

## Fixing the rot: On the **subversion** of public examinations and recruitment

There seems a **recurring** pattern in the examination paper leaks across States

**Corruption** in public life **is often** linked to “**malfesance**”, the **venality** of government officials in high places taking **bribes** and misusing their positions to **enrich** themselves or their **cronies**. But a more **corrosive** variant that **impinges upon** public life includes the systematic subversion of public examinations and recruitment. This is because public examinations and teacher recruitment are pathways to creating skilled individuals in a rapidly modernising economy where jobs increasingly depend on skills and training. **Corruption** in these processes, which should ideally be done on **merit**, **will erode** India’s ability to fully realise its **demographic dividend**. Be it the National Testing Agency having to re-conduct the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for medical undergraduate aspirants, or, the postponement of the Maharashtra Teacher Eligibility Test just before its scheduled date (June 28), the **malaise** seems **depressingly** familiar. It is **driven** by a cottage industry that leaks papers through insider networks and targets the **vast** coaching **ecosystem** to **rake in** money from those **seeking** shortcuts to pass. In the Maharashtra case, the **alleged kingpin** — a Patna resident suspected of links to an Odisha paper leak scam in 2024 and even to the NEET scam — **reportedly ran** teams from Bihar and Haryana that **sought** to sell papers to coaching classes.

Eerily, a similar **template surfaces** in scam after scam. In Gujarat, the alleged **mastermind** of the 2023 junior-clerk recruitment exam leak **was** an employee at a Hyderabad press that printed the paper. In 2024, in Jammu and Kashmir, a printing-press insider and security men were chargesheeted in the 2022 services board exam leak case. In Rajasthan, the December 2022 teacher-recruitment paper was sold by a serving government teacher. The common element is the presence of insider networks that have **worked out** ways to scam the system. The **vulnerability lies** not only in how question papers are distributed, but also in how they are set, with the repeated involvement of a select group of experts — many are linked to the coaching ecosystem. This is why the **ritual** of hunting for “kingpins” and running performative investigations until public attention **fades** leaves the core problem **untouched**. **Pertinent** questions are rarely **addressed**. Is the paper set by the same closed pool of examiners each time? Are their **antecedents** and commercial links verified? Do the departments that run these exams **scrutinise** examiners for conflicts of interest? Lastly, even if the system **undertakes** such reforms, it would be incomplete without **accountability**. **Education Ministers** — at the Centre and States — **must** own these failures. When leaks **recur** as routinely as they now do, the **Minister** who **presides** over the system should not **remain** in the post.

[Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Fix the rot** (phrase) - to repair or eliminate deep-seated corruption or decay within a system व्यवस्था की सड़न को दूर करना
2. **Subversion** (noun) - sabotage, undermining, destabilization, overthrow, weakening विध्वंस/पलट देना
3. **Recurring** (adjective) - repeated, frequent, periodic, habitual, constant आवर्ती
4. **Often** (adverb) - frequently, repeatedly, regularly, usually, commonly अक्सर
5. **Malfeasance** (noun) - misconduct, wrongdoing, corruption, impropriety, crime कदाचार
6. **Venality** (noun) - corruptibility, bribery, greed, dishonesty, mercenary nature भ्रष्टता/रिश्वतखोरी
7. **Bribe** (noun) - kickback, payoff, inducement, graft, grease रिश्वत
8. **Enrich** (verb) - aggrandize, prosper, fatten, boost, improve समृद्ध करना
9. **Crony** (noun) - accomplice, associate, confederate, henchman, cohort दोस्त/सहयोगी
10. **Corrosive** (adjective) - destructive, eroding, harmful, caustic, damaging क्षयकारी
11. **Impinge upon** (phrasal verb) - have an effect or impact on something, often by limiting it, interfering with it, or encroaching upon it in an unwanted way पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डालना
12. **Merit** (noun) - worth, excellence, quality, caliber, virtue योग्यता
13. **Erode** (verb) - wear away, corrode, diminish, weaken, destroy क्षय करना/धीरे-धीरे नष्ट करना
14. **Demographic dividend** (noun) - economic growth potential from a young workforce जनसांख्यिकीय लाभांश
15. **Malaise** (noun) - trouble, unrest, problem, sickness, discomfort बेचैनी/समस्या
16. **Depressingly** (adverb) - dishearteningly, gloomily, sadly, discouragingly, bleakly निराशाजनक रूप से
17. **Drive** (verb) - propel, push, stimulate, motivate, impel प्रेरित करना/संचालित करना
18. **Vast** (adjective) - huge, extensive, immense, massive, broad विशाल
19. **Ecosystem** (noun) - a community of living organisms and their physical environment interacting with each other in a particular area पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र (यहाँ नेटवर्क के अर्थ में)
20. **Rake in** (phrasal verb) - to earn or collect a large amount of money भारी कमाई करना
21. **Seek** (verb) - attempt, try, aim, pursue, strive प्रयास करना/खोजना
22. **Alleged** (adjective) - suspected, claimed, purported, asserted, supposed कथित
23. **Kingpin** (noun) - mastermind, chief, leader, boss, mastermind मुख्य अपराधी/सरगना
24. **Reportedly** (adverb) - apparently, allegedly, supposedly, reputedly, ostensibly कथित तौर पर

