

Vote of trust: On Trump's appreciation, clean electoral rolls in India

Clean electoral rolls are a **must**, but must not be **weaponised** by state

President Donald Trump's **appreciation** of India's election **mechanism** **has** put the spotlight on a highly **divisive debate** over election **integrity** in the two democracies. Mr. Trump is pushing for an SIR-like exercise in the U.S., but its highly **federalised** electoral process is **governed** by **fragmented** rules and politics that **resist** the idea. His **curious** social media **post** **citing** India's Chief Election Commissioner, Gyanesh Kumar, as having **wondered** how the U.S. could conduct elections without a valid photo identity, **has** renewed concerns over election integrity in both the U.S. and India. While no one can disagree that the process should be **fair** and **transparent**, the agreement ends there. **Partisan politics** in both countries **have** **fostered** political **mistrust**, leading election losers to repeatedly question electoral integrity. The **liberal** and **progressive strands**, and the **conservative** and **nativist** strands in both countries, want to purify and **streamline** the electoral rolls and the processes, but in different and **often contradictory** ways. India and the U.S. could lead a shared democratic **agenda** on election rules, but only after **restoring** trust and integrity in their electoral processes.

India's **nationalised** election administration system has largely worked well, though it now faces a crisis of **legitimacy**. The U.S.'s decentralised system leaves too many **loopholes** in the process of enrolment and voting, and it could benefit from a more **robust** national framework like the ECI's. The expanded Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act was passed in February and is pending in the **Senate**. The Constitution grants each State its own methods: "...but Congress may at any time by law make or **alter** such regulations", **unlike** the Indian Constitution, which **establishes** the ECI as a constitutional body. Though there is no **ambiguity** in **existing** law either in the U.S. or in India that only citizens may register and vote, the **process** of ensuring this **has** become hugely controversial in both countries. The proposed federal law would require proof of citizenship for voter registration and photo ID for voting. In India, the SIR is trying to **sneak** in this requirement without transparency, adequate consultation or sufficient time. The very **fact** that SIR is meant to be conducted only once in 20 years **means** it should be carried out carefully and **inclusively**. While **ruling dispensations** in both countries think that the election process is too **permissive** and allows foreigners to obtain voting rights, their opponents point to **systematic** and **premeditated** efforts to target social groups in the name of election integrity. What is needed is an acceptance that clean electoral rolls of citizens, and voting with photo ID, are **elementary** requirements of a fair process. In both countries, the state must not selectively weaponise these requirements against those not in power. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Appreciation** (noun) - gratitude, acknowledgment, recognition, valuation, approval प्रशंसा
2. **Must** (noun) - necessity, essential, requirement, imperative, prerequisite अनिवार्य आवश्यकता
3. **Weaponise** (verb) - to make it possible to use something to attack a person or group हथियार के रूप में उपयोग करना
4. **Mechanism** (noun) - system, procedure, process, structure, apparatus तंत्र
5. **Put the spotlight on** (phrase) - to focus public attention, interest, or strict examination on a specific person, problem, or issue प्रकाश डालना
6. **Divisive** (adjective) - polarizing, alienating, disruptive, schismatic, discordant विभाजनकारी
7. **Debate** (noun) - discussion, argument, dispute, deliberation, controversy बहस
8. **Push for** (phrasal verb) - to demand something repeatedly, or to take strong action to try to make it happen के लिए जोर देना
9. **Federalised** (adjective) - decentralized, confederated, federated, distributed, regionalized संघीयकृत
10. **Govern** (verb) - rule, control, regulate, manage, direct शासन करना
11. **Fragmented** (adjective) - divided, splintered, broken, disunited, fractionalized खंडित
12. **Resist** (verb) - oppose, withstand, fight, combat, defy विरोध करना
13. **Curious** (adjective) - inquisitive, peculiar, odd, strange, probing उत्सुक या अजीब
14. **Cite** (verb) - quote, mention, reference, allude to, name उद्धृत करते हुए
15. **Wonder** (verb) - ponder, question, speculate, reflect, marvel आश्चर्य करना
16. **Fair** (adjective) - just, equitable, impartial, unbiased, honest निष्पक्ष
17. **Transparent** (adjective) - clear, open, lucid, overt, translucent पारदर्शी
18. **Partisan** (adjective) - biased, sectarian, one-sided, prejudiced, factional पक्षपातपूर्ण
19. **Foster** (verb) - promote, encourage, nurture, cultivate, stimulate बढ़ावा देना
20. **Liberal** (adjective) - open-minded, tolerant, progressive, broad-minded, permissive उदार
21. **Progressive** (adjective) - forward-looking, advancing, innovative, reforming, modern प्रगतिशील
22. **Strands** (noun) - elements, threads, aspects, components, parts तत्व या धाराएँ
23. **Conservative** (adjective) - traditional, conventional, orthodox, right-wing, reactionary रूढ़िवादी
24. **Nativist** (adjective) - nationalist, autochthonous, localist, patriotic, indigenist स्थानीयतावादी

