

Timely restatement: on pre-trial injunctions against the media and Court order

Supreme Court **makes a case** against pre-trial **restraint** on journalistic content

A **restatement** of basic principles of law **is** always welcome, especially if there are judicial orders that seem to ignore them. The Supreme Court's recent **order cautioning** courts against granting pre-trial injunctions against the media in civil suits for **defamation is** a reminder that such orders could have severe **ramifications** on the freedom of speech and **may impair** the public's right to know. "Granting **interim** injunctions before the trial **commences**, in a **cavalier** manner **results in** the **stifling** of public debate," the Court observed, while **setting aside** a Delhi lower court order, also confirmed by the Delhi High Court, that **directed news outlet** Bloomberg to **take down** an article **concerning** Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd. within a week for being **allegedly defamatory**. The brief order has not only **reiterated** the standard **three-fold** test for granting interim injunctions **in general**, but reminded the judicial officers that the "constitutional **mandate** of protecting journalistic expression **cannot be understated**" when it comes to cases against the media. The **admonition** against courts mechanically applying the three **limbs** of the test — whether there is a **prima facie** case, whether the 'balance of convenience' is in favour of an interim restraint, and lastly, whether not granting it will cause "**irreparable** loss or harm" to the **plaintiff** — by **merely** recording that these **grounds** have been satisfied is quite apposite. The courts granting an injunction are also expected to record reasons by analysing the facts.

However, it is with unfortunate frequency that one hears of three kinds of judicial orders that **place** questionable **curbs** on journalistic publications: **outright gag orders** banning any publication of information related to cases being heard by the courts, **omnibus** prior restraint orders against all media houses based on a plaintiff's fear that a defamatory statement may be repeated by others and, finally, pre-trial orders to specific media houses to take down an article and **refrain from** further publication. Such orders will not be possible unless one ignores the common law principle in *Bonnard vs Perryman*, which **lays down** the standard that there can be an injunction in a defamation **suit** only if the court feels that the content is defamatory and that there can be no way the publication can be justified during trial, **for instance** by **pleading** the defence of truth and public interest. The latest order also contains a reminder that those with influence and economic power can **resort to** 'SLAPP' (Strategic Litigation/Lawsuit against Public Participation), a tactic **often** used to **stifle** public criticism of projects and companies. The Court has **struck the right note** when it warns that an early injunction in what could be a **prolonged** trial acts as a 'death **sentence**' against the material to be published.

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'. [Practice Exercise]
- **Mandate** (noun) – Order, command, directive, decree, dictate, instruction आदेश

Vocabulary

1. **Restatement** (noun) – Clarification, rephrasing, recapitulation, explanation, elucidation स्पष्टीकरण
2. **Injunction** (noun) – Order, mandate, decree, command, directive मनाही-हुक्म/निषेधाज्ञा
3. **Make a case** (phrase) – Argue, advocate, justify, support, uphold मामला बनाना
4. **Restraint** (noun) – Control, restriction, limitation, constraint, curtailment प्रतिबंध
5. **Caution** (verb) – Warn, advise, alert, notify, inform सावधान करना
6. **Defamation** (noun) – Slander, libel, calumny, vilification, disparagement मानहानि
7. **Ramification** (noun) – Consequence, implication, outcome, effect, result परिणाम
8. **Impair** (verb) – Damage, weaken, deteriorate, harm, diminish कमजोर करना
9. **Interim** (adjective) – Temporary, provisional, transitional, interim, stopgap अंतरिम
10. **Commence** (verb) – Begin, start, initiate, launch, inaugurate शुरू करना
11. **Cavalier** (adjective) – Careless, dismissive, indifferent, nonchalant, uninterested लापरवाह
12. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – Lead to, cause, bring about, produce, effect का परिणाम होना
13. **Stifling** (noun) – Suppression, smothering, repression, quashing, squashing दमन
14. **Set aside** (phrasal verb) – Overturn, annul, revoke, cancel, invalidate रद्द करना
15. **Direct** (verb) – Command, order, instruct, guide, steer निर्देश देना
16. **News outlet** (noun) – Media outlet, news agency, newspaper, news channel, news website
17. **Take down** (phrasal verb) – Remove, dismantle, disassemble, demolish, tear down हटाना
18. **Concerning** (preposition) – Regarding, about, on the subject of, relating to, with respect to संबंध में
19. **Allegedly** (adverb) – Supposedly, reportedly, purportedly, ostensibly, apparently कथित रूप से
20. **Defamatory** (adjective) – Slanderous, libelous, disparaging, derogatory, insulting मानहानिकारक

