

Why our children are feeling so low

Many of us have mixed memories of our childhood: a good portion of **joyful** moments, a certain number of painful memories, a few lifechanging experiences, and many routine **recollections**.

These memories **exist** in a **cohesive narrative** that continues to give us a unique sense of who we are, what we want, and how the world is. This narrative got created as we lived our lives, experienced our emotions, shared it with those around us, and learned how to find meaning in our lives. It is this narrative which tells us that despite all cycles of **ups and downs**, life is beautiful and worth living.

But an increasing **number** of our children **are grappling with** a disconnected narrative of darkness, **agony**, and suffering. A lot of them feel and express that life is very painful, **traumatic**, and difficult.

Rates of self-harm and suicidal thoughts **have** increased **alarmingly** by 22% in children in recent times, according to a study, published in the journal of Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology. How do we understand and deal with this worrying trend?

An important **causative factor** behind this **phenomenon is loneliness**. When children feel low, they need a person who loves them and has a fair degree of patience and **wisdom** to tell them what is happening, how they can **soothe** themselves and find a meaning in their experience.

Adults are too busy and too **fatigued** to **deal with** children's emotional **turmoil**. Consequently, children are left to themselves, their peer group, and their young role models on social media to make sense of their pain.

The result is that children keep telling themselves that life is traumatic, the other children around them keep **reaffirming** it, and social media keeps on **endorsing** it. There is nobody to tell them that this is not the reality; it is just one way of many ways of looking at reality.

Life continues to feel dark if we keep focusing on **trauma, misery**, and pain. Change happens when we start noticing and **admiring the silver lining in the dark cloud**.

So, what is the silver lining that we can encourage our children to notice. I can think of two very important **virtues** that we seem to have forgotten.

The first is **gratitude: acknowledging** and **appreciating** the small joys that life offers us daily, the things we often **take for granted** and do not feel thankful for. The second is: **perceiving** pain as an opportunity. We often feel that pain is an **anomaly** and it should not be a part of our life.

However, we don't realise that it is this pain that tests our **endurance**, and if we can find away to face it with wisdom, it can offer us **tremendous** self-growth.

But these are the virtues that we can neither teach our children nor the AI can explain them. These virtues can be appreciated and **adopted** by children only when they spend a lot of time with adults who **personify** these **traits**.

That's why as parents, grandparents, teachers, and as a **conscious** society, it is now very **crucial to** prioritise children in our lives. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Joyful** (adjective) - cheerful, jubilant, elated, mirthful, blithe आनंदपूर्ण
2. **Recollection** (noun) - memory, remembrance, reminiscence, recall, impression संस्मरण
3. **Exist** (verb) - survive, prevail, endure, persist, continue अस्तित्व में होना
4. **Cohesive** (adjective) - united, connected, integrated, consistent, unified एकजुट
5. **Narrative** (noun) - story, account, chronicle, recital, tale वृत्तांत या कहानी
6. **Ups and downs** (phrase) - a succession of both good and bad experiences fluctuates within a period of time उतार-चढ़ाव
7. **Grapple with** (phrasal verb) - to struggle or deal with a difficult problem or situation जूझना
8. **Agony** (noun) - anguish, torment, misery, suffering, distress घोर कष्ट
9. **Traumatic** (adjective) - distressing, shocking, harrowing, painful, scarring दर्दनाक या दुखद
10. **Alarmingly** (adverb) - disturbingly, frighteningly, shockingly, dreadfully, terribly चिंताजनक रूप से
11. **Causative** (adjective) - decisive, determining, fundamental, primary, causal कारण बनने वाला
12. **Phenomenon** (noun) - occurrence, event, trend, circumstance, episode घटना
13. **Loneliness** (noun) - isolation, solitude, desolation, seclusion, aloneness अकेलापन
14. **Wisdom** (noun) - sagacity, prudence, insight, discernment, enlightenment बुद्धिमानी
15. **Soothe** (verb) - pacify, appease, calm, mollify, alleviate शांत करना
16. **Fatigued** (adjective) - exhausted, weary, drained, tired, spent थका हुआ
17. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) - to take action to solve a problem or manage a situation निपटना
18. **Turmoil** (noun) - chaos, upheaval, unrest, agitation, disturbance उथल-पुथल
19. **Reaffirm** (verb) - validate, confirm, assert, verify, endorse पुनः पुष्टि करना
20. **Endorse** (verb) - advocate, support, approve, sanction, uphold समर्थन करना
21. **Trauma** (noun) - ordeal, injury, shock, upheaval, blow मानसिक आघात
22. **Misery** (noun) - unhappiness, gloom, sorrow, wretchedness, woe कष्ट या दुर्दशा
23. **Admire** (verb) - appreciate, esteem, respect, revere, value प्रशंसा करना
24. **The silver lining in the dark cloud** (idiom) - a sign of hope or a positive aspect in an otherwise negative or difficult situation मुसीबत में आशा की किरण
25. **Virtue** (noun) - merit, morality, goodness, integrity, righteousness सद्गुण
26. **Gratitude** (noun) - thankfulness, appreciation, indebtedness, recognition, grace कृतज्ञता

