

Corridor of opportunity: On the end of Left Wing Extremism

Inclusive development must be the focus in areas freed of **Naxalism**

India is now Naxal-free, Home Minister Amit Shah declared in the Lok Sabha on March 30, a day ahead of a deadline he had set for himself for ending Left Wing Extremism (LWE). His **assertion** follows three years of **intensive** paramilitary operations, during which 4,839 Maoists **surrendered**, 2,218 were arrested, and 706 were **neutralised** in **encounters**. Mr. Shah had made tackling LWE a central piece of his internal security policy, and of his political legacy. Not surprisingly, he made it a point to **contrast** the measures and **milestones under his watch** with those of the UPA **regime** on this **front**. Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had **flagged** LWE as the biggest internal security challenge before the country and his government launched Operation Green Hunt in 2009-10, an expansive paramilitary offensive that faced **stiff criticism** from his **allies**. The **belt** of Maoist influence, **at its peak**, **touched** over 180 districts covering tribal, forest, and mineral-rich areas in Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. The **approach** to tackling LWE then **was** more **hesitant** and measured, **mindful of** the human and institutional costs.

Mr. Shah launched an **uncompromising** militarist strategy which he **reiterated** in his speech. He said the government had a dual approach — dialogue and **rehabilitation** for those who **surrendered** arms, and no **mercy** for those who refused. His **sweeping** strategy **steamrolled** human rights activists and academics who were branded ‘urban Naxals’. Police measures went far beyond even the **harsh** provisions of India’s anti-terrorism laws, **strangling** freedoms and **distorting** judicial processes. The paramilitary operations have, in all probability, **decapitated** the military capabilities of the **insurgents**, opening the possibility of state presence in some of the least **governed** regions of the country. Mr. Shah said that a **campaign** to **establish** a school in every village and provide Aadhaar and ration cards to residents in some of the worst-affected areas **has** already begun. He is right that Maoists are **ideologically** opposed to parliamentary democracy, which is a position **delinked** from development or its absence. **Nevertheless**, inclusive development is **imperative** for a stable, peaceful society. The **defeat** of LWE extremism **should** not **accelerate crony capitalist extraction** of natural resources and further **alienate** tribal rights. Instead, it must **lead to** the genuine expansion of the rights of tribals, their **substantive** participation in parliamentary democracy, and **accountability** in resource extraction. Mr. Shah deserves **credit** for leading the operational success in **curtailing** LWE. He must now lead a politics of **reconciliation** and **heal the wounds** of the battle.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Inclusive** (adjective) - comprehensive, all-encompassing, broad, overall, universal समावेशी
2. **Naxalism** (noun) - meaning: a far-left radical communist movement in India starting from Naxalbari नक्सलवाद
3. **Assertion** (noun) - declaration, statement, claim, proclamation, contention दावा या कथन
4. **Intensive** (adjective) - thorough, rigorous, concentrated, exhaustive, profound गहन
5. **Surrender** (verb) - yield, submit, capitulate, relent, succumb आत्मसमर्पण करना
6. **Neutralize** (verb) - counteract, nullify, negate, offset, disable मार गिराना या प्रभावहीन करना
7. **Encounter** (noun) - confrontation, skirmish, clash, meeting, engagement मुठभेड़
8. **Contrast** (verb) - differentiate, distinguish, compare, oppose, discriminate तुलना करना
9. **Under someone's watch** (phrase) - during a period when someone is in charge or responsible किसी की देखरेख में
10. **Regime** (noun) - administration, government, system, authority, rule शासन
11. **Front** (noun) - sector, area, field, zone, sphere क्षेत्र या मोर्चा
12. **Flag** (verb) - indicate, mark, signal, identify, highlight चिह्नित करना या संकेत देना
13. **Stiff** (adjective) - rigid, firm, severe, intense, vigorous कड़ा या सख्त
14. **Criticism** (noun) - censure, condemnation, disapproval, reproach, critique आलोचना
15. **Ally** (noun) - partner, associate, colleague, confederate, supporter सहयोगी
16. **Belt** (noun) - region, area, zone, tract, strip क्षेत्र या पट्टी
17. **At the peak** (phrase) - at the highest point or level of something शिखर पर
18. **Touch** (verb) - reach, border, impact, affect, contact छूना या प्रभावित करना
19. **Hesitant** (adjective) - uncertain, tentative, reluctant, wavering, doubtful संकोचपूर्ण
20. **Mindful** (of) (adjective) - conscious, aware, attentive, heedful, wary सचेत या सावधान
21. **Uncompromising** (adjective) - inflexible, rigid, stubborn, resolute, relentless अडिग या समझौता न करने वाला
22. **Reiterate** (verb) - repeat, restate, recount, echo, renew बार-बार दोहराना
23. **Rehabilitation** (noun) - restoration, recovery, renewal, renovation, reintegration पुनर्वास
24. **Mercy** (noun) - leniency, compassion, pity, clemency, grace दया
25. **Sweeping** (adjective) - broad, extensive, wide-ranging, comprehensive, vast व्यापक
26. **Steamroll** (verb) - crush, flatten, overwhelm, suppress, bulldoze कुचल देना या दबाव डालना
27. **Harsh** (adjective) - cruel, severe, stringent, brutal, austere कठोर