25. **Streamline** (verb) - simplify, optimize, modernize, organize, rationalise
सुव्यवस्थित करना
26. **Often** (adverb) - frequently, regularly, repeatedly, routinely, commonly अक्सर
27. **Contradictory** (adjective) - conflicting, opposing, inconsistent, paradoxical, contrasting परस्पर विरोधी
28. **Agenda** (noun) - program, schedule, plan, docket, roadmap कार्यसूची
29. **Restore** (verb) - reinstate, revive, recover, rehabilitate, re-establish पुनर्स्थापित करना
30. **Nationalised** (adjective) - centralized, state-run, public, government-controlled, nationalized राष्ट्रीयकृत
31. **Legitimacy** (noun) - legality, validity, lawfulness, authenticity, justification वैधता
32. **Loophole** (noun) - flaw, ambiguity, omission, escape clause, defect खामी
33. **Robust** (adjective) - strong, sturdy, powerful, resilient, vigorous मजबूत
34. **Senate** (noun) - a senate is the upper house of a legislative government or a high council of leaders सीनेट
35. **Alter** (verb) - change, modify, adjust, transform, amend बदलना
36. **Unlike** (preposition) - as opposed to, different from, contrary to, dissimilar to के विपरीत
37. **Establish** (verb) - found, set up, create, institute, build स्थापित करना
38. **Ambiguity** (noun) - vagueness, obscurity, uncertainty, indefiniteness, equivocation अस्पष्टता
39. **Existing** (adjective) - current, present, extant, active, prevailing मौजूदा
40. **Sneak** (verb) - slip, slink, creep, smuggle, crawl चुपचाप प्रवेश करना
41. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) - to conduct, execute, or perform something पूरा करना
42. **Inclusively** (adverb) - comprehensively, broadly, all-inclusively, universally, completely समावेशी रूप से
43. **Ruling** (adjective) - governing, reigning, incumbent, dominant, leading सत्तारूढ़
44. **Dispensations** (noun) - administrations, regimes, governments, systems, managements शासन व्यवस्थाएं
45. **Permissive** (adjective) - lenient, tolerant, indulgent, lax, liberal ढीला या उदार
46. **Point to** (phrasal verb) - to indicate, highlight, or direct toward इंगित करना
47. **Systematic** (adjective) - methodical, structured, organized, planned, orderly व्यवस्थित
48. **Premeditated** (adjective) - intentional, calculated, deliberate, planned, preconceived पूर्व-योजित
49. **Elementary** (adjective) - basic, fundamental, primary, rudimentary, essential प्राथमिक

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Clean and accurate electoral rolls** are essential for ensuring **fair, transparent, and credible elections** in a democracy.
2. **Donald Trump's appreciation of India's election system** has brought renewed attention to the debate over **electoral integrity** in both India and the U.S.
3. Trump's support for an **SIR-like exercise in the U.S.** is difficult to implement because America has a highly **decentralised and federalised electoral system**.
4. His social media remarks citing **India's Chief Election Commissioner** have also revived concerns about the reliability and integrity of electoral processes in both countries.
5. Although political parties broadly agree that elections should be **fair and transparent**, they strongly disagree on how electoral integrity should be achieved.
6. **Partisan politics and political mistrust** have encouraged losing candidates and parties to repeatedly question the legitimacy of election results.
7. Liberal, progressive, conservative, and nativist groups all seek to **purify electoral rolls**, but they often have **different and contradictory approaches**.
8. India and the U.S. could potentially cooperate on a **shared democratic agenda** concerning electoral rules, but this requires restoring **public trust and institutional credibility** first.
9. India's **nationalised election administration**, led by the Election Commission of India (ECI), has generally functioned effectively, although it is currently facing a **crisis of legitimacy**.
10. In contrast, the U.S.'s **decentralised electoral system** creates loopholes in voter registration and voting, suggesting that it could benefit from a stronger national framework.
11. The **SAVE Act** in the U.S. seeks to strengthen voter verification by requiring **proof of citizenship for registration and photo identification for voting**.
12. In India, the **Special Intensive Revision (SIR)** is attempting to strengthen electoral verification, but the editorial criticises its lack of **transparency, consultation, and adequate time**.
13. Since SIR is expected to be conducted only **once in 20 years**, it must be implemented **carefully, inclusively, and without excluding genuine voters**.
14. While ruling parties argue that electoral systems are too permissive and may allow **foreigners to obtain voting rights**, their opponents fear that such measures could be **deliberately used to target particular social groups**.
15. The editorial concludes that **clean electoral rolls and voter identification are basic requirements of democracy**, but the state must ensure that these measures are **transparent, inclusive, and never weaponised against political opponents or vulnerable groups**.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **According to the passage, what is the primary benefit of the Indian electoral administration system over the American model?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. Its immunity from partisan polarization due to its robust legitimacy status.
 - B. Its capacity to minimize procedural inconsistencies through a centralized framework.
 - C. Its success in conducting citizenship verification without creating controversy.
 - D. Its focus on frequent and transparent consultations to preserve electoral rolls.
2. **What fundamental question does the passage raise regarding the pursuit of election integrity?**
 - A. Can procedural rigor be maintained without facilitating systemic partisan exclusion?
 - B. Should federalized systems adopt national frameworks to guarantee voter eligibility?
 - C. Will a shared democratic agenda resolve domestic crises of institutional legitimacy?
 - D. Is constitutional centralization the best way to solve systemic electoral loopholes?
3. **Based on the provided passage, identify the correct passive voice form of the following sentence:**

