

Testing troubles: On the National Testing Agency, NEET-UG 2026

Leaks and **breaches** have destroyed the National Testing Agency's **credibility**

Once bitten, twice shy: this saying surely does not apply to the National Testing Agency (NTA). **Given** the number of times that the Agency has run into trouble in the conduct of common entrance exams, it would have been logical to expect those **at the helm** to have **learnt their lessons**. However, this week's **cancellation** of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET)-UG affecting over 22 lakh students **is** a serious **blow** to the agency's reputation. **The NTA**, on May 12, 2026, **announced** the cancellation of the exam held on May 3, amid **allegations** of paper leak, as the government tasked the CBI with **carrying out** a **comprehensive** inquiry. The decision followed investigations revealing that a 'guess paper' — a collection of **predicted**, high-importance questions created to help students prepare — matched **numerous** questions in chemistry and biology. Media reports said that this material had reached coaching hubs in Rajasthan nearly a month ahead, and had been sold to aspirants for huge **sums**. This led to investigations by the Rajasthan Police Special Operations Group and 15 people were arrested. **In the face of** such obvious fraud, the NTA **maintained the line** that the **decision** to cancel the exam **was** taken "in the interest of students and in **recognition** of the trust on which the national examination system rests". The **question** though, **is**: does the NTA still enjoy that trust? NEET has been **dogged** by controversy right from the start, with several States opposing the format. But even after it was **rolled out** across the country, the **NTA**, as the agency conducting the exam, **has** suffered several **dents** to its credibility, with various charges and controversies coming up with **depressing** regularity. This includes the 2019 impersonation scam in Tamil Nadu where students used **proxies** to write the exam; the 2022 controversy of **frisking** girl examinees in Kerala, and the 2024 paper leak and grace marks controversy.

The K. Radhakrishnan committee, which was **constituted** to recommend reforms in the examination process, **recommended** a **restructuring** of the NTA, and creating strong institutional **linkages** with State and district authorities **in order to** produce a secure test administration **apparatus**. Among others, it also made recommendations for multi-stage testing, **hybrid** use of papers and computers, and a series of measures to prevent breaches and **malpractices**. It would be a crime to allow the NTA to continue with its **inept** conduct of common entrance exams, impacting the future of several lakhs of students. NEET was introduced as a measure to **bring into play** a single, standardised, and **transparent** entrance exam for medical admissions. But the **transparency** that it has **so far** shown **is** of an **entirely** different kind: leaks and breaches of **confidentiality**. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Breach** (noun) - violation, infringement, rupture, crack, rift उल्लंघन/सैंध
2. **Credibility** (noun) - reliability, trustworthiness, integrity, plausibility, stature विश्वसनीयता
3. **Once bitten, twice shy** (idiom) - an experience that makes a person cautious about repeating it because it was unpleasant the first time दूध का जला छाछ भी फूंक-फूंक कर पीता है
4. **Given** (preposition) - considering, in view of, granting, assuming देखते हुए
5. **At the helm** (idiom) - in charge, in command नेतृत्व में/संचालन करना
6. **Learn one's lessons** (idiom) - to suffer the consequences of an action and decide not to do it again सबक सीखना
7. **Blow** (noun) - shock, setback, misfortune, disaster, jolt आघात/धक्का
8. **Allegation** (noun) - claim, accusation, charge, assertion, contention आरोप
9. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) - to perform or complete a task or investigation पूरा करना/अंजाम देना
10. **Comprehensive** (adjective) - thorough, exhaustive, inclusive, complete, all-embracing विस्तृत/व्यापक
11. **Predicted** (adjective) - forecasted, anticipated, expected, projected, foreseen अनुमानित/पूर्वानुमानित
12. **Numerous** (adjective) - many, abundant, plentiful, countless, myriad अनेक/बहुत सारे
13. **Sums** (noun) - amounts, quantities, figures, totals, funds राशि (धनराशि)
14. **In the face of** (phrase) - when confronted with or despite a particular situation के सामने/के बावजूद
15. **Maintain the line** (idiom) - to continue to say or believe the same thing, especially a official version अपनी बात पर अड़े रहना
16. **Recognition** (noun) - acknowledgment, acceptance, admission, realization, awareness मान्यता/स्वीकार्यता
17. **Dog** (verb) - haunt, plague, beset, trouble, follow (here: persistently affected) ग्रसित होना/पीछा न छोड़ना
18. **Roll out** (phrasal verb) - to officially launch or introduce a new product or system शुरुआत करना/लागू करना
19. **Dent** (noun) - reduction, blow, diminution, nick, hollow (here: damage to reputation) क्षति/धक्का
20. **Depressing** (adjective) - gloomy, disheartening, somber, dismal, bleak निराशाजनक
21. **Proxy** (noun) - substitute, representative, agent, surrogate, delegate प्रतिनिधि/दूसरे के स्थान पर कार्य करने वाला
22. **Frisking** (noun) - searching, checking, patting down, scanning, inspecting तलाशी लेना
23. **Constitute** (verb) - establish, create, set up, found, organize गठित करना

