

Tragic evening: On the earthquake in Venezuela

Venezuela's **quake** holds lessons on the importance of **preparedness**

On Wednesday two earthquakes, of **magnitudes** 7.1 and 7.5, struck seconds apart, **levelling** large parts of Caracas, Venezuela. On Friday, **Jorge Rodriguez**, the president of the country's National Assembly, **put** the dead at 920 and the injured at 3,360. In La Guaira, the worst-hit State, over a hundred buildings **crumpled** to **rubble**. **Geologically** speaking, such **destruction** is, in Venezuela, an **aberration**. The country sits where the South American and Caribbean plates grind past one another, a boundary that slips sideways rather than **thrusting** upward — **unlike** the frequent quakes along the Pacific's Ring of Fire. **Strain** here **accumulates** quietly, over generations, before the ground settles its accounts in a single afternoon. It is early days, but **seismologists** have explained the twin quakes as a 'doublet,' what the US Geological Survey (USGS) calls a "complex rupture-interaction". Northern Venezuela saw a smaller doublet last year; the **Türkiye-Syria earthquakes** of 2023, which killed over 55,000 people, **were** of the same **provenance**. Their **shallowness** — under 30 kilometres — **drove** the **fury** straight into the streets above. The USGS has **flagged** a **plausible toll** exceeding 10,000, and the past is proof that such fears are likely to bear out rather than be **refuted**.

India, which has already offered help, should **make** relief its first duty — search teams, medical supplies, and the **unglamorous logistics** of a disaster zone. But there is a lesson here that it ought not to file away and forget. This year the Bureau of Indian Standards withdrew a **decade's** worth of commissioned work that found **seismic hazard** along the Himalayan **front** badly underestimated — a revision that nearly doubled design forces in the highest zones and added a sixth zone to a map that stopped at five. It was **shelved** after a Cabinet Secretariat order warned the standards "materially affected" ongoing **infrastructure**, metro projects among them. India's Zone V still designs for 0.36g, where g measures for how much the ground can shake. **Pakistan and Nepal**, on the same **colliding** front, **reckon** on nearly 0.75g, the United States and Japan on a full g or more. Nearly 79% of Indians live under moderate to **severe** seismic threat, and 95% of earthquake deaths occur in the one- to three-storey houses that no code ever reaches. Venezuela is a **portent** of the **implicit** danger that exists. The **science** of **prediction** **will** remain, for the **foreseeable** future, hope filling the gaps of uncertainty. What can be done is build structures that hold and keep their **inhabitants** safe. The earth follows its **rhythm**; the only choice is whether or not to be ready. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Quake** (noun) - tremor, shock, jolt, earthquake, upheaval भूकंप
2. **Hold lesson** (phrase) - to provide valuable insights or learning experiences from an event सबक मिलना
3. **Preparedness** (noun) - readiness, preparation, alertness, provision, equipment तैयारी
4. **Magnitude** (noun) - size, scale, intensity, extent, greatness परिमाण/तीव्रता
5. **Level** (verb) - flatten, demolish, raze, destroy, bulldoze जमींदोज करना
6. **Crumple** (verb) - collapse, buckle, crush, fold, crumble ढह जाना
7. **Rubble** (noun) - debris, wreckage, ruins, waste, fragments मलबे
8. **Geologically** (adverb) - structurally, tectonically, physically, naturally, compositionally भूगर्भीय रूप से
9. **Destruction** (noun) - devastation, ruin, havoc, damage, annihilation विनाश
10. **Aberration** (noun) - anomaly, deviation, departure, quirk, irregularity असंगति/अपवाद
11. **Grind past one another** (phrase) - to move against each other with friction along a plate boundary प्लेटों का आपस में रगड़ खाना
12. **Thrust** (verb) - push, propel, shove, force, drive धकेलना
13. **Unlike** (preposition) - different from, contrasting, dissimilar to, opposed to, contrary to के विपरीत
14. **Strain** (noun) - pressure, tension, stress, burden, exertion तनाव
15. **Accumulate** (verb) - gather, collect, amass, hoard, build up इकट्ठा होना
16. **Settle an account** (phrase) - to release pent-up stress or energy suddenly अपना हिसाब बराबर करना (ऊर्जा का उत्सर्जन)
17. **Seismologist** (noun) - a scientist who studies earthquakes and the movement of the Earth's crust भूकंप विज्ञानी
18. **Doublet** (noun) - pair, twin, duo, duplicate, couplet युग्म
19. **Provenance** (noun) - origin, source, derivation, birth, root स्रोत/उद्गम
20. **Shallowness** (noun) - superficiality, depthlessness, thinness, triviality, surface level छिछलापन
21. **Drive** (verb) - force, propel, push, impel, thrust धकेलना/प्रेरित करना
22. **Flag** (verb) - signal, mark, highlight, indicate, identify चिह्नित करना
23. **Plausible** (adjective) - credible, reasonable, believable, logical, likely संभावित
24. **Toll** (noun) - casualty, death count, loss, number, victims मरने वालों की संख्या
25. **Bear out** (phrasal verb) - to confirm, support, or verify the truth of something पुष्टि करना

