

Falling walls: On building collapses

India's buildings need **widespread rehabilitation** work

In September 2020, the Bhiwandi Municipal **Corporation** in Maharashtra **placed** the Kohinoor building **on** its 'danger' list around the same time the Jilani building **collapsed** a few kilometres away, killing 41. Six years on, and hours after officials declared the Kohinoor to be unsafe again and **evacuated** around 40 residents, it collapsed, killing 10. In the half **decade** in between, the owners had refused to **vacate** or redevelop the property and instead **undertook** unauthorised repairs. While the **fall** of the Jilani building, which was old but not on a 'dangerous' list, **was** a failure of **anticipation**, that of the Kohinoor building, on such a list and which fell mid-repairs, **implies** a failure of **enforcement**. Yet, the State responded similarly in both **instances**, by suspending officials in 2020 and filing a criminal case against the contractor now. **Bhiwandi**, one of India's largest powerloom hubs, **has** a large low-income **migrant** population living in small houses in **densely** packed **neighbourhoods**. With hundreds of buildings on the 'danger' list and no **transit camps** or temporary housing, residents **often** choose unsafe homes over homelessness, while owners continue collecting rent. **Evacuation** orders are also hard to **enforce** without police support, while allowing the corporation to claim that legal liability has been **discharged** on paper; **demolitions** are politically **fraught**. That both buildings collapsed during the monsoons is also not **coincidental**.

India treats **infrastructure** as an **asset** with a one-time investment. The post-2000s construction **boom** only **outpaced** maintenance work and administrative **oversight**, with **the latter** having **fragmented** further since. In mid-2024, roofs/**canopies** collapsed at airports in Delhi, Jabalpur, and Rajkot while Bihar had a **spate** of collapsing bridges in 2024-26. Roads have frequently **caved in** and basements have flooded in tier-I cities, including in the Rajinder Nagar tragedy. This year, similar collapses have also been reported in Kolkata and Pune. Despite the availability of technologies to continuously monitor structures and issue early warnings, **urbanisation** has **outrun** municipal capacity, with most of the resulting failures involving a known **hazard**. The **apparent rise** in the frequency of these incidents **indicates** a lack of attention to construction quality as much as greater media coverage and there being more infrastructure to fail. But **in place of** the state's almost **instinctive** responses in the form of legal and disciplinary action, inquiries and promises of **audits**, and victim **compensation**, India's buildings need **widespread** rehabilitation work. **Nothing short of** an urban renewal would do.

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

[Practice Exercise]

Vocabulary

1. **Collapse** - (verb) - fall down, cave in, founder, crumble, plummet ढहना
2. **Widespread** - (adjective) - extensive, prevalent, broad, sweeping, pervasive व्यापक
3. **Rehabilitation** - (noun) - restoration, recovery, reconstruction, renovation, reclamation पुनर्वास
4. **Place on** - (phrasal verb) - to put someone or something onto a specific list, record, or position सूची में दर्ज करना
5. **Collapse** - (verb) - fall down, cave in, founder, crumble, plummet ढहना
6. **Evacuate** - (verb) - clear, vacate, empty, abandon, remove खाली कराना
7. **Decade** - (noun) - ten-year period दशक
8. **Vacate** - (verb) - leave, abandon, depart, empty, clear खाली करना
9. **Undertake** - (verb) - assume, take on, shoulder, embark on, commit to हाथ में लेना
10. **Anticipation** - (noun) - expectation, foresight, foresightfulness, apprehension, prediction पूर्व अनुमान
11. **Imply** - (verb) - suggest, indicate, entail, signify, denote संकेत देना
12. **Enforcement** - (noun) - execution, implementation, application, imposition, compulsion अनुपालन
13. **Instance** - (noun) - case, example, occasion, occurrence, sample उदाहरण
14. **Migrant** - (noun) - wanderer, traveler, nomad, drifter, immigrant प्रवासी
15. **Densely** - (adverb) - thickly, closely, heavily, compactly, tightly घनी आबादी से
16. **Neighbourhood** - (noun) - vicinity, locality, community, area, district पड़ोस
17. **Transit camp** - (noun) - a temporary accommodation or facility set up for displaced persons or migrants पारगमन शिविर
18. **Often** - (adverb) - frequently, regularly, repeatedly, commonly, routinely अक्सर
19. **Evacuation** - (noun) - clearance, removal, withdrawal, vacation, exodus निकासी
20. **Enforce** - (verb) - implement, apply, execute, impose, compel लागू करना
21. **Discharge** - (verb) - fulfill, execute, perform, release, dismiss पूरा करना
22. **Demolition** - (noun) - destruction, flattening, wrecking, leveling, tearing down विध्वंस
23. **Fraught** - (adjective) - filled, laden, charged, teemful, risky जोखिम भरा
24. **Coincidental** - (adjective) - accidental, chance, serendipitous, fortuitous, concurrent आकस्मिक
25. **Infrastructure** - (noun) - framework, base, foundation, support structure, core structure बुनियादी ढांचा
26. **Asset** - (noun) - property, resource, holding, possession, capital संपत्ति
27. **Boom** - (noun) - surge, expansion, growth, rise, upswing तेजी
28. **Outpace** - (verb) - surpass, exceed, outstrip, transcend, beat पीछे छोड़ देना

