

Maturing approach: On the India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement

India needs to use market access in the U.K. to raise its market share

The India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) **reflects** New Delhi's more **mature** approach to free trade **negotiations**. **Unlike** its 2009 free trade agreement (FTA) with ASEAN, which tilted the trade balance against India, New Delhi has **approached** the U.K. **pact** by attempting to balance **liberalisation** with domestic **sensitivities** amid an increasingly **fragmented** global trading system. A similar shift was **evident** in the New Zealand FTA, where India **succeeded in** protecting its sensitive dairy sector despite dairy products being one of New Zealand's biggest exports. While the India-U.K. CETA is expected to **strengthen** India's export **competitiveness**, its benefits are **likely** to be **uneven** across sectors and could **place** competitive pressure on already **cost-disadvantaged** MSMEs. The **pact**, an attempt to secure long-term market access and **integrate** India further into global value chains, **offers zero-duty** access on 99% of India's exports, covering almost the entire value of **bilateral** trade. However, smaller firms often lack the documentation and **compliance** capacity needed to claim these benefits. Despite the deal including some agreements on non-tariff **aspects**, MSMEs may find it difficult to **comply with** the U.K.'s **stringent** sanitary, phytosanitary, technical and **sustainability** standards, which could prove a bigger hurdle than tariffs. Globally, such agreements have **accelerated** export **diversification**, attracted investment and **facilitated** technology transfer, but only when supported by **robust** industrial **ecosystems** and competitive firms.

India has **historically** underutilised several trade agreements because of low awareness, **cumbersome** administration and high compliance costs. **The trade deficit** with ASEAN **widened** from about \$10 billion in 2017 to nearly \$44 billion in 2023. Similarly, the U.K. agreement's benefits may remain below expectations unless India strengthens regulatory administration, **intellectual property protection** and dispute **resolution**. Although the U.K. **accounts for** only about 3% of India's merchandise exports and around 1% of its imports, the U.K. pact expands India's access to a high-income market where it enjoys a merchandise trade surplus. However, this advantage could **narrow** if imports of the U.K.'s relatively **price-inelastic exports**, such as luxury vehicles, grow faster than India's largely **labour-intensive**, price-sensitive exports. The **Double Contribution Convention** benefits Indian IT and professional services firms, but its economy-wide benefits may remain **modest**. The pact also faced a hurdle over the U.K.'s steel safeguard **quotas** before implementation, **underlining** how **non-tariff** measures can **dilute** market access. India's **carbon-intensive** exports could face challenges as climate-related trade regulations become more stringent. Ultimately, CETA's success **lies in** turning market access into market share.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Reflect** (verb) - show, indicate, demonstrate, reveal, mirror. दर्शाना
2. **Mature** (adjective) - developed, experienced, seasoned, advanced, adult. परिपक्व
3. **Negotiation** (noun) - discussion, dialogue, talk, bargaining, consultation. बातचीत
4. **Unlike** (preposition) - dissimilar to, different from, counter to, contrasting with. के विपरीत
5. **Approach** (verb) - undertake, tackle, address, confront, move toward. संपर्क करना / शुरुआत करना
6. **Pact** (noun) - agreement, treaty, accord, deal, alliance. समझौता
7. **Liberalisation** (noun) - deregulation, opening up, relaxation, easing, freedom. उदारीकरण
8. **Sensitivities** (noun) - vulnerabilities, susceptibilities, tender points, areas of concern. संवेदनशीलता
9. **Fragmented** (adjective) - divided, fractured, splintered, broken, partitioned. खंडित
10. **Evident** (adjective) - apparent, obvious, clear, manifest, visible. स्पष्ट
11. **Succeed** (in) (verb) - to achieve success. सफल होना
12. **Strengthen** (verb) - reinforce, fortify, bolster, stabilize, enhance. मज़बूत करना
13. **Competitiveness** (noun) - rivalry, capability to compete, market strength, contestability. प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता
14. **Likely** (adjective) - probable, expected, plausible, prospective, liable. संभावित
15. **Uneven** (adjective) - unequal, irregular, patchy, asymmetrical, unbalanced. असमान
16. **Place** (verb) - exert, impose, put, apply, lay. डालना
17. **Cost-disadvantaged** (adjective) - economically strained, burdened by high costs, uncompetitive in cost. लागत के मामले में पिछड़ा हुआ
18. **Integrate** (verb) - incorporate, combine, assimilate, merge, blend. एकीकृत करना
19. **Zero-duty** (adjective) - tariff-free, tax-free, duty-free, exempt from tariffs. शून्य-शुल्क
20. **Bilateral** (adjective) - two-sided, mutual, reciprocal, joint, two-party. द्विपक्षीय
21. **Compliance** (noun) - observance, adherence, conformity, obedience, fulfillment. अनुपालन
22. **Aspect** (noun) - feature, facet, characteristic, detail, element. पहलू
23. **Comply** (with) (verb) - abide, adhere, obey, conform, observe. पालन करना
24. **Stringent** (adjective) - strict, rigorous, severe, demanding, firm. कड़े
25. **Sustainability** (noun) - viability, ecological balance, greenness, enduring capacity. स्थिरता