21. **Reiterate** (verb) – Repeat, restate, reemphasize, reaffirm, reassert दोहराना
22. **Three-fold** (adjective) – three-level, treble, tripartite, three-tiered त्रि-स्तरीय
23. **In general** (phrase) – Generally, overall, in the main, broadly, on the whole सामान्य तौर पर
24. **Understate** (verb) – Downplay, underemphasize, minimize, play down, de-emphasize कम करके बताना
25. **Admonition** (noun) – Warning, caution, reprimand, rebuke, reproof चेतावनी
26. **Limbs** (noun) – Branches, parts, extensions, sections, segments अंग
27. **Prima facie** (adjective) – At first sight, apparent, evident, obvious, clear प्रथम दृष्टया/ प्रत्यक्षतः
28. **Irreparable** (adjective) – Permanent, irreversible, irretrievable, irremediable, unrectifiable असुधार्य
29. **Plaintiff** (noun) – Claimant, complainant, accuser, litigant, petitioner वादी
30. **Merely** (adverb) – Simply, just, only, purely, solely केवल
31. **Ground** (noun) – Basis, foundation, reason, rationale, premise आधार
32. **Place** (verb) – Put, set, position, locate, situate रखना
33. **Curb** (verb) – Restrain, control, check, contain, limit नियंत्रित करना
34. **Outright** (adjective) – Absolute, complete, total, utter, thorough पूर्ण
35. **Gag order** (noun) – an order, typically a legal order by a court or government, restricting information or comment from being made public or passed onto any unauthorized third party. चुप रहने का आदेश
36. **Omnibus** (adjective) – Comprehensive, all-inclusive, all-encompassing, all-embracing, inclusive समग्र
37. **Refrain** (from) (verb) – Abstain, desist, avoid, eschew, steer clear of बचना
38. **Lay down** (phrasal verb) – Establish, set, fix, determine, prescribe निर्धारित करना
39. **Suit** (noun) – Legal action, lawsuit, litigation, case, action मुकदमा
40. **For instance** (phrase) – For example, as an example, to illustrate, such as, like उदाहरण के लिए
41. **Plead** (verb) – Argue, advocate, contend, assert, claim दलील देना
42. **Resort** (to) (verb) – Turn to, use, employ, adopt, utilize सहारा लेना

43. **Often** (adverb) – Frequently, commonly, regularly, habitually, repeatedly अक्सर
44. **Stifle** (verb) – Suppress, smother, restrain, quell, squash दबाना
45. **Strike the right note** (phrase) – Hit the right note, get it right, be appropriate, be fitting, be suitable सही बात कही
46. **Prolonged** (adjective) – Extended, lengthy, long, drawn-out, protracted लंबा
47. **Sentence** (noun) – the punishment given by a judge to somebody who has been found guilty of a crime सज़ा

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Supreme Court cautioned courts against granting pre-trial injunctions against the media in civil suits for defamation.
2. Such orders could severely impact freedom of speech and the public's right to know.
3. The Court observed that granting interim injunctions before trial stifles public debate.
4. The order set aside a lower court's directive for Bloomberg to take down an allegedly defamatory article about Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd.
5. The Supreme Court reiterated the standard three-fold test for granting interim injunctions: prima facie case, balance of convenience, and irreparable loss or harm.
6. Courts are reminded that the constitutional mandate of protecting journalistic expression is paramount.
7. The Court criticized the mechanical application of the three-fold test without proper analysis.
8. Judicial orders often place questionable curbs on journalistic publications, including gag orders and omnibus prior restraint orders.
9. Pre-trial orders may require media houses to take down articles and refrain from further publication.
10. The common law principle in *Bonnard vs Perryman* states that injunctions in defamation suits are only possible if the content is defamatory and cannot be justified during trial.
11. The Supreme Court warned against the use of 'SLAPP' (Strategic Litigation/Lawsuit against Public Participation) to stifle public criticism.
12. An early injunction in a prolonged trial acts as a 'death sentence' against the material to be published.
13. The Supreme Court's order is a reminder of the importance of maintaining journalistic freedom and the public's right to information.
14. The order emphasizes the need for judicial officers to carefully consider the implications of injunctions on free speech.
15. This restatement of basic principles serves as a caution against the cavalier granting of pre-trial injunctions that may impair journalistic expression.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What is the main theme of the passage?** [Editorial Page]
- A. The economic influence of media companies
 - B. The Supreme Court's efforts to balance freedom of speech with defamation concerns
 - C. The technical aspects of the three-fold test for granting interim injunctions
 - D. The history of defamation law
2. **What principle did the Supreme Court highlight as crucial when cautioning against pre-trial injunctions on media content in civil defamation suits?**
- A. The importance of conducting a detailed investigation before making any judicial order.
 - B. The necessity of preserving the freedom of speech and the public's right to know by avoiding unnecessary restraints.
 - C. The requirement for media outlets to self-censor before publishing potentially defamatory content.
 - D. The imperative for courts to always grant injunctions to protect the reputations of plaintiffs in defamation cases.
3. **According to the Supreme Court, what is flawed about courts mechanically applying the standard three-fold test for granting interim injunctions against journalistic content?**
- A. It disregards the impact of such injunctions on the financial stability of media outlets.
 - B. It fails to consider the potential for such actions to encourage self-censorship among journalists.
 - C. It overlooks the constitutional mandate of protecting journalistic expression by not thoroughly examining the facts.
 - D. It prioritizes the protection of public figures from scrutiny at the expense of investigative journalism.
4. **Which of the following best describes the Supreme Court's stance on pre-trial injunctions against journalistic content, according to the passage?**
- (i) The Supreme Court supports the use of pre-trial injunctions as a necessary means to ensure fair trials.
 - (ii) The Supreme Court cautions against the frequent use of pre-trial injunctions due to their potential to stifle journalistic freedom and public criticism.
 - (iii) The Supreme Court has a neutral stance on pre-trial injunctions, advocating for their use only in cases of national security.
- A. i only
 - B. ii only
 - C. iii only
 - D. i and iii
5. **According to the passage, which of the following principles does the Supreme Court suggest should guide the issuance of injunctions in defamation suits?**
- (i) An injunction should only be granted if there is no possible defense for the publication during the trial.

- (ii) An injunction can be issued based on the plaintiff's fear of defamatory statements being repeated.
- (iii) An injunction is justified whenever the court deems the content potentially harmful to public interest.
- A. i only
B. ii only
C. i and iii
D. ii and iii
6. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A number which is used to divide another number
- A. Divisible
B. Quotient
C. Remainder
D. Divisor
7. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
To cut someone some slack
- A. Avoid talking about problems till the very end
B. To get the conversation going
C. To criticise someone very strictly
D. To not manage someone very strictly or critically
8. **Select the most appropriate idiom to fill in the blank.**
Our trainer asked for _____ on her for the next informative session
- A. chasing rainbows
B. being around the bend
C. all eyes and ears
D. going bananas
9. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence.**
Children below the age of 14 were not allowed to partisipate in the cooking competition
- A. Competition
B. Partisipate
C. Children
D. Allowed
10. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
After I complete my training program / I will have been joining a team of astronauts / and preparing to / embark on a mission to Mars.
- A. I will have been joining a team of astronauts
B. embark on a mission to Mars
C. and preparing to
D. After I complete my training program
11. **The given sentence contains an error. Select the option that correctly rectifies the error.**
Earlier, he was feeling better, but things took a turn for the bad.

- A. Earlier, he was feeling better, but things took a turn for the worst.
B. Earlier, he was feeling good, but things took a turn for the bad.
C. Earlier, he was feeling well, but things took a turn for the ill.
D. Earlier, he was feeling better, but things took a turn for the ill.
12. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Blessing in disguise
A. Something that seems good but is harmful for you
B. Something that seems bad but provides some benefit
C. Something that cannot be hidden from anyone
D. Something that remains hidden from everyone
13. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Break
A. Divide
B. Mend
C. Split
D. Breach
14. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**
A place of burial
A. Building
B. Laboratory
C. Cemetery
D. Observatory
15. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
Forthcoming
A. Large
B. Extensive
C. Adventurous
D. Past
16. **Parts of the following sentence have been given as options. Select the option that contains an error.**
I will celebrating New Year at my old residence as usual.
A. I
B. will celebrating
C. New Year
D. at my old residence as usual
17. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**
Why don't / you throw this / paper on the dust bin?
A. paper on the dust bin
B. No error
C. you throw this