26. **Refute** (verb) - disprove, deny, rebut, counter, contest खंडन करना
27. **Unglamorous** (adjective) - dull, routine, boring, unexciting, mundane साधारण/नीरस
28. **Logistic** (noun) - planning, management, coordination, administration प्रबंधन/रसद
29. **Ought to** (modal verb) - should, must, expected चाहिए
30. **Decade** (noun) - ten-year period दशक
31. **Seismic** (adjective) - tectonic, earthquake-related, shaky, tremorous, vibrational भूकंपीय
32. **Hazard** (noun) - danger, risk, peril, threat, menace खतरा
33. **Front** (noun) - boundary, line, zone, edge, border सीमा/मोर्चा
34. **Shelf** (verb) - defer, suspend, postpone, shelve, discard स्थगित करना
35. **Infrastructure** (noun) - framework, base, foundation, support, network बुनियादी ढांचा
36. **Colliding** (adjective) - crashing, clashing, bumping, impacting, meeting टकराता हुआ
37. **Reckon** (verb) - calculate, estimate, consider, judge, compute आंकलन करना
38. **Severe** (adjective) - acute, extreme, harsh, intense, serious गंभीर
39. **Portent** (noun) - sign, omen, warning, indication, signal संकेत/पूर्वसूचना
40. **Implicit** (adjective) - understood, inherent, implied, tacit, underlying अंतर्निहित
41. **Prediction** (noun) - forecast, prophecy, projection, guess, divination पूर्वानुमान
42. **Foreseeable** (adjective) - predictable, near, expected, anticipated, imminent भविष्य में आने वाला
43. **Inhabitant** (noun) - resident, citizen, dweller, occupant, local निवासी
44. **Rhythm** (noun) - cycle, pattern, cadence, pulse, beat ताल/लय

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Two powerful earthquakes** of magnitudes **7.1 and 7.5** struck Venezuela within seconds, causing widespread devastation, especially in the capital, Caracas.
2. As of Friday, **920 people had died** and **3,360 were injured**, while the death toll was expected to rise further.
3. **La Guaira State** suffered the worst damage, with over **100 buildings collapsing** into rubble.
4. The earthquakes were unusual because **Venezuela is not generally considered a highly earthquake-prone country** compared to regions along the Pacific Ring of Fire.
5. The country lies on the boundary between the **South American and Caribbean tectonic plates**, where the plates move sideways rather than colliding directly.
6. Seismologists described the event as a **"doublet earthquake"**, in which two major earthquakes occur almost simultaneously due to a complex rupture process.
7. Similar doublet earthquakes have occurred before, including the **Türkiye–Syria earthquakes of 2023**, which caused over **55,000 deaths**.
8. The earthquakes were **shallow (less than 30 km deep)**, making their impact on the surface far more destructive.
9. The **US Geological Survey (USGS)** has warned that the final death toll could exceed **10,000**, highlighting the seriousness of the disaster.
10. **India has offered humanitarian assistance**, including search-and-rescue teams, medical supplies, and logistical support for relief operations.
11. The editorial argues that India should also **learn important lessons** from this tragedy instead of treating it as a distant disaster.
12. It criticizes the decision to **withdraw revised seismic hazard maps**, which suggested that earthquake risks along the **Himalayan region** had been significantly underestimated.
13. India's current earthquake design standards remain **less stringent** than those of neighboring countries like **Pakistan and Nepal**, despite facing similar seismic risks.
14. Nearly **79% of India's population** lives in areas with **moderate to severe earthquake risk**, and **95% of earthquake deaths occur in small residential buildings** that often fail to follow safety codes.
15. The editorial concludes that **earthquakes cannot be predicted accurately**, but governments can greatly reduce casualties by enforcing **stronger building standards, updating seismic codes, and investing in disaster preparedness**, because while nature cannot be controlled, preparedness can save lives.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **In light of the critique regarding the Bureau of Indian Standards' withdrawn work, which of the following policy actions would the author likely endorse as a solution?** [Editorial Page]
 - a. Decoupling the ratification of higher seismic safety standards from the budgetary and timeline constraints of large-scale public infrastructure projects.
 - b. Aligning India's seismic design forces (currently 0.36g) closer to international benchmarks and those of regional neighbors, despite the resulting increase in construction requirements.
 - A. Only a
 - B. Only b
 - C. both a and b
 - D. Neither a nor b
2. **The writer thinks that:**
 - A. both Indian administrative bodies and neighboring nations are sensible when determining peak ground acceleration.
 - B. neighboring nations are sensible and Indian administrative bodies are insensible when calculating seismic design forces.
 - C. neighboring nations are insensible and Indian administrative bodies are insensible when factoring underlying geological strain.
 - D. both Indian administrative bodies and neighboring nations make sense when prioritizing ongoing municipal infrastructure.
3. **According to the author, why did the earthquake's destruction hit the streets of Caracas so severely?**
 - A. Because it is doublet
 - B. Because it is shallow
 - C. Because it is sideways
 - D. Because it is aberration
4. **How has the author established his strong support for 'structural readiness', throughout the passage?**
 - A. By pointing out that international precedents and historical statistics consistently prove that high earthquake casualties are tied to inadequate structural code coverage.
 - B. By asserting that building resilient structures is the only true defense since attempting to predict seismic events remains an exercise in uncertainty.
 - C. By highlighting the hidden, compounding nature of tectonic strain to show that a lack of immediate surface activity does not justify freezing safety standard upgrades.
 - D. All a, b and c
5. **Identify the sentence from the passage that contains a relative pronoun:**
 - A. On Wednesday two earthquakes, of magnitudes 7.1 and 7.5, struck seconds apart, levelling large parts of Caracas, Venezuela.
 - B. The science of prediction will remain, for the foreseeable future, hope filling the gaps of uncertainty.
 - C. Northern Venezuela saw a smaller doublet last year; the Türkiye-Syria earthquakes of 2023, which killed over 55,000 people, were of the same provenance.
 - D. All a, b and c

