

Together and apart, animals in a human world

When the humans are away, the wolves, moose and bobcats will play. This much became clear during the Covid pandemic when lockdown **measures** across the world **ensured** **Homo sapiens-free landscapes** for other species to **saunter** through. Not only was the air cleaner and every outdoor space quieter, **wild boars reportedly** strolled through the boulevards of Barcelona in Spain. **Nature**, as the popular pandemic-era meme went, **was** healing.

A new **study** published in Science **has** now **demonstrated** just how much nature — or rather, wildlife — shapes itself around the presence (or absence) of humans. Using GPS tracking data from 37 species of wild birds and **mammals** along with cellphone location data across the US, a **group** of researchers **has** found that how these species use geographic spaces **often** depends on human activity in those same areas. The **findings** show a **remarkable diversity** of responses. For example, the **areas** covered by coyotes and wild turkeys **shrank** in response to human **proximity** while among grey wolves, the **presence** of people **had** the opposite effect of expanding their ranges — in all **likelihood** to put a greater distance between themselves and humans.

For ecologists, **findings** like this **are** invaluable, helping **craft** a more **granular** approach to complex questions of conservation and minimising animal-human conflicts. They're a warning too, against the simplistic "we are the virus" takes — suggesting that eliminating humans will save the planet — that also, not **coincidentally, surged** in popularity during the pandemic. Healing nature and protecting biodiversity is **long-haul** work built on the **painstaking accumulation** of knowledge — not **glib** formulations.

[Practice Exercise]

- **when the cat's away the mice will play** (phrase) – means that people will naturally take advantage of an authority figure's absence to misbehave, break rules, or do exactly as they please.
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.

Vocabulary

1. **When the humans are away, the wolves, moose and bobcats will play** (phrase) - a playful adaptation of a classic idiom, indicating that animals will freely explore and reclaim spaces when humans are absent rules specifications अपने नियमों से चलना
2. **Homo sapiens-free** (adjective) - human-free, unpeopled, uninhabited, desolate, vacant मानव रहित
3. **Landscape** (noun) - terrain, scenery, countryside, topography, outlook परिदृश्य
4. **Wild boar** (noun) - a large wild pig with a hairy body and sharp tusks, usually found in forests जंगली सूअर
5. **Reportedly** (adverb) - allegedly, supposedly, reputedly, ostensibly, purportedly खबरों के अनुसार
6. **Demonstrate** (verb) - prove, show, manifest, display, exhibit प्रमाणित करना
7. **Mammal** (noun) - a warm-blooded animal that has hair or fur and feeds its babies with milk produced by the mother स्तनधारी जीव
8. **Often** (adverb) - frequently, repeatedly, regularly, generally, routinely अक्सर
9. **Finding** (noun) - discovery, result, conclusion, verdict, outcome निष्कर्ष
10. **Remarkable** (adjective) - extraordinary, exceptional, striking, notable, outstanding असाधारण
11. **Diversity** (noun) - variety, multiplicity, assortment, range, heterogeneity विविधता
12. **Shrink** (verb) - contract, diminish, dwindle, decrease, lessen सिकुड़ना
13. **Proximity** (noun) - closeness, nearness, adjacency, contiguity, propinquity निकटता
14. **Likelihood** (noun) - probability, chance, prospect, possibility, plausibility संभावना
15. **Craft** (verb) - create, fashion, shape, forge, design कुशलता से बनाना
16. **Granular** (adjective) - detailed, meticulous, precise, specific, thorough विस्तृत
17. **Coincidentally** (adverb) - accidentally, fortuitously, unintentionally, unexpectedly, randomly संयोगवश
18. **Surge** (verb) - escalate, soar, rocket, increase, spiral तेजी से बढ़ना
19. **Long-haul** (adjective) - long-term, protracted, prolonged, enduring, sustained लंबे समय का
20. **Painstaking** (adjective) - meticulous, diligent, thorough, assiduous, careful अत्यधिक परिश्रमी
21. **Accumulation** (noun) - collection, amassing, gathering, hoarding, aggregation संचय
22. **When the cat's away the mice will play** (phrase) - people or animals naturally take advantage of an authority figure's absence to do as they please मालिक की गैरमौजूदगी में मनमानी करना

