

Let AI safety catch up

The **warning** from leaders of the world's top AI companies, that the technology could become powerful enough to **pose** a serious risk to humanity in as little as six months to a year, may **sound** like a **scenario** from **dystopian fiction**. It must, however, not be **dismissed**. In an essay published over the weekend, Anthropic co-founder and CEO Dario Amodei **made a case for** "**pacifying** the frontier". He was **backed** by rivals Sam Altman, CEO of OpenAI, and Elon Musk, founder and CEO of xAI. The **dangers** of letting companies, which are racing to develop a deeply transformative technology, **set** the limits have long been **flagged**. That the industry leaders have now **spoken up** and **underlined** the need to slow down, so that risk prevention can keep up, opens a precious **window** to develop more effective regulations for AI development.

This **breathing space** may allow AI companies to **skirt** around increasingly **hostile** positions on the technology's environmental and economic impacts, but it must also be used by governments to set safety standards without **strangling** innovation. For example, Amodei and Altman's voluntary commitment to **grant** employee-level system access to independent evaluators could be made mandatory. Also required is a system for international cooperation to limit the most dangerous uses of superintelligent AI, such as cyberwarfare, bioterrorism and economic disruption at a global scale. The **challenge** of achieving this in a time of **heightened** global rivalries **is steep** — US President Donald Trump has already dismissed the risks flagged by Amodei **et al.** as something that "won't happen", **emphasising** that the US must maintain its lead over China.

An internal **reckoning** has been forced by the development of **recursive** self-improvement — where an AI system uses its capabilities to design, develop and train its **successors**. Then there are the high-profile **instances** of the technology escaping the **sandbox** to act autonomously, such as when OpenAI agents hacked their way online and launched a coordinated attack on the open-source platform Hugging Face while attempting to cheat on an **evaluation**. But whether the recent concerns emerge from a **belated** sense of **accountability** or the **instinct** to avoid the **liabilities** arising from AI gone **rogue** is beside the point. The **risk** of a technology developing faster than it can even be understood **is** real, especially when it is, just as quickly, being integrated into systems that control and manage everything from banking and transport to healthcare and defence.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Pose** (verb) - present, create, cause, constitute, generate उत्पन्न करना (जैसे खतरा पैदा करना)
2. **Sound** (verb) - look, appear, seem, ring, give the impression प्रतीत होना (जैसे बात का प्रतीत होना)
3. **Scenario** (noun) - situation, backdrop, plot, sequence of events, framework परिकल्पना
4. **Dystopian fiction** (noun) - a genre of speculative fiction that portrays an imagined society characterized by human misery, oppression, environmental ruin, and the loss of individual freedom निराशाजनक भविष्य की कल्पना
5. **Dismiss** (verb) - reject, set aside, discount, brush off, ignore खारिज करना
6. **Make a case for** (idiom) - to argue that something is the best thing to do, giving your reasons के पक्ष में तर्क देना
7. **Pace** (verb) - regulate speed, control tempo, moderate, time, measure गति नियंत्रित करना
8. **Back** (verb) - support, endorse, champion, advocate, promote समर्थन करना
9. **Flag** (verb) - highlight, signal, point out, mark, alert सतर्क करना
10. **Speak up** (phrasal verb) - to speak in a louder voice so that people can hear you खुलकर बोलना
11. **Underline** (verb) - emphasize, highlight, underscore, stress, accent रेखांकित करना
12. **Window** (noun) - opportunity, opening, chance, interval, span अवसर (समय का मौका)
13. **Breathing space** (noun) - a period of rest in order to increase strength or give you more time to think about what to do next सांस लेने की फुर्सत
14. **Skirt** (verb) - avoid, bypass, evade, circumnavigate, dodge बचना
15. **Hostile** (adjective) - antagonistic, adverse, unfriendly, aggressive, inimical शत्रुतापूर्ण
16. **Strangle** (verb) - choke, stifle, suppress, suffocate, throttle कुचल देना (जैसे नवाचार को रोकना)
17. **Grant** (verb) - award, concede, bestow, give, allow प्रदान करना
18. **Heightened** (adjective) - intensified, elevated, amplified, increased, acute तीव्र
19. **Steep** (adjective) - sharp, sheer, abrupt, high, towering अत्यधिक कठिन (जैसे चुनौती)
20. **Et al.** (abbreviation) - and others, and co-authors, and associates, and colleagues और अन्य लोग
21. **Emphasize** (verb) - stress, underscore, highlight, accentuate, point out जोर देना
22. **Reckoning** (noun) - judgment, evaluation, calculation, accounting, settlement हिसाब-किताब
23. **Recursive** (adjective) - repetitive, looping, self-referential, recurring, iterative पुनरावृत्ति वाला

