

Grand ambitions: On India's cooperative sector

India's cooperative sector can serve as a **worker-centric** model of development

Hypercompetitive business **models** that **dominate** the economic lives of people **have undesirable** social consequences. The cooperative model offers an alternative, **albeit** with its own **imperfections**. **India's Ministry of Cooperation**, which completed five years on July 6, **is** a **bold** experiment in **harnessing** the **potential** of this approach. Traditionally **confined largely to** agriculture, cooperatives now have the opportunity and a requirement to **expand** into other sectors, particularly services. **Cooperatives**, by their very character, **are** relatively small-scale and **fragmented**; organising them, and **connecting** them to the broader economy that **disproportionately** rewards hyper-scalers **is** a balancing intervention — an economic, political and social **imperative**. The Ministry aims to transform the cooperative **landscape** by bringing policy **coherence** across agriculture, dairy, fisheries, banking, housing, consumer cooperatives, and exports. This requires **collaboration** with States and national federations, capacity building, wise use of digital technology, and market **linkages**. Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) are the foundation of rural cooperatives. Through a reformed legal framework, they have been **empowered** to **undertake** over 25 business activities, transforming them into **multifaceted** institutions delivering many economic services in rural India.

The Ministry has **facilitated** new national-level multi-State cooperative societies, expanding market access for members and **strengthening** cooperative value chains from production to global markets. Cooperative enterprises are being encouraged to grow and **compete**, and a National Cooperation Policy is **in the making**. But there are challenges amid the opportunities. Corruption and inefficiency **eroded** the potential of India's cooperative sector, and the **fear** of local communities and States losing control of cooperatives to a national-level **mechanism needs** to be **assuaged**. The task is in finding the **sweet spot** of **consolidation** and **decentralisation**; localisation and nationalisation; technology and human labour, for boosting the sector. **Union Home Minister Amit Shah**, who holds the portfolio, **is** pushing the cooperative sector to expand into production and marketing, beyond agricultural credit and input **facilitation**, which could help **mitigate** the sector's **endemic** crisis. A **well-coordinated**, yet **federated**, cooperative sector can **offset** the social, environmental and **political costs** of global **capitalism**, which is the default model of the economy. Government and business leaders worldwide are viewing cooperatives with renewed interest, as the **pitfalls** of **hypercapitalism** become **pronounced**. India can develop its cooperative sector as a global model. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Ambition** (noun) - aspiration, goal, objective, target, design. महत्त्वाकांक्षाएं
2. **Worker-centric** (adjective) - employee-focused, labour-oriented, people-centred, staff-focused, human-centric. श्रमिक-केंद्रित
3. **Hypercompetitive** (adjective) - cutthroat, aggressive, fierce, intense, dog-eat-dog. अत्यधिक प्रतिस्पर्धी
4. **Dominate** (verb) - control, command, rule, oversee, govern. हावी होना
5. **Undesirable** (adjective) - unwelcome, unpleasant, objectionable, unwanted, disadvantageous. अवांछनीय
6. **Albeit** (conjunction) - although, even though, though, notwithstanding, while. यद्यपि
7. **Imperfections** (noun) - flaws, defects, weaknesses, shortcomings, faults. कमियां
8. **Bold** (adjective) - courageous, daring, intrepid, audacious, fearless. साहसी
9. **Harness** (verb) - utilize, exploit, employ, mobilize, capture. उपयोग में लाना
10. **Potential** (noun) - capability, capacity, promise, prospect, possibility. क्षमता
11. **Confine to** (phrasal verb) - to restrict or limit something to a particular area or subject. सीमित करना
12. **Expand** (verb) - enlarge, increase, extend, broaden, proliferate. विस्तार करना
13. **Fragmented** (adjective) - divided, split, broken, disjointed, fractured. खंडित
14. **Disproportionately** (adverb) - unevenly, unfairly, excessively, immoderately, unbalancedly. असंतुलित रूप से
15. **Imperative** (noun) - necessity, requirement, obligation, essential, priority. अनिवार्यता
16. **Landscape** (noun) - scene, terrain, vista, view, outlook. परिदृश्य
17. **Coherence** (noun) - consistency, unity, cohesion, logicity, integration. सुसंगतता
18. **Collaboration** (noun) - cooperation, partnership, alliance, synergy, coalition. सहयोग
19. **Linkages** (noun) - connections, associations, ties, links, relationships. संपर्क
20. **Empower** (verb) - authorize, enable, sanction, entitle, permit. सशक्त बनाना
21. **Undertake** (verb) - perform, execute, handle, pursue, attempt. कार्य करना
22. **Multifaceted** (adjective) - versatile, complex, diverse, many-sided, multifaceted. बहुआयामी
23. **Facilitate** (verb) - ease, assist, promote, advance, expedite. सुगम बनाना
24. **Strengthen** (verb) - reinforce, fortify, bolster, consolidate, invigorate. मजबूत करना
25. **Compete** (verb) - vie, contend, contest, challenge, struggle. प्रतिस्पर्धा करना
26. **In the making** (phrase) - currently being created or developed. प्रक्रियाधीन

