

Sharing waters: On the Tungabhadra model

The Tungabhadra dam is a good example of inter-State cooperation

The **coming together** of the Chief Ministers of Karnataka (D.K. Shivakumar), Telangana (A. Revanth Reddy) and Andhra Pradesh (N. Chandrababu Naidu), along with Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil, at the **inauguration** of the 33 **spillway** gates of the Tungabhadra dam on June 25 **was** significant beyond the **optics**. The three leaders **pledged** greater inter-State cooperation, which is welcome **given** that the dam has largely remained free of major disputes due to an **established** water-sharing formula and the Tungabhadra Board's **regulation** of releases. Located in Karnataka's Koppal district, the dam is considered to be the **lifeline** of the three southern States, providing **irrigation** to about 16.4 lakh acres — 9.26 lakh in Karnataka, 6.25 lakh in Andhra Pradesh, and 87,000 in Telangana. It **hit the headlines** in August 2024 when **a crest gate** was **washed away** during heavy inflows — which also happened when the dam was full with 105 thousand million cubic feet (tmc ft) of water. The damaged gate was replaced with a temporary one, but with much water wasted, the **authorities**, who did not want to **take chances** with the other 32 gates, **chose** to install high-grade steel gates, at ₹51 crore and which are expected to last 60 years.

Notwithstanding the **bonhomie**, the **differences** among the leaders on some issues concerning the larger Tungabhadra project cannot **be brushed aside**. The **Upper Bhadra project**, a major lift irrigation scheme under implementation in the central region of Karnataka and **upstream** of the Tungabhadra dam, **has** emerged as an **irritant** for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. At one stage, the BJP-led Union government had made a **provision** of ₹5,300 crore in its budget for 2023-24, a few months before the Karnataka Assembly elections. However, the Centre later chose not to include it under any of its schemes, but this is being implemented by a Karnataka government **undertaking**. **It remains to be seen** whether the **spirit** of **camaraderie** **will** help the three neighbours to **overcome** their **differences** on the Upper Bhadra issue. The Tungabhadra dam is also facing excessive **siltation**, which has reduced its storage capacity from the original 133 tmc ft to about 106 tmc ft. Mr. Patil has **assured** the Chief Ministers about the Centre's plan to remove **silt** from water reservoirs across the country including the Tungabhadra. More importantly, the Union government should closely **monitor** and **expedite**, wherever required, the **execution** of dam **rehabilitation** and improvement projects being taken up in 19 States. Any **laxity** **with regard to** dam safety may **have disastrous** consequences. The focus must be on prevention, not **reparation**. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Inauguration** (noun) - launch, opening, commencement, start, initiation उद्घाटन
2. **Spillway** (noun) - overflow, channel, sluice, chute, outlet अधिशेष जल निकास मार्ग
3. **Optics** (noun) - perception, public image, appearance, visual impact, presentation दृश्य प्रभाव (जनधारणा)
4. **Pledge** (verb) - promise, vow, commit, swear, guarantee संकल्प लेना
5. **Given** (preposition) - considering, taking into account, in view of को देखते हुए
6. **Establish** (verb) - set up, institute, create, fix, ground स्थापित
7. **Regulation** (noun) - control, management, supervision, direction, order विनियमन/नियंत्रण
8. **Lifeline** (noun) - vital support, main source, survival link, backbone, essential connection जीवनरेखा
9. **Irrigation** (noun) - watering, hydration, flooding, moisture supply, cultivation support सिंचाई
10. **Hit the headlines** (phrase) - to become news, gain public attention सुर्खियों में आना
11. **Crest gate** (noun) - a gate or barrier located at the top (crest) of a dam or spillway, used to control the flow and level of water ऊपरी जल निकास द्वार
12. **Wash away** (phrasal verb) - to be destroyed or carried away by water बहा ले जाना
13. **Take a chance** (phrase) - to take a risk जोखिम उठाना
14. **Notwithstanding** (preposition) - despite, in spite of, regardless of इसके बावजूद
15. **Bonhomie** (noun) - friendliness, warmth, good nature, geniality, cheerfulness सद्भाव/मैत्रीपूर्ण वातावरण
16. **Brush aside** (phrasal verb) - to ignore or overlook अनदेखा करना
17. **Upstream** (adjective) - against the flow, upper-course, towards the source, reverse, inland ऊपरी धारा
18. **Irritant** (noun) - nuisance, annoyance, bother, provocation, pest परेशानी का कारण
19. **Provision** (noun) - allocation, budget, fund, supply, arrangement प्रावधान
20. **Undertaking** (noun) - organization, enterprise, project, venture, task उपक्रम
21. **It remains to be seen** (phrase) - it is not yet certain यह देखना बाकी है
22. **Camaraderie** (noun) - friendship, fellowship, rapport, solidarity, trust भाईचारा
23. **Overcome** (verb) - conquer, defeat, surmount, beat, resolve काबू पाना
24. **Difference** (noun) - disagreement, dispute, conflict, variance, divergence मतभेद
25. **Siltation** (noun) - sedimentation, silting, deposit, accumulation, clogging गाद जमा होना
26. **Assure** (verb) - guarantee, promise, convince, reassure, warrant आश्वस्त करना
27. **Silt** (noun) - sediment, mud, sludge, deposit, clay गाद/कीचड़