25. **Template** (noun) - model, pattern, blueprint, framework, guide प्रारूप
26. **Surface** (verb) - emerge, appear, arise, come out, manifest सामने आना
27. **Work out** (phrasal verb) - to develop or progress, especially in a good way तैयार करना/ढूँढ निकालना
28. **Vulnerability** (noun) - weakness, susceptibility, fragility, risk, exposure कमजोरी
29. **Lie** (verb) - exist, reside, be situated, rest, dwell स्थित होना
30. **Ritual** (noun) - routine, habit, custom, practice, tradition नियम/रिवाज
31. **Fade** (verb) - diminish, vanish, wane, disappear, decline फीका पड़ना/लुप्त होना
32. **Untouched** (adjective) - unaffected, undisturbed, ignored, unaddressed, intact अछूता
33. **Pertinent** (adjective) - relevant, applicable, apposite, germane, related प्रासंगिक
34. **Address** (verb) - tackle, deal with, handle, resolve, manage समाधान करना
35. **Antecedent** (noun) - background, history, past, origin, record पूर्ववृत्त/इतिहास
36. **Scrutinise** (verb) - examine, inspect, analyze, probe, investigate बारीकी से जांच करना
37. **Undertake** (verb) - attempt, start, shoulder, take on, initiate बीड़ा उठाना/शुरू करना
38. **Accountability** (noun) - responsibility, answerability, liability, obligation, duty जवाबदेही
39. **Recur** (verb) - repeat, reappear, happen again, return, persist दोहराना/बार-बार होना
40. **Preside** (over) (verb) - control, lead, head, oversee, direct अध्यक्षता करना/प्रभार में होना

## Summary of the Editorial

1. The editorial highlights the **growing menace of examination paper leaks and recruitment scams** across India.
2. It argues that corruption in **public examinations and recruitment** is more damaging than ordinary financial corruption because it destroys the **merit-based system**.
3. Public examinations and teacher recruitment are crucial for creating a **skilled workforce** needed for India's economic growth.
4. Frequent exam leaks weaken India's ability to **fully utilise its demographic dividend** and erode public trust.
5. Recent incidents such as the **NEET re-examination** and the **postponement of the Maharashtra Teacher Eligibility Test (TET)** reveal that the problem is widespread.
6. A well-organised network involving **insiders, coaching centres, and middlemen** has developed into a profitable illegal industry.
7. In the Maharashtra case, the alleged mastermind reportedly operated from **Bihar with links to previous exam leak cases** in Odisha and NEET.
8. Similar patterns have appeared in **Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, and Rajasthan**, showing that the problem is national rather than isolated.
9. Many leaks originate from **printing presses, government employees, security personnel, or individuals directly involved in conducting examinations**.
10. The repeated involvement of **insider networks** exposes serious weaknesses in the examination system.
11. The editorial questions whether the **same limited group of experts repeatedly prepares question papers**, creating opportunities for collusion.
12. Authorities should thoroughly verify the **backgrounds, commercial interests, and coaching-centre links** of paper setters and exam officials.
13. Merely identifying and arresting the so-called "**kingpins**" after every leak does not solve the structural problem.
14. Systemic reforms should include **greater transparency, conflict-of-interest checks, secure paper-setting and distribution mechanisms, and stronger institutional safeguards**.
15. The editorial concludes that **Education Ministers at both the Centre and States must be held accountable** for repeated examination failures, as leadership responsibility is essential for restoring credibility.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **For which of the following claims does the passage provide some supporting evidence or explanation?** [Editorial Page]
  - A. Strict background checks on examination printing presses have eliminated distribution security risks.
  - B. Leakage patterns across different states share identical templates driven by institutional insider collusion.
  - C. The coaching industry explicitly funds political figures to protect paper-leaking networks.
  - D. Decentralizing the question-setting process has successfully addressed institutional conflicts of interest.
2. **According to the passage, which of the following is most likely to be true about the impact of the current ritual of hunting for "kingpins" and running investigations on the overall system of paper leaks?**
  - A. It has eliminated the distribution vulnerabilities of printing presses.
  - B. It has caused the total number of paper leak incidents across states to decline gradually.
  - C. It has left the fundamental operational flaws and systemic vulnerabilities untouched.
  - D. It has forced for the resignation and accountability of presiding Education Ministers.
3. **Which of the following statements is definitely true in the context of the passage? The systematic subversion of public examinations is:**
  - A. a structural byproduct that automatically resolves when an economy modernizes
  - B. a highly damaging form of corruption driven by organized insider collaborations
  - C. an issue caused by flaws in paper distribution at printing presses
  - D. a phenomenon that fades naturally without institutional accountability
4. **It can be inferred from this passage that the author views the ongoing investigations conducted by state and central agencies into paper leaks as:**
  - A. innovative and structural
  - B. complicated and financially unprofitable
  - C. performative but fundamentally unaddressed
  - D. uncomplicated and traditional
5. **Identify the grammatical voice of the main verb in the clause "It is driven by a cottage industry that leaks papers through insider networks".**
  - A. Passive voice
  - B. Causative voice
  - C. Active voice
  - D. Middle voice
6. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**