24. **Restructuring** (noun) - reorganization, reform, shuffle, makeover, realignment
पुनर्गठन
25. **Linkage** (noun) - connection, bond, association, tie, relationship जुड़ाव/कड़ी
26. **In order to** (phrase) - with the goal or purpose of के उद्देश्य से
27. **Apparatus** (noun) - system, machinery, structure, organization, mechanism
तंत्र/उपकरण
28. **Hybrid** (adjective) - mixed, blended, composite, cross, compound मिश्रित (दो अलग चीजों का मेल)
29. **Malpractice** (noun) - misconduct, wrongdoing, corruption, negligence, offense
कदाचार/गलत काम
30. **Inept** (adjective) - incompetent, clumsy, unskillful, awkward, stumbling
अकुशल/अयोग्य
31. **Bring into play** (idiom) - to cause something to begin to operate or be used इस्तेमाल में लाना/शुरू करना
32. **Transparent** (adjective) - clear, lucid, honest, open, crystalline पारदर्शी
33. **Transparency** (noun) - clarity, openness, forthrightness, honesty, lucidity पारदर्शिता
34. **So far** (adverb) - up to now, until this point, as yet, hitherto अब तक
35. **Entirely** (adverb) - completely, totally, fully, wholly, utterly पूरी तरह से
36. **Confidentiality** (noun) - secrecy, privacy, discretion, non-disclosure, intimacy
गोपनीयता

Summary of the Editorial

1. The editorial criticizes the National Testing Agency for repeatedly failing to conduct secure and trustworthy entrance examinations.
2. The cancellation of NEET-UG 2026 affected more than 22 lakh students across India.
3. The exam, held on May 3, 2026, was cancelled on May 12 after allegations of a paper leak emerged.
4. The Union government handed over the investigation to the Central Bureau of Investigation for a detailed inquiry.
5. Investigations revealed that a “guess paper” closely matched many actual questions in chemistry and biology.
6. Reports suggested that this material had circulated in coaching centres in Rajasthan nearly a month before the exam.
7. The leaked material was allegedly sold to students for huge amounts of money.
8. The Rajasthan Police Special Operations Group arrested 15 people in connection with the case.
9. Despite clear evidence of malpractice, the NTA claimed that the cancellation was done to protect students’ interests and maintain trust in the examination system.
10. The editorial questions whether the NTA still deserves public trust after repeated controversies.
11. NEET has faced opposition and criticism since its introduction as a nationwide standardized medical entrance test.
12. Previous controversies include the 2019 impersonation scam in Tamil Nadu, the 2022 frisking issue in Kerala, and the 2024 paper leak and grace marks controversy.
13. The K. Radhakrishnan Committee recommended major reforms in the examination system and restructuring of the NTA.
14. The committee suggested stronger coordination with State and district authorities, multi-stage testing, hybrid exam modes, and stricter anti-malpractice measures.
15. The editorial concludes that NEET was meant to ensure transparency and fairness, but instead it has become associated with leaks, breaches, and declining credibility.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following statements can be logically inferred from the passage?** [Editorial Pg.]
 - I. The National Testing Agency has consistently demonstrated an ability to evolve and implement corrective measures following previous administrative failures.
 - II. The recent cancellation of the NEET-UG exam was a preemptive measure taken by the NTA before external investigations or arrests could be made.
 - III. The foundational objective of NEET was to establish a uniform and clear medical admission process, which is currently being undermined by systemic breaches.
 - A. III only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I and III only
2. **Which of the following statements is/are correct as per the passage?**
 - I. The 2026 NEET-UG cancellation was triggered by the discovery of 'guess papers' that showed significant overlap with actual Biology and Chemistry questions.
 - II. The K. Radhakrishnan committee advocated for a complete shift to computer-based testing to prevent physical paper leaks.
 - III. The NTA officially defended the exam cancellation as a proactive measure to maintain student interest and systemic trust.
 - A. I and II only
 - B. III only
 - C. I and III only
 - D. II only
3. **In the following question, a statement of Assertion (A) is given, followed by a statement of Reason (R). Read both and choose the correct option.**
 - A. Assertion (A): The NTA's claim that the cancellation of NEET-UG was done to uphold the "trust" of the national examination system is met with skepticism by the author.
 - B. Reason (R): The agency has a recurring history of administrative lapses, ranging from impersonation scams to the compromise of confidential exam materials.
 - 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.
4. **Identify the voice used in the following sentence extracted from the passage:**

"The K. Radhakrishnan committee, which was constituted to recommend reforms in the examination process, recommended a restructuring of the NTA..."

