

Don't ask women to **shrink**, secure their space

Nearly 14 years ago, what was meant to be an ordinary evening out for a young woman and her friend ended in a **horrific ordeal** — the December 16 gang rape in the Capital **ignited nationwide** protests, **bringing** the issue of women's safety **to the forefront** of political and civic **discourse**. The **alleged** gang **rape** of a 17-year-old girl at a park in Southeast Delhi earlier this week **shows** that the questions raised by the 2012 incident and the **anxieties** it **exposed** have **hardly receded**. In the protests by students of Lady Shri Ram College and other Delhi University (DU) institutions, old concerns have **resurfaced**: **ill-lit** streets, inadequate police presence, unsafe **pedestrian** routes. The latest National Crime Records Bureau data **reinforces** this: Delhi recorded 13,396 crimes against women in 2024, the highest among metros. It also recorded 1,058 rape cases, the highest among the 19 tracked metros. In a nation that **aspires** to women-led development, this is both a deeper failure and a **sobering contradiction**.

That these **vulnerabilities persist** points not to a lack of laws or schemes, but to failures of implementation, maintenance and **accountability**. In the aftermath of the 2012 incident, the Nirbhaya Fund was **set up** to finance measures, including better public **infrastructure**, to improve women's safety. It has remained **consistently** underutilised. **Following** the latest incident, three men have been arrested. The Delhi L-G has ordered a safety audit of parks across the city and the **deployment** of pink booths — police assistance kiosks managed primarily by women personnel — measures that should have **been par for the course**, but remain **sporadic**. The fact that the accused pretended to be policemen when they **apprehended** the survivor and her friend also points to another failing — the **moral policing** routinely carried out by cops in public spaces made the **deception** possible.

As more and more women enter public life, this **model** of **paternalism** that speaks in the language of protection must **make room for** one that focuses on being enablers instead. That means functioning streetlights, usable footpaths, reliable late-evening public transport, working CCTV systems, emergency response **mechanisms**, and regular **safety audits**. That means re-examining ideas of **masculinity** in society. DU attracts students from all over the country. Across campuses and in other public spaces, women cannot be expected to secure themselves by shrinking their lives. They should be able to live fully — work late, travel alone, meet friends, protest or simply walk home without having to **look over their shoulders**. The real **measure** of *nari shakti* **is** not how often the phrase is **invoked**, but whether women can claim public spaces with the same freedom that men **take for granted**. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Shrink** (verb) - contract, decrease, diminish, dwindle, lessen सिकुड़ना
2. **Horrific** (adjective) - dreadful, awful, terrible, horrendous, appalling भयानक
3. **Ordeal** (noun) - trial, tribulation, nightmare, trauma, suffering कठिन अनुभव
4. **Ignite** (verb) - spark, trigger, provoke, kindle, stimulate भड़काना
5. **Nationwide** (adjective) - countrywide, national, widespread, extensive, sweeping देशव्यापी
6. **Bring to the forefront** (phrase) - to make something the center of attention or most important प्रमुखता से सामने लाना
7. **Discourse** (noun) - discussion, conversation, debate, dialogue, communication विमर्श
8. **Alleged** (adjective) - supposed, claimed, purported, presumed, stated कथित
9. **Anxiety** (noun) - worry, concern, apprehension, fear, unease चिंता
10. **Expose** (verb) - reveal, uncover, display, unmask, unveil उजागर करना
11. **Hardly** (adverb) - barely, scarcely, rarely, faintly, slightly मुश्किल से
12. **Recede** (verb) - retreat, withdraw, diminish, abate, subside कम होना
13. **Resurface** (verb) - reappear, emerge, return, arise, recur फिर से उभरना
14. **Ill-lit** (adjective) - dark, dim, unlit, gloomy, shadowy कम रोशनी वाला
15. **Pedestrian** (noun) - walker, stroller, foot-traveler, roamer, hiker पैदल चलने वाला
16. **Reinforce** (verb) - strengthen, support, bolster, cement, underpin मजबूत करना
17. **Aspire** (verb) - aim, desire, hope, strive, yearn आकांक्षा करना
18. **Sobering** (adjective) - serious, solemn, grave, grim, thought-provoking गंभीर करने वाला
19. **Contradiction** (noun) - paradox, inconsistency, conflict, discrepancy, opposition विरोधाभास
20. **Vulnerability** (noun) - weakness, susceptibility, flaw, frailty, defenselessness कमजोरी
21. **Persist** (verb) - continue, endure, remain, linger, last बने रहना
22. **Point to** (phrasal verb) - to indicate or show something की ओर इशारा करना
23. **Accountability** (noun) - responsibility, answerability, liability, culpability, compliance जवाबदेही
24. **In the aftermath of** (phrase) - the situation or period following an event, usually a disastrous one के परिणामस्वरूप
25. **Set up** (phrasal verb) - to establish or create something स्थापित करना
26. **Infrastructure** (noun) - framework, foundation, base, facilities, underpinning बुनियादी ढांचा
27. **Consistently** (adverb) - regularly, steadily, constantly, continually, uniformly लगातार