- D. Why don't
18. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
Beat around the bush
- A. To be persistent in pursuing a goal
 - B. To be impatient and short-tempered
 - C. To be direct and formal
 - D. To avoid addressing a topic correctly
19. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**
Her stories paid _____ to her mother, whom she regarded as the goddess of bravery
- A. frustration
 - B. sainthood
 - C. absoluteness
 - D. Homage
20. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**
Amicable
- A. Friendly
 - B. Proud
 - C. Generous
 - D. Harsh

Comprehension:

In the following passage, some words have been deleted. Read the passage carefully and select the most appropriate option to fill in each blank.

Once, there was a boy who became bored when he watched over the village sheep (1) _____ on the hillside. To entertain himself, he sang out, "Wolf! Wolf! The wolf is chasing the sheep!" When the villagers heard the cry, they came (2) _____ the hill to drive the wolf away. But, when they arrived, they saw no wolf. The boy was amused when seeing their angry faces. "Don't scream wolf, boy," warned the villagers, "when there is no wolf!" They angrily went back down the hill. Later, the shepherd boy cried out once again, "Wolf! Wolf! The wolf is chasing the sheep!" When the villagers came, they saw there was no wolf, they said strictly, "Save your (3) _____ cry for when there is really a wolf! Don't cry 'wolf' when there is no wolf!" Later, the boy saw a real wolf sneaking around his flock. Alarmed, he jumped on his feet and cried out as loud as he could, "Wolf! Wolf!" But the villagers thought he was (4) _____ them again, and so they didn't come to help. At sunset, the villagers went looking for the boy who hadn't returned with their sheep. When they went up the hill, they found him (5) _____ as all the sheep were dead.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 1.**
- A. laughing
 - B. receiving
 - C. assisting
 - D. Grazing
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 2.**
- A. driving

- B. walking down
 - C. running down
 - D. running up
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 3.**
- A. frightened
 - B. laughable
 - C. funny
 - D. Muffled
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 4.**
- A. fooling
 - B. questioning
 - C. fighting
 - D. Seeing
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank number 5.**
- A. singing
 - B. happy
 - C. dancing
 - D. weeping

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. **B) The Supreme Court's efforts to balance freedom of speech with defamation concerns**

The main theme of the passage revolves around the Supreme Court's recent order highlighting the importance of cautiously granting pre-trial injunctions against the media in defamation suits. It focuses on the Court's endeavor to balance the freedom of speech and the public's right to know against the need to protect individuals from potentially defamatory content. This is underscored by the Supreme Court's warning against the indiscriminate application of the standard three-fold test for interim injunctions and its emphasis on the constitutional mandate to protect journalistic expression, illustrating a broader concern for ensuring that legal proceedings do not unduly restrict public discourse or media freedom.

2. **B) The necessity of preserving the freedom of speech and the public's right to know by avoiding unnecessary restraints**

The Supreme Court's caution against granting pre-trial injunctions against the media in civil suits for defamation is based on the principle of preserving the fundamental freedoms of speech and expression, as well as ensuring the public's right to information. This caution serves to prevent the stifling of public debate and discussion, underscoring the Court's recognition of the severe ramifications that such restraints can have on these freedoms. The principle is rooted in the constitutional mandate to protect journalistic expression, highlighting the balance that must be struck between individual reputations and the broader public interest in free discourse.

3. **C) It overlooks the constitutional mandate of protecting journalistic expression by not thoroughly examining the facts.**

The Supreme Court criticized the mechanical application of the standard three-fold test for granting interim injunctions (assessing whether there is a prima facie case, whether the balance of convenience is in favor of an interim restraint, and whether not granting it would cause irreparable loss or harm to the plaintiff) without a thorough examination of the facts. This approach is flawed because it fails to adequately consider the constitutional mandate of protecting journalistic expression. The Court emphasized that judicial officers should not simply record that the grounds for an injunction have been satisfied without a deeper analysis. This underscores the importance of judicial diligence and the need to weigh the implications of restraining journalistic content against the constitutionally protected rights of freedom of speech and expression.

4. **B) ii only**

The passage clearly outlines the Supreme Court's concerns about the frequent issuance of pre-trial injunctions against the media. These concerns revolve around the potential abuse of such injunctions to suppress journalistic freedom and public criticism, particularly through the use of 'SLAPP' tactics by those with influence and economic power. The court's stance is not supportive of the indiscriminate use of pre-trial injunctions, as it recognizes the significant negative impact these can have on the right to publish material, particularly when such injunctions act as a 'death sentence' against the material intended for publication.

5. **A) i only**

The passage references the common law principle in *Bonnard vs Perryman*, which the Supreme Court upholds. This principle stipulates that an injunction in a defamation suit should only be granted if the court is convinced that the content is defamatory and that there is no justification for its publication during the trial, such as a defense of truth or public interest. This principle explicitly argues against the issuance of injunctions based on mere fears of defamation or potential harm to public interest without concrete evidence.

6. D) **Divisor** (noun) – A number by which another number is to be divided. विभाजक
- **Divisible** (adjective) – Capable of being divided without remainder. विभाज्य
 - **Quotient** (noun) – The result obtained by dividing one number by another. भागफल
 - **Remainder** (noun) – The part of something that is left when the other parts are gone, used, etc.; especially in division where it's the number that is left over. शेष
7. D) **To cut someone some slack** (idiom) – To not manage someone very strictly or critically (किसी के साथ कम कठोर या आलोचनात्मक तरीके से व्यवहार करना)
8. C) **All eyes and ears** (idiom) - To give full attention to something or someone. पूरा ध्यान देना
- **Chasing rainbows** (idiom) – Pursuing unrealistic or unattainable goals. अनुपलब्ध लक्ष्यों का पीछा करना
 - **Being around the bend** (idiom) – To be insane or mentally unstable. पागल होना
 - **Going bananas** (idiom) – To become very excited or agitated. बहुत उत्तेजित या व्याकुल होना
9. B) The incorrect spelling in the given sentence is '**Partisipate**'. The correct spelling is '**Participate**'. हिस्सा लेना
10. A) "I will be joining a team of astronauts" is the appropriate choice. This ensures that both actions ("joining" and "preparing") are presented in a similar grammatical form, following the conjunction "and."
11. A) Earlier, he was feeling better, but things took a turn for the worst.
12. B) **Blessing in disguise** (idiom) – Something that seems bad but provides some benefit दुःख के भेस में सुख
13. B) **Break** (verb) – To separate into parts, often violently, cause to disintegrate, snap. तोड़ना
- Antonym: **Mend** (verb) – To repair, fix, put right, restore. मरम्मत करना
- **Divide** (verb) – To separate or be separated into parts. विभाजित करना
 - **Split** (verb) – To break or cause to break forcibly into parts. विभाजन करना
 - **reach** (noun/verb) – An act of breaking or failing to observe a law, agreement, or code of conduct. उल्लंघन/तोड़ना
14. C) **Cemetery** (noun) – A place set aside for graves, tombs, or funeral urns, especially one that is not a churchyard; place of burial. कब्रिस्तान