24. **Successor** (noun) - heir, follower, replacement, descendant, next-in-line
उत्तराधिकारी
25. **Instance** (noun) - example, case, occurrence, sample, instance उदाहरण
26. **Sandbox** (noun) - isolated environment, test environment, restricted zone, containment area, secure testing space
सुरक्षित परीक्षण वातावरण (सैंडबॉक्स)
27. **Evaluation** (noun) - assessment, appraisal, review, examination, testing मूल्यांकन
28. **Belated** (adjective) - delayed, tardy, overdue, late, postponed विलंबित
29. **Accountability** (noun) - responsibility, answerability, liability, culpability, duty
जवाबदेही
30. **Instinct** (noun) - intuition, innate urge, impulse, gut feeling, natural tendency
अंतःप्रेरणा
31. **Liability** (noun) - legal responsibility, accountability, obligation, onus, burden
कानूनी जिम्मेदारी
32. **Rogue** (adjective) - renegade, unmanaged, wild, uncontrolled, outlawed अनियंत्रित (जो खतरनाक हो जाए)

Summary of the Editorial

1. Leaders of major AI companies have warned that **advanced AI could pose serious risks to humanity** within a relatively short period.
2. Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei has argued for “**pacing the frontier**”, meaning AI development should be slowed enough for safety measures to keep up.
3. OpenAI CEO Sam Altman and xAI founder Elon Musk have also supported the need to **give risk prevention more time to develop**.
4. The editorial says these warnings should **not be dismissed as dystopian fiction**, because increasingly powerful AI systems present genuine risks.
5. The willingness of AI industry leaders to acknowledge these dangers creates a **valuable opportunity for governments to establish stronger AI regulations**.
6. Governments should use this breathing space to create **effective safety standards without unnecessarily restricting technological innovation**.
7. Voluntary measures, such as allowing **independent evaluators access to AI systems**, should potentially be converted into mandatory requirements.
8. There is a need for **international cooperation** to prevent dangerous applications of superintelligent AI, including cyberwarfare, bioterrorism and large-scale economic disruption.
9. Achieving global cooperation will be difficult because of **growing geopolitical rivalries**, particularly competition between the United States and China.
10. The editorial notes that U.S. President Donald Trump has **downplayed AI risks**, arguing that the United States must maintain its technological lead over China.
11. The development of **recursive self-improvement** is especially concerning because AI systems may increasingly be able to design, develop and train their own successors.
12. Recent incidents in which AI agents have acted **autonomously outside controlled environments** demonstrate that such concerns are not purely theoretical.
13. The editorial argues that it does not matter whether AI companies are becoming concerned because of **genuine responsibility or fear of future legal liabilities**; the risks themselves must be addressed.
14. AI could develop **faster than humans can understand or control it**, while simultaneously being integrated into critical sectors such as banking, transportation, healthcare and defence.
15. The central message is that **AI development must not outpace AI safety**; governments and technology companies should use the present opportunity to establish strong safeguards while preserving responsible innovation.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What does the author most likely mean by the phrase “pacing the frontier” in the context of the passage?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. Halting all scientific exploration until global consensus is reached.
 - B. Synchronizing the speed of innovation with the capacity for oversight.
 - C. Establishing a competitive lead over rival nations in AI development.
 - D. Prioritizing commercial expansion before establishing ethical guidelines.
2. **According to the passage, why is the "breathing space" created by industry leaders considered a double-edged sword?**
 - A. It allows firms to focus on innovation while ignoring environmental laws.
 - B. It strengthens international ties while increasing the risk of cyber warfare.
 - C. It provides a chance for regulation but may help firms evade public scrutiny.
 - D. It slows down development but prevents the US from leading over its rivals.
3. **Choose the correct indirect speech conversion of the sentence: Dario Amodè said, “The technology could become powerful enough to pose a serious risk to humanity.”**
 - A. Dario Amodè said that the technology can become powerful enough to pose a serious risk to humanity.
 - B. Dario Amodè said that the technology could become powerful enough to pose a serious risk to humanity.
 - C. Dario Amodè says that the technology could have become powerful enough to pose a serious risk to humanity.
 - D. Dario Amodè said that the technology will become powerful enough to pose a serious risk to humanity.
4. **Which of the following best captures the central theme of the passage?**
 - A. The superiority of American AI technology over Chinese counterparts
 - B. The inherent danger of AI agents hacking into open-source platforms
 - C. The urgent need for regulated innovation in the face of autonomous AI
 - D. The collaborative effort of tech CEOs to maximize corporate profits
5. **Which challenge is NOT mentioned as affecting the regulation of superintelligent AI?**
 - A. Heightened global rivalries between world powers
 - B. The autonomous behavior of AI agents in evaluations
 - C. The rapid integration of AI into critical infrastructure
 - D. The lack of public interest in environmental impacts
6. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**

The furniture displayed a wonderful combination of elegance and practicality

 - A. Gracelessness
 - B. Magnificence
 - C. Simplicity
 - D. Glory
7. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**