29. **Oversight** - (noun) - supervision, surveillance, inspection, monitoring, control देखरेख
30. **Latter** - (noun) - second, second-mentioned, final, end, last बाद वाला
31. **Fragmented** - (adjective) - divided, split, broken, shattered, dismembered खंडित
32. **Canopy** - (noun) - awning, shade, roof, cover, shelter छतरी
33. **Spate** - (noun) - series, wave, flurry, rush, flood बाढ़
34. **Cave in** - (phrasal verb) - to give way, collapse, or surrender under pressure धंस जाना
35. **Urbanisation** - (noun) - the process by which more people move to cities, causing cities to grow शहरीकरण
36. **Outrun** - (verb) - outstrip, exceed, surpass, leave behind, outdistance गति से आगे निकल जाना
37. **Hazard** - (noun) - danger, peril, risk, threat, menace खतरा
38. **Apparent** - (adjective) - evident, obvious, clear, noticeable, manifest स्पष्ट
39. **In place of** - (phrase) - instead of, as a substitute for के बजाय
40. **Instinctive** - (adjective) - intuitive, innate, spontaneous, automatic, natural स्वाभाविक
41. **Audit** - (noun) - inspection, examination, check, review, investigation लेखा परीक्षा
42. **Compensation** - (noun) - restitution, recompense, indemnity, damages, remuneration मुआवजा
43. **Widespread** - (adjective) - extensive, prevalent, broad, sweeping, pervasive व्यापक
44. **Nothing short of** - (phrase) - used to emphasize that something is exactly or completely a particular thing, often remarkable or extreme किसी भी तरह से कम नहीं

Summary of the Editorial

1. The collapse of the Kohinoor building in Bhiwandi, Maharashtra, claimed 10 lives despite being officially declared unsafe years earlier.
2. The building had been placed on the municipal corporation's 'danger' list in September 2020, but redevelopment was delayed.
3. Owners refused to vacate or redevelop the property and instead carried out unauthorized repair work, increasing the risk of collapse.
4. Unlike the 2020 Jilani building collapse, which reflected a failure to anticipate danger, the Kohinoor tragedy exposed a failure to enforce safety regulations.
5. The government's response has largely been reactive, involving suspension of officials, criminal cases, compensation, and inquiries rather than preventive action.
6. Bhiwandi's large population of low-income migrant workers often continues living in unsafe buildings because they have no affordable alternative housing.
7. The absence of transit camps or temporary accommodation makes evacuation orders difficult to implement effectively.
8. Building owners continue collecting rent from unsafe properties, while weak enforcement allows hazardous structures to remain occupied.
9. Demolishing dangerous buildings is politically sensitive, making authorities reluctant to take decisive action.
10. Both major building collapses occurred during the monsoon season, highlighting how heavy rainfall worsens the risks posed by structurally weak buildings.
11. India generally views infrastructure as a one-time investment and pays inadequate attention to long-term maintenance and structural rehabilitation.
12. Rapid urbanisation since the 2000s has outpaced municipal capacity, maintenance efforts, and administrative oversight.
13. Recent infrastructure failures—including airport roof collapses, bridge failures in Bihar, road cave-ins, flooded basements, and building collapses in Kolkata and Pune—reflect widespread systemic weaknesses.
14. Although modern technologies can continuously monitor structural health and provide early warnings, they are not being adequately adopted or utilised.
15. The editorial concludes that India needs comprehensive urban renewal, including large-scale rehabilitation of aging buildings, stronger enforcement of safety norms, better maintenance, and proactive infrastructure management rather than merely reacting after disasters occur.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. The central idea of this passage is that:

[Editorial page]

- A. urban infrastructure failures stem from administrative negligence and require systemic renewal rather than reactive legal measures.
- B. the lack of structural monitoring technologies is the primary reason for frequent building and bridge collapses across Indian cities.
- C. low-income residents in crowded industrial hubs cause urban disasters by refusing to comply with municipal evacuation orders.
- D. punitive actions against contractors and civic officials are sufficient to ensure long-term maintenance of public infrastructure.