26. **Accelerate** (verb) - speed up, quicken, hasten, rush, advance. गति देना
27. **Diversification** (noun) - variety, variation, expansion, broadening, branching out. विविधीकरण
28. **Facilitate** (verb) - ease, aid, assist, help, promote. सुगम बनाना
29. **Robust** (adjective) - strong, sturdy, vigorous, solid, powerful. मज़बूत
30. **Ecosystem** (noun) - a network of living organisms and their environment interacting with one another. पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र
31. **Historically** (adverb) - traditionally, in the past, retrospectively, of old. ऐतिहासिक रूप से
32. **Cumbersome** (adjective) - unwieldy, burdensome, awkward, heavy, complicated. बोझिल / जटिल
33. **The trade deficit** (noun) - the amount by which the cost of a country's imports exceeds the value of its exports. व्यापार घाटा
34. **Widen** (verb) - broaden, expand, enlarge, extend, stretch. चौड़ा होना / बढ़ना
35. **Intellectual property protection** (noun) - legal measures to safeguard creations of the mind and inventions. बौद्धिक संपदा संरक्षण
36. **Resolution** (noun) - settlement, solution, conclusion, determination, clearing. समाधान
37. **Account for** (phrasal verb) - to explain the reason for something or to make up a part of something. हिस्सा होना / कारण बनना
38. **Narrow** (verb) - reduce, diminish, shrink, contract, taper. कम होना / संकरा होना
39. **Price-inelastic exports** (noun) - exports whose demand does not change significantly when their price changes. मूल्य-असंवेदनशील निर्यात
40. **Labour-intensive** (adjective) - involving a high proportion of human labor rather than capital equipment. श्रम-प्रधान
41. **Double Contribution Convention** (noun) - an international agreement preventing dual social security contributions for cross-border workers. दोहरा योगदान सम्मेलन
42. **Modest** (adjective) - moderate, small, slight, limited, humble. मामूली
43. **Quota** (noun) - limit, allowance, share, restriction, allocation. कोटा / निर्धारित सीमा
44. **Underline** (verb) - emphasize, highlight, stress, underscore, point out. रेखांकित करना
45. **Non-tariff** (adjective) - barriers or measures other than import duties restricting trade. गैर-शुल्क
46. **Dilute** (verb) - weaken, diminish, reduce, attenuate, water down. कमज़ोर करना
47. **Carbon-intensive** (adjective) - producing high levels of carbon dioxide emissions during production. अत्यधिक कार्बन उत्सर्जक
48. **Lie in** (phrasal verb) - to exist in, consist of, or depend on something. निहित होना