28. **Strangle** (verb) - stifle, suffocate, choke, suppress, inhibit गला घोटना या दबाना
29. **Distort** (verb) - twist, warp, misrepresent, pervert, falsify बिगाड़ना या विकृत करना
30. **Decapitate** (verb) - behead, dismantle, cripple, neutralize, disable सिर काटना या नेतृत्व खत्म करना
31. **Insurgent** (noun) - rebel, revolutionary, mutineer, agitator, guerrilla विद्रोही
32. **Govern** (verb) - rule, administer, lead, manage, control शासन करना
33. **Establish** (verb) - found, institute, set up, create, launch स्थापित करना
34. **Ideologically** (adverb) - conceptually, theoretically, dogmatically, philosophically, intellectually वैचारिक रूप से
35. **Delink** (verb) - disconnect, detach, separate, decouple, sever अलग करना
36. **Nevertheless** (adverb) - nonetheless, however, yet, still, notwithstanding तथापि
37. **Imperative** (adjective) - essential, crucial, vital, mandatory, urgent अनिवार्य
38. **Accelerate** (verb) - hasten, quicken, speed, expedite, precipitate गति बढ़ाना
39. **Crony** (noun) - a close friend or companion, often used to describe biased favoritism (crony capitalism) यार-दोस्त या पक्षपाती
40. **Capitalist** (adjective) - relating to an economic system based on private ownership and profit पूंजीवादी
41. **Extraction** (noun) - removal, withdrawal, excavation, drawing, derivation निष्कर्षण या निकालना
42. **Alienate** (verb) - estrange, distance, isolate, detach, separate अलग करना या विमुख करना
43. **Lead to** (phrasal verb) - to result in or cause something to happen का कारण बनना
44. **Substantive** (adjective) - significant, essential, meaningful, real, substantial ठोस या वास्तविक
45. **Accountability** (noun) - responsibility, liability, answerability, transparency, obligation जवाबदेही
46. **Credit** (noun) - praise, recognition, acclaim, merit, honor श्रेय
47. **Curtail** (verb) - reduce, decrease, limit, restrict, diminish कम करना या कटौती करना
48. **Reconciliation** (noun) - resolution, settlement, harmony, compromise, reunion मेल-मिलाप या सुलह
49. **Heal the wounds** (idiom) - to alleviate pain or resolve conflicts from the past घावों को भरना

