

Downing streak: On the Starmer resignation, British politics

Labour needs a **progressive** makeover to survive the **far-right onslaught**

Keir Starmer entered Downing Street in July 2024 with a **landslide victory**. Ending 14 years of Conservative rule, **marked** by Brexit and the **chaos** that followed, he promised to build a government for all and bridge the widening **trust deficit** between the public and the political elite. Less than two years later, the former **lawyer** who **took pride in** taking Labour back to the political centre after the brief left-wing **interlude** of Jeremy Corbyn, **has** resigned amid **mounting** public **discontent** and growing revolt within the Labour party. Mr. Starmer rode an anti-Tory wave but soon found the public turning against him over his **lapses** in judgment and slow economic progress. His **uncharismatic, technocratic centrism** failed to **withstand** the **rapid** changes shaping British politics at a time when far-right parties were **surging** across continental Europe. **The tide began to turn** after **revelations** that Peter Mandelson, Mr. Starmer's **choice** as Britain's Ambassador to Washington, **had** links to the late **convicted paedophile** Jeffrey Epstein. Pressure **mounted** after Labour lost local elections in England and polls in Wales and Scotland. When **Andy Burnham**, Labour's 'King in the North', **won** the Makerfield byelection and returned to Westminster, Mr. Starmer's **fate was sealed**, and he resigned on June 22.

Under Mr. Starmer, the U.K. saw **modest** improvements in key economic indicators. Its economy began growing faster than those of its G-7 peers, while **inflation** remained broadly under control despite conflicts in Europe and Asia. New laws **strengthened** workers rights, and **statutory** minimum wage rates were raised. Yet, these **incremental** gains were insufficient to satisfy an **electorate** that had given Labour a commanding **mandate**. Mr. Starmer proved largely **ineffective** in **addressing** the economic **anxieties** of the working-class communities that delivered his majority, or the cultural **grievances** Reform UK had been **amplifying**. Labour MPs started turning against him, making it difficult for him to continue in office. **Mr. Burnham**, who belongs to the soft left **camp** of Labour, **is** expected to be elected as the party's new leader and the next Prime Minister — and at a moment when the old **bipolar consensus** of British politics is **breaking down**. Reform is no longer a **fringe** force. With the **conservatives**, Britain's traditional vehicle of the right, in deep decline, Reform is emerging as the second pole. Mr. Burnham should recognise that the Starmerite **centrism** is **unlikely** to **withstand** the onslaught of a far-right cultural politics entrenched in English **nationalism**. He must unite a **fractious** party around a progressive economic and foreign policy **agenda** and build a government that works for all while standing firmly on the right side of global issues. If Labour fails to reconnect with its **core** values and social base, it risks losing even the constituencies that have long **sustained** it.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Downing streak** (noun) - a reference to a period of political turbulence or loss at Downing Street (the PM's residence)
प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय की राजनीतिक उथल-पुथल
2. **Progressive** (adjective) - forward-looking, reformist, liberal, radical, advancing
प्रगतिशील
3. **Far-right** (adjective) - extremist, radical right-wing, ultranationalist, reactionary
सुदूर दक्षिणपंथी
4. **Onslaught** (noun) - attack, assault, offensive, barrage, invasion
आक्रमण/प्रहार
5. **Landslide victory** (noun) - an overwhelming win in an election
भारी जीत
6. **Mark** (verb) - characterize, define, distinguish, signify, represent
चिह्नित करना
7. **Chaos** (noun) - disorder, confusion, mayhem, turmoil, bedlam
अराजकता/उथल-पुथल
8. **Trust deficit** (noun) - a lack of confidence or faith between people and institutions
विश्वास की कमी
9. **Take pride in** (phrase) - to be proud of someone or something
गर्व करना
10. **Interlude** (noun) - interval, break, pause, gap, intermission
अंतराल/मध्यकाल
11. **Mounting** (adjective) - increasing, growing, rising, escalating, accumulating
बढ़ता हुआ
12. **Discontent** (noun) - dissatisfaction, unhappiness, resentment, frustration, grievance
असंतोष
13. **Lapse** (noun) - error, mistake, failure, slip, omission
चूक/गलती
14. **Uncharismatic** (adjective) - dull, unappealing, colorless, lackluster, boring
प्रभावहीन
15. **Technocratic** (adjective) - bureaucratic, expert-led, systematic, administrative, clinical
तकनीकी-प्रशासनिक
16. **Centrism** (noun) - middle-of-the-road politics, moderate ideology, neutralism
मध्यमार्गी राजनीति
17. **Withstand** (verb) - resist, endure, survive, withstand, oppose
सामना करना/टिकना
18. **Rapid** (adjective) - quick, fast, swift, speedy, accelerated
तेज
19. **Surge** (verb) - rise, increase, swell, escalate, grow
बढ़ना/उछाल आना
20. **The tide began to turn** (phrase) - the situation started to change
स्थिति बदलने लगी
21. **Revelation** (noun) - disclosure, announcement, discovery, exposure, insight
खुलासा
22. **Convicted** (adjective) - found guilty, sentenced, condemned, criminal
दोषी ठहराया गया
23. **Paedophile** (noun) - child abuser, child molester
बाल अपराधी