 - A. Active Voice
 - B. Passive Voice
 - C. Both Active and Passive Voice
 - D. Causative Voice
5. **Which of the following best explains the term 'transparency' as used in the final sentence of the passage?**

- A. The NTA's commitment to making the results and grace marks criteria available for public review.
- B. The effectiveness of the single-window entrance system in removing regional biases in medical admissions
- C. A satirical reference to the system's failure to keep confidential exam papers from becoming publicly visible.
- D. The clear structural changes recommended by the K. Radhakrishnan committee for the NTA.
6. **Directions: In the following question, the first and the last sentences of the 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 sentences and find out which of the four combinations gives the logically correct order.**
- S1: Frederic Simard of France's Institute of Research states that the idea of mosquitoes preferring particular blood types "has no scientific basis."
- P: Apart from these natural skin oils, several studies indicate that consuming beer also changes skin odour and raises body temperature, drawing them in.
- Q: To specifically test this dietary influence, researchers in the Netherlands conducted a 2023 study involving 465 volunteers and female Anopheles mosquitoes.
- R: Instead, he points out that odour matters greatly, describing the molecules produced by our microbiota as a highly appealing "soup."
- S: While humans release hundreds of such odorous compounds, recent lab studies found that one specific compound from broken-down sebum is highly attractive to them.
- S6: The results of that experiment confirmed the link, showing that volunteers who had drunk beer in the previous 24 hours were 1.35-times more attractive to the insects.
- A. R P S Q
- B. S R P Q
- C. R S P Q
- D. P Q R S
7. **Which of the following idiom given in the alternatives has the meaning?**
To win by a very small, narrow margin.
- A. Win by a nose
- B. Win out over
- C. Win on points
- D. Win hands down
8. **From the alternatives given below, select the correct meaning of the idiom.**
Throw one a curveball.
- A. To be behind or in advance of the current trend
- B. To aggressively force one's way through some task or thing, especially clumsily or carelessly
- C. To play baseball with, or throw a baseball back and forth with someone
- D. To do something unexpected or deceptive that surprises, confuses, thwarts, or outwits someone
9. **Select the correct active voice of the given sentence.**
Why aren't the rules being followed by the players?
- A. Why are the players not following the rules?

- B. Why were the players not following the rules?
C. Why have the players not followed the rules?
D. Why do the players not follow the rules?
10. **Which of the following options is the most suitable conversion of the following sentence into active voice?**
A new residential complex is being constructed by the government near the riverside.
A. The government constructs a new residential complex near the riverside.
B. The government is constructing a new residential complex near the riverside.
C. The government has constructed a new residential complex near the riverside.
D. The government constructed a new residential complex near the riverside.
11. **Select the correct passive voice of the given sentence.**
Why did the board blacklist those players?
A. Why were those players being blacklisted by the board?
B. Why had those players been blacklisted by the board?
C. Why were those players blacklisted by the board?
D. Why are those players blacklisted by the board?
12. **Select the correct passive voice of the given sentence.**
The archaeologists discovered ancient ruins during their excavation.
A. Ancient ruins were discovered by the archaeologists during their excavation.
B. Ancient ruins had been discovered by the archaeologists during their excavation.
C. Ancient ruins are discovered by the archaeologists during their excavation.
D. Ancient ruins are being discovered by the archaeologists during their excavation.
13. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**
An irrational and intense fear of flying.
A. Aerophobia
B. Acrophobia
C. Claustrophobia
D. Ophidiophobia
14. **Given below are six sentences taken from a paragraph. The first and the last sentences are numbered S1 and S2 and are placed in the first and last positions respectively and are fixed in their positions. The other four sentences between the first and last sentences are jumbled up and are numbered A, B, C, and D. Rearrange the jumbled sentences in a logical sequence keeping the unity and coherence of the paragraph intact. Choose the correct alternative that best describes the sequence.**
S1. I do not believe that chickens await the hour when the housewife brings their corn with as much anxiety as Peter awaited the evening.
A. How long it was!
B. But now the sun has set.
C. Evidently God's day had lost its end somewhere.
D. He kept looking to see whether the shadows of the trees were not lengthening, whether the sun was not turning red towards setting; and, the longer he watched, the more impatient he grew.
S2. The sky is red only on one side, and it is already growing dark.
A. CBDA

- B. BDAC
C. ACDB
D. DACB
15. **Given below are six sentences taken from a paragraph. The first and the last sentences are numbered S1 and S2 and are placed in the first and last positions respectively and are fixed in their positions. The other four sentences between the first and last sentences are jumbled up and are numbered A, B, C, and D. Rearrange the jumbled sentences in a logical sequence keeping the unity and coherence of the paragraph intact. Choose the correct alternative that best describes the sequence.**
- S1. What a night!
- A. Alas, how shall we paint the emotions that arose in her soul, that divided, tore it between love and virtue?
B. What a dreadful night for Lydia!
C. They led her to the altar as it were to punishment.
D. She adored Lausus, she detested Mezentius, she was sacrificing herself to her father's interests, delivering herself up to the object of her hatred, tearing herself forever from an adored lover.
- S2. Barbarous Mezentius! Thou art content to reign over the heart by violence and fear!
- A. ADCB
B. BADC
C. CADB
D. DCAB
16. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**
He took pleasure _____ reading Shakespearean drama.
- A. by
B. for
C. in
D. of
17. **A part of the following sentence is underlined. Choose the option that can replace the underlined part to improve the sentence. In case Options A, B and C are not found suitable, choose Option D: "No improvement Required."**
The governor assured the media that the crisis was under control, and would be soon overcome by the efforts of the administration.
- A. will soon be overcome for
B. would soon be overcome by
C. was soon overcome due to
D. No improvement required
18. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**
White clothes are preferable _____ black ones during summer.
- A. of
B. for
C. from

D. to

19. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**

The study of time and watches.

