

## Mindless bombing: On the U.S. and Nigeria bombings

Trump's military **strikes** and religious **rhetoric will** worsen situation in Nigeria

On Christmas Day, Nigeria became the latest target of U.S. President Donald Trump's bombing **spree**. Mr. Trump had earlier claimed that Christians were facing "**genocide**" — an allegation Abuja has strongly rejected. The U.S. targeted two **alleged** Islamic State camps in Sokoto, a northwestern State. During last year's presidential campaign, he had repeatedly criticised what he called America's "forever wars". He **styled** himself as the 'President of peace', taking **credit** for ending several conflicts, including the **combat** between India and Pakistan. In reality, however, Mr. Trump is little different from his **predecessors**, who **deployed** America's **military might at will** against weaker nations. Since returning to office, Mr. Trump has bombed Yemen, Syria, Somalia and Iran. He is also **overseeing** an ongoing bombing campaign off the Venezuelan coast, targeting civilian boats for 'carrying drugs'. In Nigeria's case, Mr. Trump has **fused** military aggression with religion **in an apparent bid to** appeal to his Christian base. While he **insists** that his actions are **aimed at** protecting Nigeria's Christians, the realities are complex.

Nigeria's 237 million people are roughly divided between Muslims, who **predominantly** live in the north, and Christians, who are **concentrated** in the south. In recent years, there has been a **surge** in Islamist militancy, particularly in the north. Two major **Islamist groups** — Boko Haram and the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) — **operate** mostly in the northeast and northwest. The **collapse** of state institutions, porous borders and free flow of weapons have **turned** the Lake Chad region **into a hotbed of jihadist** activity. Boko Haram and ISWAP, along with the Islamic State Sahel Province, target both state **apparatuses** and local populations, regardless of their faith. In northern Nigeria, Muslims are the primary victims of Islamist violence. **U.S. policies** towards the region **have** also contributed to the spread of jihadist activity in West Africa and the Sahel. The NATO-led **bombing** that toppled Libya's Gaddafi **regime** in 2011 **unleashed** armed fighters and weapons across the region. What Africa needs is a **coherent** regional **counter-terrorism** strategy, focused on building state capacity at the local level and **enhancing** ground level cooperation against jihadist groups. The U.S. should play the role of a **facilitator**, not an **arsonist**. Such a strategy is **conspicuously** absent today. Worse, repeated **coups** and state collapses have created a **vacuum** which the jihadists are **eager to exploit**. Mr. Trump's **episodic** military strikes, along with religious rhetoric, risk **worsening** the ground situation, ultimately benefiting the very forces he claims to be fighting. **[Practice exercise]**

- **Vacuum** (noun) – a situation from which something is missing or lacking खालीपन
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.

## Vocabulary

1. **Mindless** (adjective) – Senseless, irrational, thoughtless, heedless बेतुका
2. **Strike** (noun) – Attack, raid, foray, incursion हमला
3. **Rhetoric** (noun) – oratory, eloquence, grandiloquence, expression, discourse वाकपटुता
4. **Spree** (noun) – a short period of doing something in an extreme way without control मौज-मस्ती या अति
5. **Genocide** (noun) – deliberate and systematic killing or destruction of a particular group of people नरसंहार
6. **Alleged** (adjective) – Supposed, claimed, purported, asserted, presumed कथित
7. **Style** (verb) – designate, label, entitle, address, dub संबोधित करना या नाम देना
8. **Credit** (noun) – an act of saying that somebody has done something well श्रेय
9. **Combat** (noun) – battle, conflict, clash, skirmish, hostilities युद्ध या लड़ाई
10. **Predecessor** (noun) – ancestors, precursors, antecedents, forefathers, forerunners पूर्वज या पूर्ववर्ती
11. **Deploy** (verb) – station, position, install, utilize, distribute तैनात करना
12. **Military might** (phrase) – collective physical strength and weaponry of a nation's armed forces सैन्य शक्ति
13. **At will** (idiom) – at whatever time or in whatever way one pleases. अपनी इच्छा से
14. **Oversee** (verb) – supervise, manage, monitor, administer, regulate निरीक्षण करना
15. **Fuse** (verb) – blend, meld, amalgamate, coalesce, integrate जोड़ना या मिलाना
16. **In a bid to** (phrase) – In an attempt to; in order to कोशिश में
17. **Apparent** (adjective) – obvious, evident, clear, manifest, plain स्पष्ट
18. **Insist** (verb) – Demand forcefully to have something. मांगना
19. **Aim at** (phrasal verb) – to intend to achieve a particular goal or target a specific group. लक्ष्य साधना
20. **Predominantly** (adverb) – mainly, chiefly, primarily, principally, mostly मुख्य रूप से
21. **Concentrate** (verb) – cluster, gather, amass, congregate, center केंद्रित होना
22. **Surge** (noun) – upswing, escalation, rise, growth, outbreak अचानक वृद्धि
23. **Collapse** (noun) – breakdown, downfall, failure, disintegration, ruin गिरावट या पतन

