

## Watch, but do not wait: On the Ebola outbreak

Extra caution should guide international responses to Ebola outbreak

With unusual **alacrity**, WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern over the Ebola outbreak in central Africa, not even waiting for the advice of an emergency committee of expert panellists, as is **convention**. WHO has **nevertheless** been **feted** for swift action by global health experts, given that there are several unknowns arising from the current **strain** responsible for the outbreak — the uncommon Bundibugyo strain. This strain has caused fewer outbreaks in the past and the **efficacy** of usually effective **countermeasures** such as vaccines (highly effective against the common Zaire strain) and other therapies, are currently **untested** with Bundibugyo. The new Ebola outbreak was notified in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Uganda. It is said to be smaller and **confined to** a limited cross-border region between the two nations, but there are still concerns that because of the ongoing conflict and **displacement** in the region, cases might go undetected, leading to a spread, and **impairing** access to care. According to WHO, as on May 16, 2026, eight laboratory-confirmed cases, 246 suspected cases, and 80 **suspected** deaths have been reported in the DRC's Ituri **province**. Two lab-confirmed **cases** (including one death) with no **apparent** link to each other **have** been reported in Kampala, Uganda. WHO has listed a **clutch** of factors — high positivity rate of the initial samples (eight positives among 13 samples); the confirmation of cases in Kampala; increasing trends in syndromic reporting of suspected cases; and **clusters** of deaths across Ituri province — that **point towards** a potentially much larger outbreak than what is being detected.

At any rate, WHO has rightly taken a **risk-averse** pathway, when **dealing with** a condition that has a 50% **fatality rate**. While it says that **mortality rates** can range between 25% and 50% depending on the viral strain, access to medical care, and speed of treatment, there are unknowns this time arising out of the Bundibugyo strain. Ebola is **contagious**, can spread from person to person, with **exposure** to body fluids and **contaminated** surfaces, and can be **vicious**; the **horrific** 2014-16 outbreak which swept across Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, **resulted in** over 28,600 reported cases and 11,325 deaths. By issuing the highest level of global alert early on, WHO has **solicited** the co-operation of the world in handling the crises. Outbreak control **activities** at this stage must **unfailingly include** effective patient and contact tracing, intensive support for every patient, safe and dignified **burials**, **vaccinations**, if they work, and social **mobilisation** to spread information about the disease among the public.

[Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Wait and watch** (phrase) – It means delaying immediate action to carefully observe how a situation develops before making a move.
2. **Outbreak** (noun) - eruption, flare-up, surge, upsurge, outburst प्रकोप या महामारी का फैलना
3. **Alacrity** (noun) - eagerness, readiness, promptness, willingness, celerity तत्परता या मुस्तैदी
4. **Convention** (noun) - custom, tradition, practice, protocol, norm परंपरा या रूढ़ि
5. **Nevertheless** (adverb) - nonetheless, however, yet, still, notwithstanding फिर भी या तथापि
6. **Fete** (verb) - honor, praise, acclaim, celebrate, applaud सम्मानित करना या प्रशंसा करना
7. **Strain** (noun) - variant, variety, type, breed, kind वायरस या जीवाणु का प्रकार
8. **Efficacy** (noun) - effectiveness, potency, efficiency, power, success क्षमता या प्रभावकारिता
9. **Countermeasure** (noun) - prevention, defense, shield, safeguard, remedy निवारक उपाय या प्रति-साधन
10. **Untested** (adjective) - unproven, untried, experimental, exploratory, unverified अप्रमाणित या जिसकी जांच न हुई हो
11. **Confine to** (phrasal verb) - to restrict, limit, bound, enclose, or keep someone or something within a specific area strictly सीमित रखना
12. **Displacement** (noun) - dislocation, uprooting, eviction, expulsion, removal विस्थापन या जगह से हटाना
13. **Impaire** (verb) - damage, harm, worsen, weaken, diminish नुकसान पहुँचाना या कमजोर करना
14. **Suspected** (adjective) - dubious, doubtful, suspicious, questionable, unconfirmed संदिग्ध
15. **Province** (noun) - region, territory, state, sector, zone प्रांत या क्षेत्र
16. **Apparent** (adjective) - obvious, clear, evident, visible, manifest स्पष्ट या प्रत्यक्ष
17. **Clutch** (noun) - group, collection, bunch, cluster, batch समूह या पकड़
18. **Cluster** (noun) - group, bunche, gathering, assemblage, collection झुंड या समूह
19. **Point toward** (phrasal verb) - to indicate that something is likely to happen or be true किसी बात की ओर इशारा करना
20. **Risk-averse** (adjective) - cautious, careful, guarded, chary, wary जोखिम से बचने वाला
21. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) - to take action to do something, handle a situation, or manage a problem सामना करना या निपटना
22. **Fatality rate** (noun) - the proportion of deaths within a designated population of people affected by a particular disease मृत्यु दर