2. The author describes India's treatment of infrastructure as "an asset with a one-time investment" in order to

- A. highlight the massive financial capital required during the initial post-2000s urban construction boom.
- B. contrast the durable construction quality of older buildings with modern municipal infrastructure projects.
- C. explain why post-construction maintenance and ongoing administrative oversight are chronically neglected.
- D. suggest that municipal corporations lack the initial funding necessary to construct structural monitoring systems

3. What is the meaning of the word "fraught" in the context: "...demolitions are politically fraught."

- A. Financially profitable
- B. Complicated and full of risks
- C. Unanimously supported
- D. Legally mandatory

4. According to the author, the main reason why urban building failures in India persist despite being known hazards is that

- A. urbanization has outpaced municipal capacity to enforce structural safety and conduct rehabilitation.
- B. early-warning monitoring technologies remain financially inaccessible for municipal corporations.
- C. property owners are prohibited from undertaking structural repairs on designated dangerous properties.
- D. police departments refuse to assist civic bodies during building evacuation procedures.

5. Identify the grammatical function of the phrase "killing 41" in the sentence: "In September 2020, the Bhiwandi Municipal Corporation in Maharashtra placed the Kohinoor building on its 'danger' list around the same time the Jilani building collapsed a few kilometres away, killing 41."

- A. Present participial phrase functioning adverbially to express result
- B. Past participial phrase functioning as an adjective modifying "Jilani building"
- C. Gerund phrase functioning as the direct object of the verb "collapsed"
- D. Absolute phrase functioning as a subject complement

6. **Direction: Rearrange the following parts (1, 2, 3, 4) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
1. It is a silent act of defiance, a sartorial compromise that allowed her to inhabit her South Asian identity without transgressing the Victorian social norms that deferred ear piercing for young girls. It is an almost invisible detail, yet it reveals the deep tensions of a lost empire surfacing through the fault lines of adornment.
 2. But look closer: her earring is not pierced through the ear, but held by a fine, looped thread.
 3. On the front cover of Sikh historian Peter Bance's *The Last Royals of Lahore*, Princess Catherine is captured in a studio portrait of quiet, distant contemplation.
 4. Her head is draped loosely in shimmering silk; her necklaces and pearls radiate an old-world opulence that seems to weigh heavily upon her. At first glance, these are the standard accoutrements of Indian royalty.
- A. 4-3-1-2
B. 3-2-4-1
C. 1-2-4-3
D. 3-4-2-1
7. **Direction: Rearrange the following parts (1, 2, 3, 4) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
1. Just a cute little prop for a dance performance, or something you use to cool off in the blazing heat.
 2. But every flick of the wrist unfolds a hidden gem.
 3. At first glance, it's just a hand fan.
 4. Let us look beyond the pretty designs and uncover how hand fans were used through history.
- A. 1-3-2-4
B. 3-1-2-4
C. 4-2-1-3
D. 3-2-4-1
8. **In the given sentence, one word may have been incorrectly spelt. Select the correctly spelt word from the given alternatives. If there is no error, select 'No error' as your answer.**
The erroneous information spread rapidly across the nation and created a stir
- A. erronous
B. No error
C. eronneous
D. errauneous
9. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
The angles are equal, consequently the sides are _____.
- A. equal
B. unequal
C. larger
D. smaller
10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Like a cakewalk

- A. Smooth surface
B. Pleasant experience
C. Easy task
D. Active
11. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word 'SINKS' from the given sentence.**
Groups work together to create Christmas parade themes, which are then carried out in floats, musical groups, and strolling figures
A. Floats
B. Create
C. Parade
D. Strolling
12. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution'.**
After finishing high school, I plan to pursuing law
A. No substitution
B. plan to pursue
C. plan in pursue
D. plan to pursuing
13. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Confusion
A. Intrepidity
B. Stagnation
C. Perusal
D. Commotion
14. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
During an earthquake, / it is advised to take / cover above a table / to save your life.
A. cover above a table
B. during an earthquake,
C. it is advised to take
D. to save your life.
15. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**
A. Finery
B. Hiest
C. Cringe
D. Defer
16. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.**
He was looking into his book for the last two hours but couldn't find it.
A. looking down on his book
B. looking above his book
C. looking for his book
D. looking after his book
17. **Select the most appropriate collocating word to fill in the blank.**

Ram was praised for his _____ leadership

- A. imaginary
- B. visionary
- C. magical
- D. broad

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

Hospitality

- A. Complaint
- B. Cordiality
- C. Coldness
- D. Wrathful

19. **Select the most appropriate word segment for the underlined word in the given sentence.**

Pintu has been advised to reduce smoking by his family doctor.

