

## Partial digitisation: on digital service delivery in India

Despite increase in online services, **cumbersome** processes from **analogue era** remain

**Digitising** citizen services **is** a process full of promise and **empowerment**. In India, making processes faceless carries the added benefit of relief from the rent **seeking** that is **rife in** government offices. The more services are available online, the better. It is possible; in December 2024, Estonia **digitised** the last citizen service that only remained possible **on paper**: divorce. **In this light**, **participation** of private firms such as WhatsApp in getting digital services delivered to more people, as in Gujarat, **is** welcome. This being said, the digital service **delivery** in India **has** several issues: a lack of trust towards the citizen, **in spite of** the citizen-centricity **touted** as the reason for their **existence**; **systematic** underinvestment **leading to lapses** in availability and reliability; and **lax** cybersecurity. In many cases involving the most **dysfunctional** online services, the responsibility **lies** with States, such as property records registration and civil acts such as marriage. But even in those where the **remit** lies with the Union government, there are serious issues.

While **lip service is paid to** the importance of securing key cybersecurity **infrastructure**, serious **vulnerabilities** remain. **Security** of data **residing on** public databases **is taken for granted**, and institutions such as the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-in) have failed to **rise to the challenge**. Also, on **myriad** forms online, users are forced to type and submit the same details repeatedly, even though systems such as Digi Locker exist that are **purported** to ease this process. A **shadow** of a “mismatch” can anyway **result**, and few if any processes allow citizens to **cure** defects without **redoing** the entire process — a shocking **lapse** punishing routine variations in names and spellings. **Scant regard is paid to** the accessibility and **intuitive** design, leaving persons with disabilities and **vast swathes** of the population dependent on outside **assistance to go through** a self-service process. Some systems are left **defunct** or **sputtering** years after their launch: take e-Sanad, launched a **decade** ago to help people legalise personal documents while travelling abroad or **emigrating**. Few States have been **on-boarded**, leaving other residents to **deal with** middlemen and **touts** in the pre-verification process that **precedes** the **so-called** Apostille stamp they need on a time-bound schedule. As with this process, the **analogue equivalents** of broken digital services **remain** inaccessible and cumbersome, such as updating details on Aadhaar, which requires visiting a physical office. The **creation** of Digital Public Infrastructure such as UPI and Aadhaar **are** of little use without **reciprocal** trust by the government and a **commitment to uptime** and service quality. **[Practice Exercise]**

- **Scant** (adjective) – not very much; not as much as necessary अत्यल्प (बहुत अधिक नहीं)
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where ‘red’ denotes ‘subject’ and ‘blue’ denotes ‘verb’.

## Vocabulary

1. **Digitise** (verb) - computerize, convert, automate, scan, digitalize अंकीयकरण करना
2. **Cumbersome** (adjective) - burdensome, awkward, heavy, unwieldy, difficult बोझिल
3. **Analogue** (adjective) - conventional, non-digital, traditional, manual, mechanical पारंपरिक
4. **Era** (noun) - period, epoch, age, time, span युग
5. **Digitise** (verb) - automate, computerize, record, process, modernize अंकीयकरण करना
6. **Empowerment** (noun) - authorization, autonomy, accreditation, enablement, emancipation सशक्तिकरण
7. **Seek** (verb) - search, pursue, request, aim, hunt तलाशना या मांगना
8. **Rife** (in) (adjective) - widespread, prevalent, common, abundant, rampant व्याप्त होना
9. **Digitise** (verb) - computerize, convert, automate, scan, digitalize अंकीयकरण करना
10. **On paper** (phrase) - in writing or officially कागजों पर या सैद्धांतिक रूप से
11. **In the light** (phrase) - considering or because of something इस दृष्टिकोण से
12. **In spite of** (phrase) - despite or regardless of something के बावजूद
13. **Tout** (verb) - promote, advertise, acclaim, praise, endorse प्रचार करना
14. **Existence** (noun) - being, presence, reality, life, actuality अस्तित्व
15. **Systematic** (adjective) - organized, methodical, structured, orderly, planned व्यवस्थित
16. **Lead** (verb) - cause, prompt, result in, trigger, induce प्रेरित करना या कारण बनना
17. **Lapse** (noun) - failure, error, slip, mistake, fault चूक
18. **Lax** (adjective) - negligent, careless, slack, remiss, loose लापरवाह
19. **Dysfunctional** (adjective) - broken, faulty, impaired, ineffective, failing अक्रियाशील
20. **Lie** (verb) - belong, rest, reside, exist, be situated निहित होना या स्थित होना
21. **Remit** (noun) - scope, jurisdiction, area, responsibility, authority कार्यक्षेत्र
22. **Pay lip service to** (phrase) - to express support without acting on it केवल मौखिक समर्थन देना
23. **Infrastructure** (noun) - framework, base, foundation, footing, structure बुनियादी ढांचा
24. **Vulnerability** (noun) - weakness, frailty, susceptibility, exposure, fault कमजोरी
25. **Reside** (verb) - live, dwell, inhabit, stay, occupy रहना या स्थित होना
26. **Take for granted** (phrase) - to undervalue, assume as certain महत्व न समझना
27. **Rise to the challenge** (phrase) - to act effectively in a difficult situation चुनौती का सामना करना