Summary of the Editorial

1. The **India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)** reflects **India's more balanced and mature approach** to negotiating free trade agreements.
2. Unlike the **2009 India-ASEAN FTA**, which led to a widening trade deficit, CETA seeks to balance **trade liberalisation with protection of sensitive domestic sectors**.
3. India's recent trade negotiations, including the **New Zealand FTA**, show a strategy of safeguarding vulnerable industries, such as the **dairy sector**.
4. The agreement is expected to **improve India's export competitiveness** and strengthen its integration into **global value chains**.
5. CETA grants **zero-duty access to 99% of India's exports** to the U.K., covering nearly the entire value of bilateral trade.
6. However, the benefits are likely to be **uneven across industries**, with **MSMEs facing greater challenges** than large firms.
7. Many MSMEs lack the **documentation, technical expertise, and compliance capacity** needed to fully utilise the agreement's tariff benefits.
8. The U.K.'s **strict sanitary, phytosanitary, technical, and sustainability standards** may become a greater obstacle than tariffs for Indian exporters.
9. International experience shows that FTAs generate significant benefits only when supported by **strong industrial ecosystems, competitive firms, investment, and technology transfer**.
10. India has historically **underutilised several FTAs** because of **low awareness, bureaucratic procedures, and high compliance costs**.
11. The widening **trade deficit with ASEAN**—from about \$10 billion in 2017 to nearly \$44 billion in 2023—**illustrates the risks of poorly utilised trade agreements**.
12. To maximise CETA's benefits, India must strengthen **regulatory administration, intellectual property protection, and dispute resolution mechanisms**.
13. Although the U.K. accounts for only **about 3% of India's merchandise exports** and **around 1% of imports**, it is a **high-income market where India currently enjoys a trade surplus**.
14. India's advantage could weaken if **imports of high-value U.K. goods**, such as luxury vehicles, grow faster than India's **labour-intensive, price-sensitive exports**. Climate-related regulations and non-tariff barriers, such as steel safeguard quotas, could also restrict exports.
15. The editorial concludes that **CETA's real success will depend not merely on securing market access but on converting that access into greater market share**, which requires stronger domestic competitiveness and better implementation.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following best captures the meaning of “turning market access into market share”, as it is used by the author?** [Editorial page]
 - A. Converting formal zero-duty tariff concessions into actual, sustained competitive gains for domestic exporters.
 - B. The expansion of government-backed credit lines to offset high compliance costs faced by small businesses.
 - C. Establishing domestic regulatory bodies to limit the import of high-value price-inelastic goods.
 - D. An economic requirement that prioritizes service sector agreements over merchandise trade balance deficits.
2. **Why does the passage state that the U.K.’s non-tariff standards "could prove a bigger hurdle than tariffs" for Indian MSMEs, even though CETA offers zero-duty access on 99% of India's exports?**
 - A. Because small exporters face severe administrative and technical hurdles in meeting strict quality benchmarks
 - B. Because the agreement restricts smaller enterprises from accessing official government dispute resolution platforms
 - C. Because non-tariff barriers impose heavy import duties on raw materials needed for domestic manufacturing
 - D. Because small business owners are required to lower their domestic product prices to match high-income markets
3. **Identify the degree of comparison used in the phrase "more mature approach" in the first sentence of the passage.**
 - A. Positive degree
 - B. Comparative degree
 - C. Superlative degree
 - D. Absolute degree
4. **In what way does the India-U.K. CETA require India to reform its domestic trade architecture to ensure the agreement reaches its potential?**
 - A. It eliminates the need for domestic manufacturing, shifting the economy completely toward professional service exports.
 - B. It demands regulatory upgrades, simplified administration, and institutional support to help local firms navigate non-tariff compliance.
 - C. It strengthens traditional trade protectionism, preventing small enterprises from engaging with high-income global supply chains.
 - D. It preserves old administrative processes and avoids structural reforms in domestic dispute resolution and intellectual property.
5. **Identify the type of sentence used in the opening line of the passage:** "The India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) reflects New Delhi’s more mature approach to free trade negotiations."
 - A. Exclamatory
 - B. Interrogative
 - C. Declarative

- D. Imperative
6. **Change the following from active to passive:**
Do the experts regard this compound as hazardous?
A. Has this compound been regarded as hazardous by the experts?
B. Is this compound being regarded as hazardous by the experts?
C. Was this compound regarded as hazardous by the experts?
D. Is this compound regarded as hazardous by the experts?
7. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in direct voice.**
He said to her that the film they had watched the previous night was not as good as he had expected it to be.
A. He said to her, "The film we watched last night was not as good as I expected it to be."
B. He said to her, "The film we watched last night was not as good as I had expected it to be."
C. He said to her, "The film we watched the previous night was not as good as I expected it to be."
D. He said to her, "The film we had watched last night was not as good as I expected it to be."
8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Rescind."**
A. Indict
B. Malign
C. Enact
D. Relish
9. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word.**
The government must _____ the illicit flow of capital to prevent the destabilization of the national currency during the global economic crisis.
A. Curt
B. Curd
C. Cusp
D. Curb
10. **Choose the most suitable option to replace the highlighted part of the sentence:**
She **told to me** the news
A. told me
B. told for me
C. said to me
D. has told to me
11. **Direction: Rearrange the following sentences (A, B, C, D) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
A. The government has listed five new Bills for the Monsoon Session of Parliament.
B. Home Minister Amit Shah is set to move the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026 in Rajya Sabha.
C. This legislation seeks to amend the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971.
D. The proposed amendment seeks to extend similar protection to Vande Mataram.
A. B-C-A-D
B. A-C-B-D
C. A-B-C-D
D. C-D-A-B

12. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Prestigious."**
- A. Chronic
 - B. Distinguished
 - C. Monetisable
 - D. Bilateral
13. **Select the meaning of the given idiom.**
Hang one's head
- A. To be ashamed
 - B. To be proud
 - C. To punish
 - D. To be greedy
14. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**
The student was admitted _____ tenth standard after his father's transfer from Jaipur.
- A. to
 - B. for
 - C. after
 - D. before
15. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A state of perfect balance
- A. Equilibrium
 - B. Extempore
 - C. Medieval
 - D. Irrelevant
16. **Fill in the blank with the correctly spelt word.**
The philosopher elaborated on _____ tendencies in human behavior.
- A. anthropomorphus
 - B. anthropomorhous
 - C. anthropamorphous
 - D. anthropomorphous
17. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Come to light
- A. To be obscure
 - B. To be well lit-up
 - C. To pry a secret
 - D. To be known publicly
18. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Affluent."**
- A. Democratic
 - B. Looming
 - C. Reliant
 - D. Prosperous
19. **Direction: Rearrange the following sentences (1, 2, 3, 4) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
- 1. Internships, projects, and continuous upskilling further enhance career opportunities.