6. Rearrange the following sentences to form a meaningful passage:

1. This prison experience radicalized him, leading to the creation of the country's first independent national political party.
 2. During the 2026 World Cup, a DRC fan performed as a living statue to honor independence leader Patrice Lumumba.
 3. Born into an era of brutal colonial exploitation, Lumumba initially began his career as a western-educated postal clerk.
 4. Despite an early arrest for embezzlement, the future Prime Minister emerged from jail with intense political conviction.
- A. 2-3-1-4
 - B. 2-4-1-3
 - C. 2-3-4-1
 - D. 3-2-4-1

7. Rearrange the following sentences to form a meaningful passage:

1. This process introduces the term "authorisation" to streamline compliance paperwork for service providers.
 2. The legislation consolidates and updates outdated legal frameworks, including the historic Indian Telegraph Act.
 3. India notified several critical rules to implement provisions under the new Telecommunications Act.
 4. Beyond simplifying old statutes, the updated rules overhaul the licensing framework for telecom operators.
- A. 3-2-4-1
 - B. 3-4-1-2
 - C. 2-3-4-1
 - D. 3-2-1-4

8. Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Delusional."

- A. Irrational
- B. Malcontent
- C. Scurrilous
- D. Ubiquitous

9. Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Juncture."

- A. Lugubrious
- B. Crossroad
- C. Dogmatic
- D. Pugnacious

10. Select the most appropriate MEANING of the phrase "Take a hit."

- A. To suffer demand, loan, or disappearance
- B. To suffer default, list, or disappointment
- C. To suffer deposit, loss, or disinformation
- D. To suffer damage, loss, or disappointment

11. What is the correct meaning of the idiom "In a fix"?

- A. What is the correct meaning of the idiom "In a fix"?
- B. In a difficult situation

- C. In a happy mood
D. In control
12. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Compulsion."**
A. Voracity
B. Veracity
C. Vicinity
D. Volition
13. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Vest."**
A. Divert
B. Divulge
C. Divest
D. Divagate
14. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**
A person who steers a ship.
A. Boatswain
B. Captain
C. Steward
D. Helmsman
15. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**
A person who collects coins.
A. Archaeologist
B. Numismatist
C. Historian
D. Economist
16. **There are four underlined words in the sentence given below. One of them is misspelt. Choose the option with the misspelt word.**
According to the report, economic resillience in the region has improved thanks to targeted reforms, investments, and market diversification.
A. resillience
B. targeted
C. investments
D. diversification
17. **Which of the following is the correct spelling of the word?**
A. Easthetic
B. Aesthetic
C. Aesthatic
D. Aesthettic
18. **From the alternatives given below, select the correct passive voice of the following sentence.**
Do not put your hand over the stove lest you should burn your fingers.
A. Let your hand be not put over the stove lest your fingers should be burnt.
B. Lest your hand be not put over the stove lest your fingers should be burnt.
C. Let your hand not put over the stove lest your fingers should be burnt.
D. Let your hand be not put over the stove lest your fingers should burn.
19. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**