28. **Following** (preposition) - after, subsequent, succeeding, trailing, behind के बाद
29. **Deployment** (noun) - positioning, arrangement, stationing, posting, distribution तैनाती
30. **Be par for the course** (phrase) - to be expected or normal for a particular situation सामान्य बात होना
31. **Sporadic** (adjective) - occasional, irregular, infrequent, scattered, uneven छिटपुट
32. **The accused** (noun) - a person or group of people charged with or on trial for a crime आरोपी
33. **Pretend** (verb) - feign, fake, simulate, act, sham नाटक करना
34. **Apprehend** (verb) - arrest, catch, capture, detain, seize गिरफ्तार करना
35. **Moral policing** (noun) - vigilantism by groups aiming to enforce a code of morality on others नैतिक पुलिसिंग
36. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) - to perform or complete a task or action अंजाम देना
37. **Deception** (noun) - fraud, deceit, trickery, illusion, betrayal धोखा
38. **Paternalism** (noun) - overprotection, condescension, authoritarianism, control, patronization पितृसत्तात्मकता
39. **Make room for** (phrase) - to clear space or provide an opportunity for someone or something else के लिए जगह बनाना
40. **Mechanism** (noun) - system, process, method, procedure, structure तंत्र
41. **Safety audits** (noun) - a formal assessment of safety measures and protocols सुरक्षा जांच
42. **Masculinity** (noun) - manliness, machismo, maleness, manhood, virility पुरुषत्व
43. **Look over one's shoulder** (idiom) - to act in a state of fear or anxiety about potential danger डर या शंका में रहना
44. **Invoke** (verb) - cite, appeal, summon, refer, evoke आह्वान करना
45. **Take for granted** (phrase) - to fail to properly appreciate someone or something, assuming they will always be available हल्के में लेना

Summary of the Editorial

1. The editorial examines the **continuing problem of women's safety in Delhi**, recalling the December 16, 2012 gang rape that triggered nationwide protests and brought women's safety to the centre of public debate.
2. The alleged gang rape of a **17-year-old girl in Southeast Delhi** shows that many of the concerns exposed by the 2012 incident still remain unresolved.
3. Students from **Lady Shri Ram College and other Delhi University institutions** have again raised concerns about unsafe public spaces, including **poor lighting, inadequate police presence and dangerous pedestrian routes**.
4. NCRB data for **2024** reinforces these concerns: Delhi recorded **13,396 crimes against women**, the highest among the 19 metropolitan cities tracked.
5. Delhi also recorded **1,058 rape cases in 2024**, again the highest among the 19 metros, creating a serious contradiction for a country that promotes the idea of **women-led development**.
6. The editorial argues that the persistence of these vulnerabilities is **not primarily due to a shortage of laws or schemes**, but because of weak implementation, poor maintenance and inadequate accountability.
7. After the 2012 incident, the **Nirbhaya Fund** was created to finance measures such as improved public infrastructure for women's safety, but the fund has remained **consistently underutilised**.
8. Following the latest incident, authorities arrested **three men**, while the Delhi Lieutenant Governor ordered a **safety audit of parks** and deployment of **pink police assistance booths**.
9. The editorial argues that such measures should be **routine rather than occasional**, because basic safety infrastructure should already be a permanent part of urban planning.
10. The fact that the accused allegedly **pretended to be policemen** also exposes concerns about public trust and the effects of **moral policing**, which can make such deception easier.
11. As increasing numbers of women participate in public life, society must move away from **paternalistic protection** towards an approach that enables women to use public spaces freely and safely.
12. Women's safety requires practical infrastructure such as **functional streetlights, usable footpaths, reliable late-evening transport, working CCTV cameras and effective emergency-response systems**.
13. The editorial also calls for regular **safety audits** and a broader examination of social attitudes towards **masculinity**, rather than placing the burden of safety entirely on women.
14. Women should not be expected to **restrict their lives** because of unsafe surroundings; they should be able to work late, travel alone, meet friends, protest and walk home without constantly fearing for their safety.
15. The editorial concludes that the true meaning of **"nari shakti"** should be measured not by how frequently the phrase is used, but by whether women can **claim and use public spaces with the same freedom that men often take for granted**.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following statements best captures the central theme of the passage?**
 - A. The role of the National Crime Records Bureau in monitoring the safety audits of the metropolitan parks.
 - B. The persistent gap between legislative frameworks and the actual safety of women in the public spaces.
 - C. The impact of student-led protests on the utilization of the Nirbhaya Fund within the national capital.
 - D. The transition of the metropolitan cities from a protectionist model to a women-led development phase.
2. **Choose the word which is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word "PATERNALISM" as used in the passage.**
 - A. AUTONOMY
 - B. TUTELAGE
 - C. PATRONAGE
 - D. HEGEMONY
3. **According to the passage, what happens when we prioritize the "language of protection" over "being enablers"?**
 - A. We ensure that the Nirbhaya Fund is utilized for the construction of better public infrastructure projects.
 - B. We encourage the deployment of pink booths managed by female personnel in all the major urban parks.
 - C. We perpetuate a model that restricts the freedom of women instead of facilitating their full participation.
 - D. We allow the National Crime Records Bureau to track the safety of women across all the tracked metros.
4. **Identify the correct passive voice form of the following sentence: "The Delhi L-G has ordered a safety audit of parks across the city."**
 - A. A safety audit of parks across the city has been ordered by the Delhi L-G.
 - B. A safety audit of parks across the city was ordered by the Delhi L-G.
 - C. A safety audit of parks across the city had been ordered by the Delhi L-G.
 - D. A safety audit of parks across the city is ordered by the Delhi L-G.
5. **What does the term "moral policing" imply in the context of the passage?**
 - A. The systematic surveillance of public spaces by the female personnel stationed at the pink booths.
 - B. The behavior of law enforcement that allowed the accused to successfully impersonate the police.
 - C. The legal requirement for the Delhi L-G to order safety audits of all the parks across the capital.
 - D. The process of re-examining the ideas of masculinity within the academic institutions of the city.
6. **Direction: Rearrange the following four parts (1, 2, 3, 4) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent paragraph.**

