

Great responsibility: On India's G20 presidency

During G-20 presidency, India must **etch** its global dreams on domestic **landscape**

The Government launched its year of the G-20 presidency on December 1 with some **pomp**, and 100 **monuments** from Kashmir to Kanyakumari **lit** up with India's G-20 logo **symbolising** the **motto** "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, or "one earth, one family, one future". In an editorial essay, Prime Minister Narendra Modi **committed** to making India's year of chairmanship as one that will focus on "healing our 'One Earth', creating **harmony** within our 'One Family' and giving hope for our 'One Future'". There are plans for about 200 G-20 meetings across India. The **preparatory** and ministerial meetings will **culminate** in grand plans for a G-20 Summit, which will bring leaders of the 'P-5' countries and others to New Delhi next September. India has taken the **baton** from Indonesia, which had a difficult time in even scheduling meetings and ensuring full participation due to **differences** over the Ukraine war. There was even **uncertainty** till the end over whether all major leaders would attend; whether they would agree to a joint **photo-opportunity** (they did not), and whether there would be a joint statement — which was **eventually forged**. Like Indonesian President Joko Widodo, Mr. Modi will have to travel abroad to ensure that all G-20 leaders and invitees attend at the highest level. And officials will have to **burn** more **midnight oil** to achieve **consensus** on statements.

Symbolism and **logistical** coordination aside, the Government has a tough task ahead in conducting **substantive negotiations** to bring together a **comprehensive** G-20 agenda, where officials said they would focus on **counter-terrorism**, **supply chain disruptions** and global unity. In 2008, the first G-20 summit-level **meeting** in the U.S. **was** during a moment of crisis for the world's financial systems. In 2022, the **task** for Mr. Modi and his team **is** equally crucial, **given** the **lasting** effects of the Russian war in Ukraine, western **sanctions** on energy that will **deepen** this month, economic **downturns**, pandemic worries and climate change issues that are testing the foundations of **globalisation** and an interconnected global economy. In his editorial, Mr. Modi said India would forge its G-20 agenda through its **tradition** of "collective decision-making" that, like India's national consensus, would be made "... by **blending** millions of free voices into one **harmonious melody**". At a time India itself faces economic **distress** and social and communal **tensions**, the Government should be prepared for more **scrutiny** on **upholding** such ideals. Having raised the **pitch** on India's global **prominence** as G-20 President, and its power to shape the global **narrative**, the Government may find that with great power comes great responsibility, and a greater **spotlight** on its ability to translate its global dreams into the domestic landscape as well.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Presidency** (noun) – the position of being president; premiership अध्यक्षता
2. **Etch** (verb) – engrave, carve, inscribe, mark उकेरना
3. **Landscape** (noun) – the distinctive features of a sphere of activity; situation, backdrop, setting, circumstance परिदृश्य
4. **Pomp** (noun) – Splendor, spectacle, display, ceremony, show धूमधाम
5. **Monument** (noun) – a building, structure, or site that is of historical importance or interest. स्मारक
6. **Light** (verb) – provide with light or lighting; illuminate. जगमगाना
7. **Symbolise** (verb) – represent by means of symbols. प्रतीक होना
8. **Motto** (noun) – Slogan, Saying नारा
9. **Commit** (verb) – Obligate, pledge, promise, compel प्रतिबद्ध होना
10. **Heal** (verb) – make better, restore, settle, mend ठीक करना
11. **Harmony** (noun) – a state of peaceful existence and agreement सामंजस्य, सद्भाव
12. **Preparatory** (adjective) – preliminary, initial, introductory, preparative प्रारंभिक
13. **Culminate** (verb) – finish, conclude, come to an end समाप्त होना
14. **P-5** (noun) – refers to the UN Security Council's five permanent members (the P5); namely China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
15. **Baton** (noun) – charge, responsibility जिम्मेदारी
16. **Differences** (noun) – a disagreement, quarrel, or dispute. मतभेद
17. **Uncertainty** (noun) – Improbability, changeableness, variability, inconstancy अनिश्चितता
18. **Photo-opportunity** (noun) – it is an arranged event (opportunity) to take photos of politicians/celebrities posing for publicity
19. **Eventually** (adverb) – in the end, in due course, by and by, in time आखिरकार/ अंततः
20. **Forge** (verb) – build, create, construct, make, form बनाना
21. **Burn midnight oil** (phrase) – read or work late into the night. देर रात तक मेहनत करना
22. **Consensus** (noun) – Agreement; accord; consent सर्वसम्मति