28. **Monitor** (verb) - track, observe, oversee, watch, supervise निगरानी करना
29. **Expedite** (verb) - speed up, accelerate, hasten, hurry, rush तेज करना
30. **Execution** (noun) - implementation, performance, completion, conduct, administration कार्यान्वयन
31. **Rehabilitation** (noun) - restoration, renovation, recovery, repair, improvement पुनर्वास/मरम्मत
32. **Laxity** (noun) - negligence, carelessness, looseness, slackness, remissness लापरवाही
33. **With regard to** (phrase) - concerning, regarding, in relation to के संबंध में
34. **Disastrous** (adjective) - catastrophic, devastating, ruinous, tragic, calamitous विनाशकारी
35. **Reparation** (noun) - compensation, amends, repair, restitution, redress मरम्मत/क्षतिपूर्ति

Summary of the Editorial

1. The joint inauguration of the **33 new spillway gates of the Tungabhadra Dam** by the Chief Ministers of Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and the Union Jal Shakti Minister symbolised **strong inter-State cooperation**.
2. The editorial views this collaboration as a positive example of **cooperative federalism** in managing shared water resources.
3. The **Tungabhadra Dam**, located in Karnataka's Koppal district, is the lifeline of **Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana**.
4. The dam provides irrigation to about **16.4 lakh acres** of farmland across the three States.
5. The project has largely remained free from major water disputes due to a **well-established water-sharing formula** and the effective functioning of the **Tungabhadra Board**.
6. In **August 2024**, one of the dam's crest gates was washed away during heavy inflows when the reservoir was full, highlighting concerns about dam safety.
7. To improve safety, all **33 spillway gates have now been replaced with high-grade steel gates** costing about **₹51 crore**, with an expected lifespan of **60 years**.
8. Despite the cooperative spirit, differences remain over the **Upper Bhadra Project**, a lift irrigation scheme being implemented upstream by Karnataka.
9. Andhra Pradesh and Telangana fear that the **Upper Bhadra Project** could reduce downstream water availability.
10. Although the Union Government initially allocated funds for the Upper Bhadra Project, it was later excluded from central schemes and is now being implemented by Karnataka.
11. The editorial hopes that the present atmosphere of cooperation will help resolve these inter-State disagreements peacefully.
12. Another major challenge is **excessive siltation**, which has reduced the Tungabhadra Dam's storage capacity from **133 tmc ft to about 106 tmc ft**.
13. The Union Government has assured support for **desilting reservoirs**, including the Tungabhadra Dam, to restore storage capacity.
14. The editorial stresses the need for the Centre to closely monitor and speed up **dam rehabilitation and improvement projects** across 19 States.
15. It concludes that **preventive maintenance, dam safety, and sustained inter-State cooperation** are essential for ensuring water security and preventing future disasters.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **The primary purpose of the passage is to:** [Editorial page]
- A. evaluate an instance of political cooperation against deep-seated operational conflicts and emphasize infrastructure security
 - B. chronicle the history of water sharing disputes among three southern states regarding a major peninsular river system
 - C. criticize the central government's fluctuating financial budget allocation patterns for state-led lift irrigation schemes
 - D. detail the step-by-step engineering timeline for installing high-grade steel spillway gates across old reservoir networks
2. **According to the author of the passage, a large number of states:**
- A. are actively executing dam safety upgrades
 - B. are bordering the specific reservoir location
 - C. are implementing upstream lift irrigation schemes
 - D. are disputing the current water-sharing formula
3. **Which of the following best describes the author's attitude?**
- A. Complacent
 - B. Apprehensive
 - C. Cynical
 - D. Vindictive
4. **Identify the correct use of a compound adjective from the passage. Which of the following phrases from the passage contains a compound adjective used to modify a noun?**
- A. Spillway gates
 - B. Lift irrigation
 - C. Water-sharing formula
 - D. Heavy inflows
5. **Which of the following statements can be inferred from the SECOND PARAGRAPH of the above passage?**
- a. The central government's withdrawal of direct budget funds for the Upper Bhadra scheme stopped Karnataka's ability to proceed with the upstream irrigation project.
 - b. Resolving the inter-state friction over the Upper Bhadra lift irrigation scheme depends heavily on whether the current political friendship can survive deep operational disagreements.
 - c. The ongoing reduction in the Tungabhadra dam's water storage capacity is primarily driven by recent manufacturing defects in its original 32 high-grade steel crest gates.
- A. Only c
 - B. Only b
 - C. Both a and c
 - D. Both a and b
6. **Rearrange the following sentences to form a meaningful passage:**
- 1. Binding statutory laws and independent public oversight must replace abstract ethical guidelines to govern automated systems.
 - 2. Monopolistic private technology corporations wield unprecedented global influence by exploiting personal data.