The team leader called up (1)/ each employee separately (2)/ but failed to bring on (3)/ their actual grievances. (4)

- A. (1)
- B. (2)
- C. (3)
- D. (4)

20. **Identify the segment in the sentence which contains a grammatical error.**

My mother's brother's son (A) / has (B) / come. (C) / No error (D)

- A. My mother's brother's son
- B. has
- C. come.
- D. No error

Passage:

In 1965, acoustic music (1) _____ was shaken at the Newport Folk Festival as Bob Dylan turned electric. On the other side of the Atlantic, in 1967, the Beatles released 'Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band', which created the very idea of a concept album in popular western music. Sandwiched between these seismic shifts, far away from the western shores, was a chubby, bespectacled goofy looking young man who churned the imagination of Hindi film music with the soundtrack of Nasir Hussain's *Teesri Manzil* (1966). Rahul Dev Burman or Pancham as he was fondly called, burst on the scene with eight tracks for the film that gave new meaning to the word 'revolutionary'. The title track of *Teesri Manzil*, a film (2) _____ of Raymond Chandler or Dashiell Hammett style of film noir, became a long-standing template with which to score thrillers and mysteries.

Pancham died 32 years ago which is about the same span as his musical career. He debuted as an independent composer with *Chhote Nawab* in 1961 and continued until his death in January 1994. The second half of the 1980s was arguably the (3) _____ for Hindi film music. Most films had a jamboree of garish clamour masquerading as music and the occasional melodic (4) _____ was largely due to Pancham. *Saagar* in 1985 had tunes spanning Goan overtones to sensuality induced by bass, flute, and tabla. Pancham aficionados would insist on the 1985 film, *Sitamgar*, as one of the more underrated masterpieces. Around the same period, Pancham's collaboration with Gulzar on albums like *Ijaazat* and *Dil Padosi Hai* (a private album) in 1987 housed a staggering range from the merry to the melancholic, rendered impeccably by Asha Bhosle. Despite such creative overtures, the period through till the early 90s saw Pancham grapple with spells of inactivity, surrender to mediocrity, plummet into intense self-doubt and wage a lonely battle with cardiac ailments. It was from this abyss of neglect and crippling despair that he (5) _____ his final act: '1942, A Love Story'.

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

- A. iconoclasm
- B. orthodoxy
- C. heresy
- D. vanguard

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

- A. prescient
- B. reminiscent

- C. derivative
D. oblivious
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
A. acme
B. zenith
C. nadir
D. renaissance
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
A. hiatus
B. crescendo
C. aggravation
D. respite
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
A. extirpated
B. capitulated
C. conjured
D. scavenged

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. C) both a and b

Statement a is correct: The passage explicitly criticizes the Cabinet Secretariat for shelving the BIS revisions because they "materially affected" ongoing infrastructure (like metro projects). Therefore, the author would advocate for decoupling safety standards from the expediency of such projects.

Statement b is correct: The author points out that India's current 0.36g standard is significantly lower than neighbors (0.75g) and developed nations (1g). By highlighting this discrepancy, the author suggests that India's standards need to be more robust.

2. B) **neighboring nations are sensible and Indian administrative bodies are insensible when calculating seismic design forces.**

Line from passage: "India's Zone V still designs for 0.36g... Pakistan and Nepal, on the same colliding front, reckon on nearly 0.75g, the United States and Japan on a full g or more." The author notes that Pakistan and Nepal account for nearly double the ground shaking capacity (0.75g) compared to India (0.36g) on the same dangerous geological front. Since India shelved a necessary safety revision because it "materially affected" infrastructure projects, the passage positions neighboring nations as sensible and Indian authorities as insensible.

option A: The writer highlights that India significantly underestimates its seismic threat compared to its neighbors. Therefore, the writer does not think both are sensible; rather, India's administrative bodies are depicted as failing to adjust their safety standards properly.

option C: The passage shows that neighboring nations do factor in the underlying strain by designing for much higher ground acceleration (0.75g). They are presented as responsible/sensible in their calculations, not insensible.

option D: The writer is critical of India prioritizing ongoing infrastructure over updated seismic safety data, calling it a dangerous lesson that should not be forgotten. The passage does not suggest this prioritization "makes sense."