- A. Epistemology
- B. Horology
- C. Ichthyology
- D. Urology

20. **Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.**

The king's _____ was built on a high hill for protection.

- A. cassel
- B. castle
- C. cattle
- D. casual

Comprehension

In March 2025, Dehradun's Parade Ground transformed into a funereal space. Scores of people dressed in white, their mouths (1) _____ in black cloth, paid silent 'homage' to the hundreds of trees felled for development projects in Uttarakhand — past, present, and those marked to go in the future. As you read this, 4,400 trees are reportedly slated to be axed to widen the Dehradun-Rishikesh road.

The protest was (2) _____ of the Chipko Movement that began half a century ago in the Chamoli district of (3) _____ Uttar Pradesh, now part of Uttarakhand. Residents opposed commercial logging by physically embracing trees. This time in Uttarakhand, protestors carried on their shoulders branches of dead trees that had been unsuccessfully 'translocated' to a 'graveyard of trees' near the Rajiv Gandhi Cricket Stadium. "An unrelenting push towards volume-driven, (4) _____ tourism has focused primarily on expanding transport connectivity," Uttarakhand-based Anoop Nautiyal, founder of the Social Development for Communities Foundation, told about the predicament. The loss of green cover is starkest in Dehradun and Mussoorie, he said.

According to an RTI response, in the last five years alone, close to 83,000 trees have been cut in the State: sal, haldu, khair, shisham, jamun, and banyans, some of which were over 200 years old. But these numbers "are just the (5) _____," said Ruchi Singh of the movement 'Citizens For Green Doon'. "These estimates are based on the count of trees above a certain girth (usually 15 cm), so young trees or shrubs, creepers and grasses are not accounted for," she told The Hindu. And as for the translocation of trees, they generally fail, said Ms. Singh.

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

- A. shrouded
- B. gagged
- C. tether
- D. bound

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

- A. redolent
- B. reminiscent
- C. commemorative
- D. nostalgic

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

- A. erstwhile
- B. bygone
- C. preceding
- D. primordial

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

- A. untenable
- B. unremitting
- C. unsustainable
- D. ephemeral

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

- A. drop in the bucket
- B. canary in the coal mine
- C. tip of the iceberg
- D. elephant in the room

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. A) III only

Statement I: (Incorrect) The author uses the "once bitten, twice shy" idiom to show that the NTA has not changed its behavior despite past mistakes. Phrases like "inept conduct" and failing to "learn their lessons" directly contradict the idea of an "ability to evolve."

Statement II: (Incorrect) The word "preemptive" means acting before a problem occurs. The passage shows the NTA only acted after the Rajasthan Police found evidence and arrested 15 people. Their action was reactive and forced by "obvious fraud," not proactive.

Statement III: (Correct) The passage confirms the original goal (standardized/transparent) but uses a biting irony to show that this goal is failing. The "transparency" currently seen is the "transparency of the leaks," meaning the system's flaws are what has become visible, thus undermining the objective.

2. C) I and III only

Statement I is Correct: Line from Passage: "Media reports said that this material had reached coaching hubs in Rajasthan nearly a month ahead... This decision followed investigations revealing that a 'guess paper'... matched numerous questions." The passage confirms the leak to hubs and the overlap with the actual paper led to the cancellation.

Statement II is Incorrect: Line from Passage: "Among others, it also made recommendations for multi-stage testing, hybrid use of papers and computers..." The committee suggested a "hybrid" model (a mix), not a "transition" to computers.

Statement III is Correct: Line from Passage: "the NTA maintained the line that the decision to cancel the exam was taken 'in the interest of students and in recognition of the trust on which the national examination system rests'." This reflects the NTA's official justification mentioned in the passage.

3. A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Assertion (A): Line from the passage: "in the interest of students and in recognition of the trust on which the national examination system rests". The question though, is: does the NTA still enjoy that trust?"....The author quotes the NTA's official justification but immediately follows it with a rhetorical question that casts doubt on their credibility. By asking if the agency "still enjoys that trust," the author is explicitly signaling skepticism toward the NTA's self-serving narrative.

Reason(R): The passage provides a chronological list of failures—impersonation in 2019, frisking issues in 2022, and leaks in 2024. These specific examples validate the statement that there is a "recurring history" of "administrative lapses" and "compromise of materials" (leaks). The skepticism mentioned in the Assertion (A) is directly fueled by the historical failures mentioned in the Reason (R). Therefore, R is the logical cause for the author's skeptical stance in A.

4. C) Both Active and Passive Voice

"The K. Radhakrishnan committee, which was constituted [Passive Voice] to recommend reforms in the examination process, recommended [Active Voice] a restructuring of the NTA..."

Passive Voice: "...which was constituted..." (The committee received the action of being constituted).

Active Voice: "...recommended a restructuring..." (The committee performed the action of recommending).