23. **Symbolism** (noun) – the use of symbols to represent things प्रतीकवाद
24. **Logistical** (adjective) – relating to or involving organization and planning
25. **Substantive** (adjective) – important, significant, huge, sizable, major, considerable. महत्वपूर्ण
26. **Negotiation** (noun) – discussions, talks, consultation बातचीत
27. **Comprehensive** (adjective) – inclusive, all-inclusive, complete विस्तृत
28. **Counter-terrorism** (noun) – anti-terrorism आतंकवाद के खिलाफ
29. **Supply chain** (noun) – a network of individuals and companies who are involved in creating a product and delivering it to the consumer
30. **Disruption** (noun) – disturbance, interruption, disorder, break व्यवधान
31. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into account, bearing in mind देखते हुए
32. **Lasting** (adjective) – continuing to exist for a long time or forever स्थायी
33. **Sanction** (noun) – Restriction, ban, penalty, punishment, injunction प्रतिबंध
34. **Deepen** (verb) – Make more intense, stronger, or more marked गहरा होना
35. **Downturn** (noun) – A decline in economic, business, or other activity. मंदी
36. **Globalisation** (noun) – the spread of the flow of financial products, goods, technology, information, and jobs across national borders and cultures. वैश्वीकरण
37. **Tradition** (noun) – practice, convention, way, custom. परंपरा
38. **Blend** (verb) – mix, combine, amalgamate (किसी के साथ) मिलना, मिश्रण करना
39. **Harmonious** (adjective) – coordinated, balanced, proportional, compatible; agreeable, cooperative. सामंजस्यपूर्ण
40. **Melody** (noun) – Song, rhythm, tune लय, स्वर
41. **Distress** (noun) – hardship, adversity, tribulation, misfortune संकट, विपत्ति
42. **Tension** (noun) – strained relations, strain, unease तनाव
43. **Scrutiny** (noun) – Inspection, examination, enquiry जांच
44. **Uphold** (verb) – support, endorse, sustain, defend, back बरकरार रखना
45. **Pitch** (noun) – a level of the intensity of something, especially a high level.
46. **Prominence** (noun) – Fame, importance, distinction, eminence, standing, status प्रमुखता

47. **Narrative** (noun) – a story or a description of a series of events: कथा

48. **Spotlight** (noun) – the centre of public attention or interest आकर्षण-केंद्र

Practice Exercise

Direction (Q1 – Q3): Select the best express synonym of the given words Editorial page

1. The Government launched its year of the G-20 presidency on December 1 with some **pomp**, and 100 monuments from Kashmir to Kanyakumari lit up with India's G-20 logo symbolising the motto "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, or "one earth, one family, one future".
 - A. Disparate
 - B. Temerity
 - C. Splendor
 - D. Apprehensive
2. The preparatory and ministerial meetings will **culminate** in grand plans for a G-20 Summit, which will bring leaders of the 'P-5' countries and others to New Delhi next September.
 - A. Conclude
 - B. Destitute
 - C. Incipient
 - D. Coherent
3. Symbolism and logistical coordination aside, the Government has a tough task ahead in conducting **substantive** negotiations to bring together a comprehensive G-20 agenda, where officials said they would focus on counter-terrorism, supply chain disruptions and global unity.
 - A. Unctuous
 - B. Farcical
 - C. Essential
 - D. Unconscionable
4. **Idioms & Phrase**

The government has **upped the ante** by refusing to negotiate until a ceasefire has been agreed.

 - A. To make a great effort to defeat or hurt someone
 - B. To warn or alert one about something
 - C. Fail to deal with something
 - D. To increase risks or demands in order to get a greater advantage
5. **Direction: Two statements are given below, which are jumbled in any random order. These statements will form a coherent and meaningful paragraph, when arranged in the correct sequence. Arrange the sentences in the right order and answer the questions that follow.**
 - (i) On September 2, 2022, India was declared(D)/ It is expected to assume third place by 2030.(E)/ according to the IMF.(F)/ the fifth largest growing economy surpassing the UK, (G)
 - (ii) social and human development indices,(A)/ But when seen alongside some recently released (B)/ this growth performance loses some of its sheen.(C)
 - A. BAC, DGEF
 - B. DGFE, BAC
 - C. BAC, FDEG
 - D. FDGE, CBA

E. None of the above

Direction (Q6 – Q9): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them

6. He was not only involved (A)/ in her kidnapping (B)/ but also in her murder. (C)/No Error(D)
7. I am sure that (A)/ neither the house nor its contents (B)/ is for sale. (C)/ No Error. (D)
8. No sooner did the police arrived (A)/ than (B)/ the robbers made their good escape (C)/ No Error (D)
9. I will have (A)/ both the blue (B)/ or the black pen. (C)/ No Error (D)
10. **Find out the misspelt word**
 - A. Horrendous
 - B. Compensation
 - C. Catastrophe
 - D. Stempede

Direction: Read the passage given below and answer the following questions.