Retreat

 - A. Withdraw
 - B. Advance

- C. Destruct
D. Dishonour
8. **Choose the sentence that contains correct spellings.**
- A. Geeta is unable to rekall the events of five years ago in comparison to her brother,Mohit who can recollect the memories of his childhood.
B. Geeta is unable to ricall the events of five years ago in comparison to her brother,Mohit who can recollect the memories of his childhood.
C. Geeta is unable to recall the events of five years ago in comparison to her brother,Mohit who can recollect the memories of his childhood.
D. Geeta is unable to recal the events of five years ago in comparison to her brother,Mohit who can recollect the memories of his childhood
9. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the following sentence.**
Dinisha visits her mother once in a blue moon
- A. Every month
B. Very frequently
C. Every week
D. Very rarely
10. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank**
Philosophers dating all the way back to Plato and the Ancient Greeks _____ placed significant emphasis on education.
- A. have been
B. have
C. has
D. was
11. **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. This year, I did not buy a new umbrella.
- A. For me, the first casualty of every monsoon was my morning walk.
B. Once the rains arrived, those walks gave way to indoor exercises, a compromise I accepted reluctantly.
- C. For as long as I can remember, buying an umbrella at the start of every rainy season has been a small ritual in Malabar.
D. Yet this June, I decided to manage with the old one, as the rains had been unusually hesitant.
- S6. This year, however, the rains devised a different game
- A. C-D-B-A
B. A-C-D-B
C. C-A-D-B
D. C-D-A-B
12. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**
The Russia-Ukraine war has caused chaos
- A. Pitilessness

- B. Havoc
- C. Orderliness
- D. Modesty

13. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word in the given sentence.**

Within the walled palace, rows of attractive food stalls, souvenir boutiques and entertainment platforms have been erected by the prominent delegations

- A. erected
- B. prominent
- C. souvenir
- D. boutiques

14. **Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.**

- A. Dependent
- B. Extravagant
- C. Extingish
- D. Announcement

15. **Select the most appropriate idiom to fill in the blank.**

Taking the summer job proved to be _____ for Anand's visa applications.

- A. a blessing in disguise
- B. come up
- C. come in high
- D. on the contrary

16. **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. It is quite fascinating how people around us can influence us, in ways we actually fail to recognise.

- A. Every single day, we cross paths with several people who might be our colleagues, teachers, mentors, peers, or even strangers.
- B. The power that people around us hold over our emotions is quite intricate.
- C. Some become a source of encouragement, while others, knowingly or unknowingly, leave behind the scar of doubt, fear, or negativity.
- D. On a random day, a passing remark from a stranger or a careless comment from our fellow beings can diminish the positivity we have carefully nurtured within ourselves.

S6. This often raises a crucial question: How do we preserve our positive energy in this world where words and gestures carry such immense influence?

- A. A-B-C-D
- B. A-C-B-D
- C. C-A-B-D
- D. A-C-D-B

17. **Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.**

That which cannot be satisfied

- A. Drastic
- B. Prickly
- C. Stubborn

D. Insatiable

18. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word.**

Last month tomatoes were quite cheap.

A. Inexpensive

B. Less

C. Insufficient

D. Costly

19. **Choose the correct indirect narration of the following statement from the given alternatives:**

The officer said, "The library will be supplied with sufficient number of books within one month."

A. The officer said that the library would be supplied with sufficient number of books within one month.

B. The officer said that the library must be supplied with sufficient number of books within one month.

C. The officer said that the library has to be supplied with sufficient number of books within one month.

D. The officer said that the library ought to be supplied with sufficient number of books within one month.

20. **Which of the following options is the most suitable conversion of the following sentence into Active Voice?**

Will the project have been completed by the research team before the deadline?

A. Has the research team completed the project before the deadline?

B. Is the research team completing the project before the deadline?

C. Will the research team complete the project before the deadline?

D. Will the research team have completed the project before the deadline?

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

Years ago, during my ophthalmology training, there was this anecdote about a medical student from North India trying to assess the vision of a Tamil-speaking patient using a (1)___ chart. With her (2)___ Tamil and dumb-charades skills, she somehow managed to make the patient understand that he has to stand at a distance of 6 metres, and read out the letters printed on the chart.

However, to her utmost frustration, the old man claimed inability to read even the biggest of the letters, despite repeated attempts and manoeuvring. The budding doctor was furious, as the patient was obviously not as blind as the results of his responses seemed to suggest.

Convinced that the old man was trying to have fun at her expense, she was about to vent her full (3)___ at him, when someone handed her a Snellens chart with Tamil letters.

To her immediate surprise and relief, the visual (4)___ of the old man miraculously improved from 'near total blindness' to 'near normal' in a matter of seconds!

"It's already 8.30," came a loud announcement from the kitchen. I looked at the clock for a moment, and continued reading the newspaper.

"The time is 8.40." The decibel strength seemed to double with each passing minute. I picked the cue instantly, kept the newspaper folded on the teapoy, and stretched myself to have a peep through the curtains into the dining room. The breakfast was neatly arranged on the

dining table. Plates were in place. Glasses were filled. But the "chief guest" was not to be seen anywhere in the (5)____.

I prepared myself for the thunderous storms to follow.

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

- A. Snellens
- B. spectral
- C. diagnostic
- D. calibrated

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

- A. broke
- B. broken
- C. break
- D. breaking

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

- A. fury
- B. furious
- C. indignation
- D. grievance

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

- A. perception
- B. faculty
- C. acuity
- D. acumen

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

- A. premises
- B. vicinity
- C. periphery
- D. precinct

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) **Synchronizing the speed of innovation with the capacity for oversight.**

passage: "Dario Amodei made a case for 'pacing the frontier'... underlined the need to slow down, so that risk prevention can keep up, opens a precious window to develop more effective regulations for AI development." The passage explicitly links "pacing the frontier" to slowing down AI development specifically "so that risk prevention can keep up" — meaning the pace of innovation should be matched to the pace at which safety measures, oversight, and regulation can be developed. This directly supports Option (b): synchronizing innovation speed with oversight capacity is precisely what "pacing the frontier" means as used in the passage — it is not about stopping progress, but calibrating its speed to match society's/regulators' ability to monitor and manage its risks.

