

Falling behind: On Mumbai and the monsoon

Urbanisation in Mumbai **is** evolving faster than its **infrastructure** upgrades

The southwest monsoon has been highly active over western India, with southwesterly winds loaded with moisture **sweeping** over the Western Ghats and delivering **intense** rains along the Konkan **coast**, while other weather systems **offshore** are **routing** more moisture over Mumbai and the **surrounding** areas. In urban areas **in general**, rainfall intensity **matters** more than volume. **Mumbai** itself can generally **absorb** moderate rainfall over several hours; however, its **drainage** — like in many Indian cities — cannot **handle** several hundred millimetres in short **bursts**. Heavy rainfall also **overwhelmed** river **catchments** in parts of Maharashtra, including around Nashik, while high tides reduced the **efficiency** of Mumbai's stormwater drainage, **worsening** flooding in the city. Mumbai-Pune rail services were suspended after **landslides** in the Bhor Ghat and flights were affected. The **closures** of the Mumbai-Pune expressway and the Mumbai-Goa highway and significant flooding on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad expressway **were disruptive**, speaking to the increasing **erraticity** of monsoon rainfall, the **vulnerabilities** associated with **linear infrastructure projects**, and the ease with which the effects of natural disasters are **compounded** by **cascading failures**. A chawl **collapse** in Mankurd **took** the lives of five children.

Mumbai **lies on** a peninsula built mostly on **reclaimed** land, former **marshes**, tidal flats, and low-lying coastal areas, creating the characteristic risk of higher flooding when rainfall **coincides with** high tide. It is compounded by **decades** of **haphazard** urbanisation that has encouraged water to run-off rather than be absorbed by the ground, forcing drains to handle more water than their design limits. After the July 2005 floods, when it received 944 mm in 24 hours, Mumbai launched the BRIMSTOWAD project and widened drains, installed pumping stations, and **undertook** premonsoon **de-silting**. **Many** of these works **remain** incomplete while some completed upgrades are based on assumptions about the monsoon that climate change has since **undermined**. Officials have also **argued** that pre-monsoon desilting helped reduce flooding in parts of Mumbai, but water on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad expressway, the chawl collapse, deadly tree falls in Kurla and Aarey, lack of **redundancies** in public transport, and the BMC's **belated advisory** to builders to **halt hazardous** construction all suggest a governance **lapse**. Mumbai's **accountability** also remains split across the BMC for local drainage and roads, the IMD for **forecasting**, the NDRF, two Railway zones, the State government, and highway authorities. Overall, the city has improved at **shutting down** to save lives and minimising the **death toll** — but as climate change and urbanisation evolve faster than infrastructure upgrades, simply waiting for system capacity to **catch up to** demand will be a failing strategy. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Fall behind** (phrasal verb) - to fail to keep up with progress or speed; to lag पीछे रह जाना
2. **Urbanisation** (noun) - the process of a city growing and becoming more densely populated शहरीकरण
3. **Infrastructure** (noun) - framework, foundation, base, setup, network बुनियादी ढांचा
4. **Sweep** (verb) - glide, move, brush, skim, traverse तेजी से गुजरना
5. **Intense** (adjective) - extreme, severe, harsh, acute, fierce तीव्र
6. **Coast** (noun) - shore, seaboard, littoral, waterfront, seaside तट
7. **Offshore** (adjective) - maritime, oceanic, naval, sea-bound, marine तट से दूर
8. **Route** (verb) - direct, channel, guide, steer, send निर्देशित करना
9. **Surrounding** (adjective) - neighboring, adjacent, nearby, encircling, local आसपास का
10. **In general** (phrase) - as a rule, by and large, usually सामान्य तौर पर
11. **Matter** (verb) - signify, count, weigh, import, carry weight महत्व रखना
12. **Burst** (noun) - eruption, explosion, outbreak, surge, gust झोंका
13. **Overwhelm** (verb) - swamp, flood, inundate, crush, engulf भर देना
14. **Catchment** (noun) - areas from which rainwater flows into a river or reservoir जलग्रहण क्षेत्र
15. **Efficiency** (noun) - competence, productivity, capability, proficiency, effectiveness दक्षता
16. **Worsening** (adjective) - deteriorating, declining, failing, aggravating, decaying बदतर होना
17. **Landslide** (noun) - rockfall, slip, slide, avalanche, earthfall भूस्खलन
18. **Disruptive** (adjective) - disturbing, troubling, obstructive, interfering, rowdy बाधक
19. **Erraticity** (noun) - unpredictability, inconsistency, instability, irregularity, volatility अनिश्चितता
20. **Vulnerability** (noun) - weakness, susceptibility, fragility, insecurity, exposure कमजोरी
21. **Linear infrastructure project** (noun) - long projects like roads, railways, or pipelines रेखीय बुनियादी ढांचा परियोजना
22. **Compound** (verb) - intensify, worsen, aggravate, exacerbate, heighten गंभीर बनाना
23. **Cascading failure** (noun) - a series of events where one failure triggers another एक के बाद एक विफलताओं की श्रृंखला
24. **Collapse** (noun) - downfall, ruin, failure, cave-in, crash ढह जाना
25. **Lie on** (phrasal verb) - to be situated or located on स्थित होना