1. but one of Britain's funniest men has been quietly consorting with the French for 55 years.
2. Eric Idle is enjoying a pain au chocolat in the Provençal village of Cotignac.
3. It's a fitting paradox: Idle has made a career out of satirising Englishness,
4. He is also drinking a cuppa
- A. 2-4-1-3
- B. 2-4-3-1
- C. 4-2-3-1
- D. 2-3-4-1
7. **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's not a bold claim – perfume has been embedded in the Parisian identity since the "perfumed court" of Louis XIV.
 A. Contemporary French style is often associated with a "less-is-more, spontaneous vibe", says Pelle.
 B. By the 18th and 19th Centuries, parfumeries had spread throughout the city, helping establish it as the global capital of fragrance, just as it was emerging as a fashion centre.
 C. "In 1921 she created [Chanel] No 5 to match her vision of modern femininity."
 D. "[In Paris], you had that mix of fragrance and haute couture very early on, [with Coco] Chanel," says Pelle.
 S6. "[So we prefer] a very simple eau de toilette that is usually laid back and effortless."
 A. B-C-D-A
 B. D-B-C-A
 C. B-D-C-A
 D. B-D-A-C
8. **Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error.**
 A. The board B. In a rare moment of complete agreement C. were unanimous in its decision D. to fire the CEO, which came as a surprise.
 A. The board,
 B. In a rare moment of complete agreement
 C. were unanimous in its decision
 D. to fire the CEO, which came as a surprise.
9. **Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error.**
 A. Despite of B. his low score in the test, C. he was able to pass D. the course.
 A. Despite of
 B. his low score in the test,
 C. he was able to pass
 D. the course
10. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate preposition:**
 The teacher divided the students _____ four groups for the activity.
 A. in
 B. among
 C. into
 D. between

11. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate preposition:

The poet reflects _____ the impermanence of beauty and the inevitability of decay.

- A. on
- B. over
- C. under
- D. until

12. Select the most appropriate synonym of the word: Bellicose

- A. Peaceful
- B. Amiable
- C. Warlike
- D. Timid

13. Select the most appropriate synonym of the word: INTEGRITY

- A. Corruption
- B. Honesty
- C. Negligence
- D. Greed

14. Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: In dribs and drabs

- A. In large quantities
- B. In a continuous flow
- C. In small, irregular amounts
- D. In an unorganized manner

15. Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Minute

- A. Enormous
- B. Tiny
- C. Small
- D. Insignificant

16. Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Extinguished

- A. Ignited
- B. Stopped
- C. Quenched
- D. Burnt

17. Choose the correct one-word substitute for:

A person who denies the existence of God

- A. Atheist
- B. Agnostic
- C. Deist
- D. Pantheist

18. Change the following sentence into the Active form.

The renowned professor had been given a standing ovation by the students after her powerful lecture.

- A. The students had been giving the renowned professor a standing ovation after her powerful lecture.
- B. The students gave the renowned professor a standing ovation after her powerful lecture.

- C. After her powerful lecture, the students had given the renowned professor a standing ovation.
- D. After her powerful lecture, a standing ovation had been given to the renowned professor by the students.

19. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in indirect voice.

He said, "I will be working on the project."

- A. He said that he would be working on the project.
- B. He said that he will be working on the project.
- C. He said that he was working on the project.
- D. He said that he would work on the project.

20. Which sentence contains a misspelled word?

- A. Many believed the new millennium would bring great change, but some felt embarrassed when their predictions failed.
- B. He didn't want to embarrass himself at the start of the new millenium.
- C. The celebration of the millennium was truly unforgettable, though it did embarrass a few politicians.
- D. She didn't expect the event to embarrass her during the millennium gala.