- A. cut down
- B. less down
- C. lower down
- D. up down

20. **Select the sentence with the appropriate use of adverb of manner.**

- A. He done his work regularly.
- B. He has just done his work.
- C. He does his work carefully.
- D. He has done his work on my table.

Read the cloze passage and answer the following questions:

Michael Atherton is _____(A) (regarded) as the greatest English opening batter of his generation, almost a natural successor to that other wonderfully accomplished technician who also hailed from the north of the country and who _____(B) rank among the top openers of all time, Sir Geoffrey Boycott.

Earmarked for the English captaincy from very early in his career – remember the famous FEC (Future England Captain)? – the Lancastrian was a grand mixture of technical expertise and remarkable concentration. He was a pleasing stroke-maker, without a doubt, but stroke-making won't be the first thought when one hears the name Michael Atherton.

At a time when English batting was desperate for solidity at the top of the order, Atherton loomed as the panacea, his unflappability instilling a sense of calmness and confidence _____(C) the batting groups. In a career spanning 115 Tests, the currently 53-year-old articulate and understated commentator and analyst produced numerous fantastic essays, as is to be expected. It is his highest Test score, however, that is still spoken of with awe and _____(D) (reverence), not just by those privileged to watch it first-hand or those who saluted his commitment on television, but even by those of succeeding generations who might not have seen him negotiate even a single ball during his long stint at the crease.

The epic unfolded at the Bullring that the New Wanderers in Johannesburg goes by. And make no mistake, it truly is an amphitheatre. Even without a single bum on the seats beyond the boundary buntings, Wanderers can be an intimidating stage. Standing in the middle, with neither bat nor ball in attendance, you can feel the stands closing in, the heat rising to your face, hands suddenly clammy and the heart beating at the rate of knots. One can only imagine

what it must be like to take guard, gladiator-like, with Allan Donald and Meyrick Pringle and Brian McMillan and a very young Shaun Pollock _____(E) at the bit, desperate to have a go.

21. **Choose the most appropriate synonym for the word in (A): (regarded).**
 - A. ignored
 - B. considered
 - C. neglected
 - D. rejected
22. **Fill in blank (B) with the correct modal verb expressing future certainty or prediction.**
 - A. will
 - B. shall
 - C. ought to
 - D. might
23. **Fill in blank (C) with the correct preposition to indicate inclusion or position inside a collective group.**
 - A. into
 - B. onto
 - C. over
 - D. within
24. **Choose the antonym of the word in (D): (reverence).**
 - A. Veneration
 - B. Adoration
 - C. Disrespect
 - D. Admiration
25. **Fill in blank (E) with the correct present participle verb to complete the idiomatic expression meaning "to be extremely eager to do something".**
 - A. chomping
 - B. pulling
 - C. tearing
 - D. snapping

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. A) **urban infrastructure failures stem from administrative negligence and require systemic renewal rather than reactive legal measures.**

The passage highlights that despite buildings being on "danger" lists, there is a "failure of enforcement." It notes that urbanization has outrun "municipal capacity" and that there is a "lack of attention to construction quality" and maintenance. The author points out that the state's response is usually "instinctive" and reactive—suspending officials, filing criminal cases, and providing compensation. The passage argues that these measures are insufficient. The passage concludes by stating that "India's buildings need widespread rehabilitation work" and that "Nothing short of an urban renewal would do," which aligns perfectly with the idea of a systemic solution rather than a legal/punitive one.

Option B is incorrect because the passage states that monitoring technologies are available, but the failure lies in municipal capacity and enforcement.

Option C is incorrect because it blames the residents. The passage explains that residents stay in unsafe buildings because there are "no transit camps or temporary housing," framing it as a systemic failure rather than the residents being the primary "cause" of the disaster.

Option D The author critiques the reliance on punitive actions (suspensions and cases) as being an inadequate response to a structural problem.

2. C) **explain why post-construction maintenance and ongoing administrative oversight are chronically neglected.**

The author uses the phrase "an asset with a one-time investment" to describe a mindset where infrastructure is built and then forgotten. This leads into the next sentence: "The post-2000s construction boom only outpaced maintenance work and administrative oversight..." By viewing infrastructure as a single transaction (the "one-time investment") rather than a continuous responsibility, the state neglects the recurring needs of maintenance, rehabilitation, and oversight. The author is criticizing this "build and forget" approach, which results in the various collapses mentioned in the passage.

Option A is incorrect because the author's focus is not on the amount of capital spent during the boom, but on the lack of spending/attention after the construction was finished.

Option B is incorrect because the passage does not argue that older buildings were more durable; rather, it highlights failures in both old (Jilani) and newer infrastructure.

Option D is incorrect because the passage states that monitoring technologies are "available," implying the issue is not a lack of initial funding for tech, but a lack of ongoing "municipal capacity" and "attention to construction quality."