3. B) **Because it is shallow**

Line from passage: "Their shallowness — under 30 kilometres — drove the fury straight into the streets above." The term "Their shallowness" is directly identified as the physical mechanism that "drove the fury straight into the streets," making this the mathematically precise answer to why the destruction hit the surface so severely.

option A: The passage uses the term "doublet" simply to classify the structural nature of the event (the fact that two earthquakes struck seconds apart). The passage does not attribute the high intensity of surface-level destruction to the doublet classification itself.

option C: describes the normal, sideways plate boundary movement of Venezuela, which usually acts as an aberration to this scale of destruction, not the driver of the street-level fury.

option D: is how the overall destruction is classified geologically for Venezuela, not the physical cause of the surface impact.

4. D) **All a, b and c**

option a is correct: The author establishes support for structural codes by using historical data (95\% of deaths happen in 1- to 3-storey houses that codes never reach) and showing that safer nations design for much higher peak ground acceleration (0.75g to 1g).

option b is correct: The author explicitly states that earthquake prediction will remain "hope filling the gaps of uncertainty," concluding that the only real choice we have is whether or not to build structures that hold.

option c is correct: The author explains how strain accumulates quietly over generations before settling its accounts in a single afternoon. He uses this geological reality to show that India cannot afford to shelve structural code upgrades just because ongoing infrastructure projects would be delayed or impacted.

5. C) **Northern Venezuela saw a smaller doublet last year; the Türkiye-Syria earthquakes of 2023, which killed over 55,000 people, were of the same provenance.**

Sentence C contains the word "which" ("...the Türkiye-Syria earthquakes of 2023, which killed over 55,000 people..."), which acts as a non-defining relative pronoun introducing a relative clause modifying the noun phrase "the Türkiye-Syria earthquakes of 2023."

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

Sentence 2 comes first because it introduces the primary theme and serves as the entry point of the passage. It establishes the modern baseline context by describing the World Cup demonstration honoring Patrice Lumumba.

Sentence 3 follows Sentence 2 because it shifts from the modern tribute to the historical background of the man being honored. It introduces Lumumba's early life, ethnic background, and his initial career under colonial rule.

Sentence 4 comes next to show a critical turning point in his life. After establishing his early career, the narrative advances to his arrest, explicitly setting up the context of his time in jail. Sentence 1 comes last because it provides a strong thematic conclusion to the sequence. The phrase "This prison experience" directly links back to the jail time mentioned in sentence 4, explaining how that specific turning point led to his ultimate political legacy.

- Sentence 2 सबसे पहले आता है क्योंकि यह passage के मुख्य विषय (primary theme) को पेश करता है। यह 2026 वर्ल्ड कप के दौरान पैट्रिस लुमुम्बा को सम्मान देने वाले प्रशंसक के आधुनिक प्रदर्शन को दिखाकर एक मजबूत baseline context सेट करता है।
- Sentence 3, sentence 2 के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह आधुनिक श्रद्धांजलि से हटकर सीधे उस व्यक्ति के ऐतिहासिक बैकग्राउंड पर जाता है जिसका सम्मान किया जा रहा है। यह लुमुम्बा के शुरुआती जीवन और औपनिवेशिक शासन (colonial rule) के तहत उनके करियर की शुरुआत को स्पष्ट करता है।
- Sentence 4 इसके बाद आता है क्योंकि यह उनके जीवन के एक महत्वपूर्ण मोड़ (turning point) को दिखाता है। उनके शुरुआती करियर को बताने के बाद, यह वाक्य उनकी गिरफ्तारी और जेल जाने की घटना को सामने लाता है।
- Sentence 1 अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह पूरे सीक्वेंस का एक बेहतरीन logical conclusion देता है। इसमें इस्तेमाल किया गया "This prison experience" वाक्यांश सीधे sentence 4 में बताई गई

जेल की घटना से जुड़ता है और स्पष्ट करता है कि कैसे इसी मोड़ ने उनके राजनीतिक आंदोलन की नींव रखी।

7. A) 3-2-4-1

Sentence 3 comes first because it introduces the primary theme and core news event of the passage. It establishes the baseline context by declaring the recent notification of rules under the Telecommunications Act.

Sentence 2 follows Sentence 3 because it details the foundational objective behind this legislative move. It shifts focus directly from the announcement of the rules to the purpose of replacing and updating the old colonial-era telegraph laws.

Sentence 4 comes next to transition from the macro legal objective to the specific operational changes. After explaining the consolidation of old acts, the passage advances to detail how these rules rewrite the baseline operational framework for operators.

Sentence 1 comes last because it provides a highly specific structural conclusion to the sequence. The phrase "This process" directly links back to the framework overhaul described in sentence 4, detailing the precise terminology used to streamline the system.