23. **Mortality rate** (noun) - the number of deaths in a given area or period, or from a particular cause मृत्यु दर
24. **Contagious** (adjective) - infectious, transmissible, communicable, catching, spreading संक्रामक
25. **Exposure** (noun) - contact, vulnerability, subjection, introduction, uncovering संपर्क में आना या अनावरण
26. **Contaminated** (adjective) - polluted, tainted, impure, infected, defiled दूषित या संक्रमित
27. **Vicious** (adjective) - ferocious, savage, violent, brutal, fierce क्रूर या भयानक
28. **Horrific** (adjective) - terrifying, horrifying, dreadful, shocking, ghastly भयानक या डरावना
29. **Result in** (phrasal verb) - to lead to, cause, produce, bring about, or end in a particular outcome का परिणाम होना
30. **Solicit** (verb) - request, seek, ask, implore, entreat मांगना या अनुरोध करना
31. **Unfailingly** (adverb) - always, constantly, invariably, consistently, reliably हमेशा या बिना चूके
32. **Burial** (noun) - interment, entombment, funeral, sepulture, inhumation दफन या कफन-दफन
33. **Vaccination** (noun) - inoculation immunization injection, jabs booster टीकाकरण
34. **Mobilisation** (noun) - activation, organization, gathering, marshalling, deployment गतिशीलता या लामबंदी

## Summary of the Editorial

1. World Health Organization quickly declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern over the Ebola outbreak in Central Africa.
2. WHO acted unusually fast, without waiting for its expert emergency committee's recommendation.
3. Health experts have praised the organisation's precautionary and swift response.
4. The current outbreak involves the rare Bundibugyo strain of the Ebola virus.
5. This strain has caused very few outbreaks in the past, making it less understood.
6. Existing Ebola vaccines and therapies, effective against the Zaire strain, remain untested against Bundibugyo.
7. The outbreak has been reported in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda.
8. Although currently limited geographically, conflict and displacement may allow cases to spread undetected.
9. WHO reported laboratory-confirmed cases, suspected cases, and several suspected deaths in the affected regions.
10. The appearance of cases in Kampala, Uganda, without clear links raises concern about wider transmission.
11. High positivity rates and rising syndromic reports suggest the outbreak could be larger than currently known.
12. Ebola remains highly contagious and deadly, with fatality rates ranging from 25% to 50%.
13. The devastating 2014–16 West African Ebola outbreak demonstrated the virus's potential for mass casualties.
14. WHO's early alert aims to mobilise international cooperation before the outbreak escalates further.
15. Effective response measures include rapid patient isolation, contact tracing, safe burials, public awareness campaigns, and possible vaccination efforts.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. Which of the following statements are correct regarding the current Ebola outbreak as per the passage? [Editorial Page]
- I. The medical interventions that proved successful against the Zaire strain are confirmed to be equally effective against the Bundibugyo strain.
  - II. Evidence of epidemiological links between all laboratory-confirmed cases in Kampala suggests that the transmission chain is well-understood.
  - III. The disparity between laboratory-confirmed cases and suspected cases/deaths suggests that the outbreak may be more pervasive than initial data indicates.
- A. I only  
B. II only  
C. III only  
D. All I, II and III
2. Which of the following statements are supported by the passage regarding the WHO's response to the crisis?
- I. The WHO's declaration was characterized by a departure from standard procedural norms regarding expert consultations.
  - II. The global health organization adopted a cautious strategy to preemptively address the threat despite the presence of several scientific uncertainties.
- A. I only  
B. II only  
C. None of I and II  
D. Both I and II
3. Based on the passage, why is the Bundibugyo strain particularly concerning to health experts compared to other outbreaks?
- A. The mortality rate for this variant is significantly higher than the well-known Zaire Ebola strains.
  - B. This particular virus represents the only variant that is transmitted through direct human contact.
  - C. The efficacy of existing medical tools like vaccines has not been proven for this specific variant.
  - D. This is the first recorded instance of an Ebola outbreak ever reaching a major urban environment.
4. Which of the following best identifies the grammatical role of the phrase "not even waiting for the advice of an emergency committee" in the sentence:  
"With unusual alacrity, WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern over the Ebola outbreak in central Africa, not even waiting for the advice of an emergency committee of expert panellists, as is convention."
- A. Adjective phrase modifying the noun "outbreak"
  - B. Adverbial phrase modifying the main verb "declared"
  - C. Noun phrase functioning as the subject of the sentence
  - D. Appositive phrase explaining the term "convention"
5. Which of the following best describes the grammatical structure of the sentence:

"WHO has nevertheless been feted for swift action by global health experts, given that there are several unknowns arising from the current strain responsible for the outbreak — the uncommon Bundibugyo strain."

- A. Simple sentence
  - B. Compound sentence
  - C. Complex sentence
  - D. Compound-complex sentence
6. **Directions: Given below are four jumbled sentences from a passage. Pick the option that gives their logically correct order.**
- 1. Specifically, within these superheated zones, they found a fascinating glass-enveloped rock which they playfully nicknamed "birianiite" due to its mixed composition.
  - 2. When mining activities expose raw coal to oxygen, natural oxidation reactions can trigger underground fires that smolder continuously for decades.
  - 3. Recently, researchers investigating these resulting deep cavities discovered unique formations of "paralava"—rock melted and re-solidified by the extreme heat.
  - 4. As these persistent fires consume the coal seams, they severely destabilize the rock above, creating massive vertical collapse structures and deep cavities.
- A. 3 1 4 2
  - B. 2 3 4 1
  - C. 2 4 3 1
  - D. 4 3 1 2
7. **From the alternatives given below, select the correct meaning of the idiom. Tick all the boxes.**
- A. To irritate everyone unnecessarily
  - B. Take all the belongings to a tour
  - C. Get all the grocery items
  - D. To satisfy or fulfill everything that is necessary or desired
8. **Choose the correctly spelt word from the given options.**
- A. Excesive
  - B. Exessive
  - C. Excessive
  - D. Exccessive
9. **Which of the following idioms given in the alternatives has the meaning? To change or reverse something dramatically.**
- A. Turn the tide
  - B. Buck the tide
  - C. Swim with the tide
  - D. Tide one over
10. **Select the option with the correct spelling that can replace the underlined word in the given sentence. If the spelling in the given sentence is already correct, choose Option "No replacement required".**
- The pernacious effects of smoking often remain hidden until it's too late.
- A. pernicious
  - B. perneicious

- C. pernicious  
D. No replacement required
11. **Choose the word that is most opposite in meaning to “destruction”.**  
A. Preservation  
B. Devastation  
C. Ruin  
D. Damage
12. **Choose the word that is the antonym of Immigration.**  
A. Influx  
B. Emigration  
C. Entry  
D. Arrival
13. **Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.**  
The writer often used clever \_\_\_\_\_ to hint at deeper meanings.  
A. allusions  
B. illusions  
C. elusions  
D. delusions
14. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**  
A person who is well known for their bad deeds.  
A. Indolent  
B. Versatile  
C. Eminent  
D. Notorious
15. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**  
You will find the mosque \_\_\_\_\_ the right walking straight along this road.  
A. on  
B. in  
C. at  
D. by
16. **A part of the following sentence is underlined. Choose the option which 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 committee concluded that the measures suggested were conducive in bring stability in the financial system.  
A. conducive of bringing stability in  
B. conducive for bringing stability into  
C. conducive to bringing stability to  
D. No improvement required
17. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**  
We discussed the reaction of the farmers \_\_\_\_\_ the new policy at length.  
A. for

- B. about  
C. in  
D. to
18. **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. While speaking he gradually held the watch nearer till it almost touched the child's pale face, which plainly showed the struggle that was going on in his soul between covetousness and respect for hospitality.
- A. Meanwhile, the watch was slowly swaying and turning, sometimes brushing against his cheek.  
B. The face was light blue; the cases newly burnished.  
C. Finally, his right hand was gradually stretched toward it; the ends of his fingers touched it; then its whole weight was in his hand, the adjutant still keeping hold of the chain.  
D. His breast swelled with emotion; he seemed about to suffocate.
- S2. In the sunlight it seemed to be all on fire.
- A. DABC  
B. ADCB  
C. DACB  
D. BDAC
19. **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. The procession was coming from the church in a continuous stream, breaking up into groups at the square.
- A. They were: Giovanni Curo, Ummalido, Mattao, Vincenzo Guanno, Rocco di Ceuzo, Benedette Gallante, Biagio di Clisci, and Giovanni Senzapaura.  
B. They presented a powerful group, as they stood there, ears pierced by dangling gold earrings and eyes bright with the gleam of religious fanaticism.  
C. Before the altar, from which Pantaleone had been so recently dethroned, stood eight men, chosen to the rare privilege of raising the statue of St. Gonselvo.  
D. Speechless they stood, conscious of their important duty, and somewhat agitated.
- S2. Now and then they would feel their biceps and pulse as if to try their strength, and sometimes a faint smile would flit over their faces.
- A. CBDA  
B. DACB  
C. ACBD  
D. CADB