Summary of the Editorial

1. The government has declared India **“Naxal-free”**, marking a major milestone in internal security.
2. Amit Shah announced this achievement in Parliament, fulfilling his earlier deadline.
3. The success follows **intensive paramilitary operations** over the past three years.
4. Thousands of Maoists **surrendered, were arrested, or neutralised**, weakening the insurgency.
5. Tackling Left Wing Extremism (LWE) was a **key priority** of the current government.
6. The government contrasted its strong approach with the earlier policies under Manmohan Singh.
7. Earlier, LWE was considered India’s **biggest internal security threat**, especially in tribal and resource-rich regions.
8. The previous strategy (e.g., Operation Green Hunt) was **more cautious**, considering human and institutional costs.
9. The current approach is **more aggressive and uncompromising**, combining force with surrender and rehabilitation policies.
10. Critics argue that this strategy has **curtailed civil liberties** and targeted dissenters as “urban Naxals”.
11. The operations have significantly **weakened Maoist military strength**, enabling state presence in remote areas.
12. The government has started **development initiatives** like schools, Aadhaar, and ration cards in affected regions.
13. Maoists oppose parliamentary democracy ideologically, but **development alone cannot fully address extremism**.
14. There is concern that ending LWE could lead to **unchecked exploitation of tribal lands and resources**.
15. The focus now must shift to **inclusive development, tribal rights, democratic participation, and reconciliation** to ensure lasting peace.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, what specific milestone did Home Minister Amit Shah achieve on March 30?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. He launched a new paramilitary offensive called Operation Green Hunt.
 - B. He declared India to be Naxal-free a day ahead of his own deadline.
 - C. He increased the belt of Maoist influence to over 180 Indian districts.
 - D. He reached a formal peace treaty with all active Naxalite commanders.
2. **How does the author characterize the difference between the UPA's approach and Mr. Shah's strategy?**
 - A. The UPA approach was strictly militarist while Mr. Shah focused only on dialogue.
 - B. Mr. Shah focused on urban areas while the UPA focused on mineral-rich forest belts.
 - C. Both administrations refused to use paramilitary forces in tribal and forested areas.
 - D. The UPA was hesitant and measured, while Mr. Shah used a sweeping militarist strategy.
3. **What is the "dual approach" mentioned by the Home Minister in his speech?**
 - A. Using Aadhaar cards for urban residents and ration cards for rural farmers.
 - B. Focusing on mineral extraction while ignoring the development of tribal schools.
 - C. Combining dialogue for those who surrender with no mercy for those who refuse.
 - D. Balancing the rights of crony capitalists with the needs of parliamentary democracy.
4. **Which of the following is a criticism raised by the author regarding the recent anti-Naxal operations?**
 - A. The operations failed to establish any state presence in the governed regions.
 - B. The strategy was too lenient on academics who were branded as 'urban Naxals'.
 - C. The measures distorted judicial processes and strangled individual freedoms.
 - D. The government refused to provide ration cards to residents in affected areas.
5. **What does the author suggest should be the priority following the defeat of Left Wing Extremism?**
 - A. Accelerating the extraction of natural resources by large industrial corporations.
 - B. Transitioning toward a politics of reconciliation and healing wartime wounds.
 - C. Abolishing parliamentary democracy in tribal areas to ensure stable growth.
 - D. Branding more human rights activists as insurgents to prevent a resurgence.
6. **Direction: Rearrange the following sentence parts (P, Q, R, S) between the fixed sentences S1 and S6 to form a meaningful and grammatically correct paragraph.**

S1: I felt so ashamed of my name growing up that I never thought to correct people when they mispronounced it as "pretty."

P. Over time, I came up with a strategy to avoid this anxiety: I would stay quiet and let my friends make the introductions for me.

Q. Knowing I would have to introduce myself and face their reactions, I often wanted the ground to swallow me up.

R. I hated it, mostly because I was constantly teased by classmates who would say things like, "Pretty? You're not very pretty."

S. This problem followed me for years, causing me to tremble whenever I walked into a room of new people.

S6: I thought I would be stuck hiding behind this strategy for the rest of my life, but then something remarkable happened in Mumbai.

- A. P, R, Q, S
B. R, S, Q, P
C. R, P, S, Q
D. S, Q, P, R
7. **Choose the one word substitute for the below sentence.**
Mia asked her cousin, a person who is in charge of a museum called?
A. Curator
B. Conservator
C. Director
D. Historian
8. **Identify the incorrect sentence.**
A. Ten percent of the students in the class speak three languages.
B. Forty-five minutes is a very long coffee break.
C. His advice was perfect for the situation.
D. The academic committee were undivided in their decision to hire the new staff.
9. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate phrase:**
The board's decision to withdraw the bid came completely ____ for the stakeholders.
A. off the wall
B. out of the blue
C. behind closed doors
D. under fire
10. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate phrasal verb:**
Her speech was so moving that it ____ strong emotions in the audience.
A. put up
B. brought out
C. stirred up
D. gave off
11. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word: PERNICIOUS**
A. Harmless
B. Benevolent
C. Malicious
D. Helpful
12. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word: EXISTENTIAL**
A. Decorative
B. Decorative
C. Cosmic
D. Philosophical
13. **Choose the best option to replace the underlined part to improve the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select 'No substitution.'**
Her birthday is in the 9th of July.
A. on the 9th of July
B. during the 9th of July
C. at the 9th of July
D. No substitution