24. **Mount** (verb) - increase, rise, grow, escalate, build up बढ़ना
25. **Fate sealed** (phrase) - outcome determined; future decided भाग्य का फैसला होना
26. **Modest** (adjective) - moderate, small, limited, humble, unassuming मामूली
27. **Inflation** (noun) - a sustained increase in the general prices of goods and services over time, reducing the purchasing power of money मुद्रास्फीति/महंगाई
28. **Strengthen** (verb) - reinforce, bolster, fortify, consolidate, support मजबूत करना
29. **Statutory** (adjective) - legal, official, mandated, required, lawful कानूनी/वैधानिक
30. **Incremental** (adjective) - gradual, step-by-step, progressive, slight, small क्रमिक
31. **Electorate** (noun) - the total number of people who are eligible to vote in an election. मतदाता
32. **Mandate** (noun) - authority, order, command, instruction, approval अधिकार/जनादेश
33. **Ineffective** (adjective) - unsuccessful, inefficient, futile, powerless, incompetent अप्रभावी
34. **Address** (verb) - deal with, handle, tackle, resolve, manage समाधान करना
35. **Anxiety** (noun) - worry, concern, fear, nervousness, unease चिंता
36. **Grievance** (noun) - complaint, injustice, protest, dissatisfaction, objection शिकायत
37. **Amplify** (verb) - increase, expand, boost, magnify, intensify बढ़ाना
38. **Camp** (noun) - group, faction, side, division, sector गुट
39. **Bipolar consensus** (noun) - agreement between two dominant political poles दौ-ध्रुवीय सहमति
40. **Break down** (phrasal verb) - to collapse, fail, or disintegrate टूट जाना/विफल होना
41. **Fringe** (adjective) - marginal, peripheral, extreme, minority, radical सीमांत
42. **Conservative** (noun) - right-wing political supporter, traditionalist दक्षिणपंथी/रूढ़िवादी
43. **Centrism** (noun) - moderate political position मध्यमार्ग
44. **Unlikely** (adjective) - improbable, doubtful, questionable, implausible संभावना कम होना
45. **Withstand** (verb) - resist, face, endure सामना करना
46. **Nationalism** (noun) - patriotism, loyalty to nation, xenocentrism, chauvinism राष्ट्रवाद
47. **Fractious** (adjective) - irritable, quarrelsome, divided, unruly, turbulent विभाजित/कलहपूर्ण
48. **Agenda** (noun) - plan, program, schedule, strategy, list of aims कार्यसूची
49. **Core** (noun) - heart, essence, center, base, foundation मूल

