addressed' should be used because the context states that after months of silence, the author finally talked about or responded to the controversy. The idea is about taking up the issue and discussing it, which makes 'addressed' the most fitting option.

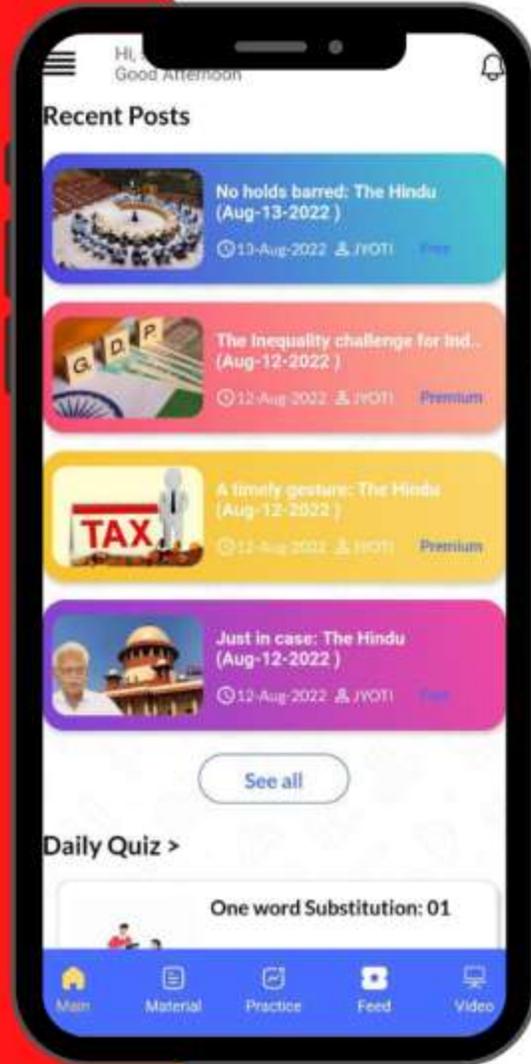
10. B) **Turgid** (adjective) – bombastic, swollen, inflated in style or language आडंबरपूर्ण / फूला हुआ
Synonym: **Inflated** (adjective) – exaggerated, overblown, puffed up बढ़ा-चढ़ाकर
- **Concise** (adjective) – brief and to the point संक्षिप्त
 - **Simple** (adjective) – easy, plain, not complicated सरल
 - **Plain** (adjective) – clear, straightforward, unadorned साधारण
11. C) **Palimpsestic** (adjective) – having multiple layers of writing, meaning, or history built upon earlier traces परतदार / बहु-स्तरीय
Synonym: **Layered** (adjective) – having levels or strata arranged on top of each other परतों वाला
- **Simplistic** (adjective) – oversimplified, lacking complexity अत्यधिक सरल
 - **Erased** (adjective) – removed or wiped out मिटाया हुआ
 - **Empty** (adjective) – without contents, vacant खाली
12. C) The correct spelling of ‘insocant’ is ‘**insouciant**’ which means “carefree; unconcerned” बेफ़िक्र, निश्चित.
13. A) **Every nook and cranny** (idiom) -Every small corner or hidden part हर छोटा-सा कोना / छिपी जगह तक
14. C) **Tread on your toes** (idiom) - Offend or annoy someone किसी को नाराज़ या आहत करना
15. B) **Mineralogist** (noun) – A person who studies rocks and minerals खनिज व शैलों का अध्ययन करने वाला
- **Cartographer** (noun) – one who makes maps नक्शा-निर्माता
 - **Archaeologist** (noun) – one who studies ancient human history पुरातत्ववेत्ता
 - **Paleontologist** (noun) – one who studies fossils जीवाश्म विशेषज्ञ
16. A) **Gemologist** (noun) – A person who studies and works with gemstones रत्नों का अध्ययन व परीक्षण करने वाला
- **Jeweler** (noun) – one who deals in jewelry आभूषण विक्रेता
 - **Silversmith** (noun) – one who makes objects from silver चाँदी का कारीगर
 - **Metallurgist** (noun) – one who studies metals धातु विज्ञान विशेषज्ञ
17. B) **Chicanery** (noun) – deception, trickery, fraud, use of clever but dishonest tactics छल / कपट
Antonym: **Honesty** (noun) – truthfulness, fairness, integrity, moral uprightness ईमानदारी
- **Deceit** (noun) – dishonesty, fraud, deception धोखा
 - **Trickery** (noun) – use of tricks to deceive, guile चालबाज़ी
 - **Subterfuge** (noun) – a deceptive device or strategy to hide something कपटयुक्त युक्ति
18. A) **Intimate** (adjective) – close, familiar, personal, deeply connected निकट / घनिष्ठ
Antonym: **Distant** (adjective) – far away, reserved, not emotionally close दूर / औपचारिक
- **Close** (adjective) – near, intimate, friendly पास / घनिष्ठ
 - **Familiar** (adjective) – well-known, acquainted परिचित
 - **Personal** (adjective) – relating to private life or individual matters व्यक्तिगत
19. D) The correct spelling of ‘rancoros’ is ‘**rancorous**’ which means “characterized by bitterness or resentment” कटु, द्वेषपूर्ण.
20. B) The correct spelling of “Priviledge” is “**Privilege**” which means a special right, advantage, or immunity granted to a person or group विशेष अधिकार / विशेष सुविधा।