14. **Choose the best option to replace the underlined part to improve the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select 'No substitution.'**
Please submit your assignments by Friday.
- A. till Friday
 - B. until Friday
 - C. at Friday
 - D. No substitution
15. **Select the sentence containing the homonym of the highlighted word:**
He used a hand file to smooth the metal's rough edges.
- A. He used the new file to smooth the wood.
 - B. The technician used a special file to shape the plastic.
 - C. He had to file his nails before applying the nailpaint.
 - D. She put all the important papers in a single file.
16. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**
A speech or writing that praises someone excessively.
- A. Panegyric
 - B. Eulogy
 - C. Sermon
 - D. Editorial
17. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Foment**
- A. Incite
 - B. Stir
 - C. Quash
 - D. Instigate
18. **Choose the correct indirect narration of the following statement from the given alternatives:**
The lady said to her friend, "When was the bridge built here on this river?"
- A. The lady asked her friend when the bridge had been built there on this river.
 - B. The lady asked her friend when the bridge had been built there on that river.
 - C. The lady asked her friend when the bridge was built there on that river.
 - D. The lady asked her friend when the bridge have been built there on that river.
19. **One of these words is spelled incorrectly. Which one is it?**
- A. Ubiquitous
 - B. Magnanimous
 - C. Obfuskate
 - D. Surreptitious
20. **Which of the following pairs of homonyms can be used to fill in the blanks most suitably?**
The girl sat down to ____ the letter but kept shivering from the terrible ____ seeping in through the broken window.
- A. draft; draught
 - B. draught; draft
 - C. parse; pars
 - D. pars; parse

Comprehension

Imagine you've agreed to meet up with a new (1) ____, who – you hope – might become a good friend. You arrive at the bar but they fail to (2) ____ at the agreed time. You sit, nursing your cocktail, feeling the tick of time passing with every fibre of your being. After half an hour, you give up and leave. When you are on the road, you receive a message: "Sorry! My brother's just had a car accident and I need to help him. Can we rearrange for another day?" Do you give them the benefit of the doubt, offer sympathy, and fix a new date? Or do you assume that they are lying, block them from your contacts and tell yourself the situation just confirms what you've always known: people are fundamentally unreliable? Your instinctive reaction to scenarios like this may be far more revealing than you imagine. Over the past two decades, scientists have become increasingly interested in measuring people's trust in others and its wider consequences. Surprisingly, they have found that extremely (3) ____ dispositions do little to protect people from lies and scams, but also have the added drawback of inhibiting the cynics' social lives. While there is no (4) ____ way to tell who is and isn't trustworthy, the latest research offers some techniques to avoid being (5) ____ while maintaining our faith in humanity. From seeking out the good in others to shifting your mindset, read on to learn how you can protect yourself without the harm of cynicism.