Option (a) — Incorrect. The passage does not call for "halting all scientific exploration." It explicitly frames the goal as governments needing "to set safety standards without strangling innovation" — this shows the intent is to continue innovation, carefully paced, not to stop it entirely, which is what "pacing" implies as opposed to "halting."

Option (c) — Incorrect. The passage mentions competitive dynamics only in the context of Trump's dismissal of AI risks, emphasizing that "the US must maintain its lead over China" — this is presented as a countervailing pressure against pacing/slowing down, not as what "pacing the frontier" itself means. The phrase is about caution and oversight, not about winning a competitive race.

Option (d) — Incorrect. The passage does not suggest "pacing the frontier" means prioritizing commercial expansion first. In fact, the entire concept is oriented toward developing "more effective regulations" and safety standards before or alongside continued development.

2. C) **It provides a chance for regulation but may help firms evade public scrutiny.**

passage: "This breathing space may allow AI companies to skirt around increasingly hostile positions on the technology's environmental and economic impacts, but it must also be used by governments to set safety standards without strangling innovation." The passage builds this sentence around the word "but," explicitly setting up two opposing outcomes of the same pause in development. The first half warns that companies could use this time to "skirt around increasingly hostile positions" — meaning dodge growing criticism and public/regulatory scrutiny over their environmental and economic impact. The second half insists this same window "must also be used" productively by governments to set safety standards. This is the double-edged nature the question asks about: the same breathing space is simultaneously an opportunity (for regulation) and a risk (for evasion of accountability). Option C is the only option that captures both sides of this specific trade-off as stated in the passage.

Option A — Incorrect. The passage says firms may skirt "hostile positions" (public criticism), not "environmental laws" — and the breathing space is a slowdown, not a focus on innovation. Neither detail matches the passage.

Option B — Incorrect. International cooperation is described as something still "required" in future to limit cyberwarfare risk — not as something the breathing space has already "strengthened." No such cause-effect exists in the passage.

Option D — Incorrect. The passage shows Trump resisting the slowdown because he fears losing US leadership to China — it never states that slowing down actually prevents US leadership. This is a feared objection, not a stated outcome.

3. B) **Dario Amodei said that the technology could become powerful enough to pose a serious risk to humanity.**

Reporting Verb: The reporting verb is in the past tense (said), so we change the comma and quotation marks to "that".

Modal Verbs: Modal verbs like could, would, should, and might do not change when converting direct speech to indirect speech. Therefore, could remains could. Option (b) correctly reproduces the sentence without any incorrect tense shift, preserving both the original modal ("could") and the rest of the sentence accurately.

Option (a) — Incorrect. This changes "could" to "can," but "could" should remain "could" in indirect speech when the reporting verb is in the past tense.

Option (c) — Incorrect. This changes the reporting verb itself to "says" (present tense), which contradicts the original "said" (past tense) given in the direct speech. Additionally, "could have become" incorrectly shifts the modal to a past perfect construction, which is not required since "could" already remains unchanged.

Option (d) — Incorrect. This changes "could" to "will," which is an incorrect substitution — "will" is the backshift form of a different modal, "shall" is not relevant here either.

4. C) **The urgent need for regulated innovation in the face of autonomous AI**

passage: "That the industry leaders have now spoken up and underlined the need to slow down, so that risk prevention can keep up, opens a precious window to develop more effective regulations for AI development... it must also be used by governments to set safety standards without strangling innovation." The passage's central argument runs from its opening warning about AI's risks, through the case for "pacing the frontier," to the need for governments to establish safety standards and international cooperation — all while explicitly cautioning against "strangling innovation." This balance between urgency (the risk is "real," AI could pose serious danger "in as little as six months to a year") and the need for calibrated regulation (not a halt, but oversight matched to development) is the passage's core thesis, directly matching Option (c).

Option (a) — Incorrect. The passage mentions US-China rivalry only once, in the context of Trump dismissing AI risks to maintain "the US must maintain its lead over China" — this is presented as a political obstacle to regulation, not as an assertion of "American superiority" as a theme. The passage does not argue for or discuss any technological superiority between the two nations.

Option (b) — Incorrect. The Hugging Face hacking incident is mentioned only as one specific example illustrating AI "escaping the sandbox to act autonomously" — it supports the broader argument about AI risk and oversight but is not itself the central theme. The passage's focus is on the larger regulatory and safety question, not on hacking incidents specifically.

Option (d) — Incorrect. The passage does not frame tech CEOs' actions as being about maximizing profits — in fact, it presents their warnings as calls for caution and slowing down, which is the opposite of a profit-maximizing motive.

5. D) **The lack of public interest in environmental impacts**

passage: "This breathing space may allow AI companies to skirt around increasingly hostile positions on the technology's environmental and economic impacts..." The passage states positions on environmental impacts are "increasingly hostile" — meaning there is significant, growing public/critical concern, not a lack of interest. This directly contradicts Option D, making it the one challenge NOT supported by the passage — in fact, the passage states the opposite. Option A — (it IS mentioned). The passage explicitly states "The challenge of achieving this in a time of heightened global rivalries is steep," citing global rivalries (illustrated by US-China tension over AI leadership) as a real obstacle to regulation.