26. **Reclaimed** (adjective) - recovered, retrieved, salvaged, restored, rescued
सुधारा गया
27. **Marsh** (noun) - swamp, bog, wetland, mire, fen दलदल
28. **Coincide** (with) (verb) - to happen at the same time एक ही समय पर होना
29. **Decade** (noun) - period of ten years दशक
30. **Haphazard** (adjective) - unplanned, random, disorganized, chaotic, careless
अनियोजित
31. **Undertake** (verb) - assume, shoulder, tackle, handle, start जिम्मा लेना
32. **De-silting** (noun) - removing silt or mud from drains or water bodies गाद निकालना
33. **Undermine** (verb) - weaken, sabotage, compromise, cripple, subvert कमजोर करना
34. **Argue** (verb) - claim, assert, contend, maintain, insist तर्क देना
35. **Redundancy** (noun) - backup, surplus, repetition, duplication, excess बैकअप का अभाव
36. **Belated** (adjective) - late, delayed, tardy, overdue, behindhand देर से किया गया
37. **Advisory** (noun) - warning, bulletin, notice, instruction, announcement परामर्श
38. **Halt** (verb) - stop, cease, pause, desist, terminate रोकना
39. **Hazardous** (adjective) - dangerous, risky, perilous, unsafe, harmful खतरनाक
40. **Lapse** (noun) - error, mistake, failure, slip, omission चूक
41. **Accountability** (noun) - responsibility, answerability, liability, obligation, duty जवाबदेही
42. **Forecasting** (noun) - prediction, projection, calculation, estimation, prognosis पूर्वानुमान
43. **Shut down** (phrasal verb) - to close, stop functioning बंद करना
44. **Death toll** (noun) - the total number of people killed मृतकों की संख्या
45. **Catch up to** (phrasal verb) - to reach the same level or stage बराबर पहुंचना

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Active southwest monsoon** brought intense rainfall to western India, especially along the Konkan coast and Mumbai, due to moisture-laden southwesterly winds.
2. **Rainfall intensity is more critical than total rainfall** in urban areas, as short, heavy downpours overwhelm city drainage systems.
3. **Mumbai's drainage infrastructure** is unable to cope with several hundred millimetres of rain falling within a short period.
4. **High tides reduced the efficiency of stormwater drainage**, worsening waterlogging and flooding across the city.
5. **Heavy rains caused widespread disruption**, including suspension of Mumbai-Pune rail services, flight delays, highway closures, and flooding on major expressways.
6. **Landslides and transport failures** highlighted the vulnerability of linear infrastructure such as railways, highways, and expressways to extreme weather events.
7. **A chawl collapse in Mankhurd**, which killed five children, underscored the human cost of poor urban infrastructure and disaster preparedness.
8. **Mumbai's geographical location** on reclaimed land, marshes, tidal flats, and low-lying coastal areas naturally increases its flood risk.
9. **Unplanned and haphazard urbanisation** has reduced natural water absorption, increasing surface runoff and placing excessive pressure on drainage systems.
10. After the devastating **2005 Mumbai floods**, the **BRIMSTOWAD** project introduced measures such as wider drains, pumping stations, and pre-monsoon desilting to improve flood management.
11. **Many flood mitigation projects remain incomplete**, while completed works were designed using outdated assumptions that no longer match changing climate patterns.
12. Although **pre-monsoon desilting** has reduced flooding in some areas, recent incidents reveal significant shortcomings in infrastructure maintenance and governance.
13. **Governance failures** are evident from delayed advisories to builders, tree falls, transport disruptions, and inadequate redundancy in public transport systems.
14. **Fragmented institutional responsibility** among the BMC, IMD, NDRF, railway authorities, State government, and highway agencies weakens coordinated disaster management and accountability.
15. The editorial concludes that **climate change and rapid urbanisation are progressing faster than infrastructure upgrades**, making it essential for Mumbai to adopt proactive, climate-resilient urban planning instead of relying on gradual improvements.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following best captures the essence of the passage?** [Editorial Page]
- A. Resolving urban flood vulnerability requires updating infrastructure metrics for climate shifts alongside integrating fragmented municipal governance frameworks.
 - B. Recent engineering initiatives like the BRIMSTOWAD project have eliminated localized flooding by modernizing the city's drainage infrastructure.
 - C. Overcoming structural transport disruptions during extreme rain events remains impossible without shifting entire transport links away from linear coastal routes.
 - D. Managing regional disaster mitigation constitutes an administrative mandate assigned to national emergency response forces.
2. **What is the central concern raised in the passage?**
- A. Whether local municipal bodies should hand over corporate development approvals to federal relief agencies.
 - B. How to systematically reconcile accelerating climate-urban pressures with fragmented and outdated system responses.
 - C. Why linear highway engineering models remain superior to decentralized public transport networks.
 - D. When global conservation panels will intervene to regulate low-lying peninsula reclamation developments.
3. **What is the primary reason Mumbai's stormwater drainage systems experience a severe reduction in operational efficiency?**
- A. The failure of officials to initiate any pre-monsoon desilting operations.
 - B. The structural destruction of pumping networks during inland landslides.
 - C. The simultaneous occurrence of heavy downpours with high coastal ocean tides.
 - D. The diversion of urban surface runoff toward reclaimed peninsula channels.
4. **"Cascading failures" in the context of the passage means:**
- A. isolated municipal equipment defects
 - B. consecutive structural weather anomalies
 - C. sequential interconnected system breakdowns
 - D. unexpected financial investment overruns
5. **A suitable title for the passage could be:**
- A. Meteorological Forecasting Modalities in Western India
 - B. Structural Vulnerabilities and Governance Splits in Coastal Urban Transit
 - C. Mumbai's Monsoon Crisis: The Intersection of Climate Change, Urbanization, and Fragmented Accountability
 - D. The BRIMSTOWAD Initiative: Eradicating Low-Lying Marshland Drainage Failure
6. **Choose the option which is similar in meaning to the underlined word.**
It's incredible to see him in such good health after the accident.
- A. Unimaginable
 - B. Unremarkable
 - C. Apparent
 - D. Unacceptable
7. **Choose the one word substitute for the below sentence.**