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

- A. acquaintance
- B. subordinate
- C. accomplice
- D. adversary

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

- A. turn against
- B. turn up
- C. turn over
- D. turn in

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

- A. combustible
- B. tangible
- C. dormant
- D. cynical

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

- A. aerodynamic
- B. sedentary
- C. translucent
- D. foolproof

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

- A. embalmed
- B. fermented
- C. hoodwinked
- D. upholster

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

- B) He declared India to be Naxal-free a day ahead of his own deadline.**
 The passage explicitly states, "India is now Naxal-free, Home Minister Amit Shah declared... a day ahead of a deadline he had set for himself."
 Incorrect: (A) refers to a 2009-10 UPA initiative. (C) describes the peak of Maoist influence in the past. (D) is not mentioned; the passage notes many surrendered or were neutralized, not a treaty.
- D) The UPA was hesitant and measured, while Mr. Shah used a sweeping militarist strategy.**
 The Passage states the UPA approach was "more hesitant and measured" whereas Mr. Shah launched an "uncompromising militarist strategy."
 Incorrect: (A) reverses their roles. (C) is contradicted by mentions of "paramilitary operations" by both. (B) is incorrect as both dealt with the same geographic "Red Corridor."
- C) Combining dialogue for those who surrender with no mercy for those who refuse.**
 The passage quotes him saying the government had a dual approach—"dialogue and rehabilitation for those who surrendered arms, and no mercy for those who refused."
 Incorrect: (A) refers to development measures, but not the "dual" security strategy. (B) and (D) are critical concerns raised by the author, not part of the Minister's stated approach.
- C) The measures distorted judicial processes and strangled individual freedoms.**
 The passage states, "Police measures went far beyond... anti-terrorism laws, strangling freedoms and distorting judicial processes."
 Incorrect: (A) is the opposite; the passage says they "decapitated" insurgents to allow state presence. (B) is wrong as the passage says the strategy "steamrolled" them. (D) is contradicted by the mention of a campaign to provide ration cards.
- B) Transitioning toward a politics of reconciliation and healing wartime wounds.**
 The concluding lines state, "He [Mr. Shah] must now lead a politics of reconciliation and heal the wounds of the battle."
 Incorrect: (A) is specifically warned against as "crony capitalist extraction." (C) is wrong as the author wants "participation in parliamentary democracy." (D) is a past action the author criticizes, not a future recommendation.
- B) Correct Sequence: (R-S-Q-P)**
 Sentence R, S1 के तुरंत बाद आएगा क्योंकि S1 में बताया गया है कि लेखिका अपने गलत बोले गए नाम से "शर्मिदा (ashamed)" थी, और R बताता है कि उसे इससे नफरत क्यों थी (लगातार चिढ़ाया जाना)।
 Sentence S, Sentence R के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह R में बताए गए चिढ़ाने के दीर्घकालिक भावनात्मक प्रभाव का विस्तार करता है। यह बताता है कि "यह समस्या सालों तक मेरे साथ रही," जिससे वह नए लोगों के बीच कांपने (tremble) लगती थी।

Sentence Q, Sentence S के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह विशेष रूप से उस आंतरिक भावना ("wanted the ground to swallow me up" - जमीन मुझे निगल जाए) का वर्णन करता है जो S में उल्लिखित शारीरिक कंपन और डर का परिणाम थी।

Sentence P, Sentence Q के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह उस "रणनीति (strategy)" को पेश करता है जो उसने Q में वर्णित अत्यधिक चिंता से निपटने के लिए "समय के साथ (over time)" विकसित की थी।
Sentence S6, Sentence P के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह सीधे P में वर्णित बचने की "रणनीति" को refer करता है, और यह संकेत देकर एक pivot (मोड़) के रूप में कार्य करता है कि इस आजीवन समस्या का समाधान अंततः मुंबई में हो गया।

- Sentence R comes immediately after S1 because S1 establishes that the narrator was "ashamed" of her mispronounced name, and R explains exactly why she hated it (the constant teasing).
- Sentence S follows Sentence R because it expands on the long-term emotional impact of the teasing detailed in R. It states that this "problem followed me for years," causing her to tremble around new people.
- Sentence Q follows Sentence S because it specifically describes the internal feeling ("wanted the ground to swallow me up") that resulted from the physical trembling and fear mentioned in S.
- Sentence P follows Sentence Q because it introduces the "strategy" she developed "over time" to cope with the overwhelming anxiety described in Q.
- Sentence S6 follows Sentence P because it refers directly back to the avoidance "strategy" mentioned in P, serving as a pivot point by hinting that this lifelong problem was eventually solved in Mumbai.

7. A) **Curator** (noun) – A person in charge of a museum संग्रहालय/अजायबघर का प्रभारी

- **Conservator** (noun) – A person responsible for preserving artworks or artifacts संरक्षक
- **Director** (noun) – A person who manages or controls an organization निदेशक
- **Historian** (noun) – A person who studies or writes about history इतिहासकार

8. D) 'the academic committee were' के बदले 'the academic committee was' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'committee' एक collective noun है और इसे यहाँ एक single unit के रूप में प्रयोग किया गया है; जैसे—
The committee was unanimous in its decision.

- 'was' will replace 'were' because 'committee' is a collective noun functioning as a single unit in this context; as in— The committee was unanimous in its decision.