50. **Sustain** (verb) - support, maintain, uphold,

provide for, nourish बनाए रखना

Summary of the Editorial

1. Keir Starmer came to power in July 2024 with a landslide victory, ending 14 years of Conservative rule.
2. His government promised to rebuild trust between citizens and political institutions after the turbulence of Brexit and its aftermath.
3. Less than two years later, Starmer resigned due to growing public dissatisfaction and internal resistance within the Labour Party.
4. Starmer had repositioned Labour toward the political centre after the left-oriented phase under Jeremy Corbyn.
5. However, his centrist and technocratic style struggled to respond to rapidly changing political realities in Britain.
6. Public criticism intensified over perceived policy lapses and slower-than-expected economic improvements.
7. Controversy increased after allegations linking Peter Mandelson to the late Jeffrey Epstein, creating political embarrassment.
8. Labour's poor performance in local elections across England, Wales, and Scotland weakened Starmer's position further.
9. The electoral success of Andy Burnham strengthened internal demands for leadership change.
10. Although the UK economy recorded some improvements, including stronger growth among G-7 economies and controlled inflation, voters remained unconvinced.
11. Labour also introduced measures such as stronger workers' rights and increases in statutory minimum wages.
12. These economic gains failed to address the deeper concerns of working-class communities that had supported Labour.
13. The editorial argues that [Reform UK](#) has moved from being a fringe force to becoming a significant political challenger as conservative politics weakened.
14. Andy Burnham is expected to push Labour toward a more progressive economic and foreign policy agenda.
15. The editorial concludes that Labour must reconnect with its traditional social base and core values if it wants to withstand the rise of far-right politics and remain electorally relevant.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following statements will contradict the above statement?** [Editorial Page]
 - a. Under Starmer, the UK economy grew faster than its G-7 peers and kept inflation broadly under control.
 - b. Starmer's resignation was sealed by political triggers, namely the return of Andy Burnham to Westminster and growing internal Labour party revolts.
 - A. Only a
 - B. Only b
 - C. both a and b
 - D. Neither a nor b
2. **Which of the following best describes one of the main ideas discussed in the passage?**
 - A. Political leaders who prioritize legal and technocratic processes inevitably face personal corruption scandals.
 - B. Incremental macroeconomic progress is insufficient to sustain a political mandate in the face of rising populist
 - C. The traditional bipolar structure of British politics is successfully adapting to incorporate fringe parties like Reform UK.
 - D. Left-wing economic interludes are structurally incapable of winning local elections in northern England, Wales, and Scotland.
3. **According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?**
 - A. Under Starmer, British economic growth outpaced that of other G-7 nations
 - B. The Conservative party remains the dominant right-wing force in the country
 - C. The local election defeats in Wales and Scotland forced Starmer to resign
 - D. Andy Burnham has officially taken over as the new British Prime Minister
4. **The sentence in the second paragraph, "Reform is no longer a fringe force", implies that:**
 - A. the political party has successfully replaced the Conservatives to establish a new stable right-wing governance
 - B. structural changes in English nationalism have pushed a formerly minor party into a primary position of power
 - C. Reform UK has compromised on its right-wing agenda to comfortably appeal to the soft-left base of Labour
 - D. the traditional two-party dynamic is thriving by seamlessly absorbing the electoral platform of Reform UK
5. **In the sentence from the second paragraph: "Mr. Starmer proved largely ineffective in addressing the economic anxieties of the working-class communities that delivered his majority, or the cultural grievances Reform UK had been amplifying,"**
what is the tense of the verb "had been amplifying"?
 - A. Past continuous
 - B. Past perfect
 - C. Past perfect continuous
 - D. Present perfect continuous
6. **Rearrange the following sentences to form a meaningful passage:**
 - i. This growing sense of danger stems from recent volatile attacks on shipping vessels in West Asia.

- ii. Young aspirants entered the merchant navy attracted by high salaries and global travel opportunities.
 - iii. Despite these growing safety concerns, most trainees remain mentally prepared and refuse to retreat from their career choice.
 - iv. However, the profession is now increasingly associated in public discourse with risk and danger.
 - A. 2-4-1-3
 - B. 2-1-4-3
 - C. 4-2-1-3
 - D. 2-4-3-1
7. **Rearrange the following sentences to form a meaningful passage:**
- 1. This newly identified hybrid is highly resilient against the rising temperatures and erratic rainfall caused by climate change.
 - 2. Furthermore, it offers farmers a better yield and more efficient post-harvest processing than traditional varieties.
 - 3. While Arabica and Robusta dominate global production, a new hybrid called Libex could be the future of coffee.
 - 4. Early tastings of this resilient crop reveal a delicious, balanced cup with tropical fruit and chocolate notes.
- A. 3-1-4-2
 - B. 3-4-1-2
 - C. 1-3-4-2
 - D. 3-1-2-4
8. **Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error.**
- The book, B. which you recommended C. was interesting and D. an easily read
- A. The book,
 - B. which you recommended,
 - C. was interesting and
 - D. an easily read.
9. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate conjunction:**
- He neither attended the seminar _____ submitted his report on time.
- A. but also
 - B. or
 - C. nor
 - D. and
10. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word: Idiosyncrasy**
- A. Commonality
 - B. Normality
 - C. Peculiarity
 - D. Conformity
11. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate idiom:**
- The politician's speech was full of vague promises but ultimately it was just _____.
- A. pulling strings

- B. a red herring
C. smoke and mirrors
D. The last straw
12. **Which of the following sentences uses the word "wave" with the same meaning as in the following sentence?**
"She gave a friendly wave to her neighbor."
A. The dog loved to chase the waves on the beach.
B. The crowd gave a slow wave as the parade passed by.
C. The storm created huge waves.
D. The ocean waves crashed against the shore.
13. **Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: Whatever floats your boat**
A. Something that is impossible
B. Something that is easy to do
C. Something that is universally accepted
D. Something that makes you happy
14. **Choose the correctly spelt word:**
A. Personnel
B. Personel
C. Personeel
D. Persnell
15. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**
A person who loves and collects stamps
A. Philatelist
B. Numismatist
C. Bibliophile
D. Collector
16. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Serene**
A. Chaotic
B. Calm
C. Peaceful
D. Tranquil
17. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Sagacious**
A. Wise
B. Foolish
C. Prudent
D. Shrewd
18. **Change the following sentence into the Active form.**
Let the documents be submitted to the head of the department by the end of the week.
A. You should submit the documents to the head of the department by the end of the week.
B. Submit the documents to the head of the department by the end of the week.
C. The documents will be submitted to the head of the department by the end of the week.
D. Let the head of the department submit the documents by the end of the week.
19. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in indirect voice.**