27. **Acknowledge** (verb) - admit, recognize, accept, concede, grant स्वीकार करना
28. **Appreciate** (verb) - value, treasure, cherish, recognize, acknowledge सराहना करना
29. **Take for granted** (phrase) - to fail to properly appreciate something because it is so familiar or expected मूल्य न समझना
30. **Perceive** (verb) - discern, detect, observe, notice, identify समझना या महसूस करना
31. **Anomaly** (noun) - abnormality, irregularity, deviation, inconsistency, eccentricity विसंगति
32. **Endurance** (noun) - stamina, fortitude, tolerance, persistence, patience सहनशक्ति
33. **Tremendous** (adjective) - massive, immense, colossal, vast, formidable अद्भुत या बहुत बड़ा
34. **Adopt** (verb) - embrace, accept, assume, espouse, follow अपनाना
35. **Personify** (verb) - embody, exemplify, represent, manifest, typify साकार करना
36. **Trait** (noun) - characteristic, feature, attribute, quality, quirk विशेषता
37. **Conscious** (adjective) - aware, mindful, alert, sensible, cognizant जागरूक
38. **Crucial to something** (phrase) - extremely important or necessary in order for something to happen महत्वपूर्ण या निर्णायक

Summary of the Editorial

1. Childhood memories usually include a mix of joy, pain, and meaningful experiences.
2. These experiences form a personal narrative that gives identity and purpose.
3. This narrative helps individuals believe that life is meaningful despite challenges.
4. However, many children today are developing a negative and fragmented life narrative.
5. They increasingly view life as painful, traumatic, and difficult.
6. Studies show a significant rise (about 22%) in self-harm and suicidal thoughts among children.
7. Loneliness is identified as a major cause behind this mental health crisis.
8. Children need supportive, patient, and understanding adults to guide them emotionally.
9. Due to busy lifestyles, adults often fail to provide this emotional support.
10. As a result, children rely on peers and social media for understanding their feelings.
11. This environment reinforces negative thinking about life and suffering.
12. Children lack guidance to see that suffering is only one perspective, not the whole reality.
13. A constant focus on pain makes life appear darker than it actually is.
14. Two important virtues—gratitude and seeing pain as an opportunity—can improve their outlook.
15. These values cannot be taught directly but must be learned through interaction with adults who embody them.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, what is the primary "causative factor" behind the increasing rates of self-harm and suicidal thoughts in children?** [Editorial page]
 - A. The inability of AI to explain complex human virtues like gratitude and endurance.
 - B. A lack of routine recollections and joyful moments during the early stages of childhood.
 - C. Loneliness resulting from adults being too busy or fatigued to address children's emotional turmoil.
 - D. The high prevalence of painful memories in the cohesive narratives of the previous generation.
2. **How does social media contribute to the "disconnected narrative" of children as described in the passage?**
 - A. It provides a platform for adults to share wisdom and patience with children in real-time.
 - B. It encourages children to appreciate the silver lining by showcasing success stories.
 - C. It endorses and reaffirms the idea that life is primarily traumatic and painful.
 - D. It replaces the peer group as the primary source for making sense of emotional pain.
3. **Which of the following best describes the "second virtue" mentioned by the author as a potential "silver lining"?**
 - A. The total avoidance of pain to ensure that life remains an anomaly of joy.
 - B. Perceiving pain as an opportunity for self-growth and a test of endurance.
 - C. Acknowledging and appreciating the small joys that life offers on a daily basis.
 - D. Prioritizing the peer group's perspective to find meaning in traumatic experiences.
4. **Identify whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F) based on the passage:**
 1. Rates of self-harm in children have increased by 22%, according to a study in the journal of Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology.
 2. Children can effectively learn virtues like gratitude and wisdom through AI-driven educational programs.
 - A. 1-T, 2-F
 - B. 1-F, 2-T
 - C. 1-T, 2-T
 - D. 1-F, 2-F
5. **What is the author's ultimate "call to action" for a conscious society?**
 - A. To increase the frequency of psychological studies published in international journals.
 - B. To prioritize children by spending time with them and personifying virtuous traits.
 - C. To restrict children's access to social media and peer groups entirely.
 - D. To ensure that children realize that pain is an anomaly that should not exist.
6. **Which of the following is the correct spelling of the word?**
 - A. Prophylaxis
 - B. Prophylacsis
 - C. Prophilaxis
 - D. Prophallaxis
7. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word. CAPRICIOUS**
 - A. Whimsical
 - B. Spontaneous
 - C. Erratic

D. Persistent

8. **Identify the correct spelling for 'an official who supervises an exam.'**

- A. Invigilator
- B. Envigilator
- C. Invegilator
- D. Invagelator

9. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**

He had never seen (1)/ such a masterpiece (2)/ until he (3)/ visits the gallery last spring. (4)

- A. (1)
- B. (2)
- C. (3)
- D. (4)

10. **Identify the misspelt word:**

- A. Polysemy
- B. Intertextuality
- C. Simillitude
- D. Postmodernism

11. **What is the one-word substitute for:**

"A condition in which an organism has only one copy of a particular chromosome, instead of the usual two"?

- A. Monosomy
- B. Trisomy
- C. Polyploidy
- D. Aneuploidy

12. **What is the one-word substitute for:**

"A short tale or narrative that illustrates a moral or spiritual lesson, often through allegorical characters and events."

- A. Allegory
- B. Parable
- C. Fable
- D. Satire

13. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word. Recount**

- A. Narrate
- B. Suppress
- C. Retell
- D. Detail

14. **Choose the correct meaning of the idiom given below:**

"Hoist with one's own petard"

- A. Be hurt by one's own scheme
- B. Celebrate an early victory
- C. Escape by clever trick
- D. Boost another's success

15. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**

The professor's explanation (1)/ was filled in clarity (2)/ yet managed to obfuscate (3)/ more than elucidate. (4)

A. (1)

B. (2)

C. (3)

D. (4)

16. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate option:**

The revised algorithm is _____ than the previous version, reducing load time by half.

A. efficient

B. most efficient

C. more efficient

D. efficiency

17. **Choose the most suitable option to replace the underlined part of the sentence:**

By the time we reached the station, the train left.

A. had left

B. has left

C. was leaving

D. is leaving

18. **Convert the sentence provided below from its passive voice structure to an active voice structure:**

The documents have been signed by the director.

A. The director has been signing the documents.

B. The director has signed the documents.

C. The director is signing the documents.

D. The director signed the documents.

19. **A sentence is provided in direct speech. From the four given options, choose the one that most accurately conveys the sentence in its corresponding indirect speech.**

"Let it be known that we shall defend every inch of our territory," proclaimed the commander.

A. The commander proclaimed they would defend every inch of their territory.

B. The commander proclaimed that let it be known they shall defend territory.

C. The commander declared that every inch of land would be defended.

D. The commander proclaimed that they would defend every inch of their territory.

20. **Direction: The sentences given below are in a jumbled order. S1 and S6 are fixed. Arrange the others (P, Q, R, S) in the most logical order to form a coherent paragraph.**

S1: The appeal of using AI for health advice is clear because getting hold of a GP can feel impossible while chatbots are always ready to answer.

P: For users like Abi from Manchester, these bots provide tailored problem-solving that feels more like a conversation with a doctor than a standard search.

Q: However, experts remain divided on whether we should trust these tools or fear that they might give dangerously wrong information.

R: This personal approach helped her manage health anxiety by avoiding the scariest possibilities often found in traditional internet results.

S: In one successful instance, a chatbot correctly analyzed her symptoms and directed her to a pharmacist for necessary antibiotics.

S6: Despite these benefits, the debate continues over whether AI is a helpful assistant or a risk that could put lives on the line.

- A. Q-P-R-S
- B. P-Q-S-R
- C. Q-S-P-R
- D. R-S-Q-P

Comprehension

It was the sixth straight day of the heat index topping 100F (38C) in New Milford, Connecticut, when the sky turned a sickening shade of (1) _____. I was leading an outdoor theatre workshop, and noticed campers gawking at a / an (2) _____, miles-long shelf cloud advancing overhead. Then a thunderclap (3) _____ the ground, and lightning stretched across the sky like a jagged (4) _____. We heard the rain before we felt it, then suddenly we were drenched in a torrent of heavy raindrops. No one could hear each other, so I motioned to a nearby covered platform for laundry bags, and my students and I (5) _____ a run for it. Soaked and laughing, we fell into the laundry pile and watched the storm rage on. After 30 minutes or so, the sky cleared, and the air felt astonishingly clean and cold. The strong, distinctive smell of rain was overwhelming. As we walked back to rehearsal, the grass and trees looked greener and healthier somehow. Everyone seemed lighter, smiled more easily, and I felt as if a brain fog had finally lifted. Was it due to the heat wave breaking or the adrenaline of the dash to shelter, or did the rain have some hand in our collective better mood? It turns out that after decades of studying the elements of rain's potential mood-boosting abilities, scientists have found some decent evidence to support it. And it's not the only benefit of rain: research shows rain also removes harmful substances from the air, while its unmistakable smell may even enhance our memories.

21. **What should come in the place of blank number (1)?**

- A. chartreuse
- B. livid
- C. scarlet
- D. puce

22. **What should come in the place of blank number (2)?**

- A. ominous
- B. auspicious
- C. malevolent
- D. benevolent

23. **What should come in the place of blank number (3)?**

- A. rattled
- B. convulsed
- C. shook
- D. quaked

24. **What should come in the place of blank number (4)?**

- A. lattice
- B. web
- C. mosaic
- D. tapestry

25. What should come in the place of blank number (5)?

- A. executed
- B. attempted
- C. made
- D. staged

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. C) **Loneliness resulting from adults being too busy or fatigued to address children's emotional turmoil.**

The passage explicitly states: "An important causative factor behind this phenomenon is loneliness... Adults are too busy and too fatigued to deal with children's emotional turmoil."

(A) : The passage mentions AI's inability to teach these virtues, but it does not cite this as the cause of self-harm.

(B) : The passage suggests children are focusing too much on darkness, not that they lack routine memories.

(D) : The passage says previous generations had a "cohesive narrative" that included pain but remained "beautiful," which is the opposite of the current crisis.

2. C) **It endorses and reaffirms the idea that life is primarily traumatic and painful.**

The passage states: "The result is that children keep telling themselves that life is traumatic... and social media keeps on endorsing it."

(A) : The passage says there is "nobody" (referring to adults) to tell them otherwise; social media is listed as a source of reinforcing pain.

(B) : The passage argues that social media focuses on trauma, which is the opposite of the silver lining.

(D) : The passage groups social media with the peer group as influences, rather than one replacing the other.

3. B) **Perceiving pain as an opportunity for self-growth and a test of endurance.**

The passage defines the second virtue as: "perceiving pain as an opportunity... it tests our endurance... it can offer us tremendous self-growth."

(A) : The passage says we wrongly feel pain is an anomaly; the virtue is in facing it, not avoiding it. (C) : This describes the first virtue (gratitude), not the second.

(D) : The author views the peer group's influence as part of the problem, not a virtue to be encouraged.

4. A) **1-T, 2-F.**

Statement 1 is TRUE: The passage cites this specific statistic and journal.

Statement 2 is FALSE: The passage explicitly states: "these are the virtues that we can neither teach our children nor the AI can explain them."

5. B) Sol. (B) To prioritize children by spending time with them and personifying virtuous traits.

The passage concludes: "it is now very crucial to prioritise children in our lives... adopted by children only when they spend a lot of time with adults who personify these traits."

(A) : While the author cites a study, the solution offered is behavioral, not academic.

(C) : While the author notes their negative influence, the solution is adult intervention, not a total ban on social interaction.

- (D) : The passage argues the opposite—that we must stop seeing pain as an anomaly and start seeing it as a growth opportunity.
6. A) The correct spelling is '**Prophylaxis**', which means "a measure taken to prevent disease or another unwanted condition" — रोग-निरोधक उपाय, बचाव।
7. A) **Capricious** (adjective) – given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood or behaviour; unpredictable — मनमौजी, चंचल। Synonym: Whimsical (adjective) – acting on a whim; playfully quaint or fanciful; unpredictable — सनकी, मनमौजी।
- **Spontaneous** (adjective) – done without external stimulus; natural and unplanned — स्वाभाविक, स्वतःस्फूर्त। Implies natural expression, not unpredictability.
 - **Erratic** (adjective) – not regular or consistent; unpredictable in behaviour — अनियमित। Close but "erratic" suggests irregular patterns, not whimsical impulse.
 - **Persistent** (adjective) – continuing firmly despite difficulty; opposite of capricious — दृढ़, लगातार।
8. A) The correct spelling is '**Invigilator**', which means "a person who supervises candidates during an examination" — परीक्षा के दौरान निगरानी करने वाला अधिकारी, परीक्षा-निरीक्षक।
9. D) 'visits' के बदले '**visited**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य में "He had never seen... until he" के साथ Past Tense का प्रयोग होना चाहिए; "visits" Present Simple है जो Past Perfect के साथ असंगत है; जैसे —
He had never seen such a masterpiece until he visited the gallery last spring.
- '**visited**' will be used instead of 'visits' because the sentence describes a past event ("last spring") and the clause "until he..." requires Simple Past tense to match the timeline established by "had never seen" (Past Perfect).
10. C) The correct spelling of 'Simillitude' is '**Similitude**', which means "the quality or state of being similar to something; resemblance" — समानता, सादृश्य। The word has only one 'l', not two.
- **Polysemy** – Correct spelling; meaning the coexistence of many possible meanings for a word — बहुअर्थिता।
 - **Intertextuality** – Correct spelling; meaning the relationship between texts and how they influence each other — अन्तर-पाठ्यता।
 - **Postmodernism** – Correct spelling; meaning a late-20th-century movement in arts and philosophy — उत्तर-आधुनिकतावाद।
11. A) **Monosomy** – A condition in which an organism has only one copy of a particular chromosome, instead of the usual two — एकगुणसूत्रता (जब किसी जीव में किसी गुणसूत्र की केवल एक प्रति होती है)।
- **Trisomy** – A condition in which there are three copies of a particular chromosome instead of the usual two (e.g., Down syndrome = Trisomy 21) — त्रिगुणसूत्रता।
 - **Polyploidy** – A condition in which an organism has more than two complete sets of chromosomes — बहुगुणिता।

- **Aneuploidy** – A broader term for any abnormal number of chromosomes (includes both monosomy and trisomy) — असामान्य गुणसूत्र संख्या।
12. A) **Allegory** – A short tale or narrative that illustrates a moral or spiritual lesson, often through allegorical characters and events — रूपक कथा (एक ऐसी कहानी जिसमें पात्रों और घटनाओं के माध्यम से नैतिक या आध्यात्मिक संदेश दिया जाता है)।
- **Parable** – A simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, typically with human characters (e.g., parables of Jesus) — दृष्टांत कथा। A parable is more realistic and direct, while an allegory uses symbolic/extended metaphor.
 - **Fable** – A short story with animals, plants, or inanimate objects as characters, conveying a moral lesson — दंतकथा, नीतिकथा। The key difference is fables use non-human characters.
 - **Satire** – A genre that uses humour, irony, or exaggeration to criticise or expose folly — व्यंग्य। Does not necessarily illustrate a moral lesson through allegorical characters.
13. B) **Recount** (verb) – to tell someone about something in detail; to narrate — विस्तार से बताना, वर्णन करना।
- Antonym: **Suppress** (verb) – to prevent from being known or expressed; to hold back — दबाना, छिपाना। Suppressing means keeping something from being told, which is the opposite of recounting.
- **Narrate** (verb) – to give an account of events; to tell — सुनाना। This is a synonym, not an antonym.
 - **Retell** (verb) – to tell again or in another way — फिर से सुनाना। Also a synonym of recount.
 - **Detail** (verb) – to describe item by item; to give details — विस्तार से बताना। Also a synonym of recount.
14. A) "**Hoist with one's own petard**" (idiom) – To be harmed or entrapped by one's own plan or device intended to harm others; to be caught in one's own trap — अपनी ही चाल में फंसना, अपनी ही योजना से नुकसान उठाना।
15. B) 'was filled in clarity' के बदले '**was filled with clarity**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "filled with" एक सही preposition collocation है; "filled in" का प्रयोग किसी रिक्त स्थान को भरने के लिए होता है, न कि किसी गुण को व्यक्त करने के लिए; जैसे –
- The professor's explanation was filled with clarity yet managed to obfuscate more than elucidate.
- 'filled with clarity' will be used instead of 'filled in clarity' because "filled with" is the correct collocation when describing something as containing a quality or substance. "Filled in" means to complete a form or fill a gap — it is the wrong preposition here.
16. C) '**more efficient**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य में "than the previous version" के साथ comparative degree का प्रयोग होना चाहिए; "more efficient" Comparative Degree है; जैसे –

The revised algorithm is more efficient than the previous version, reducing load time by half.

17. A) 'left' के बदले 'had left' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "By the time we reached" के साथ Past Perfect Tense का प्रयोग होना चाहिए; train का जाना, हमारे पहुँचने से पहले हुआ था; जैसे —

By the time we reached the station, the train had left.

- 'had left' should be used because "by the time + Simple Past" requires Past Perfect in the main clause to show that one past action was completed before another past action occurred.
- 'has left' – Incorrect; Present Perfect cannot be used with a past time reference ("reached").
- 'was leaving' – Incorrect; Past Continuous implies an ongoing action at the time of reaching, which does not fit the meaning.
- 'is leaving' – Incorrect; Present Continuous cannot be used in a past context.

18. B) 'The documents have been signed by the director.' का Active Voice होगा 'The director has signed the documents.' क्योंकि Passive Voice में "have been + V3" (Present Perfect Passive) को Active Voice में "has/have + V3" (Present Perfect Active) में बदला जाता है; Subject और Object की अदला-बदली होती है।

- Rule: Passive (Object + have/has been + V3 + by + Subject) → Active (Subject + have/has + V3 + Object).
A is incorrect – "has been signing" is Present Perfect Continuous, not the correct Active form for Present Perfect Passive.
C is incorrect – "is signing" is Present Continuous Active, which changes the tense entirely.
D is incorrect – "signed" alone gives Simple Past, which does not match the Present Perfect tense of the original sentence.

19. D) **Direct Speech: "Let it be known that we shall defend every inch of our territory," proclaimed the commander.**

Indirect Speech: The commander proclaimed that they would defend every inch of their territory.

परिवर्तन के नियम: (1) "shall" → "would" (tense back-shift); (2) "we" → "they"; (3) "our" → "their"; (4) "Let it be known that" is a formal announcement phrase — in indirect speech it is reported through "proclaimed that"; the content of the declaration is what matters.

- A is incorrect – "proclaimed they would defend" omits "that" (grammatically acceptable but less precise); however Option 4 uses "proclaimed that" which is the more accurate indirect reporting of a formal proclamation.
- B is incorrect – "let it be known they shall defend territory" incorrectly retains the Direct Speech verb "shall" and drops key words like "every inch of their".
- C is incorrect – "declared that every inch of land would be defended" changes the voice to passive and alters the meaning significantly.

20. A) (Q-P-R-S)

Sentence Q, पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत में आएगा क्योंकि यह S1 में बताए गए "आकर्षण" (appeal) के तुरंत बाद एक सवाल या "Why" पेश करता है। यह रिपोर्ट को एक factual ground प्रदान करता है कि क्या हमें इन चैटबॉट्स पर भरोसा करना चाहिए या इनसे डरना चाहिए।

Sentence P, Sentence Q के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह पिछले वाक्य के बहस वाले हिस्से का एक उदाहरण (example) देता है। यह अबी (Abi) के अनुभव के ज़रिए एक big test पेश करता है कि कैसे ये बॉट्स एक डॉक्टर की तरह बातचीत करने का अहसास देते हैं।

Sentence R, Sentence P के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह उस "conversation" वाले अनुभव का विस्तार (elaboration) करता है। यह specific detail देता है कि यह तरीका इंटरनेट सर्च से बेहतर क्यों है—क्योंकि यह डरावने नतीजों के बजाय काम की सलाह देता है।

Sentence S, Sentence R के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह पूरे परिदृश्य को एक conclusion (निष्कर्ष) की ओर ले जाता है। यह एक सफल मेडिकल केस (UTI का उदाहरण) दिखाकर बात को खत्म करता है, जो सीधे S6 में दी गई अंतिम चेतावनी और बहस से जुड़ता है।

- Sentence Q comes at the beginning because it immediately follows the "appeal" mentioned in S1 with a critical question. It provides the essential factual ground by establishing the expert debate on whether AI can be trusted or if it is dangerous.
- Sentence P follows Sentence Q because it introduces a real-world example to answer the previous question. It serves as a critical test by showing how users like Abi find the chatbot's conversational style more helpful than a regular search.
- Sentence R follows Sentence P because it provides an elaboration on Abi's experience. It adds the specific detail that the chatbot helps manage health anxiety by filtering out the "scariest possibilities" often found online.
- Sentence S follows Sentence R because it serves as the logical conclusion for the sequence. It provides a concrete success story regarding a UTI diagnosis, which leads directly into the final summary in S6 about the ongoing debate.

21. D) [puce] सही है क्योंकि यह एक dark purplish-brown (हल्का बैंगनी-भूरा) रंग होता है। Passage यह imply कर रहा है कि भयंकर गर्मी और तूफान से पहले आसमान का रंग एकदम unnatural और 'बीमार' (sickening) सा हो गया था, जैसे कोई चोट का निशान (bruise) हो। Livid का मतलब नीला-स्लेटी या बहुत ज्यादा गुस्सा होना होता है। Chartreuse एक चमकीला पीला-हरा रंग होता है। Scarlet एक bright red (लाल) रंग होता है।

- [puce] is correct because it refers to a dark, purplish-brown color. The passage implies that the extreme heat wave caused the sky to take on an unnatural, "sickening," almost bruised appearance before the violent storm hit. "Livid" usually refers to a dark bluish-grey (like a bruise) or extreme anger. "Chartreuse" is a bright yellow-green. "Scarlet" is a bright, clear red.

22. A) [ominous] सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब कुछ बहुत बुरा या खतरनाक होने का संकेत (threatening) होता है। Passage यह imply कर रहा है कि वह मीलों लंबा बादल इतना डरावना लग रहा था कि बच्चे उसे डर और हैरानी (gawking) से देख रहे थे। Auspicious का मतलब शुभ (favorable) होता है, जो बिल्कुल

opposite है। Malevolent का मतलब किसी को नुकसान पहुँचाने की बुरी नीयत (evil intent) होता है, जो इंसानों या जीवों के लिए आता है, बादलों के लिए नहीं। Benevolent का मतलब दयालु होता है।

- [ominous] is correct because it describes something that gives the worrying impression that bad weather or danger is coming. The passage implies that this massive, miles-long cloud looked incredibly threatening, making the campers stare ("gawk") in fear and awe. "Auspicious" means showing signs of a positive and successful future (the exact opposite). "Malevolent" means having a conscious evil intent to harm others, which is used for living beings, not clouds. "Benevolent" means kind and well-meaning.

23. C) [shook] सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब किसी भयंकर force की वजह से ज़ोर से हिलना या कंपन (vibration) होना होता है। Passage यह imply कर रहा है कि बिजली कड़कने की आवाज़ इतनी तेज़ और ताकतवर थी कि उसने सच में ज़मीन को हिला दिया। Rattled का इस्तेमाल छोटी चीज़ों के खड़खड़ाने (जैसे खिड़कियों) के लिए होता है। Convulsed एक medical word है जिसका मतलब शरीर में ऐंठन (spasm) आना होता है। Quaked के साथ generally object नहीं आता (the ground quaked), लेकिन यहाँ 'thunderclap' ज़मीन को हिला रहा है, इसलिए 'shook' सही है।

- [shook] is correct because it is a transitive verb here indicating a violent physical impact or vibration caused by a force. The passage implies that the sound wave from the thunderclap was so incredibly powerful that it literally moved the earth beneath their feet. "Rattled" implies a quick series of short, sharp sounds (like windows shaking), which is too weak for the ground. "Convulsed" is a medical term for involuntary muscle spasms. "Quaked" is generally intransitive (the ground quaked), whereas here the thunderclap is the subject performing the action on the ground.

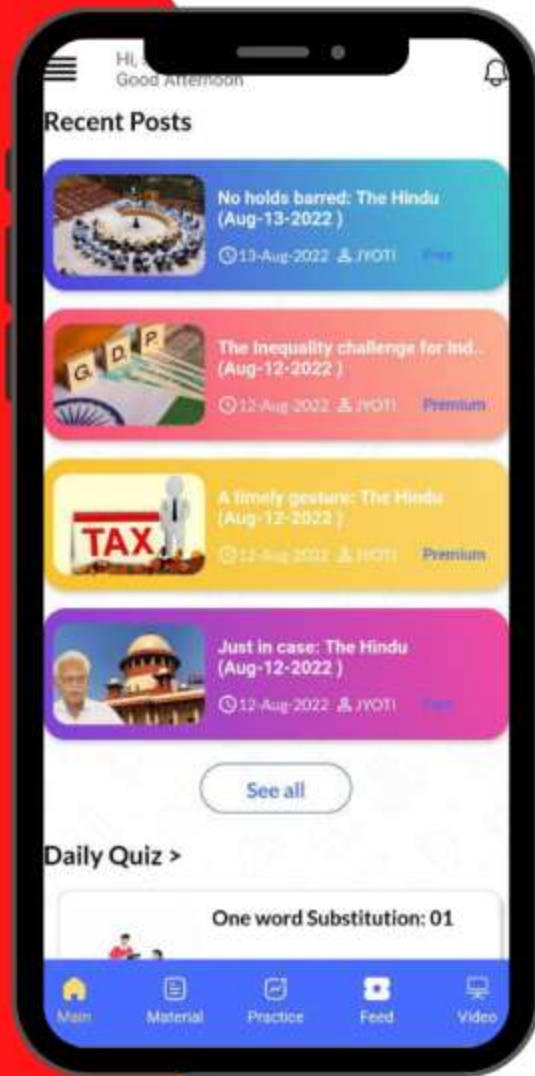
24. B) [web] सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब जाला या एक-दूसरे से जुड़ी हुई पतली लाइनों का network होता है। Passage यह imply कर रहा है कि बिजली सिर्फ एक सीधी लाइन में नहीं गिरी, बल्कि आसमान में मकड़ी के जाले की तरह अलग-अलग दिशाओं में (jagged) फैल गई। Lattice एक बहुत ही perfect और geometric design (जैसे जालीदार दरवाज़ा) होता है, जो बिजली के लिए गलत है। Mosaic छोटे-छोटे पत्थरों या कांच से बनी painting होती है। Tapestry दीवार पर टांगने वाला बुना हुआ कपड़ा होता है।

- [web] is correct because it describes a complex, interconnected network of thin lines. The passage implies that the lightning wasn't just a single straight bolt, but it branched out across the dark sky in a massive, jagged, spider-like network. "Lattice" is a highly regular, geometric criss-cross pattern (like a garden fence), which doesn't fit the chaotic nature of lightning. "Mosaic" is a picture made of small solid pieces of glass or stone. "Tapestry" is a thick, woven textile art piece.

25. C) [made] सही है क्योंकि "made a run for it" English का एक fixed idiom (मुहावरा) है जिसका मतलब किसी खतरे या बारिश से बचने के लिए अचानक से भागना (sprint) होता है। Passage यह imply कर रहा है कि बारिश से बचने के लिए वे सब अचानक shelter की तरफ भागे। Executed, attempted, और staged ग्रामर और मुहावरे के हिसाब से यहाँ पूरी तरह गलत हैं।

- [made] is correct because "made a run for it" is a fixed, universally used English idiom meaning to suddenly sprint away in order to escape danger, bad weather, or capture.

The passage implies a frantic, sudden, and funny dash to reach the shelter before getting completely soaked. "Executed," "attempted," and "staged" are all grammatically and idiomatically incorrect when paired with "a run for it."



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