3. B) **Complicated and full of risks**

In this context, the word "fraught" means filled with problems, complications, or likely to result in something undesirable (such as political backlash or public outcry). The passage explains that even though buildings are dangerous, officials hesitate to demolish them because the process is politically risky. Demolishing homes in a densely populated area with a "large

low-income migrant population" would lead to controversy, protests, and loss of political support, making the task "fraught" with difficulty for the authorities.

4. A) **urbanization has outpaced municipal capacity to enforce structural safety and conduct rehabilitation.**

The passage states: "Despite the availability of technologies to continuously monitor structures and issue early warnings, urbanisation has outrun municipal capacity, with most of the resulting failures involving a known hazard." The author argues that while hazards are often known (on "danger" lists), the municipal authorities lack the capacity to enforce safety measures, provide alternative housing (transit camps), or carry out the necessary "widespread rehabilitation work." Instead, they rely on reactive, "on-paper" discharges of liability.

Option B is incorrect because the author notes that these technologies are available; the failure is in capacity and oversight, not the financial inaccessibility of the tech itself.

Option C is incorrect because the passage mentions owners undertook "unauthorised repairs" rather than being prohibited from repairs. The issue is their refusal to redevelop or vacate safely.

Option D is incorrect because the passage says evacuation orders are "hard to enforce without police support," implying insufficient support, not an outright "refusal" by police departments to assist.

5. A) **Present participial phrase functioning adverbially to express result**

The phrase begins with "killing," which is the -ing form of the verb (present participle). When a present participial phrase follows a clause and is set off by a comma, it often functions adverbially to describe the consequence or result of the action in that clause. The Jilani building collapsed (the action), and as a direct result of that collapse, 41 people were killed.

(B) It is a present participle, not a past participle (which would be "killed").

(C) A gerund functions as a noun. "Collapsed" is an intransitive verb, meaning it cannot take a direct object.

(D) An absolute phrase requires its own noun/subject (e.g., "41 people being killed"). A subject complement follows a linking verb (like "is" or "seems"), which is not the case here.

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

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence 3 paragraph की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह passage का introductory sentence है। यह बिना किसी अस्पष्ट सर्वनाम के सीधे Princess Catherine और उनकी तस्वीर (portrait) के बारे में बताता है।
- Sentence 4 Sentence 3 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें इस्तेमाल हुआ शब्द "Her" सीधे तौर पर Sentence 3 में बताई गई "Princess Catherine" को refer करता है, और उनके कपड़ों और गहनों के बारे में बताता है।
- Sentence 2 Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि Sentence 4 के अंत में "At first glance" (पहली नज़र में) कहा गया है, और Sentence 2 उसी बात को "But look closer" (लेकिन करीब से देखें) कहकर आगे बढ़ाते हुए कान की बाली (earring) की बात करता है।
- Sentence 1 Sentence 2 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह paragraph का conclusion है। इसमें इस्तेमाल हुआ शब्द "It" सीधे तौर पर Sentence 2 में बताए गए कान की बाली पहनने के उस खास तरीके को refer करता है, और पूरी कहानी को समाप्त करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence 3 starts the paragraph because it acts as the introductory sentence. It introduces Princess Catherine and her portrait clearly without relying on any outside context.
- Sentence 4 follows Sentence 3 because the word "Her" directly refers back to Princess Catherine mentioned in Sentence 3, and continues to describe her clothes and jewelry.
- Sentence 2 follows Sentence 4 because Sentence 4 ends by talking about what is seen "At first glance," and Sentence 2 continues that exact thought by telling the reader to "look closer" at her earring.
- Sentence 1 comes after Sentence 2 because it is the conclusion. The word "It" directly refers back to the specific way she wore the earring described in Sentence 2, wrapping up the paragraph perfectly.