3. Unchecked technological expansion reduces human agency and creates an oppressive system of digital subjugation.
4. Preserving fundamental human dignity requires the implementation of robust constitutional safeguards.
 - A. 2-3-4-1
 - B. 2-3-1-4
 - C. 3-2-1-4
 - D. 2-4-3-1
7. **Rearrange the following sentences to form a meaningful passage:**
 1. Retaliatory human actions stem primarily from continuous crop-raiding incidents and localized habitat intrusions by the animals.
 2. Despite high-level administrative meetings aimed at refining reserve management effectiveness, tragic fatalities persist on the ground.
 3. A comprehensive expert study identified accidental electrocution and explosive traps as the leading causes driving unnatural mortality rates.
 4. Recurrent human-induced elephant deaths in regional wildlife hotspots have renewed intense focus on severe human-wildlife conflict.
 - A. 4-1-3-2
 - B. 1-3-4-2
 - C. 4-3-1-2
 - D. 2-4-1-3
8. **Select the grammatically correct sentence.**
 - A. Ragini plays the guitar melodious.
 - B. Ragini plays the guitar melodiously.
 - C. Ragini plays the guitar with a melody.
 - D. Ragini plays the guitar with melodiousness.
9. **The following sentence has been divided into four parts. Identify the part that contains an error.**

A) I am hearing / (B) that the heat wave / (C) is going to be / (D) worse this year.

 - A. A
 - B. B
 - C. C
 - D. D
10. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains an INCORRECT preposition.**

I am writing to invite you / to give a presentation / for our Jobs and Careers Conference / for engineering graduates

 - A. for engineering graduates
 - B. to give a presentation
 - C. I am writing to invite you
 - D. for our Jobs and Careers Conference
11. **Select the option with the correct use of future tense.**
 - A. I hope your health is getting better by next week.
 - B. I hope your health is get better by next week.

- C. I hope your health will get better by next week.
D. I hope your health have been getting better by next week.
12. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the following sentence.**
There is also an increase in juvenile delinquency.
A. Minor
B. Puerile
C. Teenage
D. Adult
13. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
The boy watched a sci-fi movie in the lieu of playing in the game zone
A. in lieu of play
B. in lieu of playing
C. on lieu of playing
D. in lieu off playing
14. **Select the most appropriate synonym that can replace the underlined word in the given sentence.**
It did not take her very long to ascend to power.
A. arise
B. reach
C. climb
D. grab
15. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Peculiar
A. Revolutionary
B. Usual
C. Frequent
D. Strange
16. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Alluring
A. Glamourous
B. Enticing
C. Fascinating
D. Repulsive
17. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined part in the following sentence.**
My entire family left me in the lurch when I went to them after I divorced my husband
A. blamed only me for my failure
B. scorned me for committing mistakes
C. refused to help me in my distress
D. attempted to harass me
18. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence.**
The west Africans have a heritage of produsing sculpture using wax and bronze
A. Bronze

- B. Heritage
- C. Producing
- D. Sculpture

19. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**

Resourceful

- A. Incompetent
- B. Ingenious
- C. Impeccable
- D. Immaculate

20. **Fill in the blank using the correct collocation.**

We need to _____ a decision on the housing project tomorrow morning.