27. **Erode** (verb) - wear away, corrode, diminish, deteriorate, undermine. नष्ट करना या धीरे-धीरे कम करना
28. **Mechanism** (noun) - system, process, procedure, structure, method. तंत्र
29. **Assuage** (verb) - alleviate, relieve, soothe, mitigate, ease. शांत करना या कम करना
30. **Sweet spot** (noun) - the optimal point or combination of factors for a best result. इष्टतम स्थिति
31. **Consolidation** (noun) - unification, amalgamation, integration, merger, strengthening. सुदृढीकरण या एकीकरण
32. **Decentralisation** (noun) - devolution, delegation, diffusion, dispersal, distribution. विकेंद्रीकरण
33. **Facilitation** (noun) - assistance, aid, easing, helping, support. सुगमीकरण
34. **Mitigate** (verb) - lessen, reduce, alleviate, diminish, palliate. कम करना
35. **Endemic** (adjective) - native, indigenous, inherent, deep-seated, constant. स्थानिक या व्यापक
36. **Well-coordinated** (adjective) - synchronized, organized, harmonized, balanced, systematic. सुव्यवस्थित
37. **Federated** (adjective) - allied, united, joined, confederated, associated. संघबद्ध
38. **Offset** (verb) - counterbalance, compensate, neutralize, balance, counteract. भरपाई करना
39. **Political costs** (noun) - the negative impacts or consequences arising from political decisions. राजनीतिक लागत
40. **Capitalism** (noun) - the economic system in which businesses are owned and run for profit by individuals and not by the state पूंजीवाद
41. **Pitfalls** (noun) - hazards, dangers, risks, perils, traps. खतरे
42. **Hypercapitalism** (noun) - extreme form of capitalism characterized by intense market influence. अति-पूंजीवाद
43. **Pronounced** (adjective) - noticeable, distinct, marked, prominent, conspicuous. स्पष्ट

Summary of the Editorial

1. **The cooperative model provides an alternative** to hypercompetitive capitalist business models, focusing on collective ownership, democratic governance, and community welfare.
2. **India's Ministry of Cooperation**, which completed five years on **July 6**, aims to strengthen and modernise the country's cooperative movement.
3. Traditionally, **cooperatives were concentrated in agriculture**, but the government now seeks to expand them into sectors such as **services, banking, housing, fisheries, dairy, consumer businesses, and exports**.
4. Since cooperatives are generally **small and fragmented**, better organisation and integration with the broader economy are necessary for their growth.
5. The Ministry seeks to create **policy coordination** across different cooperative sectors to improve efficiency and competitiveness.
6. Successful implementation requires **close cooperation with State governments, national cooperative federations, capacity building, digital technology adoption, and stronger market linkages**.
7. **Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)** have been legally empowered to undertake **more than 25 different business activities**, making them multifunctional rural institutions.
8. The government has established **new national-level multi-State cooperative societies** to improve market access and strengthen cooperative value chains from production to exports.
9. A **National Cooperation Policy** is being prepared to provide a comprehensive framework for the future development of the cooperative sector.
10. Despite reforms, the sector continues to face serious challenges such as **corruption, inefficiency, and weak institutional governance**.
11. There are concerns among **States and local communities** that increased national-level coordination could reduce their autonomy over cooperative institutions.
12. The government must strike a **balance between centralisation and decentralisation**, ensuring both national coordination and local independence.
13. It is equally important to balance **technology with human labour**, enabling efficiency without undermining employment opportunities.
14. Under the leadership of **Amit Shah**, the cooperative sector is being encouraged to move beyond agricultural credit into **production, processing, marketing, and value addition**, making it more economically sustainable.
15. The editorial concludes that a **well-governed, federated, and worker-centric cooperative sector** can reduce the social and environmental costs of global capitalism and position **India** as a global model for inclusive and sustainable economic development.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **The passage is primarily concerned with:** [Editorial page]
- A. the political achievements of Union Home Minister Amit Shah
 - B. the structural reform and cross-sectoral expansion of cooperatives
 - C. the historical origins of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies
 - D. the global environmental consequences of hypercompetitive capitalism
2. **The author's primary objective of writing the passage seems to:**
- A. analyze the strategic expansion and structural integration needed to transform India's cooperative sector into a viable alternative to global capitalism
 - B. advocate that federal centralization is the most effective administrative method to eradicate deep-seated corruption across all local rural networks
 - C. chronologically document the specific policy milestones achieved by the newly formed ministry over its initial five years of active governance
 - D. mathematically demonstrate that small-scale agricultural enterprises are superior at deploying emerging digital technologies than massive hyper-scale corporate models
3. **Considering the literal meaning and connotations of the words used in the passage, the author's attitude towards 'global capitalism' can best be described as:**
- A. celebratory and optimistic
 - B. cautious and appreciative
 - C. critical and disapproving
 - D. hostile and malicious
4. **“. . . . finding the sweet spot of consolidation and decentralisation”. In the context of the passage, this means:**
- A. identifying a precise operational equilibrium that preserves local autonomy while maximizing organizational scale
 - B. physically shifting rural credit centers to urban geographical locations to improve technological monitoring
 - C. establishing a uniform centralized legal framework that strips state-level federations of political influence
 - D. choosing a market strategy that favors hyper-scale corporate models over fragmented enterprises
5. **Identify the type of the following sentence from the passage and justify your answer: "The Ministry has facilitated new national-level multi-State cooperative societies, expanding market access for members and strengthening cooperative value chains from production to global markets."**
- A. Simple sentence
 - B. Compound sentence
 - C. Complex sentence
 - D. Compound-complex sentence
6. **Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error.**
- A. The main affect B. of the new policy C. will be an increase D. in productivity.
 - A. The main affect
 - B. of the new policy
 - C. will be an increase

- D. in productivity.
7. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate preposition:**
His promotion was contingent _____ the outcome of the annual review.
A. upto
B. to
C. on
D. into
8. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the word: TRANSHISTORICAL**
A. Timeless
B. Ancient
C. Recent
D. Futuristic
9. **Choose the correctly spelt word:**
A. Extroversion
B. Extroversoin
C. Extroverssion
D. Extroversin
10. **Which of the following sentences uses the word "minute" with the same meaning as in the following sentence?**
"The microscope revealed a minute speck of dust."
A. The meeting will start in a few minutes.
B. I was just a minute away from being late.
C. The camera captured every minute detail of the insect's wing.
D. The alarm went off in exactly sixty seconds, or one minute.
11. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Credulous**
A. Trusting
B. Skeptical
C. Gullible
D. Naive
12. **Direction: Rearrange the following sentences (A, B, C, D) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
A. A sage named Jaratkaru discovered his ancestors hanging upside down, who pleaded with him to marry and beget a son to secure their liberation from spiritual peril.
B. Seeking to fulfill this duty, the sage insisted on marrying a woman who shared his name, a condition eventually met through the sister of the snake king Vasuki.
C. Meanwhile, a separate conflict arose when the snake-mother Kadru cursed her offspring to die in King Janamejaya's future sacrifice for their refusal to participate in her deceit.
D. The two narratives intertwined when it was revealed that the sage's future son, Astika, was destined to halt this sacrifice and save the snakes from their cursed fate.
A. ABCD
B. ACBD
C. ADBC
D. BACD
13. **Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: Part and parcel**

- A. A small, unimportant detail
B. . A non-essential part of a whole
C. An integral and unavoidable component
D. A delivery service for packages
14. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**
The killing of one's own mother.
A. Matricide
B. Patricide
C. Homicide
D. Fratricide
15. **Change the following sentence into the Active form.**
"A new bridge is being constructed by the city council."
A. The city council is constructing a new bridge.
B. A new bridge constructed the city council.
C. The city council constructed a new bridge.
D. The city council has constructed a new bridge.
16. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Ineffable**
A. Expressible
B. Inarticulate
C. Unfathomable
D. Indescribable
17. **Choose the most suitable option to replace the highlighted part of the sentence:**
"Twenty minutes has been the time I need to get ready for the party."
A. Twenty minutes are the time
B. Twenty minutes is the time
C. Twenty minute is the time
D. Twenty minutes are the time needed
18. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in direct voice.**
He asked me if I would have been able to finish the report that day if he had not helped me with the research, which had been a very tedious process.
A. "Would you have been able to finish the report today if I had not helped you with the research, which was a very tedious process?" he asked me.
B. "Will you have been able to finish the report today if I did not help you with the research, which was a very tedious process?" he asked me.
C. . "Would you have been able to finish the report that day if I had not helped you with the research, which had been a very tedious process?" he asked me.
D. "Could you finish the report today if I had not helped you with the research, which was a very tedious process?" he asked me.
19. **Direction: Rearrange the following sentences (A, B, C, D) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
A. While some believe the Pala-period Saraswati inspired the Chola sculptors, there is no conclusive evidence for this, and the notable absence of the veena in certain statues is not unique to Gangaikondacholapuram.

- B. Historical research indicates that both Pallava and early Chola-period sculptures often lacked the veena, featuring instead attributes like the 'akka mala' and 'kundigai' associated with Brahma.
- C. Specifically, iconic sites such as the Kailasanathar, Brihadisvara, and Tiruvalanchuzhi temples house Saraswati deities that do not hold the instrument, suggesting a traditional stylistic choice.
- D. Among these, the Gnanasaraswati at Gangaikondacholapuram remains a standout, not for its lack of a veena, but for the rare and threatening 'tarjani mudra' depicted in its sculpture.
- A. ABCD
B. ABDC
C. BACD
D. ACBD

20. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in direct voice.**

The manager told the team that their hard work and dedication had been noticed and appreciated.

- A. The manager said, "Your hard work and dedication had been noticed and appreciated."
B. The manager said, "Your hard work and dedication have been noticed and appreciated."
C. The manager told the team, "Their hard work and dedication had been noticed and appreciated."
D. The manager said, "Their hard work and dedication were noticed and appreciated."

Read the cloze passage and answer the following questions:

Vidura is regarded as the very _____(1) of dharma. He constantly contemplated righteousness, sought only the truth, and walked unwaveringly on the path of virtue. Among all the elders in the Kaurava court, Vidura alone _____(2) to speak out for justice when Draupathi was publicly humiliated. In contrast, even great scholars and revered elders such as Bhishma and Drona remained silent. Tirukudanthai Dr. Venkatesh said in a discourse that Vidura possessed absolute devotion to Lord Krishna and explained that at the conclusion of Krishna's earthly _____(3), as the Lord prepared to return to Vaikunta, His divine abode, His thoughts were filled with affection for Vidura. From this, we can understand that Vidura had a special place in Lord Krishna's heart.

On one occasion in Hastinapura, King Dhritarashtra was unable to sleep due to deep anxiety. Realising that only the wisdom of Vidura could bring him peace, he immediately summoned him. Vidura explained that sleeplessness and mental unrest arise from four causes: fear, worry, excessive attachment, and the burden of sins committed. Vidura further revealed the true causes of the king's distress: his silent approval of the _____(4) gambling match against Yudhishtira and the Pandavas, his failure to condemn the humiliation of Draupathi in the royal assembly, and his refusal to restore the kingdom and rightful possessions of the Pandavas even after they had completed their 13 years of exile. These acts of adharma weighed heavily upon Dhritarashtra's conscience, robbing him of peace and sleep. Vidura, through his strategic vision, told Dhritarashtra that Dharmaputra would certainly _____(5) war. Hearing this, Dhritarashtra sought Vidura's counsel on how to prevent war and attain peace of mind. Vidura advised him to distance himself from the foolish individuals surrounding him, such as Duryodhana, Shakuni and Dushasana. Instead, he urged the king to surround himself with wise and virtuous advisers so that he could regain inner peace.

21. **Select the most appropriate option for (1):**
- A. object
 - B. outline
 - C. embodiment
 - D. element
22. **Select the most appropriate option for (2):**
- A. dares
 - B. dared
 - C. daring
 - D. dare
23. **Select the most appropriate option for (3):**
- A. generation
 - B. history
 - C. adventure
 - D. incarnation
24. **Select the most appropriate option for (4):**
- A. deceitful
 - B. friendly
 - C. random
 - D. lawful
25. **Select the most appropriate option for (5):**
- A. build
 - B. declare
 - C. wage
 - D. fight

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. B) the structural reform and cross-sectoral expansion of cooperatives

Line from passage: "Traditionally confined largely to agriculture, cooperatives now have the opportunity and a requirement to expand into other sectors... Through a reformed legal framework, they have been empowered to undertake over 25 business activities, transforming them into multifaceted institutions..." The entire passage centers on how India's cooperative sector is undergoing structural updates (like legally reforming PACS) and expanding across multiple sectors (agriculture, dairy, banking, housing, and global exports) to serve as a macro-economic alternative.

(a) is incorrect because Union Home Minister Amit Shah is only mentioned briefly at the end to state his ministerial actions, not to detail his broader political career or achievements.

(c) is incorrect because Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) are only brought up as a singular foundational example of modern rural reform, not to explore their historical origins.

(d) is incorrect because the social or environmental flaws of hypercompetitive capitalism are just a brief contextual backdrop to explain why alternative cooperative models are needed globally.

2. A) analyze the strategic expansion and structural integration needed to transform India's cooperative sector into a viable alternative to global capitalism

Line from passage: "A well-coordinated, yet federated, cooperative sector can offset the social, environmental and political costs of global capitalism... India can develop its cooperative sector as a global model." The passage acts as an analytical piece evaluating the opportunities, required tools (policy coherence, digital tech, market linkages), and challenges (balancing centralization vs. decentralization) involved in scaling up India's cooperative frameworks to counter the pitfalls of default hyper-capitalism.

(b) is incorrect because the passage explicitly warns against centralization, noting that the fear of communities and states "losing control of cooperatives to a national-level mechanism needs to be assuaged."

(c) is incorrect because while the five-year milestone is mentioned as context, the passage is a thematic critique and strategic look ahead rather than a chronological list of historical policy dates.

(d) is incorrect because the passage never claims small cooperatives are mathematically or structurally "superior" at deploying technology than corporations; it merely states that organizing them to compete with hyper-scalers is a necessary balancing act.

3. C) critical and disapproving

Line from passage: "Hypercompetitive business models that dominate the economic lives of people have undesirable social consequences... as the pitfalls of hypercapitalism become pronounced." The author's language choices carry clear negative connotations when describing global capitalism, specifically highlighting its "undesirable social consequences,"

"pitfalls," and the heavy "social, environmental and political costs" it inflicts as the default economic model.

(a) and (b) are incorrect because the passage frames global capitalism as a flawed system that needs to be "offset" by cooperatives, showing zero signs of celebration, appreciation, or optimism toward it.

(d) is incorrect because "hostile and malicious" implies a hateful, aggressive, or vindictive emotional attack, whereas the author maintains a measured, professional, and analytical tone while delivering their critique.

4. A) **identifying a precise operational equilibrium that preserves local autonomy while maximizing organizational scale**

Line from passage: "The task is in finding the sweet spot of consolidation and decentralisation; localisation and nationalisation; technology and human labour, for boosting the sector."

The "sweet spot" refers to a perfect balance or equilibrium. The author argues that cooperatives must integrate and scale up nationally to compete with massive corporate models ("consolidation"), but they must do so without causing local communities and state governments to lose their decision-making power ("decentralisation" / "local autonomy").

(b) is incorrect because the passage discusses administrative and structural balance, not the physical relocation of rural centers to cities.

(c) is incorrect because stripping state-level federations of influence directly contradicts the passage, which explicitly warns that the fear of losing local control "needs to be assuaged" and advocates for a "well-coordinated, yet federated" model.

(d) is incorrect because the entire premise of the passage is to build up the cooperative sector as a balancing alternative to counteract and compete against hyper-scale corporate models.

5. A) **Simple sentence**

A simple sentence contains only one independent clause (one subject and one predicate) and no dependent clauses. In this sentence, "The Ministry" is the single subject, and "has facilitated... expanding... and strengthening" is the compound predicate. The trailing phrases ("expanding market access..." and "strengthening cooperative value chains...") are participial phrases, not separate clauses, as they lack their own subjects and conjugated verbs.

6. A) affect' के बदले 'effect' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ अर्थ result / outcome (परिणाम) का है और इस अर्थ में effect (noun) आता है, जबकि affect सामान्यतः verb (प्रभाव डालना) के रूप में प्रयोग होता है; जैसे—

The effect of the policy was remarkable.

- 'effect' will be used instead of 'affect' because the meaning here is result/outcome, and in this meaning effect is the correct noun, whereas affect is mainly used as a verb;

Like—

The effect of the policy was remarkable.

7. C) 'on' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि phrase 'contingent on' अंग्रेजी में एक fixed prepositional combination है, जिसका अर्थ होता है — किसी चीज़ पर निर्भर होना। यहाँ promotion वार्षिक review के परिणाम पर निर्भर है, इसलिए 'on' सबसे उपयुक्त preposition है।

- 'on' should be used because the standard expression in English is 'contingent on', meaning dependent upon something. In the sentence, the promotion depends on the outcome of the annual review, making 'on' the correct and appropriate choice.

8. A) **Transhistorical** (adjective) – Existing beyond or outside history; not limited to one historical period इतिहास से परे / समय से स्वतंत्र
 Synonym: **Timeless** (adjective) – Eternal, everlasting, enduring, ageless, perpetual कालातीत, समय से परे
- **Ancient** (adjective) – Very old, from distant past प्राचीन
 - **Recent** (adjective) – Newly occurred, modern हालिया / हाल का
 - **Futuristic** (adjective) – Ahead of its time, related to the future भविष्यवादी
9. A) The correctly spelt word is **Extroversion** which means “the quality of being outgoing and sociable” मिलनसार स्वभाव / बहिर्मुखी प्रवृत्ति।
10. C) Highlighted वाक्य में ‘minute’ का अर्थ है – बहुत छोटा, सूक्ष्म (extremely small)। विकल्प C में ‘minute’ का अर्थ सूक्ष्म विवरण है – यानी बहुत बारीक/सूक्ष्म। इसलिए दोनों में same meaning है – tiny / extremely small।
 In the highlighted sentence, ‘minute’ means very small or tiny.
 Option C uses ‘minute’ with the same meaning when referring to very fine/small detail.
 Thus, option C matches the same meaning.
11. B) **Credulous** (adjective) – Too ready to believe, gullible, trusting आसानी से विश्वास करने वाला
 Antonym: **Skeptical** (adjective) – Doubtful, questioning, unconvinced, suspicious, wary संदेहपूर्ण, अविश्वासी
- **Trusting** (adjective) – Believing, confiding, naïve विश्वास करने वाला
 - **Gullible** (adjective) – Easily fooled or deceived, credulous भोला, सीधा-सादा
 - **Naive** (adjective) – Innocent, inexperienced, unsophisticated भोला, अनुभवहीन
12. B)) **ACBD**
 Sentence A पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह Independent है; यह ऋषि जरातकारु की कहानी और उनके पूर्वजों की दुर्दशा को introduce करता है।
 Sentence C इसके बाद आता है; यह दूसरी कहानी (कद्रू और सांपों का श्राप) को introduce करता है, जो यज्ञ (sacrifice) का संदर्भ देती है।
 Sentence B इसके बाद आता है; यह ऋषि की शर्त और विवाह के event को जोड़ता है, जो इन दोनों कहानियों को मिलाने की पहली कड़ी है।
 Sentence D अंत में Contextual conclusion देता है; यह जरातकारु के पुत्र (अस्तिका) के जन्म और उसके द्वारा यज्ञ को रोकने की घटना के साथ पैराग्राफ को पूरा करता है।
- Sentence A starts the passage; it serves as the independent opening by establishing the sage’s motivation to marry to save his ancestors.
 - Sentence C follows; it introduces the secondary conflict (the curse on the snakes), providing the essential background for the impending sacrifice.
 - Sentence B follows; it details the sage's specific condition for marriage and the fulfillment of that condition, bridging the two narrative threads.
 - Sentence D concludes the passage; it provides the final contextual framework by explaining how the son born from this marriage ultimately resolved the conflict introduced in the second thread.
13. C) **Part and parcel** (Idiom) - An integral and unavoidable component / किसी चीज़ का अनिवार्य और मुख्य हिस्सा
14. A) **Matricide** (noun) – the act of killing one’s own mother मातृहत्या

- **Patricide** (noun) – killing one's own father पितृहत्या
- **Homicide** (noun) – the killing of a human being मानवहत्या
- **Fatricide** (noun) – killing one's own brother भ्रातृहत्या

15. A) **The city council is constructing a new bridge.**

Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए Passive वाक्य का Object Active वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है और Verb के Tense को Passive से Active रूप में बदला जाता है। वाक्य "is being constructed" Present Continuous Passive है, इसलिए Active में "is constructing" होगा। Passive में "a new bridge" Object है और "by the city council" Agent है, Active में Agent "the city council" Subject बन जाता है और Object "a new bridge" Verb के बाद आता है।

- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the object of the passive sentence becomes the subject of the active sentence and the verb converts from passive to its active equivalent while maintaining the same tense. Here, "is being constructed" (Present Continuous Passive) becomes "is constructing" (Present Continuous Active), "a new bridge" moves after the verb, and "by the city council" becomes the subject.

16. A) **Ineffable** (adjective) – Too great to be expressed in words, indescribable अकथनीय, अवर्णनीय

Antonym: **Expressible** (adjective) – Able to be stated, articulated, communicated, conveyed, described व्यक्त करने योग्य

- **Inarticulate** (adjective) – Unable to express clearly अस्पष्ट बोलने वाला
- **Unfathomable** (adjective) – Incomprehensible, deep, immeasurable अगम्य, अपार
- **Indescribable** (adjective) – Too extraordinary to describe वर्णनातीत

17. B) **Twenty minutes is the time**

'Twenty minutes has been the time' के बदले 'Twenty minutes is the time' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि period of time जैसे— ten minutes, twenty minutes, three hours आदि जब एक single duration दर्शाते हैं, तो इनका verb singular होता है; जैसे— Ten years is a long time.

- 'Twenty minutes is the time' will be used instead of the highlighted part because expressions denoting a single period of time take a singular verb, therefore is is required; Like—

Ten years is a long time.

18. A) **"Would you have been able to finish the report today if I had not helped you with the research, which was a very tedious process?" he asked me.**

Direct से Indirect Speech में बदलते समय reported clause को मूल वक्ता के शब्दों में quotes में वापस लाया जाता है। Indirect वाक्य में "I would have been able..." Conditional Perfect रूप है जो Direct में "Would you have been able..." बन जाता है और Pronouns बदलते हैं — "I" (speaker) → "you", "me" (listener) → "I"। Time expression "that day" Direct में "today" बन जाता है। Clause "if he had not helped me..." Direct में "if I had not helped you..." बनता है और descriptive clause "which had been a very tedious process" Direct में "which was a very tedious process" बन जाती है।

- To convert from Indirect to Direct Speech, the reported clause is reproduced in quotation marks preserving the original conditional perfect structure. The pronouns shift according to speaker–listener roles ("I" → "you" and "me" → "I"). The time marker "that day" changes back to "today." The conditional clause also shifts

perspective (“if he had not helped me” → “if I had not helped you”), and the descriptive clause reverts to simple past.

19. A) **ABCD**

Sentence A पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत करता है क्योंकि यह Independent है; यह veena की अनुपस्थिति (absence) के विषय को introduce करता है।

Sentence B इसके बाद आता है; यह इस ऐतिहासिक प्रवृत्ति को स्पष्ट करता है कि पुराने समय की मूर्तियों में veena के बजाय दूसरे प्रतीकों का महत्व था।

Sentence C इसके बाद आता है; यह बी (B) में दी गई जानकारी को विशिष्ट मंदिरों के उदाहरणों के साथ connect करता है।

Sentence D अंत में Contextual conclusion देता है; यह Gangaikondacholapuram की मूर्ति की विशिष्टता (tarjani mudra) को उजागर करते हुए पैराग्राफ को समाप्त करता है।

- Sentence A starts the passage; it serves as the independent opening by introducing the debate regarding the absence of the veena in specific Saraswati sculptures.
- Sentence B follows; it provides the historical context, explaining that this stylistic absence was a common feature linked to traditional attributes.
- Sentence C follows; it bridges the historical context with specific examples from various temples, reinforcing the point made in B.
- Sentence D concludes the passage; it provides the final contextual framework by highlighting the unique significance of the Gnanasaraswati statue at Gangaikondacholapuram.

20. B) **The manager said, "Your hard work and dedication have been noticed and appreciated."**

Indirect से Direct Speech में बदलने के लिए reported clause को वक्ता के मूल शब्दों में quotes में लिखा जाता है। Indirect वाक्य में “their hard work and dedication had been noticed and appreciated” Past Perfect Passive है क्योंकि reporting verb “told” Past में था। Direct Speech में वापस लाते समय tense को original स्थिति में लौटाया जाता है — यानी Present Perfect Passive “have been noticed and appreciated”। साथ ही pronoun “their” को Direct में “your” में बदला जाता है क्योंकि manager टीम से सीधे संवाद कर रहा है।

- To convert from indirect to direct speech, the reported clause is restored as the speaker originally said it. The Past Perfect Passive “had been noticed and appreciated” shifts back to Present Perfect Passive “have been noticed and appreciated,” and the pronoun “their” becomes “your” to reflect direct address to the team.

21. C) Embodiment is used because it means a tangible or visible form of an idea, quality, or feeling, which perfectly fits the spiritual context of Vidura representing the living form of righteousness (dharma). Object means a material thing, which lacks spiritual depth. Outline means a general description or sketch, failing to represent a complete living character. Element means a basic part of a whole, which is too clinical for this description.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Embodiment का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ किसी विचार या गुण का साक्षात या सजीव रूप (living form) होना होता है। यह विदुर को धर्म का सजीव रूप बताने वाले इस आध्यात्मिक संदर्भ में बिल्कुल सही है।

Object: इसका अर्थ कोई भौतिक वस्तु होता है, जिसमें आध्यात्मिक गहराई नहीं है। Outline: इसका अर्थ केवल एक बाहरी रूपरेखा होता है। Element: इसका अर्थ किसी चीज़ का एक बुनियादी हिस्सा या तत्व होता है, जो यहाँ गलत है।

22. B) Dared is used because the narrative context is set entirely in the past tense, requiring a past tense verb to describe Vidura's courageous historical action in the Kaurava court. Dares is simple present tense, which violates the established past tense timeline. Daring is a participle form that cannot act as a main verb without a helping verb. Dare is a base verb form that violates subject-verb agreement with the singular subject "Vidura alone".

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Dared का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि यह पूरी कहानी past tense में चल रही है, इसलिए कौरव सभा में विदुर के साहसी काम को बताने के लिए past tense verb का होना ज़रूरी है।

Dares: यह simple present tense है, जो वाक्य के past timeline को बिगाड़ देता है। Daring: यह बिना helping verb के मुख्य क्रिया का काम नहीं कर सकता। Dare: यह क्रिया का base form है जो singular subject "Vidura alone" के साथ नियमों के खिलाफ है।

23. D) Incarnation is used because it refers to a deity embodied in human form, which perfectly fits the context of Lord Krishna's earthly life and avatar timeline before returning to Vaikunta. Generation means a group of people born around the same time, which is contextually incorrect. History means the whole series of past events, which is too generic. Adventure means an exciting or daring experience, which misses the sacred and divine nature of the event.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Incarnation का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ अवतार या मानव रूप में भगवान का पृथ्वी पर आना होता है। यह वैकुंठ लौटने से पहले भगवान कृष्ण के जीवन काल को दशनि के लिए एकदम सही शब्द है।

Generation: इसका अर्थ एक ही समय की पीढ़ी होता है, जो यहाँ गलत है। History: इसका अर्थ इतिहास होता है, जो बहुत सामान्य (generic) शब्द है। Adventure: इसका अर्थ साहसिक यात्रा होता है, जो इस घटना की पवित्र और दिव्य प्रकृति (divine nature) से मेल नहीं खाता।

24. A) Deceitful is used because it means dishonest or misleading, perfectly matching the theme of the rigged and unfair game of dice used to cheat the Pandavas. Friendly means kind and pleasant, which completely contradicts the toxic nature of that assembly. Random means happening without method or conscious decision, which fails to show that the match was carefully planned to trick them. Lawful means allowed by law, which goes against the concept of adharma mentioned in the passage.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Deceitful का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका अर्थ कपटपूर्ण या धोखेबाज़ी से भरा (dishonest) होता है। यह पांडवों को ठगने के लिए खेले गए उस अन्यायपूर्ण जुए के खेल के theme से बिल्कुल मेल खाता है।

Friendly: इसका अर्थ दोस्ताना होता है, जो उस सभा के कड़वे माहौल के बिल्कुल विपरीत है।

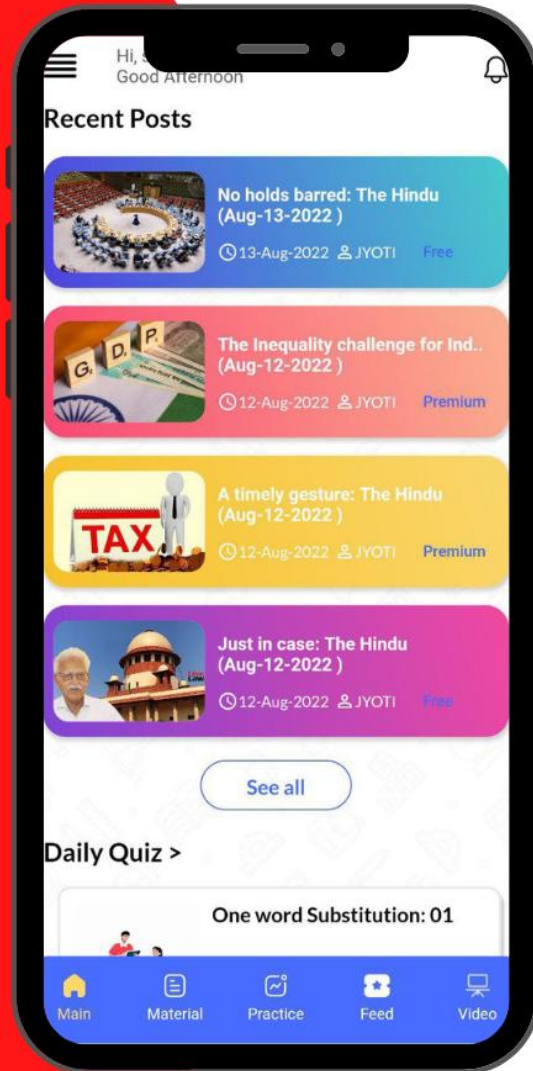
Random: इसका अर्थ बिना किसी योजना के अचानक होना होता है, जो यहाँ गलत है। Lawful: इसका अर्थ कानूनी या वैध होता है, जो वाक्य में बताए गए 'अधर्म' के विचार के खिलाफ है।

25. C) Wage is used because it forms the exact standard fixed collocation "wage war", which means to carry on or engage in a war or major conflict. Build means to construct a physical

structure, which is completely irrelevant to warfare. Declare means to formally announce, which can be done to a war but doesn't fit the continuous sentence context setup by the strategic vision. Fight means to take part in a battle, but grammatically it does not form the correct phrasing required right before the noun "war" in this position.

In Hindi:

- यहाँ Wage का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि यह युद्ध शुरू करने या उसमें शामिल होने के लिए एक exact standard collocation "wage war" बनाता है।
Build: इसका अर्थ किसी भौतिक ढांचे का निर्माण करना होता है, जिसका युद्ध से कोई लेना-देना नहीं है। Declare: इसका अर्थ घोषणा करना होता है, जो यहाँ वाक्य की बनावट के अनुसार सटीक नहीं बैठता। Fight: इसका अर्थ लड़ना होता है, लेकिन व्याकरण के अनुसार यह इस स्थान पर "war" noun के ठीक पहले सही phrasing नहीं बनाता।



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