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

Spend a day sightseeing in Tokyo and you may find yourself carrying an empty coffee cup, your 7-11 egg sando wrapper and a growing sense of (1)____. Japan is renowned for prizing cleanliness – so why is there nowhere to throw anything away? It's a frustration familiar to visitors, and one that has (2)____ countless social media videos of bewildered tourists hunting the spotless streets for a rubbish bin. But the answer is more complicated than it first appears. "It is a complex mix of historical developments... economic phenomena, political events and their variegated effects on how people decide to act," says Eiko Maruko Siniawer, history professor at Williams College and author of *Waste: Consuming Postwar Japan*. Japan wasn't always a bin-less nation. Siniawer (3)____ to March 1995 as a major turning point in the nation's bin culture – when members of the Aum Shinrikyō cult released sarin gas on three Tokyo Metro lines during the morning rush hour, killing 14 and injuring thousands. (4)____, authorities sealed or removed rubbish bins as a terrorism-prevention measure. Subsequent terrorist attacks around the world, including 9/11 in the US, helped ensure those measures stuck. But three decades later, security alone doesn't explain why so few bins have returned – or why Japan remains so remarkably litter-free. Cost and practicality are part of the answer. Since the 2000s, some municipalities have deliberately reduced street bins, says Aya Yoshida of Japan's National Institute for Environmental Studies, to (5)____ people to take their rubbish home.

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

- A. bewilderment
- B. confusion
- C. chaos
- D. disorientation

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

- A. sparked
- B. triggered

- C. spawned
- D. prompted

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

- A. point
- B. points
- C. pointed
- D. had pointed

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

- A. On the heels of
- B. Against this backdrop
- C. By the same token
- D. In the aftermath

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

- A. encourage
- B. persuade
- C. induce
- D. compel

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) **The persistent gap between legislative frameworks and the actual safety of women in the public spaces.**

passage: "That these vulnerabilities persist points not to a lack of laws or schemes, but to failures of implementation, maintenance and accountability... In the aftermath of the 2012 incident, the Nirbhaya Fund was set up... It has remained consistently underutilised."---The passage's core argument is that laws, schemes, and funds already exist (like the Nirbhaya Fund) to protect women, but they are poorly implemented, maintained, or held accountable. The passage repeatedly connects this failure of execution to real, ongoing dangers women face (ill-lit streets, poor policing, recurring assaults), showing the gap between what's on paper and what's actually happening on the ground. This matches Option B precisely.

Option A — Incorrect The passage mentions the National Crime Records Bureau only once, as a source for crime statistics ("The latest National Crime Records Bureau data reinforces this") — it does not describe the NCRB as having any role in "monitoring safety audits" of parks.

Option C — Incorrect. While the passage does mention student protests and the Nirbhaya Fund separately, it does not claim that protests directly caused or affected the Fund's "utilization." These are presented as two separate points — one about public reaction, another about fund underuse — not as a cause-and-effect relationship as this option suggests.

Option D — Incorrect. The passage argues that this transition (from paternalism to enabling women) should happen — it presents this as a call to action ("must make room for"), not as something that has already occurred or is currently "transitioning." This option incorrectly frames an aspiration as a completed or ongoing transition.

2. A) **AUTONOMY**

Paternalism is a system where an authority regulates or restricts a person's or group's freedom for their "own good" (treating them like a child). Autonomy is the right or condition of self-government and individual freedom (making your own decisions). passage: "This model of paternalism that speaks in the language of protection must make room for one that focuses on being enablers instead."---In this context, "paternalism" refers to a controlling, protective approach where authorities (like police or the state) restrict or "protect" women by limiting their freedom, rather than empowering them to make their own choices. "Autonomy" means self-governance and independence — the ability to act freely and make one's own decisions. This is the opposite of paternalism's controlling, protective restriction, matching the passage's own contrast between paternalism ("protection") and enabling women "to live fully" and "claim public spaces with the same freedom."

TUTELAGE: means guardianship or being under someone's protective guidance/control

PATRONAGE: means support or sponsorship given by someone in a position of power

HEGEMONY: means dominance or control by one group over others

3. C) **We perpetuate a model that restricts the freedom of women instead of facilitating their full participation.**

passage: "This model of paternalism that speaks in the language of protection must make room for one that focuses on being enablers instead... Women cannot be expected to secure themselves by shrinking their lives. They should be able to live fully — work late, travel alone, meet friends, protest or simply walk home without having to look over their shoulders."---The passage contrasts "protection" (paternalism) with "enabling" — showing that a protection-focused approach leads to restricting women's freedom ("shrinking their lives"), while an enabling approach allows women to live fully and freely. Prioritizing protection over enabling therefore means continuing a restrictive model rather than one that supports women's full participation in public life — matching Option C exactly.

Option A — Incorrect. The passage states the Nirbhaya Fund has been "consistently underutilised" — this is presented as a failure, unrelated to the specific contrast between "protection" and "enabling" language. This option incorrectly suggests fund utilization is a positive outcome of prioritizing protection, which the passage does not support.

Option B — Incorrect. The passage mentions pink booths as a response measure taken by the Delhi L-G after the recent incident — this is presented as a specific administrative action, not as a consequence of prioritizing "protection" language over "enabling" language as a broader philosophical approach.

Option D — Incorrect. The passage mentions NCRB data only as a source of crime statistics — it is not connected to the specific consequence of choosing "protection" over "enabling" language.

4. A) **A safety audit of parks across the city has been ordered by the Delhi L-G.**

The sentence in the question is in present perfect tense ("has ordered"). To convert to passive voice while keeping the same tense, the structure becomes "has been + past participle" (has been ordered). The object of the active sentence ("a safety audit of parks across the city") becomes the subject, and "by the Delhi L-G" indicates who performed the action. This correctly preserves the present perfect tense, matching Option A exactly.

Option B — Incorrect. "Was ordered" is simple past tense, but the original sentence uses present perfect tense ("has ordered").

Option C — Incorrect. "Had been ordered" is past perfect tense, which is used to describe an action completed before another past action.

Option D — Incorrect. "Is ordered" is simple present tense, which suggests a habitual or general action, not a completed one.

5. B) **The behavior of law enforcement that allowed the accused to successfully impersonate the police.**

passage: "The fact that the accused pretended to be policemen when they apprehended the survivor and her friend also points to another failing — the moral policing routinely carried out by cops in public spaces made the deception possible."--The passage directly connects "moral policing" to the specific failing that allowed the accused to successfully pretend to be police officers. Because police routinely engage in "moral policing" (interfering with couples/individuals in public spaces, often questioning their behavior or morality), this made it easier for the criminals to convincingly impersonate policemen — the victims were already used to such behavior from real police, making the deception believable. This matches Option B precisely.

Option A — Incorrect. The passage does not connect "moral policing" to the female personnel at pink booths. Pink booths are mentioned as a separate safety measure being deployed — moral policing refers to a different, pre-existing practice by police that enabled the impersonation, not to the pink booth initiative.

Option C — Incorrect. The passage does not say there is a "legal requirement" for safety audits. It only states the "Delhi L-G has ordered a safety audit" as an administrative response — this is unrelated to the definition or implication of "moral policing" in the passage.

Option D — Incorrect. The passage mentions "re-examining ideas of masculinity in society" as a separate, broader societal change needed — this is not what "moral policing" refers to. Moral policing specifically relates to police behavior in public spaces, not to academic or social re-examination of masculinity.

6. B) **2-4-3-1**

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Part 2 अनुच्छेद की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह introductory sentence है। यह बिना किसी पूर्व संदर्भ के मुख्य पात्र (एरिक आइडल - Eric Idle), स्थान (Cotignac, Provence) और उनकी गतिविधि (pain au chocolat का आनंद लेना) को स्थापित करता है।
- Part 4 Part 2 को follow करेगा क्योंकि इसमें प्रयुक्त सर्वनाम "He" और क्रिया-विशेषण "also" सीधे Part 2 की गतिविधि को आगे बढ़ाते हुए जोड़ते हैं कि वह चाय (cuppa) भी पी रहे हैं।
- Part 3 Part 4 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें प्रयुक्त पदबंध "It's a fitting paradox" सीधे Part 2 और Part 4 के संयोजन (फ्रेंच पेस्ट्री और ब्रिटिश चाय) को संदर्भित करता है और स्पष्ट करता है कि आइडल ने अंग्रेजीपन (Englishness) पर व्यंग्य करके अपना करियर बनाया है।
- Part 1 Part 3 के बाद आएगा और अनुच्छेद का conclusion बनेगा। यह कंट्रास्ट कंजंक्शन "but" के साथ Part 3 के उपवाक्य को पूरा करता है कि ब्रिटेन के सबसे मजाकिया व्यक्तियों में से एक पिछले 55 वर्षों से शांतिपूर्वक फ्रांसीसियों के साथ घुलते-मिलते रहे हैं।

English Explanation:

- Part 2 serves as the standalone introductory clause, anchoring the subject (Eric Idle), the location (Provençal village of Cotignac), and the primary action of eating a French pastry (pain au chocolat).
- Part 4 follows Part 2 directly because the pronoun "He" and additive adverb "also" append the second culinary action—drinking a distinctly British cuppa.
- Part 3 follows Part 4 because the noun phrase "It's a fitting paradox" refers directly to the humorous juxtaposition established in 2 and 4 (French pastry combined with British tea), elaborating on Idle's career built on satirising Englishness.
- Part 1 follows Part 3 as the syntactic and thematic conclusion, completing the compound sentence initiated by the coordinating conjunction "but" to reveal that one of Britain's iconic comedic figures has been quietly living among the French for over half a century.