(The Hindu Editorial: Behind GST buoyancy – Nov 09, 2022)

Milestones and records are normally tracked in sports. **(1)**/ On the first day of every month, the Finance Ministry releases data on GST collections of the previous month.**(2)**/ In India, monthly GST collections have almost become a barometer for the performance of the economy.**(3)**/ October 2022 GST revenues were ₹1,51,718 crore — the second highest since GST was introduced, next only to the collection in April 2022.**(4)**/ October also saw the second highest collection from domestic transactions. This is the ninth month — and for eight months in a row — that the monthly GST revenues have been more than the ₹1.4 lakh crore mark. In September, 8.3 crore e-way bills were generated, which were significantly higher than the 7.7 crore generated in August.

‘Revenge consumption’

One of the reasons given for the record GST revenues is that consumption increased during the just _____**(a)**_____ festival season. Consumer spending was muted over the last two years due to the pandemic, resulting in consumers resorting _____**(b)**_____ “revenge consumption” this year. This could, at best, have had a marginal impact on GST revenues. Many other factors have contributed to the **uptick** in GST revenues. Nine months back, Section 16(2)(aa) was introduced in the CGST Act. GST revenues have crossed ₹1.4 lakh crore for eight months in a row. Coincidence? Section 16(2)(aa) added a condition for the taxpayer to be eligible to claim input tax credit — the details of the invoice or debit note have been furnished by the supplier in the statement of outward supplies and such details have been communicated to the recipient of such invoice or debit note in the manner specified under Section 37. In other words, input tax credit can be claimed only if the counter-party has reflected it in the return and the details appear in GSTR 2B. This restriction on availing input tax credit has also contributed to taxpayers having to shell _____**(c)**_____ more while discharging their GST liabilities. Extending the gamut of e-invoicing to taxpayers with a turnover greater than ₹10 crore is yet another contributor to increased GST revenues. The menace of fake invoices which was _____**(d)**_____ has reduced due to e-invoicing. Aggressive assessment by tax officers completes the list of contributory factors. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs is also seeking the

blessings(A) of the GST Council to **offences (B)** certain offences under GST laws. The idea behind this appears to be to differentiate between minor **decriminalize(C)** and offences that are made with a clear **intent(D)** to evade tax.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

11. One of the reasons given for the record GST revenues is that consumption increased during the just _____(a)_____ festival season.

Fill the most appropriate option in (a)

- (i) Spurred
- (ii) Aided
- (iii) Projected
- (iv) Lifted
- (v) Concluded

- A. Only (i) B. Only (ii) C. Only (v) D. Both (ii) and (iv) E. None of the above

12. Consumer spending was muted over the last two years due to the pandemic, resulting in consumers resorting _____(b)_____ “revenge consumption” this year.

Fill the most appropriate option in (b)

- (i) In
- (ii) To
- (iii) By
- (iv) For
- (v) While
- (vi) Over

- A. Only (i) B. Only (ii) C. Only (vi) D. Both (vi) and (iv) E. None of the above

13. This restriction on availing input tax credit has also contributed to taxpayers having to shell _____(c)_____ more while discharging their GST liabilities.

Fill the most appropriate option in (c)

- (i) Across
- (ii) For
- (iii) Out
- (iv) By

- A. Only (i) B. Only (ii) C. Only (iii) D. Both (i) and (ii) E. None of the above

14. The menace of fake invoices which was _____(d)_____ has reduced due to e-invoicing.

Fill the most appropriate option in (d)

- (i) Scattershot
- (ii) Unrestrained
- (iii) Rampant
- (iv) Insignificant

- A. Only (i) B. Only (iv) C. Only (iii) D. Both (iii) and (ii) E. None of the above

15. Identify the type of Adverb underlined in the following sentence

The dog chewed the bone excitedly

- A. Adverb of Purpose
- B. Adverb of Frequency
- C. Adverb of Degree
- D. Adverb of Manner

16. Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.