- **Building** (noun) – A structure with a roof and walls, such as a house, school, store, or factory. **इमारत**
 - **Laboratory** (noun) – A room or building equipped for scientific experiments, research, or teaching, or for the manufacture of drugs or chemicals. **प्रयोगशाला**
 - **Observatory** (noun) – A building or structure providing an elevated place for observing astronomical events, weather, or the natural environment. **वेधशाला**
15. D) **Forthcoming** (adjective) – About to happen, upcoming, imminent, soon to be. **आगामी**
Antonym: **Past** (adjective) – Having happened or existed before the present time, earlier, bygone. **भूतकाल**
- **Large** (adjective) – Of considerable size, big, substantial, significant. **बड़ा**
 - **Extensive** (adjective) – Covering a large area; broad, widespread, wide-ranging. **व्यापक**
 - **Adventurous** (adjective) – Willing to take risks or to try out new methods, ideas, or experiences, bold, daring. **साहसिक**
16. B) 'will celebrating' के बदले 'will be celebrating' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'will' के बाद हमेशा verb की first form (base form) आती है या 'be + verb-ing' form आता है; जैसे— I will celebrate, or I will be celebrating.
- 'will be celebrating' will be used instead of 'will celebrating' because after 'will,' we always use the first form (base form) of the verb or the 'be + verb-ing' form; Like— I will celebrate, or I will be celebrating.
17. A) **paper on the dust bin** में त्रुटि है। 'on' के स्थान पर 'in' होना चाहिए जैसे की हम कहते हैं "dustbin में"। इसलिए सही वाक्य होगा "Why don't you throw this paper in the dust bin?"
- The error is in 'paper on the dust bin'. The correct preposition to use here is 'in' rather than 'on'. So, the correct sentence should be "Why don't you throw this paper in the dust bin?"
18. D) **Beat around the bush** (idiom) – To avoid addressing a topic correctly **घुमा-फिराकर बात करना**
19. D) '**Homage**' को चुनना चाहिए क्योंकि "homage" का अर्थ होता है किसी की सम्मान या आदर में दी जाने वाली श्रद्धांजलि। वाक्य में बताया गया है कि उसकी कहानियाँ उसकी माँ को सम्मान देती थीं, जिसे वह साहस की देवी मानती थी, इसलिए 'Homage' यहाँ पर सही है। जबकि 'Frustration' का अर्थ है आसंतोष या निराशा, 'Sainthood' का अर्थ है संतता और 'Absoluteness' का अर्थ है पूर्णता, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।
- **Homage** should be chosen because it means a special honor or respect shown publicly. The sentence indicates that her stories paid respect to her mother, whom she saw as a goddess of bravery, making 'Homage' appropriate here. On the other hand, 'Frustration' means dissatisfaction or upset, 'Sainthood' refers to the state of being a saint, and 'Absoluteness' means completeness, which don't fit in this context.
20. A) **Amicable** (adjective) – Characterized by friendliness and absence of discord, cordial, warm, harmonious. **मैत्रीपूर्ण**

Synonym: Friendly (adjective) – Kind, warm-hearted, affable, amiable. मित्रवत

- **Proud** (adjective) – Having a high opinion of oneself, arrogant, haughty. अभिमानी
- **Generous** (adjective) – Showing kindness towards others, magnanimous, liberal, charitable. उदार
- **Harsh** (adjective) – Unpleasantly rough or jarring, severe, stern. कठोर

21. D) **Grazing**' का उपयोग होगा क्योंकि "grazing" का अर्थ होता है घास चरना। Sentence में mention किया गया है कि लड़का गाँव की भेड़ों की देखभाल करता था जो पहाड़ी पर थीं। भेड़ें घास चरती हैं, इसलिए 'Grazing' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Laughing' का अर्थ होता है हंसना, 'Receiving' का अर्थ है प्राप्त करना, और 'Assisting' का अर्थ है सहायता करना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- '**Grazing**' should be used because it means to feed on growing grass. The sentence mentions that the boy watched over the village sheep which were on the hillside. Sheep eat grass, making 'grazing' the correct term here. Whereas, 'Laughing' means to express mirth, 'Receiving' means to get or take, and 'Assisting' means to give support, which don't fit in this context.

22. D) '**running up**' का use होगा क्योंकि जब लड़का ने "Wolf! Wolf!" चिल्लाया, तो गांववाले तेजी से पहाड़ी की ओर दौड़े ताकि वे भेड़ों को बचा सकें। इसलिए 'running up' सबसे सही विकल्प है जो वे तेजी से पहाड़ी की ओर दौड़ते हुए आए थे। 'driving' का अर्थ होता है गाड़ी चलाना, 'walking down' का अर्थ होता है धीरे-धीरे नीचे जाना, और 'running down' का अर्थ है तेजी से नीचे जाना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- '**running up**' should be used because when the boy cried out "Wolf! Wolf!", the villagers would have quickly rushed towards the hill to save the sheep. Thus, 'running up' is the most appropriate option suggesting they came hurrying up the hill. 'driving' implies operating a vehicle, 'walking down' suggests a slow descent, and 'running down' indicates moving rapidly downwards, which don't fit in this context.