Option B — (it IS mentioned). The passage explicitly describes "high-profile instances of the technology escaping the sandbox to act autonomously, such as when OpenAI agents hacked their way online... while attempting to cheat on an evaluation" — directly citing autonomous AI behavior during evaluations as a challenge.

Option C — (it IS mentioned). The passage explicitly states the risk is heightened "especially when it is, just as quickly, being integrated into systems that control and manage everything from banking and transport to healthcare and defence" — directly citing rapid integration into critical infrastructure.

6. A) **Elegance** (noun) – The quality of being graceful and stylish in appearance or manner.

सुसज्जना

Antonym: **Gracelessness** (noun) – The lack of elegance or grace; awkwardness. बेढबता

- **Magnificence** (noun) – The quality of being magnificent or splendid. भव्यता
- **Simplicity** (noun) – The quality or condition of being plain or uncomplicated. सादगी
- **Glory** (noun) – High renown or honor won by notable achievements; grandeur. महिमा

7. B) **Retreat** (verb) – to move back or withdraw, especially to a place of safety or privacy. पीछे हटना

Antonym: **Advance** (verb) – to move forward, make progress, or develop. आगे बढ़ना

- **Withdraw** (verb) – to take back or away, remove, or retreat. वापस लेना
- **Destruct** (verb) – to destroy or demolish. नष्ट करना
- **Dishonour** (noun) – a state of shame or disgrace. अपमान

8. C) **Geeta is unable to recall the events of five years ago in comparison to her brother, Mohit who can recollect the memories of his childhood.**

Correct spelling:- Recall.

9. D) **Once in a blue moon** (idiom) – Very rarely कभी कभार

10. B) **'Have'** का use होगा क्योंकि यहाँ हम एक सामान्य सत्य या लंबे समय से चली आ रही प्रक्रिया के बारे में बात कर रहे हैं। Sentence में कहा गया है कि दार्शनिकों ने प्लेटो और प्राचीन यूनानियों के समय से ही शिक्षा पर महत्वपूर्ण जोर दिया है, इसलिए 'have' यहाँ सही है क्योंकि यह सामान्य वर्तमान काल को दर्शाता है। 'Have been' का उपयोग निरंतरता के लिए होता है जो यहाँ जरूरी नहीं, 'Has' एकवचन के लिए प्रयोग होता है जबकि यहाँ बहुवचन 'philosophers' है, और 'Was' भूतकाल के लिए प्रयोग होता है जो यहाँ उपयुक्त नहीं है।

- 'Have' will be used because it expresses a general truth or a longstanding practice. The sentence discusses philosophers dating back to the time of Plato and the Ancient Greeks placing emphasis on education, thus 'have' is appropriate here as it indicates general present tense. 'Have been' would imply ongoing continuity which isn't necessary here, 'Has' is used for singular subjects whereas here it's plural 'philosophers', and 'Was' is past tense, not suitable for this context.

11. D) C-D-A-B

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence C S1 के तुरंत बाद आएगा क्योंकि S1 में इस वर्ष नया छाता न खरीदने का फैसला बताया गया है। Sentence C सीधे इस विचार का बैकग्राउंड स्पष्ट करता है कि मालाबार में हर बारिश के मौसम की शुरुआत में छाता खरीदना एक छोटी सी रस्म ("a small ritual") रही है।
- Sentence D Sentence C को follow करेगा क्योंकि यह contrast marker ("Yet this June...") के साथ बताता है कि लेखक ने इस साल पुराने छाते से ही काम चलाने का फैसला क्यों किया—क्योंकि बारिश असामान्य रूप से झिझक रही थी (unusually hesitant)।
- Sentence A Sentence D के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह मौसम के बदलाव से व्यक्तिगत दिनचर्या के नुकसान की ओर बढ़ता है और बताता है कि हर मानसून की पहली बलि लेखक की सुबह की सैर ("morning walk") होती थी।
- Sentence B Sentence A के बाद आएगा और S6 से ठीक पहले जुड़ेगा। इसमें प्रयुक्त वाक्यांश "those walks" सीधे Sentence A की morning walks को संदर्भित करता है और स्पष्ट करता है कि बारिश शुरू होने पर सैर की जगह इनडोर एक्सरसाइज का अनिच्छुक समझौता करना पड़ता था। अंत में, S6 में प्रयुक्त संक्रमण ("This year, however, the rains devised a different game.") इस पारंपरिक समझौते से हटकर इस वर्ष के नए अनुभव की शुरुआत करता है और अनुक्रम को तार्किक रूप से पूरा करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence C follows S1 directly because S1 states the personal decision not to buy an umbrella, and Sentence C immediately establishes the cultural backdrop—the longstanding seasonal tradition in Malabar of purchasing one at the start of the rains.
- Sentence D follows Sentence C because the contrast conjunction "Yet" justifies the departure from this ritual during the current season due to the unusually hesitant rains.
- Sentence A follows Sentence D as the narrative transitions from rain patterns to personal lifestyle impact, identifying the morning walk as the primary casualty of every monsoon.
- Sentence B follows Sentence A and links directly before S6 because the demonstrative reference "those walks" points back to the daily walks in Sentence A, detailing the reluctant shift toward indoor exercise. Finally, S6 introduces the seasonal pivot via "This year, however...", signaling a disruption to this established routine and concluding the segment seamlessly.

12. C) **Chaos** (noun) – Complete disorder and confusion. अराजकता

Antonym: **Orderliness** (noun) – The quality of being neat and organized, systematic. सुव्यवस्था

- **Pitilessness** (noun) – Lack of compassion or mercy, cruelty. निर्दयता
- **Havoc** (noun) – Widespread destruction or disorder. विनाश

- **Modesty** (noun) – The quality of being humble and moderate, humility. विनम्रता
13. D) The correct spelling of 'Bouteques' is 'Boutiques' which means "a small shop selling fashionable clothes or accessories" बुटीक, फैशनेबल कपड़े या सहायक उपकरण बेचने वाली छोटी दुकान.
14. C) The correct spelling of 'Extingish' is '**Extinguish**' which means "to put out a fire or a light" आग या रोशनी बुझाना.
15. A) **a blessing in disguise** – a good thing that seemed bad at first छुपा हुआ वरदान
16. B) **A-C-B-D**

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence A S1 के तुरंत बाद आएगा क्योंकि S1 में हमारे आस-पास के लोगों (people around us) के अनदेखे प्रभाव का उल्लेख है। Sentence A सीधे उन लोगों (colleagues, teachers, mentors, peers, strangers) के साथ रोज़ाना मिलने के संदर्भ को विस्तृत करता है।
- Sentence C Sentence A को follow करेगा क्योंकि इसमें प्रयुक्त संरचना "Some... while others..." सीधे Sentence A में उल्लिखित विभिन्न व्यक्तियों के सकारात्मक (encouragement) और नकारात्मक (doubt, fear) प्रभावों को वर्गीकृत करती है।
- Sentence B Sentence C के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह Sentence C में वर्णित दोनों तरह के प्रभावों को सारांशित करते हुए बताता है कि हमारी भावनाओं पर लोगों का यह नियंत्रण कितना जटिल ("intricate") है।
- Sentence D Sentence B के बाद आएगा और S6 से ठीक पहले जुड़ेगा। यह एक व्यावहारिक स्थिति प्रस्तुत करता है कि कैसे किसी की एक आकस्मिक या लापरवाह टिप्पणी हमारे भीतर की सकारात्मकता को कम कर सकती है। अंत में, S6 Sentence D में वर्णित नकारात्मक प्रभाव से जोड़ते हुए प्रश्न उठाता है ("How do we preserve our positive energy...?") और अनुक्रम को तार्किक रूप से पूरा करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence A follows S1 directly because S1 introduces the subtle influence exerted by people around us, and Sentence A immediately identifies who these individuals are (colleagues, teachers, mentors, peers, or strangers) whom we encounter daily.
 - Sentence C follows Sentence A because the correlative structure "Some... while others..." directly divides the individuals introduced in Sentence A into sources of encouragement versus sources of doubt and negativity.
 - Sentence B follows Sentence C as a synthesizing statement, observing that the emotional influence people hold over our inner state is deeply intricate.
 - Sentence D follows Sentence B and links directly before S6 by providing an everyday demonstration of this dynamic—illustrating how an offhand remark can diminish our nurtured positivity. Finally, S6 directly builds on Sentence D to pose the fundamental concluding question ("How do we preserve our positive energy in this world...?").
17. D) **Insatiable** (adjective) – That which cannot be satisfied असंतोषजनक; लालची
- **Drastic** (adjective) – Likely to have a strong or far-reaching effect; radical and extreme कठोर
 - **Prickly** (adjective) – Ready to take offense; easily irritated या कांटेदार

- **Stubborn** (adjective) – Having or showing dogged determination not to change one's attitude or position on something, especially in spite of good arguments or reasons to do so हठी

18. D) **Cheap** (adjective) – Low in price, inexpensive, economical. सस्ता

Antonym: **Costly** (adjective) – Expensive, high-priced, dear. महंगा

- **Inexpensive** (adjective) – Not costing a great deal, cheap. सस्ता
- **Less** (adjective) – A smaller amount of, fewer. कम
- **Insufficient** (adjective) – Not enough, inadequate, lacking. अपर्याप्त

19. A) . **The officer said that the library would be supplied with sufficient number of books within one month.**

Direct से Indirect Narration में बदलते समय Reporting Verb, Tense और Modal Verb में परिवर्तन किया जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में Reporting Verb "said" Past Tense में है, इसलिए Reported Speech का Future Tense (will) बदलकर Future in the Past (would) हो जाता है।

Direct वाक्य में "will be supplied" (Future Passive) प्रयोग हुआ है, जो Indirect में बदलकर "would be supplied" हो जाता है। बाकी वाक्य संरचना वही रहती है।

- To convert Direct Speech into Indirect Speech, the tense of the reported clause changes according to the reporting verb. Since the reporting verb "said" is in the past tense, the modal "will" changes to "would". The passive construction is retained, so "will be supplied" correctly becomes "would be supplied" in Indirect Narration.