Milestones and records are normally tracked in sports. **(1)**/ On the first day of every month, the Finance Ministry releases data on GST collections of the previous month.**(2)**/ In India, monthly GST collections have almost become a barometer for the performance of the economy.**(3)**/ October 2022 GST revenues were ₹1,51,718 crore — the second highest since GST was introduced, next only to the collection in April 2022.**(4)**/

- A. 2341
- B. 1234
- C. 1324
- D. 2143
- E. 4321

17. Given below is a word, followed by three sentence that consist of that word. Identify the sentence (S) that best express (es) the meaning of the word. Choose option 5 'None of the above' if the word is not suitable in any of the sentence**UPTICK**

- (i) Movies sometimes see an **uptick** in revenue after an Oscars win
- (ii) There is **uptick** that the program is of value and should be sustained
- (iii) The transfer of the player was made with the **uptick** of the league.

- A. Only (i)
- B. Only (ii)
- C. Only (iii)
- D. (i), (ii)
- E. (ii), (iii)

18. In the following question, a sentence is given with four words marked as (A), (B), (C), and (D). These words may or may not be placed in the correct order. Four options with different arrangements of these have been provided. Mark the option with the correct arrangement as the answer. If no rearrangement is required, mark option (5) as your answer.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs is also seeking the **blessings(A)** of the GST Council to **offences(B)** certain offences under GST laws. The idea behind this appears to be to differentiate between minor **decriminalize(C)** and offences that are made with a clear **intent(D)** to evade tax.

- A. A – D
- B. B – A
- C. D – B

- D. B – C
E. No arrangement
19. In the following question, two statements and five connectors are given. Only one of the connectors from those given can be used to combine the given two statements into one sentence without changing the meaning. Choose that connector as your answer.
- (i) The man had taken a step or two across the glass roof
(ii) He noticed the presence of strangers in the room
- A. Once
B. Though
C. Yet
D. Before
E. None of these
20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks
The examinations will commence _____ Monday next at 10 o'clock.
- A. Of
B. By
C. On
D. To