28. **Myriad** (adjective) - countless, manifold, numerous, infinite, various असंख्य
29. **Purport** (verb) - claim, allege, profess, pretend, imply दावा करना
30. **Shadow** (noun) - trace, hint, suspicion, suggestion, ghost हल्की झलक या संदेह
31. **Cure** (verb) - rectify, fix, resolve, correct, remedy सुधारना
32. **Redo** (verb) - repeat, remake, replicate, iterate, reconstruct फिर से करना
33. **Lapse** (noun) - error, slip, mistake, fault, omission चूक
34. **Regard** (noun) - attention, care, consideration, heed, concern ध्यान
35. **Intuitive** (adjective) - instinctive, natural, immediate, perceptive, automatic सहज
36. **Vast** (adjective) - huge, immense, extensive, enormous, wide विशाल
37. **Swathe** (noun) - area, section, stretch, region, expanse क्षेत्र
38. **Assistance** (noun) - help, aid, support, backing, relief सहायता
39. **Go through** (phrase) - to experience something  
से गुजरना
40. **Defunct** (adjective) - extinct, obsolete, dead, inactive, non-existent मृत या निष्प्रभावी
41. **Sputter** (verb) - struggle, falter, stumble, crackle, spark लड़खड़ाना
42. **Decade** (noun) - period of ten years दशक
43. **Emigrate** (verb) - relocate, move, migrate, depart, resettle प्रवास करना
44. **On-board** (verb) - induct, integrate, recruit, train, include शामिल करना
45. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) - to handle or manage निपटना
46. **Tout** (noun) - middleman, solicitor, broker, agent, peddler दलाल
47. **Precede** (verb) - lead, head, anticipate, herald, usher पहले आना
48. **So-called** (adjective) - alleged, supposed, reputed, misnamed, purported तथाकथित
49. **Analogue** (adjective) - conventional, non-digital, traditional, manual, mechanical पारंपरिक
50. **Reciprocal** (adjective) - mutual, shared, give-and-take, interchangeable, complementary परस्पर
51. **Commitment** (noun) - dedication, pledge, promise, devotion, obligation प्रतिबद्धता
52. **Uptime** (noun) - availability, operational time, functional period, running time, working capacity चालू रहने का समय

## Summary of the Editorial

1. Digitisation of citizen services in India promises greater convenience, efficiency, and transparency.
2. Online systems reduce face-to-face interactions and can help curb corruption and rent-seeking in government offices.
3. Greater availability of digital services is generally beneficial for citizens.
4. Countries like Estonia have nearly fully digitised public services, setting a global example.
5. Private sector participation, such as WhatsApp-enabled services in Gujarat, can improve accessibility.
6. However, India's digital governance systems continue to face several major shortcomings.
7. Many digital services still reflect bureaucratic mistrust toward citizens despite claims of citizen-centric governance.
8. Government systems often suffer from underinvestment, causing poor reliability and downtime.
9. Cybersecurity vulnerabilities remain serious concerns across public databases and digital platforms.
10. Institutions like Indian Computer Emergency Response Team have not effectively addressed these security challenges.
11. Citizens are repeatedly forced to enter the same information despite systems like DigiLocker existing to simplify processes.
12. Minor mismatches in names or spellings often force users to restart entire application procedures.
13. Accessibility and user-friendly design are poor, especially for persons with disabilities and less digitally literate populations.
14. Some digital platforms, such as e-Sanad, remain dysfunctional years after launch, forcing reliance on middlemen.
15. The editorial concludes that digital public infrastructure like Unified Payments Interface and Aadhaar can succeed only if supported by trust, strong service quality, accessibility, and reliable infrastructure.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following statements is TRUE regarding the challenges of digital service delivery in India as per the passage?** [Editorial Page]
  - A. Digital systems often encounter frequent downtime because of a perceived lack of interest from the technological developers.
  - B. Digital frameworks frequently prioritize procedural rigidity over the practical convenience and the flexibility of the user.
  - C. Oversight bodies often struggle to maintain robust defenses because of the ongoing absence of various centralized databases.
  - D. Fragmented adoption across various regions often occurs because of the limited participation from several private entities.
2. **In the context of the passage, why is the involvement of private entities like WhatsApp in government services considered a positive development?**
  - A. It facilitates a wider reach of digital tools to diverse segments of the population.
  - B. It helps in establishing a more transparent and corruption-free administrative environment.
  - C. It encourages a collaborative approach between the state and technological innovators.
  - D. It streamlines the process of service delivery by utilizing familiar communication channels.
3. **What can be inferred about the author's view on the "mismatch" issues and data entry in digital forms?**
  - A. There is a noticeable tendency to place the burden of technical precision on the individual applicant.
  - B. The lack of flexible editing features suggests a design philosophy that lacks empathy for the common citizen.
  - C. Administrative processes often reflect a deep-seated hesitation to trust the information provided by the user.
  - D. All of the above
4. **Which of the following best summarises the author's concluding argument regarding Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)?**
  - A. The success of digital assets depends on a foundation of mutual trust and reliable service delivery standards.
  - B. Lasting digital progress requires a steady commitment to financial funding and technical system performances.
  - C. Efficient digital governance requires a unified and seamless coordination between state and union authorities.
  - D. Shifting to automated platforms necessitates the strong protection of personal information and cyber security.
5. **In the sentence "A shadow of a "mismatch" can anyway result, and few if any processes allow citizens to cure defects without redoing the entire process...", what does the phrase "cure defects" most likely refer to?**
  - A. Repairing physical damage to community infrastructure
  - B. Resolving minor spelling variations in data entry
  - C. Eliminating structural corruption in regional offices