The librarian told the child, "You should not be making so much noise, because the other students have been trying to study for their exams."

- A. The librarian told the child that he should not be making so much noise, because the other students had been trying to study for their exams.
- B. The librarian told the child that he should not have been making so much noise, because the other students have been trying to study for their exams.
- C. The librarian told the child that he would not be making so much noise, because the other students had been trying to study for their exams.
- D. The librarian told the child that he should not be making so much noise, because the other students have been trying to study for their exams.

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

The fraud comes at a time when the unregulated finance industry is facing a crisis on its way of high-interest rates and low repayment of loans.

- A. because manner of
- B. since ways are
- C. by way of
- D. in the way of

Passage:

The Union government temporarily blocked Telegram to protect the (1) _____ of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test-Undergraduate (NEET-UG) 2026 re-examination by a single interpretative (2) _____ of hand which compressed an entire intermediary platform into an expression: 'information'.

The ban won the (3) _____ of the Delhi High Court by stretching the meaning of 'information' under the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000.

Section 2(1)(v) of the Act (4) _____ traditionally defined 'information' in diminutive units, including data, messages, text, image, sound, voice, codes, computer programme, software, and databases. The Telegram ban changed that legal interpretation. The government argued that an online platform like Telegram was an "aggregation" or "compilation" of these units. By reading entire platforms run by companies, which were legal entities by their own nature, under the (5) _____ of 'information' under the Act, the government has effectively weaponised the content-blocking provision of Section 69A.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**

- A. impurity
- B. violation
- C. sanctity
- D. hostility

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**

- A. sleight
- B. sight
- C. slight
- D. slide

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**

- A. condemnation
- B. rejection

- C. endorsement
 - D. obstacle
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
- A. has
 - B. had
 - C. have
 - D. having
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
- A. exclusion
 - B. periphery
 - C. margin
 - D. ambit

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. C) both a and b

Statement a: Line from the passage: "Its economy began growing faster than those of its G-7 peers, while inflation remained broadly under control..." This line proves that the national economy was stabilized and macroeconomic indicators actually improved. Therefore, it directly contradicts the claim that he failed to manage the economy. (Contradicts the argument)

Statement b: Line from the passage: "When Andy Burnham... returned to Westminster, Mr. Starmer's fate was sealed, and he resigned on June 22," alongside "Labour MPs started turning against him..." These lines show that his downfall was explicitly driven by political triggers and internal party revolts, rather than a failure of macroeconomic indicators. By providing the true political causes, it contradicts the economic argument. (Contradicts the argument)

2. B) Incremental macroeconomic progress is insufficient to sustain a political mandate in the face of rising populist

Line from the passage: "Under Mr. Starmer, the U.K. saw modest improvements in key economic indicators... Yet, these incremental gains were insufficient to satisfy an electorate..." and "Starmerite centrism is unlikely to withstand the onslaught of a far-right cultural politics entrenched in English nationalism." This directly matches the core theme of the second paragraph. The passage explicitly argues that Starmer's minor economic improvements could not protect his mandate from the shifting political landscape and the rise of nationalist forces like Reform UK. (Correct)

option A: While the passage mentions Starmer's technocratic style and a scandal involving an appointee, it never states that technocratic leaders inevitably face personal corruption scandals. This is an overgeneralization. (Incorrect)

option C: The passage states that the traditional structure is breaking down, not successfully adapting to incorporate Reform UK. Reform UK is instead described as displacing the old structure to become the "second pole." (Incorrect)

option D: The passage mentions that Starmer (a centrist) lost these elections, and describes Corbyn's era simply as a past interlude. It does not state that left-wing economic policies are structurally incapable of winning these regions. (Incorrect)