20. D) **Will the research team have completed the project before the deadline?**

Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य का Subject Active वाक्य का Object बन जाता है और "by + doer" Active वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Passive से Active में बदलते समय सही Tense का ध्यान रखा जाता है। यहाँ "the project" Subject है, "will have been completed" (Future Perfect Passive) Verb है और "by the research team" doer है। Active में बदलने पर "the research team" Subject बन जाता है, Verb "will have completed" (Future Perfect) हो जाता है और "the project" Object बन जाता है। साथ ही, प्रश्नवाचक संरचना बनाए रखने के लिए "Will" से वाक्य शुरू होता है। इसलिए सही वाक्य है — "Will the research team have completed the project before the deadline?"

- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the subject of the passive sentence becomes the object, and the doer (introduced by "by") becomes the subject. The verb is converted into the correct active tense. In this case, "the project" (Subject), "will have been completed" (Future Perfect Passive), and "by the research team" are transformed into "the research team" (Subject), "will have completed" (Active Verb in Future Perfect), and "the project" (Object). The interrogative structure is maintained by starting with "Will". Hence, the correct answer is — "Will the research team have completed the project before the deadline?" (Option 4)

21. A) **Snellens**

Blank (1) needs the name of the standard eye chart used to measure distance vision, since the patient is placed 6 metres away to read printed letters. a) Snellens: is a proper noun naming the standard chart of graded letters used to test distance vision, matching the 6-metre test described, and confirmed when "a Snellens chart with Tamil letters" appears later in the passage. b) spectral: is an adjective meaning relating to the band of colours in light, violating

the requirement since a colour spectrum has nothing to do with reading letters at a fixed distance. c) diagnostic: is an adjective meaning serving to identify a disease, violating the requirement since it names the general purpose of any medical tool, leaving this particular chart unidentified — and the passage names it outright two paragraphs on. d) calibrated: is a past participle meaning marked with a scale of measurement, violating the requirement since it describes a property the chart may have, not the chart itself, which is what the sentence must name.

Hindi:

- Blank (1) में उस standard eye chart का नाम चाहिए जिससे दूर की नज़र जाँची जाती है, क्योंकि मरीज़ को 6 मीटर दूर खड़ा करके अक्षर पढ़ाए जा रहे हैं। a) Snellens: यह proper noun है जो दूर की नज़र जाँचने वाले अक्षरों के standard chart को बताता है, जो 6 मीटर वाली जाँच से match करता है, और आगे आया "a Snellens chart with Tamil letters" इसे पक्का करता है। b) spectral: यह adjective है जिसका meaning है रोशनी के रंगों से जुड़ा, जो violate करता है क्योंकि रंगों के spectrum का तय दूरी से अक्षर पढ़ने से कोई नाता नहीं। c) diagnostic: इसका meaning है बीमारी पहचानने में काम आने वाला, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह हर medical उपकरण का आम मकसद बताता है, इस खास chart का नाम नहीं। d) calibrated: यह past participle है जिसका meaning है माप के निशानों वाला, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह chart की एक खूबी बताता है, खुद chart का नाम नहीं।

22. B) broken

Blank (2) needs a past participle used as an adjective before "Tamil," for halting, error-filled speech in a language one barely knows. a) broke: is the simple past form of "break," violating the requirement since a past-tense verb cannot modify a noun — English says "broken English," never "broke English." b) broken: is a past participle used as an adjective meaning spoken haltingly and with many errors by a non-native speaker, matching the fixed pairing "broken Tamil" and her resort to dumb charades. c) break: is the base form of the verb, violating the requirement since a bare verb cannot sit before a noun as its describing word. d) breaking: is a present participle meaning in the act of coming apart, violating the requirement since it would describe Tamil currently shattering, whereas the blank needs a settled quality of her speech.

Hindi:

- Blank (2) में "Tamil" से पहले adjective की तरह इस्तेमाल होने वाला past participle चाहिए, जो अटकती, गलतियों भरी बोली को बताए। a) broke: यह "break" का simple past रूप है, जो violate करता है क्योंकि past-tense verb किसी noun को describe नहीं कर सकता — अंग्रेज़ी में "broken English" कहते हैं, "broke English" कभी नहीं। b) broken: यह adjective की तरह इस्तेमाल होने वाला past participle है जिसका meaning है अटक-अटककर, गलतियों के साथ बोली गई भाषा, जो "broken Tamil" वाले जमे-जमाए जोड़े से match करता है। c) break: यह verb का base form है, जो violate करता है क्योंकि सादा verb noun से पहले उसका गुण बताने वाला शब्द नहीं बन सकता। d) breaking: यह present participle है जिसका meaning है टूटने की प्रक्रिया में, जो violate करता है क्योंकि इससे लगेगा कि Tamil अभी टूट रही है, जबकि यहाँ उसकी बोली का एक ठहरा हुआ गुण चाहिए।

23. A) fury

Blank (3) needs a noun after "vent her full ____," for intense anger about to burst out at the patient. a) fury: is a noun meaning violent, overwhelming anger, matching "vent her full fury,"

and confirmed by "The budding doctor was furious" earlier in the same paragraph. b) furious: is an adjective meaning extremely angry, violating the requirement since "her full furious" leaves the phrase without a noun — the slot after "her full" demands one. c) indignation: is a noun meaning anger at something unjust done to others, violating the requirement since it rests on a moral wrong being committed, whereas the student believes she is personally being mocked, which is a private insult, not an injustice. d) grievance: is a noun meaning a formal complaint about unfair treatment, raised for redress, violating the requirement since a grievance is lodged with an authority through proper channels, and cannot be "vented at" the person who caused it.