- Sentence 3 सबसे पहले आता है क्योंकि यह passage के मुख्य विषय और कोर समाचार घटना (news event) को पेश करता है। यह हाल ही में टेलीकम्युनिकेशन एक्ट के तहत अधिसूचित (notified) नियमों की जानकारी देकर एक मजबूत baseline context सेट करता है।
- Sentence 2, sentence 3 के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह इस विधायी कदम (legislative move) के पीछे के मुख्य उद्देश्य का विवरण देता है। यह नियमों की सामान्य घोषणा से हटकर सीधे पुराने औपनिवेशिक काल के टेलीग्राफ कानूनों को बदलने के उद्देश्य पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है।
- Sentence 1 इसके बाद आता है क्योंकि यह बड़े कानूनी उद्देश्यों से हटकर विशिष्ट परिचालन परिवर्तनों (operational changes) की ओर बढ़ता है। पुराने कानूनों के सरलीकरण को बताने के बाद, यह वाक्य बताता है कि ये नियम ऑपरेटरों के लिए बुनियादी ढांचे को कैसे बदलते हैं।
- Sentence 1 अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह पूरे सीक्वेंस का एक विशिष्ट और सटीक निष्कर्ष (conclusion) प्रदान करता है। इसमें इस्तेमाल किया गया "This process" वाक्यांश सीधे sentence 4 में वर्णित फ्रेमवर्क के बदलाव से जुड़ता है, और सिस्टम को आसान बनाने के लिए उपयोग की जाने वाली सटीक शब्दावली (authorisation) को स्पष्ट करता है।

8. A) **Delusional** (adjective) - unrealistic, fanciful, irrational, misled, mistaken. (भ्रमपूर्ण)

Synonym: **Irrational** (adjective) – Not logical or reasonable; founded on an absolute lack of sound judgment. (तर्कहीन)

- **Malcontent** (adjective): Dissatisfied and rebellious; complaining or flagrantly uncooperative with authority. (असंतोषी)
- **Scurrilous** (adjective): Making or spreading scandalous claims about someone with the intention of damaging them. (अपमानजनक)
- **Ubiquitous** (adjective): Present, appearing, or found everywhere simultaneously across an entire landscape. (सर्वव्यापी)

9. B) **Juncture** (noun) – stage, point, moment, phase, crossroad. (मोड़)
 Synonym: **Crossroad** (noun) – A point at which a crucial decision must be made; a critical juncture or turning point. (चौराहा / संकट का समय)
- **Lugubrious** (adjective): Looking or sounding incredibly dismal, mournful, gloomy, or excessively sorrowful. (उदासीन)
 - **Dogmatic** (adjective): Inclined to lay down principles as incontrovertibly and absolutely true without real proof. (कंटर)
 - **Pugnacious** (adjective): Having a highly combative, eager, or enthusiastic disposition to argue or fight. (झगड़ालू)
10. D) **Take a hit** (phrase) – To suffer damage, loss, or disappointment. (नुकसान झेलना)
11. B) “**In a fix**” means In a difficult situation मुश्किल में.
12. D) **Compulsion** (noun) – pressure, obligation, constraint, necessity, urge. (मजबूरी)
 Antonym: **Volition** (noun) – The faculty or power of using one's will. (इच्छाशक्ति / अपनी मर्जी)
- **Voracity** (noun): An insatiable appetite for food or an activity. (लालच / पेटूषण)
 - **Veracity** (noun): Conformity to facts; accuracy; truthfulness. (सच्चाई)
 - **Vicinity** (noun): The area near or surrounding a particular place. (आस-पास)
13. C) **Vest** (verb) – entrust, bestow, confer, endow, lodge (सौंपना)
 Antonym: **Divest** (verb) – To deprive someone of power, rights, or possessions; to rid oneself of a business interest. (वंचित करना / विनिवेश करना)
- **Divert** (verb): To cause someone or something to change course or turn from one direction to another. (मार्ग बदलना)
 - **Divulge** (verb): To make known private or sensitive information. (प्रकट करना)
 - **Divagate** (verb): To stray or digress from a main topic or course. (भटकना)
14. D) **Helmsman** (noun) – A person who steers or directs a ship जहाज़ चलाने/दिशा देने वाला
- **Boatswain** (noun) – A ship officer responsible for equipment and crew supervision जहाज़ का अधिकारी (सामान व कार्य देखता है)
 - **Captain** (noun) – The commander of a ship जहाज़ का प्रमुख
 - **Steward** (noun) – A person who manages supplies or attends passengers सेवक / प्रबंधक
15. B) **Numismatist** (noun) – A person who collects or studies coins सिक्कों का संग्रह करने वाला / मुद्राशास्त्री
- **Archaeologist** (noun) – a person who studies human history through excavation of sites and artifacts पुरातत्ववेत्ता

- **Historian** (noun) – a person who studies or writes about history इतिहासकार
 - **Economist** (noun) – an expert in economics अर्थशास्त्री
16. A) The correct spelling of 'resillience' is '**resilience**', which means "the ability to recover quickly from difficulties" लचीलापन, कठिनाइयों से उबरने की क्षमता।
17. B) The correct spelling is '**Aesthetic**', which means "concerned with beauty or the appreciation of beauty" – सौंदर्यबोध / सौंदर्य-सम्बन्धी।
18. A) **Let your hand be not put over the stove lest your fingers should be burnt.**
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 Form का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Imperative Negative वाक्य में Passive बनाते समय संरचना "Let + object + be not + past participle" प्रयोग होती है। दिए गए वाक्य में "put your hand" में "your hand" Object है और "put" Verb है। Passive में बदलने पर "your hand" Subject बन जाता है, Verb को be not put में बदला जाता है और दूसरी clause "burn your fingers" को Passive में your fingers should be burnt किया जाता है।
- To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence. The verb is transformed into the correct passive form. In a negative imperative sentence, the passive structure follows "Let + object + be not + past participle." Here, "your hand" becomes the subject, "put" changes to be not put, and the clause "burn your fingers" changes to your fingers should be burnt in passive form.
19. C) 'bring on' के बदले '**bring out**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'bring out' का अर्थ है "प्रकट करना, उजागर करना" (to reveal or express something); जैसे —
The team leader called up each employee separately but failed to bring out their actual grievances.
- 'bring out' should be used because it means to elicit or reveal something (like grievances). 'Bring on' means to cause something to happen or to challenge someone, which does not fit the context of revealing grievances.
20. A) 'My mother's brother's son' के बदले '**The son of my mother's brother**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि अंग्रेजी में consecutive possessives ('s + 's) को chain नहीं किया जाता। जब multi-level possession हो, तो outer relationship के लिए 'of' construction का प्रयोग किया जाता है।
- 'The son of my mother's brother' will be used instead of 'My mother's brother's son' because English avoids chaining multiple possessives ('s + 's) in succession. When expressing multi-level possession, the outer relationship must use the 'of' construction. Correct sentence: The son of my mother's brother has come.
21. B) The passage talks about a traditional, established style of acoustic music being "shaken" by something new (going electric). (orthodoxy) refers to generally accepted, traditional doctrines or practices. "Iconoclasm" (attacking cherished beliefs) and "heresy" (belief contrary to orthodox doctrine) are the forces doing the shaking, not the established norm itself. "Vanguard" refers to the forefront of new ideas, which contradicts the idea of an old tradition being disrupted.

In Hindi:

- Passage में बात हो रही है कि acoustic music की पुरानी स्थापित परंपरा (tradition) को कैसे हिला दिया गया। (orthodoxy) का मतलब रूढ़िवाद या स्थापित पुरानी परंपरा होता है। "Iconoclasm" (पुरानी मान्यताओं को तोड़ना) और "heresy" (स्थापित धर्म/परंपरा के खिलाफ जाना) वह ताकते हैं जो परंपरा को हिलाती हैं। "Vanguard" का मतलब नई सोच में सबसे आगे होना है, जो context के उल्टा है।

22. B) The phrase grammatically requires an adjective that takes the preposition "of". (reminiscent) means tending to remind one of something, perfectly describing how the film evokes the style of classic noir authors. "Derivative" also takes "of" but carries a strong negative connotation implying unoriginality or cheap imitation, which clashes with the passage's praise for the film's "revolutionary" template. "Prescient" means knowing the future. "Oblivious" means unaware.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ एक ऐसे adjective की ज़रूरत है जिसके साथ 'of' आता हो। (reminiscent) का मतलब किसी पुरानी शैली (style) या व्यक्ति की याद दिलाने वाला है। "Derivative" का इस्तेमाल तब होता है जब कोई चीज़ किसी और की सस्ती या बिना originality वाली नकल हो, जो यहाँ गलत है क्योंकि passage फिल्म की तारीफ कर रहा है। "Prescient" का मतलब भविष्य जानने वाला है। "Oblivious" का मतलब अनजान होना है।

23. C) The context describes the 1980s as a terrible period for Hindi film music, filled with "garish clamour" (loud, tasteless noise). Later, it refers to this era as an "abyss". (nadir) means the absolute lowest point or the most unsuccessful point in a situation. "Acme" and "zenith" both mean the highest peak or pinnacle of success (the exact opposite). "Renaissance" implies a glorious rebirth or revival.