- A. build
- B. draw
- C. frame
- D. make

Passage:

My journey to Everest did not begin with a (1) _____ for summits. It was not even my second choice for a climb after the successful and spiritually fulfilling Manaslu summit.

But, the emotional (2) _____ of the COVID years and a personal loss had me Google possible choices for a scenic yet culturally significant trek far from the noise. For me, that (3) _____ became the mountains. In quick succession, I lined up summits including Sandakphu Phalut, Khopra ridge, and Kilimanjaro. Encouraged, I proceeded to complete Everest base camp and Lobuche East, qualifying me for technical climbs including 8,000 metre peaks like Manaslu and Everest.

The mountains (4) _____ me in ways life never had. They demanded endurance, patience and surrender. And in return, they gave clarity, mental resilience and devoured my ego and pride.

With every (5) _____, I began learning to master emotion and mute fear. I felt this transformation began to reflect in my life. In my medical profession, in administrative responsibilities and in critical decision making, I found myself calm, with greater emotional control.

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

- A. apathy
- B. abhorrence
- C. repulsion
- D. fascination

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

- A. equilibrium
- B. placidity
- C. stagnation
- D. upheaval

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

- A. refuge
- B. peril
- C. crucible

- D. exposure
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
- A. has been challenging
 - B. challenged
 - C. challenge
 - D. challenges
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
- A. descent
 - B. plunge
 - C. ascent
 - D. declination

Answers

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

Explanations

1. A) **evaluate an instance of political cooperation against deep-seated operational conflicts and emphasize infrastructure security**

This is correct. The author uses a specific political event (the joint gate inauguration) to analyze the broader reality of inter-state water relations. The passage is structured to balance the superficial political friendliness ("bonhomie") with underlying, unresolved structural challenges (the Upper Bhadra project irritant and excessive siltation) before concluding with a strong, definitive plea for proactive dam safety and preventative infrastructure rehabilitation across the nation. (Correct)

option b: This is incorrect. The passage explicitly states that the Tungabhadra dam has largely been free of major disputes. Chronicling a history of water sharing conflicts is not the focus or purpose of the passage. (Incorrect)

option c: This is incorrect. While the author mentions the Centre's budgetary withdrawal regarding the Upper Bhadra project, this detail is used merely as a contextual example to illustrate the friction surrounding the upstream project, not as the main thesis or primary purpose of the entire passage. (Incorrect)

option d: This is incorrect. The passage mentions why the gates were replaced (due to a gate washing away in August 2024), but it does not map out a detailed, technical, step-by-step engineering timeline of how the installation process itself occurred. (Incorrect)

2. A) **are actively executing dam safety upgrades**

Line from the passage: "...the execution of dam rehabilitation and improvement projects being taken up in 19 States." This is correct. The passage explicitly concludes that a large number of states (19 states) are currently taking up and executing dam safety rehabilitation and improvement projects. (Correct)

option b: Line from the passage: "Located in Karnataka's Koppal district, the dam is considered to be the lifeline of the three southern States..." This is incorrect. Only three states (Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana) share or depend on this specific reservoir network, not a "large number" of them. (Incorrect)

Option (c): Line from the passage: "The Upper Bhadra project, a major lift irrigation scheme under implementation in the central region of Karnataka..." This is incorrect. The passage describes only one state (Karnataka) as implementing this specific upstream lift irrigation scheme. (Incorrect)

option d: Line from the passage: "...the dam has largely remained free of major disputes due to an established water-sharing formula..." This is incorrect. The passage explicitly notes that the states are not disputing the core water-sharing formula; the dam has largely remained free of such conflicts. (Incorrect)

3. B) **Apprehensive**

Line from the passage: "Notwithstanding the bonhomie, the differences... cannot be brushed aside. ... Any laxity with regard to dam safety may have disastrous consequences. The focus

must be on prevention, not reparation." This is correct. "Apprehensive" means anxious or fearful that something bad or unpleasant will happen. The author looks past the superficial political handshakes and expresses direct anxiety about hidden realities—such as severe unresolved water disputes ("irritants"), massive siltation, and a strict warning that any negligence with dam safety will lead to "disastrous consequences." (Correct)

option A: This is incorrect. "Complacent" means uncritical satisfaction with oneself or society's achievements. The author is explicitly pointing out massive infrastructure errors (siltation, a washed-away gate, lack of monitoring) and sounding an urgent alarm, which is the exact opposite of complacency. (Incorrect)

option C: This is incorrect. "Cynical" means believing that people are motivated purely by self-interest. While the author is deeply realistic and cautious about political showmanship ("beyond the optics"), they call the cooperation "welcome" and hope to see it work, showing a measured, careful analysis rather than cynicism. (Incorrect)

option D: This is incorrect. "Vindictive" means having or showing a strong or unreasoning desire for revenge. The passage is an objective environmental and political review; the author holds absolutely no personal vendetta or desire for revenge against any political party or state administration. (Incorrect)