20. The following sentence is divided into four parts and are given in the alternatives A, B, C, and D. Select that alternative which contains that part of the sentence which has an error.

Selecting the part with the error is the answer.

He figured that to find a decent drum he had to go to a large flea market that is in a major city and usually gives place on weekends.

- A. He figured that to find a decent
- B. drum he had to go to a large flea
- C. market that is in a major city and
- D. usually gives place on weekends.

### Comprehension

One day it stopped, as the battery died. At first, it wasn't a huge deal, but day after day, I became (1) \_\_\_\_, though I could just look at my phone, laptop or tablet. What is the fuss? It's just time, you could look at it anywhere, but that is when I discovered my obsession with time, specifically the time on the wall clock at home.

The clock is more than two decades old. I remember my parents telling me to do homework on time, come home on time, eat on time, and sleep on time, as if it (2) \_\_\_\_ their job. They were my time-tellers. It was my innocent, carefree-time era. But now I look up at the clock two times an hour, with pending work and so many meetings and sessions scheduled for the week. It feels like I am its (3) \_\_\_\_ and lover at the same time. I look up at it numerous times, like a lover who is afraid his loved one might get away if not noticed. If you don't give it attention, it would just run away from you and never come back. Such a mischievous and toxic relationship. My parents used to look at the same clock, just like me, maybe fewer times, but now when it stopped, they did not care about it. They no longer care about their old clock friend and their precious time — no longer disciples, no longer lovers.

They have now exchanged that toxic, mischievous time for my careless, innocent time. Now I have to deal with it. Maybe one day, as I (4) old, I will exchange this time (5) \_\_\_\_ my careless, innocent time and give the toxic wall clock to the next generation. And yes! I have looked at the wall clock three times while writing this.

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

- A. happy
- B. calm
- C. furious
- D. sleepy

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

- A. is
- B. was
- C. were
- D. are

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

- A. teacher
- B. master
- C. enemy
- D. disciple

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

- A. grow
  - B. become
  - C. look
  - D. make
25. **What should come in the place of blank number (5)?**
- A. to
  - B. with
  - C. for
  - D. on

## Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

## Explanations

### 1. C) III only

"WHO has listed a clutch of factors — high positivity rate of the initial samples (eight positives among 13 samples); the confirmation of cases in Kampala; increasing trends in syndromic reporting of suspected cases; and clusters of deaths across Ituri province — that point towards a potentially much larger outbreak than what is being detected."

Statement III is Correct: The line above explicitly mentions that "syndromic reporting of suspected cases" and "clusters of deaths" suggest an outbreak "much larger than what is being detected."

Statement I is Incorrect: The passage states that vaccines and therapies are "currently untested with Bundibugyo," contradicting the idea that they are "confirmed to be equally effective."

Statement II is Incorrect: The passage states that the cases in Kampala had "no apparent link to each other," which means the transmission chain is unknown, not "well-understood."

### 2. D) Both I and II

Statement I: "With unusual alacrity, WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern over the Ebola outbreak in central Africa, not even waiting for the advice of an emergency committee of expert panellists, as is convention." The passage explicitly states that the "convention" (standard norm) is to wait for an emergency committee, but the WHO acted with "unusual alacrity" (speed) without waiting for them, confirming a departure from the norm.

Statement II: "At any rate, WHO has rightly taken a risk-averse pathway, when dealing with a condition that has a 50% fatality rate... there are unknowns this time arising out of the Bundibugyo strain." A "risk-averse pathway" is a synonym for a "cautious strategy." The passage mentions "unknowns" regarding the strain and the "untested" nature of vaccines, which represent the "scientific uncertainties."

### 3. C) **The efficacy of existing medical tools like vaccines has not been proven for this specific variant.**

"This strain has caused fewer outbreaks in the past and the efficacy of usually effective countermeasures such as vaccines (highly effective against the common Zaire strain) and other therapies, are currently untested with Bundibugyo."

The passage explicitly highlights that vaccines and therapies used for other strains are "currently untested" (unproven) for the Bundibugyo variant, making it a major scientific and health concern.

Option A is Incorrect: The passage states mortality rates for Ebola range between 25% and 50% generally; it does not state that Bundibugyo is "significantly higher" than the Zaire strain.

Option B is Incorrect: The passage notes Ebola is contagious through body fluids, but this is a general characteristic of the disease, not a unique feature that makes Bundibugyo the only variant to do so.

Option D is Incorrect: While the passage mentions cases in Kampala, it does not state that this is the first ever time Ebola has reached an urban center in history.

4. B) **Adverbial phrase modifying the main verb "declared"**

The phrase "not even waiting for the advice of an emergency committee" functions as an adverbial phrase because it describes the manner or the specific circumstances under which the WHO performed the action of "declaring" the emergency.

5. C) **Complex sentence**

This is a Complex sentence because it contains one independent clause ("WHO has nevertheless been feted for swift action by global health experts") and one dependent (subordinate) clause ("given that there are several unknowns arising from the current strain responsible for the outbreak"). The phrase "given that" acts as a subordinating conjunction, making the second part of the sentence dependent on the first.

6. C) **2 4 3 1**

Sentence 2, पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत में आया क्योंकि यह उस "factual ground" को तैयार करता है जो खदानों में ऑक्सीजन के संपर्क से लगने वाली 'underground fires' को introduce करता है। यह पूरे विषय का मुख्य आधार पेश करता है।

Sentence 4, Sentence 2 के बाद आया क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "these persistent fires" शब्द सीधे तौर पर 2 में दी गई 'underground fires' की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह एक अनिवार्य लिंक बनाता है जो बताता है कि ये आग कैसे 'collapse structures and deep cavities' (गहरी गुफाएं) बनाती हैं।

Sentence 3, Sentence 4 के बाद आया क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "these resulting deep cavities" शब्द सीधे तौर पर 4 में बताई गई 'deep cavities' की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह स्पष्ट करता है कि शोधकर्ताओं ने इन गुफाओं में पिघली हुई चट्टानें (paralava) खोजीं।

Sentence 1, Sentence 3 के बाद आया क्योंकि यह पूरे scenario को एक "conclusion" की ओर ले जाता है। इसमें "Specifically" का जिक्र है जो सीधे तौर पर 3 में बताई गई पिघली चट्टानों (paralava) का एक विशेष उदाहरण (birianiite) देकर तार्किक प्रवाह को पूरा करता है।

- Sentence 2 comes at the beginning because it identifies the factual ground by introducing the primary subject: how oxygen exposure triggers 'underground fires' in coal mines.
- Sentence 4 follows 2 because the phrase "these persistent fires" creates a mandatory link pointing directly back to the 'underground fires' mentioned in 2. It explains how these fires create massive 'collapse structures and deep cavities'.
- Sentence 3 follows 4 as it uses the phrase "these resulting deep cavities" to create a mandatory link pointing directly to the 'deep cavities' introduced in 4. It details what researchers discovered (paralava) while investigating them.
- Sentence 1 follows 3 as the conclusion. It uses the word "Specifically" to provide a concrete example (birianiite) of the melted rocks mentioned in 3, thereby completing the logical flow.

7. D) **Cater to all needs** (idiom) – To satisfy or fulfill everything that is necessary or desired सभी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करना

8. C) The correct spelling of 'Excessive / Excessive / Excessive' is '**Excessive**', which means "more than necessary; too much" अत्यधिक, जरूरत से ज्यादा।

9. A) **Turn the tide** (idiom) – To change or reverse something dramatically स्थिति को पूरी तरह बदल देना
- **Buck the tide** (idiom) – To go against the trend or resist opposition धारा के विपरीत जाना
  - **Swim with the tide** (idiom) – To follow the general trend or go along with others धारा के साथ चलना
  - **Tide one over** (idiom) – To help someone through a difficult time कठिन समय में सहारा देना
10. A) The correct spelling of 'pernacious' is '**pernicious**', which means "harmful in a gradual or subtle way" धीरे-धीरे नुकसान पहुँचाने वाला, हानिकारक।
11. A) **Destruction** (noun) – Ruin, devastation, demolition, annihilation, damage विनाश  
Antonym: **Preservation** (noun) – Protection, conservation, safeguarding, maintenance, saving संरक्षण
- **Devastation** (noun) – Great destruction, ruin, havoc, wreckage तबाही
  - **Ruin** (noun) – Destruction, collapse, downfall, devastation विनाश
  - **Damage** (noun) – Harm, injury, destruction, loss नुकसान
12. B) **Immigration** (noun) – Entry into a country, influx, arrival, settlement आगमन / देश में आकर बसना  
Antonym: **Emigration** (noun) – Leaving one's country, departure, exit, migration out देश छोड़कर जाना / प्रवासन
- **Influx** (noun) – Arrival, inflow, entry, coming in आगमन
  - **Entry** (noun) – Admission, access, arrival, ingress प्रवेश
  - **Arrival** (noun) – Coming, entry, appearance, advent आगमन
13. A) '**Allusions**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि sentence में writer के द्वारा "hint at deeper meanings" यानी गहरे अर्थों की ओर संकेत करने की बात हो रही है। "Allusion" का अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ का अप्रत्यक्ष या संकेतात्मक उल्लेख करना, जो यहाँ perfectly fit बैठता है। इसलिए, "allusions" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
- 'Allusions' should be used because the sentence talks about hinting at deeper meanings. An "allusion" means an indirect reference or hint toward something, which fits perfectly in this context. Thus, "allusions" would be the most appropriate choice.
14. D) **Notorious** (adjective) – Famous for bad deeds कुख्यात
- **Indolent** (adjective) – Lazy, avoiding work आलसी
  - **Versatile** (adjective) – Having many skills बहुमुखी
  - **Eminent** (adjective) – Famous and respected प्रतिष्ठित
15. A) **on**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि जब हम किसी सड़क पर चलते हुए किसी स्थान (जैसे building, mosque, shop आदि) की दिशा बताते हैं, तो "on the right / on the left" का प्रयोग किया जाता है। यहाँ sentence में बताया जा रहा है कि सीधे चलते हुए दाईं तरफ मस्जिद मिलेगी, इसलिए "on the right" सही प्रयोग है।
- 'on' should be used because while giving directions along a road, we use the expression "on the right / on the left" to indicate position. Here, the sentence tells that the mosque will be located on the right side while walking straight, so "on" is the most appropriate choice.

16. C) conducive in bring stability in' के बदले 'conductive to bringing stability to' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'conducive' के साथ सही preposition 'to' आता है, और इसके बाद verb का -ing form (gerund) प्रयोग होता है। साथ ही 'stability' के साथ सही preposition 'to' होता है।
- 'conductive to bringing stability to' will be used instead of 'conducive in bring stability in' because 'conducive' takes the preposition 'to', and it is followed by a gerund (-ing form); also 'stability to' is the correct usage; Like— These policies are conducive to improving economic growth.
17. D) to' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "reaction" के साथ सही preposition "to" आता है, जो किसी चीज़ के प्रति प्रतिक्रिया को दर्शाता है। Sentence में "the reaction of the farmers \_\_\_\_\_ the new policy" का अर्थ है किसानों की नई नीति के प्रति प्रतिक्रिया। इसलिए, "reaction to" सही और स्वाभाविक प्रयोग है।
- 'to' should be used because the correct preposition that follows "reaction" is "to," which expresses a response toward something. In the sentence, "the reaction of the farmers \_\_\_\_\_ the new policy" refers to how farmers responded to the policy. Thus, "to" is the most appropriate choice.

18. C) **DACB**

Sentence D सबसे पहले आएगा क्योंकि यह बच्चे की तीव्र भावनात्मक स्थिति दिखाता है—“His breast swelled with emotion...”. यह S1 में बताए गए उसके आंतरिक संघर्ष को आगे बढ़ाता है।

Sentence A इसके बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह घड़ी की चलती हुई क्रिया को बताता है—“the watch was slowly swaying...”. यह S1 से जुड़ी स्थिति को जारी रखता है।

Sentence C इसके बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह climax दिखाता है—“his right hand was gradually stretched...”. यहाँ बच्चा अंततः घड़ी को पकड़ लेता है।

Sentence B अंत में आएगा क्योंकि यह घड़ी का वर्णन करता है—“The face was light blue...”. यह S2 में दिए गए उसके चमकने के दृश्य से ठीक पहले fit बैठता है।

- Sentence D comes first because it directly shows the child's intense emotional state—“His breast swelled with emotion...”. This continues the inner conflict mentioned in S1.
- Sentence A follows because it describes the ongoing movement of the watch—“the watch was slowly swaying...”. This keeps the scene active and connects with S1.
- Sentence C comes next as it presents the climax—“his right hand was gradually stretched...”. The child finally gives in and takes the watch.
- Sentence B comes last because it gives a visual description of the watch—“The face was light blue...”. This fits just before S2, which describes its shining appearance.

19. A) **CBDA**

'C' का प्रयोग सबसे पहले होगा क्योंकि यह मुख्य दृश्य को प्रस्तुत करता है—“Before the altar... stood eight men...”. यहाँ पहली बार उन आठ लोगों का उल्लेख होता है, जिससे आगे की सभी sentences को आधार मिलता है; जैसे— किसी भी passage में पहले subject introduce किया जाता है।

B' का प्रयोग 'C' के बाद होगा क्योंकि इसमें “They” का प्रयोग हुआ है, जो C में बताए गए आठ पुरुषों को refer करता है—“They presented a powerful group...”. अतः pronoun reference के अनुसार B, C के बाद आएगा।

'D' का प्रयोग इसके बाद होगा क्योंकि यह उनकी भावनात्मक स्थिति को दर्शाता है—“Speechless they stood... somewhat agitated.” पहले description (B) और फिर उनकी internal feeling (D) logically आती है।

'A' का प्रयोग अंत में होगा क्योंकि यह उनके नामों की सूची देता है—“They were: Giovanni Curo...”. सामान्यतः पूरा description देने के बाद names दिए जाते हैं।

- 'C' will be used first because it introduces the main scene—“Before the altar... stood eight men...”. It establishes the subject of the paragraph.
- 'B' will follow 'C' because “They” refers to the eight men mentioned in C—“They presented a powerful group...”.
- 'D' will come next as it describes their emotional state—“Speechless they stood... somewhat agitated.”
- 'A' will be used at last because it lists their names—“They were...”, which fits best after full description.

20. D) 'gives place' के बदले 'takes place' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ अर्थ है कि flea market “होता है / आयोजित होता है”, न कि “जगह देता है”।

- 'takes place' will be used instead of 'gives place' because the correct expression for an event happening is “takes place”, not “gives place”.

Correct Sentence:

He figured that to find a decent drum he had to go to a large flea market that is in a major city and usually takes place on weekends.

21. C) **furious** (बहुत गुस्सा / आगबबूला) सही है। पैसेज के संदर्भ (context) से पता चलता है कि घड़ी के रुकने से लेखक को चिड़चिड़ाहट और परेशानी हो रही थी। happy (खुश) और calm (शांत) सकारात्मक (positive) शब्द हैं, जो वाक्य के अर्थ को उल्टा कर देंगे। sleepy (नींद आना) का घड़ी के रुकने से होने वाली परेशानी से कोई संबंध नहीं है।

- The correct answer is "furious" because the context reveals the author is becoming increasingly bothered and agitated by the stopped clock. "Happy" and "calm" are positive adjectives that contradict the frustration described in the passage. "Sleepy" is completely unrelated to the emotional reaction of losing track of time.

22. C) **were** (होता / था) सही है। Grammar के नियमों के अनुसार (Subjunctive Mood), जब हम "as if" (जैसे कि) का इस्तेमाल करके किसी ऐसी बात की कल्पना करते हैं जो असलियत नहीं है, तो subject चाहे singular (जैसे 'it') ही क्यों न हो, उसके साथ हमेशा plural verb "were" का ही इस्तेमाल होता है। is और was दोनों singular हैं, इसलिए वाक्यों की बनावट के अनुसार ये सीधे गलत हो जाते हैं। are present plural है, जो यहाँ फिट नहीं बैठता।

- The correct answer is "were" because of a strict grammar rule regarding the subjunctive mood. When expressing a hypothetical or unreal situation following "as if," standard English grammar requires the plural verb "were," even for a singular subject like "it." "Is" and "was" are singular verbs, making them grammatically incorrect for this sentence structure. "Are" is present plural and also incorrect here.