Raja Ram Mohan Roy was quick \_\_\_\_\_ picking up more than eleven languages.

  - A. to
  - B. at
  - C. for
  - D. about
7. **Given below are six sentences taken from a paragraph. The first and the last sentences are numbered S1 and S2 and are placed in the first and last positions respectively and are fixed**

in their positions. The other four sentences between the first and last sentences are jumbled up and are numbered A, B, C, and D. Rearrange the jumbled sentences in a logical sequence keeping the unity and coherence of the paragraph intact. Choose the correct alternative that best describes the sequence.

S1. He saw a most wonderful sight.

- A. In every tree that he could see there was a little child.
- B. The birds were flying about and twittering with delight, and the flowers were looking up through the green grass and laughing.
- C. And the trees were so glad to have the children back again that they had covered themselves with blossoms and were waving their arms gently above the children's heads.
- D. Through a little hole in the wall the children had crept in, and they were sitting in the branches of the trees.

S2. It was a lovely scene, only in one corner it was still winter.

- A. DACB
- B. DBAC
- C. DCBA
- D. DABC

8. **A part of the following sentence is underlined. Choose the option which can replace the underlined part to improve the sentence. In case Options A, B and C are not found suitable, choose Option D: "No Improvement Required."**

Neither the chairman nor the members of the committee was able to find a solution to the pressing issue.

- A. was able to find out a solution
- B. were able to find a solution
- C. had been able to find for a solution
- D. No Improvement Required

9. **Choose the option that is the most appropriate conversion of the following sentence into Active Voice.**

Immediate action was demanded by the villagers after the flood.

- A. The villagers demanded immediate action after the flood.
- B. The villagers demand immediate action after the flood.
- C. The villagers were demanding immediate action after the flood.
- D. The villagers have demanded immediate action after the flood.

10. **Which of the following idioms given in the alternatives has the meaning?**

To be wasting time fighting enemies or trying to resolve issues that are imaginary, unimportant, or impossible to overcome.

- A. Be tilting at windmills
- B. Fling one's bonnet over the windmill
- C. Fling one's cap over the windmill
- D. Fling one's hat over the windmill

11. **From the alternatives given below, choose the correct meaning of the idiom 'throw a hissy fit'.**

- A. To make a gesture physically indicating one's despair and disbelief (about something)

- B. To put one in jail or prison  
C. To cause one to enter a nervous, confused, agitated, or excited state  
D. To become very or unreasonably angry or upset; to have an outburst of rage, frustration, or ill temper
12. **Select the option with the correct spelling that can replace the underlined word in the given sentence. If the spelling in the given sentence is already correct, choose Option “No replacement required”.**  
The team’s camaraderie was evident as they celebrated their victory together.
- A. camaradery  
B. camaderie  
C. camaradry  
D. No replacement required
13. **Choose the word that is the most appropriate synonym of the word “courageous”.**
- A. Fearful  
B. Bold  
C. Shy  
D. Timid
14. **Direction: Rearrange the following sentences (1, 2, 3, 4) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage based on the provided text.**
1. Proponents of the Parandur airport project, including industry associations and logistics firms, argue that a new facility is essential to restore Chennai’s standing in India’s air passenger traffic.
  2. The future of Chennai’s proposed second airport at Parandur has become uncertain, as the new TVK-led government appears to have paused the land acquisition process following its ascent to power.
  3. This push for a new airport is largely driven by a comparative analysis with Bengaluru, highlighting that Chennai’s Meenambakkam airport has slipped in national rankings since 2008.
  4. Despite the current political impasse and the absence of official policy updates, the project remains a focal point for stakeholders concerned about the city’s economic and infrastructural competitiveness.
- A. 1-3-2-4  
B. 4-2-1-3  
C. 2-4-1-3  
D. 2-1-3-4
15. **There are four underlined words in the sentence given below. One of them is misspelt. Choose the option with the misspelt word.**  
The healthcare workers were praised for their dedication, sacrifise, and relentless service during the pandemic.
- A. dedication  
B. sacrifise  
C. relentless  
D. pandemic
16. **Choose the misspelt word from the given options.**