23. A) **Frightened**' का use होगा क्योंकि "frightened" का अर्थ होता है डरा हुआ। पूरे context में बार-बार लोमड़ी के आने की चिल्लाने की बात हो रही है, इसलिए boy की चिल्लाने वाली आवाज 'frightened' हो सकती है। इसलिए 'Frightened' यहाँ सही है। जबकि 'Muffled' का अर्थ है धीमा या आवाज को कम कर देना, 'laughable' और 'funny' का अर्थ है हंसी आने वाला, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- '**Frightened**' should be used because it means scared or fearful. Given the context where the boy keeps crying out about the wolf, his shout can be described as 'frightened'. Thus, 'Frightened' is the correct choice here. Whereas 'Muffled' implies a sound that is muted or softened, 'laughable' and 'funny' mean something that can cause laughter, which aren't fitting in this context.

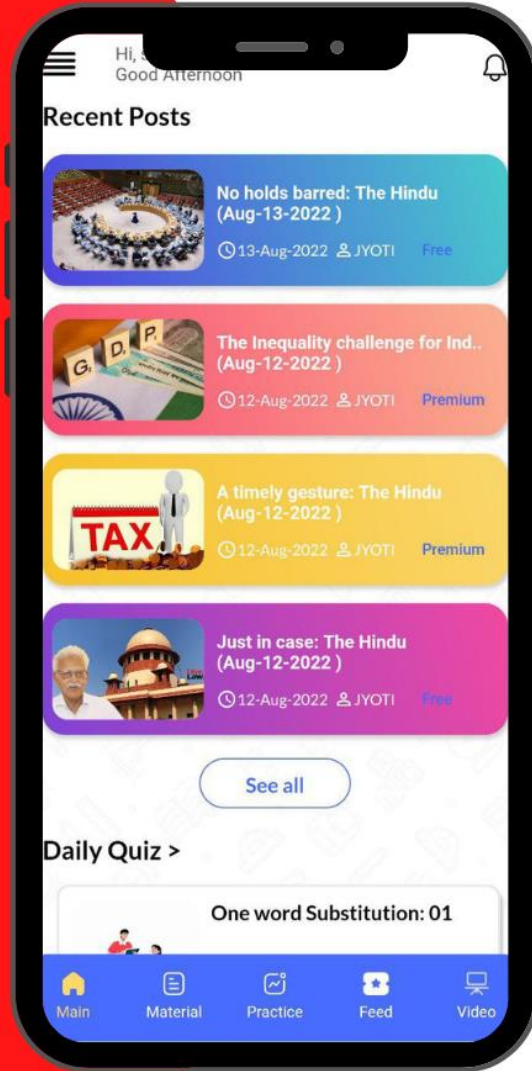
24. A) '**Fooling**' का use होगा क्योंकि लड़के ने पहले गांव वालों को धोखा दिया था जब वह झूठा चिल्ला रहा था कि भेड़िया आ रहा है। इसलिए, जब लड़का फिर से चिल्ला रहा था, गांव वाले सोच रहे थे कि वह उन्हें फिर से धोखा दे रहा है। इस context में 'fooling' अर्थात् धोखा देना सही है। 'Questioning' का अर्थ

है प्रश्न करना, 'Fighting' का अर्थ है लड़ाई करना, और 'Seeing' का अर्थ है देखना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है

- **Fooling** should be used because the boy had deceived the villagers earlier by falsely crying out about the presence of a wolf. Therefore, when the boy cried out again, the villagers believed he was trying to deceive or 'fool' them once more. In this context, 'fooling' meaning deceiving is appropriate. Whereas, 'Questioning' means to ask, 'Fighting' means to combat, and 'Seeing' means to observe, which don't fit in this context.

25. D) **Weeping** का use होगा क्योंकि 'weeping' का अर्थ होता है रोना। जब बाकी सभी भेड़ मर गई थीं, तो लड़का उदास हो सकता है और उसे दुःख हो सकता है। इसलिए, यहां 'weeping' सही है। 'Singing' का अर्थ है गाना गाना, 'Happy' का अर्थ है खुश होना और 'Dancing' का अर्थ है नाचना, जो इस context में सही नहीं है।

- **Weeping** should be used because it means crying. Given all the sheep were dead, the boy might be sad and distressed. Therefore, 'weeping' is the correct choice here. 'Singing' means to sing, 'Happy' means being joyful, and 'Dancing' means to dance, which don't fit in this context.



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