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Covid-19 lockdowns created unusually quiet and human-free environments across many parts of the world.
2. During this period, wildlife was observed moving more freely in urban and semi-urban areas.
3. Examples included wild boars roaming through the streets of Barcelona in Spain.
4. The pandemic popularised the idea that “nature was healing” in the absence of human activity.
5. A new study published in Science explored how wildlife behaviour changes in response to human presence.
6. Researchers analysed GPS tracking data from 37 species of wild birds and mammals across the United States.
7. The study also used cellphone location data to compare animal movement with human activity patterns.
8. Findings showed that wildlife adjusts its geographic movement according to human presence.
9. Different species respond differently to humans depending on their ecological behaviour.
10. Coyotes and wild turkeys reduced the areas they occupied when humans were nearby.
11. Grey wolves, however, expanded their movement ranges to maintain greater distance from humans.
12. These findings help ecologists better understand animal-human interactions and wildlife adaptation.
13. The research can improve conservation strategies and help reduce animal-human conflicts.
14. The article criticises simplistic pandemic-era claims that humans are merely harmful to nature.
15. It concludes that protecting biodiversity requires scientific understanding, long-term planning, and balanced coexistence between humans and wildlife.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Why does the author contrast the spatial responses of coyotes and wild turkeys with those of grey wolves?**
 - A. To suggest that predatory mammals generally require larger habitats than avian species when faced with sudden shifts in human activity.
 - B. To provide empirical evidence that wildlife behavior in response to human presence is multifaceted rather than following a singular pattern.
 - C. To argue that certain species are more intelligent than others because they proactively increase their distance from urban settlements.
 - D. To illustrate that the absence of humans during the pandemic led to a universal expansion of territory for all North American wildlife.
2. **What is the "warning" the author intends to convey to the readers in the third paragraph?**
 - A. That the "we are the virus" narrative is scientifically accurate but should be used sparingly to avoid causing public panic or despair.
 - B. That animal-human conflicts will inevitably increase if humans do not vacate the boulevards and urban spaces they occupy.
 - C. That simplistic slogans about the absence of humans ignore the scientific complexity and the rigorous effort required for real conservation.
 - D. That the use of cellphone location data to track animal movement is an invasion of privacy that could have unforeseen ethical consequences.
3. **The term "glib formulations" as used in the final paragraph most likely refers to:**
 - A. The mathematical equations used by the researchers to synthesize GPS data and cellphone location signals from thirty-seven different species of wild animals.
 - B. The painstaking reports published by ecologists to help government agencies minimize the frequency of dangerous human-animal conflicts in urban and rural areas.
 - C. The shallow and simplistic slogans popularized during the pandemic that offer easy but unrealistic solutions to the multifaceted challenges of protecting global biological diversity.
 - D. The administrative procedures required for the publication of scientific studies in high-impact journals such as Science during a global public health emergency.
4. **Which of the following best identifies the grammatical role of the phrase "Using GPS tracking data from 37 species of wild birds and mammals" in the sentence:**

"Using GPS tracking data from 37 species of wild birds and mammals along with cellphone location data across the US, a group of researchers has found that how these species use geographic spaces often depends on human activity in those same areas."

 - A. A gerund phrase acting as the nominal subject of the main independent clause in the sentence.
 - B. A participial phrase functioning as an adjectival modifier for the subject "a group of researchers."
 - C. A subordinate adverbial clause providing a condition for the action described by the verb "depends."
 - D. A prepositional phrase serving as the direct object of the principal verb "has found."
5. **What type of clause is the bolded part of the sentence:**

"They're a warning too, against the simplistic 'we are the virus' takes that also, not coincidentally, surged in popularity during the pandemic."

- A. Noun clause
- B. Adverbial clause
- C. Relative clause
- D. Independent clause

6. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Steadily."**

- A. Progressively
- B. Precipitously
- C. Capriciously
- D. Sporadically

7. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate phrase.**

The sharp drop in quarterly manufacturing output _____ for the upcoming industrial sector employment data.