"Fragmented rules and politics in the United States resist the implementation of an SIR-like exercise."

 - A. The implementation of an SIR-like exercise is resisted by fragmented rules and politics in the United States.
 - B. The implementation of an SIR-like exercise was resisted by fragmented rules and politics in the United States.
 - C. The implementation of an SIR-like exercise is resisted by nationalised rules and politics in the United States.
 - D. The implementation of an SIR-like exercise is resisted by fragmented rules and politics in the Indian nation.
4. **What does the word "permissive" most closely mean in the phrase "the election process is too permissive"?**
 - A. Rigid and strictly defined
 - B. Publicly and widely supported
 - C. Lax and poorly controlled
 - D. Complex and bureaucratic
5. **Why is a more robust national framework recommended for the U.S.?**
 - A. To abolish individual state electoral methodologies.
 - B. To implement periodic citizenship checks.
 - C. To bypass ongoing legislative congressional debates.
 - D. To address vulnerabilities in voter enrolment.
6. **Direction: Rearrange the following parts (1, 2, 3, 4) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
 1. And the weekly market has become my dopamine hit.
 2. Long before 10-minute delivery bred a culture of dependency, weekly markets were a way of life.
 3. I do not intend to cast aspersions on platforms like Blinkit or Swiggy Instamart, especially as a Gen Z who values convenience, because, trust me, they have saved my day on several occasions.

4. It's been six years since I moved from Chennai to Delhi.
A. 4-2-1-3
B. 2-1-4-3
C. 2-4-1-3
D. 1-3-2-4
7. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
A book market / was been operated by some readers / in the street when / they reached there.
A. was been operated by some readers
B. They reached there.
C. in the street when
D. A book market
8. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.**
No one was prepared for the environmental calamity that hit the town in the middle of the night
A. Degradation
B. Stress
C. Damage
D. Catastrophe
9. **Select the correct spelling of the underlined word from the following options.**
Handover that peace of paper to me so that I can evaluate the authenticity of his amorous claims.
A. piece
B. pieces
C. peices
D. peice
10. **Select the correct direct form of the given sentence.**
The doctor said that they had performed their bit
A. The doctor said, "We performed our bit."
B. The doctor said, "We are performing our bit."
C. The doctor says, "We had performed our bit."
D. The doctor said, "We have performed our bit."
11. **Direction: Rearrange the following parts (1, 2, 3, 4) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
1. However, evolution has taken a very different path for some creatures.
2. Several animals either lack a distinct head altogether or have such a diffuse body plan that it is difficult to identify one.
3. Yet many still possess light-sensitive organs or fully developed eyes that help them navigate, detect predators, or find food.
4. When we think of animals, we usually imagine a body with a clearly defined head, complete with eyes, a mouth, and a brain.
A. 4-1-2-3
B. 1-4-3-2

- C. 2-3-4-1
D. 4-2-1-3
12. **Select the option that expresses the given sentence in passive voice.**
Somebody is following us
A. We're being followed by somebody.
B. Somebody had been following us.
C. Somebody is following us.
D. We have been following by somebody
13. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word in the given sentence.**
Try to be frugal with your hard-earned money.
A. Negligent
B. Economical
C. Honest
D. Imprudent
14. **Select the most appropriate collocating word to fill in the blank.**
The girl has _____ chances winning the match
A. hefty
B. high
C. bountiful
D. light
15. **Choose the correct spelling of the word meaning 'difficult to interpret or understand; mysterious'.**
A. Enigmatic
B. Inigmatic
C. Anigmatic
D. Enigmattic
16. **Choose the word most opposite in meaning to 'adventurous'.**
A. Daring
B. Cautious
C. Bold
D. Brave
17. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Fair-weather friends
A. A person who is friends with you every day
B. A person who is friends with you during the night
C. A person who is friends with you in difficult times
D. A person whose friendship cannot be relied on in times
18. **Choose the most suitable option to replace the underlined part of the sentence:**
Of the three paths, this is the most shortest.
A. more short
B. shorter
C. most short
D. shortest
19. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**

Had he been knowing (1)/ about the regulatory changes (2)/ he would not have proceeded (3)/ with the merger deal. (4)

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

20. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

ABROGATE

- A. Ratify
- B. Repeal
- C. Reject
- D. Withdraw

Read the cloze passage and answer the following questions:

A telephone message from Pegu states water is going down. Approximate estimate has been made of rice in the town and there is no danger of a general shortage of food; but a certain number of people are running short in their houses and arrangements are being made to distribute to them, the main difficulty is transport.

