

Building hazards: On preventing and fighting fires

India needs to do more to both prevent and fight fires

Each major fire accident in cities that **ends up claiming** human lives **fleshes out** different sets of **causative** and **exacerbating** factors. The recent **one** in Shahdara in East Delhi **highlighted** a lack of sufficient attention to planning for **evacuating** buildings in the case of emergencies, mainly fire. Nine people were killed and some 15 were rescued with **grievous** injuries in that accident. The residential **building** — stilt plus four floors comprising eight houses — **had** security enhancing features that **turned out** to be deadly: electronic locks on doors that could not be opened; a terrace that was not easily accessible; and metallic grills around the building including on balconies that had to be **cut for** access by fire service personnel seeking to rescue the victims. A **fire** in March in Palam, in which nine of an extended family died, **highlighted** access problems that fire services face in Delhi. The mixed-use building had few of the recommended firefighting facilities required in such buildings. Eyewitnesses complained that the hydraulic **lifts** used by fire services personnel to access higher floors **were malfunctioning**. Though the fire services **insist** they reached the Shahdara accident spot on time, response times have been longer in the capital city at other times. In a fire in Dwarka in 2025, fire engines could not enter the residential society because the name board of the society was blocking them.

While there is certainly a case for reviewing the fire **preparedness** and fire-fighting capabilities of Delhi, **what** often goes **unaddressed are** electrical problems that cause these fires across Indian cities. As summer **sets in**, air-conditioning blasts are often casually **cited** as in the Shahdara fire. What often happens is overloading of equipment such as the airconditioner during hot summer days. The wires that are not designed to handle such loads burn due to heat and the circuit breakers that should have **tripped** the equipment as protection do not do so. In India, the **hierarchy** of loads and circuit breakers **is** often not observed as residences are packed with high load equipment beyond what the system can safely carry. The intent is often to keep the equipment running under all conditions **whereas tripping** of overloaded equipment **is** a necessary safety feature. City authorities talk of drones and robots to fight fires when even the basic preventive measures are not **in place**. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Hazards** (noun) - dangers, perils, risks, menaces, threats खतरा
2. **End up** (phrasal verb) - to eventually reach a specific place or situation through a series of events अंत में किसी स्थिति में पहुँचना
3. **Claim** (verb) - take, snatch, consume, end, extinguish (often used for lives lost) छीन लेना (जान लेना)
4. **Flesh out** (phrasal verb) - to add more details or information to a basic plan or idea विवरण प्रस्तुत करना
5. **Causative** (adjective) - primary, fundamental, underlying, determinant, originative कारक
6. **Exacerbate** (adjective) - aggravate, worsen, intensify, compound, inflame बिगाड़ने वाला
7. **Highlight** (verb) - underscore, emphasize, stress, feature, accentuate उजागर करना
8. **Evacuate** (verb) - abandon, vacate, desert, clear, leave (a dangerous place) सुरक्षित बाहर निकालना
9. **Grievous** (adjective) - severe, serious, dreadful, agonizing, catastrophic गंभीर
10. **Turn out** (phrasal verb) - to happen in a particular way or to have a particular result साबित होना
11. **Cut for** (phrase) - to remove or divide something using a sharp tool to gain entry प्रवेश के लिए काटना
12. **Malfunction** (verb) - fail, break, stall, misfire, glitch खराब होना
13. **Insist** (verb) - assert, maintain, declare, claim, contend जोर देना
14. **Preparedness** (noun) - readiness, alertness, vigilance, mobility, provision तत्परता
15. **Unaddressed** (adjective) - ignored, neglected, overlooked, disregarded, bypassed अनसुलझा/अनदेखा
16. **Set in** (phrasal verb) - (of something unpleasant) to begin and seem likely to continue शुरू होना
17. **Cite** (verb) - quote, mention, refer, instance, adduce उल्लेख करना
18. **Trip** (verb) - disconnect, switch off, break, shut, deactivate (specifically for circuit breakers) बिजली का संपर्क कटना
19. **Hierarchy** (noun) - ranking, grading, ladder, order, sequence पदानुक्रम
20. **Whereas** (conjunction) - while, although, though, albeit, meanwhile जबकि
21. **In place** (phrase) - working or ready to be used; established in a proper position लागू/तैयार