- A. Bears out
- B. Gives up
- C. Bodes ill
- D. Turns down

8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Rectify."**

- A. Redress
- B. Garner
- C. Induce
- D. Blemish

9. **Directions: Given below are four jumbled sentences from a passage. Pick the option that gives their logically correct order.**

- A. During my address in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, I applied this framework to argue for a crucial shift from 'Climate Anxiety' to 'Climate Ownership'.
- B. With this goal in mind, I introduced the framework of 'Technical Diplomacy' to highlight that industrial design can actually shape systems and influence global policy.
- C. To clearly illustrate this proactive concept of ownership, I shared a personal project where applying industrial design reduced a manual process from 12 hours to just 15 minutes.
- D. I arrived at the UN Headquarters not merely as a design student, but with a clear mission to bridge the gap between design thinking and global governance.
 - a. 4 2 1 3
 - b. 4 1 2 3
 - c. 2 4 1 3
 - d. 1 3 4 2

10. **Select the most appropriate MEANING of the phrase "To the brink of."**

- A. Very close to a point where something very big or very glad will happen
- B. Very close to a point where something very buy or very gold will happen
- C. Very close to a point where something very bad or very good will happen
- D. Very close to a point where something very bit or very good will happen

11. **Choose the correctly spelt word:**

- A. Voluptuous

- B. Voluptous
- C. Voloptuous
- D. Volaptuous

12. **Identify the segment in the sentence which contains a grammatical error. Light travel (A) / faster than (B) / sound. (C) / No error (D)**

- A. Light travel
- B. faster than
- C. sound.
- D. No error

13. **From the alternatives given below, select the correct passive voice of the following sentence.**

Let him cover the car with that pink cloth lying on the table.

- A. Let the cloth be covered with by him the car with that pink cloth lying on the table.
- B. Let the car covered by him with that pink cloth be lying on the table.
- C. Let the car be covered with that pink cloth by him lying on the table.
- D. Let the car be covered by him with that pink cloth lying on the table.

14. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word “Foregone.”**

- A. Corroborated
- B. Exacerbated
- C. Liquidated
- D. Relinquished

15. **Choose the most suitable preposition from the given options to fill in the blank in the following sentence.**

She is fond ____ classical music.

- A. of
- B. in
- C. with
- D. for

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

Neither Rina or Raju was present in the class.

- A. Neither Rina not Raju
- B. Either Rina or Raju
- C. None of Rina and Raju
- D. Neither Rina nor Raju

17. **(Fill in the Blanks)**

The industrial particles were _____ into the atmosphere by the powerful exhaust plumes generated during the lift-off.

- A. Entrained
- B. Rescinded
- C. Subverted
- D. Chastened

18. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word “Emphasise.”**

- A. Undermine
- B. Undertake

- C. Understudy
- D. Understate

19. **Identify the error in the sentence.**

We must respect the elder people in our community.

- A. respect
- B. people
- C. elder
- D. community

20. **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: The name 'Bundibugyo' comes from an old scientific tradition where pathogens were simply named after the geographical places they were discovered in.

P: Following this specific tradition, the virus was named after the Bundibugyo district in western Uganda where it was first identified.

Q: To identify the exact cause of this mysterious illness, doctors sent diagnostic samples to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the US.

R: This particular district, situated near the border of the Democratic Republic of Congo, is also the headquarters of the Bwamba Kingdom.

S: Medical attention in this historic kingdom began when a mysterious and fatal illness suddenly broke out among the locals in 2007.

S6: Upon analyzing these diagnostic samples, scientists officially confirmed a new ebolavirus strain, etching the district's name into medical history.

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

Comprehension

The earth's outer core is a (1) ___ liquid layer that lies around 2,800 km (2)___ the surface. This hot, churning sea is filled with molten iron and nickel. As the outer core moves constantly, it acts like a large generator, creating the planet's magnetic field, which (3) ___ the earth from harmful solar radiation. Researchers from the University of Edinburgh and the British Geological Survey have reported that around 2010, the liquid iron in the outer core below the equatorial Pacific Ocean changed direction from a slow westward (4)___ to a more rapid eastward surge. They found this after mapping 27 years of iron movement in the outer core using data from ground stations and four European satellites. When they analysed the data, the team identified two important patterns in the flow. The main pattern accounted for 95% of the movement: it consisted of a steady flow westwards — which also explains why the earth's magnetic field has historically drifted west. The second pattern revealed the dramatic shift in 2010. The researchers also found that this shift began to weaken around 2020. The researchers were able to (5) ___ the 2010 reversal to seismic and geodetic shifts in the earth's solid inner core. According to their model, the flow is also roughly 10% lopsided between the northern and the southern hemispheres. These details could explain sudden 'jerks' in magnetic field readings and

suggest that deep-earth liquids can change direction much faster than the traditional theory predicts.

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

- A. dense
- B. compact
- C. voluminous
- D. rigid

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

- A. within
- B. beneath
- C. between
- D. into

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

- A. hid
- B. blocks
- C. shields
- D. fought

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

- A. crawl
- B. step
- C. walk
- D. drift

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

- A. merge
- B. attach
- C. bind
- D. link

Answers

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

Explanations

1. **B) To provide empirical evidence that wildlife behavior in response to human presence is multifaceted rather than following a singular pattern.**

Line from the Passage: "The findings show a remarkable diversity of responses. For example, the areas covered by coyotes and wild turkeys shrank in response to human proximity while among grey wolves, the presence of people had the opposite effect of expanding their ranges..." This option is correct because the author uses the term "For example" immediately after mentioning the "diversity of responses." By highlighting that some species shrank their range while others expanded it, the author provides empirical evidence that there is no "singular pattern" or one-size-fits-all reaction to human presence.

A. Incorrect: the contrast is not intended to distinguish between the needs of predatory mammals versus avian species, but rather to show varied behavioral strategies.

C. incorrect: While the author explains the logic behind the wolf's expansion (to increase distance), the passage never makes a comparative judgment on "intelligence" or suggests that expanding a range is a sign of superior cognitive ability.

D. incorrect: This option is contradicted by the passage. Since some species' ranges "shrank," the expansion of territory was not "universal."

2. **C) That simplistic slogans about the absence of humans ignore the scientific complexity and the rigorous effort required for real conservation.**

Line from the Passage: "They're a warning too, against the simplistic 'we are the virus' takes — suggesting that eliminating humans will save the planet — that also, not coincidentally, surged in popularity during the pandemic. Healing nature and protecting biodiversity is long-haul work built on the painstaking accumulation of knowledge — not glib formulations." Option C is correct because the author explicitly warns that shallow slogans (glib formulations) like "we are the virus" are no substitute for the complex, rigorous, and scientific work required for real ecological progress.

A is incorrect: The author uses the word "simplistic" and "glib" to describe this narrative. This implies the author views it as intellectually shallow rather than "scientifically accurate."

B is incorrect: The passage suggests that conflict can be managed through scientific data, not by humans "vacating" urban areas.

D is incorrect: The author describes this data as "invaluable" for ecologists and never raises concerns regarding "privacy" or "ethical consequences."

3. **C) The shallow and simplistic slogans popularized during the pandemic that offer easy but unrealistic solutions to the multifaceted challenges of protecting global biological diversity.**

Line from the Passage: "Healing nature and protecting biodiversity is long-haul work built on the painstaking accumulation of knowledge — not glib formulations." The author uses "glib formulations" to refer back to the "simplistic takes" mentioned earlier in the paragraph. These are slogans that sound smooth or clever but offer shallow, unrealistic solutions to deep ecological problems instead of relying on hard scientific data.

A is incorrect: The complex work of researchers and mathematical synthesis represents the "painstaking knowledge" that the author advocates for. "Glib" means shallow or superficial, which is the exact opposite of these complex scientific equations.

B is incorrect: painstaking reports are the tools used to create the "granular approach" the author supports. Since the author contrasts "glib formulations" against "painstaking knowledge," these reports cannot be the glib formulations.

D is incorrect: Administrative procedures are part of the professional scientific process and do not fit the author's critique of shallow, popular pandemic rhetoric.

4. B) **A participial phrase functioning as an adjectival modifier for the subject "a group of researchers."**

The phrase begins with "Using," which is the present participle form of the verb "to use." when an "-ing" word starts a phrase that describes the action or state of the subject in the main clause, it is a participial phrase. It acts as an adjective. It tells us something about the subject: what were the researchers doing or what tools were they employing?

The phrase provides background information about the subject ("a group of researchers"), making it a participial phrase acting as an adjectival modifier.

5. C) **Relative clause**

The bolded portion of the sentence ("that also, not coincidentally, surged in popularity during the pandemic") is a (c) Relative clause.

It is a dependent clause that begins with the relative pronoun "that" and modifies or provides additional information about the noun phrase that comes just before it ("the simplistic we are the virus takes")

6. A) **Steadily** (adverb) – gradually, continuously, progressively, firmly, consistently. (निरंतर / धीरे-धीरे)

Synonym: **Progressively** (adverb) – Happening or developing gradually or in stages; proceeding step-by-step in a continuous manner. (क्रमशः/निरंतर)

- **Precipitously** (adverb): Very steeply, rapidly, or abruptly; usually used for sudden market crashes. (तेजी से/एकाएक)
- **Capriciously** (adverb): Given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood or behavior; unpredictably. (मनमौजी ढंग से)
- **Sporadically** (adverb): Occurring at irregular intervals or only in a few places; scattered or isolated. (रुक-रुक कर)

7. C) **Bodes ill** (phrase) – To be a sign of a bad or unfavorable outcome in the future. (अशुभ संकेत देना)

The negative context of decreasing manufacturing output indicates an upcoming unfavorable employment outcome, making "Bodes ill" the logically fit phrase.

Bears out (phrasal verb): To confirm, support, or substantiate a specific statement. (पुष्टि करना)

Gives up (phrasal verb): To cease making an effort; surrender. (हार मानना)

Turns down (phrasal verb): To reject an offer or request. (अस्वीकार करना)

8. D) **Rectify** (verb) – correct, remedy, repair, fix, amend. (सुधारना)

Antonym: **Blemish** (verb) – To spoil the appearance of something that is otherwise good; to damage a reputation. (बिगाड़ना/दाग लगाना)

Redress (verb): To set right an undesirable or unfair situation; to remedy or rectify a specific grievance. (निवारण करना)

Garner (verb): To gather or collect something (especially information or approval) through much effort. (इकट्ठा करना)

Induce (verb): To succeed in persuading or influencing someone to do something; to bring about or cause. (प्रेरित करना)

9. A) **4 2 1 3**

Sentence 4, पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत में आएगा क्योंकि यह उस "factual ground" को तैयार करता है जो लेखक के UN Headquarters पहुंचने और उनके मुख्य उद्देश्य (mission) को introduce करता है। यह पूरे विषय का मुख्य आधार पेश करता है।

Sentence 2, Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "With this goal in mind" शब्द सीधे तौर पर 4 में दिए गए 'mission' (उद्देश्य) की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह एक अनिवार्य लिंक बनाता है जो बताता है कि इस लक्ष्य को पूरा करने के लिए उन्होंने 'Technical Diplomacy' का ढांचा (framework) पेश किया।

Sentence 1, Sentence 2 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "this framework" शब्द सीधे तौर पर 2 में बताए गए 'framework of Technical Diplomacy' की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह स्पष्ट करता है कि उन्होंने अपने भाषण में इस ढांचे का उपयोग कैसे किया।

Sentence 3, Sentence 1 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह पूरे scenario को एक "conclusion" की ओर ले जाता है। इसमें "this proactive concept of ownership" का जिक्र है जो सीधे तौर पर 1 में बताए गए 'Climate Ownership' से जुड़ता है, और इसे एक वास्तविक प्रोजेक्ट के उदाहरण के साथ समझाकर तार्किक प्रवाह को पूरा करता है।

Sentence 4 comes at the beginning because it identifies the factual ground by introducing the primary subject: the author's arrival at the UN Headquarters and their overarching 'mission'.

Sentence 2 follows 4 because the phrase "With this goal in mind" creates a mandatory link pointing directly back to the 'mission' mentioned in 4. It introduces the specific framework ('Technical Diplomacy') they presented to achieve that goal.

Sentence 1 follows 2 as it uses the phrase "this framework" to create a mandatory link pointing directly to the 'framework of Technical Diplomacy' introduced in 2. It details how the author applied this framework during their specific address in the Chamber.

Sentence 3 follows 1 as the conclusion. It uses the phrase "this proactive concept of ownership" to create a mandatory link directly to the idea of 'Climate Ownership' mentioned in 1, providing a concrete project example to illustrate the concept, thereby completing the logical flow.

10. C) **To the brink of** (phrase) – Very close to a point where something very bad or very good will happen. (के कगार पर)

11. A) The correct spelling of 'Voluptous' is '**Voluptuous**' which means "characterized by luxury or sensual pleasure" विलासी / भोगपूर्ण.

12. A) 'travel' के बदले '**travels**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'Light' एक singular third-person subject है और Simple Present Tense में singular third-person subject (He/She/It/singular noun) के साथ verb में 's' या 'es' जोड़ा जाता है। 'travels' will be used instead of 'travel' because 'Light' is a singular third-person subject. In the Simple Present Tense, the verb must take 's/es' when the subject is a

singular third person (He/She/It or a singular noun). Correct sentence: Light travels faster than sound.

13. D) **Let the car be covered by him with that pink cloth lying on the table.**

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Active से Passive में बदलते समय सही Passive form (be + past participle) का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Imperative वाक्य जिसमें “Let him + verb” संरचना हो, Passive में “Let + object + be + past participle + by him” बनती है। यहाँ Active वाक्य में “the car” Object है, “cover” Verb है और “him” Agent है। Passive में “the car” Subject बनता है और Verb be covered हो जाता है, जबकि “with that pink cloth lying on the table” यथावत रहता है।

To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence and the verb is converted into be + past participle form. With “Let him + verb” imperatives, the passive structure becomes “Let + object + be + past participle + by him.” Here, “the car” becomes the subject and “cover” changes to be covered, keeping the remaining phrase in proper order.

14. D) **Foregone** (adjective) – lost, sacrificed, relinquished, waived, forfeited. (जाने दिया गया / छोड़ा हुआ)

Synonym: Relinquished (adjective/verb past) – Voluntarily ceased to keep or claim something; surrendered or given up. (त्याग हुआ)

- **Corroborated** (adjective): Confirmed or supported with additional evidence, testimony, or authority. (पुष्ट किया हुआ)
- **Exacerbated** (adjective): Made a bad situation, disease, or problem significantly worse or more severe. (बदतर किया हुआ)
- **Liquidated** (adjective): Eliminated, typically by winding up financial affairs or paying off outstanding debts. (चुकाया हुआ)

15. A) ‘of’ का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि “fond” के साथ सही और मानक preposition “of” ही आती है। वाक्य में “fond” किसी चीज़ के प्रति लगाव या पसंद को दर्शाता है, और अंग्रेज़ी व्याकरण में यह संरचना fond of + noun के रूप में प्रयोग की जाती है। इसलिए “She is fond of classical music.” सही और व्याकरणिक रूप से शुद्ध है।

• ‘of’ should be used because “fond” is conventionally followed by the preposition “of” to express liking or affection. The correct grammatical structure is fond of + noun, which indicates a strong preference. Hence, “of” is the most appropriate option.

16. D) ‘Neither Rina or Raju’ के स्थान पर ‘Neither Rina nor Raju’ का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि neither के साथ हमेशा nor का ही प्रयोग किया जाता है, or का नहीं। यह correlative conjunctions का निश्चित नियम है।

• ‘Neither Rina nor Raju’ should be used instead of ‘Neither Rina or Raju’ because neither is always paired with nor, not or. Hence, nor is the grammatically correct conjunction here.

17. A) **Entrained** (adjective) – drawn, pulled, carried, swept, channeled. (साथ ले जाया गया या अंतर्निहित प्रवाह)

The word fits the blank because it describes how particles are caught and carried along by a surrounding fluid or gas flow.

- **Rescinded** (verb): Revoked, cancelled, or repealed a law, order, or agreement. (रद्द करना)

- **Subverted** (verb): Undermined the power and authority of an established system. (पलट देना)
 - **Chastened** (verb): To have a restraining or humbling effect on someone. (अनुशासित करना)
18. D) **Emphasise** (verb) – Stress, highlight, underline, accent, reinforce. (ज़ोर देना)
Antonym: **Understate** (verb) – To describe or represent something as being smaller or less important than it really is. (कम करके बताना)
- **Undermine** (verb): To weaken or sabotage the base or foundation of something gradually. (कमज़ोर करना)
 - **Undertake** (verb): To commit oneself to and begin an enterprise, responsibility, or task. (जिम्मा लेना)
 - **Understudy** (verb): To learn a role or position in order to replace the regular actor or worker if necessary. (स्थानापन्न के रूप में कार्य सीखना)
19. C) '**elder people**' के स्थान पर 'elderly people' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि elder सामान्यतः comparative रूप में या पारिवारिक संबंधों (elder brother, elder sister) के लिए प्रयोग होता है। सामान्य रूप से वृद्ध लोगों के लिए सही adjective 'elderly' होता है।
Elder" is generally used for two people or within a family relationship:
my elder brother
the elder of the two
It is not normally used before "people" to refer to old people in general.
Why "elderly" is correct:
"Elderly" is the standard adjective used for old people as a group.
It is polite and widely accepted in formal English.
Correct Sentence: We must respect the elderly people in our community.
20. B) **PRSQ**
Sentence P, पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत (S1 के तुरंत बाद) में आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "this specific tradition" शब्द सीधे तौर पर S1 में दिए गए 'old scientific tradition' (पुरानी वैज्ञानिक परंपरा) की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह "factual ground" तैयार करता है कि कैसे इस परंपरा के तहत वायरस का नाम युगांडा के 'Bundibugyo district' पर रखा गया।
Sentence R, Sentence P के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "This particular district" शब्द सीधे तौर पर P में दिए गए 'Bundibugyo district' की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह एक अनिवार्य लिंक बनाता है जो बताता है कि यह जिला 'Bwamba Kingdom' का मुख्यालय भी है।
Sentence S, Sentence R के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "this historic kingdom" शब्द सीधे तौर पर R में बताए गए 'Bwamba Kingdom' की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह स्पष्ट करता है कि इस राज्य में 2007 में एक 'mysterious illness' (रहस्यमयी बीमारी) फैली थी।
Sentence Q, Sentence S के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह पूरे scenario को एक "conclusion" (S6 से पहले) की ओर ले जाता है। इसमें "this mysterious illness" का जिक्र है जो सीधे तौर पर S में बताई गई रहस्यमयी बीमारी से जुड़ता है, और जाँच के लिए 'diagnostic samples' भेजे जाने की बात कहकर S6 (जिसमें इन diagnostic samples की जाँच का परिणाम है) के तार्किक प्रवाह को पूरा करता है।
- Sentence P comes at the beginning (after S1) because the phrase "this specific tradition" creates a mandatory link pointing directly back to the 'old scientific tradition' of naming

pathogens mentioned in S1. It establishes the factual ground of how the virus got its specific name from the 'Bundibugyo district'.

- Sentence R follows P because the phrase "This particular district" creates a mandatory link pointing directly back to the 'Bundibugyo district' introduced in P. It elaborates geographically, noting that it is the headquarters of the 'Bwamba Kingdom'.
- Sentence S follows R as it uses the phrase "this historic kingdom" to create a mandatory link pointing directly to the 'Bwamba Kingdom' mentioned in R. It introduces the historical event of a 'mysterious illness' breaking out there in 2007.
- Sentence Q follows S as the conclusion (leading into S6). It uses the phrase "this mysterious illness" to refer directly back to the outbreak mentioned in S, describing how 'diagnostic samples' were sent to the US, which seamlessly bridges into the analysis of "these diagnostic samples" mentioned in S6.

21. C) **voluminous** (विशाल / जिसका आकार बहुत बड़ा हो) सही है। यहाँ धरती के बाहरी हिस्से (outer core) के बहुत बड़े आकार (volume) की बात हो रही है। dense (घना) विज्ञान के हिसाब से सही लग सकता है (confusing option), लेकिन यह घनत्व (density) बताता है, आकार (size/volume) नहीं। rigid (कठोर) ठोस चीज़ों के लिए आता है, जबकि वाक्य में आगे साफ तौर पर 'liquid layer' (तरल परत) लिखा है। compact (छोटा और ठोस) विशालता का बिल्कुल उल्टा है।

- The correct answer is "voluminous" because it accurately describes a space or layer occupying a massive volume. "Dense" is a strong scientific distractor, as it refers to mass per unit volume, not the sheer size of the layer itself. "Rigid" applies to solid states, which contradicts the explicit mention of a "liquid layer." "Compact" means tightly packed into a small space, meaning the exact opposite.

22. B) **beneath** (के नीचे / गहराई में) सही है। भूविज्ञान (geology) की भाषा में धरती की सतह (surface) से बहुत गहराई में मौजूद चीज़ों को बताने के लिए हमेशा 'beneath' का इस्तेमाल होता है। between (के बीच) के लिए दो चीज़ों का होना ज़रूरी है, जो यहाँ नहीं हैं। within (के भीतर) के साथ 2,800 km जैसी सटीक दूरी (exact distance) का इस्तेमाल वाक्यों की बनावट में सही नहीं बैठता। into (के अंदर) एक जगह से दूसरी जगह जाने वाली गति (motion) को दर्शाता है, जगह को नहीं।

- The correct answer is "beneath" because in geological terminology, it is the standard preposition used to describe profound depth below the earth's surface. "Between" requires two distinct reference points. "Within" lacks the precise directional depth required when a specific distance (2,800 km) is given. "Into" implies active movement or penetration, not a static location.

23. C) **shields** (कवच की तरह रक्षा करना) सही है। विज्ञान के आम उपयोग (standard usage) में, चुंबकीय क्षेत्र (magnetic field) एक ढाल (shield) की तरह धरती की रक्षा करता है। वाक्यों की बनावट (sentence structure) के अनुसार "which" के बाद present tense आना चाहिए। hid (छिपाया) और fought (लड़ा) past tense (बीता हुआ समय) हैं, इसलिए ये व्याकरण के हिसाब से सीधे गलत हो जाते हैं। blocks (रोकना) देखने में सही लग सकता है (confusing option), लेकिन इसके साथ आम तौर पर 'from' नहीं आता (blocks the radiation कहा जाता है, blocks from नहीं), जबकि 'shields' के साथ 'from' का इस्तेमाल बिल्कुल सही है।

- The correct answer is "shields" because in scientific contexts, a magnetic field deflects harmful radiation, functioning exactly like a protective shield. Grammatically, the sentence requires a present tense verb. "Hid" and "fought" are past tense verbs and

therefore structurally incorrect. "Blocks" is a distractor that typically takes a direct object without "from" (e.g., blocks radiation), whereas "shields" pairs perfectly with "from."

24. A) **crawl** (रेंगना / बहुत धीमी गति से खिसकना) सही है। यहाँ 'slow' के साथ 'crawl' का इस्तेमाल बात को असरदार बनाने के लिए (as a metaphor) हुआ है, जो वाक्य में आगे आने वाले शब्द 'surge' (अचानक तेज़ बहाव) का एकदम सटीक विरोधी (contrast) है। drift (बहना) विज्ञान के हिसाब से सही लग सकता है, लेकिन इसमें गति के धीमेपन का वह ज़ोर (emphasis) नहीं है जो 'surge' के साथ तुलना (contrast) बनाने के लिए चाहिए। walk (चलना) और step (कदम) पूरी तरह से इंसानों के लिए इस्तेमाल होने वाले शब्द हैं, तरल पदार्थ (liquid) के लिए नहीं।

- The correct answer is "crawl" because it functions as a metaphor for extremely slow movement, creating a perfect structural contrast with the rapid "surge" mentioned later in the sentence. "Drift" is a plausible scientific term but lacks the strong emphasis on slowness needed to properly contrast with a surge. "Walk" and "step" are literal actions limited to beings with legs, making them absurd for fluid dynamics.

25. D) **link** (संबंध जोड़ना / कड़ी मिलाना) सही है। विज्ञान और शोध (research) में, जब वैज्ञानिक किन्हीं दो घटनाओं के बीच के कारण और असर (cause and effect) को साबित करते हैं, तो उसे हमेशा 'link A to B' कहा जाता है। merge (मिलाकर एक करना), attach (चिपकाना), और bind (बांधना) चीज़ों को सच में पकड़कर या गोंद से जोड़ने के लिए आते हैं, घटनाओं या आंकड़ों (abstract events or data) के लिए नहीं।

- The correct answer is "link" because in research and scientific methodology, establishing a causal connection or correlation between two distinct events is exclusively termed "linking" them. "Merge," "attach," and "bind" are all verbs used for the physical or structural joining of objects, rendering them completely incorrect for abstract data or events.