

SCO Summit: A win for India in Bishkek

Bishkek has offered a moment of **diplomatic convergence** - and a **reminder** that declarations are easier to sign than **geopolitical differences** are to resolve

The 26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit closed in Bishkek on September 1, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the other heads of state signing the Bishkek Declaration, marking the **bloc's** 25th anniversary. **Hosted** by Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov, the two-day summit brought together ten member states, fifteen partner countries and two observer nations. Prime Minister Modi's **agenda rested on** three **pillars** — security, connectivity and opportunity. On security, he **pressed for dismantling** the entire terror **ecosystem**: its financing, recruitment, **radicalisation** and the **safe havens** that **sustain** it, **insisting** there could be no double standards and that terrorism must never be treated as anyone's strategic asset. On connectivity, he **backed** regional trade and market integration, but only where it **respects sovereignty** and territorial **integrity** — a familiar Indian **caveat** aimed at projects such as China's Belt and Road corridor running through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. What gave the moment its **weight** was where it happened: Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif sat at the same table, invoking his own country's sacrifices against terrorism. Yet the Declaration still carried the **substance** India has **sought** for years — a strong, collective **condemnation** of terrorism in every form, rejection of double standards, and a call to **combat** the **cross-border** movement of terrorists.

That every **member**, Pakistan included, **signed** on to that language is the real story, even without naming any specific attack. Beyond the **rhetoric**, the summit delivered India **concrete** institutional gains: approval of a new Universal Centre for Countering Security Threats, an updated **protocol** on cross-border crime cooperation that **aids** the fight against narco-terrorism, **adoption** of English as an official SCO language, and hosting rights for the SCO Civilization Dialogue Forum this autumn — thirteen **outcomes** in all, by the Ministry of External Affairs' own count. The summit's **ambit** reached well beyond South Asia. The Declaration **condemned** the US-Israeli strikes on Iran as **violations** of international law and favoured a more **multipolar** order over **unilateral sanctions** — an SCO positioning itself against Western-led institutions. That sits **awkwardly** alongside India's own **recalibration**: a February trade deal cutting US tariffs from 50 per cent to 18 per cent came **bundled with** a commitment to **wind down** Russian oil purchases, even as Modi sat with Putin in Bishkek, reviewing the full spread of India-Russia ties, energy included. With Xi Jinping there was no scheduled bilateral, just a warm handshake — modest, but **consistent** with the **thaw** since Tianjin. The real test begins now. Later this month, Modi, Xi and Putin **reconvene** in New Delhi for the BRICS summit, a **sterner** test of whether Bishkek's **cordiality** survives contact with unresolved **friction** on the border and in trade. **Declaratory unity** against terrorism **has** been signed before, Pakistan included, without **reliably** converting into **extradition**, financial action or intelligence-sharing India can **point to**. Bishkek gave India better language. What New Delhi does with it will decide whether this was a turning point or one more **ritual** repeated on schedule.

[Practice Exercise]

Vocabulary

1. **Summit** (noun) - meeting, conference, assembly, conclave, gathering शिखर सम्मेलन
2. **Diplomatic** (adjective) - political, statecraft, tactical, negotiated, intergovernmental कूटनीतिक
3. **Convergence** (noun) - junction, meeting, coming together, intersection, union अभिसरण
4. **Reminder** (noun) - cue, prompt, memento, memo, memorial याद दिलाने वाली बात
5. **Geopolitical** (adjective) - related to the influence of geography on politics and international relations भू-राजनीतिक
6. **Difference** (noun) - dispute, disagreement, conflict, divergence, division मतभेद
7. **Resolve** (verb) - settle, solve, sort out, clear up, fix हल करना
8. **Bloc** (noun) - coalition, alliance, league, union, federation गुट
9. **Host** (verb) - organize, present, welcome, entertain, receive मेजबानी करना
10. **Agenda** (noun) - schedule, program, docket, plan, timetable कार्यसूची
11. **Rest on** (phrasal verb) - to depend on or be based on something आधारित होना
12. **Pillar** (noun) - foundation, support, base, column, mainstay स्तंभ
13. **Press for** (phrasal verb) - to strongly ask or demand for something के लिए जोर डालना
14. **Dismantle** (verb) - destroy, break down, demolish, take apart विघटन करना
15. **Ecosystem** (noun) - network, system, structure, environment, complex पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र
16. **Radicalisation** (noun) - indoctrination, extremism, fanaticism, polarization, brainwashing कट्टरपंथ
17. **Safe haven** (noun) - a place where you are protected from harm or danger सुरक्षित ठिकाना
18. **Sustain** (verb) - maintain, support, uphold, nourish, keep going बनाए रखना
19. **Insist** (verb) - assert, demand, maintain, persist, press जोर देना
20. **Back** (verb) - support, endorse, champion, advocate, promote समर्थन करना
21. **Respect** (verb) - honor, observe, obey, uphold, value सम्मान करना
22. **Sovereignty** (noun) - autonomy, supremacy, independence, dominion, freedom संप्रभुता
23. **Integrity** (noun) - unity, wholeness, uprightness, soundness, cohesion अखंडता
24. **Caveat** (noun) - warning, caution, proviso, stipulation, condition चेतावनी
25. **Weight** (noun) - importance, significance, gravity, influence, heft महत्व
26. **Substance** (noun) - essence, content, core, matter, reality सार
27. **Seek** (verb) - search for, look for, pursue, try to find, aim for तलाशना

28. **Condemnation** (noun) - censure, denunciation, criticism, disapproval, blame
निंदा
29. **Combat** (verb) - fight, battle, tackle, resist, counter मुकाबला करना
30. **Cross-border** (adjective) - transnational, international, trans-boundary, across borders, inter-state सीमा पार
31. **Rhetoric** (noun) - bombast, grandiloquence, oratory, speech, discourse बयानबाजी
32. **Concrete** (adjective) - solid, tangible, real, specific, substantial ठोस
33. **Protocol** (noun) - procedure, convention, agreement, treaty, code नियम
34. **Aid** (verb) - help, assist, support, facilitate, succor सहायता करना
35. **Adoption** (noun) - acceptance, approval, endorsement, embracing, ratification अपनाना
36. **Outcome** (noun) - result, consequence, effect, aftermath, conclusion परिणाम
37. **Ambit** (noun) - scope, range, boundary, purview, compass दायरा
38. **Condemn** (verb) - denounce, censure, criticize, decry, damn निंदा करना
39. **Violation** (noun) - breach, infraction, transgression, infringement, contravention उल्लंघन
40. **Multipolar** (adjective) - multi-centred, decentralized, distributed power, polycentric, many-sided बहुध्रुवीय
41. **Unilateral** (adjective) - one-sided, independent, single-party, unreciprocated, isolated एकतरफा
42. **Sanction** (noun) - penalty, restriction, embargo, punishment, prohibition प्रतिबंध
43. **Awkwardly** (adverb) - uncomfortably, clumsily, embarrassingly, inappropriately, strangely अजीबोगरीब तरीके से
44. **Recalibration** (noun) - readjustment, reassessment, realignment, restructuring, reevaluation पुनर्निर्धारण
45. **Bundle with** (phrasal verb) - to combine or package something together with another thing के साथ जोड़ा जाना
46. **Wind down** (phrasal verb) - to end gradually or in stages, or to cause something to end in this way कम करना
47. **Consistent** (adjective) - compatible, uniform, constant, steady, congruent संगत
48. **Thaw** (noun) - melting, softening, easing, warmth, reconciliation नरमी
49. **Reconvene** (verb) - reassemble, meet again, gather again, reunite, rejoin फिर से एकत्र होना
50. **Stern** (adjective) - stricter, harsher, more severe, tougher, rigid अधिक कठोर
51. **Cordiality** (noun) - warmth, friendliness, geniality, pleasantness, amiability सौहार्द
52. **Friction** (noun) - conflict, tension, discord, disagreement, clash तनाव
53. **Unity** (noun) - harmony, solidarity, cohesion, togetherness, union एकता

54. **Reliably** (adverb) - dependably, consistently, trustworthy, securely, steadily भरोसेमंद तरीके से
55. **Extradition** (noun) - deportation, handover, repatriation, delivering up, transit प्रत्यर्पण

56. **Point to** (phrasal verb) - to indicate, highlight, or refer to संकेत करना
57. **Ritual** (noun) - routine, custom, ceremony, practice, tradition कर्मकांड या औपचारिकता

Summary of the Editorial

1. The **26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit** concluded in Bishkek on September 1 with the signing of the **Bishkek Declaration**.
2. The summit brought together **10 member states, 15 partner countries and 2 observer nations**, marking the SCO's 25th anniversary.
3. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi's agenda** at the summit focused on three pillars: **security, connectivity and opportunity**.
4. On security, India strongly called for the **dismantling of the entire terrorism ecosystem**, including terrorist financing, recruitment, radicalisation and safe havens.
5. India stressed that there must be **no double standards** in dealing with terrorism and that terrorism should never be used as a **strategic asset**.
6. On connectivity, India supported regional trade and market integration but insisted that such projects must respect **national sovereignty and territorial integrity**.
7. This position indirectly addressed concerns over China's **Belt and Road Initiative**, particularly projects passing through **Pakistan-occupied Kashmir**.
8. Despite Pakistan's presence at the same table, the Bishkek Declaration included strong language **condemning terrorism in all forms**, rejecting double standards and opposing the cross-border movement of terrorists.
9. The fact that **Pakistan also signed the declaration** was significant for India, even though the document did not mention any specific terrorist attack.
10. India achieved several **institutional gains**, including approval of a centre for countering security threats, an updated protocol on cross-border crime and the adoption of **English as an official SCO language**.
11. The SCO also agreed to give India the opportunity to host the **SCO Civilization Dialogue Forum**, with the summit producing **13 outcomes** according to India's Ministry of External Affairs.
12. The summit also took positions on wider geopolitical issues, including condemning **U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran** and favouring a **multipolar world order** over unilateral sanctions.
13. India's position at the SCO shows a delicate balancing act: while maintaining close ties with **Russia and China**, India is simultaneously recalibrating its relationship with the **United States**, including through a trade agreement and reduced dependence on Russian oil.
14. Modi's interaction with **Xi Jinping** was limited to a warm handshake rather than a formal bilateral meeting, but it reflected the gradual **thaw in India-China relations**.
15. The editorial concludes that the real test lies ahead at the **BRICS summit in New Delhi**. Bishkek gave India stronger diplomatic language on terrorism, but only concrete action such as **extradition, financial measures and intelligence-sharing** will determine whether the summit becomes a genuine turning point or merely another diplomatic ritual.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What does the author imply by the statement "declarations are easier to sign than geopolitical differences are to resolve"?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. Formal agreements often lack the practical consensus required for solving deep-rooted disputes.
 - B. Diplomatic paperwork is frequently more complicated than the underlying historical tensions.
 - C. International summits are primarily designed to ignore friction rather than acknowledging it.
 - D. Technical consensus is impossible to achieve without first settling bilateral territorial claims.
2. **Which of the following best captures the central theme of the passage?**
 - A. The administrative expansion of the SCO through the inclusion of new official languages.
 - B. The logistical challenges of hosting a ten-member summit in the Central Asian territory.
 - C. The tension between diplomatic symbolism and the reality of unresolved regional frictions.
 - D. The strategic dominance of the Russia-China axis in redefining the global economic order.
3. **The tone of the passage can best be described as:**
 - A. Eulogistic
 - B. Analytical
 - C. Belligerent
 - D. Indifferent
4. **In context, the phrase "ritual repeated on schedule" most nearly means:**
 - A. A religious ceremony performed to ensure the success of a new international organization.
 - B. A mandatory security drill conducted by member states to test their counter-terror units.
 - C. A strict adherence to the chronological history of the bloc's various annual declarations.
 - D. A routine diplomatic meeting that produces little beyond predictable and symbolic results.
5. **Identify the correct passive voice form of the following sentence: "The summit delivered India concrete institutional gains."**
 - A. India is delivered concrete institutional gains by the summit.
 - B. Concrete institutional gains were delivered to India by the summit.
 - C. Concrete institutional gains have been delivered to India by the summit.
 - D. India was being delivered concrete institutional gains by the summit.
6. **Direction: In the following question, the first and the last sentences of the passage are numbered S1 and S6. The rest of the passage is split into four parts and named A, B, C, and D. Rearrange these four parts to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**

S1. I have always loved podcasts.

 - A. Eventually there were enough comedy duos candidly discussing their hopes, fears and awkward social interactions to fill every moment of my day.
 - B. It started with a semi-religious devotion to a Sunday morning XFM show hosted by Jimmy Carr and the comedy writer Iain Morris, but as the years progressed and podcasting boomed, I was soon spoilt for choice.
 - C. The genre of audio I have come to think of as Two Men Talking (In Excessive Detail About Their Lives) has been one of my favourite forms of entertainment for decades.

- D. I was initially drawn to these podcasts because they made me laugh, but from the start I also found them hugely comforting: there was a period in my teenage years when I couldn't fall asleep without mainlining episodes of Adam and Joe's BBC 6 Music show, waking up each morning relieved I hadn't been strangled by my iPod earphones in the night.
- S6. As I got older, certain podcasts served specific consolatory functions: I was delighted when Josh Widdicombe and Rob Beckett began sharing their deeply relatable childcare woes in (Lockdown) Parenting Hell during the loneliest days of the pandemic.
- A. B-C-A-D
B. C-A-B-D
C. B-A-C-D
D. C-B-A-D
7. **Direction: Rearrange the following parts (1, 2, 3, 4) to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
1. You don't need to run a marathon or write a novel to get a sense of achievement; something as simple as reorganising your cutlery drawer or repairing a garden fence can prove surprisingly satisfying.
 2. I really enjoy cooking and have a large collection of spices. Recently, I bought a few dozen glass bottles and organised my herbs and spices in a drawer, with labels on the lids and sides.
 3. Sometimes, it's the smallest accomplishments that bring the biggest feelings of joy.
 4. Here, readers share the modest achievements that have brought them great pleasure.
- A. 3-4-1-2
B. 1-3-4-2
C. 3-1-4-2
D. 1-4-3-2
8. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word:**
BIBLIOPHILE
- A. Publisher
B. Bookkeeper
C. Librarian
D. Book-lover
9. **Choose the correct meaning of idiom:**
Has two strings to his bow
- A. He is indecisive in crucial matters.
B. He has two romantic interests simultaneously.
C. He has an additional skill or option to rely on.
D. He uses deception to achieve goals.
10. **Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word.**
Lachrymose
- A. Tearful
B. Mournful
C. Weepy

- D. Jovial
11. **Identify the misspelt word**
- A. Acquiescence
 - B. Bourgeoisie
 - C. Consciencious
 - D. Epitome
12. **Spot the correct spelling of an electron-transport protein.**
- A. Cytocrème
 - B. Cytocrhome
 - C. Cytochrome
 - D. Cytohrome
13. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for:**
'A state of temporary disuse or suspension'
- A. Intermission
 - B. Recess
 - C. Abeyance
 - D. Dormancy
14. **Select the correct option:**
The analyst found the correlation to be ____ marginal to influence policy.
- A. too
 - B. very
 - C. so
 - D. as
15. **Select the correct option:**
Her argument was compelling: ____, it was based on outdated data.
- A. otherwise
 - B. conversely
 - C. nevertheless
 - D. subsequently
16. **Select the correct option:**
Had it not been for her timely intervention, the discussion might well have ____ into an acrimonious stalemate.
- A. evolved
 - B. devolved
 - C. emerged
 - D. absorbed
17. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**
The regulator's decision to postpone the implementation (1)/ was attributed partly to industry pressure (2)/ and partly due to legal ambiguity (3)/ surrounding the recent amendments. (4)
- A. (1)
 - B. (2)
 - C. (3)
 - D. (4)
18. **Find the part of the sentence that contains an error:**

That there exists no recourse for citizens (1)/ if environmental violations are condoned at the ministerial level (2)/ underline a systemic erosion of (3)/ constitutional accountability. (4)

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

19. **Choose the most suitable option to replace the highlighted part of the sentence:**

He is looking forward **to meet you soon**

- A. to meeting you soon
- B. for meeting you
- C. meeting you
- D. to have met you

20. **Convert the sentence provided below from its passive voice structure to an active voice structure:**

The photos will be printed by the studio within an hour.

- A. The studio prints the photos within an hour.
- B. The studio will print the photos within an hour.
- C. The photos printed by the studio soon.
- D. The studio had printed the photos in an hour.

Directions: Five words in the passage below have been replaced with blanks. Choose the option that best completes each one.

Lyse Doucet (1)___ Inter-Continental Kabul for the first time after she landed in the city on Christmas day in 1988. As a BBC journalist who was there to report on the (2)___ of Soviet troops from the country, she had no idea how long she would be there. She ended up (3)___ close to a year, and was a guest there many times in the years that followed. In *The Finest Hotel in Kabul: A People's History of Afghanistan*, (4)___ won the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction, Doucet (5)___ to the Inter-Continental, popularly known as the Inter-Con, and uses the story of the hotel and its staff to narrate the history of a war-torn, yet resilient nation.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (1):**

- A. checked out
- B. checked into
- C. checked up
- D. checked off

22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (2):**

- A. evacuation
- B. retreat
- C. withdrawal
- D. deployment

23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (3):**

- A. staying
- B. to reside
- C. remaining
- D. lodge

24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (4):**

- A. that
- B. who
- C. whose
- D. which

25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (5):**

- A. returns
- B. reverted
- C. gravitates
- D. resort

Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. A) **Formal agreements often lack the practical consensus required for solving deep-rooted disputes.**

Passage: The article ends with a similar sentiment: "Declaratory unity against terrorism has been signed before, Pakistan included, without reliably converting into extradition, financial action or intelligence-sharing India can point to." This directly echoes the opening claim — that signing declarations is symbolic and relatively easy, but doesn't automatically translate into resolving actual disputes or delivering concrete outcomes. The passage shows Pakistan signing on to anti-terrorism language despite unresolved tensions with India, and shows the SCO condemning US-Israeli strikes while India simultaneously maintains close trade ties with the US — highlighting a gap between formal, paper-based consensus and the messier reality of geopolitical differences (border disputes, trade friction, historical distrust) that remain unresolved despite the signed declaration.

B – The passage never suggests that "diplomatic paperwork" is more complicated than the underlying tensions — in fact, it implies the opposite: the paperwork (declaration) is the easier part, while resolving the real disputes is harder.

C– The passage doesn't suggest summits are "designed to ignore friction." Quite the opposite — the summit explicitly addresses terrorism, sovereignty, and international conflicts.

D– The passage doesn't claim technical consensus is "impossible" without settling territorial claims first. In fact, the summit did achieve technical/institutional consensus (e.g., the Universal Centre for Countering Security Threats, cross-border crime protocol) even as territorial and geopolitical differences (like PoK, the border with China) remained unresolved

2. C) **The tension between diplomatic symbolism and the reality of unresolved regional frictions.**

This framing bookends the entire passage — Pakistan signing anti-terror language while unresolved cross-border terrorism issues persist; India backing multipolarity and condemning US-Israeli strikes while simultaneously cutting a tariff deal with the US and winding down Russian oil purchases; a "warm handshake" with Xi Jinping without a bilateral, "consistent with the thaw" but not a resolution of border friction. The passage repeatedly juxtaposes symbolic diplomatic gestures (the Declaration, handshakes, signed language) against substantive unresolved tensions (border disputes, trade recalibration, extradition/intelligence-sharing gaps), which is precisely the tension option (c) describes.

(a) – The adoption of English as an official SCO language is mentioned only as one of "thirteen outcomes" listed briefly; it's a minor supporting detail

(b) – The passage does not discuss "logistical challenges" of hosting the summit at all — it mentions the summit's composition (ten members, fifteen partners, two observers) factually, without any commentary on hosting difficulties.

(d) – Passage shows India balancing US, Russia, and China independently — it never claims Russia-China "dominance" over global order.

3. B) **Analytical**

Passage evidence: The author lays out facts (summit outcomes, declaration language, thirteen institutional gains) alongside critical observations ("declarations are easier to sign than geopolitical differences are to resolve," "That sits awkwardly alongside India's own recalibration") — weighing achievements against unresolved contradictions in a measured, evaluative manner throughout.

(a) Eulogistic – The passage isn't praising the summit uncritically; it questions whether Bishkek was "a turning point or one more ritual repeated on schedule," which is far from celebratory or full of praise.

(c) Belligerent – There's no hostile or combative language; the author discusses tensions (US-Israel strikes, India-Pakistan, border issues) factually and without aggression.

(d) Indifferent – The author is clearly engaged and evaluative, not neutral or detached — the closing lines directly assess what New Delhi "does with it" and whether outcomes will hold, showing active analytical interest, not indifference.

4. D) **A routine diplomatic meeting that produces little beyond predictable and symbolic results.**

Passage line: "Bishkek gave India better language. What New Delhi does with it will decide whether this was a turning point or one more ritual repeated on schedule." The phrase closes the passage on a note of skepticism — contrasting "a turning point" (real, substantive change) with "ritual repeated on schedule" (an empty, recurring formality). Given the earlier line that "Declaratory unity against terrorism has been signed before, Pakistan included, without reliably converting into extradition, financial action or intelligence-sharing," the author is warning that Bishkek's declaration could turn out to be just another symbolic summit that produces fine language but no lasting action — exactly what "routine diplomatic meeting that produces little beyond predictable and symbolic results" captures.

A– The passage is about diplomatic and geopolitical outcomes, not religious ceremonies; "ritual" here is used metaphorically for repetitive formality, not an actual religious rite.

B– There's no mention of "security drills" or testing counter-terror units anywhere in the passage.

C– The phrase isn't about historical record-keeping or chronological adherence to past declarations — it's about the substance (or lack thereof) of the outcomes, not the sequencing of events.

5. B) Concrete institutional gains were delivered to India by the summit.

The original sentence "The summit delivered India concrete institutional gains" is in the Simple Past tense. Subject: The summit. Verb: delivered. Indirect Object: India. Direct Object: concrete institutional gains

In the passive voice, the object (either direct or indirect) becomes the subject, and the verb changes to its past participle form preceded by the appropriate form of "to be" (was/were for Simple Past). Since "concrete institutional gains" is plural, we use were delivered.

(a) – Uses present tense ("is delivered") instead of past tense, which doesn't match the original sentence's simple past tense ("delivered"); also makes "India" the subject instead of the actual direct object "concrete institutional gains."

(c) – Uses present perfect tense ("have been delivered") instead of simple past, incorrectly shifting the tense from the original sentence.

(d) – Uses past continuous tense ("was being delivered") which implies an ongoing action in the past, whereas the original sentence describes a completed, single action — plus it wrongly makes "India" the subject instead of "concrete institutional gains."

6. D) **C-B-A-D**

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence C S1 के तुरंत बाद आएगा क्योंकि S1 में पॉडकास्ट के प्रति सामान्य प्रेम व्यक्त किया गया है, और Sentence C सीधे लेखक की पसंदीदा specific category—"Two Men Talking"—का परिचय देता है, जो दशकों से उनके मनोरंजन का मुख्य साधन रही है।
- Sentence B Sentence C के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें प्रयुक्त pronoun "It" सीधे तौर पर Sentence C में उल्लिखित शैली के प्रति उनके जुड़ाव की शुरुआत ("It started with...") को दर्शाता है, जो Jimmy Carr और Iain Morris के XFM शो से शुरू होकर आगे चलकर पॉडकास्टिंग के विस्तार तक पहुंची।
- Sentence A Sentence B के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह Sentence B के शब्द "spoilt for choice" को आगे बढ़ाते हुए बताता है कि धीरे-धीरे इतने सारे comedy duos आ गए कि वे दिन के हर पल को भरने के लिए पर्याप्त थे।
- Sentence D Sentence A के बाद आएगा और S6 से ठीक पहले जुड़ेगा। इसमें प्रयुक्त phrase "these podcasts" Sentence A के कॉमेडी पॉडकास्ट को refer करता है और बताता है कि कैसे वे लेखक को हंसाने के साथ-साथ राहत (comfort) भी देते थे। अंत में, S6 लेखक की उम्र बढ़ने के साथ महामारी के दौरान पॉडकास्ट के विशिष्ट सांत्वना कार्यों (consolatory functions) का उल्लेख कर क्रम को पूरा करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence C follows S1 directly because S1 states a general love for podcasts, while Sentence C defines the narrator's specific preferred genre: "Two Men Talking (In Excessive Detail About Their Lives)."
- Sentence B follows Sentence C because the pronoun "It" directly refers back to the listening habit defined in Sentence C, tracing its origins ("It started with...") to an XFM radio show hosted by Jimmy Carr and Iain Morris before podcasting boomed.
- Sentence A follows Sentence B because it logically builds on being "spoilt for choice," describing how comedy duos candidly sharing their lives eventually proliferated to fill every moment of the day.
- Sentence D follows Sentence A and connects directly before S6 because the demonstrative phrase "these podcasts" refers back to the comedy duos mentioned in Sentence A, detailing their emotional comfort during the narrator's teenage years. Finally, S6 provides chronological progression ("As I got older...") into adulthood and parenthood, concluding the sequence logically.

7. C) **3-1-4-2**

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence 3 paragraph को start करेगा क्योंकि यह introductory sentence है। यह बिना किसी previous context के main theme introduce करता है कि sometimes smallest accomplishments ही biggest joy देती हैं।

- Sentence 1 Sentence 3 को follow करेगा क्योंकि यह Sentence 3 के point को elaborate करता है। यह explain करता है कि achievement feel करने के लिए marathon run करने या novel write करने की need नहीं है; cutlery drawer reorganize करना या garden fence repair करना भी satisfy कर सकता है।
- Sentence 4 Sentence 1 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह readers के feedback का context provide करता है ("Here, readers share..."), जहाँ readers अपनी modest achievements share करते हैं।
- Sentence 2 Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा और sequence का conclusion बनेगा। यह Sentence 4 में introduce किए गए reader stories का first specific example present करता है, जहाँ writer spices organize करने का personal experience share करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence 3 starts the paragraph as the introductory sentence, strictly using the opening line of the provided text. It independently establishes the core thematic premise: small accomplishments bringing the greatest feelings of joy.
 - Sentence 1 follows Sentence 3 because it elaborates on the premise by contrasting grand feats (running a marathon, writing a novel) with simple domestic tasks (reorganising a cutlery drawer, repairing a garden fence).
 - Sentence 4 follows Sentence 1 because it serves as a contextual bridge ("Here, readers share..."), transitioning from the general philosophy to reader-submitted testimonies of modest achievements.
 - Sentence 2 comes after Sentence 4 as the logical conclusion. It delivers the first specific reader account introduced in Sentence 4, narrating personal pleasure derived from cooking and systematically organising spice jars.
8. D) **Bibliophile** (noun) – A person who loves or collects books. पुस्तकों से प्रेम करने वाला व्यक्ति
Synonyms: **Book-lover** (noun) – Someone who has great affection for books. पुस्तक प्रेमी
- **Publisher** (noun) – A person or company that prepares and issues books, journals, or music. प्रकाशक
 - **Bookkeeper** (noun) – A person who records the accounts or financial transactions of a business. मुनीम / लेखा-रक्षक
 - **Librarian** (noun) – A person who works in or is in charge of a library. पुस्तकालयाध्यक्ष
9. C) Has two strings to his bow (idiom) – He has an additional skill or option to rely on
दो कौशल या विकल्प रखना जिन पर भरोसा किया जा सके
10. D) **Lachrymose** (adjective) – Tearful, mournful, weepy, sad, sorrowful. आँसू भरा / शोकपूर्ण
Antonym: **Jovial** (adjective) – Cheerful, merry, jolly, lighthearted, happy. प्रसन्न / हँसमुख
- **Tearful** (adjective) – Full of tears, ready to cry. आँसू भरा
 - **Mournful** (adjective) – Sad, sorrowful, full of grief. दुखी
 - **Weepy** (adjective) – Inclined to weep, tearful, emotional. रोने वाला
11. C) The correct answer is C) Conscientious — which is the incorrect (misspelt) word. The correct spelling is Conscientious, which means “wishing to do one’s work or duty well and thoroughly” ईमानदार, कर्तव्यनिष्ठ.

12. C) The correct spelling of 'Cytocrhome' is 'Cytochrome' which means "an electron-transport protein containing heme, involved in cellular respiration" एक इलेक्ट्रॉन-परिवहन प्रोटीन जो कोशिकीय श्वसन में शामिल होता है।
13. C) **Abeyance** (noun) – A state of temporary disuse or suspension अस्थायी निलंबन / विरामावस्था
- **Intermission** (noun) – A short break between parts of a play, movie, or event. अंतराल / मध्यांतर
 - **Recess** (noun) – A period of rest or break, especially in official work or school. विश्राम / अवकाश
 - **Dormancy** (noun) – The state of being inactive or asleep (especially in plants, volcanoes, etc.). निष्क्रियता / सुप्तावस्था
14. A) '**too**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य यह दर्शा रहा है कि यह संबंध (correlation) इतना मामूली था कि वह नीति को प्रभावित नहीं कर सका। "too marginal to influence policy" का अर्थ है – "इतना नगण्य कि नीति पर असर नहीं डाल सकता।" अतः यहाँ "too" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प है।
- 'Too' should be used because the sentence conveys that the correlation was so slight that it could not influence policy. The phrase "too marginal to influence policy" means "so insignificant that it cannot affect policy."
15. B) '**Conversely**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य में दो विचारों के बीच विरोधाभास (contrast) व्यक्त किया गया है। पहले भाग में "Her argument was compelling" (उसका तर्क प्रभावशाली था) कहा गया है, लेकिन दूसरे भाग में बताया गया है कि यह पुराने डेटा पर आधारित था। इसलिए, विरोधाभासी विचार को जोड़ने के लिए "conversely" सबसे उपयुक्त संयोजक है।
- 'Conversely' should be used because the sentence expresses a contrast between two ideas. The first part says "Her argument was compelling," while the second part reveals it was based on outdated data. Hence, to show the opposite or contrasting relation, "conversely" is the most appropriate connector
16. B) '**Devolved**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि पूरे संदर्भ में वाक्य यह बता रहा है कि उसकी समय पर दखलअंदाजी (timely intervention) के बिना चर्चा एक कड़वे गतिरोध (acrimonious stalemate) में बदल सकती थी। "Devolve into" का अर्थ होता है "to degenerate or deteriorate into something worse" अर्थात् किसी स्थिति का बिगड़ जाना। इसलिए "devolved" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प है।
- 'Devolved' should be used because in the given context, the sentence implies that without her timely intervention, the discussion could have turned into a bitter deadlock. The phrase "devolve into" means "to degenerate or deteriorate into something worse." Hence, "devolved" is the most appropriate choice
17. C) 'partly due to' के बदले '**partly to**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि pair structure partly to ... and partly to ... होता है; जैसे—
The delay was caused partly to bad weather and partly to technical issues.
- 'to' will be used instead of 'due to' because the correct correlative form is partly to ... and partly to ..., not "partly due to."
18. C) 'underline' के बदले '**underlines**' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Subject 'That there exists no recourse for citizens...' एक Singular Clause है, अतः Verb भी Singular (underlines) होना चाहिए। 'underlines' will be used instead of 'underline' because the Subject 'That there exists no recourse for citizens...' is a Singular Clause; therefore, the Verb must also be Singular (underlines). Like— That he works hard underlines his sincerity.

19. A) 'to meet you soon' के बदले 'to meeting you soon' का प्रयोग गलत है क्योंकि 'look forward to' के बाद हमेशा Gerund (V+ing) का प्रयोग किया जाता है, न कि Verb की base form का। इसलिए सही रूप होगा 'to meeting you soon'।

'to meeting you soon' will be used instead of 'to meet you soon' because after the phrase 'look forward to', the verb should always be in Gerund form (V+ing), not the base form. Hence, the correct answer is 'to meeting you soon'.

20. B) **The studio will print the photos within an hour**

Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य का Subject (The photos) Active वाक्य में Object बन जाता है। Passive वाक्य की Verb "will be printed" (Future Indefinite Passive) है, जिसे Active में "will print" (Future Indefinite Active) में बदला जाता है। Passive वाक्य में "by the studio" एजेंट है, जो Active वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। इसलिए वाक्य का Active रूप होगा — "The studio will print the photos within an hour."

The given sentence is in Passive Voice and Future Indefinite Tense.

Passive structure used:

Subject + will be + V³ + by + Agent

The photos → Subject

will be printed → Verb (Future Indefinite Passive)

by the studio → Agent

While changing to Active Voice:

The agent becomes the subject.

The subject becomes the object.

The verb changes to will + V¹.

Hence, the correct active sentence is:

The studio will print the photos within an hour.

Why other options are incorrect

Option 1: prints Present tense, while the original sentence is future.

Option 3: No helping verb and incorrect structure.

Option 4: had printed Past perfect tense → tense mismatch

21. B) **checked into**

Blank (1) needs a phrasal verb for the act of registering as a guest at a hotel. a) checked out: is a phrasal verb meaning settling the bill and leaving, violating the requirement since it's the opposite of arriving. b) checked into: is a phrasal verb meaning registering and moving into a room, matching the hotel scene described. c) checked up: is a phrasal verb meaning looking into something to verify it, violating the requirement since it's about investigation, not lodging. d) checked off: is a phrasal verb meaning marking an item done on a list, violating the requirement since it has nothing to do with a hotel stay.

Hindi:

- Blank (1) में ऐसा phrasal verb चाहिए जो hotel में guest बनकर register होने को show करे। a) checked out: इसका meaning है bill pay करके निकल जाना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह arrive करने का बिल्कुल opposite है। b) checked into: इसका meaning है register करके room में जाना, जो hotel वाले scene से match करता है। c) checked up: इसका meaning है किसी चीज़ को verify करना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह investigation की बात है, ठहरने

की नहीं। d) checked off: इसका meaning है list में कोई item done mark करना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि इसका hotel stay से कोई connection नहीं।

22. C) **withdrawal**

Blank (2) needs a noun for troops leaving a country as a planned process. a) evacuation: is a noun meaning urgently moving people to safety, violating the requirement since it suggests an emergency, not a negotiated exit. b) retreat: is a noun meaning forces pulling back while losing ground, violating the requirement since it implies defeat, not a planned departure. c) withdrawal: is a noun meaning troops pulling out and leaving, matching exactly what happened with Soviet forces. d) deployment: is a noun meaning sending troops in to be stationed, violating the requirement since it's the opposite direction of movement.

Hindi:

- Blank (2) में ऐसा noun चाहिए जो troops के एक planned तरीके से देश छोड़ने को show करे। a) evacuation: इसका meaning है emergency में लोगों को safe जगह भेजना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यहाँ emergency नहीं, एक planned exit है। b) retreat: इसका meaning है लड़ाई हारते हुए army का पीछे हटना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह defeat show करता है, planned वापसी नहीं। c) withdrawal: इसका meaning है troops का वापस निकल जाना, जो Soviet forces के साथ जो हुआ उससे match करता है। d) deployment: इसका meaning है troops को किसी जगह भेजना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह opposite direction है।

23. A) **staying**

Blank (3) needs a gerund after "ended up," for living somewhere temporarily as a guest. a) staying: is a gerund meaning remaining somewhere as a guest, matching the natural stay described. b) to reside: is an infinitive meaning to live somewhere for a period, violating the requirement since "ended up" takes a gerund, not an infinitive, and its formal tone suits permanent residence rather than a hotel visit. c) remaining: is a gerund meaning continuing to be present, not leaving, violating the requirement since it stresses not-departing rather than lodging as a guest. d) lodge: is a base verb, not a gerund, violating the requirement since "ended up lodge" is grammatically incorrect despite the close meaning.

Hindi:

- Blank (3) में "ended up" के बाद gerund चाहिए, जो temporarily guest की तरह रहने को show करे। a) staying: यह gerund है जिसका meaning है guest बनकर कुछ time रहना, जो यहाँ के natural stay से match करता है। b) to reside: यह infinitive form है जिसका meaning है कहीं कुछ time रहना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि "ended up" के बाद gerund आता है, infinitive नहीं, और इसका formal tone permanent रहने पर fit होता है, hotel visit पर नहीं। c) remaining: यह gerund है जिसका meaning है वहीं बने रहना, ना जाना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह सिर्फ ना-जाने पर focus करता है, guest बनकर ठहरने पर नहीं। d) lodge: यह base verb है, gerund नहीं, जो violate करता है क्योंकि "ended up lodge" grammatically wrong है, meaning close होने के बावजूद।

24. D) **which**

Blank (4) sits right after a comma, adding extra information about the book. a) that: is a relative pronoun for essential information without a preceding comma, violating the requirement since the comma before the blank rules it out. b) who: is a relative pronoun for people, violating the requirement since the blank refers to a book. c) whose: is a relative

pronoun showing ownership, violating the requirement since nothing here belongs to the book. d) which: is a relative pronoun for things, adding extra information after a comma, matching exactly this pattern.

Hindi:

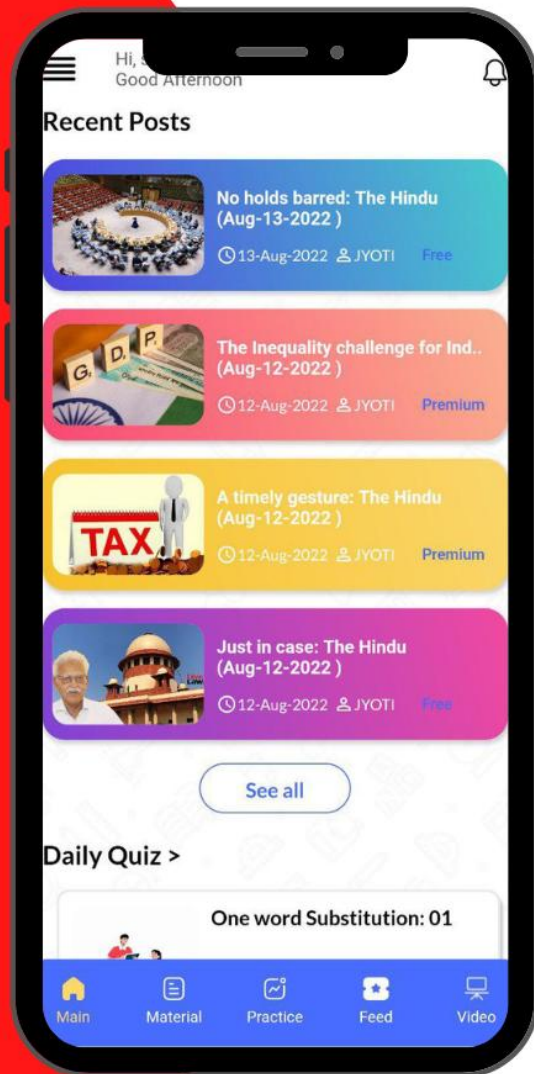
- Blank (4) एक comma के बाद आता है और book के बारे में extra information add करता है।
a) that: यह relative pronoun essential information के लिए use होता है, बिना comma के, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यहाँ blank से पहले comma मौजूद है। b) who: यह relative pronoun people के लिए use होता है, जो violate करता है क्योंकि blank एक book को refer कर रहा है। c) whose: यह relative pronoun ownership show करता है, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यहाँ book की किसी चीज़ की बात नहीं हो रही। d) which: यह relative pronoun things के लिए use होता है और comma के बाद extra information add करता है, जो यहाँ के pattern से match करता है।

25. A) returns

Blank (5) sits in a present-tense sentence beside "uses," and needs a verb meaning "goes back to a subject," agreeing with "Doucet." a) returns: is a present-tense verb meaning goes back to a place or subject, matching both the tense of "uses" and the book revisiting the hotel's story. b) reverted: is a past-tense verb meaning going back to an earlier, usually worse, state, violating the requirement since its tense clashes with "uses." c) gravitates: is a present-tense verb meaning being naturally drawn toward something, violating the requirement since it shows inclination, not a deliberate return. d) resort: is a base-form verb meaning turning to something as a fallback, violating the requirement since "Doucet" needs the "-s" form, "resorts."

Hindi:

- Blank (5) उसी sentence में "uses" के साथ present tense में है, इसलिए यहाँ ऐसा verb चाहिए जो "Doucet" से agree करे और किसी subject पर वापस जाने को show करे। a) returns: यह present-tense verb है जिसका meaning है किसी place या subject पर वापस जाना, जो "uses" के tense और book के hotel की story पर वापस आने, दोनों से match करता है। b) reverted: यह past-tense verb है जिसका meaning है पुरानी, usually खराब state पर वापस चले जाना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि इसका tense "uses" से clash करता है। c) gravitates: यह present-tense verb है जिसका meaning है naturally किसी चीज़ की तरफ खिंचना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह एक inclination show करता है, deliberate वापसी नहीं। d) resort: यह base-form verb है जिसका meaning है मजबूरी में किसी option की तरफ मुड़ना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि "Doucet" के साथ "-s" वाला form "resorts" चाहिए था।



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