4. C) **Water-sharing formula**

'Water-sharing' should be used because here it functions as a compound adjective modifying the noun 'formula'. It is a combination of "water" + "sharing", forming a joint adjective that denotes the system of distribution of water. Thus, it is the correct example of a compound adjective in the passage. Other options like 'spillway gates' and 'lift irrigation' consist of noun adjuncts acting as compound nouns, while 'heavy inflows' uses a simple descriptive adjective.

5. B) **Only b**

Line from the passage: "Notwithstanding the bonhomie, the differences among the leaders... cannot be brushed aside. ... It remains to be seen whether the spirit of camaraderie will help the three neighbours to overcome their differences on the Upper Bhadra issue." This is correct. The author notes that despite their current public friendliness ("bonhomie" and "camaraderie"), major operational disputes over the Upper Bhadra project still act as an irritant. The author explicitly concludes that whether they can overcome these differences "remains to be seen," directly implying that the resolution hinges on this political friendship surviving the underlying friction. (Correct)

statement a: This is incorrect. The passage explicitly states that despite the Centre's decision not to include the project under its schemes, it is still actively "being implemented by a Karnataka government undertaking." It did not stop the project. (Incorrect)

statement c: This is incorrect. The paragraph explicitly states that the drop in water storage capacity is caused by "excessive siltation" (the accumulation of sediment). The replacement of the gates with high-grade steel was discussed in the first paragraph and was triggered by a gate washing away due to high water inflows, not siltation or original manufacturing flaws. (Incorrect)

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

Sentence 2 comes first because it introduces the primary theme and the real-world actor behind the crisis. It establishes the baseline context by identifying the source of the problem: monopolistic tech corporations exploiting personal data.

Sentence 3 follows Sentence 2 because it details the immediate, direct consequence of that corporate exploitation. The narrative moves logically from corporations seizing personal data to the resulting state of digital subjugation and loss of human agency.

Sentence 1 comes next to introduce the concrete structural solution to this crisis. After establishing the threat of digital subjugation, the passage transitions from the problem to the specific legal mechanism required to stop it (binding laws and public oversight over automated systems).

Sentence 4 comes last because it provides the ultimate macro conclusion and philosophical climax. It connects all the previous points—the corporate threat, the loss of agency, and the legal remedies—into one final, overarching imperative: the necessity of robust constitutional safeguards to preserve human dignity.

- Sentence 2 सबसे पहले आता है क्योंकि यह passage के मुख्य विषय और संकट के वास्तविक कारण (root cause) को पेश करता है। यह व्यक्तिगत डेटा का फायदा उठाने वाले एकाधिकारवादी टेक कॉर्पोरेशन्स (monopolistic tech corporations) को रेखांकित करके एक मजबूत baseline context सेट करता है।
- Sentence 1, sentence 2 के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह उस कॉर्पोरेट शोषण के सीधे परिणाम को दिखाता है। यह क्रम स्वाभाविक रूप से डेटा के दुरुपयोग से सीधे इंसानी एजेंसी के नुकसान और डिजिटल गुलामी (digital subjugation) की स्थिति पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है।
- Sentence 1 इसके बाद आता है क्योंकि यह इस संकट का एक ठोस संरचनात्मक समाधान (structural solution) पेश करता है। डिजिटल गुलामी के खतरे को बताने के बाद, यह वाक्य समझाता है कि इसे रोकने के लिए अमूर्त नैतिकता (abstract ethics) के बजाय बाध्यकारी कानूनों और सार्वजनिक निगरानी की आवश्यकता है।
- Sentence 4 अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह पूरे सीक्वेंस का एक व्यापक दार्शनिक निष्कर्ष (philosophical conclusion) प्रदान करता है। यह टेक कंपनियों के खतरे, इंसानी आजादी के नुकसान और कानूनी उपायों को एक साथ जोड़ते हुए अंतिम बिंदु रखता है कि मानव गरिमा की रक्षा के लिए मजबूत संवैधानिक सुरक्षा उपायों (constitutional safeguards) का होना अनिवार्य है।

7. A) 4-1-3-2

Sentence 4 comes first because it introduces the primary theme of the passage. It establishes the baseline context by declaring the core situation: the recurring human-induced elephant deaths and the intense focus on human-wildlife conflict.