24. **Turn into** (phrasal verb) – to change or develop into something different. में बदल जाना
25. **Hotbed** (noun) – breeding ground, nest, den, cradle, fount गढ़ या अड्डा
26. **Jihadist** (noun) – a person who uses violence in the name of religion कट्टरपंथी लड़ाका
27. **Apparatus** (noun) – machinery, structure, system, organization, framework तंत्र या उपकरण
28. **Regime** (noun) – administration, government, authority, rule, system शासन
29. **Unleash** (verb) – to let happen or begin something powerful that, once begun, cannot be controlled शुरू करना
30. **Coherent** (adjective) – logical, consistent, lucid, rational, systematic सुसंगत या स्पष्ट
31. **Counter-terrorism** (noun) – actions and strategies used by governments or organisations to prevent, stop or fight terrorism आतंकवाद विरोधी कार्रवाई / सशस्त्र आतंकवाद विरोधी उपाय
32. **Enhance** (verb) – improve, boost, increase, augment, amplify बढ़ाना
33. **Facilitator** (noun) – enabler, assistant, coordinator, promoter, helper सहायक या मार्गदर्शक
34. **Arsonist** (noun) – incendiary, pyromaniac, firebrand, agitator, instigator आग लगाने वाला
35. **Conspicuously** (adverb) – noticeably, prominently, overtly, clearly, visibly प्रत्यक्ष रूप से
36. **Coup** (noun) – overthrow, takeover, putsch, revolution, deposition तख्तापलट
37. **Eager** (to) (adjective) – keen, enthusiastic, impatient, zealous, anxious उत्सुक
38. **Exploit** (verb) – Use (a situation) in an unfair or selfish way. अनुचित लाभ उठाना
39. **Episodic** (adjective) – sporadic, occasional, patchy, intermittent, fitful छिटपुट
40. **Worsen** (verb) – deteriorate, exacerbate, decline, aggravate, degenerate खराब करना

## Summary of the Editorial

1. The editorial criticises recent U.S. bombing in Nigeria ordered under President **Donald Trump**, calling it reckless and counterproductive.
2. The strike was carried out on Christmas Day, targeting alleged Islamic State camps in Nigeria's Sokoto State.
3. Trump justified the attack by claiming that Christians in Nigeria were facing "genocide," a charge firmly rejected by the Nigerian government.
4. During his election campaign, Trump projected himself as a leader opposed to America's "forever wars" and as a so-called "President of peace."
5. In practice, his actions mirror those of earlier U.S. presidents who frequently used military force against weaker nations.
6. Since returning to office, Trump has ordered bombings in Yemen, Syria, Somalia, Iran, and off the Venezuelan coast.
7. In Nigeria, military intervention has been combined with religious rhetoric aimed at appealing to his Christian support base.
8. Nigeria's population is almost evenly divided between Muslims (mainly in the north) and Christians (mainly in the south).
9. Islamist militancy has grown sharply in northern Nigeria, driven by weak state institutions and unchecked arms flow.
10. Groups such as **Boko Haram** and **Islamic State West Africa Province** target both Muslims and Christians, with Muslims often being the main victims.
11. The Lake Chad region has become a centre of jihadist activity due to porous borders and institutional collapse.
12. Past Western interventions, including the **NATO** bombing of **Libya** that removed **Muammar Gaddafi**, worsened instability across the Sahel.
13. Africa needs a coherent regional counter-terrorism strategy focused on strengthening local state capacity and cooperation.
14. The U.S. should act as a facilitator supporting regional solutions, rather than escalating violence through unilateral strikes.
15. Trump's episodic bombings and religious framing risk worsening the situation and ultimately strengthening jihadist forces instead of weakening them.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What can be reasonably inferred about Donald Trump's foreign policy approach from the passage?** [Editorial page]
  - A. He has completely withdrawn the U.S. from overseas military engagements
  - B. His actions contradict his self-image as a peace-oriented leader
  - C. His military interventions are limited only to counter-terrorism objectives
  - D. His policies have successfully stabilized conflict-prone regions
2. **From the discussion of violence in northern Nigeria, what inference can be drawn about the victims of Islamist militancy?**
  - A. Violence is primarily targeted at Christians in southern Nigeria
  - B. Both religious communities are affected, but Muslims suffer more casualties
  - C. Islamist groups selectively avoid attacking Muslim populations
  - D. The violence is entirely a result of recent U.S. airstrikes
3. **What underlying assumption supports the author's criticism of U.S. military involvement in West Africa?**
  - A. External military force is sufficient to defeat jihadist groups
  - B. Religious identity is the sole driver of conflict in Nigeria
  - C. Sustainable security depends on regional cooperation and state capacity
  - D. Jihadist violence would end if leadership changes occurred in the U.S.
4. **What can be inferred about the use of religious rhetoric by Donald Trump in relation to Nigeria, as discussed in the passage?**
  - A. It accurately reflects the primary cause of violence in Nigeria
  - B. It simplifies a complex conflict to appeal to a specific domestic audience
  - C. It has helped unify Nigerian society against Islamist groups
  - D. It has been endorsed by the Nigerian government as a valid justification
5. **What broader conclusion can be drawn about the impact of past international interventions in the region, particularly after 2011?**
  - A. They permanently dismantled jihadist networks in West Africa
  - B. They strengthened state institutions across the Sahel
  - C. They unintentionally facilitated the spread of militancy and weapons
  - D. They had little to no effect on regional security dynamics
6. **Benita: I had such a terrible fight with Samira last night. I can't believe what I said.**  
Richard: I don't need to hear all about it. Some things are better left unsaid.  
What does Richard mean when he says, "Some things are better left unsaid"?
  - A. Some things should remain private and not be spoken about.
  - B. Everything should always be openly discussed.
  - C. Speaking about problems will always make them worse.
  - D. none of the above
7. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**  
The new encryption protocol is capable for thwarting (1)/ sophisticated cyber-intrusions that were previously considered (2)/ impervious to defensive measures (3)/ according to recent white-paper findings. (4)/
  - A. (1)
  - B. (2)

- C. (3)  
D. (4)
8. **Choose the correct one-word substitution for the italicized part:**  
Ravi has always been a person who vehemently opposes authority, control, or tradition, often challenging every rule set before him.  
A. Conformist  
B. Anarchist  
C. Optimist  
D. Traditionalist
9. **Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: Not worth his salt**  
A. Lacking in courage  
B. Too proud to work  
C. Undeserving of the pay/respect he gets  
D. none of the above
10. **Fill in the blank with the correctly spelt word.**  
His \_\_\_\_\_ remarks showed a blatant disregard for professional courtesy.  
A. caustic  
B. causetic  
C. causetic  
D. causticc
11. **Select the most appropriate SYNONYM of the word "Volatility."**  
A. Stability  
B. Permanence  
C. Instability  
D. Uniformity
12. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the word "Sanguine."**  
A. Hopeful  
B. Optimistic  
C. Pessimistic  
D. Confident
13. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**  
The HR head made the assistant resubmitting (1)/ all the documentation after discovering (2)/ a discrepancy in the date of joining (3)/ for three contractual employees. (4)  
A. (1)  
B. (2)  
C. (3)  
D. (4)
14. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word: FRUGAL**  
A. Lavish  
B. Thrifty  
C. Extravagant  
D. Wasteful
15. **Fill in the blank with the correctly spelt word.**  
The new theory was dismissed as \_\_\_\_\_ by the mainstream scientific community.

- A. prepostrous  
B. preposterous  
C. preposturous  
D. preposteruos
16. **Change the following from active to passive:**  
They will have opened the new airport by 2026.  
A. The new airport will have been opened by 2026.  
B. The new airport will be opened by 2026.  
C. The new airport has been opened by 2026.  
D. The new airport will being opened by 2026.
17. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**  
'The study of human races, origins, and societies'.  
A. Anthropology  
B. Archaeology  
C. Ethnology  
D. Sociology
18. **Convert the sentence provided below from its passive voice structure to an active voice structure:**  
The decision was expected to be made by the council after further review.  
A. The council expected making a decision after review.  
B. It was expected that the council would make the decision after review.  
C. The council made the decision as was expected.  
D. The council was expected to have made the decision
19. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word: EFFRONTERY**  
A. Audacity  
B. Shyness  
C. Courtesy  
D. Modesty
20. **Select the sentence containing the homonym of the highlighted word:**  
The illuminated antiphonary contained Advent chants.  
A. The singer read directly from the antiphonary.  
B. The musicologist translated a medieval antiphonary.  
C. The engineer downloaded an antiphonary for circuit patterns.  
D. The archivist restored the parchment antiphonary.

**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.

Everyone sets goals for personal growth, increased happiness and fulfilment. While \_\_\_\_\_(1)\_\_\_\_\_ different goals and aspirations, it is completely normal to experience bouts of low motivation which can get in the way of the ability to stay on track. Usually something will come as a motivation to make an initial change. However, at some point, this motivation fades. At this stage, discipline, as a silent, consistent, and trusted ally, keeps one going. Unlike motivation, discipline is not linked to emotions. Instead, it \_\_\_\_\_(2)\_\_\_\_\_ the ability to push forward and take action regardless \_\_\_\_\_(3)\_\_\_\_\_ how one may be feeling. Practising

discipline is critical as it allows one to feel more in control of life. Empowering one with a physical and mental shield to \_\_\_\_\_(4)\_\_\_\_\_through testing times, a disciplined lifestyle shapes character and helps achieve long-term goals and excellence. As Aristotle put it, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, \_\_\_(5)\_\_\_not an act, but a habit."

21. **What should come in the place of 1.**

- A. accomplish
- B. accomplishing
- C. accomplished
- D. accomplishes

22. **What should come in the place of 2.**

- A. embodied
- B. embodying
- C. embody
- D. embodies

23. **What should come in the place of 3.**

- A. at
- B. for
- C. to
- D. of

24. **What should come in the place of 4.**

- A. derail
- B. steer
- C. vilify
- D. berate

25. **What should come in the place of 5.**

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

## Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

## Explanations

- B. His actions contradict his self-image as a peace-oriented leader  
 B is correct because the passage highlights a clear contradiction between Trump's claim of being a "President of peace" and his continued bombing of multiple countries, indicating inconsistency between rhetoric and action.