- D. Overhauling flawed administrative software designs
6. **From the given alternatives, choose the correct meaning of the idiom.**  
The sound of leather on willow.
- A. The sound of lightening
  - B. The sound of hammer on anvil
  - C. The sound of whip on the back of a person
  - D. The sound of the ball on the bat in cricket
7. Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.  
A person who works for free.
- A. Donor
  - B. Volunteer
  - C. Trainee
  - D. Intern
8. **Choose the correctly spelt word from the given options.**
- A. Millennium
  - B. Milleniam
  - C. Mellenium
  - D. Milennium
9. **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: Modern generative AI systems are now capable of producing highly sophisticated, text-heavy images akin to professional documents.
- P: As a prime example of this digital deceit, bad actors can easily fabricate the first page of a completely non-existent research paper.
- Q: Because of this extraordinary precision, their outputs are almost indistinguishable from authentic photographs or scanned originals.
- R: Furthermore, when such fabricated documents are flooded onto social media, users on small mobile screens readily accept them as real.
- S: Consequently, these AI tools have moved beyond simple recreation and now pose a massive threat in the realm of digital deceit.
- S6: This persuasive manipulation is so severe that it threatens the credibility of genuine academic institutions and publishers.
- A. S Q P R
  - B. Q P R S
  - C. P R Q S
  - D. Q S P R
10. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**  
There was criminal negligence \_\_\_\_\_ the part of the drunken driver.
- A. in
  - B. by

- C. on  
D. under
11. **Choose the word that is the antonym of Grant.**  
A. Allow  
B. Refuse  
C. Bestow  
D. Give
12. **Choose the word that is most opposite in meaning to “convince”.**  
A. Persuade  
B. Dissuade  
C. Encourage  
D. Influence
13. **Which of the following options is the most suitable conversion of the following sentence into active voice?**  
How is so much stress handled by her?  
A. How does she handle so much stress?  
B. How do she handle so much stress?  
C. How did she handle so much stress?  
D. How will she handle so much stress?
14. **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.**  
The painters want to be paid immediately on cash and with no questions asked.  
A. The painters want  
B. to be paid immediately  
C. on cash and with  
D. no questions asked.
15. **There are four underlined words in the sentence given below. One of them is misspelt. Choose the option with the misspelt word.**  
International agencies warned that unchecked deforestation in the Amazon could accelerate climate, biodiversity, and ecosystem degradation.  
A. deforestation  
B. accelerate  
C. biodiversity  
D. degradation
16. **From the alternatives given below, select the correct meaning of the idiom.**  
The green-eyed monster.  
A. Anger  
B. Sloth  
C. Pride  
D. Jealousy
17. **A part of the following sentence is underlined. Choose the option that can replace the underlined part to improve the sentence. If you feel Options A, B, or C do not improve the sentence, then choose Option D: “No improvement required.”**

- His discordant voice captivated the audience, drawing them into his every word.
- A. His discordant voice repelled the audience
  - B. His mellifluous voice captivated the audience
  - C. His mellifluous voice repelled the audience
  - D. No improvement required
18. **Choose the correct sentence where the homonym “letter” means a character of the alphabet.**
- A. She wrote a letter to her cousin in Canada.
  - B. The first letter of the word is capitalised.
  - C. He got a warning letter from his employer.
  - D. They followed the law to the letter.
19. **Which of the following options is the most suitable conversion of the following sentence into Passive Voice?**
- They say she writes beautiful poems.
- A. It is said that she writes beautiful poems.
  - B. She is say to write beautiful poems.
  - C. It says she writes beautiful poems.
  - D. She said to writes beautiful poems.
20. **Directions: Given below are four jumbled sentences from a passage. Pick the option that gives their logically correct order.**
- A. To overcome this biological limitation, the research team created virtual endocasts, representing the empty space inside the skull.
  - B. To trace how dog brains evolved over millennia, scientists recently analyzed the skulls of hundreds of modern and prehistoric canine specimens.
  - C. By utilizing the volume of these digital endocasts as a reliable proxy, the scientists were able to accurately track how canine brain size shrank relative to body size.
  - D. However, directly measuring these ancient brains is impossible because the actual soft tissue decomposes rapidly after death.
- A. 4 1 3 2
  - B. 2 4 1 3
  - C. 2 1 4 3
  - D. 1 3 2 4