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

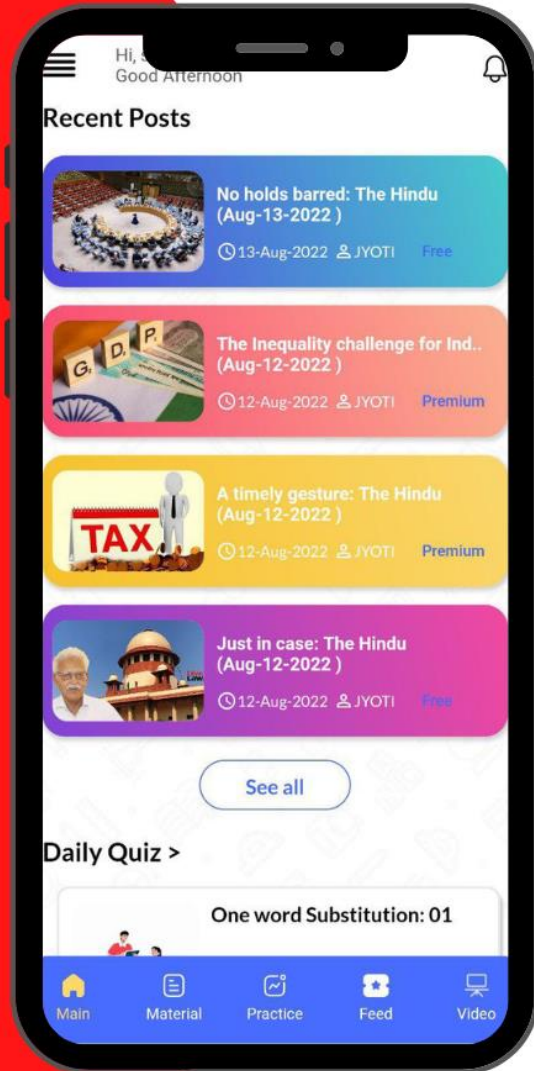
Explanations

4. **Up the ante** (Phrase) – to increase risks or demands in order to get a greater advantage, especially in a conflict or dispute. दाव बढ़ाना, जोखिम उठाना
5. **DGFE, BAC**
 On September 2, 2022, India was declared the fifth largest growing economy surpassing the UK, according to the IMF. It is expected to assume third place by 2030.
 But when seen alongside some recently released social and human development indices, this growth performance loses some of its sheen
6. (A) 'not only' का प्रयोग 'involved' के पहले नहीं होगा बल्कि 'involved' के बाद होगा क्योंकि 'not only.....but also', 'either... or', 'neither... nor', 'both... and' का प्रयोग समान प्रकार के कार्य करने वाले दो शब्दों या शब्द-समूहों को जोड़ने के लिए होता है; जैसे-
- He was not only intelligent but also laborious.
 - She was involved not only in theft but also in robbery.
- 'not only' shall not be used before 'involved' but after 'involved' because 'not only.....but also', 'either... or', 'neither... nor' , 'both... and' is used to join two words or groups of words that perform similar functions; As-
 - He was not only intelligent but also laborious.
 - She was involved not only in theft but also in robbery.
7. (C) 'is' के बदले 'are' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यदि दो Subjects 'Neither... nor', 'Either ... or', 'Not only ... but also' से जुड़े हों, तो Verb अपने नजदीक वाले Subject के अनुसार होता है; जैसे-
- Neither you nor he is late.
- 'are' will be used instead of 'is' because if two Subjects are joined by 'Neither... nor', 'Ether ... or', 'Not only ... but also', then Verb is according to the subject near it; As-
 - Neither you nor he is late.
8. (A) 'arrived' के बदले 'arrive' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'do/does/did + V1' का प्रयोग होता है
- 'arrive' will be used instead of 'arrived' because 'do/does/did + V1' is used
9. (C) 'or' के बदले 'and' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि 'both...and' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे-
- Both Ram and Sita will sing here.
- 'and' will be used instead of 'or', because 'both...and' is used; As-
 - Both Ram and Sita will sing here.
10. **Stampede** (noun) – a situation where a large group of people run in the same direction भगदड़, खलबली
11. **Conclude** (verb) – finish, end, come to an end, terminate समाप्त होना

- **Spur** (verb) – goad, prod, urge, encourage, prompt प्रोत्साहित करना
 - **Aid** (verb) – help, support, assist, assistance, encourage सहायता देना
 - **Project** (verb) – Predict, Predict, Envisage, Foresee अनुमान लगाना
 - **Lift** (verb) – raise, rise, boost, elevate, pinch बढ़ाना
12. **Resort (to)** (verb) – employ, use, utilize; have recourse to सहारा लेना
13. **Shell out** (phrasal verb) – pay, spend, expend, pay out, lay out, disburse खर्च करना
14. **Rampant** (adjective) – uncontrolled, unrestrained, unchecked, widespread अनियंत्रित
- **Scattershot** (adjective) – disorganized, random, slapdash, haphazard, chaotic बेतरतीब
 - **Insignificant** (adjective) – unimportant, trivial, inconsequential, minor, trifling महत्वहीन, नगण्य
15. Adverb '**excitedly**' is qualifying the verb 'chew'. Adverb of manner describe how something happens. It describes how the dog chewed.
16. (C) **1324**
Milestones and records are normally tracked in sports. In India, monthly GST collections have almost become a barometer for the performance of the economy. On the first day of every month, the Finance Ministry releases data on GST collections of the previous month. October 2022 GST revenues were ₹1,51,718 crore — the second highest since GST was introduced, next only to the collection in April 2022.
17. **Uptick** (noun) – a small increase or slight upward trend इजाफा
According to the given options only (i) is contextually correct.
Because the (ii) and (iii) sentence are not giving any meaning and correct sentences should be like
There is concurrence that the program is of value and should be sustained.
The transfer of the player was made with the concurrence of the league.
18. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs is also seeking the blessings of the GST Council to decriminalise certain offences under GST laws. The idea behind this appears to be to differentiate between minor offences and offences that are made with a clear intent to evade tax
19. The man had taken a step or two across the glass roof **before** he noticed the presence of strangers in the room. We commonly use before with the past simple tense. It suggests that the second event happened soon after the first one

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Disparate	adjective	Different; incompatible; unequal	असमान, भिन्न
	Temerity	noun	Boldness; recklessness; audacity	उतावलापन
	Apprehensive	adjective	Worried; anxious	भयभीत, सशंक, शंकित
Q2	Destitute	adjective	Extremely poor; utterly lacking	बेसहारा, दीन
	Incipient	adjective	Beginning; emerging	उत्पन्न होनेवाला, प्रारंभिक
	Coherent	adjective	Holding together; making sense	सुसंगत, संसक्त, स्पष्ट
Q3	Unctuous	adjective	Oily, both literally and figuratively; insincere	जोशीला
	Farcical	adjective	Absurd, ludicrous	हंसी का, विनोदपूर्ण
	Unconscionable	adjective	Not controlled by conscience; unscrupulous	बेशरम



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