2. Some of the highly demanded jobs are Verification Engineers, Physical Design Engineers, Embedded Systems Developers, 5G Applications Engineers, and Automation Engineers.
3. As one of the most versatile engineering branches, ECE offers diverse opportunities within core electronics roles as well as interdisciplinary and emerging technology domains.
4. Students who build strong fundamentals, gain hands-on experience, and develop industry-relevant skills will progress quickly.

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

20. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Sporadic."**

- A. Abstruse
- B. Diatribe
- C. Constant
- D. Sagacity

Read the cloze passage and answer the following questions:

The legacy a celebrated, high-profile achiever leaves behind isn't defined merely by awards and accomplishments, no matter how staggeringly impressive they might be, but equally — if not more — by how many people they have touched, how many lives they have impacted, how much joy they have provided.

The unchecked outpouring of grief at his passing, followed almost immediately by tales of his kindness and generosity, _____(1) testament to the standing Sir Garfield Sobers enjoys in the cricketing ecosystem, of which he was the unquestioned _____(2) for the longest of times, and beyond. Sobers was 'the greatest' long before _____(3) took root and even the commonplace was labelled 'great'. He was cricket's Muhammad Ali. Scratch that. Ali was boxing's Sobers, if that makes sense, given that the Sobers aura had pervaded the sporting world long before Cassius Clay became Muhammad Ali, and floated like a butterfly and stung like a bee.

In the three days since Sobers shuffled off the Shakespearan mortal coil, the tributes have come _____(4), from those who played with and against him, from those who were fortunate enough to be the recipients of his wisdom and goodness, and from those who have heard of his exploits from others and have had to _____(5) to watching his genius on YouTube. That he was universally adored was obvious long before he left us for what is certain to be a better world merely because he is inhabiting it. His demise has rekindled old memories and enveloped his peers and juniors in a sea of nostalgia, which remains the overwhelming theme that has accompanied any mention of Sir Garry since Friday night (IST).

21. **Select the most appropriate option for (1):**

- A. is
- B. are
- C. has
- D. were

22. **Select the most appropriate option for (2):**

- A. rule
- B. monarch
- C. emperor

- D. dictator
23. **Select the most appropriate option for (3):**
- A. exaggerate
 - B. hyperbole
 - C. magnification
 - D. rhetoric
24. **Select the most appropriate option for (4):**
- A. fast and furious
 - B. leaps and bounds
 - C. far and wide
 - D. thick and fast
25. **Select the most appropriate option for (5):**
- A. settle
 - B. submit
 - C. reconcile
 - D. resign

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

- A) Converting formal zero-duty tariff concessions into actual, sustained competitive gains for domestic exporters.

In the context of this passage, "market access" is the legal opportunity (the zero-duty tariff concessions), while "market share" is the actual competitive success (the ability to successfully sell goods in the U.K. despite those "stringent standards"). The author argues that the former does not automatically lead to the latter; success requires overcoming "cumbersome administration" and "high compliance costs" to convert the theoretical opportunity into tangible sales.

Option B is incorrect: While high compliance costs for MSMEs are highlighted as a hurdle, the passage nowhere suggests that "turning market access into market share" refers to extending government credit lines or financial loans to small businesses.

Option C is incorrect: Restricting imports or establishing protectionist regulatory bodies to curb price-inelastic goods (like luxury vehicles) is not what the phrase means; "market share" refers to India expanding its export presence abroad, not limiting foreign imports at home.

Option D is incorrect: the phrase specifically relates to the transition from having permission to trade to successfully executing trade at scale.
- A) Because small exporters face severe administrative and technical hurdles in meeting strict quality benchmarks

Line from the passage: "However, smaller firms often lack the documentation and compliance capacity needed to claim these benefits. The author argues that for smaller firms, the operational inability to meet and document adherence to the U.K.'s "stringent... standards" acts as an absolute barrier to entry. Because they lack the technical and administrative resources ("compliance capacity") to prove their products meet these specific benchmarks, they remain blocked from the market regardless of the tariff-free status.

Option (b) is incorrect: The passage mentions a general need to strengthen dispute resolution in India, but it never states that small enterprises are barred from using these platforms under the agreement.

Option (c) is incorrect: Non-tariff standards involve regulatory rules, health checks, and technical certifications, not the imposition of import duties or border taxes on raw materials.