21. C) [**called up**] सही है क्योंकि यह एक phrasal verb है जिसका मतलब किसी को फोन करना (telephone) होता है। लेखक अपनी आंटी को फोन करने की बात कर रहा है। called in का मतलब मदद के लिए बुलाना या फोन करके सूचना देना होता है। call on का मतलब किसी से मिलने जाना (visit) होता है। call forth का मतलब कोई प्रतिक्रिया (reaction) पैदा करना होता है।
- [called up] is correct because it is a phrasal verb meaning to telephone someone. The author is describing making a phone call to their aunt. called in means to summon someone for help or report by phone (like calling in sick). call on means to visit someone in person or ask them to speak. call forth means to elicit a reaction or bring something into existence.
22. D) [**inflection**] सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब बोलते समय इंसान की आवाज़ में होने वाला प्राकृतिक उतार-चढ़ाव या लहज़ा (pitch/tone change) होता है। एक असली इंसान और AI की रोबोटिक आवाज़ में यही सबसे बड़ा फर्क होता है। 'vocabulary' का मतलब शब्दकोश (words) होता है, जिसकी नकल AI आसानी से कर सकता है। 'punctuation' का मतलब लिखते समय इस्तेमाल होने वाले विराम चिह्न होता है, बोलने में नहीं। 'acoustics' का मतलब किसी कमरे या जगह में आवाज़ के गूँजने का विज्ञान होता है, जो इंसान की अपनी आवाज़ का गुण नहीं है।
- [inflection] is correct because it is a noun meaning the natural change in pitch or tone of a human voice while speaking. This is the exact quality that distinguishes a real person from a flat, AI-generated robotic voice. vocabulary means the set of words used, but an AI can easily replicate word choices. punctuation refers to written marks (like commas) and does not apply to spoken voice qualities. acoustics means the properties of a room that determine how sound behaves in it, not the human voice itself.
23. D) [**artificial**] सही है क्योंकि यह एक adjective है जिसका मतलब कृत्रिम या इंसानों/मशीनों द्वारा बनाया गया (unnatural) होता है। कंप्यूटर से जनरेट की गई AI (deepfake) आवाज़ के लिए यह सबसे सही शब्द है। 'superficial' का मतलब सतही या ऊपरी दिखावा होता है जिसमें गहराई न हो। 'fictitious' का मतलब मनगढ़ंत या काल्पनिक होता है (जैसे किसी कहानी के पात्र)। 'forged' का मतलब जाली या धोखे से कॉपी किया हुआ होता है, लेकिन इसका इस्तेमाल मुख्य रूप से भौतिक दस्तावेज़ों या दस्तखत के लिए होता है, आवाज़ के लिए नहीं।
- [artificial] is correct because it is an adjective meaning made or produced by machines rather than occurring naturally. It is the most accurate word to describe a computer-generated, deepfake voice. superficial means existing only on the surface or lacking depth, which doesn't describe how a voice is synthesized. fictitious means imaginary or not true, usually referring to characters in a story. forged means copied fraudulently, but it is specifically used for physical documents, signatures, or money, not spoken audio.
24. A) [**scam**] सही है क्योंकि "scam someone out of money" इंग्लिश का एक आम phrase है जिसका मतलब किसी को ऑनलाइन या जालसाज़ी से धोखा देकर पैसे ऐंठना होता है। AI का इस्तेमाल ऐसे ही धोखे के लिए किया जाता है। 'rob' का मतलब बलपूर्वक या हथियार दिखा कर लूटना (physical force) होता है। 'extort' का मतलब ब्लैकमेल करके या धमकी देकर पैसे वसूलना होता है। 'embezzle' का मतलब पैसों का गबन करना होता है (जैसे कोई कर्मचारी अपनी ही कंपनी का पैसा चुरा ले), जो इस संदर्भ में गलत है।
- [scam] is correct because "scam someone out of money" is a standard English phrase meaning to trick or defraud someone using a deceptive scheme online or over the

phone. rob means to take property unlawfully by physical force or threat of violence, which an AI cannot do. extort means to obtain money through blackmail or severe threats, which implies a different type of crime. embezzle means to steal money placed in one's trust (like an employee stealing from a company), which is completely wrong in this context.

25. B) [sway] सही है क्योंकि "sway an election" एक standard collocation है जिसका मतलब किसी चुनाव के नतीजों को प्रभावित करना या अपने पक्ष में मोड़ लेना (influence outcome) होता है। 'persuade' का मतलब किसी इंसान को मनाना होता है (किसी अमूर्त चीज़ जैसे चुनाव को persuade नहीं किया जा सकता)। 'lobby' का मतलब अपने फायदे के लिए राजनेताओं या अधिकारियों पर दबाव डालना होता है। 'negotiate' का मतलब बातचीत के ज़रिए समझौता करना होता है, जो चुनाव के नतीजों को बदलने के संदर्भ में बिल्कुल गलत शब्द है।

- [sway] is correct because "sway an election" is a common English collocation meaning to successfully influence or change the outcome of a vote through persuasion or manipulation. persuade means to convince a person, but you cannot "persuade" an abstract event like an election. lobby means to seek to influence a politician on a specific issue, not an entire election result. negotiate means to try to reach an agreement through discussion, which is entirely the wrong action for changing election outcomes.



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