Summary of the Editorial

1. Recent fire accidents in Indian cities reveal serious weaknesses in fire prevention and emergency response systems.
2. The Shahdara fire tragedy in East Delhi caused the death of nine people and left many others seriously injured.
3. Poor evacuation planning in residential buildings greatly increased the danger during the Shahdara fire.
4. Safety and security features such as electronic locks and metallic grills became deadly obstacles during rescue operations.
5. Firefighters faced difficulties in accessing victims because balconies and exits were blocked by iron grills.
6. Another major fire in Palam exposed the lack of proper firefighting facilities in mixed-use buildings.
7. Eyewitnesses reported malfunctioning hydraulic lifts, showing poor maintenance of firefighting equipment.
8. Fire response times in Delhi have often been inadequate during emergencies.
9. In a previous Dwarka fire incident, fire engines could not enter the residential society because of poor planning and blocked access.
10. The editorial stresses that authorities must review and improve Delhi's fire preparedness and firefighting capabilities.
11. Electrical faults and overloaded systems are major hidden causes of fires across Indian cities.
12. During summers, excessive use of air-conditioners increases electrical load, leading to overheating of wires and fire outbreaks.
13. Many buildings use wiring systems and circuit breakers that are not designed to handle modern high-power appliances.
14. Residents often ignore safety norms and try to keep equipment running continuously, even when circuit breakers should trip for protection.
15. The editorial concludes that instead of focusing only on advanced technologies like drones and robots, authorities must first ensure basic fire prevention and safety measures are properly implemented.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. Which of the following statements can be logically inferred regarding the fire safety mechanisms described in the passage? [Editorial Page]

The integration of modern security apparatuses in residential structures can inadvertently act as a catalyst for increased casualty rates during fire outbreaks.

The deployment of advanced technological interventions like drones is often a performative measure that masks the fundamental absence of primary fire prevention infrastructure.

- A. only I
B. Only II
C. Both I and II can be inferred
D. Both I and II cannot be inferred
2. In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is given, followed by a statement of Reason (R). Read both statements carefully and choose the correct option.

Assertion (A): The structural configuration of mixed-use and residential buildings in metropolitan areas like Delhi frequently compromises the efficacy of emergency response teams.

Reason (R): The systematic implementation of the hierarchy of electrical loads ensures that high-capacity equipment operates safely without necessitating the intervention of circuit breakers.

- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
C. A is true, but R is false.
D. A is false, but R is true.
3. Which of the following best encapsulates the "paradox of security" highlighted in the context of the Shadara fire accident?
- A. Structural fortifications designed to protect occupants from external threats became insurmountable barriers that prevented their escape and restricted external rescue access.
B. The residents' reliance on traditional architectural designs proved more hazardous than modern high-rise apartments when faced with rapid electrical fire propagation.
C. The failure of hydraulic lifts during the rescue operation demonstrated that mechanical malfunctions are a greater threat to life than the fire outbreak.
D. None of the above
4. Which of the following option(s) regarding electrical vulnerabilities is/are FALSE according to the provided passage?
- A. Electrical fires in summer are caused by the inherent manufacturing defects found in modern high-load air conditioning units.
B. Circuit breakers in Indian residences frequently fail to trip because they are specifically engineered to withstand overloads without interrupting power.
C. Both option A and option B are false
D. Option A is true but Option B is false
5. In the clause: "...personnel seeking to rescue the victims," What grammatical structure is "seeking" a part of?
- A. A relative clause functioning as a primary subject
B. A gerund phrase acting as the object of a verb