7. B) 3-1-2-4

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence 3 paragraph की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह passage का introductory sentence है। यह बिना किसी पिछले संदर्भ के सीधे "hand fan" (हाथ के पंखे) के विषय को introduce करता है। (निर्देशानुसार यह passage का बिल्कुल पहला वाक्य है)।
- Sentence 1 Sentence 3 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह Sentence 3 में बताए गए "hand fan" को refer करते हुए उसी की बात आगे बढ़ाता है कि इसे सिर्फ एक "cute little prop" या गर्मी से बचने का साधन समझा जाता है।
- Sentence 2 Sentence 1 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें इस्तेमाल हुआ शब्द "But" (लेकिन) Sentence 1 में बताई गई बात को बदलता है और बताता है कि यह पंखा सिर्फ एक prop नहीं है, बल्कि इसके इस्तेमाल में एक "hidden gem" (छिपा हुआ रहस्य) है।
- Sentence 4 Sentence 2 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह paragraph का conclusion है। यह Sentence 2 में बताए गए "hidden gem" को खोजने के लिए refer करता है और कहता है कि आइए इसके इतिहास (history) के बारे में जानें, जिससे passage पूरी तरह समाप्त होता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence 3 starts the paragraph because it acts as the introductory sentence. It clearly introduces the topic of the "hand fan" without needing any outside context. (As requested, it is the exact first line of the source text).
- Sentence 1 follows Sentence 3 because it directly refers back to the "hand fan" mentioned in Sentence 3, describing how people usually see it as just a "cute little prop" or a way to cool off.
- Sentence 2 follows Sentence 1 because the word "But" changes the direction of Sentence 1. It explains that the fan is not just a simple prop, but actually holds a "hidden gem."
- Sentence 4 comes after Sentence 2 because it is the conclusion. It refers back to uncovering the "hidden gem" mentioned in Sentence 2, inviting the reader to look into the history of hand fans, wrapping up the paragraph perfectly.

8. B) No error

9. A) **equal** का use होगा क्योंकि जब दो कोण बराबर होते हैं, तब उनसे मिलाने वाली भुजाएं भी बराबर होती हैं। यह ज्यामितीय सिद्धांतों के अनुसार है। **unequal**, **'C. larger'**, और **'D. smaller'** इस context में सही नहीं हैं क्योंकि वे इस ज्यामितीय संबंध को सही ढंग से नहीं दर्शाते हैं।

equal' should be used because when two angles are equal, the sides that form those angles are also equal. This is according to geometric principles. 'B. unequal', 'C. larger', and 'D. smaller' are incorrect because they do not accurately reflect this geometric relationship.

10. C) **Like a cakewalk** (idiom) – Easy task आसान काम

- **Smooth surface** (noun) – A flat and even area without roughness or bumps. समतल सतह
- **Pleasant experience** (noun) – An enjoyable or satisfying event or moment. सुखद अनुभव
- **Active** (adjective) – Engaging or ready to engage in physically energetic pursuits; moving or working. सक्रिय

11. A) **Sinks** (verb) – Goes down below the surface of something, especially of a liquid; becomes submerged. डूबना

Antonym: **Floats** (verb) – Rests or moves on the surface of a liquid without sinking; remains buoyant. तैरना

- **Create** (verb) – Bring something into existence; make something new. बनाना
- **Parade** (noun) – A public procession, especially one celebrating a special day or event. जुलूस
- **Strolling** (verb) – Walk in a leisurely way. टहलना

12. B) 'pursuing' के बदले 'to pursue' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यहाँ 'plan to' के बाद Verb का Infinitive Form आना चाहिए; जैसे— After finishing high school, I plan to pursue law.

'to pursue' will be used instead of 'pursuing' because after 'plan to', the verb should be in the Infinitive form; Like— After finishing high school, I plan to pursue law

13. D) **Confusion** (noun) – The state of being bewildered or unclear in one's mind about something; disorder, turmoil, disarray. भ्रमित

Synonym: **Commotion** (noun) – A state of confused and noisy disturbance; turmoil, uproar, disorder. हंगामा

- **Intrepidity** (noun) – Fearlessness; adventurous, dauntless. निडरता
- **Stagnation** (noun) – Lack of activity, growth, or development; a state of inactivity. स्थिरता
- **Perusal** (noun) – The action of reading or examining something carefully. पढ़ना

14. A) 'cover above a table' के बदले '**cover under a table**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि भूकंप के समय सुरक्षा के लिए टेबल के नीचे छुपने की सलाह दी जाती है न कि टेबल के ऊपर; जैसे— During an earthquake, it is advised to take cover under a table to protect oneself.

'cover under a table' will be used instead of 'cover above a table' because the advice during an earthquake is to take shelter under a table for safety, not above it; Like— During an earthquake, it is advised to take cover under a table to protect oneself

15. B) The correct spelling for the incorrectly spelt word 'Hiest' is '**Heist**' 'लूट'

16. C) 'looking into his book' के बदले '**looking for his book**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'for the last two hours' का संदर्भ खोजने की क्रिया से है, न कि किताब को देखने की क्रिया से। 'Looking into' का अर्थ होता है विस्तार से जांच पड़ताल करना जो कि यहाँ प्रासंगिक नहीं है। जब हम किसी खोई हुई चीज के लिए खोज कर रहे होते हैं तो 'looking for' का प्रयोग करते हैं; जैसे— He was looking for his keys in the room.

- 'looking for his book' will be used instead of 'looking into his book' because the reference 'for the last two hours' pertains to the action of searching, not simply viewing

the book. 'Looking into' means to investigate or examine in detail, which is not applicable here. When we search for something that is lost, we use 'looking for'; Like — He was looking for his keys in the room.