- A. Acknowledge
  - B. Bureaucracy
  - C. Recommend
  - D. Dilemma
17. **Choose the word that is most opposite in meaning to “approach”.**
- A. Advance
  - B. Near
  - C. Retreat
  - D. Reach
18. **Choose the word that is the antonym of Foreign.**
- A. Domestic
  - B. Alien
  - C. Overseas
  - D. External
19. **Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.**  
The bank manager will \_\_\_\_\_ over the documents carefully before signing.
- A. poor
  - B. pour
  - C. pore
  - D. power
20. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**  
A person who is against marriage.
- A. Celibate
  - B. Ascetic
  - C. Misogynist
  - D. Misogamist

**Passage**

Highly successful experiments (1) \_\_\_\_\_ with the new (2) \_\_\_\_\_ designed by a Hull Civil Engineer named Calvard for overcoming deafness. Over 80 per cent of the children in Hull deaf and dumb institution have heard speech and music for the first time as the result of an invention which (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the appearance of a small wireless receiving set without serial or earth connection. The results are achieved by the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of sound to the inner ear of the deaf patients. It does not succeed (5) \_\_\_\_\_ all sufferers but only with a large proportion.

21. **Select the most appropriate option for (1):**
- A. had made
  - B. have been made
  - C. make
  - D. made
22. **Select the most appropriate option for (2).**
- A. appliance
  - B. instrument
  - C. apparatus
  - D. contraption
23. **Select the most appropriate option for (3):**

- A. will
- B. is
- C. has
- D. had

24. **Select the most appropriate option for (4):**

- A. conduction
- B. transmission
- C. propagation
- D. emission

25. **Select the most appropriate option for (5):**

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

## Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

## Explanations

1. B) **Leakage patterns across different states share identical templates driven by institutional insider collusion.**

Line from passage: "Eerily, a similar template surfaces in scam after scam... The common element is the presence of insider networks that have worked out ways to scam the system." The author provides explicit supporting evidence for this claim by listing specific case studies across multiple states (Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan), showcasing how printing-press employees, security personnel, and serving government teachers acted as institutional insiders to leak exam papers.

Option A [INCORRECT]: The passage highlights printing presses and distribution networks as ongoing points of structural vulnerability rather than providing evidence that background checks have secured them.

Option C [INCORRECT]: While the passage establishes a clear financial and operational link between the leaking networks and the coaching ecosystem, it contains no evidence or mention of these networks funding political figures.

Option D [INCORRECT] The author notes that question-setting remains deeply vulnerable due to a highly concentrated, unverified pool of examiners. There is no evidence provided of a successful decentralization reform; it is merely framed as an unaddressed issue.

2. C) **It has left the fundamental operational flaws and systemic vulnerabilities untouched.**

Line from passage: "This is why the ritual of hunting for "kingpins" and running performative investigations until public attention fades leaves the core problem untouched." The author explicitly states that tracking down individual kingpins and conducting superficial, high-profile investigations merely acts as a temporary distraction that fails to fix the deep-seated institutional errors ("leaves the core problem untouched"), such as unverified insider networks and conflicts of interest in question-setting.

Option A [INCORRECT]: Line from passage: "The vulnerability lies not only in how question papers are distributed, but also in how they are set..." The passage establishes that distribution networks and printing presses remain inherently vulnerable. Performative tracking of kingpins has not resolved or eliminated these distribution flaws.

Option B [INCORRECT]: Line from passage: "When leaks recur as routinely as they now do..." The passage highlights that paper leaks continue to occur routinely as a familiar template across states. There is no evidence in the passage to suggest that these actions have successfully reduced the frequency of leaks.