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

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence B (वाक्य 2) S1 के तुरंत बाद आएगा क्योंकि S1 में लुई चौदहवें के समय से पेरिस की पहचान में इत्र के रचे-बसे होने का उल्लेख है। Sentence B ऐतिहासिक कालक्रम को आगे बढ़ाते हुए बताता है कि 18वीं और 19वीं शताब्दी तक पूरे शहर में परफ्यूम की दुकानें फैल चुकी थीं, जिसने इसे सुगंध की वैश्विक राजधानी के रूप में स्थापित किया।
- Sentence D (वाक्य 3) Sentence B को follow करेगा क्योंकि यह Sentence B के अंतिम विचार (फैशन और खुशबू के केंद्र) को जोड़ते हुए पेले (Pelle) का कथन प्रस्तुत करता है कि कैसे पेरिस में बहुत पहले कोको चैनल के साथ इत्र और हाउते कॉउचर (उच्च फैशन) का मेल हुआ था।
- Sentence C (वाक्य 4) Sentence D के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें प्रयुक्त सर्वनाम "she" सीधे Sentence D में उल्लिखित "[with Coco] Chanel" को संदर्भित करता है और स्पष्ट करता है कि 1921 में उन्होंने आधुनिक नारीत्व के अपने दृष्टिकोण से मेल खाने के लिए चैनल नंबर 5 बनाया था।
- Sentence A (वाक्य 5) Sentence C के बाद आएगा और S6 से ठीक पहले जुड़ेगा। यह ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि से समकालीन युग की ओर आते हुए पेले के हवाले से बताता है कि समकालीन फ्रांसीसी शैली अक्सर "कम ही ज्यादा है" (less-is-more) और सहज भाव से जुड़ी होती है। अंत में, S6 (वाक्य 6) इसी न्यूनतावादी दृष्टिकोण के कारण बहुत साधारण 'ओ डी टॉइलेट' (eau de toilette) को प्राथमिकता दिए जाने के साथ विचार को पूर्ण करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence B (Sentence 2 of the passage) follows S1 directly because S1 traces perfume's lineage to Louis XIV's court, and Sentence B logically advances the historical chronology into the 18th and 19th centuries, documenting the proliferation of perfume houses alongside Paris's rise as a fashion capital.
 - Sentence D (Sentence 3 of the passage) follows Sentence B by illustrating that convergence of fragrance and fashion through expert commentator Pelle, noting the pioneering union of haute couture and perfume via Coco Chanel.
 - Sentence C (Sentence 4 of the passage) follows Sentence D because the feminine pronoun "she" directly links to Coco Chanel, specifying that in 1921 she formulated Chanel No 5 to embody modern femininity.
 - Sentence A (Sentence 5 of the passage) follows Sentence C and links directly before S6 by pivoting from early 20th-century origins to present-day aesthetics, quoting Pelle on the contemporary French preference for an effortless, "less-is-more" aesthetic. Finally, S6 (Sentence 6 of the passage) draws the logical consequence of this philosophy, stating the preference for simple, laid-back eau de toilette.
8. C) "were unanimous in its decision" की जगह **"was unanimous in its decision"** होगा क्योंकि "the board" Singular Collective Noun है और यहाँ एक इकाई के रूप में कार्य कर रहा है, इसलिए Singular Verb "was" का प्रयोग उचित है।
- "was" will be used instead of "were" because "the board" is a Singular Collective Noun acting as one unit, so the verb must also be Singular. Hence, "was unanimous in its decision" is grammatically correct.
9. A) "Despite of" के स्थान पर केवल **"Despite"** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Despite अपने आप में एक Preposition है और इसके बाद "of" नहीं आता।
- ✓ सही रूप: Despite his low score in the test, he was able to pass the course.

- Instead of 'Despite of', only 'Despite' is used because 'Despite' itself functions as a preposition and does not take 'of' afterwards.
 - ✓ Correct form: Despite his low score in the test, he was able to pass the course.
10. C) 'into' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि किसी समूह को कई भागों/ग्रुपों में बाँटने के लिए English में हमेशा divide + into का प्रयोग किया जाता है — जैसे divide into parts/groups/sections।
- 'into' should be used because when someone or something is divided to form separate groups or parts, the correct preposition in English is into. Here, the students are being divided into four groups, which makes option C the most appropriate choice.
11. A) 'on' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि किसी विषय पर चिंतन/मनन/विचार व्यक्त करने के लिए English में reflect on प्रयोग किया जाता है। यहाँ poet beauty की impermanence और decay की inevitability पर विचार कर रहा है, इसलिए on सबसे सही विकल्प है।
- 'on' should be used because the verb reflect when used to mean think deeply or contemplate, takes the preposition on. The poet is reflecting on the impermanence of beauty and the inevitability of decay. Hence, option A is the correct choice.
12. C) **Bellicose** (adjective) – aggressive, hostile, combative, belligerent, inclined to fight लड़ाकू / युद्धप्रिय
- Synonym: **Warlike** (adjective) – militant, aggressive, martial, combative युद्धप्रिय / आक्रामक
- **Peaceful** (adjective) – calm, tranquil, non-violent, harmonious शांतिप्रिय
 - **Amiable** (adjective) – friendly, pleasant, good-natured मिलनसार
 - **Timid** (adjective) – shy, fearful, lacking courage डरपोक
13. B) **Integrity** (noun) – honesty, moral uprightness, righteousness, ethical behavior, fairness नैतिकता / ईमानदारी
- Synonym: **Honesty** (noun) – truthfulness, sincerity, fairness, uprightness ईमानदारी
- **Corruption** (noun) – dishonesty, bribery, fraud, misconduct भ्रष्टाचार
 - **Negligence** (noun) – carelessness, inattention, disregard लापरवाही
 - **Greed** (noun) – avarice, hunger for wealth, selfish desire लालच
14. C) **In dribs and drabs** (idiom) -In small, irregular amounts थोड़ा-थोड़ा करके / अनियमित रूप से थोड़ा आना
15. A) **Minute** (adjective) – very small, tiny, diminutive, miniature बहुत छोटा / सूक्ष्म
- Antonym: **Enormous** (adjective) – very large, huge, massive, gigantic बहुत बड़ा
- **Tiny** (adjective) – very small, minute, little छोटा
 - **Small** (adjective) – little, minor, minute छोटा
 - **Insignificant** (adjective) – unimportant, trivial, negligible महत्वहीन
16. A) **Extinguished** (verb) – puts out, quenches, suppresses, douses बुझाना / समाप्त करना
- Antonym: **Ignited** (verb) – set on fire, lit, kindled, started burning जलाना / आग लगाना
- **Stopped** (verb) – ceased, halted, ended रोकना
 - **Quenched** (verb) – extinguished, doused, suppressed बुझाना
 - **Burnt** (verb/adjective) – charred, scorched, fired जला हुआ
17. A) **Atheist** (noun) – a person who denies the existence of God ईश्वर के अस्तित्व से इनकार करने वाला