- C. A participial phrase modifying the preceding noun
D. A finite verb indicating a past progressive action
6. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word “Inevitable.”**
A. Inscrutable
B. Inexorable
C. Insipid
D. Insolvent
7. **What is the correct meaning of the idiom “Cock and bull story”?**
A. True story
B. Absurd tale
C. Short story
D. Interesting story
8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word “Convenience.”**
A. Incorporeality
B. Incommodiousness
C. Incurability
D. Incongruousness
9. **Given below are four jumbled sentences. Pick the option that gives their logically correct order.**
- A. The article’s authors have discussed the various strategies adopted for achieving rabies eradication, challenges, roadblocks, and the way ahead.
- B. While the figures pertain to only two large centres in the city, a recent article published in a state medical journal has given a broader State-wide picture.
- C. In 2023, two of the major government hospitals in the city – Government Stanley Medical College Hospital and RGGGH – treated at least 5,500 to 6,000 persons for dog bites.
- D. They also noted that counting the canine population is a crucial step towards prioritising areas for intensive intervention measures.
- A. A B C D
B. C B A D
C. B C D A
D. C A B D
10. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
One who is in charge of a museum.
A. Curator
B. Supervisor
C. Caretaker
D. Warden
11. **Select the most appropriate MEANING of the word “Rebuff.”**
A. To spurn, repulse, or dismiss a proposition contemptuously

- B. To satiate, surfeit, or glut a demanding market
C. To stymie, obstruct, or thwart a legislative process
D. To supplicate, beseech, or entreat a higher authority
12. **Select the correct spelling of the highlighted word in the following sentence.**
There is a huge **chasam** between the two communities.
A. chasam
B. chasm
C. chazm
D. chesm
13. **Select the correct spelling of the highlighted word in the following sentence.**
We must **hastan** the process to finish early.
A. hastain
B. hasteen
C. hesten
D. hasten
14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
I can't believe you _____ that old trick!
A. fell for
B. looked up
C. took after
D. came across
15. **Convert the sentence provided below from its passive voice structure to an active voice structure:**
The annual report has been submitted by the audit department after multiple revisions.
A. The audit department submitted the annual report after multiple revisions.
B. The audit department is submitting the annual report after multiple revisions.
C. The audit department has submitted the annual report after multiple revisions.
D. The audit department had submitted the annual report after multiple revisions.
16. **Find the part of the given sentence that has an error in it. If there is no error, choose 'No error'.**
There is few /to be said /on both sides. /No error
A. to be said
B. There is few
C. on both sides
D. No error
17. **Choose the option that is the most appropriate conversion of the following sentence into Direct Speech.**
She said that the documents had to be submitted by the next evening.
A. She said, "The documents ought to be submitted by the next evening."
B. She said, "The documents must be submitted by tomorrow evening."
C. She said, "The documents need to be submitted by the coming evening."
D. She said, "The documents are to be submitted by the following evening."
18. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**

My neighbour is envious _____ me for my new car.

- A. for
- B. on
- C. of
- D. to

19. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Upfront."**

- A. Desiccated
- B. Deferred
- C. Declaimed
- D. Deviated

20. **Choose the most suitable option to replace the highlighted part of the sentence:**

She told to me the news

- A. told me
- B. told for me
- C. said to me
- D. has told to me

Comprehension

The Central Government has started enforcing a scheme to keep a strict (1) ___ over smuggling of antiquities and to prevent illegal trade in the priceless art treasures. Steps have been taken by the Archaeological Survey of India to (2) ___ an Act that has been passed in 1972. The legislation, intended to regulate export trade in antiquities and art treasures, provides for the prevention of smuggling and fraudulent dealings in antiquities and for the compulsory acquisition of antiques and art pieces for preserving them in public places. The Central Antique Records Unit of the Central Bureau of Investigations established in 1974 for the maintenance of records for cases relating to cultural property built up a (3) ___ concerning 538 new criminals during 1975. The Unit now possesses a total number of nearly 5,000 indices and documents. The CBI smashed a notorious gang of (4) ___ lifters and smugglers following the recovery of the idol of Ponaraja from Jageshwar temple in U.P. The Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 (5) ___ into force all over India since early April, 1976. According to this, those who possess antiquities such as stone sculptures, bronzes, wood carvings, ivory carvings, coins, palm leaves, manuscripts and books, of more than 75 years old, are to be registered with an officer of the State Archaeological Department. The possessor has to obtain an application form from the concerned officer and submit the details back to him, with four photographs of each object. After scrutiny, the officer will issue a certificate to the owner, who will keep a register of the antiques with him. The officer may conduct surprise checks and verify the articles and the register.

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

- A. vigil
- B. patrol
- C. embargo
- D. curfew

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

- A. dictate
- B. manifest

- C. pioneer
D. implement
23. **What should come in the place of blank number (3)?**
A. ledger
B. inventory
C. dossier
D. manifesto
24. **What should come in the place of blank number (4)?**
A. ideal
B. idol
C. idle
D. effigy
25. **What should come in the place of blank number (5)?**
A. has come
B. had come
C. came
D. come

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. C) **Both I and II can be inferred**

Statement I (Correct): "The residential building... had security enhancing features that turned out to be deadly: electronic locks on doors that could not be opened." This line confirms that modern security apparatuses (electronic locks) directly impeded escape, thereby acting as a catalyst for casualties.

Statement II (Correct): "City authorities talk of drones and robots to fight fires when even the basic preventive measures are not in place." The contrast between "drones and robots" and the lack of "basic preventive measures" supports the inference that high-tech talk is a performative mask for infrastructure gaps.

2. C) **(A is true, but R is false)**

Assertion (A) (True): "...fire engines could not enter the residential society because the name board of the society was blocking them." The passage explicitly provides examples where the physical and structural layout (name boards, narrow access) compromises emergency response efficacy

Reason (R) (False): "In India, the hierarchy of loads and circuit breakers is often not observed as residences are packed with high load equipment..." The passage contradicts the Reason; it states the hierarchy is not observed and that equipment should trip for safety, rather than operating safely without intervention.

3. A) **Structural fortifications designed to protect occupants from external threats became insurmountable barriers that prevented their escape and restricted external rescue access.**

"...had security enhancing features that turned out to be deadly... metallic grills around the building including on balconies that had to be cut for access..." This aligns with the "paradox" where fortifications meant for protection (grills/locks) became barriers to both escape and external rescue.

Option B (Incorrect): No line in the passage compares "traditional architectural designs" with "modern high-rise apartments." The passage focuses on specific failed features rather than a broad comparison of architectural eras.

Option C (Incorrect): "Eyewitnesses complained that the hydraulic lifts... were malfunctioning." The passage mentions this as an exacerbating factor in Palam, but it does not define it as a "security paradox" or the "greater threat."

4. C) **Both option A and option B are false**

option A (False): "As summer sets in... what often happens is overloading of equipment such as the airconditioner during hot summer days." The passage attributes fires to "overloading" and usage patterns, not "inherent manufacturing defects," making the statement false.

option B (False): "...the circuit breakers that should have tripped the equipment as protection do not do so." The passage states they fail to trip, not that they are "specifically engineered to withstand overloads," making the statement false

5. C) **A participial phrase modifying the preceding noun**

"...personnel seeking to rescue the victims," the word seeking is a Present Participle (an "-ing" verb used as an adjective). The entire group of words—seeking to rescue the victims—acts together as a participial phrase which functions as an adjective modifying "personnel". This structure acts as a reduced relative clause