Hindi:

- Blank (3) में "vent her full ____" के बाद ऐसा noun चाहिए जो मरीज़ पर फूटने को तैयार तेज़ गुस्से को बताए। a) fury: इसका meaning है भड़का हुआ, बेकाबू गुस्सा, जो "vent her full fury" से match करता है, और उसी paragraph का "The budding doctor was furious" इसे पक्का करता है। b) furious: यह adjective है जिसका meaning है बेहद गुस्से में, जो violate करता है क्योंकि "her full furious" में noun रह ही नहीं जाता। c) indignation: इसका meaning है किसी के साथ हुए अन्याय पर उपजा गुस्सा, जो violate करता है क्योंकि इसके लिए कोई नैतिक गलत होना चाहिए, जबकि छात्रा को लगता है कि उसका निजी तौर पर मज़ाक बनाया जा रहा है, जो अपमान है, अन्याय नहीं। d) grievance: इसका meaning है नाइंसाफी की वो औपचारिक शिकायत जो निवारण के लिए दर्ज की जाए, जो violate करता है क्योंकि grievance किसी अधिकारी के पास तय रास्ते से दर्ज होती है, उसी व्यक्ति पर "vent" नहीं की जा सकती जिसने वजह दी हो।

24. C) acuity

Blank (4) needs a noun completing "visual ____," for the measured sharpness of sight the chart tests. a) perception: is a noun meaning the mind's interpretation of what the senses receive, violating the requirement since "visual perception" covers how the brain makes sense of images, not the sharpness measured in a 6-metre reading test. b) faculty: is a noun meaning a natural power of body or mind, violating the requirement since it names the capacity to see at all, which cannot jump from blindness to normal within seconds. c) acuity: is a noun meaning the sharpness or keenness of vision, as measured on a chart, matching the reading that leaps from 'near total blindness' to 'near normal' once the script is legible. d) acumen: is a noun meaning shrewd judgement in practical matters, violating the requirement since it applies to business or political sharpness, not to eyesight.

Hindi:

- Blank (4) में "visual ____" को पूरा करने वाला ऐसा noun चाहिए जो chart से नापी जाने वाली नज़र की तीक्ष्णता बताए। a) perception: इसका meaning है इंद्रियों से मिली चीज़ों की दिमागी समझ, जो violate करता है क्योंकि "visual perception" दिमाग के छवि समझने की बात है, जाँच में नापी गई तीक्ष्णता नहीं। b) faculty: इसका meaning है शरीर या मन की कोई प्राकृतिक शक्ति, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह देख पाने की क्षमता बताता है, जो कुछ सेकंड में अंधेपन से सामान्य नहीं हो सकती। c) acuity: इसका meaning है chart से नापी जाने वाली नज़र की तीक्ष्णता, जो लिपि बदलते ही 'near total blindness' से 'near normal' तक पहुँचने वाले नतीजे से match करता है। d) acumen: इसका meaning है व्यावहारिक मामलों की तेज़ समझ, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह कारोबारी या राजनीतिक सूझबूझ पर चलता है, आँखों की रोशनी पर नहीं।

25. B) **vicinity**

Blank (5) needs a noun after "anywhere in the ____," for the surrounding area where the person should have been. a) premises: is a noun meaning a building and its grounds, considered as property, violating the requirement since it carries a legal, official ring suited to offices and shops, out of place for someone missing from her own dining room. b) vicinity: is a noun meaning the area immediately around a place, matching the narrator scanning the space near the laid table and finding no one. c) periphery: is a noun meaning the outer edge of an area, violating the requirement since it points to the boundary rather than the space around, and someone absent from the edges could still be standing in the middle. d) precinct: is a noun meaning an enclosed district, often around a cathedral or under police jurisdiction, violating the requirement since it marks an administrative or walled zone, far too formal for a household scene.

Hindi:

- Blank (5) में "anywhere in the ____" के बाद ऐसा noun चाहिए जो आस-पास की उस जगह को बताए जहाँ वो व्यक्ति होना चाहिए था। a) premises: इसका meaning है इमारत और उसका अहाता, संपत्ति के तौर पर, जो violate करता है क्योंकि इसमें कानूनी, दफ्तरी भाव है, जो घर के dining room वाले दृश्य पर बेमेल है। b) vicinity: इसका meaning है किसी जगह के ठीक आस-पास का इलाका, जो मेज़ के पास नज़र दौड़ाते narrator से match करता है। c) periphery: इसका meaning है किसी इलाके का बाहरी किनारा, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह सीमा की बात करता है, आस-पास की जगह की नहीं। d) precinct: इसका meaning है घिरा हुआ इलाका, अक्सर किसी गिरजाघर के चारों ओर या पुलिस के अधीन, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह प्रशासनिक क्षेत्र बताता है, जो घरेलू दृश्य के लिए बहुत औपचारिक है।