9. B) **out of the blue** (phrase) – Unexpectedly; without any warning अचानक/बिना पूर्व संकेत के

- **off the wall** (phrase) – Unusual or eccentric अजीब/अनोखा
- **behind closed doors** (phrase) – In private; not publicly गुप्त रूप से
- **under fire** (phrase) – Being criticized आलोचना के घेरे में

10. C) '**stirred up**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में वाक्य यह बता रहा है कि उसकी speech ने श्रोताओं के अंदर गहरी भावनाएँ जगाईं। "Stir up" का अर्थ होता है भावना, प्रतिक्रिया या अशांति को उभारना / जगाना, इसलिए audience में emotions उत्पन्न होने के संदर्भ में यह सबसे उपयुक्त phrasal verb है।
- 'stirred up' should be used because the sentence conveys that her speech evoked strong emotions in the audience. "Stir up" means to arouse or provoke emotions, reactions, or feelings, which fits perfectly here, making it the most appropriate choice.
11. C) **Pernicious** (adjective) – extremely harmful, destructive, causing great damage अत्यंत हानिकारक / विनाशकारी
- Synonym: **Malicious** (adjective) – intending to cause harm or suffering दुर्भावनापूर्ण / हानिकर
- **Harmless** (adjective) – not causing damage अहानिकर
 - **Benevolent** (adjective) – kind, well-meaning परोपकारी
 - **Helpful** (adjective) – providing assistance सहायक
12. D) **Existential** (adjective) – relating to human existence, meaning, purpose, and philosophical questioning of life अस्तित्वगत / जीवन-संबंधी
- Synonym: **Philosophical** (adjective) – concerned with deeper thought, meaning, and reasoning दार्शनिक
- **Decorative** (adjective) – serving as decoration सजावटी
 - **Psychological** (adjective) – related to the mind or behavior मनोवैज्ञानिक
 - **Cosmic** (adjective) – related to the universe or cosmos ब्रह्मांड-संबंधी
13. A) 'in the 9th of July' के बदले '**on the 9th of July**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि तारीख के पहले on का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— He was born on the 5th of May.
- 'on the 9th of July' will replace the underlined part because on is used before specific dates; as in— He was born on the 5th of May.
14. D) '**by Friday**' सही प्रयोग है, इसमें कोई परिवर्तन आवश्यक नहीं क्योंकि by किसी कार्य की deadline को दर्शाने के लिए प्रयोग होता है; जैसे— Please send the report by Monday.
- No substitution is required because by correctly indicates a deadline; as in— Please send the report by Monday.
15. D) Highlighted वाक्य में 'file' का अर्थ है — धातु/लकड़ी को घिसकर आकार देने वाला औज़ार (a tool for smoothing metal)।
- विकल्प D में 'file' का अर्थ है — कागज़ों/दस्तावेज़ों को रखने का व्यवस्थित गुच्छा या फ़ोल्डर (a collection of papers/documents)।
- उच्चारण और वर्तनी समान हैं, लेकिन अर्थ अलग — इसलिए यह homonym का सही उदाहरण है।
- English Explanation:
- In the highlighted sentence, 'file' refers to a metalworking tool.
- In option D, 'file' means a collection or folder of documents.
- Same spelling and pronunciation, different meaning — hence option D is correct.