Four first class passengers who were (1) stranded at Payagi had reached Pegu and proceeded to Rangoon. Both the Hon'ble Ministers are still (last night) at Payagi. There ____ (3) no news from the other towns further up the line (Pyuntaza Daiki etc) as the telegraph line is (2) apparently broken. Relief operations ____ (4) continuing to ensure supplies reach those ____ (5) need.

21. **The word "stranded" in the passage is closest in meaning to: (1)**

- A. marooned
- B. rescued
- C. released
- D. escorted

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

- A. seemingly
- B. evidently
- C. dubiously
- D. ostensibly

23. **Choose the correct auxiliary verb to fill in the blank: (3)**

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

24. **Choose the correct auxiliary verb to fill in the blank: (4)**

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

25. **Select the correct preposition to complete the sentence: (5)**

- A. on
- B. in
- C. of
- D. with

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) **Its capacity to minimize procedural inconsistencies through a centralized framework.**

The passage states: "India's nationalised election administration system has largely worked well... The U.S.'s decentralised system leaves too many loopholes in the process of enrolment and voting, and it could benefit from a more robust national framework like the ECI's." This directly contrasts India's centralized (nationalised) system against the U.S.'s fragmented, decentralized one — highlighting that a single, unified national framework (the ECI) helps reduce the inconsistencies/loopholes that arise from the U.S.'s state-by-state variation. This matches option B precisely — the benefit lies in centralization reducing procedural gaps/inconsistencies.

Option A This is directly contradicted by the passage, which states India's system "now faces a crisis of legitimacy." So India's system is explicitly described as not fully legitimate or immune to controversy — the opposite of what this option claims.

Option C This is also contradicted. The passage explicitly states: "In India, the SIR is trying to sneak in this requirement without transparency, adequate consultation or sufficient time" — meaning India's citizenship verification process (SIR) is portrayed as controversial and problematic, not a smooth success.

Option D The SIR is criticized precisely for lacking "adequate consultation" and being conducted "without transparency." Additionally, the passage notes SIR is "meant to be conducted only once in 20 years" — the opposite of "frequent."

2. A) **Can procedural rigor be maintained without facilitating systemic partisan exclusion?**

lines from the passage: "While no one can disagree that the process should be fair and transparent, the agreement ends there." and "their opponents point to systematic and premeditated efforts to target social groups in the name of election integrity." and most importantly: "the state must not selectively weaponise these requirements against those not in power."

The passage supports measures such as clean electoral rolls and photo ID to make elections fair. However, it also warns that these measures can be selectively used against certain social groups or political opponents. Therefore, the central issue is whether electoral safeguards can ensure procedural rigor without becoming instruments of partisan exclusion.

Option (b) This is just a small suggestion mentioned once (the U.S. could copy India's national ECI-style system). It's a small idea in the passage, not the big question the whole passage is about.

Option (c) The passage says India and the U.S. "could lead a shared democratic agenda... but only after restoring trust" — this is just a hopeful future idea, not a real ongoing question or tension in the passage.

Option (d) This is only about system design (national vs. state-level control) — it's a technical/structural point, not the passage's deeper concern about people being unfairly excluded from voting.