### Comprehension

Sri Vallabha Pandian was one of the Pandya kings who ruled over Madurai. It was (1) \_\_\_\_ for the king to go round his capital city at night in (2) \_\_\_\_ to have a general idea about any lapses in his administration. One night, when the king went round his capital city, he noticed a man lying on the (3) \_\_\_\_ of a house. He didn't look like a citizen of the Pandya kingdom. The man told the king that he was from Kasi and was on his way to Rameswaram. (4) \_\_\_\_ the man was a scholar, the king asked him to give some advice, but in just a few words. The man said, "Since it rains for four months, work hard during the remaining eight months.. Save for your old age when you are young. Do what you must now for liberation."

The king asked his spiritual adviser Selva Nambi what the man's words meant, said V.S. Karunakarachariar in a discourse. Selva Nambi suggested that a prize be announced to anyone who could satisfactorily answer the king's questions. A bag of gold coins was tied to a pole. If

the bag (5)\_\_\_\_\_ from the pole when a person finished his arguments, then he was to be considered the one who had given the right answer. Vishnuchitta in Srivilliputtur was serving Lord Vatapatrasayee by making garlands for him. When the people of his town urged him to go and win the gold, he hesitated. But the Lord appeared in his dream and ordered him to go to the Pandya court. When Vishnuchitta spoke in the Pandya court, the Vedas themselves asked him to quote them. He even argued on the basis of that which he had not studied, because the Lord was with him. Through convincing arguments, Vishnuchitta established that the only One who could grant moksha was Lord Narayana. When he did this, the bag of gold dropped down. Vishnuchitta was honoured by the king and came to be known as Periyazhvar.

21. **What should come in the place of blank number (1)?**
  - A. mandatory
  - B. imperative
  - C. customary
  - D. incumbent
22. **What should come in the place of blank number (2)?**
  - A. camouflage
  - B. disguise
  - C. obscurity
  - D. concealment
23. **What should come in the place of blank number (3)?**
  - A. threshold
  - B. vestibule
  - C. precinct
  - D. pyol
24. **What should come in the place of blank number (4)?**
  - A. Since
  - B. Although
  - C. Unless
  - D. Wherein
25. **What should come in the place of blank number (5)?**
  - A. plummet
  - B. descended
  - C. dropped
  - D. dangle

## Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

## Explanations

1. B) **Digital frameworks frequently prioritize procedural rigidity over the practical convenience and the flexibility of the user.**

(Line from the passage): "...few if any processes allow citizens to cure defects without redoing the entire process — a shocking lapse punishing routine variations in names and spellings." The passage emphasizes that when minor discrepancies (like a name misspelling) occur, the system forces users to redo everything rather than offering a flexible way to fix it. This directly points to an ongoing systemic issue of prioritizing rigid procedures over user convenience and flexibility.

Option A: The passage attributes lapses in reliability and system availability to "systematic underinvestment" rather than a lack of interest from the technology developers themselves.

Option C: The passage implies that public databases already exist, but security agencies have failed to protect them because they take data safety for granted, not because centralized databases are missing.

Option D: The slow and fragmented expansion highlighted in the passage (like the e-Sanad platform) is due to a lack of regional state onboarding by governments, not because private companies have limited participation.

2. A) **It facilitates a wider reach of digital tools to diverse segments of the population.**

(Line from the passage): "In this light, participation of private firms such as WhatsApp in getting digital services delivered to more people, as in Gujarat, is welcome." The passage explicitly states that the involvement of private entities like WhatsApp is welcome because it helps get digital services delivered to "more people." Option A captures this idea perfectly by noting that it facilitates a "wider reach" to "diverse segments of the population."

B (Incorrect): While the passage mentions "relief from rent-seeking" (transparency), it attributes this to the "faceless" nature of digitisation in general, not specifically to WhatsApp.

C (Incorrect): While the state and a private firm are working together in Gujarat, the author praises this partnership specifically because it expands service delivery to a larger audience, not because of the abstract value of encouraging "collaboration with innovators."

D (Incorrect): The passage mentions WhatsApp merely as an example of a private firm expanding service delivery. It never mentions or analyzes its nature as a "familiar communication channel" or states that familiarity is why it is beneficial.

3. C) **Administrative processes often reflect a deep-seated hesitation to trust the information provided by the user.**

(Line from the passage): "...the digital service delivery in India has several issues: a lack of trust towards the citizen, in spite of the citizen-centricity touted as the reason for their existence..." The passage explicitly connects the systemic issues in form submissions and digital delivery to a fundamental "lack of trust towards the citizen." This directly supports the understanding that administrative processes reflect a deep-seated hesitation to trust user-provided information.