16. A) **Panegyric** (noun) – A speech or writing that praises someone excessively अत्यधिक प्रशंसा करने वाला भाषण/लेख
- **Eulogy** (noun) – A speech praising someone, especially after their death श्रद्धांजलि भाषण
 - **Sermon** (noun) – A moral or religious talk उपदेश
 - **Editorial** (noun) – An article expressing an opinion in a newspaper संपादकीय
17. C) **Foment** (verb) – to stir up, incite, provoke, or encourage (especially trouble or rebellion) भड़काना / उकसाना
- Antonym: **Quash** (verb) – to suppress, put down, or stop completely दबा देना / समाप्त कर देना
- **Incite** (verb) – to provoke or stir up उकसाना
 - **Stir** (verb) – to arouse or cause activity हिलाना / भड़काना
 - **Instigate** (verb) – to initiate or encourage wrongdoing उकसाना
18. B) **The lady asked her friend when the bridge had been built there on that river.**
- Active से Passive Voice की तरह Direct से Indirect Speech में बदलते समय Reporting Verb, Tense, Pronouns/Determiners और Place Words बदले जाते हैं। दिए गए वाक्य में "said to" को प्रश्नवाचक रूप में asked में बदला जाता है। प्रश्नवाचक शब्द "When" यथावत रहता है। वाक्य का Tense was built (Simple Past Passive) है जो Indirect में had been built (Past Perfect Passive) में बदलता है। Place word "here" Indirect में there और "this river" Indirect में that river हो जाता है।
- To change from Direct to Indirect Speech in an interrogative sentence, the reporting verb "said to" becomes "asked," the interrogative word "when" is retained, and the tense shifts from was built (Simple Past Passive) to had been built (Past Perfect Passive). Additionally, "here" converts to "there" and "this river" becomes "that river" to reflect indirect reference.
19. C) The word "Obfuscate" is spelled incorrectly The correct spelling is "**Obfuscate**", which means to make something unclear or difficult to understand भ्रमित करना / अस्पष्ट बनाना।
20. A) '**draft; draught**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पहले खाली स्थान में लड़की चिट्ठी draft (अर्थात लिखना/तैयार करना) चाहती है। वहीं दूसरे खाली स्थान में draught (अर्थात ठंडी हवा का झोंका) का प्रयोग उपयुक्त है क्योंकि broken window से ठंडी हवा अंदर आ रही है। अतः दोनों संदर्भ में यह pair सबसे सही बैठता है।
- 'draft; draught' should be used because in the first blank, the girl intends to draft a letter (meaning to write/prepare it). In the second blank, draught refers to cold air seeping in through the broken window, making her shiver. Therefore, this pair fits the contextual meaning most appropriately.
21. A) [**acquaintance**] सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब एक परिचित व्यक्ति (जिसे आप थोड़ा-बहुत जानते हों) होता है। यह उस व्यक्ति के लिए बिल्कुल सही शब्द है जिससे आप पहली बार मिल रहे हैं और जो भविष्य में एक 'अच्छा दोस्त' बन सकता है। Adversary का मतलब दुश्मन या विरोधी होता है। Accomplice का

मतलब अपराध में साथ देने वाला (सह-अपराधी) होता है। Subordinate का मतलब किसी कार्यालय में आपके अधीन काम करने वाला कर्मचारी होता है।

- [acquaintance] is correct because it means a person one knows slightly, but who is not yet a close friend. This fits perfectly with the context of meeting someone who you "hope might become a good friend". Adversary means an opponent or enemy in a conflict or dispute. Accomplice means a person who helps another commit a crime or do something wrong. Subordinate means a person under the authority or control of another within an organization.

22. B) [turn up] सही है क्योंकि यह एक phrasal verb है जिसका मतलब किसी जगह पर पहुँचना या उपस्थित होना (arrive) होता है; यहाँ बार में तय समय पर न पहुँचने की बात हो रही है। Turn in का मतलब सोने जाना या कोई काम/असाइनमेंट जमा करना होता है। Turn over का मतलब पलटना (जैसे किताब का पन्ना पलटना) होता है। Turn against का मतलब किसी के खिलाफ हो जाना या अपना समर्थन वापस ले लेना होता है।

- [turn up] is correct because it is a common phrasal verb meaning to put in an appearance or arrive, which perfectly describes someone failing to arrive at a bar for a meeting. Turn in means to go to bed for the night or to submit an assignment to an authority. Turn over means to change position so that the other side is facing outwards or upwards (like a page). Turn against means to become hostile towards someone you previously liked or supported.

23. D) [cynical] सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब निंदक या ऐसा व्यक्ति होता है जो हमेशा दूसरों पर शक करता है और सोचता है कि सब स्वार्थी या झूठे हैं। पैसेज के उसी वाक्य में आगे 'cynics' शब्द का इस्तेमाल भी हुआ है जो इसे बिल्कुल सही साबित करता है। Combustible का मतलब आसानी से आग पकड़ने वाला या ज्वलनशील होता है। Tangible का मतलब जिसे छुआ जा सके या जो वास्तविक हो (ठोस) होता है।