17. B) **visionary** का use होगा क्योंकि "visionary" का अर्थ होता है दूरदर्शी या नए विचारों वाला नेतृत्व। Sentence में Ram की प्रशंसा उनके leadership के लिए की जा रही है, इसलिए 'visionary leadership' जो कि नवीन और आगे की सोच वाला होता है, यहाँ सही है। 'Imaginary' का अर्थ है काल्पनिक, 'Magical' का अर्थ है जादुई, और 'Broad' का अर्थ है व्यापक, जो इस context में सही नहीं बैठते
- visionary' should be used because it refers to leadership that is innovative or forward-thinking. The sentence is praising Ram for his leadership, so 'visionary leadership', which connotes innovative and forward-thinking qualities, is the correct choice here. 'Imaginary' means not real or existing only in the imagination, 'Magical' means having a special, mysterious quality, and 'Broad' means wide, none of which are typically used to describe effective leadership in this context.
18. C) **Hospitality** (noun) – The friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers. सत्कार
Antonym: **Coldness** (noun) – Lack of affection or warmth of feeling; unemotional or unfriendly behavior. निरादर
- **Complaint** (noun) – A statement that something is unsatisfactory or unacceptable. शिकायत
 - **Cordiality** (noun) – Sincere affection and kindness. सौहार्द
 - **Wrathful** (adjective) – Full of or characterized by intense anger. क्रोध
19. A) **'cut down'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'reduce' का मतलब होता है कम करना और 'cut down' धूम्रपान कम करने के संदर्भ में उचित phrase है। 'less down', 'lower down', और 'up down' इस संदर्भ में सही उपयोग नहीं हैं। जैसे— डॉक्टर ने सलाह दी कि वह धूम्रपान कम करे।
- cut down' will be used instead of 'reduce' because 'reduce' means to decrease and 'cut down' is the correct phrase in the context of decreasing smoking. 'less down', 'lower down', and 'up down' are not correct uses in this context. Like — The doctor advised that he should cut down on smoking
20. C) **He does his work carefully.**
21. B) **considered**
Considered is the exact synonym for "regarded" in this context. Both mean to think of someone or something in a specified way. The passage states Atherton is thought of as the greatest English opening batter of his generation. Ignored means to refuse to take notice of someone. Neglected means failing to care for someone. Rejected means dismissing someone or something as inadequate. All three of these are negative antonyms that completely contradict the high praise being given to the player in the passage.
- यहाँ Considered का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका meaning 'माना जाना' (regarded) होता है। पैसेज में कहा गया है कि माइकल आर्थरन को अपनी पीढ़ी का सबसे महान ओपनर माना (considered/regarded) जाता है। Ignored का मतलब 'अनदेखा करना' होता है। Neglected का मतलब 'उपेक्षा करना' होता है। Rejected का मतलब 'अस्वीकार करना' होता है। ये तीनों शब्द नकारात्मक (negative) हैं, जबकि यहाँ खिलाड़ी की तारीफ हो रही है।
22. A) **will**

Will is the correct modal verb here because it is used to express a strong prediction, a future certainty, or an inevitable truth. The author is making a definitive statement about Geoffrey Boycott's permanent historical ranking among the top openers. Shall is rarely used for third-person certainty in modern English and is largely restricted to first-person (I/we) or strict legal contexts. Ought to expresses a moral obligation or duty (what someone should do), which is irrelevant to historical rankings. Might expresses mere possibility or uncertainty, which completely contradicts the authoritative and certain tone of the author.

- यहाँ Will का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि यह भविष्य की निश्चितता (certainty) या पक्की भविष्यवाणी को दर्शाता है। लेखक पूरे विश्वास के साथ कह रहा है कि ज्योफ्री बॉयकोट हमेशा महान ओपनर्स में गिने जाएंगे। Shall का प्रयोग आधुनिक अंग्रेजी में आमतौर पर I/We के साथ होता है, third person (who) के साथ नहीं। Ought to कर्तव्य या सलाह (duty) दर्शाता है। Might का अर्थ 'शायद' होता है, जो यहाँ लेखक के निश्चित (certain) लहजे के बिल्कुल खिलाफ है।

23. D) within

Within is the correct preposition because it indicates a position inside a collective group, community, or abstract boundary (in this case, inside the minds and environment of "the batting groups"). Atherton's presence instilled calmness inside his team. Into indicates physical movement or transformation from the outside to the inside, which doesn't fit the abstract instillation of a feeling. Onto indicates physical movement to a surface. Over indicates a physical position above something, which is logically incorrect for describing feelings shared among a group of people.