Option A: The author critiques the system's structural flaws and repeated entry requirements, but does not argue that requiring accuracy or technical precision itself is an unfair burden placed on the citizen.

Option B: The passage connects a poor design philosophy directly to a lack of "accessibility and intuitive design" for disabled populations and those needing assistance, rather than framing the mismatch issue as a broader lack of empathy.

4. A) **The success of digital assets depends on a foundation of mutual trust and reliable service delivery standards.**

(Line from the passage): "The creation of Digital Public Infrastructure such as UPI and Aadhaar are of little use without reciprocal trust by the government and a commitment to uptime and service quality." The very last sentence of the passage functions as the author's concluding argument. It directly states that DPI ("digital assets" like UPI and Aadhaar) cannot succeed or be useful without "reciprocal trust" (mutual trust) and a commitment to "uptime and service quality" (reliable service delivery standards).

Option B: While the author complains about underinvestment earlier in the passage, this is a specific grievance raised in the body of the passage regarding current failures, not the core conceptual takeaway of the author's concluding argument about DPI.

Option C: The passage highlights that both state and union levels have separate, serious issues, but it never offers "unified and seamless coordination" between the two as the ultimate concluding solution or argument for DPI.

Option D: Cybersecurity and data protection are major problems highlighted in the middle of the passage, but they do not form the specific dual criteria (trust and uptime) that the author chooses to close the argument with.

5. B) **Resolving minor spelling variations in data entry**

(Line from passage): "...few if any processes allow citizens to cure defects without redoing the entire process — a shocking lapse punishing routine variations in names and spellings." In this context, "curing defects" means fixing or correcting minor discrepancies, specifically the "routine variations in names and spellings" mentioned right after.

6. D) **The sound of leather on willow** (idiom) – The sound of the ball hitting the bat in cricket क्रिकेट में गेंद के बल्ले से टकराने की आवाज़

7. B) **Volunteer** (noun) – A person who works without payment स्वेच्छा से बिना वेतन काम करने वाला

- **Donor** (noun) – A person who gives something, especially money or blood दाता
- **Trainee** (noun) – A person undergoing training प्रशिक्षु
- **Intern** (noun) – A student or trainee working for experience (sometimes paid/unpaid) इंटर्न

8. A) The correct spelling of 'Milleniam / Mellenium / Millennium' is 'Millennium', which means "a period of one thousand years" सहस्राब्दी, हजार वर्षों की अवधि।

9. D) **Q S P R**

Sentence Q, पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत (S1 के तुरंत बाद) में आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "this extraordinary precision" (यह असाधारण सटीकता) शब्द सीधे तौर पर S1 में दिए गए 'highly sophisticated' (अत्यधिक परिष्कृत) इमेजेज की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह "factual ground" तैयार करता है कि इस सटीकता के कारण AI की तस्वीरें असली तस्वीरों (authentic photographs) से बिल्कुल अलग नहीं लगतीं।

Sentence S, Sentence Q के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह Q में बताई गई स्थिति का परिणाम (Consequently) पेश करता है। तस्वीरें इतनी असली लगती हैं कि अब यह केवल मनोरंजन (recreation) का साधन नहीं रहा, बल्कि यह 'digital deceit' (डिजिटल धोखाधड़ी) के क्षेत्र में एक बड़ा खतरा बन गया है।

Sentence P, Sentence S के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "this digital deceit" (यह डिजिटल धोखाधड़ी) शब्द सीधे तौर पर S में पेश किए गए 'digital deceit' की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह एक अनिवार्य लिंक (mandatory pair) बनाता है जो बताता है कि इस धोखाधड़ी का एक प्रमुख उदाहरण (prime example) नकली रिसर्च पेपर (fabricate a research paper) बनाना है।

Sentence R, Sentence P के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "such fabricated documents" (ऐसे मनगढ़ंत दस्तावेज़) शब्द सीधे तौर पर P में बताए गए नकली रिसर्च पेपर (non-existent research paper) की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह पूरे scenario को एक "conclusion" (S6 से पहले) की ओर ले जाता है, यह बताते हुए कि कैसे लोग सोशल मीडिया पर इन्हें सच मान लेते हैं, जो अंततः S6 में बताई गई शैक्षणिक संस्थानों की विश्वसनीयता (credibility) पर खतरे के तार्किक प्रवाह को पूरा करता है।

- Sentence Q comes at the beginning (after S1) because the phrase "this extraordinary precision" creates a mandatory link pointing directly back to the 'highly sophisticated' image generation mentioned in S1. It establishes the factual ground that because of this precision, AI outputs are indistinguishable from reality.
- Sentence S follows Q because it provides the logical consequence ("Consequently") of the indistinguishable nature of the images described in Q. It states that these tools have crossed from recreation into the dangerous territory of 'digital deceit'.
- Sentence P follows S because the phrase "this digital deceit" creates an unbreakable mandatory link pointing directly back to the concept of 'digital deceit' introduced at the end of S. It provides a concrete example of this deceit: fabricating a non-existent research paper.
- Sentence R follows P as the conclusion (leading into S6). It uses the phrase "such fabricated documents" to refer directly back to the fabricated research paper mentioned in P. It explains how easily users are fooled by these documents on social media, which seamlessly bridges into the final outcome in S6 regarding the threat to institutional credibility.