3. A) Under Starmer, British economic growth outpaced that of other G-7 nations

Line from the passage: "Its economy began growing faster than those of its G-7 peers, while inflation remained broadly under control..." The passage explicitly states that the UK economy grew faster than other G-7 nations under Starmer's leadership. (Correct)

option B: The passage states that the Conservatives are in "deep decline" and Reform UK is taking over as the second major force, meaning the Conservatives are no longer the dominant right-wing force. (Incorrect)

option C: While the losses in Wales and Scotland mounted pressure, they did not directly force his resignation. His resignation was only "sealed" later when Andy Burnham won the Makerfield byelection. (Incorrect)

option D: The passage says Burnham is expected to become the next Prime Minister, meaning he has not officially taken over yet at the time the passage was written. (Incorrect)

4. B) **structural changes in English nationalism have pushed a formerly minor party into a primary position of power**

Line from the passage: "...Reform is emerging as the second pole. Mr. Burnham should recognise that the Starmerite centrism is unlikely to withstand the onslaught of a far-right cultural politics entrenched in English nationalism." The passage argues that the breakdown of the old bipolar system and the rise of a far-right cultural politics rooted in English nationalism have allowed Reform UK to grow from a minor ("fringe") force into a major political player ("the second pole"). (Correct)

option A: While Reform is displacing the Conservatives, the passage describes the political landscape as "breaking down" rather than establishing a "stable right-wing governance." (Incorrect)

option C: The passage emphasizes that Reform UK is deeply entrenched in far-right nationalist politics, completely contradicting the idea that they compromised to appeal to Labour's soft-left base. (Incorrect)

option D: The passage explicitly states that the traditional two-party dynamic ("bipolar consensus") is breaking down because of Reform UK, not thriving or seamlessly absorbing it. (Incorrect)

5. C) **Past perfect continuous**

The verb phrase uses the structure had + been + verb-ing (had been amplifying). This indicates an action that was ongoing in the past up until another point in the past (Starmer's tenure/downfall), which defines the past perfect continuous tense.

6. A) **2-4-1-3**

Sentence 2 comes first because it introduces the main topic of the passage. It establishes the baseline context by explaining what originally motivated young individuals to choose a career in the merchant navy.

Sentence 4 follows Sentence 2 because it introduces the central conflict. The word "However" provides a sharp contrast, shifting the narrative from the initial attractive perks to the grim modern reality of the profession.

Sentence 1 comes next to explain the underlying cause of that conflict. It directly clarifies exactly why the career is now considered risky by pointing to the recent volatile attacks in West Asia.

Sentence 3 comes last because it provides a solid conclusion. It summarizes the overall attitude of the trainees, explaining that despite all the risks mentioned in the previous lines, they are determined to continue.

Sentence 2 सबसे पहले आता है क्योंकि यह passage का मुख्य विषय बताता है। यह baseline context स्थापित करता है कि शुरुआत में युवा किस वजह से merchant navy के करियर की तरफ आकर्षित हुए थे।

Sentence 4, sentence 2 के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह मुख्य संघर्ष (conflict) को सामने लाता है। इसमें इस्तेमाल किया गया "However" शब्द एक बड़ा बदलाव दिखाता है, जो शुरुआत के फायदों के विपरीत इस प्रोफेशन की आधुनिक और गंभीर सच्चाई को सामने रखता है।

Sentence 1 इसके बाद आता है क्योंकि यह उस संघर्ष के कारण को स्पष्ट करता है। यह सीधे तौर पर बताता है कि West Asia में जहाजों पर हुए हमलों की वजह से ही अब इस करियर को इतना खतरनाक माना जा रहा है।

Sentence 3 अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह पूरे passage का एक मजबूत conclusion देता है। यह trainees के आखिरी फैसले को समेटता है कि पिछले वाक्यों में बताए गए सभी खतरों के बावजूद, वे पीछे हटने को तैयार नहीं हैं और अपने फैसले पर टिके हुए हैं।

7. A) 3-1-4-2

Sentence 3 comes first because it introduces the main topic of the passage. It sets the baseline context by mentioning the current popular coffee types (Arabica and Robusta) before introducing the core subject: the new hybrid called "Libex."

Sentence 1 follows Sentence 3 because it immediately explains the primary value of Libex. The phrase "This newly identified hybrid" directly links back to the introduction of Libex in the first sentence and highlights its environmental resilience.

Sentence 4 comes next to discuss the consumer side of this new crop. After establishing that it grows well in tough climates, the passage moves to how it actually tastes, using "this resilient crop" to maintain the link to the previous sentence.

Sentence 2 comes last because it provides a strong conclusion. The word "Furthermore" introduces the final bonus points of the passage, detailing the practical financial and processing benefits it offers to farmers.