- यहाँ Within का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि इसका meaning 'के भीतर' या 'के अंदर' होता है। आर्थरन के शांत स्वभाव ने बैटिंग ग्रुप के भीतर (within) शांति और आत्मविश्वास पैदा किया। Into का इस्तेमाल गति (movement) दर्शाने के लिए होता है (जैसे बाहर से अंदर जाना)। Onto किसी सतह (surface) पर जाने को दर्शाता है। Over का मतलब 'के ऊपर' होता है। भावनाओं और आत्मविश्वास को टीम के भीतर (within) महसूस किया जाता है।

24. C) Disrespect

Disrespect is the correct answer because the question specifically asks for an antonym (opposite word). "Reverence" means a feeling or attitude of deep respect tinged with awe (people still speak of his highest Test score with awe and reverence). Therefore, disrespect is the direct and absolute opposite. Veneration (great respect), Adoration (deep love and respect), and Admiration (warm approval) are all direct synonyms of reverence and would be incorrect when an antonym is requested.

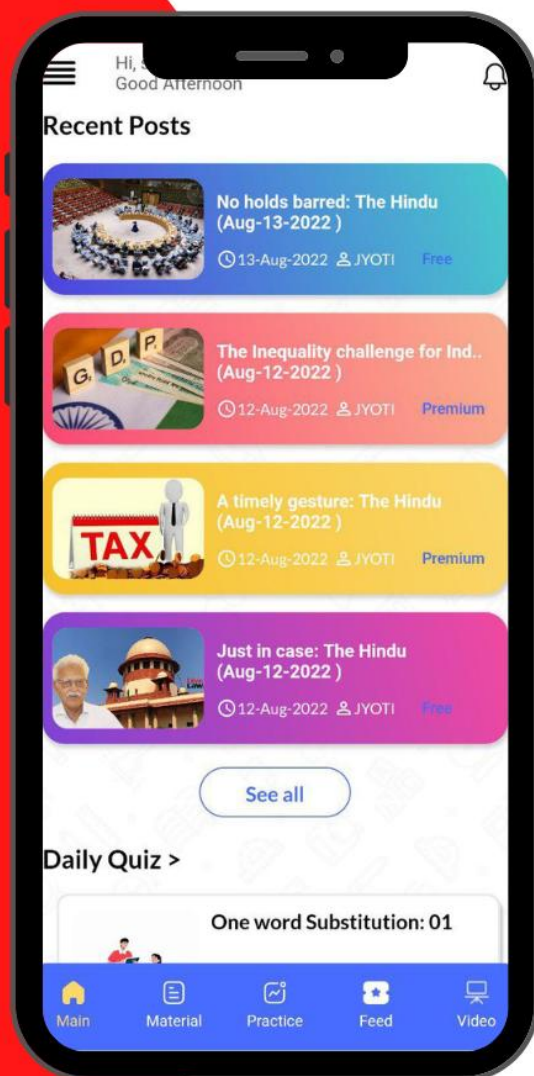
- यहाँ Disrespect सही है क्योंकि प्रश्न में antonym (विलोम शब्द) पूछा गया है। "Reverence" का meaning 'गहरा सम्मान' या 'श्रद्धा' होता है। लोग आज भी उनकी उस पारी को सम्मान (reverence) के साथ याद करते हैं। "Disrespect" का meaning 'अपमान' या 'अनादर' होता है, जो इसका एकदम सही विलोम है। Veneration, Adoration, और Admiration सभी reverence के synonyms (पर्यायवाची) हैं, जिनका अर्थ सम्मान या प्रशंसा होता है।

25. A) chomping

Chomping perfectly fits here because "chomping at the bit" (or traditionally "champing at the bit") is a fixed English idiom. It originates from horse racing, describing a horse impatiently chewing on its metal mouthpiece (the bit) before a race. In human contexts, it means being extremely eager, impatient, or desperate to do something (like the fast bowlers being incredibly eager to bowl at the batsman). Pulling, tearing, and snapping are grammatically

possible present participles, but they do not form this specific, well-known idiomatic expression.

- यहाँ Chomping का use किया जाएगा क्योंकि "chomping at the bit" अंग्रेजी का एक प्रसिद्ध मुहावरा (idiom) है। इसका meaning 'कुछ करने के लिए बहुत अधिक उत्सुक, उतावला या बेचैन होना' होता है। पैसेज में बताया गया है कि विरोधी टीम के तेज़ गेंदबाज़ बॉलिंग करने के लिए बेहद उत्सुक (chomping at the bit) थे। Pulling, tearing, और snapping का इस्तेमाल इस मुहावरे में नहीं होता, इसलिए ये सभी विकल्प गलत हैं।



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