3. A) **The implementation of an SIR-like exercise is resisted by fragmented rules and politics in the United States.**
 In the given sentence in question: Subject (doer of action): Fragmented rules and politics in the United States
 Verb (action): resist (present tense)
 Object (receiver of action): the implementation of an SIR-like exercise
 Passive voice: Object + is/am/are/was/were + Past Participle (V3) + by + Subject
 New subject: "The implementation of an SIR-like exercise"
 Verb "resist" (present tense, plural subject "rules and politics") → becomes "is resisted" (present tense passive)
 by + old subject: "by fragmented rules and politics in the United States"
4. C) **Lax and poorly controlled**
 The phrase appears in: "While ruling dispensations in both countries think that the election process is too permissive and allows foreigners to obtain voting rights..." Here, "permissive" describes an election process that is too loose, lax, or lenient — one that doesn't have strict enough controls, allowing ineligible people (foreigners) to slip through and register/vote. This directly matches "lax and poorly controlled" — a system with weak checks that permits things it shouldn't.
 Option A This is the opposite meaning. "Permissive" means allowing too much freedom/leniency, not strictness.
 Option B This confuses "permissive" with "popular" or "accepted" — but "permissive" has nothing to do with public support; it's about the degree of control/restriction in the system, not how many people approve of it.
 Option D This describes a system that is complicated or has too much red tape — but "permissive" describes the opposite problem: a system with too few checks, not too many complicated procedures.
5. D) **To address vulnerabilities in voter enrolment.**
 The passage states: "The U.S.'s decentralised system leaves too many loopholes in the process of enrolment and voting, and it could benefit from a more robust national framework like the ECI's." This links the recommendation for a national framework to fixing the loopholes/vulnerabilities that exist in how voters are enrolled and how voting takes place. "Loopholes" here means the same as "vulnerabilities" — weak points in the system that can be exploited or that create errors. This matches option D precisely.
 Option A is incorrect because, while the passage mentions that the U.S. Constitution allows Congress to "alter" regulations, it does not suggest that the goal is to "abolish" state methods entirely.
 Option B The passage discusses citizenship verification as a separate, specific proposal (the SAVE Act requiring proof of citizenship), but this isn't given as the reason for recommending a national framework.
 Option C is incorrect because the passage notes that legislation is currently "pending in the Senate," but it never suggests that a national framework is meant to "bypass" the democratic legislative process.
6. C) **2-4-1-3**
 Explanation:
 Hindi Explanation:

Sentence 2 पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह introductory sentence है। यह आपके द्वारा दिए गए पैसेज की बिल्कुल पहली लाइन है जो बिना किसी पूर्व संदर्भ के सीधे तौर पर '10-minute delivery' के दौर से पहले के 'weekly markets' (साप्ताहिक बाजारों) का मुख्य विषय पेश करती है।

Sentence 4 Sentence 2 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह पैसेज के सामान्य विषय (general topic) से हटकर लेखक के व्यक्तिगत अनुभव (personal context) की ओर बढ़ता है, यह बताते हुए कि उन्हें चेन्नई से दिल्ली आए छह साल हो गए हैं।

Sentence 1 Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह "And" (और) से शुरू होकर Sentence 4 के व्यक्तिगत अनुभव को तार्किक रूप से आगे बढ़ाता है। यह बताता है कि दिल्ली आने के बाद (Sentence 4) कैसे 'weekly market' (जिसका जिक्र Sentence 2 में हुआ था) अब उनका 'dopamine hit' बन गया है।

Sentence 3 Sentence 1 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह इस 4-वाक्यों के क्रम का conclusion है। Sentence 1 में पारंपरिक बाजारों के प्रति अपना प्यार जताने के बाद, लेखक यह स्पष्ट करते हुए पैसेज को समाप्त करता है कि उनका इरादा Blinkit या Swiggy जैसे 10-मिनट डिलीवरी प्लेटफॉर्म (जो Sentence 2 में पेश किए गए थे) की आलोचना (cast aspersions) करने का नहीं है।

English Explanation:

Sentence 2 starts the paragraph because it acts as the introductory sentence, strictly using the very first line of the provided text. It establishes the overarching theme contrasting modern "10-minute delivery" with the traditional "weekly markets" without needing any prior context.

Sentence 4 follows Sentence 2 because it transitions from the broad cultural observation in Sentence 2 to the author's specific personal background, noting their relocation from Chennai to Delhi.

Sentence 1 follows Sentence 4 because it logically connects the author's relocation established in Sentence 4 back to the core topic of Sentence 2. Starting with "And," it explains that in their new life in Delhi, the "weekly market" has become their personal source of joy ("dopamine hit").

Sentence 3 comes after Sentence 1 as the direct conclusion for this sequence. Having just praised traditional markets in Sentence 1, the author uses this sentence to balance their perspective, concluding that despite their preference, they do not mean to criticize the modern delivery platforms (Blinkit, Swiggy) initially introduced in Sentence 2, wrapping up the paragraph perfectly.

7. A) 'was been operated' के बदले **'was being operated'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'was' के साथ 'been' का प्रयोग गलत है। 'Was' के बाद Present Participle (ing form) का प्रयोग होता है जब क्रिया का निरंतरता का भाव हो; जैसे— A book market was being operated by some readers in the street when they reached there.
'was being operated' will be used instead of 'was been operated' because the use of 'been' with 'was' is incorrect. After 'was', the Present Participle (ing form) is used to indicate the continuity of the action; Like— A book market was being operated by some readers in the street when they reached there.