6. B) **Inevitable** (adjective) – Certain to happen; unavoidable. (अनिवार्य / अपरिहार्य)
Synonym: **Inexorable** (verb) – Impossible to stop or prevent. (अपरिवर्तनीय / जिसे रोका न जा सके)
- **Inscrutable** (adjective): Impossible to understand or interpret. (रहस्यमय)
 - **Inspid** (adjective): Lacking flavor or vigor; boring. (फीका / नीरस)
 - **Insolvent** (adjective): Unable to pay one's debts. (दिवालिया)
7. B) “**Cock and bull story**” means Absurd tale झूठी कहानी
8. B) **Convenience** (noun) – The state of being able to proceed with something with little effort or difficulty; ease. (सुविधा)
Antonym: **Incommodiousness** (noun) – The quality of being uncomfortable or causing trouble and difficulty; inconvenience. (असुविधा)
- **Incorporeality** (noun): The quality of not being composed of matter; having no body. (अशारीरकता)
 - **Incorrigibility** (noun): The state of being beyond correction, reform, or change. (असत्यता)
 - **Incongruousness** (noun): The state of being out of place or not in harmony with surroundings. (बेमेल)
9. B) **CBAD**
Sentence C, पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत में आएगा क्योंकि यह उस "factual ground" को तैयार करता है जो 2023 में शहर के प्रमुख अस्पतालों में 'dog bites' की स्थिति को introduce करता है। यह पूरे विषय की मुख्य समस्या को पेश करता है।
Sentence B, Sentence C के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "the figures" शब्द सीधे तौर पर C में दिए गए आंकड़ों (5,500-6,000) की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह स्थानीय अस्पताल के डेटा से "State-wide picture" की ओर एक अनिवार्य लिंक बनाता है।
Sentence A, Sentence B के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह लेख के "scale" (विस्तार) को स्पष्ट करता है। यह लेख के लेखकों (authors) द्वारा चर्चा की गई विभिन्न रणनीतियों और चुनौतियों को पेश करके चर्चा को आंकड़ों से आगे ले जाता है।
Sentence D, Sentence A के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह पूरे scenario को एक "conclusion" की ओर ले जाता है। इसमें लेखकों ("They") के लिए इस्तेमाल किया गया शब्द एक specific detail जोड़ता है कि प्रभावी हस्तक्षेप के लिए कुत्तों की आबादी की गिनती करना अनिवार्य है, जो तार्किक प्रवाह को पूरा करता है।
- Sentence C comes at the beginning because it identifies the factual ground by introducing the specific scale of dog bite cases treated at major city hospitals in 2023, establishing the primary subject.
 - Sentence B follows C because of the phrase "the figures," which creates a mandatory link to the specific statistics mentioned in C. It provides an elaboration by shifting the narrative from city hospitals to a broader state-wide context.

- Sentence A follows B as it identifies the scale of the discussion within the medical journal. It introduces the authors' analysis of strategies and roadblocks, moving the topic from raw data to structural challenges.
 - Sentence D follows A as the conclusion. It uses the connection to the authors ("They") to provide the specific detail necessary for a solution—identifying canine counting as a crucial step for intervention—thereby completing the logical flow.
10. A) **Curator** (noun) – One who is in charge of a museum. संग्रहालयाध्यक्ष
- **Supervisor** (noun) – a person who supervises workers or the work done by others. पर्यवेक्षक
 - **Caretaker** (noun) – a person employed to look after a building or someone's property. रखवाला
 - **Warden** (noun) – a person responsible for the supervision of a particular place or activity. प्रहरी / संरक्षक
11. A) **Rebuff** (verb) – To reject or snub an offer or suggestion in an abrupt or ungracious manner. (अपमानजनक ढंग से ठुकरा देना)
To spurn, repulse, or dismiss a proposition contemptuously
12. B) The correct spelling of 'chasam' is '**chasm**', which means "a deep difference or division between people or groups" – गहरी दरार, गहरी खाई।
13. D) The correct spelling of 'hastan' is '**hasten**' which means "speed up, quicken" जल्दी कर देना.
14. A) fell for
'fell for' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "to fall for" का अर्थ होता है धोखे में आ जाना / किसी चाल में फँस जाना।
Sentence में "that old trick" के साथ यही अर्थ पूरी तरह फिट बैठता है।
- 'fell for' should be used because it means to be deceived or fooled by something. The other options do not convey the idea of being tricked, so fell for is the most appropriate choice.
15. C) 'The annual report has been submitted by the audit department after multiple revisions.' को Active Voice होगा 'The audit department has submitted the annual report after multiple revisions.' क्योंकि Present Perfect Passive (has been + V3) को Active में (has/have + V3) में बदला जाता है; Subject और Object की अदला-बदली होती है।
- Rule: Passive (Object + has been + V3 + by + Subject) → Active (Subject + has + V3 + Object). The phrase "after multiple revisions" remains unchanged.
 - A is incorrect – "submitted" (Simple Past) changes the tense from Present Perfect to Simple Past.
 - B is incorrect – "is submitting" is Present Continuous, which changes both the tense and the aspect.
 - D is incorrect – "had submitted" is Past Perfect, which does not correspond to the Present Perfect Passive of the original sentence.
16. B) 'There is few' को 'There is little' या 'There are few' में बदला जाएगा, इसका निर्णय संदर्भ के आधार पर होगा। अगर अभिव्यक्ति का अर्थ है कि कहने को ज्यादा कुछ नहीं है, तो "There is little" उचित होगा। अगर अभिव्यक्ति यह कहना चाहती है कि चर्चा के लिए ज्यादा बिंदु नहीं हैं, तो "There are few" सही होगा। अतः, वाक्य का सुधार या तो "There is little" या "There are few" में होगा, जो कि संदर्भ के अनुसार मात्रा या राशि को सही दर्शाएगा।

- The error in the given sentence is in part B: "There is few". The correct phrase should be "There is little" or "There are few" depending on the context. If the intention is to express that there is not much to be said, "There is little" is appropriate. If the intention is to say that there are not many points to be discussed, "There are few" would be correct. Therefore, the corrected part of the sentence would be either "There is little" or "There are few" to match the context of quantity or amount being referred to.

17. B) **She said, "The documents must be submitted by tomorrow evening."**

Indirect से Direct Speech में बदलते समय Tense, Modal verb, और Time expression में सही रूपांतरण किया जाता है।

दिए गए वाक्य में "She said" Reporting Verb है और "the documents had to be submitted by the next evening" एक necessity/obligation को दर्शाता है। Indirect Speech में प्रयुक्त had to Direct Speech में सामान्यतः must में बदल जाता है। साथ ही the next evening का Direct रूप tomorrow evening होता है।

- While converting from Indirect to Direct Speech, changes are made in the modal verb and time reference. Here, "had to be submitted" expresses obligation, which in Direct Speech is most appropriately rendered as must be submitted. The time expression the next evening changes to tomorrow evening. Therefore, the most appropriate Direct Speech conversion is:

18. C) **of** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "envious" एक ऐसा adjective है जिसके बाद हमेशा "of" preposition आता है। वाक्य में व्यक्ति किसी की चीज़ से जलन या ईर्ष्या व्यक्त कर रहा है — "envious of someone for something" सही संरचना होती है। इसलिए, "of" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- 'of' should be used because "envious" is an adjective that is always followed by the preposition "of". In the sentence, the person is expressing jealousy towards someone for something — the correct structure is "envious of someone for something". Thus, "of" would be the most appropriate choice.

19. B) **Upfront** (adverb) – (Of a payment) paid in advance; beforehand. (पहले से / अग्रिम)

Antonym: **Deferred** (adjective) – Put off to a later time; postponed; delayed until a future date. (आस्थगित / विलंबित)

- **Desiccated** (adjective): Lacking vitality or interest; having had all moisture removed. (शुष्क / नीरस)
- **Declaimed** (verb): To utter or deliver words or a speech in a rhetorical or impassioned way. (सस्वर पाठ करना)
- **Deviated** (verb): To depart from an established course or accepted standard. (विचलित होना)

20. A) 'told to me' के बदले **'told me'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि verb 'tell' के बाद direct object (person) आता है और 'to' preposition का प्रयोग नहीं किया जाता; जैसे— She told me the truth.

In English

After the verb "tell", the indirect object (the person being informed) does not require a preposition.

Correct usage: tell + someone + something → "She told me the news."

Other options analysis:

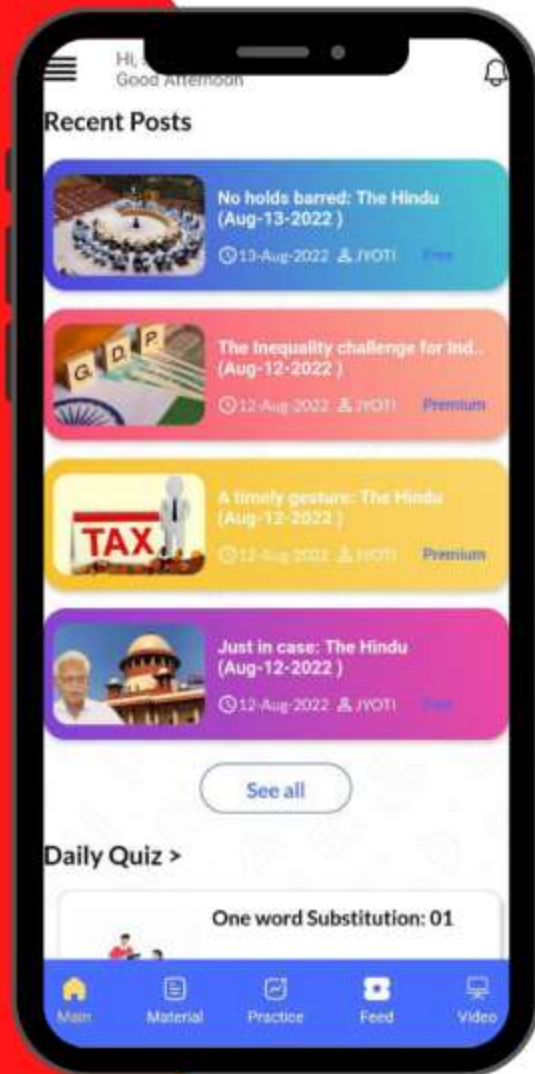
- told for me → incorrect; “for” is unnecessary here.
 - said to me → “say” requires “to,” but “tell” does not.
 - has told to me → Present Perfect tense is not needed, and “to” is incorrect with “tell.”
21. A) **vigil** सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब किसी चीज़ पर कड़ी नज़र रखना या निगरानी (strict watch) करना है ताकि कोई गैरकानूनी काम न हो। पैसेज में सरकार द्वारा पुरानी और कीमती कलाकृतियों की स्मगलिंग रोकने के लिए कड़ी निगरानी रखने की बात हो रही है, "curfew" गलत है क्योंकि इसका मतलब लोगों को घर से बाहर निकलने से रोकने का आदेश है। "embargo" का मतलब किसी देश के साथ व्यापार पर कानूनी रोक (trade ban) है। "patrol" का मतलब सुरक्षा के लिए इलाके में घूमकर गश्त लगाना है, यह निगरानी के पूरे सिस्टम को नहीं दिखाता।
- The correct answer is "vigil" because it refers to keeping a careful, strict watch for possible danger or illegal activity. The passage implies the government is maintaining strict surveillance to prevent the smuggling of priceless art treasures. "Curfew" is logically flawed because it refers to a regulation requiring people to remain indoors. "Embargo" means an official ban on trade with a particular country. "Patrol" implies physically walking or driving around an area to keep guard, missing the broader surveillance meaning.
22. D) **implement** सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब किसी योजना या कानून को असल ज़िंदगी में लागू (put into effect) करना है। पैसेज में Archaeological Survey of India द्वारा 1972 में पास किए गए एक एक्ट को लागू करने के लिए उठाए गए कदमों की बात हो रही है। "dictate" गलत है क्योंकि इसका मतलब हुक्म देना या बोलकर लिखवाना होता है, कानून लागू करना नहीं। "manifest" का मतलब किसी चीज़ का स्पष्ट रूप से सामने आना या दिखना है। "pioneer" का मतलब किसी नए काम की शुरुआत करने वाला पहला इंसान होना है।
- The correct answer is "implement" because it means to put a decision, plan, or law into practical effect. The passage implies that the Archaeological Survey of India is taking steps to actively enforce an Act passed in 1972. "Dictate" is incorrect as it means to issue absolute orders or state text aloud. "Manifest" means to display or show a quality clearly, completely unrelated to legal enforcement. "Pioneer" means to be the first to develop a new method, whereas this is about enforcing an existing law.
23. C) **dossier** सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब किसी इंसान या विषय के बारे में जानकारी और पेपर्स का पूरा कलेक्शन (file/record) होता है, जो क्रिमिनल इन्वेस्टिगेशन में इस्तेमाल होता है। पैसेज में CBI की एक यूनिट द्वारा 1975 में 538 नए अपराधियों के बारे में बनाए गए रिकॉर्ड्स की बात हो रही है। "ledger" गलत है क्योंकि यह एक रजिस्टर होता है जिसमें पैसों के लेन-देन का हिसाब रखा जाता है। "inventory" का मतलब किसी दुकान या गोदाम में रखे सामानों की पूरी लिस्ट है। "manifesto" किसी राजनीतिक पार्टी का घोषणापत्र होता है।
- The correct answer is "dossier" because it refers specifically to a collection of documents containing detailed information about a particular person or subject, frequently used in criminal investigations. The passage implies the CBI unit compiled comprehensive criminal files on 538 new criminals. "Ledger" is logically flawed because it is strictly an accounting book used to record financial transactions. "Inventory" means a complete list of physical items in stock. "Manifesto" is a public declaration of policy and aims, typically issued by a political party.