10. C) **on'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि अंग्रेज़ी में निश्चित phrase "on the part of" का उपयोग किया जाता है, जिसका अर्थ होता है "की ओर से" या "के द्वारा की गई जिम्मेदारी/गलती"। यहाँ sentence में drunken driver की तरफ से की गई negligence (लापरवाही) को दर्शाया जा रहा है। इसलिए, "on the part of" सबसे उपयुक्त प्रयोग है।

- 'on' should be used because the fixed expression "on the part of" is used in English to indicate responsibility or fault by someone. In this sentence, it shows negligence committed by the drunken driver. Thus, "on" is the most appropriate choice.

11. B) **Grant** (verb) – Give, allow, bestow, permit, award देना / अनुमति देना

Antonym: **Refuse** (verb) – Deny, reject, decline, withhold मना करना / अस्वीकार करना

- **Allow** (verb) – Grant, permit, let अनुमति देना
- **Bestow** (verb) – Grant, give, confer प्रदान करना
- **Give** (verb) – Grant, provide, offer देना

12. B) **Convince** (verb) – Persuade, influence, assure, win over, satisfy (someone) मनाना

Antonym: **Dissuade** (verb) – Discourage, deter, prevent, advise against, hinder हतोत्साहित करना / मना करना

- **Persuade** (verb) – Convince, influence, induce मनाना
- **Encourage** (verb) – Support, motivate, inspire प्रोत्साहित करना
- **Influence** (verb) – Affect, sway, persuade प्रभावित करना

13. A) **How does she handle so much stress?**

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। Interrogative sentence में helping verb पहले आता है और tense वही रखा जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में "so much stress" Passive Subject है, "is handled" Verb (Simple Present Passive) है और "by her" agent है। Active में बदलने पर "she" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "does handle" (Simple Present Interrogative) में बदला गया है और "so much stress" Object के रूप में प्रयोग हुआ है। इसलिए सही वाक्य होगा — "How does she handle so much stress?"

- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the agent becomes the subject and the passive subject becomes the object, while maintaining the same tense and interrogative structure. Here, "so much stress" (Passive Subject), "is handled" (Simple Present Passive), and "by her" (agent) are transformed into "she" (Subject), "does handle" (Active Verb in Simple Present Interrogative), and "so much stress" (Object). Therefore, the correct sentence is — "How does she handle so much stress?"

14. C) 'on cash' के बदले **'in cash'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि सही preposition cash के साथ in होती है, न कि on।

- 'in cash and with no questions asked' will be used instead of 'on cash and with' because the correct phrase is "in cash", not "on cash".

15. A) The correct spelling of 'deforrestation' is **'deforestation'**, which means "the clearing or cutting down of forests" वनों की कटाई, जंगलों का नाश।

16. D) The green-eyed monster (idiom) – Jealousy ईर्ष्या

17. B) His mellifluous voice captivated the audience

'discordant voice' के बदले 'mellifluous voice' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि discordant का अर्थ कर्कश/अप्रिय ध्वनि होता है, जो "captivated the audience" के साथ मेल नहीं खाता, जबकि mellifluous का अर्थ मधुर होता है, जो सही अर्थ देता है।

- 'His mellifluous voice captivated the audience' will be used instead of 'His discordant voice captivated the audience' because "discordant" (harsh sound) contradicts the idea of "captivated", whereas "mellifluous" (pleasant sound) fits the context correctly.

18. B) **The first letter of the word is capitalised.**

अंग्रेजी में "letter" शब्द के दो मतलब होते हैं: एक होता है "पत्र" (जो हम डाक से भेजते हैं) और दूसरा होता है "अक्षर" (जैसे A, B, C)। प्रश्न में "alphabet" यानी "अक्षर" वाला मतलब पूछा गया है। विकल्प 2 में "capitalised" (बड़ा अक्षर बनाना) शब्द का इस्तेमाल हुआ है, जिससे पता चलता है कि यहाँ "letter" का मतलब वर्णमाला का अक्षर है। इसलिए सही वाक्य है — "The first letter of the word is capitalised."

- In simple terms, "letter" can mean a "mail" or a "symbol of the alphabet." The question asks for the "alphabet" meaning. Option 2 uses the word "capitalised," which refers to making an alphabet character big (Uppercase). This confirms that "letter" here means a

character like A or B. Therefore, the correct sentence is — "The first letter of the word is capitalised."