Sentence 1 follows Sentence 4 because it explains the immediate underlying trigger behind the conflict. It moves logically from the existence of human-induced deaths to the specific reasons why humans retaliate (crop-raiding and habitat intrusions).

Sentence 3 comes next to provide formal, empirical data backing up these points. After explaining the general nature of the conflict, the narrative advances to a specific expert study that quantifies the leading unnatural causes of mortality, such as electrocution and explosives.

Sentence 2 comes last because it provides a macro perspective and an ironic conclusion. It shifts focus from technical mortality data to address the institutional reality, highlighting the persistent gap between top-level management meetings and the tragic survival challenges occurring on the ground.

- Sentence 4 सबसे पहले आता है क्योंकि यह passage के मुख्य विषय (primary theme) को पेश करता है। यह क्षेत्रीय हॉटस्पॉट में इंसानों के कारण होने वाली हाथियों की मौतों और मानव-वन्यजीव संघर्ष की गंभीर स्थिति को दिखाकर एक मजबूत baseline context सेट करता है।

- Sentence 1, sentence 4 के बाद आता है क्योंकि यह इस संघर्ष के पीछे के तात्कालिक कारणों (immediate triggers) को स्पष्ट करता है। यह मौतों की जानकारी से सीधे इंसानों द्वारा की जाने वाली जवाबी कार्रवाई के मुख्य कारणों—फसलों को नुकसान पहुंचाने और हाथियों के इंसानी बस्तियों में आने—पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है।
 - Sentence 3 इसके बाद आता है क्योंकि यह इन दावों की पुष्टि के लिए आधिकारिक और प्रामाणिक डेटा (empirical data) प्रदान करता है। सामान्य संघर्ष को समझाने के बाद, यह वाक्य एक विशेषज्ञ अध्ययन का विवरण देता है जो बिजली के झटके और विस्फोटकों को हाथियों की अकाल मृत्यु का मुख्य कारण बताता है।
 - Sentence 2 अंत में आता है क्योंकि यह एक व्यापक प्रशासनिक परिप्रेक्ष्य (macro perspective) और एक विडंबनापूर्ण निष्कर्ष (ironic conclusion) प्रदान करता है। यह तकनीकी मृत्यु दर के आंकड़ों से हटकर संस्थागत स्थिति पर बात करता है कि कैसे बड़े अधिकारियों की बैठकों और जमीनी हकीकत के बीच एक बड़ा अंतर बना हुआ है।
8. B) **Ragini plays the guitar melodiously**
 'melodious' के बदले 'melodiously' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहां 'plays' verb के लिए adverb की आवश्यकता है न कि adjective की; जैसे— She sings beautifully.
- 'Melodiously' will be used instead of 'melodious' because here 'plays' requires an adverb, not an adjective; Like— She sings beautifully.
9. A) 'am hearing' के बदले '**hear**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'hear' एक stative verb है और इसे continuous tense में प्रयोग नहीं किया जाता है; जैसे— I hear you clearly.
- 'hear' will be used instead of 'am hearing' because 'hear' is a stative verb and is not used in the continuous tense; Like— I hear you clearly.
10. D) 'for our Jobs and Careers Conference' के बदले '**at our Jobs and Careers Conference**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'for' preposition को event या location के लिए प्रयोग नहीं किया जाता है; जैसे— The seminar will be held at the college auditorium.
- 'at our Jobs and Careers Conference' का प्रयोग किया जाएगा क्योंकि event या स्थान को दर्शाने के लिए 'at' preposition का प्रयोग किया जाता है। जैसे— The seminar will be held at the college auditorium.
11. C) '**will get better**' का प्रयोग सही है क्योंकि यह भविष्य काल (Future Tense) में है और अगले सप्ताह (by next week) की बात कर रहा है। इस वाक्य में, 'will' का प्रयोग भविष्य में किसी घटना के होने की संभावना को व्यक्त करने के लिए किया गया है, जैसे— I hope your health will get better by next week.
- 'will get better' is correct because it is in the Future Tense and is referring to something expected to happen by next week. In this sentence, 'will' is used to express the likelihood of an event occurring in the future, like— I hope your health will get better by next week.
12. D) **Juvenile** (adjective) – Relating to young people, youthful, adolescent. किशोर
 Antonym: **Adult** (adjective) – Fully grown or developed, mature, grown-up. वयस्क
- **Minor** (adjective) – Lesser in importance, seriousness, or significance, underage. मामूली
 - **Puerile** (adjective) – Childishly silly and trivial, immature, juvenile. बालसुलभ
 - **Teenage** (adjective) – Relating to teenagers, adolescent, young. किशोर