In Hindi:

- Context बताता है कि 1980 का दशक हिंदी संगीत के लिए बहुत खराब समय था ("garish clamour" यानी शोरगुल)। (nadir) का मतलब किसी चीज़ का सबसे निचला या सबसे खराब स्तर होता है। "Acme" और "zenith" का मतलब सबसे ऊँचा शिखर (highest point) होता है। "Renaissance" का मतलब पुनर्जागरण (rebirth/revival) है, जो यहाँ गलत है।

24. D) Amidst the terrible, noisy music ("garish clamour") of the 1980s, Pancham's melodies offered a brief period of relief. (respite) means a short period of rest or relief from something difficult or unpleasant. "Hiatus" means a pause or gap, but it lacks the specific connotation of relief from suffering. "Aggravation" means making a bad situation worse. "Crescendo" means a gradual increase in loudness or intensity.

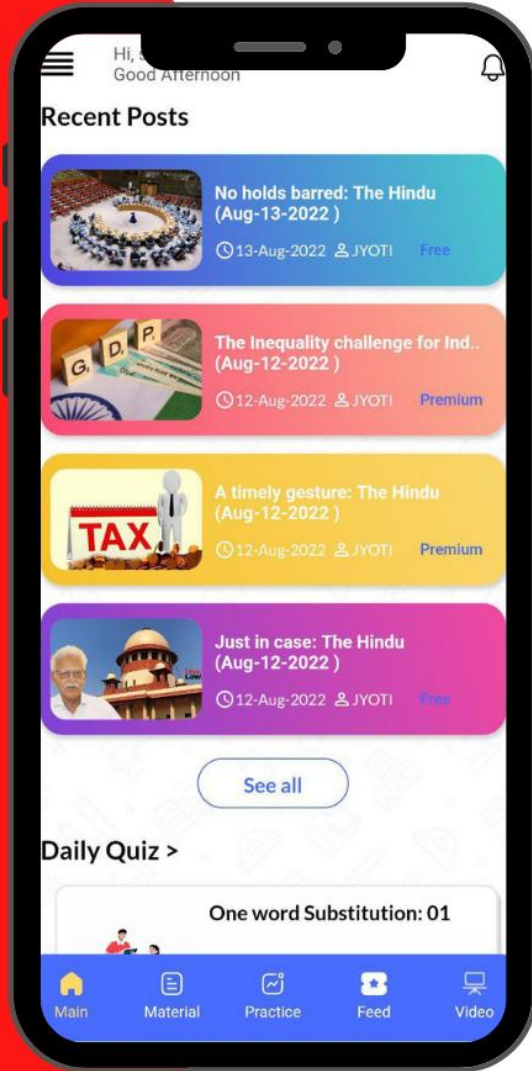
In Hindi:

- 1980 के दशक के शोरगुल भरे संगीत के बीच, पंचम की धुनें लोगों को सुकून देती थीं। (respite) का मतलब किसी दुख या परेशानी से मिलने वाली थोड़ी देर की राहत (relief) होता है। "Hiatus" का मतलब सिर्फ एक ब्रेक या ठहराव है, इसमें 'राहत' का भाव नहीं होता। "Aggravation" का मतलब परेशानी को और बढ़ाना है। "Crescendo" का मतलब आवाज़ का लगातार तेज़ होना है।

26. C) The passage describes how Pancham, fighting through "crippling despair" and an "abyss", somehow produced a final masterpiece. (conjured) means to make something appear seemingly from nowhere, as if by magic, which perfectly captures his miraculous creative revival. "Extirpated" means to completely destroy or root out. "Capitulated" means to surrender, which contradicts him making a triumphant final act. "Scavenged" means to search for and collect usable things from discarded waste, which strips away the magical, artistic brilliance implied by the passage.

In Hindi:

- Passage बताता है कि पंचम ने गहरी निराशा (despair) से निकलकर अचानक एक बेहतरीन आखिरी एल्बम कैसे बनाया। (conjured) का मतलब जादू की तरह कुछ रचना या शून्य से उत्पन्न करना है। "Extirpated" का मतलब जड़ से उखाड़ फेंकना या नष्ट करना है। "Capitulated" का मतलब हार मान लेना (surrender) है। "Scavenged" का मतलब कचरे में से चीजें बीनना है, जो एक महान कलाकार की रचनात्मकता के लिए अपमानजनक और गलत शब्द है।



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