Option (d) is incorrect: The passage discusses price sensitivity regarding exports and price elasticity regarding luxury imports, but it nowhere asserts that small firms must lower domestic prices to sell abroad.
- B) Comparative degree

In grammar, the comparative degree is used to compare two things, showing that one possesses a quality to a greater or lesser extent than another. It is formed by adding -er or using the modifier "more" before two-syllable or multi-syllable adjectives.

In the passage, the author uses "more mature approach" to compare New Delhi's present strategy in trade negotiations against its previous strategy (such as the 2009 ASEAN FTA).

4. B) It demands regulatory upgrades, simplified administration, and institutional support to help local firms navigate non-tariff compliance.
Line from the passage "...the U.K. agreement's benefits may remain below expectations unless India strengthens regulatory administration, intellectual property protection and dispute resolution." Additionally, the author highlights the need to overcome the "cumbersome administration" and "high compliance costs" that have historically caused India to underutilize trade agreements. By upgrading these areas, India can help its MSMEs build the "compliance capacity" required to meet the U.K.'s stringent standards, thereby transforming market access into actual sales.

(a): The passage never suggests eliminating domestic manufacturing; it focuses on how to make those manufacturing sectors (especially MSMEs) more competitive.

(c): The passage describes a shift away from the failures of past protectionist models toward a "more mature approach" that encourages integration into global value chains.

(d): This contradicts the passage, which identifies "cumbersome administration" as a weakness that needs to be reformed rather than preserved.

5. C) Declarative

A declarative sentence is one that makes a statement, provides a fact, or expresses an opinion. It ends with a period. The sentence "The India-U.K. Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) reflects New Delhi's more mature approach to free trade negotiations" is providing an assessment/statement of fact about the agreement.

Option (a) is incorrect: An exclamatory sentence expresses strong emotion or surprise and ends with an exclamation mark (e.g., "What a massive trade agreement this is!").

Option (b) is incorrect: An interrogative sentence asks a direct question and ends with a question mark (e.g., "Will CETA benefit Indian MSMEs?").

Option (d) is incorrect: An imperative sentence gives a command, instruction, or request (e.g., "Strengthen regulatory administration to ensure trade success.").

6. D) Is this compound regarded as hazardous by the experts?

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य के Object को Passive वाक्य का Subject बनाया जाता है और Verb को उसके Passive रूप में बदला जाता है। यहाँ Active वाक्य में helping verb Do है, जो यह दिखाता है कि वाक्य Simple Present Tense में है। Active वाक्य में "the experts" Subject है, "regard" Verb है और "this compound" Object है। Passive में Object "This compound" Subject बन जाता है और Verb को Simple Present Passive रूप is regarded में बदला जाता है। अंत में "by the experts" जोड़कर Passive वाक्य पूरा होता है।

In English

To convert from active to passive:

The object of the active sentence (this compound) becomes the subject of the passive sentence.

The verb tense remains the same: Simple Present (regard → is regarded).

Question form is retained by placing the auxiliary verb before the subject.

Other Option Analysis:

- Option 1 → Changes tense to Present Perfect.
- Option 2 → Changes tense to Present Continuous.

- Option 3 → Changes tense to Simple Past.

7. A) He said to her, "The film we watched last night was not as good as I expected it to be."

Option 1 सही है क्योंकि यह indirect speech से direct speech में बदलते समय सभी जरूरी tense, pronoun और time-reference changes को सही तरीके से लागू करता है। Indirect sentence में "they" speaker और listener को refer करता है, इसलिए direct speech में इसे सही रूप में "we" में बदल दिया गया है। "The previous night" reported-speech में इस्तेमाल हुआ था, जो direct speech में "last night" हो जाता है। Verb "had watched" (past perfect) indirect speech में reporting verb के बाद सही था, लेकिन direct speech में इसे simple past "watched" में बदलना चाहिए। इसी तरह, "had expected" को direct speech में "expected" में बदला गया है, जिससे speaker का original thought सुरक्षित रहता है। Option 1 meaning में सही है, natural लगता है और direct speech के सभी grammatical rules को follow करता है, इसलिए यह सबसे accurate answer है।

- Option 1 is the correct expression in direct speech because it accurately reverses all the tense, pronoun, and time-reference changes required when converting from indirect to direct voice. In the indirect sentence, "they" refers to the speaker and the listener together, so in direct speech it correctly becomes "we." The phrase "the previous night" is a reported-speech time expression and must change back to "last night" in direct narration. The verb "had watched" (past perfect) is used in indirect speech after a past reporting verb, but in direct speech it naturally returns to "watched" (simple past). Similarly, "had expected" correctly changes back to "expected," restoring the original thought of the speaker. Option 1 preserves the original meaning, sounds natural, and follows all grammatical rules of direct speech, making it the most accurate answer.