Dormant का मतलब सुप्त या निष्क्रिय (जैसे शांत ज्वालामुखी) होता है।

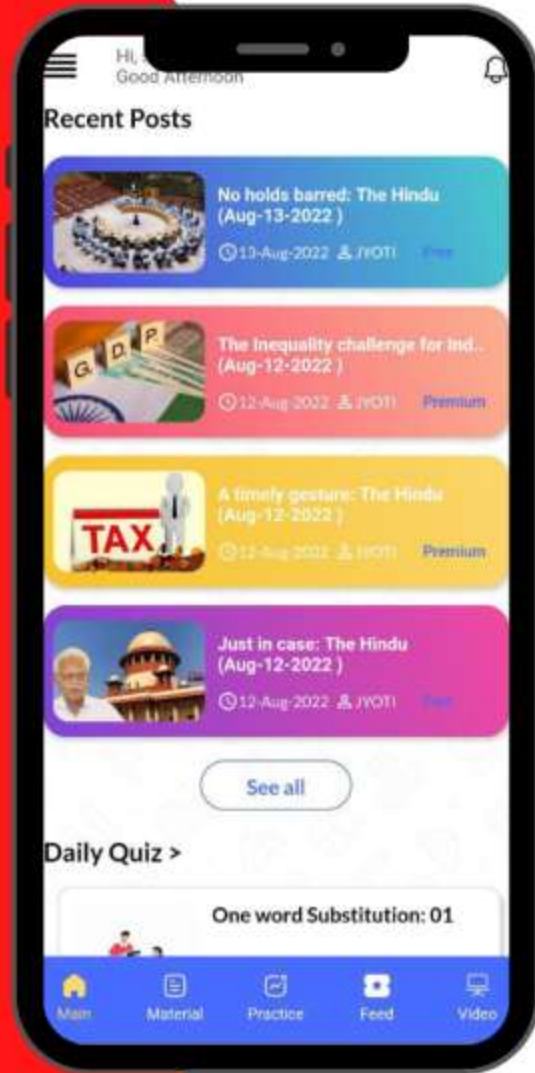
- [cynical] is correct because it means believing that people are motivated purely by self-interest and are fundamentally dishonest. The passage specifically discusses how these untrusting dispositions do not protect "cynics" (mentioned in the very same sentence) from lies. Combustible means able to catch fire and burn easily. Tangible means perceptible by touch or having a clear physical presence. Dormant means temporarily inactive or asleep, like a dormant volcano.

24. D) [foolproof] सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब कोई ऐसी तरकीब या योजना होता है जिसमें गलती की कोई गुंजाइश न हो (पूरी तरह सुरक्षित या गारंटीशुदा)। यहाँ एक 'foolproof way' (पक्का तरीका) की बात हो रही है जिससे सच्चे इंसान की पहचान हो सके। Aerodynamic का मतलब हवा के दबाव को कम करने वाली बनावट (हवादार) होता है। Sedentary का मतलब बहुत अधिक बैठे रहने वाला या निष्क्रिय जीवनशैली होता है। Translucent का मतलब अल्पपारदर्शी (जिसमें से धुंधली रोशनी आर-पार जा सके) होता है।

- [foolproof] is correct because it means incapable of going wrong or being misused. A "foolproof way" is a standard phrase meaning a perfect, guaranteed method with no chance of failure (here, a method to tell who is trustworthy). Aerodynamic means designed to reduce wind resistance and move efficiently through the air. Sedentary means involving a lot of sitting and lacking physical exercise. Translucent means allowing light, but not detailed shapes, to pass through (semi-transparent).

25. C) [hoodwinked] सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब धोखा खाना या बेवकूफ बनना (deceived) होता है।
 पैसेज के अंत में यही बताया गया है कि कैसे इंसानियत पर भरोसा रखते हुए खुद को धोखेबाजों से बचाया जाए। Embalmed का मतलब शव को सड़ने से बचाने के लिए रसायनों का लेप लगाना होता है।
 Fermented का मतलब खमीर उठना या सड़कर शराब/सिरका बनना होता है। Upholster एक present tense क्रिया है जिसका मतलब फर्नीचर पर गद्दे-कपड़े

- [hoodwinked] is correct because it means to be deceived, tricked, or duped by someone. The passage discusses how we can avoid getting tricked by scammers while still maintaining our faith in humanity. Embalmed means preserving a dead body from decay using special chemicals. Fermented refers to the chemical breakdown of a substance by bacteria or yeast, typically used in making alcohol or certain foods. Upholster is grammatically incorrect (present tense) and means to provide furniture with padding and fabric covers. लगाना होता है, जो यहाँ ग्रामर और अर्थ दोनों तरह से गलत है।



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