Option D [INCORRECT]: Line from passage: "When leaks recur as routinely as they now do, the Minister who presides over the system should not remain in the post." The author states that Education Ministers should be held accountable and resign, indicating that this systemic accountability is currently missing from the ongoing superficial investigations.

3. B) **a highly damaging form of corruption driven by organized insider collaborations**

Line from passage: "But a more corrosive variant that impinges upon public life includes the systematic subversion of public examinations... The common element is the presence of insider networks that have worked out ways to scam the system." The author directly categorizes this issue as "more corrosive" (highly damaging) than typical official bribery. The passage thoroughly supports that it is driven by organized collaborations, explicitly detailing organized inter-state networks, printing press staff, security men, and examiners who collaborate to manipulate the system.

option A [INCORRECT]: The passage states that the problem actively damages a modernizing economy by hurting its demographic potential, rather than claiming it is a minor byproduct that resolves on its own.

Option (c) [INCORRECT]: Line from passage: "The vulnerability lies not only in how question papers are distributed, but also in how they are set, with the repeated involvement of a select group of experts..." The use of the phrase "not only... but also" proves that distribution flaws at printing presses are not the exclusive cause; the concentrated, unverified question-setting pool is a major structural vulnerability as well.

option D [INCORRECT]: The passage states that leaks have become a routine, recurring template. It explicitly highlights that the problem will not fade naturally and that any system upgrade remains incomplete without strict political accountability.

4. C) **performative but fundamentally unaddressed**

Line from passage: "This is why the ritual of hunting for "kingpins" and running performative investigations until public attention fades leaves the core problem untouched. Pertinent questions are rarely addressed." The author explicitly characterizes the actions as a "ritual" and "performative investigations," while noting that because they fail to scrutinize the closed pool of examiners or enforce political accountability, the core vulnerabilities remain completely "untouched" (fundamentally unaddressed).

option A: The author describes the investigations using words like "ritual" and "performative," directly opposing the idea that they are innovative or structurally helpful.

option B: While the leak networks themselves are highly lucrative ("rake in money"), the author evaluates the investigations based on their institutional failure, not their financial profitability.

option D: The passage establishes that the crisis involves deep-seated institutional rot across multiple dimensions (distribution networks, printing presses, question setters, and political entities). The author views the situation as deeply complex, dangerous, and routine—not simple or traditionally stable.

5. A) **Passive voice**

- Passive voice should be used because the subject "It" receives the action expressed by the verb phrase "is driven," while the actual performer of the action is introduced by the phrase "by a cottage industry." Hence, the sentence is in the passive voice.

6. B) 'at' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "quick at + gerund (V-ing)" एक सही grammatical structure है, जिसका अर्थ होता है किसी कार्य को जल्दी सीखने या करने में दक्ष होना। यहाँ "picking up more than eleven languages" एक gerund phrase है, इसलिए "at" सबसे उपयुक्त preposition है। अतः "Raja Ram Mohan Roy was quick at picking up more than eleven languages" सही होगा।

- 'at' should be used because "quick at + gerund" is the correct grammatical structure, which means being fast or skilled in doing something. Here, "picking up more than

eleven languages” is a gerund phrase, so “at” is the most appropriate preposition.

Thus, the sentence is correctly formed as “Raja Ram Mohan Roy was quick at picking up more than eleven languages.”

7. A) **DACB**

सबसे पहले Sentence D आएगा—यह बताता है कि बच्चों ने दीवार के छेद से अंदर आकर पेड़ों पर जगह ले ली।

इसके बाद Sentence A आएगा क्योंकि यह उसी दृश्य को विस्तार देता है—हर पेड़ पर एक बच्चा बैठा था। फिर Sentence C आएगा क्योंकि यह पेड़ों की प्रतिक्रिया दिखाता है—वे खुश होकर फूलों से भर गए और बच्चों के ऊपर झूम रहे थे।

अंत में Sentence B आएगा क्योंकि यह पूरे वातावरण की सुंदरता को दिखाता है—पक्षी, फूल और आनंद, जो S2 (lovely scene) से जुड़ता है।

- Sentence D comes first—it explains what he saw: children had crept in and were sitting in the trees.
- Next, Sentence A follows because it generalizes the scene—every tree had a child.
- Then, Sentence C comes as it shows the reaction of the trees—covered with blossoms and welcoming the children.
- Finally, Sentence B comes last because it expands the beauty of the whole scene—birds, flowers, and joy, which connects directly with S2.

8. B) was able to find a solution' के बदले '**were able to find a solution**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि

“Neither...nor” वाले वाक्य में verb हमेशा nearest subject के अनुसार आता है। यहाँ nearest subject “members” है, जो plural है, इसलिए verb भी plural “were” होगा।

- 'were able to find a solution' will be used instead of 'was able to find a solution' because in “Neither...nor” construction, the verb agrees with the subject nearest to it. Here, “members” is plural, so the verb should also be plural; Like— Neither the teacher nor the students were present.

9. A) **The villagers demanded immediate action after the flood.**

Passive से Active Voice में बदलते समय Passive sentence का Subject, Active sentence का Object बन जाता है और “by” के बाद आने वाला doer Active sentence का Subject बनता है। यहाँ “Immediate action” Passive sentence का Subject है और “the villagers” doer हैं। Verb “was demanded” Simple Past Passive में है, इसलिए Active Voice में यह “demanded” (Simple Past) बनेगा। इसलिए सही Active form होगा — “The villagers demanded immediate action after the flood.”

- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the subject of the passive sentence becomes the object of the active sentence, and the doer introduced by “by” becomes the subject. Here, “Immediate action” is the subject of the passive sentence and “the villagers” are the doers. The verb “was demanded” is in the Simple Past Passive form, so in Active Voice it changes into “demanded” in the Simple Past tense. Therefore, the correct active form is — “The villagers demanded immediate action after the flood.”

10. A) **Be tilting at windmills** (idiom) – Fighting imaginary or unrealistic problems काल्पनिक या निरर्थक समस्याओं से लड़ना

11. D) **Throw a hissy fit** (idiom) – To suddenly become very angry or upset, often in an exaggerated or childish way गुस्से या झुंझलाहट में अचानक ज़ोरदार प्रतिक्रिया देना / नखरा करना

12. D) **No replacement required**

13. B) **Courageous** (adjective) – Brave, fearless, daring, valiant, heroic साहसी

Synonym: **Bold** (adjective) – Brave, confident, daring, fearless निडर

- **Fearful** (adjective) – Afraid, scared, timid, anxious भयभीत
- **Shy** (adjective) – Timid, reserved, bashful, introverted संकोची
- **Timid** (adjective) – Lacking courage, fearful, hesitant, nervous डरपोक

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

Sentence 2 पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह Independent है। यह सीधे मुख्य विषय—Parandur एयरपोर्ट के भविष्य पर छाए अनिश्चितता के बादल—को इंट्रोड्यूस करता है।

Sentence 4 इसके ठीक बाद आएगा। यह 2 में बताई गई राजनीतिक अनिश्चितता के बावजूद प्रोजेक्ट के प्रति हितधारकों (stakeholders) की निरंतर रुचि को स्पष्ट करता है।

Sentence 1 इसके बाद आएगा। यह उन हितधारकों (proponents) के तर्क को सामने रखता है कि यह प्रोजेक्ट शहर के लिए क्यों जरूरी है।

Sentence 3 अंत में निष्कर्ष (Conclusion) के लिए आएगा। यह उस तुलना (Bengaluru vs. Chennai) को पेश करता है जो इस पूरी बहस और मांग के पीछे का मुख्य कारण है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence 2 starts the paragraph because it is Independent. It establishes the baseline issue: the political uncertainty surrounding the Parandur airport project.
- Sentence 4 follows 2. It acts as the bridge, noting that despite the political pause, the project remains a critical topic of discussion among various stakeholders.
- Sentence 1 follows 4. It details the arguments of the proponents, explaining why these stakeholders believe the project is vital for the city's growth.
- Sentence 3 concludes the paragraph. It provides the final implication: it contextualizes the entire debate by explaining that the push for the airport is rooted in a specific comparison with the success of the Bengaluru airport.

15. B) The correct spelling of 'sacrifise' is '**sacrifice**', which means "giving up something valuable for a greater purpose" त्याग, बलिदान।

16. A) The correct answer is A) **Acknowledge** because the correct spelling is 'Acknowledge', which means "to accept, admit, or recognise something" स्वीकार करना, मानना।

17. C) **Approach** (noun/verb) – Coming near, advance, move closer पास आना

Antonym: **Retreat** (noun/verb) – Moving away, withdrawal, backward movement पीछे हटना

- **Advance** (verb) – To move forward, progress, go ahead आगे बढ़ना
- **Near** (adjective/verb) – Close, nearby, approaching निकट
- **Reach** (verb) – Arrive at, attain, get to पहुँचना

18. A) **Foreign** (adjective) – External, overseas, alien, international विदेशी

Antonym: **Domestic** (adjective) – Belonging to one's own country, internal, native, home-based घरेलू

- **Alien** (adjective) – Belonging to another country, foreign, unfamiliar, strange विदेशी
- **Overseas** (adjective) – Located in or relating to another country across the sea विदेश में
- **External** (adjective) – Outside, outer, coming from outside बाहरी

19. C) **pore** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि sentence में "carefully examine" या "ध्यानपूर्वक देखना" का भाव है। "pore over" एक phrasal verb है जिसका अर्थ होता है किसी चीज़ को बहुत ध्यान से पढ़ना या जाँचना।

इसलिए, "The bank manager will pore over the documents carefully before signing" बिल्कुल सही है।

- 'pore' should be used because the sentence conveys the idea of examining something very carefully. "Pore over" is a phrasal verb meaning to study or inspect something closely. Hence, "pore" is the most appropriate choice.

20. D) **Misogamist** (noun) – A person who hates or is against marriage विवाह-विरोधी व्यक्ति

- **Celibate** (noun/adjective) – A person who abstains from marriage and sexual relations ब्रह्मचारी (यह व्यक्ति शादी नहीं करता, पर जरूरी नहीं कि वह शादी के खिलाफ हो)
- **Ascetic** (noun) – A person who practices severe self-discipline and abstains from worldly pleasures तपस्वी (यह जीवन-शैली है, शादी के विरोध से संबंधित नहीं)
- **Misogynist** (noun) – A person who hates women स्त्री-द्वेषी (यह महिलाओं से घृणा करता है, विवाह से नहीं)

21. B) Have been made is used because the plural subject "experiments" requires a plural passive verb structure, and the present perfect tense "have been made" correctly links past events to the present successful state of the ongoing research. Had made is active voice and past perfect, which implies the experiments did the making; make is simple present active, which breaks the timeframe and voice; made is simple past active, which fails to show the passive construction needed for "experiments".

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Have been made का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि plural subject "experiments" के साथ plural passive verb का आना अनिवार्य है, और present perfect passive tense यहाँ प्रयोगों के वर्तमान प्रभाव और सफलता को दर्शाता है।

Had made: यह active voice है जो यहाँ गलत है क्योंकि प्रयोग खुद काम नहीं कर रहे हैं। Make: यह simple present active है, जो विषय के समय और voice दोनों के खिलाफ जाता है। Made: यह simple past active है, जो यहाँ आवश्यक passive structure प्रदान नहीं करता।

22. C) Apparatus is used because it refers specifically to a complex mechanical device or scientific equipment designed for a particular medical or technical function, which perfectly fits this engineered solution for deafness. Appliance means a domestic household machine (like a refrigerator), which contradicts the medical engineering theme. Instrument means a tool used for delicate precision work or music, lacking the systemic complexity of this wireless device. Contraption means a strange or poorly made machine, which would imply a lack of professional design and disrespect the civil engineer's invention.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Apparatus का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ एक जटिल तकनीकी या वैज्ञानिक उपकरण होता है, जो बहरेपन को दूर करने वाली इस मशीन के लिए बिल्कुल उपयुक्त है। Appliance: इसका अर्थ घरेलू उपकरण (जैसे फ्रिज या ओवन) होता है, जो इस इंजीनियरिंग और मेडिकल थीम के विपरीत है। Instrument: इसका अर्थ एक सटीक औज़ार या संगीत वाद्ययंत्र होता है, जो इस पूरे वायरलेस सिस्टम की बनावट को नहीं दर्शाता। Contraption: इसका अर्थ एक अजीब या बेढंगा उपकरण होता है, जो इंजीनियर के इस सफल आविष्कार की गरिमा को कम करता है।

23. C) Has is used because it is the standard and simplest verb to denote physical characteristics or look when paired with the noun "appearance" (has the appearance of...). Will indicates

future tense, which breaks the present state of the invention's current look. It would create the incorrect passive or continuous structure "is the appearance", which is grammatically wrong here. Had is past tense, which incorrectly implies the invention no longer looks like a small wireless receiving set.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Has का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि किसी वस्तु के वर्तमान रूप-रंग को बताने के लिए "has the appearance of..." एक standard fixed syntax है, जहाँ singular subject "an invention" के साथ singular verb का उपयोग होता है।

Will: यह future tense को दर्शाता है, जो आविष्कार के वर्तमान रूप के वर्णन के लिए गलत है। Is: इसके प्रयोग से वाक्य "is the appearance" बन जाएगा जो व्याकरणिक रूप से अशुद्ध है। Had: यह past tense है, जो यह संकेत देगा कि आविष्कार का रूप अब ऐसा नहीं रहा, जो कि संदर्भ के विपरीत है।

24. B) Transmission is used because it refers specifically to the process of sending or passing signals, waves, or sound from one point directly to another, which fits the mechanics of the wireless device. Conduction means the transfer of heat or electricity through a medium, which applies to physical contact rather than wireless signal passage. Propagation means the natural spreading of waves through space, which lacks the focused direction of a machine sending sound to the inner ear. Emission means the discharge or releasing of gases or light from a source, which contradicts the concept of sending audio to a receiver.

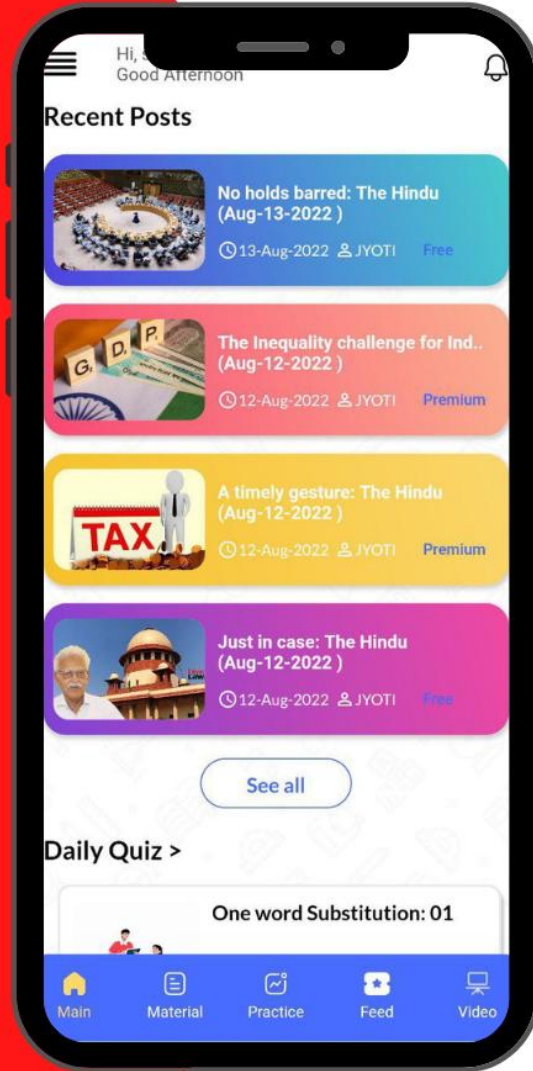
In Hindi:

- यहाँ Transmission का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ तरंगों या ध्वनि का एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान पर प्रसारण या संचारण होता है, जो इस वायरलेस तकनीक के कार्य सिद्धांत से मेल खाता है। Conduction: इसका अर्थ माध्यम के द्वारा गर्मी या बिजली का संचालन होता है, जो भौतिक संपर्क पर निर्भर करता है, न कि सिग्नल पर। Propagation: इसका अर्थ तरंगों का प्राकृतिक रूप से फैलना होता है, जो मशीन द्वारा कान में ध्वनि भेजने के सटीक कार्य को नहीं दर्शाता। Emission: इसका अर्थ प्रकाश या गैस का उत्सर्जन (बाहर छोड़ना) होता है, जो ध्वनि को प्राप्तकर्ता तक पहुँचाने के बिल्कुल विपरीत है।

25. B) With is used because it forms the fixed grammatical collocation "succeed with," which is the standard prepositional pairing used to show that a treatment or device is effective on a specific group of patients. To is used with "succeed to" to mean inheriting property or title, which completely breaks the context. In is used with "succeed in" when followed by a gerund (verb+ing) to show achievement in an activity, which is grammatically wrong here. For means intended for, which would change the meaning to imply the device achieves success on behalf of the sufferers rather than functioning properly on them.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ With का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि व्याकरण के नियम के अनुसार "succeed with" एक fixed collocation है, जिसका उपयोग यह दर्शाने के लिए किया जाता है कि कोई इलाज या उपकरण किसी विशेष समूह पर सफल रहा है। To: इसका उपयोग "succeed to" के रूप में किसी पद या संपत्ति को पाने (inherit) के लिए होता है। In: इसका उपयोग "succeed in" के रूप में तब होता है जब आगे कोई क्रिया (verb+ing) हो, जो यहाँ गलत बैठता है। For: इसका अर्थ 'के लिए' होता है, जो यह संकेत देगा कि उपकरण पीड़ितों की ओर से सफलता प्राप्त कर रहा है, न कि उन पर काम कर रहा है।



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