8. C) **Rescind** (verb) – cancel, revoke, repeal, annul, void. (रद्द करना)

Antonym: **Enact** (verb) – Make a bill or other proposal law; put into structural practice. (कानून बनाना / लागू करना)

- **Indict** (verb): Formally accuse of or charge someone with a serious crime. (दोषी ठहराना)
- **Malign** (verb): Speak about someone in a spitefully critical or injurious manner. (बदनाम करना)
- **Relish** (verb): Enjoy greatly; take great pleasure or structural satisfaction in. (आनंद लेना)

9. D) **Curb** (verb) – Restrain, check, control, repress, inhibit. (रोकना/नियंत्रित करना)

The blank fits "Curb" because the sentence discusses the mandatory requirement to control or restrain an unwanted and harmful financial activity.

[Subject: Government] + [Modal: Must] + [Verb: Curb] + [Object: Flow of capital].

- **Curt** (adjective): Rudely brief or abrupt in speech. (रूखा)
- **Curd** (noun): A soft, white substance formed when milk sours. (दही)

- **Cusp** (noun): A point of transition between two different states or stages. (संधिकाल)

10. A) 'told to me' के बदले 'told me' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि verb 'tell' के बाद direct object (person) आता है और 'to' preposition का प्रयोग नहीं किया जाता; जैसे— She told me the truth.

In English

- After the verb “tell”, the indirect object (the person being informed) does not require a preposition.
- Correct usage: tell + someone + something → “She told me the news.”
- Other options analysis:
- told for me → incorrect; “for” is unnecessary here.
- said to me → “say” requires “to,” but “tell” does not.
- has told to me → Present Perfect tense is not needed, and “to” is incorrect with “tell.”

11. C) A-B-C-D

Sentence A paragraph की शुरुआत में आएगा क्योंकि यह बिना किसी missing reference या dangling pronoun के "Monsoon Session में five new Bills" के व्यापक विषय (broad context) को independently introduce करता है।

Sentence B Sentence A के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह उन पांच विधेयकों में से एक विशिष्ट विधेयक, "Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill", को प्रस्तुत करके जानकारी को expand करता है।

Sentence C Sentence B के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें इस्तेमाल हुआ phrase "This legislation" एक direct grammatical link है, जो सीधे तौर पर Sentence B में उल्लेखित विशिष्ट विधेयक (Bill) की ओर इशारा करता है।

Sentence D Sentence C के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह paragraph का conclusion है। इसमें इस्तेमाल हुआ phrase "The proposed amendment" सीधे तौर पर Sentence C में बताए गए संशोधन अधिनियम (Amendment Act) से जुड़ता है, और स्पष्ट करता है कि इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य Vande Mataram को सुरक्षा प्रदान करना है।

- Sentence A starts the passage because it provides the foundational context, independently introducing the broad topic of the five new Bills listed for the Monsoon Session of Parliament without any missing references.
- Sentence B follows Sentence A because it acts as a logical progression, narrowing the focus from the general list of bills to introduce one specific item: the "Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill."
- Sentence C follows Sentence B because the demonstrative phrase "This legislation" serves as a direct grammatical link, pointing specifically back to the exact bill introduced in Sentence B to explain its background.
- Sentence D concludes the passage as the thematic synthesis. The phrase "The proposed amendment" links directly to the amendment mechanism established in Sentence C, finishing the thought by explaining exactly what new protection (to Vande Mataram) is being sought.

12. B) Prestigious (adjective) – elite, distinguished, respected, high-status, honorable.
(गौरवपूर्ण/प्रतिष्ठित)

Synonym: Distinguished (adjective) – successful, authoritative, and commanding great respect. (प्रतिष्ठित/विशिष्ट)

- **Chronic** (adjective): (of a physical condition or illness) persisting for a long time or constantly recurring. (दीर्घकालिक)
- **Monetisable** (adjective): able to be converted into or used as currency; profitable. (जिससे पैसा कमाया जा सके)
- **Bilateral** (adjective): having or relating to two sides; affecting both sides. (द्विपक्षीय)

13. A) **Hang one's head** (idiom) – To be ashamed शर्मिंदा होना

14. A) 'to' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि English में "admitted" के साथ सही preposition "to" ही आता है, जब किसी class, school या institution में प्रवेश की बात होती है। सही phrase होता है "admitted to a class/standard." इसलिए, "to" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प है।

- 'to' should be used because the correct usage is "admitted to" when referring to entry into a class or institution. Hence, "to" is the most appropriate preposition in this sentence.