- Sentence 3 सबसे पहले आता है क्योंकि यह passage का मुख्य विषय बताता है। यह वर्तमान में चलने वाली कॉफी (Arabica और Robusta) का जिक्र करते हुए मुख्य विषय यानी नई हाइब्रिड कॉफी "Libex" को सामने लाकर पूरा context सेट करता है।
- Sentence 1, sentence 3 के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह तुरंत Libex की सबसे बड़ी खूबी को बताता है। इसमें इस्तेमाल किया गया "This newly identified hybrid" लाइन सीधे पहली sentence में बताई गई Libex कॉफी से जुड़ती है और मौसम के बदलावों के खिलाफ इसकी मजबूती को स्पष्ट करती है।
- Sentence 4 इसके बाद आता है क्योंकि यह इस नई कॉफी के स्वाद (taste) के बारे में बात करता है। यह बताने के बाद कि यह फसल खराब मौसम में टिक सकती है, यह वाक्य "this resilient crop" शब्द का उपयोग करके इसके बेहतरीन स्वाद का विवरण देता है।
- Sentence 2 अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह पूरे passage का एक बेहतरीन conclusion देता है। "Furthermore" शब्द का उपयोग करके यह आखिरी वाक्य किसानों के फायदे की बात जोड़ता है, जैसे कि बेहतर उत्पादन (yield) और आसान प्रोसेसिंग।

8. D) 'an easily read' के बदले '**an easy read**' या 'easily read' का प्रयोग होना चाहिए क्योंकि 'an' के बाद noun आना चाहिए। यहाँ 'easily' एक adverb है और 'read' verb/participial use में है, इसलिए article का प्रयोग गलत है; जैसे—

The book was an easy read. / The book was easily read.

- 'an easy read' or 'easily read' should be used instead of 'an easily read' because 'an' must be followed by a noun, whereas 'easily' is an adverb, making the article use incorrect; Like—

The book was an easy read. / The book was easily read.

9. C) '**nor**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि entire structure में 'neither ... nor' pairing बनती है, जो दो negative alternatives को जोड़ती है। वाक्य में दो कार्य — seminar attend करना और report submit करना — दोनों के न होने की बात कही जा रही है, इसलिए '**nor**' सबसे उचित conjunction है।

- '**nor**' should be used because it correctly completes the correlative conjunction pair 'neither ... nor', which is used to link two negative ideas. The sentence expresses that he did not do either of the two actions (attending the seminar or submitting the report), making '**nor**' the most appropriate choice.

10. C) **Idiosyncrasy** (noun) – A characteristic, mannerism, or habit unique to an individual.

व्यक्तिगत विशेष आदत/स्वभाव

Synonym: **Peculiarity** (noun) – Distinctive trait, uniqueness, individuality, quirk, singularity.

विशेषता, अनोखापन

- **Commonality** (noun) – Shared feature, general similarity. सामान्यता
- **Normality** (noun) – Usual or standard condition. सामान्य अवस्था
- **Conformity** (noun) – Behaviour matching expected norms. अनुरूपता, पालन

11. C) **smoke and mirrors** (idiom) – deceptive talk or actions that create an illusion without substance दिखावटी और भ्रामक बातें

- pulling strings – using influence to control things from behind the scenes प्रभाव का उपयोग करना
- a red herring – something that distracts attention from the real issue ध्यान भटकाने वाली चीज़
- the last straw – final minor thing that causes someone to lose patience आखिरी सीमा / धैर्य टूटने का बिंदु

12. B) **Highlighted** वाक्य में 'wave' का अर्थ है — हाथ हिलाकर अभिवादन करना (gesture of greeting)। विकल्प B में भी 'wave' का अर्थ हाथ हिलाने का संकेत है — भीड़ ने धीरे हाथ हिलाया। इसलिए यह same meaning का सही उदाहरण है।

- In the highlighted sentence, 'wave' means a gesture of greeting made by moving the hand.

Option B uses 'wave' with the same meaning — the crowd moved their hands to greet.

Thus, option B matches the same meaning.