- **Agnostic** (noun) – a person who believes nothing can be known about God ईश्वर के बारे में निश्चित ज्ञान असंभव मानने वाला
- **Deist** (noun) – believes God created the universe but does not intervene ब्रह्मा-सृष्टि में विश्वास लेकिन हस्तक्षेप नहीं
- **Pantheist** (noun) – believes God is identical with the universe सर्वेश्वरवादी

18. C) After her powerful lecture, the students had given the renowned professor a standing ovation.

Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य का Subject Active वाक्य का Object बन जाता है और Passive वाक्य का Agent (by-phrase) Active वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Passive से Active में बदलते समय सही Tense और Aspect का ध्यान रखा जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में "The renowned professor" Passive Subject है, "had been given" Verb (Past Perfect Passive) है और Agent "by the students" है। Active में बदलने पर "the students" Subject बन गया और Verb को "had given" (Past Perfect Active) में बदला गया है तथा Object "the renowned professor" तथा "a standing ovation" अपनी संरचना में सही रूप से रखा गया है।

- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the subject of the passive form becomes the object in the active form, while the agent (the by-phrase) becomes the subject. The verb is transformed from the passive construction into its active form with the same tense. In the given sentence, "The renowned professor" is the passive subject, "had been given" is the verb in past perfect passive, and "by the students" identifies the agent. In the active transformation, "the students" becomes the subject and the verb changes to "had given" in the past perfect active form, preserving meaning and sequence.

19. A) He said that he would be working on the project.

Direct से Indirect Speech में बदलते समय, Reporting Verb "said" साधारण भूतकाल (Past Tense) में है, इसलिए Reported Speech में Future "will" को Indirect में बदलते समय "would" में बदला जाता है। Direct वाक्य में "He" Subject है, "said" Reporting Verb है और "I will be working on the project" Reported Speech है। Indirect में बदलने पर "I" को Pronoun Agreement के अनुसार "he" में बदला गया है और Future Continuous "will be working" को "would be working" में बदला गया है।

- To change a sentence from Direct to Indirect Speech, when the reporting verb is in the past tense, future modal "will" changes to "would" in indirect speech. In this case, "He" is the subject, "said" is the reporting verb, and "I will be working on the project" is the reported speech. After conversion, the pronoun "I" is changed to "he" for agreement, and the future continuous "will be working" becomes "would be working."

20. B) He didn't want to embarrass himself at the start of the new millenium.

The misspelled word is millenium; the correct spelling is millennium, which means "a period of a thousand years" सहस्राब्दी / हजार वर्ष.

21. B) confusion

Blank (1) needs a noun for the specific bafflement of not understanding why bins are absent, since the sentence goes on to pose that exact question — "so why is there nowhere to throw anything away?" a) bewilderment: means total puzzlement, unable to make sense of a situation at all, violating the requirement since the tourist understands the situation perfectly well — they simply can't grasp the reason behind it. b) confusion: means not understanding why

something is the case, matching the immediate follow-up question, which spells out exactly what is puzzling the visitor. c) chaos: means complete disorder or lack of organisation, violating the requirement since the streets themselves are called "spotless" — the confusion is entirely in the tourist's head, not out on the street. d) disorientation: means losing one's sense of direction or place, violating the requirement since the tourist knows exactly where they are; they simply don't understand why there's no bin, which is not a matter of being lost.