15. A) **Equilibrium** (noun) - A state of perfect balance संतुलन

- **Extempore** (adjective) – spoken or done without preparation. बिना तैयारी के बोला या किया गया
- **Medieval** (adjective) – relating to the Middle Ages. मध्यकालीन
- **Irrelevant** (adjective) – not connected with or relevant to something. अप्रासंगिक

16. D) The correctly spelt word is "anthropomorphous", which means having human characteristics or attributing human qualities to non-human entities मानव-सदृश / मानवीय गुणों से युक्त।

17. D) **Come to light** (idiom) – To be known publicly सार्वजनिक रूप से जाना जाना

18. D) **Affluent** (adjective) – wealthy, rich, prosperous, well-off, opulent. (समृद्ध/धनी)

Synonym: Prosperous (adjective) – successful in material terms; flourishing financially. (समृद्ध/खुशहाल)

- **Democratic** (adjective): Relating to or supporting democracy or its principles. (लोकतांत्रिक)
- **Looming** (adjective): (of an event regarded as threatening) about to happen soon. (मंडराता हुआ)
- **Reliant** (adjective): Dependent on someone or something. (पर निर्भर)

19. A) 3-2-4-1

Sentence 3 paragraph की शुरुआत में आएगा क्योंकि यह बिना किसी missing reference के ECE (Electronics and Communication Engineering) की versatility और career opportunities को independently introduce करता है।

Sentence 2 Sentence 3 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह Sentence 3 में mention की गई "diverse opportunities" को expand करता है और उन roles के specific examples (Verification Engineers, Physical Design Engineers, आदि) देता है।

Sentence 4 Sentence 2 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह logical connection बनाता है कि Sentence 2 में बताए गए इन highly demanded jobs को पाने और उनमें तेज़ी से progress करने के लिए students को क्या करना चाहिए (build strong fundamentals)।

Sentence 1 Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह paragraph का conclusion है। इसमें इस्तेमाल हुआ word "further" सीधे तौर पर Sentence 4 की progress वाली बात से जुड़ता है, और conclude करता है कि internships और upskilling के ज़रिए इन career opportunities को और भी बेहतर किया जा सकता है।

- Sentence 3 starts the passage because it provides the foundational context, independently introducing the overarching topic of ECE's versatility and diverse opportunities without relying on any prior references.
- Sentence 2 follows Sentence 3 because it acts as a logical progression, directly expanding on the broad "diverse opportunities" mentioned in Sentence 3 by listing specific highly demanded job titles.
- Sentence 4 follows Sentence 2 because it connects the specific jobs back to the students, explaining the necessary criteria (strong fundamentals, hands-on experience) required to progress quickly in those exact roles.
- Sentence 1 concludes the passage as the thematic synthesis. The transition word "further" serves as a direct logical link, building upon the career progression in Sentence 4 to conclude how continuous upskilling and internships maximize those opportunities.

20. C) **Sporadic** (adjective) – occasional, irregular, intermittent, patchy, infrequent. (छिटपुट)

Antonym: Constant (adjective) – Occurring continuously over a period of time; regular. (निरंतर / लगातार)

- **Abstruse** (adjective): Extremely difficult to understand; obscure or profound. (गूढ़)
- **Diatribes** (noun): A forceful and bitter verbal attack against someone or something. (कड़ी निंदा)
- **Sagacity** (noun): The quality of being sagacious; having keen mental discernment. (बुद्धिमत्ता)

21. A) The real subject of the sentence is "The unchecked outpouring", which is a singular noun. The phrase "followed almost immediately by tales of his kindness and generosity" is a modifying phrase (an aside). In English grammar, phrases added to a singular subject by

expressions like "followed by," "along with," or "as well as" do not make the subject plural. Therefore, the verb must agree with the singular subject "outpouring," making the singular present tense verb "is" the correct choice.

In Hindi:

यहाँ Is का use किया जाएगा। Sentence का main subject "outpouring" है, जो कि singular (एकवचन) है। "followed almost immediately by tales..." सिर्फ एक extra information है। Grammar के strict rule के अनुसार, जब किसी singular subject के साथ "followed by", "along with" या "as well as" जुड़ता है, तो subject plural नहीं बनता और verb हमेशा singular ही रहती है। इसलिए यहाँ "is" बिल्कुल सही है।

22. C) Emperor is used because it signifies a supreme leader of a vast and complex domain (like an ecosystem), which perfectly captures the unmatched, grand status of Sir Garfield Sobers in the entire cricket world. Rule means the act of governing (शासन), not the person who governs.

Monarch implies a king by birth, not by personal achievement. Dictator has a negative meaning of ruling by force, which is completely wrong for someone who is universally adored.