  - A is incorrect since the passage explicitly lists several countries where U.S. bombings have occurred.
  - C is incorrect because the text suggests motives beyond counter-terrorism, including political and religious appeals
  - D is incorrect as the passage argues that such interventions worsen instability rather than resolve it.
- B. Both religious communities are affected, but Muslims suffer more casualties  
 B is correct because the passage states that Islamist groups target local populations regardless of faith, and explicitly notes that Muslims are the primary victims in northern Nigeria.

  - A is incorrect as the passage refutes the idea of exclusive Christian victimhood.
  - C is incorrect since Islamist groups are described as attacking indiscriminately.
  - D is incorrect because militancy is traced to deeper structural causes such as state collapse and regional instability.
- C. Sustainable security depends on regional cooperation and state capacity  
 C is correct because the passage advocates a regional counter-terrorism strategy focused on strengthening local institutions and cooperation, implying this is key to lasting stability.

  - A is incorrect as the author criticizes episodic military strikes as ineffective.
  - B is incorrect since the passage emphasizes political, institutional, and historical factors beyond religion.
  - D is incorrect because the problem is presented as structural and regional, not dependent on a single leader.
- B. It simplifies a complex conflict to appeal to a specific domestic audience  
 B is correct because the passage suggests that Trump's framing of the issue as a "genocide" against Christians ignores the complex realities on the ground and appears aimed at appealing to his Christian support base.

  - A is incorrect since the passage emphasizes that violence affects people regardless of faith and is rooted in broader structural issues.
  - C is incorrect because the rhetoric is portrayed as divisive rather than unifying.
  - D is incorrect as Abuja is said to have strongly rejected the genocide allegation.
- C. They unintentionally facilitated the spread of militancy and weapons  
 C is correct because the passage links the NATO-led intervention in Libya in 2011 to the uncontrolled spread of fighters and weapons, which intensified jihadist activity across West Africa and the Sahel.

  - A is incorrect as jihadist groups are described as expanding rather than weakening.

- B is incorrect because the text highlights state collapse and institutional weakness, not strengthening.
  - D is incorrect since the intervention is portrayed as having significant and destabilizing consequences.
6. B) **Some things should remain private and not be spoken about.**  
 Richard का वाक्य “Some things are better left unsaid” यह दर्शाता है कि कुछ बातें ऐसी होती हैं जिन्हें कहने से बेहतर है न कहा जाए। यहाँ Richard यह संकेत दे रहा है कि Benita और Samira के झगड़े की पूरी जानकारी सुनना ज़रूरी नहीं है, क्योंकि कुछ व्यक्तिगत या भावनात्मक बातें निजी ही रहनी चाहिए। इसलिए सही अर्थ है कि कुछ बातें गोपनीय रहनी चाहिए और उन्हें व्यक्त नहीं करना चाहिए।  
 When Richard says “Some things are better left unsaid,” he means that certain matters are better kept private rather than talked about. In this context, Richard suggests that hearing every detail of the fight is unnecessary, as some personal or emotional issues are better not discussed openly. Hence, the correct interpretation is that some things should remain private and not be spoken about.
7. 'capable for' के बदले '**capable of**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि capable के बाद हमेशा preposition of आता है, न कि for।  
 In English  
 The adjective “capable” is always followed by the preposition “of”, not “for”.  
 Correct sentence:  
 The new encryption protocol is capable of thwarting sophisticated cyber-intrusions that were previously considered impervious to defensive measures, according to recent white-paper findings.  
 Other Option Analysis  
 (2) were previously considered → correct tense and structure  
 (3) impervious to defensive measures → correct collocation  
 (4) according to recent white-paper findings → correct usage
8. B) **Anarchist** (noun) – a person who strongly opposes authority or established order प्राधिकारी-विरोधी / अराजकता समर्थक
- **Conformist** (noun) – one who accepts established rules and customs परंपरा-अनुकूल व्यक्ति
  - **Optimist** (noun) – one who tends to expect the best आशावादी
  - **Traditionalist** (noun) – one who follows old customs and traditions पारंपरिक विचार वाला व्यक्ति
9. C) **Not worth his salt** (idiom) – Undeserving of the pay/respect he gets, incompetent, ineffective, not deserving of one’s position  
 योग्यता के लायक न होना / अपनी तनख्वाह या सम्मान के योग्य न होना  
 Other Idioms
- Chicken hearted - Lacking in courage कायर / साहस की कमी वाला

- To think oneself too proud for - Too proud to work खुद को काम से ऊपर समझना
10. A) 'caustic' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि यह शब्द तीखे, कटु या व्यंग्यात्मक शब्दों के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है, जो यहाँ "professional courtesy" के प्रति उपेक्षा को स्पष्ट करता है। अन्य विकल्पों में वर्तनी त्रुटि है, इसलिए वे गलत हैं।
- 'Caustic' should be used because it correctly means sharp, biting, or sarcastic in tone, which fits the context of remarks showing disregard for professional courtesy. The other options are misspellings, hence incorrect.
11. C) **Volatility** (noun) – The tendency to change rapidly and unpredictably. अस्थिरता  
Synonym: **Instability** (noun) – Lack of steadiness or consistency. अस्थिरता
- **Stability** (noun) – The state of being steady. स्थिरता
  - **Permanence** (noun) – Lasting forever. स्थायित्व
  - **Uniformity** (noun) – Lack of variation. एकरूपता
12. C) **Sanguine** (adjective) – Optimistic or positive, especially in difficult situations. आशावादी  
Antonym: **Pessimistic** (adjective) – Expecting the worst outcome. निराशावादी
- **Hopeful** (adjective) – Feeling optimism. आशावान
  - **Optimistic** (adjective) – Expecting positive results. आशावादी
  - **Confident** (adjective) – Feeling sure of success. आत्मविश्वासी
13. A) (1) में error है क्योंकि 'made' एक causative verb है और causative verb के बाद हमेशा verb की base form (V1) आती है, न कि 'ing' form. यहाँ 'resubmitting' के स्थान पर 'resubmit' का प्रयोग होगा।
- Causative verb 'made' के बाद V1 का प्रयोग होता है, इसलिए 'resubmit' सही रूप है, न कि 'resubmitting'।
- In English  
The error is in (1) because the verb made is a causative verb, and after a causative verb we always use the base form (V1) of the verb, not the -ing form.  
So resubmitting should be resubmit.
- After the causative verb made, the base form resubmit must be used, therefore resubmitting is incorrect.
14. B) **Thrifty**
- Frugal** (adjective) – Economical, careful with money, sparing, prudent मितव्ययी  
Synonym: **Thrifty** (adjective) – Using money carefully, economical, saving किरफायती
- **Lavish** (adjective) – Spending or giving generously, luxurious फ़िज़ूलखर्च
  - **Extravagant** (adjective) – Excessive spending, wasteful, over-the-top अत्यधिक खर्चीला
  - **Wasteful** (adjective) – Using more than necessary, careless with resources अपव्ययी

15. B) **preposterous** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में sentence किसी नई theory को “बेतुका/अतार्किक” बताकर खारिज किए जाने की बात कर रहा है। “Preposterous” का सही अर्थ भी “absurd, ridiculous, illogical” होता है। अन्य सभी विकल्पों की spellings गलत हैं। इसलिए “preposterous” सबसे उपयुक्त और सही-spelt विकल्प होगा।
- ‘Preposterous’ should be used because in the entire context, the sentence is referring to a new theory being rejected as “absurd/illogical.” The meaning of “preposterous” aligns with “ridiculous or illogical,” and all other options are incorrectly spelt. Thus, “preposterous” is the most appropriate and correctly spelled choice.
16. B) **The new airport will have been opened by 2026**
- 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 “They” Subject है, “will have opened” Verb (Future Perfect) है और “the new airport” Object है। Passive में बदलने पर Object “The new airport” Subject बन गया है, Verb को “will have been opened” (Future Perfect Passive) में बदला गया है और “by them” के रूप में प्रयोग किया गया 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 changed from its active form to the passive form, while keeping the same tense.  
In this sentence:  
“They” → Subject  
“will have opened” → Verb (Future Perfect Tense)  
“the new airport” → Object  
“by 2026” → Time expression  
After conversion:  
“The new airport” → Subject  
“will have been opened” → Passive verb (Future Perfect)  
“by 2026” → Time expression  
“by them” → Agent (optional)  
Hence, the correct passive sentence is:  
The new airport will have been opened by 2026.  
Correct option: (1)  
Other Option Analysis:  
Option (2): “will be opened” → Future Simple, tense changes.  
Option (3): “has been opened” → Present Perfect, tense mismatch with future time reference.  
Option (4): “will be opened” → grammatically incorrect (wrong verb structure).
17. C) **Ethnology** (noun) – The study of human races, their origins, cultures, and societies मानव जातियों, उनकी उत्पत्ति और संस्कृतियों का अध्ययन
- **Anthropology** (noun) – the scientific study of humans, human behaviour, and societies in the past and present मानव और उसके विकास का अध्ययन

- **Archaeology** (noun) – the study of human history through excavation of sites and analysis of artefacts पुरातत्व
- **Sociology** (noun) – the study of society, social relationships, and institutions समाजशास्त्र

18. B) **It was expected that the council would make the decision after review**

The decision was expected to be made by the council after further review' एक Passive Voice वाक्य है। Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए Passive वाक्य का Agent (by + doer) Active वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Passive वाक्य में "The decision" Subject है, "was expected to be made" Passive संरचना है और "by the council" Agent है। Active Voice में बदलने पर Agent "the council" Subject बन जाता है, और वाक्य को प्राकृतिक Active संरचना देने के लिए इसे "It was expected that the council would make the decision after review" के रूप में बदला जाता है। इसलिए Option B सही है।

In English

To convert from passive to active:

The agent in the passive sentence (the council) becomes the subject of the active sentence.

The verb structure changes from Passive Infinitive to appropriate active construction: was expected to be made → would make.

"The decision" remains the object, now embedded in a that-clause.

Other Option Analysis:

Option 1 → Incorrect verb form ("expected making") and loses proper tense.

Option 3 → Changes meaning; implies the decision is already made.

Option 4 → Still passive; does not convert to active voice.

19. B) **Effrontery** (noun) – Shameless boldness or impudence; brazenness, nerve. ढिठाई, निर्लज्जता

Synonym: **Audacity** (noun) – Boldness or daring, especially with confident disregard for propriety; nerve. साहस, ढिठाई

- **Shyness** (noun) – Timidity, lack of confidence. संकोच
- **Courtesy** (noun) – Politeness, good manners. शिष्टाचार
- **Modesty** (noun) – Humility, lack of boastfulness. विनमता

20. . C) **'antiphony'** का प्रयोग यहाँ इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स/सर्किट पैटर्न से संबंधित फ़ाइल या स्रोत के अर्थ में किया गया है, जो मूल वाक्य में प्रयुक्त 'antiphony' (चर्च में गाए जाने वाले भजनों/चैंट्स का संग्रह) से पूरी तरह अलग अर्थ रखता है। इसलिए यह homonym का सही उदाहरण है।

- 'antiphony' is used here to mean a technical or engineering-related resource, which is different in meaning from the highlighted use where antiphony refers to a liturgical book of chants. Since the spelling and pronunciation are the same but meanings differ, option C is correct.

21. . B) **'accomplishing'** का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ subject "While" के बाद verb का -ing form चाहिए ताकि यह दिखा सके कि लोग अलग-अलग goals और aspirations को प्राप्त करते हुए भी low

motivation feel कर सकते हैं। इसलिए gerund/participle form "accomplishing" सही है। जबकि 'accomplish' (verb base form) structure में fit नहीं बैठता, 'accomplished' (past participle, यानी पूरा किया हुआ) sense गलत देता है, और 'accomplishes' (singular present verb) subject के साथ grammatical match नहीं करता।

- 'accomplishing' will be used because after "while," the gerund form (-ing verb) is required to show the ongoing action of people having/achieving different goals. It makes the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

Whereas, 'accomplish' (base verb) does not fit the structure, 'accomplished' (past participle) changes the meaning to already completed, and 'accomplishes' (singular present tense verb) mismatches the subject and is grammatically incorrect.