8. D) **Calamity** (noun) – A disaster or a misfortune, often causing damage or distress, like a flood, earthquake, or serious accident. आपदा

Synonym: **Catastrophe** (noun) – A sudden event causing great suffering, destruction, or distress, such as a serious accident, crime, or natural catastrophe. विपत्ति

- **Degradation** (noun) – The process of something being degraded or declining in quality, level, or condition; the act of degrading. पतन
- **Stress** (noun) – Pressure or tension exerted on a material object or a state of mental or emotional strain or tension resulting from adverse or demanding circumstances. तनाव
- **Damage** (noun) – Physical harm caused to something, impairing its value, usefulness, or normal function. क्षति

9. A) The correct spelling for the underlined word in the sentence is 'piece.' This is because 'piece टुकड़ा'

10. D) **The doctor said, "We have performed our bit."**

Indirect से Direct Speech में बदलने के लिए, Reporting Verb उतनी ही Tense में रहती है और Reported Speech के Tense को एक कदम आगे (present की ओर) लाया जाता है, क्योंकि Indirect Speech में वह पहले से Backshift हो चुका होता है। Indirect वाक्य में Reporting Verb "said" (Past) है और Reported Speech "had performed" (Past Perfect) है। Direct में बदलने पर Reporting Verb "said" वैसी ही (Past) रहती है और "had performed" को उसके मूल रूप "have performed" (Present Perfect) में बदला गया है, जिससे वाक्य बनता है "We have performed our bit."।

- To change Indirect Speech into Direct Speech, the reporting verb stays in the same tense, while the tense of the reported speech is shifted forward, since it had already been backshifted in the indirect version. In this sentence, the reporting verb "said" (Past) remains unchanged, and "had performed" (Past Perfect) has been transformed into its original form "have performed" (Present Perfect) — giving option 4: The doctor said, "We have performed our bit."

11. A) **4-1-2-3**

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence 4 पैराग्राफ की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह introductory sentence है। यह आपके द्वारा दिए गए पैसेज की बिल्कुल पहली लाइन है जो बिना किसी पूर्व संदर्भ के सीधे तौर पर जानवरों के शरीर (सिर, आंखें, मुंह) के बारे में हमारी सामान्य धारणा (general assumption) का मुख्य विषय पेश करती है।
- Sentence 1 Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह "However" (हालाँकि) से शुरू होकर Sentence 4 की सामान्य धारणा के ठीक विपरीत एक विरोधाभास पेश करता है, यह बताते हुए कि कुछ जीवों के लिए 'evolution' (विकास) ने एक बिल्कुल अलग रास्ता अपनाया है।

- Sentence 2 Sentence 1 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह Sentence 1 में बताए गए 'अलग रास्ते' (different path) को स्पष्ट करता है कि वह रास्ता कैसा है—कि कुछ जानवरों में स्पष्ट 'head' (सिर) होता ही नहीं है या शारीरिक ढांचा बहुत फैला हुआ (diffuse) होता है।
- Sentence 3 Sentence 2 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह इस 4-वाक्यों के क्रम का conclusion है। "Yet" (फिर भी) से शुरू होने वाला यह वाक्य Sentence 2 की बात (सिर न होना) से तार्किक रूप से जुड़ता है और बताता है कि सिर न होने के बावजूद उनमें प्रकाश के प्रति संवेदनशील अंग (light-sensitive organs) या आंखें होती हैं, जिससे यह पैसेज बिल्कुल सही तरीके से समाप्त होता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence 4 starts the paragraph because it acts as the introductory sentence, strictly using the very first line of the provided text. It establishes the baseline human assumption about an animal's standard body plan (having a clearly defined head) without needing any prior context.
- Sentence 1 follows Sentence 4 because the conjunction "However" introduces a direct contrast to the general assumption stated in Sentence 4, shifting the focus to note that evolution took a "very different path" for certain creatures.
- Sentence 2 follows Sentence 1 because it logically defines exactly what that "different path" entails, explaining that several of these animals physically lack a distinct head or have a diffuse body plan.
- Sentence 3 comes after Sentence 2 as the direct conclusion for this sequence. The conjunction "Yet" introduces a final contrast to the lack of a head mentioned in Sentence 2, explaining that despite this absence, they still possess "fully developed eyes" or light-sensitive organs, wrapping up the paragraph perfectly.

12. A) **We're being followed by somebody**

Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Active से Passive में बदलते समय सही Tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Active वाक्य में "Somebody" Subject है, "is following" Verb (Present Continuous) है और "us" Object है। Passive में बदलने पर Object "We" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "are being followed" (Present Continuous Passive) में बदला गया है, और "by somebody" के रूप में प्रयोग किया गया है (यहाँ "We're" = "We are" का संक्षिप्त रूप है)।

- To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence. The verb is transformed from the active form to the passive form, ensuring correct tense usage. In this case, "Somebody" (Subject), "is following" (Verb in Present Continuous), and "us" (Object) from the active voice have been transformed into "We" (Subject), "are being followed" i.e. "are being followed" (Passive Verb in Present Continuous), and "by somebody" — giving option 1: We're being followed by somebody.