24. B) **idol** सही है क्योंकि इसका मतलब भगवान की कोई मूर्ति या प्रतिमा है जिसकी पूजा की जाती है। पैसेज में एक मंदिर (Jageshwar temple) का ज़िक्र है, इसलिए चोरों के गैंग को 'idol lifters' (मूर्ति चोर) कहना बिल्कुल सटीक है। "ideal" गलत है क्योंकि इसका मतलब आदर्श या परफेक्ट चीज़ है, यह कोई भौतिक वस्तु नहीं है जिसे चुराया जा सके। "effigy" का मतलब किसी नफरत वाले नेता का पुतला होता है जिसे विरोध में जलाया जाता है। "idle" का मतलब खाली या बेकार बैठना है (जैसे idle time), यह एक adjective है और यहाँ noun की ज़रूरत है।

- The correct answer is "idol" because it specifically means an image or representation of a god used as an object of worship. The passage strongly implies a religious context by mentioning the recovery from a temple, making 'idol lifters' the most accurate term. "Ideal" is logically impossible because it refers to a standard of perfection or a principle, not a physical object. "Effigy" refers to a roughly made model of a particular person created to be destroyed in protest. "Idle" means avoiding work or having no particular purpose, which is grammatically incorrect here as a noun is needed.

25. A) **has come** सही है क्योंकि पैसेज में 'since early April, 1976' लिखा है और 'since/for' के साथ आमतौर पर perfect tense का इस्तेमाल होता है जब कोई काम पास्ट में शुरू होकर वर्तमान तक लागू हो। यहाँ एक्ट लागू होने (has come into force) की बात हो रही है। "had come" गलत है क्योंकि यह past perfect है, जबकि यह एक्ट आज भी लागू है (present relevance)। "came" simple past है, जो 'since' वाले टाइम एक्सप्रेसन के साथ ग्रामर के हिसाब से सही नहीं बैठता। "come" base form है जो सिंगुलर सब्जेक्ट 'Act' के साथ बिना helping verb के गलत है।

- The correct answer is "has come" because the presence of "since early April, 1976" indicates an action that started in the past and continues into the present, requiring the present perfect tense. The passage implies the Act was enacted and remains active. "Had come" is incorrect because past perfect is used for an action completed before another action in the past, missing the current ongoing relevance. "Came" is simple past, which clashes grammatically with the "since" time marker. "Come" is a base verb that cannot stand alone with a singular subject without a proper auxiliary verb.



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