19. A) **It is said that she writes beautiful poems.**

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, कभी-कभी Impersonal Passive structure का प्रयोग किया जाता है, जहाँ "They say" को "It is said" में बदला जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में "They" Subject है, "say" Verb (Simple Present) है और "she writes beautiful poems" clause है। Passive में बदलने पर "It is said" structure का प्रयोग होता है और बाकी clause same रहता है। इसलिए सही वाक्य होगा — "It is said that she writes beautiful poems."

To change such sentences into Passive Voice, an impersonal construction is often used where "They say" becomes "It is said." Here, "They" (Subject), "say" (Verb), and the clause "she writes beautiful poems" are transformed into "It is said that she writes beautiful poems." Therefore, the correct sentence is — "It is said that she writes beautiful poems."

20. B) **2 4 1 3**

Sentence 2, पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत में आएगा क्योंकि यह उस "factual ground" को तैयार करता है जो मुख्य विषय को पेश करता है: कुत्तों के दिमाग के विकास (evolution) का पता लगाने के लिए वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा आधुनिक और प्रागैतिहासिक खोपड़ियों (skulls) का विश्लेषण करना। यह एकमात्र पूरी तरह से स्वतंत्र वाक्य है।

Sentence 4, Sentence 2 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "these ancient brains" (ये प्राचीन दिमाग) शब्द सीधे तौर पर 2 में दिए गए 'prehistoric canine specimens' के दिमाग की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह एक अनिवार्य लिंक बनाता है जो बताता है कि इन पुराने दिमागों को सीधे मापना असंभव है क्योंकि मृत्यु के बाद वे जल्दी नष्ट (decompose) हो जाते हैं।

Sentence 1, Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें मौजूद "this biological limitation" (यह जैविक सीमा) शब्द सीधे तौर पर 4 में बताई गई 'दिमाग के नष्ट हो जाने' वाली समस्या की ओर इशारा करते हैं। यह स्पष्ट करता है कि इसी समस्या से निपटने के लिए वैज्ञानिकों ने खोपड़ी के अंदर के खाली स्थान का 'virtual endocast' बनाया।

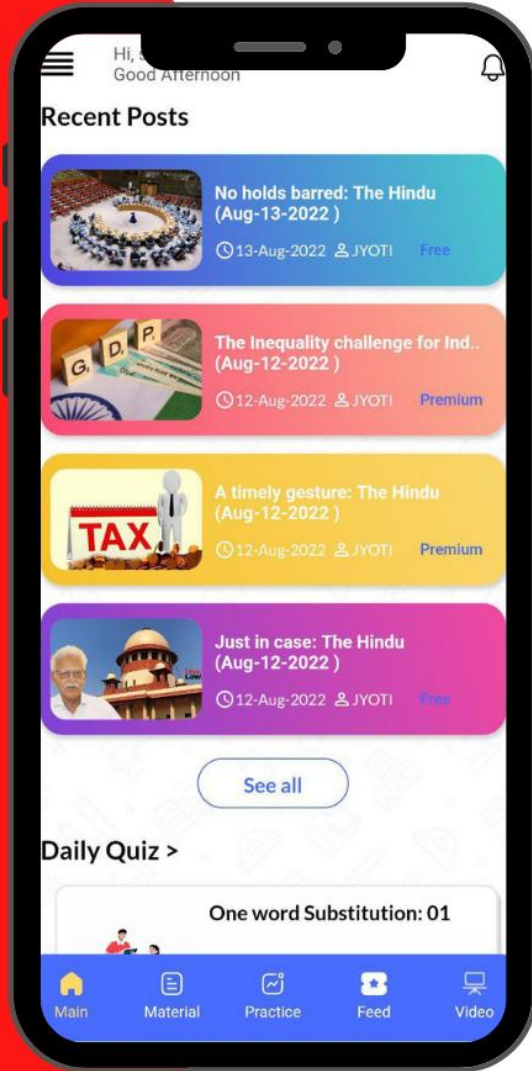
Sentence 3, Sentence 1 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह पूरे scenario को एक "conclusion" की ओर ले जाता है। इसमें "these digital endocasts" का जिक्र है जो सीधे तौर पर 1 में बनाए गए 'virtual endocasts' से जुड़ता है, और यह बताकर तार्किक प्रवाह को पूरा करता है कि इसके आयतन (volume) का उपयोग करके वैज्ञानिकों ने सफलतापूर्वक पता लगा लिया कि कुत्तों का दिमाग कैसे सिकुड़ा।

- Sentence 2 comes at the beginning because it establishes the factual ground by introducing the primary action: scientists analyzing modern and prehistoric skulls to trace how dog brains evolved. It is the only fully independent sentence.
- Sentence 4 follows 2 because the phrase "these ancient brains" creates a mandatory link pointing directly back to the brains of the 'prehistoric canine specimens' introduced in 2. It introduces the problem that the actual brain tissue decomposes rapidly and cannot be directly measured.
- Sentence 1 follows 4 as it uses the phrase "this biological limitation" to create a mandatory link pointing directly to the rapid decomposition problem mentioned in 4. It explains the solution to this problem: creating virtual endocasts of the empty space inside the skull.
- Sentence 3 follows 1 as the conclusion. It uses the phrase "these digital endocasts" to create a mandatory link directly to the 'virtual endocasts' mentioned in 1, completing

the logical flow by explaining how this proxy allowed scientists to finally track the shrinkage of the canine brain.