13. B) **Frugal** (adjective) – Sparing or economical with regard to money or food; thrifty, sparing, careful, prudent, economical. मितव्ययी

synonym : **Economical** (adjective) – Giving good value or service in relation to the amount of money, time, or effort spent; thrifty, frugal, money-saving, cost-effective. मितव्ययी

- **Negligent** (adjective) – Failing to take proper care over something; careless, inattentive, irresponsible, lax. लापरवाह
- **Honest** (adjective) – Free of deceit; truthful and sincere; moral, ethical, principled, upright. ईमानदार
- **Imprudent** (adjective) – Not showing care for the consequences of an action; rash, reckless, incautious, irresponsible. अविवेकी

14. B) इस वाक्य में "high" का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "high" का अर्थ होता है उच्च या बड़ी मात्रा में होना। यहाँ पर वाक्य कह रहा है कि लड़की के पास मैच जीतने की उच्च संभावनाएं हैं, जिससे 'high' शब्द सटीक बैठता है। जबकि, 'Hefty' का अर्थ होता है बड़ी राशि या मात्रा, 'Bountiful' का अर्थ होता है प्रचुर या बहुत अधिक, और 'Light' का अर्थ होता है हल्का या कम, जो इस संदर्भ में उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

- The correct word to use in this sentence is "high" because 'high' means large in quantity or amount. The sentence implies that the girl has a high likelihood of winning the match, making 'high' the appropriate choice. Whereas, 'Hefty' implies a large amount or size, 'Bountiful' means plentiful or abundant, and 'Light' signifies something less in weight or amount, which do not fit the context properly.

15. A) The correct spelling is '**Enigmatic**', which means "difficult to interpret or understand; mysterious" — रहस्यमय / अस्पष्ट।

16. B) **Adventurous** (adjective) – willing to take risks or try new experiences; bold and daring. साहसी / जोखिम उठाने वाला

Antonym: **Cautious** (adjective) – careful to avoid potential problems or dangers; not taking risks. सतर्क / सावधान।

- **Daring** (adjective) – adventurous and bold; a synonym of adventurous, not its antonym. साहसी।
- **Bold** (adjective) – showing a willingness to take risks; a synonym of adventurous, not its antonym. निडर।
- **Brave** (adjective) – ready to face danger or difficulty; also a synonym of adventurous, not its antonym. बहादुर।

17. D) **A person whose friendship cannot be relied on in times**

18. D) 'most shortest' के बदले '**shortest**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "shortest" पहले से ही Superlative Degree है; "most" के साथ इसका प्रयोग Double Superlative बनाता है जो गलत है; तीन या अधिक में तुलना के लिए Superlative Degree का प्रयोग होता है।

- 'shortest' should be used because "shortest" is already the superlative form of "short". Using "most" with it creates an incorrect double superlative. When comparing three or more things, use the superlative degree directly.

19. A) 'Had he been knowing' के बदले 'Had he known' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "know" एक Stative Verb है और इसका प्रयोग Continuous tense में नहीं होता; Third Conditional में Past Perfect का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे —

Had he known about the regulatory changes, he would not have proceeded with the merger deal.

- 'Had he known' will be used because "know" is a stative verb (a verb of mental state) and cannot be used in continuous form. In third conditional sentences, the if-clause requires Past Perfect (had + V3), not Past Perfect Continuous.

20. B) **ABROGATE** (verb) – To repeal or do away with a law, right, or formal agreement officially. अभिनिषेध करना / रद्द करना।

Synonym: **Repeal** (verb) – To officially revoke or annul a law or act. रद्द करना।

- **Ratify** (verb) – To give formal consent to; to confirm or approve. अनुसमर्थन करना (opposite in meaning).
- **Reject** (verb) – To dismiss or refuse to accept something. अस्वीकार करना (not a synonym of abrogate).
- **Withdraw** (verb) – To take back or remove. वापस लेना (general withdrawal, not the same as officially revoking a law).

21. A) **marooned**

The passage describes passengers left trapped or cut off at Payagi due to flood conditions before managing to reach Pegu. Word (1) needs a synonym meaning left trapped and isolated without transport. a) marooned: means left trapped and isolated in an inaccessible place, which perfectly matches the meaning of "stranded." b) rescued: means saved from danger, which is the result after being stranded, not its definition. c) released: means set free from confinement. d) escorted: means accompanied somewhere for protection.