13. B) **in lieu of playing'** का प्रयोग सही है क्योंकि 'in lieu of' एक phrase है जिसका अर्थ है 'के स्थान पर' और इसके बाद verb के '-ing' form का प्रयोग होता है। सही वाक्य होगा: The boy watched a sci-fi movie in lieu of playing in the game zone.
- 'in lieu of playing' is correct because 'in lieu of' is a phrase that means 'in place of,' and it is followed by the '-ing' form of the verb. The correct sentence is: The boy watched a sci-fi movie in lieu of playing in the game zone.
14. C) **Ascend** (verb) – Move up, rise, go up, mount. चढ़ना
Synonym: **Climb** (verb) – to move or go up (something) using your feet and often your hands, especially to a higher position. चढ़ना
- **Arise** (verb) – to become apparent, to come into being or attention. उठना
 - **Reach** (verb) – to arrive at; to attain a goal or destination. पहुंचना
 - **Grab** (verb) – to take hold of something or someone suddenly and roughly. पकड़ना
15. D) **Peculiar** (adjective) – Unusual, distinctive, different from the normal, odd. अजीब
Synonym: **Strange** (adjective) – Unusual, odd, not familiar, peculiar. अजीब
- **Revolutionary** (adjective) – Involving or causing a complete or dramatic change, innovative. क्रांतिकारी
 - **Usual** (adjective) – Habitual, common, regular, normal. सामान्य
 - **Frequent** (adjective) – Occurring often, repeated, regular. बार-बार
16. D) **Alluring** (adjective) – Powerfully and mysteriously attractive or fascinating; seductive. आकर्षक
Antonym: **Repulsive** (adjective) – Arousing intense distaste or disgust; offensive, unattractive. घृणास्पद
- **Glamorous** (adjective) – Attractive in an exciting and special way. आकर्षक
 - **Enticing** (adjective) – Attractive or tempting; alluring. लुभावनी
 - **Fascinating** (adjective) – Extremely interesting and attractive. मोहक
17. C) **Leave someone in the lurch** (phrase) – Refused to help me in my distress किसी को मझधार में छोड़ देना
18. C) The correct spelling of 'Produsing' is '**Producing**' which means "making or manufacturing from components or raw materials" निर्माण करना, उत्पादन करना.
19. A) **Resourceful** (adjective) – Having the ability to find quick and clever ways to overcome difficulties, inventive, capable. संसाधन संपन्न
Antonym: **Incompetent** (adjective) – Not having or showing the necessary skills to do something successfully, inept, unskilled. अक्षम
- **Ingenious** (adjective) – Clever, original, and inventive, resourceful. उद्यमी
 - **Impeccable** (adjective) – In accordance with the highest standards; faultless. निर्दोष
 - **Immaculate** (adjective) – Perfectly clean, neat, or tidy, spotless; perfect, flawless, faultless निर्मल/ श्रेष्ठ
20. D) '**make**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि सही collocation 'make a decision' होता है, जिसका अर्थ है निर्णय लेना। सही वाक्य होगा: We need to make a decision on the housing project tomorrow morning.

'make' will be used because the correct collocation is 'make a decision,' which means to decide. The correct sentence is: We need to make a decision on the housing project tomorrow morning.

21. D) The author is stating that their journey didn't start because of a strong attraction to or obsession with mountain peaks. (fascination) means a strong attraction or interest. "Apathy" means a lack of interest or emotion. "Abhorrence" and "repulsion" mean a feeling of strong disgust or hatred.