23. D) **disciple** (शिष्य / अनुयायी) सही है। लेखक कह रहा है कि वह समय का इतना पाबंद हो गया है कि वह समय के पीछे-पीछे चलता है, जैसे कोई शिष्य अपने गुरु की हर बात मानता है। teacher (शिक्षक) और master (मालिक) का मतलब है कि लेखक समय को कंट्रोल कर रहा है, जो कि पैसेज के अर्थ का बिल्कुल उल्टा है। enemy (दुश्मन) गलत है क्योंकि वाक्य में आगे "lover" (प्रेमी) शब्द का इस्तेमाल हुआ है।

- The correct answer is "disciple" because the author describes following the clock strictly and obsessively, much like a follower or student obeys a master. "Teacher" and "master" would imply the author is in control of time, which is the exact opposite of

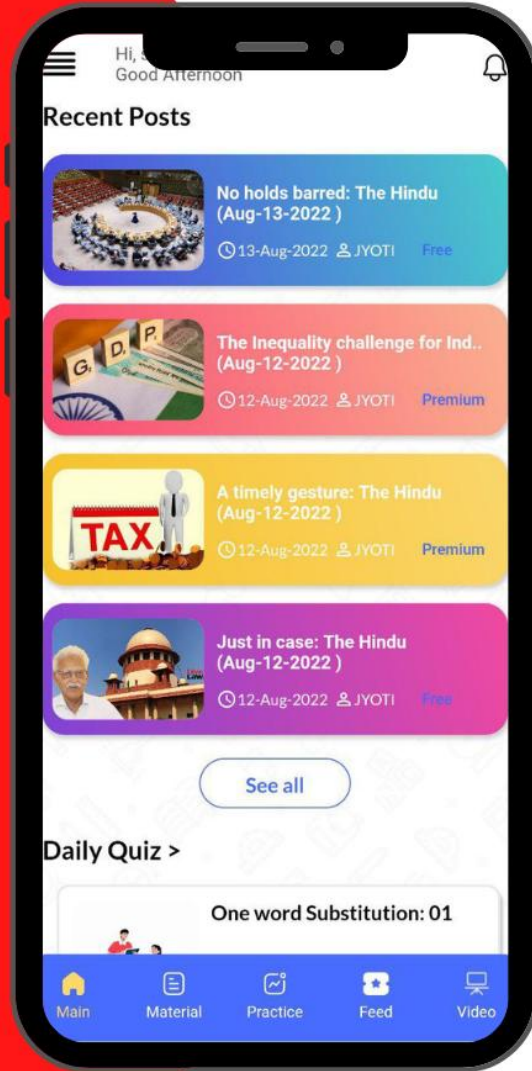
the passage's meaning. "Enemy" contradicts the paired word "lover" in the same sentence.

24. A) **grow** (होना / उम्र का बढ़ना) सही है। अंग्रेज़ी के आम उपयोग (standard usage) में, उम्र बढ़ने की प्राकृतिक प्रक्रिया (natural process) को दर्शाने के लिए हमेशा "grow old" कहा जाता है। become (बनना) व्याकरण के हिसाब से गलत नहीं है, लेकिन उम्र गुज़रने के लिए यह प्राकृतिक शब्द नहीं है। make (बनाना) वाक्यों की बनावट और अर्थ दोनों के हिसाब से पूरी तरह गलत है। look (दिखना) का मतलब सिर्फ बाहर से बूढ़ा नज़र आना है, जबकि पैसेज में सच में उम्र गुज़रने और अगली पीढ़ी को घड़ी सौंपने की बात हो रही है।

- The correct answer is "grow" because in standard English usage, the natural process of aging is consistently expressed as "growing old." "Become" is not grammatically wrong but is unnatural when referring to the aging process. "Make" is completely incorrect in both meaning and sentence structure. "Look" only refers to physical appearance, whereas the passage discusses the actual passage of time and handing responsibilities down to the next generation.

25. C) **for** (के बदले में) सही है। अंग्रेज़ी के आम उपयोग (standard usage) में, जब हम किसी एक चीज़ को देकर उसके बदले में दूसरी चीज़ लेते हैं (अदला-बदली करते हैं), तो verb 'exchange' के बाद हमेशा preposition 'for' का इस्तेमाल होता है (exchange A for B)। to और on वाक्यों की बनावट के हिसाब से पूरी तरह गलत हैं। with का इस्तेमाल तब होता है जब हम बताते हैं कि अदला-बदली 'किस इंसान' के साथ की गई (exchange with someone), लेकिन यहाँ 'किस चीज़' के बदले की गई, उसकी बात हो रही है।

- The correct answer is "for" because in standard English usage, when you trade or swap one item to receive another, the verb "exchange" is followed by the preposition "for" (exchange A for B). "To" and "on" are grammatically incorrect prepositions in this structure. "With" is used to indicate the person you are trading with, not the item you are receiving in return.



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