22. . D) **Embodies'** का use होगा क्योंकि subject "discipline" singular है और Present Simple Tense में singular subject के साथ verb में -s/-es लगता है। यहाँ बात की जा रही है कि discipline हमेशा यह ability दर्शाता है, इसलिए "embodies" सही है। जबकि 'embody' base form है जो plural subject या modal verb के बाद आता है, 'embodied' past tense है और sentence का tense बिगाड़ देगा, और 'embodying' participle form है जो continuous sense देता है, जो यहाँ context से मेल नहीं खाता।

- 'Embodies' will be used because the subject "discipline" is singular, and in Present Simple Tense a singular subject takes the verb with -s/-es. The sentence means that discipline always shows this ability, so "embodies" is correct. Whereas, 'embody' is the base form used with plural subjects or after modals, 'embodied' is past tense which would break the tense consistency, and 'embodying' is a participle form implying continuity, which does not fit this context.

23. . D) **'of'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "regardless of" एक fixed prepositional phrase है जिसका अर्थ है "बिना परवाह किए"। Sentence में बताया गया है कि discipline action लेने की शक्ति देता है चाहे इंसान कैसा भी महसूस कर रहा हो, इसलिए यहाँ 'of' सही है। जबकि 'at' का प्रयोग स्थान/समय के लिए होता है, 'for' उद्देश्य दिखाने के लिए और 'to' दिशा या infinitive verb के साथ आता है, जो इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

- 'of' will be used because "regardless of" is a fixed phrase meaning "without considering." The sentence shows that discipline enables action no matter how one feels, so 'of' is correct. Whereas 'at' is used for place/time, 'for' for purpose, and 'to' for direction or infinitive verbs, which don't fit here.

24. B) **'steer'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "steer" का अर्थ है किसी दिशा में मार्गदर्शन करना या आगे बढ़ाना। यहाँ sentence में कहा गया है कि अनुशासन व्यक्ति को एक मानसिक और शारीरिक ढाल प्रदान करता है ताकि कठिन समयों से गुजर सके। इसलिए 'steer through testing times' (कठिन समयों से मार्गदर्शन करना/पार करना) सही है।

जबकि 'derail' (पटरी से उतारना) नकारात्मक है और context के विपरीत है, 'vilify' (बदनाम करना) और 'berate' (डांटना) का अर्थ निंदा से जुड़ा है जो यहाँ बिल्कुल असंगत है।

- 'steer' will be used because it means to guide or move in a particular direction. The sentence explains that discipline empowers a person with a shield to steer through testing times (successfully move through challenges). Whereas, 'derail' means to throw off course, which is negative and opposite in meaning, 'vilify' means to defame, and 'berate' means to scold, both of which are irrelevant in this context.

25. . D) 'is' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Aristotle का कथन Universal Truth को दर्शाता है और Universal Truth हमेशा Present Tense में ही व्यक्त किया जाता है। वाक्य का अर्थ है कि Excellence कोई एक बार का act नहीं बल्कि एक आदत है। जबकि 'was' का अर्थ है अतीत में होना, 'are' plural subject के लिए प्रयोग होता है, और 'were' past tense है—ये तीनों इस context में सही नहीं हैं।

- 'is' will be used because Aristotle's statement expresses a universal truth, and universal truths are always expressed in the present tense. The sentence means that excellence is not an act but a habit. Whereas 'was' means something in the past, 'are' is used for plural subjects, and 'were' is also past tense—so none of these fit in this context.



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