In Hindi:

- लेखक कह रहा है कि उसकी एवरेस्ट की यात्रा चोटियों के प्रति किसी गहरे आकर्षण के कारण शुरू नहीं हुई थी। (fascination) का मतलब गहरा आकर्षण या मोह है। "Apathy" का मतलब उदासीनता (lack of interest) है। "Abhorrence" और "repulsion" का मतलब नफरत या घृणा है।

22. D) The context describes the difficult, chaotic period of the COVID years and a personal loss. (upheaval) means a violent or sudden change or disruption to something. "Equilibrium" means a state of balance. "Placidity" means calmness or peacefulness. "Stagnation" means a lack of activity, growth, or development.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ COVID के समय की उथल-पुथल और व्यक्तिगत नुकसान के दुखद दौर की बात हो रही है। (upheaval) का मतलब भारी उथल-पुथल या अशांति होता है। "Equilibrium" का मतलब संतुलन है। "Placidity" का मतलब शांति है। "Stagnation" का मतलब स्थिरता या रुकावट है, जो भावनाओं के इस दौर के लिए गलत है।

23. A) The author was looking for a place "far from the noise" to heal from their emotional pain, which they found in the mountains. (refuge) means a place or state of safety, shelter, or protection from trouble. "Peril" means serious and immediate danger. "Crucible" refers to a severe trial or test. "Exposure" means the state of having no protection from something harmful.

In Hindi:

- लेखक अपने दुख और शोर-शराबे से दूर एक सुरक्षित या शांत जगह की तलाश में था, जो उसे पहाड़ों में मिली। (refuge) का मतलब आश्रय या शरण की जगह (shelter) होता है। "Peril" का मतलब गंभीर खतरा है। "Crucible" का मतलब कड़ी परीक्षा है। "Exposure" का मतलब खतरे के सामने खुला होना है।

24. B) The sentence requires a verb in the simple past tense to match the surrounding narrative flow ("demanded", "gave"). (challenged) is the correct past tense verb meaning to test someone's abilities or endurance. "Has been challenging" is present perfect continuous, which does not fit the past tense context of the paragraph. "Challenge" is present tense.

In Hindi:

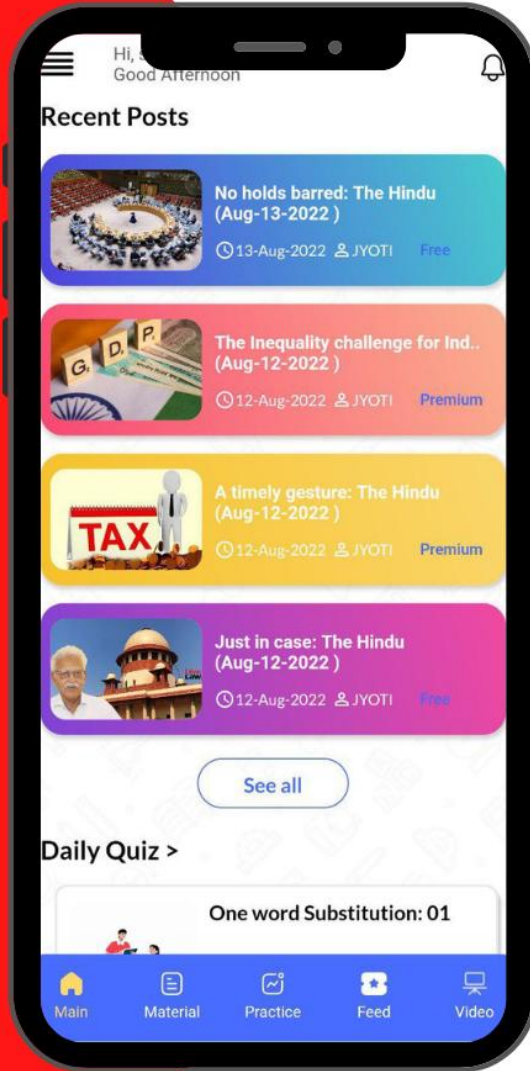
- यहाँ वाक्य past tense (भूतकाल) में है, जैसा कि आगे के वाक्यों में "demanded" और "gave" से पता चलता है। इसलिए past tense की verb (challenged) सही है, जिसका मतलब परीक्षा लेना या चुनौती देना है। "Has been challenging" present perfect continuous tense है, और "challenge" present tense है, जो grammar के हिसाब से गलत है।

25. C) The passage is discussing the act of climbing mountains and conquering peaks. (ascent) means a climb or walk to the summit of a mountain or hill. "Descent" means an act of moving

downwards. "Plunge" means to fall or jump suddenly downwards. "Declination" means a downward bend or a gradual decrease.

In Hindi:

- Passage में पहाड़ों पर चढ़ने की बात हो रही है। (ascent) का मतलब ऊपर की ओर चढ़ाई (climb) करना है। "Descent" का मतलब नीचे उतरना है। "Plunge" का मतलब अचानक नीचे गिरना या छलांग लगाना है। "Declination" का मतलब नीचे की ओर झुकाव या गिरावट है।



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