In Hindi:

- यह sentence बाढ़ के कारण रास्ते में फँसे यात्रियों की स्थिति को describe करता है। Word (1) को "stranded" (फँसा हुआ/असहाय) के सबसे सटीक synonym की आवश्यकता है। a) marooned: इसका meaning किसी दुर्गम स्थान पर फँस जाना या अलग-थलग पड़ जाना (trapped and isolated) होता है, जो "stranded" के संदर्भ में perfectly fit होता है। b) rescued: इसका meaning बचाया गया (saved) होता है। c) released: इसका meaning रिहा किया गया होता है। d) escorted: इसका meaning सुरक्षा के साथ ले जाया गया होता है।

22. C) **dubiously**

The passage notes that the telegraph line is visibly or seemingly broken ("apparently broken"). The question asks for the antonym of "apparently" (which means seemingly, visibly, or on the surface of evidence). a) seemingly: means appearing to be true on the surface, which is a direct synonym. b) evidently: means clearly or plainly seen, which is a synonym. c) dubiously: means in a doubtful, uncertain, or suspicious manner, serving as the direct antonym of something appearing clearly evident. d) ostensibly: means apparently or stated to be true, which is a synonym.

In Hindi:

- यह sentence तार लाइन के प्रत्यक्ष रूप से टूटे होने ("apparently broken") को describe करता है। Question में "apparently" (प्रत्यक्ष रूप से/स्पष्ट तौर पर प्रतीत होना) का antonym पूछा गया है। a) seemingly: इसका meaning प्रतीत होना (synonym) होता है। b) evidently: इसका meaning स्पष्ट रूप से (synonym) होता है। c) dubiously: इसका meaning संदिग्ध या अनिश्चित रूप से (in a doubtful manner) होता है, जो "apparently" का direct antonym है। d) ostensibly: इसका meaning प्रत्यक्ष रूप से (synonym) होता है।

23. B) is

The sentence uses an introductory "there" construction where the true subject is the uncountable noun "news" (There _____ no news...). Uncountable nouns are treated as singular and take a singular verb, while the present context of the report requires the present tense. a) are: is a plural verb form, which violates subject-verb agreement with the singular uncountable noun "news." b) is: is the singular simple present verb that correctly pairs with the uncountable noun "news." c) were: is a plural past tense verb. d) have: is an auxiliary that cannot link the existential subject to a noun phrase in this structure.

In Hindi:

- यह sentence वर्तमान स्थिति में अन्य कस्बों से कोई खबर न मिलने को describe करता है। Word "news" एक uncountable noun है जिसे व्याकरण में singular माना जाता है, और वर्तमान संदर्भ के कारण present tense की आवश्यकता है। a) are: यह plural verb है जो singular uncountable noun "news" के नियम का उल्लंघन करती है। b) is: यह singular present tense verb है जो "news" के साथ perfectly fit होता है। c) were: यह plural past tense verb है। d) have: यह construction के अनुसार गलत है।

24. B) are

The sentence describes active and ongoing relief efforts taking place during the report (Relief operations _____ continuing...). Blank (4) requires a present tense auxiliary verb to form the present continuous tense with the plural subject noun "operations." a) is: is a singular verb form, violating subject-verb agreement with the plural noun "operations." b) are: is the plural present auxiliary verb that correctly pairs with the plural subject "operations" to form the present continuous tense (are continuing). c) was: is a singular past tense verb. d) has: is a singular perfect auxiliary that cannot precede the present participle "continuing" without "been."

In Hindi:

- यह sentence राहत कार्यों के निरंतर जारी रहने को describe करता है। Blank (4) को plural subject "operations" के साथ present continuous tense बनाने वाले सही helping verb की आवश्यकता है। a) is: यह singular verb है जो plural subject "operations" के नियम का उल्लंघन करती है। b) are: यह plural present auxiliary verb है जो "operations" के साथ मिलकर present continuous tense (are continuing) बनाने में perfectly fit होता है। c) was: यह singular past verb है। d) has: यह बिना 'been' के 'continuing' के साथ use नहीं हो सकता।

25. B) in

The sentence refers to delivering supplies to people who are facing hardship and require immediate help (those _____ need). Blank (5) completes the fixed prepositional idiom "in need," which means requiring help, food, or financial assistance. a) on: does not form an established idiom with "need" to describe people requiring aid. b) in: pairs with "need" to form the fixed phrase "in need" (those in need), meaning people experiencing distress or deprivation. c) of: is used in phrases like "in need of supplies," but cannot stand alone after "those" without "in." d) with: does not complete the standard idiomatic construction for needy people.

In Hindi:

- यह sentence जरूरतमंद लोगों तक राहत सामग्री पहुंचाने को describe करता है। Phrase "in need" एक निश्चित मुहावरा (fixed idiom) है जिसका अर्थ जरूरतमंद या संकटग्रस्त लोग होता है। a) on: यह 'need' के साथ कोई निश्चित phrase नहीं बनाता। b) in: यह "need" के साथ मिलकर fixed idiom "in need" (जरूरतमंद) बनाता है, जो "those in need" के संदर्भ में perfectly fit होता है। c) of: यह निर्माण के अनुसार यहाँ अधूरा है। d) with: यह यहाँ असंगत है।



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