13. D) **Whatever floats your boat** (idiom) – something that makes you happy जो तुम्हें अच्छा लगे / जिससे खुशी मिले
14. A) The correctly spelt word is Personnel which means “people employed in an organization” कर्मचारियों/स्टाफ़।
15. A) **Philatelist** (noun) – a person who loves and collects postage stamps डाक टिकट संग्रहकर्ता
- **Numismatist** (noun) – a person who collects coins and medals सिक्का संग्रहकर्ता
 - **Bibliophile** (noun) – a person who loves and collects books पुस्तक प्रेमी / पुस्तक संग्रहकर्ता
 - **Collector** (noun) – a person who collects things in general संग्रहकर्ता
16. A) **Serene** (adjective) – Calm, peaceful, tranquil, composed शांत, स्थिर
Antonym: **Chaotic** (adjective) – Disordered, confused, turbulent, unruly, messy अव्यवस्थित, अराजक
- **Calm** (adjective) – Serene, composed, relaxed, peaceful शांत
 - **Peaceful** (adjective) – Calm, quiet, serene, harmonious शांतिपूर्ण
 - **Tranquil** (adjective) – Peaceful, calm, serene, untroubled निर्मल, शांत
17. B) **Sagacious** (adjective) – Wise, prudent, intelligent, perceptive बुद्धिमान, विवेकी
Antonym: **Foolish** (adjective) – Silly, unwise, senseless, absurd, irrational मूर्ख, अविवेकी
- **Wise** (adjective) – Intelligent, sagacious, knowledgeable समझदार
 - **Prudent** (adjective) – Careful, sensible, sagacious विवेकपूर्ण
 - **Shrewd** (adjective) – Clever, astute, sharp in judgment चतुर, सूझबूझ वाला
18. B) **Submit the documents to the head of the department by the end of the week.**
Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य की “Let + object + be + V³” संरचना को Active में Imperative रूप में बदला जाता है। Passive वाक्य में “the documents” Object है और “be submitted” Verb (Passive Imperative) है। Active में बदलने पर Verb को Imperative “Submit” में बदला गया है, Object “the documents” Verb के बाद आया है और बाकी हिस्सा “to the head of the department by the end of the week” यथावत रहा है।
- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the passive structure “Let + object + be + V³” is transformed into an imperative form. In the passive sentence, “the documents” is the object and “be submitted” is the passive verb. In the active form, the verb becomes the imperative “Submit,” the object follows it, and the remaining phrase “to the head of the department by the end of the week” remains unchanged.
19. A) **The librarian told the child that he should not be making so much noise, because the other students had been trying to study for their exams.**

Direct से Indirect Speech में बदलने के लिए reporting verb “told” Past में होने के कारण reported speech के tense में परिवर्तन किया जाता है। Direct वाक्य में “You should not be making...” Modal + Continuous रूप है जो Indirect में भी “should not be making” ही रहता है, केवल pronoun “you” बदलकर “he” हो जाता है। दूसरी clause “have been trying” Present Perfect Continuous है जो Indirect में बदलकर “had been trying” बनती है क्योंकि reporting verb Past में है।

- To change from Direct to Indirect Speech, the reporting verb “told” being in the past induces tense shift in the reported clause. The modal continuous form “should not be making” remains unchanged, with the pronoun “you” shifting to “he.” The second part “have been trying” (Present Perfect Continuous) changes to “had been trying” due to backshifting triggered by the past reporting verb.

20. D) in the way of

सही answer है Option 4: in the way of। इस phrase का मतलब होता है “के रूप में” या “के कारण पैदा होने वाली समस्या/अवरोध”। इस sentence में बताया गया है कि unregulated finance industry एक ऐसे समय में संकट का सामना कर रही है, जो high-interest rates और low repayment of loans के रूप में सामने आया है। Option 3 (by way of) कभी-कभी “के माध्यम से” या “के रूप में” का अर्थ देता है, लेकिन यहाँ “in the way of” ज्यादा सही है क्योंकि यह संकट को एक problem/obstacle के रूप में दिखाता है। इसलिए पूरी sentence सही तरीके से होगी: “The fraud comes at a time when the unregulated finance industry is facing a crisis in the way of high-interest rates and low.

- The correct answer is Option 4: in the way of. This phrase means “in the form of” or “as a problem/obstacle caused by”. In the sentence, the unregulated finance industry is facing a crisis in the way of high-interest rates and low repayment of loans, meaning these issues are causing the problem. Option 3 (by way of) can sometimes mean “through” or “in the form of,” but here “in the way of” is more accurate because it emphasizes the problematic nature of the crisis. Therefore, the complete sentence reads: “The fraud comes at a time when the unregulated finance industry is facing a crisis in the way of high-interest rates and low repayment of loans.”

21. C) The passage talks about protecting the integrity and purity of the NEET-UG examination.

“(sanctity)” refers to the state or quality of being holy, sacred, or of ultimate importance/inviolability, which perfectly fits the context of maintaining an exam's strict integrity. “impurity” means contamination. “violation” means the action of violating or breaking a rule. “hostility” means unfriendliness or opposition.