In Hindi:

यहाँ Emperor का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका meaning किसी बहुत बड़े ecosystem का supreme leader होता है, जो क्रिकेट की दुनिया में सोबर्स के सबसे बड़े status को सही ढंग से दिखाता है। Rule का meaning शासन या नियम होता है, शासक नहीं। Monarch का use अक्सर जन्म से राजा बनने वालों के लिए होता है। Dictator का meaning तानाशाह होता है, जो negative word है और प्यार किए जाने वाले इंसान के लिए गलत है।

23. B) Hyperbole is used because it is a noun meaning extreme exaggeration, and the sentence requires a noun to act as the subject for the verb "took root" (long before what took root?). Exaggerate is a verb (action word), so it is grammatically incorrect in this blank. Magnification is used for making physical sizes look bigger (like with a lens). Rhetoric means persuasive speech, not necessarily exaggeration.

In Hindi:

यहाँ Hyperbole का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि यह एक noun है जिसका meaning किसी बात को बहुत बढ़ा-चढ़ाकर बोलना (extreme exaggeration) होता है, और sentence में "took root" verb के लिए एक noun subject की ज़रूरत है। Exaggerate एक verb (क्रिया) है, इसलिए grammar के हिसाब से यह गलत है। Magnification का use physical size बढ़ा करने के लिए होता है। Rhetoric का meaning persuasive speech होता है।

24. D) Thick and fast is used because it forms the exact standard English idiom meaning arriving rapidly and in very large numbers, which perfectly describes how the tributes came. Fast and furious means full of action and energy, not arriving in large quantities. Leaps and bounds means making rapid growth or progress. Far and wide means over a large area, but it does not pair well with the verb "come" to show high volume and speed.

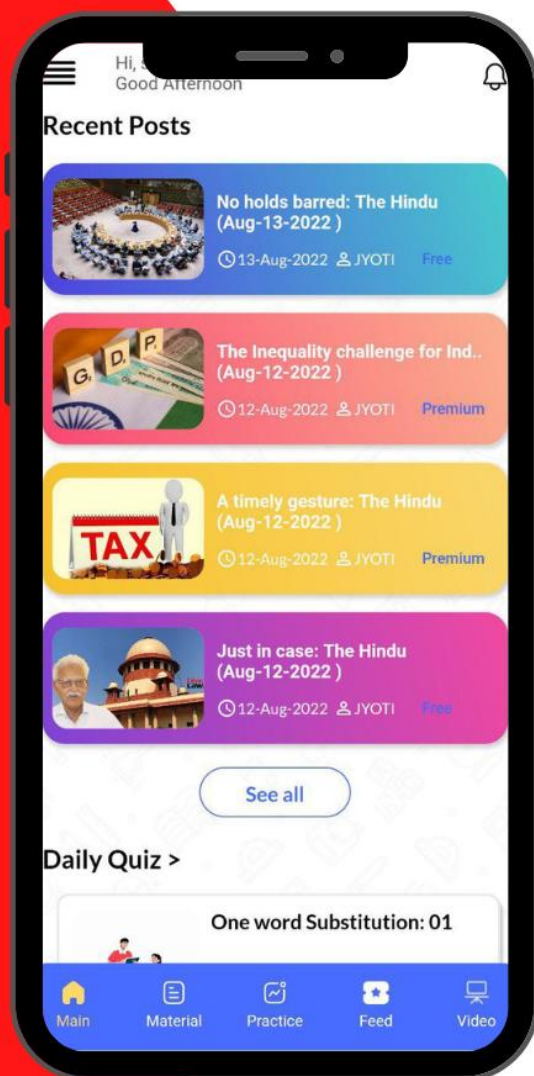
In Hindi:

यहाँ Thick and fast का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि यह एक exact idiom है जिसका meaning बहुत तेज़ी से और बड़ी संख्या में आना होता है (जैसे tributes का आना)। Fast and furious का meaning action और energy से भरा होना होता है। Leaps and bounds का meaning rapid growth (तरक्की) होता है। Far and wide का meaning बड़े area में होता है, जो "come" verb के साथ सही नहीं बैठता।

25. C) Reconcile is used because "reconcile to" means to accept a less-than-ideal situation and make peace with it (like accepting that you can only watch his videos on YouTube because you couldn't see him live). Settle is grammatically wrong because it requires the preposition "for" (settle for watching), not "to". Resign requires a reflexive pronoun in grammar (resign themselves to), which is missing in the sentence. Submit means to surrender to an authority or force, which makes no logical sense here.

In Hindi:

यहाँ Reconcile का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि "reconcile to" का meaning किसी ऐसी situation को मान कर समझौता कर लेना होता है जो perfect न हो (जैसे live न देख पाना और YouTube से ही काम चलाना)। Settle grammar के हिसाब से गलत है क्योंकि इसके साथ "for" आता है (settle for), "to" नहीं। Resign के साथ grammar में reflexive pronoun (themselves) आना ज़रूरी है, जो sentence में नहीं है। Submit का meaning authority के सामने हार मानना होता है, जो यहाँ logically गलत है।



Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam