

## Work in progress: On the Household social consumption (health) survey

India must **strengthen** public sector hospital capacity

The 80th, and latest, **round** of the household social consumption (health) survey conducted by the National Statistical Office **is** the first **comprehensive** survey of its kind in both the **post-pandemic era** and the period in which the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) scheme **attained maturity**. The previous two **surveys** of the same kind **revealed** that most Indians did not have any form of health insurance. Since PMJAY's launch in 2018, the 80th round shows that insurance coverage has expanded around **threefold**, **accounting for** an increasing share of health-care financing in hospitals. However, the **hospitalisation** rate has not recovered to the 2014 level, meaning that having an insurance card still does not guarantee access to a bed, and hidden costs continue to **limit** access. The **reimbursement rates** under PMJAY and State-funded insurance schemes **are often** below market rates, so private hospitals **compensate** by billing patients **separately** for diagnostics and **ancillary** services. In other words, while state-funded health insurance is **subsidising** private health-care providers' access to low-income markets without also **enforcing** regulated prices, the combined system provides a safety net where insurance covers hospitalisation and the public network has improved financial protection for households seeking primary care. Second, the **Proportion** of Population Reported Ailing **has doubled**, while **infectious** diseases have declined and non-communicable diseases have increased. Economists have **interpreted** this as a sign of more people seeking care, thus becoming 'visible' to the health-care sector.

Previous surveys **singled out out-of-pocket** expenses (OOPE) on health care as a leading cause of poverty. In the 80th round, while the mean OOPE has roughly doubled, the median OOPE has dropped, to ₹11,285 per hospitalisation and at nearly nothing for public outpatient care. Health-care **expenses** in India **are** a mix of many low-cost consultations and a few significant and expensive interactions, such as surgeries and **chronic** care. The two trends thus mean that while health care is becoming more **affordable**, **thanks to** the public sector **absorbing** the cost of primary and secondary care, health care's ability to **inflict** financial **deprivation** in a few cases remains high. **Part** of the problem **is** the AAM network, which provides free medicines and diagnostics, of Ayushman Bharat still being significantly underfunded relative to the needs of managing chronic diseases, and where the private sector dominates. Thus, overall, the poor have nominal coverage but are often excluded from the benefits of coverage **in practice** while the more insured middle class faces rising **catastrophic** costs. The next **phase** of health-care reform, after **shielding** care-seekers from **poverty** and achieving near-universal institutional delivery, **will** need to strengthen public sector hospital capacity to **compete with** the private sector for tertiary care. [Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Strengthen** (verb) - bolster, reinforce, fortify, support, invigorate मजबूत करना
2. **Comprehensive** (adjective) - exhaustive, thorough, extensive, all-inclusive, complete विस्तृत/व्यापक
3. **Post-pandemic era** (noun) - the period following a widespread epidemic, specifically COVID-19 महामारी के बाद का युग
4. **Attain** (verb) - achieve, acquire, gain, procure, secure प्राप्त करना
5. **Maturity** (noun) - completion, development, ripeness, perfection, full growth पूर्णता/परिपक्वता
6. **Reveal** (verb) - disclose, unveil, manifest, divulge, uncover प्रकट करना/दिखाना
7. **Threefold** (adjective) - triple, thrice, ternary, trebled, triplex तीन गुना
8. **Account for** (phrasal verb) - to form a particular amount or part of something का कारण होना/हिस्सा होना
9. **Hospitalisation** (noun) - admission, confinement, clinical care, institutional treatment, inpatient stay अस्पताल में भर्ती
10. **Limit** (verb) - restrict, curb, check, bound, circumscribe सीमित करना
11. **Reimbursement** (noun) - repayment, compensation, restitution, indemnity, recoupment प्रतिपूर्ति/भरपाई
12. **Often** (adverb) - frequently, repeatedly, recurrently, habitually, regularly अक्सर
13. **Compensate** (verb) - offset, counterbalance, recompense, adjust, remunerate क्षतिपूर्ति करना
14. **Separately** (adverb) - individually, distinctly, independently, singularly, apart अलग से
15. **Ancillary** (adjective) - subordinate, auxiliary, secondary, additional, accessory सहायक
16. **Subsidise** (verb) - fund, sponsor, finance, underwrite, support आर्थिक सहायता देना
17. **Enforce** (verb) - implement, execute, administer, impose, apply लागू करना
18. **Double** (verb) - duplicate, dualize, repeat, manifold, geminate दोगुना करना
19. **Infectious** (adjective) - contagious, communicable, transmissible, spreading, virulent संक्रामक
20. **Interpret** (verb) - decipher, translate, explain, clarify, understand व्याख्या करना
21. **Single out** (phrasal verb) - to choose one person or thing from a group for special attention चुनना/अलग करना
22. **Out-of-pocket** (adjective) - personal, direct, cash, self-funded, non-reimbursable अपनी जेब से (खर्च)
23. **Chronic** (adjective) - persistent, long-standing, incurable, habitual, deep-rooted पुराना/दीर्घकालिक
24. **Affordable** (adjective) - inexpensive, cheap, economical, reasonable, low-cost किफायती/सस्ता

25. **Thanks to someone/something** (phrase) - because of someone/something के कारण/की मदद से
26. **Absorb** (verb) - assimilate, incorporate, consume, swallow, take in सोखना/खर्च वहन करना
27. **Inflict** (verb) - impose, wreak, administer, deliver, deal पहुंचाना/थोपना (कष्ट)
28. **Deprivation** (noun) - poverty, destitution, deficiency, privation, scarcity अभाव/वंचना
29. **In practice** (phrase) - used to describe what really happens as opposed to what you think will really happen in a particular situation व्यवहार में
30. **Catastrophic** (adjective) - disastrous, calamitous, tragic, ruinous, fatal विनाशकारी
31. **Shield** (verb) - protect, defend, guard, safeguard, screen बचाना/आरक्षण देना
32. **Poverty** (noun) - penury, destitution, indigence, pauperism, privation गरीबी
33. **Compete with someone/something** (phrase) - to strive to be better or more successful than someone else मुकाबला करना/प्रतियोगिता करना

## Summary of the Editorial

1. The 80th round of the health survey by the National Statistical Office is the first major post-pandemic assessment.
2. It evaluates healthcare trends after the maturity of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY).
3. Health insurance coverage in India has increased nearly threefold since 2018.
4. Insurance now contributes significantly to hospital financing.
5. Despite this, hospitalisation rates have not returned to 2014 levels.
6. Having insurance does not ensure access to hospital beds.
7. Hidden costs still limit real access to healthcare.
8. PMJAY reimbursement rates are often lower than market rates.
9. Private hospitals compensate by charging separately for diagnostics and other services.
10. Public insurance indirectly supports private hospitals without strong price regulation.
11. The public healthcare system provides some financial protection, especially in primary care.
12. The proportion of people reporting illness has doubled, indicating increased healthcare-seeking behavior.
13. Non-communicable diseases have risen, while infectious diseases have declined.
14. Out-of-pocket expenditure (OOPE) shows mixed trends—average costs have increased, but median costs have decreased.
15. India must now strengthen public sector hospital capacity, especially for advanced (tertiary) care, to reduce dependence on private healthcare and improve access.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the central message the author intends to convey regarding the current state of Indian healthcare?** [Editorial Page]
  - a. The transition from infectious to non-communicable diseases has effectively doubled the healthcare burden on the public sector.
  - b. While insurance coverage has seen a quantitative leap, qualitative access and financial protection remain inconsistent and compromised by hidden costs.
  - A. both a and b
  - B. Only b
  - C. Only a
  - D. None of a and b
2. **What is/are the author's apprehension(s), according to the above passage?**
  - a. The persistent inability of the insurance-led model to guarantee physical access to hospital beds despite the possession of insurance cards.
  - b. The underfunding of the Ayushman Bharat health network relative to the growing requirements of managing chronic diseases.
  - c. The potential for healthcare expenses to continue causing financial deprivation despite a drop in median out-of-pocket expenditure.
  - A. Only a and b
  - B. Only b and c
  - C. Only a and c
  - D. All a, b and c
3. **Based on the concluding paragraph, what does the author suggest as the mandatory "next phase" of healthcare reform?**
  - A. A shift of tertiary care responsibilities from the private sector to the public sector to eliminate market rates.
  - B. Enhancing the capacity of public sector hospitals to act as viable competitors to private entities.
  - C. Focusing on institutional delivery to ensure that the poor are no longer excluded from coverage benefits.
  - D. All of the above options
4. **Which of the following correctly identifies the tense used predominantly in the second paragraph of the passage?**
  - A. Past Continuous
  - B. Future Indefinite
  - C. Present Perfect
  - D. Past Perfect
5. **Identify the sentence with the correct use of subject-verb agreement:**
  - A. The reimbursement rates under PMJAY and State-funded insurance schemes is often below market rates.
  - B. The next phase of health-care reform, after shielding care-seekers from poverty need to strengthen public sector hospital capacity.
  - C. The Proportion of Population Reported Ailing have doubled, while infectious diseases have declined.

- D. The outcomes you see in the health-care sector today are often the result of long-term policy shifts.
6. **In the following question, the first and last sentences of a passage are numbered S1 and S6. The rest of the passage is split into four parts and named P, Q, R, and S. These four parts are not given in their proper order. Read the passage and find out which of the four combinations is correct.**
- S1: US actors like Angelina Jolie and Jared Leto are among several stars who have admitted to losing track of their gilded Academy Awards over the years.
- P: A recent recovery occurred this week after documentarian Pavel Talankin was forced to check his Oscar at a New York airport because security deemed it a potential weapon.
- Q: The trophy was eventually located by Lufthansa, which is currently coordinating with Talankin to arrange the safe return of the iconic statue.
- R: This incident is just one of many where these prizes vanish, as seen in the tragic case of costume designer Colleen Atwood during the Los Angeles wildfires.
- S: While one of Atwood's Oscars was safe in a museum, others melted or were charred beyond recognition when her home was incinerated in the blaze.
- S6: Following such catastrophic losses, the Academy has stated it will repair or replace statuettes for living winners in cases of severe damage.
- A. P-Q-R-S  
B. Q-P-S-R  
C. R-S-P-Q  
D. P-S-Q-R
7. **From the alternatives given below, select the correct meaning of the idiom.**  
Handwriting on the wall.
- A. The very apparent signs that something bad will happen in the future  
B. To have very poor, messy, or illegible handwriting, likened to the marks made in the dirt by a chicken  
C. One who is able to observe something closely but invisibly and without interfering in the situation  
D. Just one more facet or aspect of some larger system, process, issue, etc.
8. **From the alternatives given below, select the correct meaning of the idiom.**  
Keep one on a tight leash.
- A. To keep one's plans, intentions, or information secret from everyone else  
B. To continue to inform someone about something so that they have current information  
C. To not allow one very much independence or autonomy  
D. To maintain a significant degree of physical separation from someone or something
9. **Choose the correctly spelt word from the given options.**
- A. Epiphany  
B. Epifanny  
C. Epephiany  
D. Epiephany
10. **Choose the correctly spelt word from the given options.**
- A. Floresceance  
B. Fluorecence

- C. Fluoresence  
D. Fluorescence
11. **Match the word with its closest synonym. Word: Impartial**  
A. Biased  
B. Fair  
C. Prejudiced  
D. Partial
12. **Choose the word that is the closest synonym to the word "disguise".**  
A. Reveal  
B. Concealment  
C. Destroy  
D. Attack
13. **There are four underlined words in the sentence given below. One of them is misspelt. Choose the option with the misspelt word.**  
The country pledged to cut emmissions, adopt renewable energy, and fulfil its international obligations under the climate accord.  
A. emmissions  
B. renewable  
C. international  
D. obligations
14. **Choose the misspelt word from the given options.**  
A. Occasionally  
B. Embarrassment  
C. Exaggeration  
D. Pronunciation
15. **Choose the word that is the antonym of Fancy.**  
A. Elaborate  
B. Ornate  
C. Decorative  
D. Simple
16. **Choose the word that is the antonym of Flee.**  
A. Stay  
B. Evade  
C. Run  
D. Escape
17. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**  
One who loves only himself.  
A. Narcissist  
B. Egoist  
C. Egocentric  
D. Selfish
18. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**  
A person who sacrifices his life for a cause.  
A. Soldier

- B. Martyr
- C. Volunteer
- D. Patriot

19. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**

Napoleon Bonaparte was marooned \_\_\_\_\_ the island of Elba.

- A. in
- B. over
- C. on
- D. under

20. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**

Neelima purchased the dress from the mall \_\_\_\_\_ five thousand rupees.

- A. by
- B. at
- C. with
- D. for

### **Comprehension**

Every week, Neeta Bhojwani spends hours binge-watching dramas about wealthy men pretending to be poor and angry ghosts out (1) \_\_\_ revenge. The shows run into more than 50 episodes, each under two minutes - micro-dramas, as they are called, are bits of (2) \_\_\_ fictional content, designed to be watched on mobile phones during snatched moments in the day. They are hugely popular in China, the US, South Korea and now India. Bhojwani, a homemaker in western Udaipur city, says she first got hooked on micro-dramas when an ad popped up on her Instagram feed. She now watches them regularly, buying yearly subscriptions on platforms such as Story TV. "Watching these is such a great way to pass time," the 36-year-old says. Bhojwani is among millions of Indians across big cities and small towns (3) \_\_\_ watching micro-dramas, which mostly have cliched plots and exaggerated acting styles similar to Hindi TV soaps. A typical plot could have a down-on-his-luck young man meeting a friendly genie or a couple from different classes defying all odds and melodrama to marry. The market for these is booming in India - it's currently worth \$300m (£222m) and projected to reach \$4.5bn by 2030, according to a report by investment firm Lumikai, which calls micro-dramas the country's "fastest growing entertainment format". They started picking up steam in India in 2024, with homegrown start-ups such as Kuku and Reelies which found audiences usually through social media advertisements. But until recently, they were still considered a (4) \_\_\_, and not part of the mainstream. That is changing now, with some of India's biggest producers investing in them. New (5) \_\_\_ include India's oldest private TV network Zee Entertainment Enterprises and top TV show maker Balaji Telefilms, which have announced separate partnerships with start-ups to develop micro-dramas. JioStar, the media company owned by Asia's richest man Mukesh Ambani, launched a micro-drama platform called Tadka in April, which currently has more than 100 shows. The themes range from a coming-of-age tale set in a high school to a love story between a billionaire and a security guard.

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

- A. of

- B. upon
  - C. for
  - D. into
22. **What should come in the place of blank number (2)?**
- A. digestible
  - B. condensed
  - C. bite-sized
  - D. snackable
23. **What should come in the place of blank number (3)?**
- A. avidly
  - B. earnest
  - C. intently
  - D. fervently
24. **What should come in the place of blank number (4)?**
- A. craze
  - B. fad
  - C. phase
  - D. whim
25. **What should come in the place of blank number (5)?**
- A. competitors
  - B. participant
  - C. entrants
  - D. contender

## Answers

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

**[Practice Exercise]**

## Explanations

### 1. B) (Only b)

'b' is correct: The passage explicitly states that while insurance has expanded "threefold," hospitalization rates haven't recovered, and "hidden costs continue to limit access." This perfectly matches the statement that quantitative growth (numbers) hasn't led to consistent qualitative access (real benefit).

'a' is incorrect: While the "Proportion of Population Reported Ailing" has doubled, the author doesn't say this is a "burden" that makes advancements "insignificant." Instead, the passage explicitly states "Economists have interpreted this as a sign of more people seeking care, thus becoming 'visible' to the health-care sector." which is a neutral or even slightly positive sign.

### 2. D) (All a, b and c)

Why 'a' is correct: The author expresses concern that "having an insurance card still does not guarantee access to a bed."

Why 'b' is correct: The passage explicitly mentions that the network is "significantly underfunded relative to the needs of managing chronic diseases."

Why 'c' is correct: Even though the "median" cost dropped, the author warns that the "ability to inflict financial deprivation... remains high" in specific expensive cases (like surgeries).

### 3. B) **Enhancing the capacity of public sector hospitals to act as viable competitors to private entities.**

The final sentence of the passage states exactly this: the next phase "will need to strengthen public sector hospital capacity to compete with the private sector for tertiary care."

'a' is incorrect: The author suggests the public sector should compete with the private sector, not "shift" or take over responsibilities or ban the private sector.

'c' is incorrect: The passage says that "achieving near-universal institutional delivery" is something that has already been largely addressed or is part of the previous phase; the "next" phase must look toward high-end (tertiary) hospital capacity.

### 4. C) **Present Perfect**

Present Perfect tense is used to describe actions that happened at an unspecified time in the past but have a direct result or importance in the present. The structure is Has/Have + V3 (Third form of verb). The second paragraph is almost entirely built using this structure: "...mean OPE has roughly doubled..." "...median OPE has dropped..." "...public sector has improved..." "...infectious diseases have declined..." "...non-communicable diseases have increased." The author uses this tense to show that these changes started in the past (since the last survey) and are the current reality now.

### 5. D) The outcomes you see in the health-care sector today are often the result of long-term policy shifts.

Subject: "The outcomes" (This is a plural noun). Verb: "are" (This is a plural verb). a plural subject must have a plural verb. Since "outcomes" is plural, "are" is the correct matching verb

(a) Incorrect: The subject is "The reimbursement rates" (plural). The verb used is "is" (singular). It should be "The reimbursement rates... are often below market rates."

(b) Incorrect: The subject is "The next phase" (singular). The verb used is "need" (plural). It should be "The next phase... needs to strengthen..."

(c) Incorrect: The subject is "The Proportion" (singular). The verb used is "have" (plural). It should be "The Proportion... has doubled."

6. A) **P-Q-R-S**

Sentence P, पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत में आएगा क्योंकि यह S1 में बताए गए "losing track" के विषय को एक recent recovery story के साथ शुरू करता है। यह Pavel Talankin के साथ हुई एयरपोर्ट की घटना का factual ground देता है।

Sentence Q, Sentence P के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह उस "trophy" के बारे में specific detail देता है जिसे एयरपोर्ट पर छोड़ा गया था। यह बताता है कि कैसे Lufthansa ने उसे ढूँढा और उसे लौटाने का coordination किया।

Sentence S, Sentence R के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह Atwood के नुकसान का elaboration करता है। यह बताता है कि कैसे आग में उनके Oscars melt हो गए, जो कि S6 में दी गई "repair or replace" पॉलिसी के लिए आधार (context) बनाता है।

Sentence R, Sentence Q के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह एक bridge की तरह काम करता है। यह "temporary loss" (P-Q) से "permanent loss" (Atwood's case) की ओर ट्रांजिशन करता है और "prizes vanish" होने की बात करता है।

Sentence P comes first because it connects to S1 by providing a recent recovery example of a lost Oscar. It establishes the factual ground regarding the airport incident.

Sentence Q follows P because it provides the elaboration on the recovery process. It adds specific details about Lufthansa locating the trophy and arranging its return.

Sentence R follows Q because it introduces a shift in scale. It moves from temporary incidents to cases where prizes vanish permanently, using Colleen Atwood as the next example.

Sentence S follows R because it provides the specific detail of Atwood's loss, describing how the awards were melted or charred, which leads directly into the Academy's replacement policy in S6.

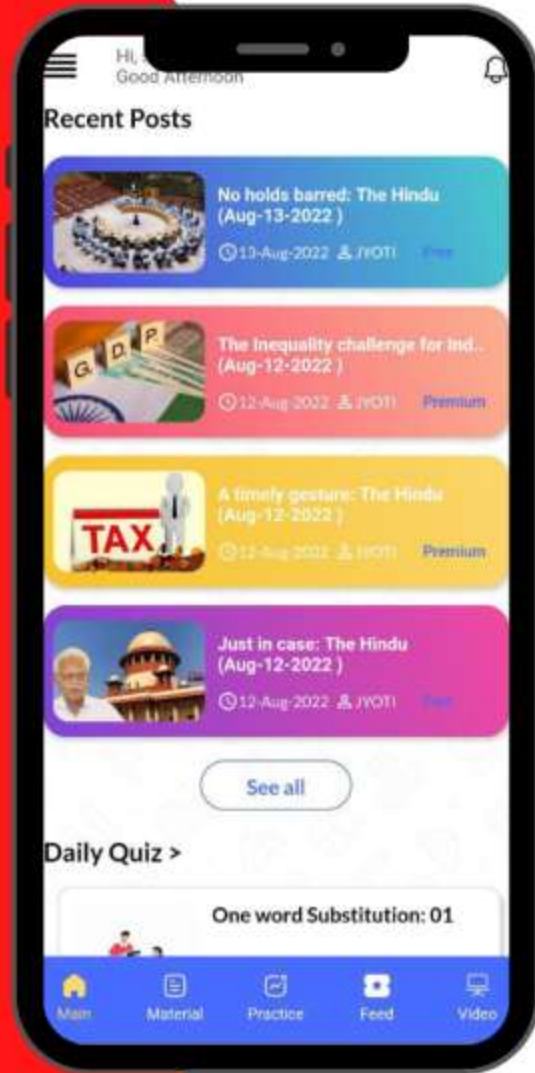
7. A) **Handwriting on the wall** (idiom) – The very apparent signs that something bad or unpleasant will happen in the future; an ominous warning. दीवार पर लिखाई – किसी बुरी घटना के स्पष्ट पूर्व-संकेत।
8. C) **Keep one on a tight leash** (idiom) – To not allow one very much independence or autonomy; to control someone strictly. किसी को कड़े नियंत्रण में रखना; अधिक स्वतंत्रता न देना।
9. A) The correct spelling is '**Epiphany**', which means "a sudden and profound moment of realisation or understanding" – अचानक गहरी अनुभूति, साक्षात्कार।
10. D) The correct spelling is 'Fluorescence', which means "the visible or invisible radiation emitted by a substance when it absorbs light or other electromagnetic radiation" – प्रतिदीप्ति, फ्लोरोसेंस।
11. B) **Impartial** (adjective) – treating all people equally; not favouring one side. निष्पक्ष, पक्षपातरहित। Synonym: **Fair** (adjective) – treating people equally and according to rules; just and unbiased. निष्पक्ष, न्यायसंगत।

- **Biased** (adjective) – unfairly prejudiced in favour of or against someone or something. पक्षपाती, पूर्वाग्रही।
  - **Prejudiced** (adjective) – having an unreasonable dislike or preference; biased. पक्षपाती, पूर्वाग्रह से ग्रस्त।
  - **Partial** (adjective) – favouring one side unfairly; not impartial. पक्षपाती, एकतरफा।
12. B) **Disguise** (verb/noun) – to change the appearance of something to conceal its true nature. छुपाना / भेष बदलना।  
Synonym: **Concealment** (noun) – the action of keeping something hidden or secret. छिपाव।
- **Reveal** (verb) – to make known or uncover something. प्रकट करना।
  - **Destroy** (verb) – to put an end to; to ruin completely. नष्ट करना।
  - **Attack** (verb/noun) – to take aggressive action against someone or something. आक्रमण करना।
13. A) The correct spelling of 'emmissions' is '**emissions**', which means "the production and discharge of gases or other substances into the atmosphere" – उत्सर्जन।
- **renewable** – Correct spelling; meaning able to be renewed or sustained naturally. नवीकरणीय।
  - **international** – Correct spelling; meaning involving or relating to multiple countries. अंतर्राष्ट्रीय।
  - **obligations** – Correct spelling; meaning duties, commitments, or responsibilities one is bound to fulfil. दायित्व।
14. D) The correct spelling of 'Pronounciation' is '**Pronunciation**', which means "the way in which a word is pronounced" – उच्चारण।
- **Occasionally** – Correct spelling; meaning at infrequent or irregular intervals. कभी-कभी।
  - **Embarrassment** – Correct spelling; meaning a feeling of self-consciousness or shame. शर्मिंदगी।
  - **Exaggeration** – Correct spelling; meaning a statement that represents something as better or worse than it really is. अतिशयोक्ति।
15. D) **Fancy** (adjective) – elaborate, highly decorated, or ornate. शानदार / अलंकृत।  
Antonym: **Simple** (adjective) – plain, not elaborate or showy. सरल।
- **Elaborate** (adjective) – having many details; intricate and complex. विस्तृत।
  - **Ornate** (adjective) – elaborately decorated; highly adorned. अलंकृत।
  - **Decorative** (adjective) – serving to make something more attractive; ornamental. सजावटी।
16. A) **Flee** (verb) – to run away quickly from a place or situation of danger. भागना।  
Antonym: **Stay** (verb) – to remain in a place; not to leave. रहना / ठहरना।
- **Evade** (verb) – to escape or avoid something, especially by cleverness or trickery. टालना / बचना।
  - **Run** (verb) – to move swiftly on foot; similar in meaning to flee. दौड़ना।
  - **Escape** (verb) – to break free from confinement or danger; a near-synonym of flee. बचकर निकलना।

17. A) **Narcissist** – one who has excessive love or admiration for oneself; directly matches the given definition. आत्म-प्रेमी।
- **Egoist** – one who is excessively self-interested and seeks personal advantage. स्वार्थी।
  - **Egocentric** – one who thinks only about oneself; self-centred. आत्मकेंद्रित।
  - **Selfish** – one who lacks consideration for others and is concerned mainly with personal gain. मतलबी / स्वार्थी।
18. B) **Martyr** – a person who sacrifices their life for a cause or belief; directly matches the given definition. शहीद।
- **Soldier** – a member of an army; does not specifically imply sacrificing life for a cause. सैनिक।
  - **Volunteer** – one who freely offers to do something without being paid or compelled. स्वयंसेवक।
  - **Patriot** – one who loves and strongly supports their country. देशभक्त।
19. C) 'on' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "marooned on the island" एक सही expression है जिसका अर्थ है किसी द्वीप पर अकेला और असहाय छोड़ दिया जाना; जैसे –  
Napoleon Bonaparte was marooned on the island of Elba.
- 'on' should be used because the preposition "on" is used with islands and specific landmasses to indicate physical location or presence.
20. D) 'for' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "purchased for five thousand rupees" एक सही expression है जिसका अर्थ है पाँच हजार रुपये की कीमत पर खरीदना; जैसे –  
Neelima purchased the dress from the mall for five thousand rupees.
21. C) **for** सही है क्योंकि "out for" एक मुहावरा (idiom) है जिसका मतलब किसी चीज़ (जैसे बदला या 'revenge') की तलाश या फिराक में होना है। of का इस्तेमाल आमतौर पर (relation) दिखाने के लिए होता है। upon किसी चीज़ के ऊपर होने के लिए इस्तेमाल होता है। into अंदर जाने की गति (movement) दिखाता है।
- for is correct because "out for" is a fixed idiomatic phrase meaning actively seeking or pursuing something (like revenge). of shows possession or origin. upon indicates placement on a surface. into indicates movement to the inside of something.
22. D) **snackable** सही है क्योंकि यह डिजिटल मीडिया का एक खास शब्द है जिसका मतलब ऐसा छोटा content है जिसे आप आसानी से और जल्दी देख सकें। digestible का मतलब समझने में आसान होता है, लेकिन यह वीडियो की लंबाई (shortness) को नहीं दर्शाता। bite-sized का इस्तेमाल आमतौर पर खाने या जानकारी के छोटे हिस्सों के लिए आता है, जबकि 'snackable' डिजिटल content के लिए सबसे सटीक शब्द है। condensed का मतलब किसी बड़ी चीज़ को काटकर छोटा करना होता है (लेकिन ये वीडियो असल में ही छोटे बनाए जाते हैं)।
- snackable is correct. It is a modern digital media term specifically referring to short-form content designed for quick, casual consumption on the go. digestible means easy to understand, but doesn't inherently imply short duration. bite-sized is a strong alternative but is broader, whereas "snackable" is the industry-standard term for this specific media format. condensed means shortened from a larger original work, which micro-dramas are not; they are originally filmed short.
23. A) **avidly** सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब किसी काम को बहुत शौक, दिलचस्पी और लगातार उत्साह के साथ करना है। intently का मतलब बहुत ध्यान लगाकर देखना है, लेकिन इसमें 'शौक' या 'लत' वाली बात

नहीं है। fervently का इस्तेमाल बहुत ज़्यादा जज़्बात या धार्मिक भावनाओं के लिए होता है। earnest ग्रामर के हिसाब से गलत है क्योंकि यह एक adjective है, जबकि यहाँ verb (watching) की विशेषता बताने के लिए adverb (ly वाला शब्द) चाहिए।

- avidly is correct because it implies doing something with great enthusiasm, interest, and regular dedication (fitting perfectly for binge-watching). intently means with earnest and eager attention, but lacks the implication of a long-term passionate hobby. fervently implies intense, almost fiery emotion or zeal, which is too strong for watching soap operas. earnest is grammatically invalid because it is an adjective; modifying the verb "watching" requires an adverb.
24. B) **fad** सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब एक ऐसा चलन (trend) है जो बहुत तेज़ी से लोकप्रिय होता है और लोग सोचते हैं कि यह जल्दी खत्म हो जाएगा। craze का मतलब पागलपन की हद तक किसी चीज़ का शौक होना है। phase का मतलब किसी इंसान के स्वभाव का एक अस्थायी दौर होता है, बाज़ार का चलन नहीं। whim का मतलब अचानक से आया कोई विचार या मन की मौज होता है।
- fad is correct. It precisely describes a trend that is intensely popular for a short time but is originally not expected to last or become mainstream. craze is very similar but implies an almost irrational obsession, whereas "fad" focuses specifically on the short-lived nature of an economic/social trend. phase refers to a temporary period of behavior or development (usually personal), not a market trend. whim is a sudden desire or change of mind.
25. C) **entrants** सही है क्योंकि यह व्यापार (business) का एक सटीक शब्द है जिसका मतलब किसी नए बाज़ार या उद्योग में प्रवेश करने वाली कंपनियाँ हैं। competitors का मतलब 'प्रतिद्वंद्वी' है, लेकिन यह 'बाज़ार में आने' (entering) का भाव नहीं देता। participant और contender ग्रामर के हिसाब से गलत हैं क्योंकि वाक्य ("New \_\_\_ include...") (plural) की माँग करता है (चूँकि आगे Zee और Balaji जैसी कई कंपनियों का ज़िक्र है), और ये दोनों शब्द (singular) हैं।
- entrants is correct because it is the specific business terminology for companies newly entering a specific market or industry. competitors means rivals, but misses the crucial context of entering a new space for the first time. participant and contender are grammatically invalid because the sentence structure ("New \_\_\_ include...") requires a plural noun to match the multiple companies (Zee and Balaji) listed immediately after.



# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

**English Madhyam**