In Hindi:

- Passage में NEET-UG exam की integrity (पवित्रता या निष्पक्षता) को बचाने की बात हो रही है। “(sanctity)” का मतलब पवित्रता या शुद्धता होता है, जो यहाँ बिल्कुल सही है। “impurity” का मतलब अशुद्धता है। “violation” का मतलब उल्लंघन है। “hostility” का मतलब दुश्मनी है।

22. A) The phrase “sleight of hand” is a standard English idiom meaning a clever trick, skillful deception, or quick manipulation, used here to describe the government's interpretative trick. “(sleight)” correctly completes this idiom. “sight” refers to vision. “slight” means small in degree or an insult. “slide” means to move smoothly along a surface.

In Hindi:

- "sleight of hand" एक fixed English idiom है जिसका मतलब चालाकी या हाथ की सफाई (trick) होता है। यहाँ "(sleight)" सही है। "sight" का मतलब नज़ारा या दृष्टि है। "slight" का मतलब थोड़ा सा या अपमान करना है। "slide" का मतलब फिसलना है।

23. C) The sentence implies that the ban won the approval or support of the Delhi High Court. "(endorsement)" means an act of giving one's public approval or support to someone or something. "condemnation" means expressing very strong disapproval. "rejection" means the dismissing or refusing of a proposal. "obstacle" means a thing that blocks one's way.

In Hindi:

- Sentence बता रहा है कि Ban को Delhi High Court का support या approval मिला। "(endorsement)" का मतलब समर्थन (support/approval) होता है, जो यहाँ एकदम fit है। "condemnation" का मतलब निंदा करना है। "rejection" का मतलब अस्वीकार करना है। "obstacle" का मतलब रुकावट है।

24. B) The sentence describes a past situation that was subsequently changed ("The Telegram ban changed that legal interpretation"). Therefore, the past perfect auxiliary "(had)" is required to describe what the Act traditionally defined before the change occurred. "has" is present tense. "have" is plural present tense. "having" is the continuous/participle form.

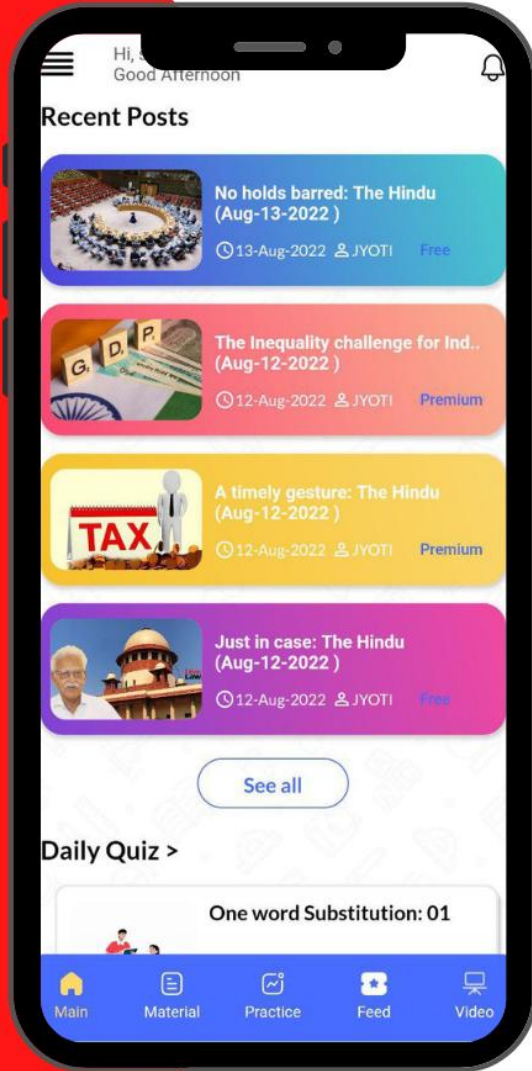
In Hindi:

- Sentence एक पुरानी स्थिति को बता रहा है जिसे बाद में बदल दिया गया ("changed that legal interpretation")। इसलिए उस पुराने action को दिखाने के लिए past perfect auxiliary "(had)" की ज़रूरत है। "has" present tense है। "have" plural present tense है। "having" continuous form है।

25. D) The phrase "under the ambit of" means within the scope, boundary, or extent of something (in this case, within the scope of the definition of 'information'). "(ambit)" perfectly fits this context of legal limits or boundaries. "exclusion" means the process of keeping something out. "margin" means the edge or border of something. "periphery" means the outer limits or edge of an area.

In Hindi:

- "under the ambit of" का मतलब किसी चीज़ के दायरे (scope/boundary) में होना है (यहाँ 'information' की definition के दायरे में)। इसलिए "(ambit)" एकदम सही है। "exclusion" का मतलब बाहर निकालना है। "margin" और "periphery" का मतलब किसी चीज़ का किनारा (edge/border) होता है।



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