21. C) **customary** (रिवाज़ या आम आदत) सही है। पैसेज में राजा अपनी मर्जी से शहर का हाल जानने के लिए रात में घूमता था, यह उसकी खुद की आदत या रिवाज़ था। mandatory, imperative, और incumbent तीनों का मतलब होता है 'कानूनी तौर पर बहुत ज़रूरी या मज़बूरी'। राजा पर रात में घूमने का कोई कानूनी दबाव या मज़बूरी नहीं थी, यह सिर्फ उसका अपना तरीका था।
- The correct answer is "customary" because it refers to a traditional or usual practice done by choice. "Mandatory," "imperative," and "incumbent" all imply a strict legal or binding obligation, which does not fit a king's personal, voluntary routine to check on his administration.
22. B) **disguise** (भेष बदलना) सही है। अंग्रेज़ी में जब कोई इंसान कपड़े या रूप बदलकर अपनी पहचान छिपाता है, तो उसके लिए हमेशा "in disguise" कहावत का ही इस्तेमाल होता है। camouflage फौजियों या जानवरों के लिए आता है जो जंगल या ज़मीन के रंग में छिपते हैं। obscurity का मतलब गुमनामी होता है (जिसे कोई जानता न हो), और concealment का मतलब किसी सामान को छिपाकर रखना होता है।
- The correct answer is "disguise" because "in disguise" is the exact standard English collocation for altering one's appearance to hide one's identity. "Camouflage" refers to blending into the environment (usually military or wildlife). "Obscurity" means being unknown, and "concealment" simply means hiding an object away from sight.
23. D) **pyol** (घर के बाहर बना चबूतरा) सही है। पैसेज मदुरै (Madurai) का है, और दक्षिण भारत के घरों के बाहर बैठने या सोने के लिए जो चबूतरा बना होता है, उसे अंग्रेज़ी में 'pyol' कहते हैं। आदमी उसी पर लेटा हुआ था। threshold सिर्फ दरवाज़े की चौखट होती है (वहाँ कोई सो नहीं सकता)। vestibule घर के अंदर का छोटा कमरा या रास्ता होता है, और precinct किसी इमारत के आस-पास का पूरा इलाका होता है।
- The correct answer is "pyol" because it specifically refers to the raised seating platform outside traditional South Indian houses, perfectly fitting the Madurai setting where a traveler would rest. "Threshold" is merely a doorway, "vestibule" is an enclosed entrance hall, and "precinct" refers to a general boundary or area around a building.
24. A) **Since** (चूंकि / क्योंकि) सही है। वाक्य में साफ तौर पर कारण बताया गया है: 'चूंकि वह आदमी एक ज्ञानी था, इसलिए राजा ने उससे सलाह मांगी।' Although (हालांकि) का इस्तेमाल तब होता है जब बात उल्टी हो (जैसे: हालांकि वह ज्ञानी था, फिर भी राजा ने सलाह नहीं मांगी)। Unless (जब तक कि) एक शर्त लगाता है, और Wherein (जिसमें) यहाँ अर्थ के हिसाब से बिल्कुल गलत है।
- The correct answer is "Since" because it establishes a clear cause-and-effect relationship (Because he was a scholar, the king asked for advice). "Although" introduces a contrast, "Unless" introduces a condition, and "Wherein" means "in which," none of which fit the logical, reason-based flow of the sentence.
25. C) **dropped** (नीचे गिर जाना) सही है। सोने के सिक्कों की थैली चमत्कार से बस खंभे से सीधे नीचे गिर गई (पैसेज के अंत में भी 'dropped down' लिखा है)। plummet का मतलब होता है बहुत ज़्यादा ऊंचाई से भयानक स्पीड में नीचे गिरना (जैसे आसमान या पहाड़ से गिरना), जो खंभे से बंधी एक छोटी थैली के लिए बहुत भारी और अजीब शब्द है। descended का मतलब है धीरे-धीरे या किसी कंट्रोल के साथ नीचे आना (जैसे लिफ्ट का आना या सीढ़ियों से उतरना), और dangle का मतलब है हवा में झूलते या लटकते रहना (गिरना नहीं)।
- The correct answer is "dropped" because it simply and accurately describes the bag falling freely from the pole as a divine sign. "Plummet" is too extreme and used for

falling at high speeds from great heights. "Descended" implies a slow, controlled downward movement, and "dangle" means to just hang loosely and swing without falling at all.



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