Ravi marvelled at the diverse forms of life, including animals and plants, thriving in aquatic habitats.

- A. Terrestrial
- B. Aquatic
- C. Arboreal
- D. Polar

8. **Choose the correct option to give a one-word substitution for the sentence given.**

A person who does not drink any alcohol.

- A. Teetotaler
- B. Non-drinker
- C. Beverages man
- D. Tougher

9. **Identify the grammatical error in the sentence below.**

Amazon Prime Day is going to kick up the holiday season and holiday shopping for many consumers.

- A. going to kick up
- B. for many consumers
- C. up the holiday season
- D. holiday season and holiday shopping

10. **Choose the correctly spelt word:**

- A. Accelerate
- B. Accellerate
- C. Accelarate
- D. Accellrate

11. **Direction: Rearrange the following sentences (A, B, C, D) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**

- A. Work-life balance is a ubiquitous topic of discussion in modern workplaces, yet we rarely pause to define what we are actually trying to balance.
- B. For most, the pursuit of this balance stems from a perception that work is a separate, intrusive force constantly competing with personal life.
- C. In reality, work is an inseparable part of life that provides purpose and identity, suggesting that the problem may not be work itself.
- D. Consequently, the real challenge is not achieving an external balance, but rather mastering self-management amid the complex demands of our daily priorities.

- A. ADBC
- B. BCDA
- C. ABCD
- D. ABDC

12. **Choose the best option to replace the underlined part to improve the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select 'No substitution.'**

We need to focus in finding a sustainable solution.

- A. focus to
- B. focus at
- C. focus on

- D. No substitution
13. **From the alternatives given below, select the correct passive voice of the following sentence.**
The shopkeeper must have misguided the customers to purchase the faulty watches.
- A. The customers must be misguided by the shopkeeper to purchase the faulty watches.
 - B. The customers must have been misguided by the shopkeeper to purchase the faulty watches.
 - C. The customers must have been misguided by the shopkeeper to have purchased the faulty watches.
 - D. The customers must have been misguided by the shopkeeper to be purchasing the faulty watches.
14. **Choose the most suitable preposition from the given options to fill in the blank in the following sentence.**
She is fond ____ classical music.
- A. of
 - B. in
 - C. with
 - D. for
15. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Garrulous**
- A. Quiet
 - B. Reserved
 - C. Shy
 - D. Silent
16. **Change the following sentence into the Active form.**
The school building was constructed in 1980.
- A. The school building had been constructed in 1980.
 - B. Someone constructed the school building in 1980.
 - C. The school building constructs in 1980.
 - D. Someone is constructing the school building in 1980.
17. **Choose the option that is the most appropriate conversion of the following sentence into Direct Speech.**
She told me that she had been learning French for three months.
- A. She said to me, "I am learning French for three months."
 - B. She said to me, "I have been learning French for three months."
 - C. She said to me, "I had learnt French for three months."
 - D. She said to me, "I learnt French for three months."
18. **The following sentence has two blanks. Choose the most suitable set of prepositions from the given options to fill in the blanks and complete the sentence meaningfully:**
The committee insisted ____ a thorough investigation before proceeding ____ any decision.
- A. in, by
 - B. on, with
 - C. of, to
 - D. to, under
19. **Choose the best option to replace the underlined part to improve the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select 'No substitution.'**

The villagers are (suffering with) a shortage of clean water.

- A. suffering by
- B. suffering in
- C. suffering from
- D. No substitution

20. **Direction: Rearrange the following sentences (A, B, C, D) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**

- A. Reflecting on my medical journey, I recalled how the "family doctor"—often a trusted RMP—was once a singular, encyclopedic figure who handled everything from minor stings to major ailments.
 - B. This past era of holistic care stands in stark contrast to today's landscape, where healthcare is dominated by a complex, infinite lexicon of hyper-specialized doctors.
 - C. During a recent visit to a Chennai eye clinic, I was surprised to learn that even within ophthalmology, specialists are further divided, highlighting the loss of the generalist approach.
 - D. Ultimately, I realized that while the traditional family doctor may have faded from professional practice, the role survives in our homes, where mothers have become the true, instinctive healers of the family.
- A. CABD
 - B. ACBD
 - C. CBAD
 - D. ADBC

Read the cloze passage and answer the following questions:

Dia Reichspost Vienna, reports the sale of a (2) well-preserved copy of the three volume Gutenberg Bible by the Benedictine Convent of Saint Pail, near Klagenfurt, in Carinthia, to an American dealer, for 1,500,000 Austrian shillings (about £45,000), with official permission. All bibliophiles will wait with breathless interest for further news, and particularly for the name of the American dealer. It is an open secret that Mr. Edward Goldston, of Bloomsbury, London, _____(3) recently sold another Gutenberg Bible to America for £21,800 had been in negotiation for the treasure now reported sold. He _____(4) a special journey to Austria some months ago, and opened negotiations with the Benedictine Convent. The prices of £60,000 was asked, Mr. Goldston regarded this as (1) ridiculous, and Dr. Rosenbach, the American bibliophile, who saw him _____(5) London some time after agreed with him.

21. **The word "ridiculous" in the passage most nearly means: (1)**

- A. sensible
- B. absurd
- C. reasonable
- D. logical

22. **Select the word that is the most appropriate antonym of "well-preserved" as used in the passage: (2)**

- A. ruined
- B. intact
- C. flawless
- D. immaculate

23. Choose the correct relative pronoun to complete the sentence: (3)

- A. which
- B. whose
- C. who
- D. whom

24. Choose the correct verb form to complete the sentence: (4)

- A. make
- B. made
- C. makes
- D. making

25. Select the correct preposition to fill in the blank: (5)

- A. inside
- B. over
- C. at
- D. in

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. A) **Resolving urban flood vulnerability requires updating infrastructure metrics for climate shifts alongside integrating fragmented municipal governance frameworks.**

The passage outlines two core issues that prevent Mumbai from handling extreme rain events effectively: Outdated Infrastructure Metrics: The author notes that even completed upgrades from the BRIMSTOWAD project "are based on assumptions about the monsoon that climate change has since undermined," meaning metrics must adapt to faster-evolving climate shifts. Fragmented Governance: The author highlights a major "governance lapse" and explicitly points out that "Mumbai's accountability also remains split" across a messy web of different authorities (BMC, IMD, NDRF, Railways, State government, highway authorities), which prevents a unified, effective response.

(b) directly contradicts the passage, which states that many BRIMSTOWAD works "remain incomplete" and have certainly not "eliminated" flooding.

(c) is an overstatement; while the passage mentions vulnerabilities in linear infrastructure, it never claims that resolving transport disruptions is impossible without shifting entire routes away from the coast.

(d) is incorrect because the passage frames disaster mitigation as a shared responsibility across multiple local and state bodies (like the BMC and Railways), rather than an mandate of national forces.

2. B) **How to systematically reconcile accelerating climate-urban pressures with fragmented and outdated system responses.**

Line from passage: "...but as climate change and urbanisation evolve faster than infrastructure upgrades, simply waiting for system capacity to catch up to demand will be a failing strategy." This perfectly encapsulates the core thesis of the passage. The author focuses squarely on the alarming reality that rapid urbanization and erratic climate shifts are outpacing old infrastructure metrics, a crisis worsened by an administrative framework crippled by fragmented, split accountability.

(a) is incorrect because the passage never suggests corporate approvals should be handed over to federal relief agencies.

(c) is incorrect because the passage notes the vulnerabilities and cascading failures associated with linear infrastructure projects rather than praising them as superior.

(d) is incorrect because global conservation panels and international legal interventions are never mentioned or implied in the passage.

3. C) **The simultaneous occurrence of heavy downpours with high coastal ocean tides.**

Line from passage: "...while high tides reduced the efficiency of Mumbai's stormwater drainage, worsening flooding in the city." and "...creating the characteristic risk of higher flooding when rainfall coincides with high tide." The passage explicitly identifies the intersection of heavy rain falling exactly when high tides hit the coast as the structural trigger that chokes the city's drainage outlets, reducing their ability to empty into the sea.

(a) is incorrect because the passage notes that pre-monsoon desilting operations were undertaken and helped reduce flooding in certain parts, rather than failing completely.
 (b) is incorrect because landslides occurred in the Bor Ghat and suspended rail services, but the passage never claims they caused the structural destruction of city pumping networks.
 (d) is incorrect because the increased surface runoff is blamed on "decades of haphazard urbanisation" that prevents ground absorption, not a deliberate administrative diversion of water.

4. B) **consecutive structural weather anomalies**

In systems engineering and disaster management, a "cascading failure" occurs when the failure of one part triggers the failure of successive, connected parts. The passage illustrates this beautifully by showing how a single trigger—extreme, short-burst rainfall—sets off a domino effect across the region's interconnected networks:

1.) The heavy rain overwhelms the drainage systems and catchments. 2.) The resulting floods cause landslides in the Bor Ghat. 3.) These landslides immediately force the suspension of vital rail lines. 4.) Concurrently, major roadways (expressways and highways) flood and shut down, while flights are delayed. The failure of the environmental and drainage systems directly triggers the sequential collapse of the city's entire transport and logistics network.

5. C) **Mumbai's Monsoon Crisis: The Intersection of Climate Change, Urbanization, and Fragmented Accountability**

This title perfectly encapsulates all the primary threads woven throughout the entire passage: The Monsoon Crisis: The immediate context of the passage (heavy downpours, short bursts, flooding, transport disruption).

Climate Change & Urbanization: The two underlying accelerators identified by the author that are evolving faster than the city's infrastructure can adapt (erratic weather patterns vs. haphazard building on reclaimed marshes).

Fragmented Accountability: The core governance critique raised by the author, pointing out that split responsibility across the BMC, Railways, IMD, State government, and highway authorities ultimately leaves the city highly vulnerable to cascading system failures.

6. A) **Incredible** (adjective) – Difficult to believe; extraordinary, unbelievable अविश्वसनीय
 Similar in meaning: **Unimaginable** (adjective) – Hard to conceive or believe; beyond imagination अकल्पनीय

- **Unremarkable** (adjective) – Ordinary; not special साधारण
- **Apparent** (adjective) – Clearly visible or obvious; evident स्पष्ट
- **Unacceptable** (adjective) – Not satisfactory or allowed; intolerable अस्वीकार्य

7. B) **Aquatic** (adjective) – Living or growing in water; relating to water environments जलीय

- **Terrestrial** (adjective) – Living or growing on land स्थलीय
- **Arboreal** (adjective) – Living in trees वृक्षवासी
- **Polar** (adjective) – Relating to the North or South Pole; extremely cold ध्रुवीय

8. A) **Teetotaler** (noun) – A person who does not drink alcohol पूर्णतः मद्यत्यागी

- **Non-drinker** (noun) – A general term for someone who does not drink alcohol शराब न पीने वाला
- **Beverages man** (noun) – male professional involved in the service, sale, or production of drinks

- **Tougher** (adjective) – Comparative form of tough; unrelated to drinking सख्त
9. A) 'going to kick up' के बदले **'going to kick off'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि kick off का अर्थ किसी चीज़ की शुरुआत करना होता है, जबकि kick up का अर्थ हंगामा/उथल-पुथल पैदा करना होता है, जो यहाँ संदर्भ के अनुसार गलत है।
- 'kick off' is correct, not 'kick up', since the sentence talks about the beginning of the holiday season and shopping, not creating disturbance.
10. A) The correct spelling is '**Accelerate**', which means to increase speed or progress more quickly – तेज़ करना, गति बढ़ाना.
11. D) **ABDC**
- Sentence A पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह Independent है; यह 'work-life balance' के विषय को introduce करता है और एक सवाल खड़ा करता है।
- Sentence B इसके बाद आता है; यह उस 'perception' को स्पष्ट करता है जिसकी वजह से लोग इसे एक समस्या मानते हैं (work vs life)।
- Sentence C इसके बाद आता है; यह B में बताई गई धारणा को चुनौती देता है और वर्क को लाइफ का ही एक integral part बताता है।
- Sentence D अंत में Conclusion देता है; यह C के तर्कों को आगे बढ़ाते हुए यह निष्कर्ष निकालता है कि समस्या 'balance' की नहीं बल्कि self-management की है।
- Sentence A starts the passage because it is Independent; it introduces the buzzworthy topic of work-life balance and poses the central question of what it really entails.
 - Sentence B follows A; it clarifies the common misconception that work is an intrusive competitor to personal life.
 - Sentence C follows B; it provides a counter-perspective, arguing that work is not separate but an integral part of life.
 - Sentence D concludes the passage; it synthesizes the previous points to offer a final verdict: that the issue is not balance, but a failure of self-management.
12. C) 'focus in' के बदले **'focus on'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'focus' के साथ सही Preposition 'on' आती है, जो किसी विषय या उद्देश्य पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने को दर्शाती है; जैसे— We should focus on our goals.
- 'focus on' will be used instead of 'focus in' because the correct preposition used with 'focus' to show concentration or attention is 'on'; Like— We should focus on our goals.
13. B) **The customers must have been misguided by the shopkeeper to purchase the faulty watches.**
- Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है और Verb को Modal + Perfect Passive के रूप में बदला जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में Modal Verb "must have" का प्रयोग हुआ है, इसलिए Passive में इसका सही रूप must have been + past participle होता है। Active वाक्य में "the shopkeeper" Subject है, "must have misguided" Verb phrase है और "the customers" Object है। Passive में Object "the customers" Subject बन जाता है और Verb must have been misguided में बदलता है, जबकि उद्देश्य बताने वाला infinitive "to purchase" वही रहता है।
- To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence, and the verb is converted into modal + perfect passive form when a modal like "must have" is used. Here, "the shopkeeper" is the subject, "must have misguided" is the verb phrase, and "the customers" is the

object. In the passive construction, the correct form is “must have been misguided,” followed by the agent phrase.

14. A) ‘of’ का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि “fond” के साथ सही और मानक preposition “of” ही आती है। वाक्य में “fond” किसी चीज़ के प्रति लगाव या पसंद को दर्शाता है, और अंग्रेज़ी व्याकरण में यह संरचना fond of + noun के रूप में प्रयोग की जाती है। इसलिए “She is fond of classical music.” सही और व्याकरणिक रूप से शुद्ध है।
- ‘of’ should be used because “fond” is conventionally followed by the preposition “of” to express liking or affection. The correct grammatical structure is fond of + noun, which indicates a strong preference. Hence, “of” is the most appropriate option.
15. B) **Garrulous** (adjective) – Excessively talkative; chatty, loquacious, verbose **बातूनी**
Antonym: **Reserved** (adjective) – Quiet, restrained, not inclined to talk much **संकोची**
- **Quiet** (adjective) – Making little or no noise; calm **शांत**
 - **Shy** (adjective) – Nervous or timid in social situations; bashful **झिझकने वाला**
 - **Silent** (adjective) – Not speaking or making sound; mute **मौन**
16. B) **Someone constructed the school building in 1980.**
Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य में छिपा हुआ Agent Active वाक्य में Subject के रूप में लाया जाता है और Verb को उसी Tense में Active रूप में बदला जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में Tense Simple Past Passive है। Passive वाक्य में “The school building” Subject है, “was constructed” Verb है और Agent उल्लेखित नहीं है। Active में बदलते समय सामान्य Agent “Someone” प्रयोग किया जाता है और Verb constructed (Simple Past Active) में रहता है।
- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the hidden agent becomes the subject, and the verb is converted into its active form while keeping the same tense. Here, the sentence is in the Simple Past tense. “The school building” is the subject, “was constructed” is the passive verb, and the agent is implied. In the active form, “Someone” becomes the subject and the verb changes to “constructed.”
17. B) **She said to me, "I have been learning French for three months."**
Indirect से Direct Speech में बदलते समय Tense, Pronoun और Duration expression में परिवर्तन किया जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में “had been learning” Past Perfect Continuous है, जो Indirect Speech में प्रयुक्त होता है। Direct Speech में इसे वापस Present Perfect Continuous (have been learning) में बदला जाता है। Pronoun “she” Direct में “I” बन जाता है और “told me” के साथ Direct Speech में “said to me” उपयुक्त रहता है। अवधि “for three months” वही रहती है।
- To change a sentence from Indirect to Direct Speech, the tense is shifted back to its original form, pronouns are restored according to the speaker, and the duration phrase remains unchanged. Here, “had been learning” changes to “have been learning,” and “she” becomes “I,” giving the correct direct form.
18. B) **on, with’** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि verb “insist” के साथ सही preposition “on” आता है, और verb “proceed” के साथ स्वाभाविक रूप से “with” का प्रयोग किया जाता है। पूरे वाक्य में समिति पहले जाँच पर ज़ोर दे रही है और फिर किसी निर्णय के साथ आगे बढ़ने की बात कर रही है, इसलिए यही संयोजन अर्थ की दृष्टि से सही है।
- ‘on, with’ should be used because the verb “insist” is correctly followed by “on”, and “proceed” naturally takes “with”. The sentence conveys that the committee demands a

thorough investigation first and then moves forward with any decision, making this pair the most appropriate choice.

19. C) 'suffering with' के बदले 'suffering from' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'suffer' के साथ सही Preposition 'from' आती है, जो किसी समस्या, बीमारी या कमी को दर्शाती है; जैसे— People are suffering from poverty.

- 'suffering from' will be used instead of 'suffering with' because the correct preposition used with 'suffer' to show pain, problem, or lack is 'from'; Like— People are suffering from poverty.

20. A) **CABD**

Sentence C पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह Independent है; यह लेखक के एक निजी अनुभव (Chennai eye clinic) के साथ विषय को introduce करता है।

Sentence A इसके बाद आता है; यह C के 'specialist' वाले अनुभव से एक contrast पैदा करता है और बीते समय के 'family doctor' की याद दिलाता है।

Sentence B इसके बाद आता है; यह पुराने समय (family doctor) और आज के दौर (specialized, complex healthcare) के बीच के evolutionary gap को स्पष्ट करता है।

Sentence D अंत में Conclusion देता है; यह एक भावनात्मक निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचता है—कि 'family doctor' का असली रूप आज हमारी 'मदर्स' (mothers) में जीवित है।

- Sentence C starts the passage because it is Independent; it introduces the theme through a specific personal anecdote regarding specialized medical care.
- Sentence A follows C; it contrasts the modern clinical experience with the nostalgia of the "family doctor" era, setting the historical context.
- Sentence B follows A; it bridges the two eras by highlighting the shift from holistic generalists to an "infinite lexicon" of hyper-specialized doctors.
- Sentence D concludes the passage; it provides a thematic synthesis, identifying the modern mother as the successor to the traditional family doctor.

21. B) Absurd is used because it means completely illogical, unreasonable, or laughably foolish, which perfectly matches the context of a buyer finding a massive price tag of £60,000 completely wild and foolish. Sensible means practical or wise, which contradicts the buyer's negative reaction. Reasonable means fair, which is the exact opposite of what the buyer felt. Logical means characterized by clear reasoning, failing to match the context.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Absurd का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ completely illogical या laughably foolish होता है। यह वाक्य के context में बिल्कुल सही बैठता है जहाँ खरीदार को £60,000 की भारी कीमत पूरी तरह से बेतुकी लगती है।
Sensible: इसका अर्थ समझदारी भरा होता है, जो खरीदार की negative reaction के विपरीत है।
Reasonable: इसका अर्थ उचित या वाजिब होता है, जो खरीदार की सोच के बिल्कुल उलट है।
Logical: इसका अर्थ तार्किक होता है, जो यहाँ गलत है।

22. A) Ruined is used because it means damaged, destroyed, or in a state of decay, making it the perfect antonym for "well-preserved" (kept in excellent condition over time). Intact means undamaged or whole, which is a synonym rather than an antonym. Flawless means without any imperfections, which also aligns closely with the original meaning. Immaculate means perfectly clean or neat, which acts as another synonym.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Ruined का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ damaged, destroyed या बर्बाद होना होता है, जो "well-preserved" (लंबे समय तक अच्छी स्थिति में रखा गया) का एक परफेक्ट antonym है।

Intact: इसका अर्थ बिना किसी नुकसान के साबुत होना होता है, जो कि antonym के बजाय एक synonym है। Flawless: इसका अर्थ दोषरहित होता है, जो मूल शब्द के अर्थ से मेल खाता है।

Immaculate: इसका अर्थ बिल्कुल साफ-सुथरा या बेदाग होता है, जो यहाँ गलत विकल्प है।

23. C) Who is used because it is the correct relative pronoun used as a subject to refer directly to a person ("Mr. Edward Goldston") who performed the action of selling the book. Which is used to refer to inanimate objects or animals, which is grammatically incorrect for a person. Whose is a possessive relative pronoun used to show ownership, which does not fit the structure before the verb "sold". Whom is an object relative pronoun, which cannot act as the subject performing the action in this relative clause.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Who का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि यह एक ऐसा relative pronoun है जो सीधे किसी व्यक्ति ("Mr. Edward Goldston") को refer करने के लिए subject के रूप में आता है जिसने किताब बेचने का काम किया।

Which: इसका use वस्तुओं (objects) के लिए होता है, जो इंसानों के लिए grammatically incorrect है। Whose: यह एक possessive pronoun है जो मालिकाना हक (ownership) दिखाता है, जो यहाँ structural structure में फिट नहीं बैठता। Whom: यह एक object relative pronoun है, जो इस relative clause में काम करने वाले subject का स्थान नहीं ले सकता।

24. B) Made is used because it is the simple past tense form required to match the historic narrative timeline of the passage, specifically referring to a completed action that happened in the past ("some months ago"). Make is the base plural verb form, which violates subject-verb agreement with the singular subject "He". Makes is simple present tense, which breaks the past timeline of the story. Making is a continuous participle that cannot function as a main verb without a helping verb.

In Hindi:

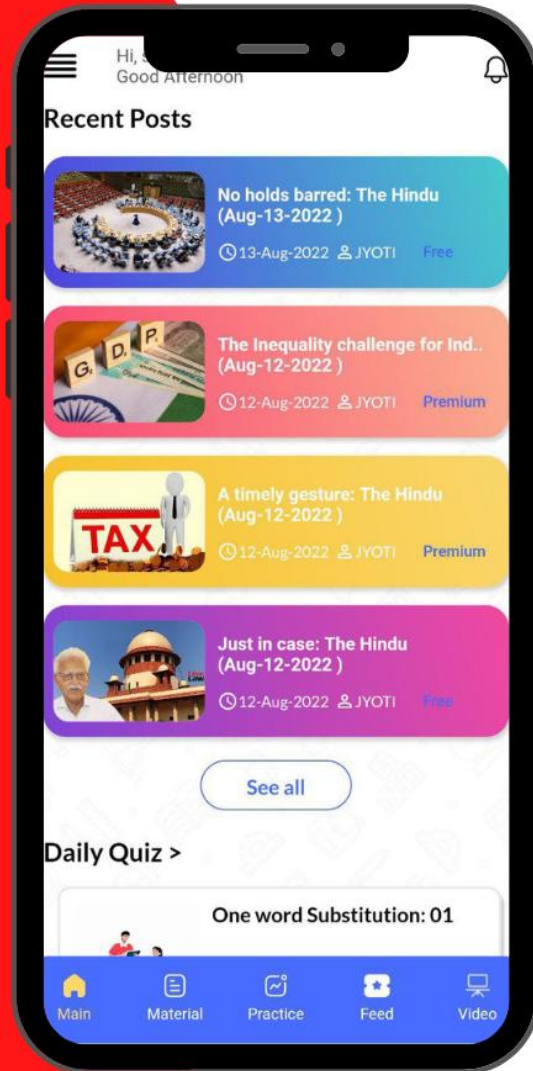
- यहाँ Made का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि यह simple past tense है जो कहानी के historical narrative timeline से बिल्कुल मेल खाता है, और अतीत में पूरे हुए काम ("some months ago") को रिपोर्ट करता है।

Make: यह क्रिया का base form है, जो singular subject "He" के साथ subject-verb agreement का उल्लंघन करता है। Makes: यह simple present tense है, जो वाक्य के past timeline को बिगाड़ देता है। Making: यह एक continuous participle रूप है जो बिना helping verb के मुख्य क्रिया का काम नहीं कर सकता।

25. D) In is used because it is the standard spatial preposition used to indicate presence inside a large geographical area or major city like "London". Inside implies being within the physical walls of a building or container, which is too restrictive for an entire city. Over implies movement across or being directly above a surface, which breaks the grammatical structure. At is generally used for very specific functional locations or small points rather than a massive global metropolis like London in this descriptive style.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ In का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि किसी बड़े geographical area या बड़े शहर जैसे "London" के भीतर उपस्थिति दिखाने के लिए यह एक standard spatial preposition है।
Inside: इसका अर्थ किसी इमारत या कंटेनर की भौतिक दीवारों के भीतर होना होता है, जो पूरे शहर के लिए बहुत सीमित (restrictive) है। Over: यह किसी सतह के ऊपर या पार होने को दिखाता है, जो वाक्य की बनावट को तोड़ता है। At: इसका use आमतौर पर किसी बहुत निश्चित बिंदु (specific point) के लिए होता है, लंदन जैसे बड़े शहर के लिए नहीं।



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