5. C) A satirical reference to the system's failure to keep confidential exam papers from becoming publicly visible.

"But the transparency that it has so far shown is of an entirely different kind: leaks and breaches of confidentiality." The author uses the word sarcastically to say that the only thing "clear" or "visible" about the system is how easily it can be leaked.

Option A is Incorrect: The passage associates the lack of transparency with fraud and leaks, not with a positive "commitment" to public review.

Option B is Incorrect: The author argues that this intended effectiveness has been ruined by administrative failure.

Option D is Incorrect: These are recommendations for the future, whereas the "transparency" mentioned refers to the NTA's past and current failures.

6. C) R S P Q

Sentence R, पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत (S1 के तुरंत बाद) में आया क्योंकि यह S1 में पेश किए गए Frederic Simard के कथन को 'he' सर्वनाम (pronoun) के साथ आगे बढ़ाता है। यह स्पष्ट करता है कि रक्त समूह (blood type) के बजाय 'odour' (गंध) मायने रखती है।

Sentence S, Sentence R के बाद आया क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "such odorous compounds" शब्द सीधे तौर पर R में दी गई गंध (odour) और अणुओं (molecules) की बात से जुड़ते हैं। यह 'sebum' का उदाहरण देकर एक अनिवार्य लिंक बनाता है।

Sentence P, Sentence S के बाद आया क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "these natural skin oils" शब्द सीधे तौर पर S में दिए गए "sebum" (स्किन ऑयल) की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह चर्चा को प्राकृतिक तेल से हटाकर बीयर (beer) पीने के प्रभाव की ओर ले जाता है।

Sentence Q, Sentence P के बाद आया क्योंकि यह पूरे scenario को एक "conclusion" (S6 से पहले) की ओर ले जाता है। इसमें "this dietary influence" का जिक्र है जो सीधे तौर पर P में बीयर पीने की बात से जुड़ता है, और यह नीदरलैंड की स्टडी का specific detail जोड़ता है जो S6 (जिसमें परिणामों की बात है) के तार्किक प्रवाह को पूरा करता है।

- Sentence R comes at the beginning (after S1) because it uses the pronoun 'he' to directly follow Frederic Simard's statement introduced in S1. It establishes the factual ground that 'odour' is what actually matters, rather than blood type.
- Sentence S follows R because the phrase "such odorous compounds" creates a mandatory link to the odour and molecules mentioned in R. It provides an elaboration by introducing 'sebum' as a specific attractive compound.
- Sentence P follows S as it uses the phrase "these natural skin oils" to create a mandatory link pointing directly to the "sebum" mentioned in S. It transitions the topic from natural skin oils to the effect of consuming beer.
- Sentence Q follows P as the conclusion (leading into S6). It uses the connection to "this dietary influence" to refer back to the beer consumption mentioned in P, providing the

specific detail of the 2023 Netherlands study, thereby completing the logical flow leading directly into S6.

7. A) Win by a nose (idiom) – To win by a very small, narrow margin बहुत कम अंतर से जीतना
- Win out over (idiom) – To defeat or prevail over someone जीत हासिल करना
 - Win on points (idiom) – To win based on scoring rather than a knockout अंकों के आधार पर जीतना
 - Win hands down (idiom) – To win very easily आसानी से जीतना
8. D) Throw one a curveball (idiom) – To do something unexpected or deceptive that surprises or confuses someone अचानक चौंका देना
9. A) Why are the players not following the rules?
 Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य का Subject (agent) Active वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है और Passive का Subject Active का Object बन जाता है। Negative interrogative sentence में helping verb और "not" का सही प्रयोग किया जाता है तथा tense वही रखा जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में "the rules" Passive Subject है, "aren't being followed" Verb (Present Continuous Passive) है और "by the players" agent है। Active में बदलने पर "the players" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "are not following" (Present Continuous) में बदला गया है और "the rules" Object के रूप में प्रयोग हुआ है। इसलिए सही वाक्य होगा — "Why are the players not following the rules?"
- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the agent becomes the subject and the passive subject becomes the object. In negative interrogative sentences, the helping verb and "not" are properly used while maintaining the same tense. Here, "the rules" (Passive Subject), "aren't being followed" (Present Continuous Passive), and "by the players" (agent) are transformed into "the players" (Subject), "are not following" (Active Verb in Present Continuous), and "the rules" (Object). Therefore, the correct sentence is — "Why are the players not following the rules?"
10. B) The government is constructing a new residential complex near the riverside.
 Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य का Subject (agent) Active वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है और Passive का Subject Active का Object बन जाता है। Verb को Passive से Active में बदलते समय वही tense रखा जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में "A new residential complex" Passive Subject है, "is being constructed" Verb (Present Continuous Passive) है और "by the government" agent है। Active में बदलने पर "the government" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "is constructing" (Present Continuous) में बदला गया है और "a new residential complex" Object के रूप में प्रयोग हुआ है। इसलिए सही वाक्य होगा — "The government is constructing a new residential complex near the riverside."
- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the agent becomes the subject and the passive subject becomes the object while keeping the same tense. Here, "A new residential complex" (Passive Subject), "is being constructed" (Present Continuous Passive), and "by the government" (agent) are transformed into "the government" (Subject), "is constructing" (Active Verb in Present Continuous), and "a new residential complex" (Object).
11. C) Why were those players blacklisted by the board?
 Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Interrogative sentence में helping verb पहले आता है और tense वही रखा जाता है। दिए गए

वाक्य में "the board" Subject है, "did blacklist" Verb (Simple Past Interrogative) है और "those players" Object है। Passive में बदलने पर Object "those players" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "were blacklisted" (Simple Past Passive) में बदला गया है और "by the board" agent के रूप में प्रयोग हुआ है। इसलिए सही वाक्य होगा — "Why were those players blacklisted by the board?"

- To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object becomes the subject, and in interrogative sentences, the helping verb comes first while maintaining the same tense. Here, "the board" (Subject), "did blacklist" (Verb in Simple Past Interrogative), and "those players" (Object) are transformed into "those players" (Subject), "were blacklisted" (Passive Verb in Simple Past), and "by the board" (agent). Therefore, the correct sentence is — "Why were those players blacklisted by the board?"

12. A) Ancient ruins were discovered by the archaeologists during their excavation.

इस वाक्य का Active Voice "Simple Past Tense" (discovered) में है। जब हम इसे Passive Voice में बदलते हैं, तो नियम के अनुसार was/were + V3 (Past Participle) का इस्तेमाल होता है। चूंकि यहाँ "Ancient ruins" (पुरानी इमारतें) plural (बहुवचन) है, इसलिए हम "were discovered" का प्रयोग करेंगे। विकल्प 2 गलत है क्योंकि उसमें "had been" (Past Perfect) लगा है, विकल्प 3 में "are" (Present Tense) है, और विकल्प 4 में "are being" (Continuous Tense) का इस्तेमाल हुआ है। इसलिए, सिर्फ पहला विकल्प ही सही व्याकरण (grammar) के हिसाब से पुराने समय की बात को सही तरीके से बताता है।

- To change this sentence into passive voice, you must first identify the tense. The original sentence uses the Simple Past tense ("discovered"). In passive voice, the Simple Past is formed by using was/were + past participle (V3). Since the object "ancient ruins" is plural, we use "were discovered." Option 2 is incorrect because it uses the Past Perfect ("had been"), Option 3 is incorrect because it uses the Simple Present ("are discovered"), and Option 4 is incorrect because it uses the Present Continuous ("are being discovered"). Only Option 1 correctly shifts the focus to the "ruins" while maintaining the original timeframe of the action.

13. A) **Aerophobia** (noun) – An irrational and intense fear of flying उड़ान का अत्यधिक भय

- **Acrophobia** (noun) – Fear of heights ऊँचाई का डर
- **Claustrophobia** (noun) – Fear of enclosed spaces बंद जगहों का डर
- **Ophidiophobia** (noun) – Fear of snakes साँपों का डर

14. D) DACB

सबसे पहले Sentence D आएगा—यह Peter की बेचैनी को विस्तार से बताता है—वह बार-बार सूरज को देख रहा है।

इसके बाद Sentence A आएगा—“How long it was!” यह उसकी अधीरता और प्रतीक्षा की लंबाई को दर्शाता है।

फिर Sentence C आएगा—“God's day had lost its end...” यह अतिशयोक्ति है, जिससे लगता है कि दिन खत्म ही नहीं हो रहा।

अंत में Sentence B आएगा—“But now the sun has set.” यह स्थिति में बदलाव दिखाता है और सीधे S2 (आसमान का अंधेरा होना) से जुड़ता है।

- Sentence D comes first—it describes Peter's impatience and constant watching of the sun, which directly explains the anxiety mentioned in S1.
- Next, Sentence A follows—“How long it was!” This expresses his frustration about the delay, continuing the idea in D.

- Then, Sentence C comes—“Evidently God's day had lost its end somewhere.” This is a figurative exaggeration of how endlessly long the day feels.
- Finally, Sentence B comes last—“But now the sun has set.” This provides relief and connects directly with S2 describing the darkening sky.

15. B) BADC

सबसे पहले Sentence B आएगा—“What a dreadful night for Lydia!” यह S1 (“What a night!”) को और specific बनाता है।

इसके बाद Sentence A आएगा क्योंकि यह उसके अंदर चल रहे भावनात्मक संघर्ष को प्रस्तुत करता है—“love and virtue के बीच संघर्ष।”

फिर Sentence D आएगा क्योंकि यह उसी संघर्ष को विस्तार से समझाता है—उसका Lausus के प्रति प्रेम और Mezentius के प्रति घृणा।

अंत में Sentence C आएगा क्योंकि यह अंतिम स्थिति दिखाता है—“They led her to the altar...”, जो सीधे S2 (Mezentius की निंदा) से जुड़ता है।

- Sentence B comes first—“What a dreadful night for Lydia!” It directly specifies and intensifies the exclamation made in S1 (“What a night!”).
- Next, Sentence A follows because it raises the emotional conflict—“how shall we paint the emotions... between love and virtue?”
- Then, Sentence D comes as it elaborates that conflict in detail—her love for Lausus and hatred for Mezentius.

Finally, Sentence C comes last because it describes the final action—“They led her to the altar...”, which connects directly with S2 condemning Mezentius.

16. C) ‘in’ का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि “take pleasure in” एक सही और प्रचलित phrase है, जिसका अर्थ है किसी कार्य में आनंद लेना। यहाँ “reading Shakespearean drama” एक activity है, जिसमें आनंद लिया जा रहा है। इसलिए, “He took pleasure in reading Shakespearean drama” सही वाक्य होगा।

- ‘in’ should be used because “take pleasure in” is a correct and commonly used phrase which means to enjoy an activity. Here, “reading Shakespearean drama” is the activity being enjoyed. Thus, “in” is the most appropriate choice.

17. B) ‘and would be soon overcome by’ में adverb placement (soon) गलत है। सही क्रम होगा would soon be overcome by, जहाँ adverb ‘soon’ modal verb ‘would’ के बाद आता है।

- ‘would soon be overcome by’ will be used instead of ‘would be soon overcome by’ because the correct position of the adverb “soon” is after the modal verb “would”, ensuring proper sentence structure.

18. D) ‘to’ का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि sentence में comparison किया जा रहा है—white clothes और black ones के बीच। अंग्रेज़ी में जब किसी चीज़ को दूसरी चीज़ से अधिक पसंद किया जाता है, तो “preferable to” का प्रयोग होता है। इसलिए, “White clothes are preferable to black ones during summer” सही वाक्य है।

- ‘to’ should be used because the sentence expresses a comparison between white clothes and black ones. In English, when showing preference of one thing over another, the structure “preferable to” is used. Thus, “to” is the most appropriate choice.

19. B) **Horology** (noun) – The study and measurement of time and the art of making clocks and watches समय और घड़ियों का अध्ययन

- **Epistemology** (noun) – The study of knowledge ज्ञानमीमांसा

- **Ichthyology** (noun) – The study of fish मत्स्य विज्ञान
 - **Urology** (noun) – The study of urinary system मूत्र विज्ञान
20. B) 'Castle' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि sentence में "The king's _____ was built on a high hill for protection" एक ऐसी मजबूत इमारत की बात कर रहा है जहाँ राजा रहता है और जो सुरक्षा के लिए बनाई जाती है। "Castle" का अर्थ किला होता है, जो इस संदर्भ में बिल्कुल उपयुक्त है।
- 'Castle' should be used because the sentence refers to a strong building where a king lives, built for protection on a hill. "Castle" means a fortified residence, making it the most appropriate choice.
21. D) bound (बंधा हुआ) सही है क्योंकि यह "bound in black cloth" (काले कपड़े से बंधा हुआ) के context में पूरी तरह सही बैठता है। shrouded का मतलब पूरे शरीर या किसी बड़ी चीज़ को ढंकना होता है (जैसे कफ़न से या धुंध से), सिर्फ़ मुँह बाँधने के लिए नहीं। gagged बहुत बड़ा grammar trap है; इसके साथ अक्सर 'with' आता है (gagged with a cloth), 'in' नहीं। tether का मतलब जानवरों को खूँटे से बाँधना होता है, और यह grammar के हिसाब से भी गलत है।
- The correct answer is "bound" because it simply means tied tightly. In this context, tying a cloth around the mouth to signify silence fits perfectly with the preposition "in" ("bound in black cloth"). "Shrouded" refers to covering a body or an entire object, not just tying a mouth. "Gagged" is a strong distractor, but grammatically we say someone is "gagged with a cloth", not "in" a cloth. "Tether" means tied to a fixed post to restrict movement, which makes no sense here.
22. B) reminiscent (याद दिलाने वाला) सही है क्योंकि "reminiscent of" एक standard phrase है जिसका मतलब है कि यह मौजूदा विरोध प्रदर्शन पुराने चिपको आंदोलन की याद दिला रहा था। redolent के साथ भी 'of' आता है, लेकिन यह ज़्यादातर खुशबू (smell) या किसी abstract माहौल के लिए यूज़ होता है। commemorative का मतलब याद में बनाया गया आधिकारिक स्मारक (memorial) है; प्रदर्शनकारियों ने जानबूझकर आधिकारिक तौर पर चिपको की याद में यह नहीं किया था। nostalgia (पुरानी यादें) एक noun (संज्ञा) है, जबकि यहाँ grammar के हिसाब से एक adjective (विशेषण) की ज़रूरत है, इसलिए यह पूरी तरह गलत है।
- The correct answer is "reminiscent" because "reminiscent of" is a standard phrase meaning tending to remind one of something from the past. The current protest logically reminded people of the historical Chipko Movement. "Redolent" is primarily used for smells or evoking a highly abstract feeling. "Commemorative" means acting as an official memorial, which this protest was not. "Nostalgia" is a grammatical trap; it is a noun, but the sentence structure requires an adjective here.
23. A) erstwhile (भूतपूर्व / पहले का) सही है क्योंकि जब किसी राज्य या जगह का पुराना नाम या पुराना रूप बताना हो (जैसे यहाँ 'erstwhile Uttar Pradesh' क्योंकि अब वह हिस्सा उत्तराखंड में है), तो यही word यूज़ होता है। bygone का मतलब बीता हुआ समय (bygone era) होता है, किसी जगह का नाम नहीं। preceding का मतलब तुरंत पहले वाला (क्रम में) होता है। primordial का मतलब दुनिया की शुरुआत का समय होता है, जो बहुत ज़्यादा भारी वर्ड है।
- The correct answer is "erstwhile" because it is an adjective meaning "former." It is the most appropriate and widely used term in formal writing to refer to states or territories that have since changed (e.g., "erstwhile Uttar Pradesh"). "Bygone" refers to a past time or era, not to a proper noun like a State. "Preceding" means coming before in

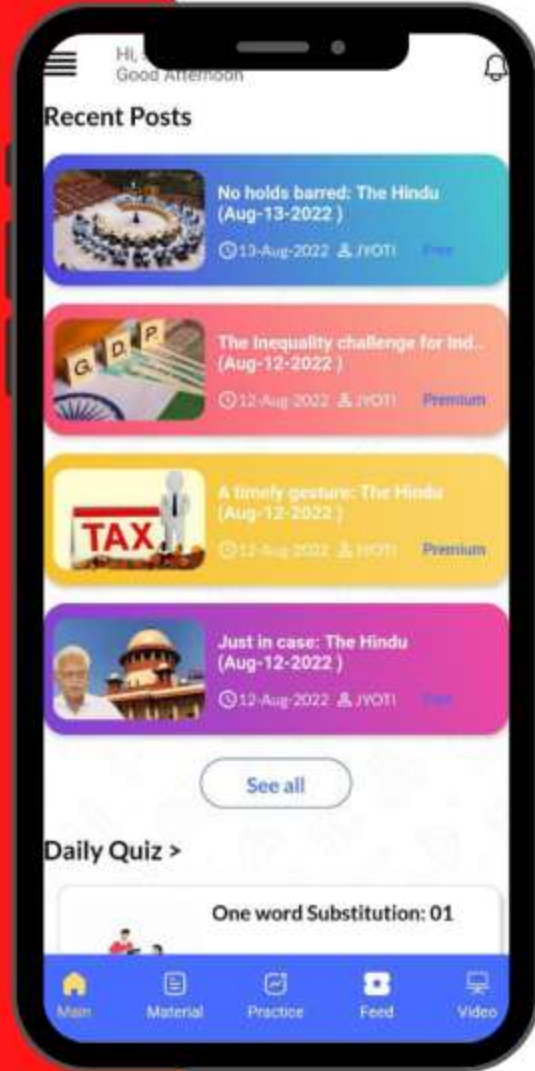
sequence. "Primordial" means existing at the beginning of time, an extreme exaggeration.

24. C) unsustainable (अस्थिर / जिसे लंबे समय तक जारी न रखा जा सके) सही है। पर्यावरण (environment) के नुकसान की बात हो रही है, और "unsustainable tourism" एक सटीक term है जहाँ इतना ज़्यादा टूरिज़्म हो जाए कि प्रकृति नष्ट होने लगे। untenable का मतलब कोई ऐसा तर्क या बचाव (argument/position) है जिसे सही साबित न किया जा सके। unremitting का मतलब बिना रुके होता है। ephemeral का मतलब बहुत कम समय तक टिकने वाला होता है।

- The correct answer is "unsustainable" because it refers to something that cannot be maintained at its current rate. In environmental contexts, "unsustainable tourism" is the exact phrasing used to describe volume-driven tourism that destroys local ecology. "Untenable" is used for arguments or positions that cannot be defended. "Unremitting" means never relaxing. "Ephemeral" means lasting for a very short time.

25. C) tip of the iceberg (बहुत बड़ी समस्या का एक छोटा सा दिखने वाला हिस्सा) सही है। पैसेज कह रहा है कि 83,000 पेड़ तो सिर्फ वो हैं जो गिने गए हैं (बड़े पेड़), असली नुकसान बहुत बड़ा है। drop in the bucket का मतलब बहुत कम (insufficient) होता है, जैसे ज़रूरत बहुत ज़्यादा हो और मिले बहुत कम। thin end of the wedge का मतलब कोई छोटी शुरुआत जिससे आगे चलकर बड़ी तबाही हो। canary in the coal mine का मतलब किसी आने वाले बड़े खतरे की पहली चेतावनी (early warning) होता है। 83,000 पेड़ कटना कोई चेतावनी नहीं है, बल्कि यह खुद में एक भयानक तबाही है।

- The correct answer is "tip of the iceberg" because this idiom refers to a small, evident part of a much larger, hidden problem. The counted trees are just the visible part of massive ecological destruction. "Drop in the bucket" means an insignificant amount compared to what is needed. "Thin end of the wedge" refers to a minor action that will lead to major negative developments later. "Canary in the coal mine" refers to an early warning of danger, which doesn't fit since the mass felling is the actual damage itself, not just a warning sign.



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