Hindi:

- Blank (1) में ऐसा noun चाहिए जो dustbin ना मिलने की वजह समझ ना आने वाली उलझन को बताए, क्योंकि अगला ही sentence ठीक यही सवाल पूछता है — "so why is there nowhere to throw anything away?" a) bewilderment: इसका meaning है पूरी तरह हैरान होना, स्थिति को बिल्कुल समझ ना पाना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि पर्यटक को स्थिति साफ दिखती है — बस वजह समझ नहीं आती, और bewilderment इससे कहीं ज्यादा गहरी, हर तरफ की असमंजस बताता है। b) confusion: इसका meaning है यह ना समझ पाना कि कोई बात ऐसी क्यों है, जो अगले सवाल से match करता है — यानी उलझन एक साफ वजह ना समझ पाने की है। c) chaos: इसका meaning है बिखराव या अव्यवस्था, जो violate करता है क्योंकि सड़कों को खुद passage "spotless" कहता है — उलझन सिर्फ पर्यटक के मन में है, सड़कों पर नहीं। d) disorientation: इसका meaning है रास्ता या दिशा भूल जाना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि पर्यटक को रास्ता पता है, वो कहीं खोया नहीं, बस dustbin ना मिलने की वजह नहीं समझ पा रहा।

22. C) spawned

Blank (2) needs a past participle after "has," for one situation giving rise to numerous, often unwanted things — countless videos — over time. a) sparked: means to cause something to begin suddenly, violating the requirement since it suits triggering a single, often intense event, not the gradual proliferation of many separate videos. b) triggered: means to cause an immediate reaction or response, violating the requirement since it implies one direct cause producing one effect at a specific moment, not the ongoing, repeated production of countless content. c) spawned: means to give rise to numerous instances of something, often with a mildly negative or excessive connotation, matching "countless social media videos," capturing both the sheer volume and the faintly exasperated tone. d) prompted: means to cause someone to do something, violating the requirement since it typically takes a person as its object, not an abstract situation generating a large volume of independent content.

Hindi:

- Blank (2) में "has" के बाद ऐसा past participle चाहिए जो एक स्थिति से समय के साथ बहुत सारी, अक्सर अनचाही चीज़ों — यहाँ अनगिनत videos — के पैदा होने को बताए। a) sparked: इसका meaning है अचानक किसी चीज़ को शुरू कर देना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह एक बार की, तीव्र घटना शुरू करने पर फिट बैठता है, कई अलग videos के धीरे-धीरे बढ़ने पर नहीं। b) triggered: इसका meaning है तुरंत कोई प्रतिक्रिया पैदा करना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि इसमें एक सीधा कारण एक खास पल पर एक नतीजा देता है, लगातार बनते content पर नहीं। c) spawned: इसका meaning है किसी चीज़ की कई मिसालें पैदा करना, अक्सर हल्के नकारात्मक भाव के साथ, जो "countless social media videos" से match करता है। d) prompted: इसका meaning है किसी को कुछ करने पर मजबूर करना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि इसमें आमतौर पर एक व्यक्ति object होता है, कोई अमूर्त स्थिति नहीं।

23. B) points

Blank (3) needs a present-tense verb agreeing with the singular "Siniawer," since the sentence sits inside a passage narrated in the present tense whenever it reports what the professor says or argues — as in "says Eiko Maruko Siniawer" just before it. a) point: is the base/plural form, violating the requirement since the singular subject "Siniawer" needs the "-s" ending. b) points: is the correct singular present-tense form, matching both "Siniawer" and the present-tense frame the surrounding sentences use for reporting the historian's views. c) pointed: is simple past, violating the requirement since it would shift this one verb into the past while the sentence around it stays anchored in the present. d) had pointed: is past perfect, violating the requirement since it implies this act happened before some other past event already established, but no such earlier reference point exists in the sentence.

Hindi:

- Blank (3) में singular "Siniawer" से agree करने वाला present-tense verb चाहिए, क्योंकि यह sentence उस passage के अंदर है जो professor की बात बताते समय present tense में चलता है — जैसे ठीक पहले आया "says Eiko Maruko Siniawer"। a) point: यह base/plural रूप है, जो violate करता है क्योंकि singular subject "Siniawer" के साथ "-s" वाला रूप चाहिए। b) points: यह सही singular present-tense रूप है, जो "Siniawer" और आसपास के present-tense ढाँचे, दोनों से match करता है। c) pointed: यह simple past है, जो violate करता है क्योंकि इससे सिर्फ यही verb past में चला जाएगा, जबकि आसपास का sentence present में ही है। d) had pointed: यह past perfect है, जो violate करता है क्योंकि इसमें यह भाव है कि यह काम किसी पहले से बताई गई बीती घटना से पहले हुआ, जबकि ऐसा कोई संदर्भ बिंदु sentence में मौजूद नहीं है।

24. D) In the aftermath

Blank (4) needs a phrase opening the sentence, standing alone before a comma, meaning "as a direct consequence following this event" — the sarin attack just described. a) On the heels of: means "immediately following," close in meaning, but violating the requirement since it grammatically needs an object right after it ("on the heels of the attack") and cannot stand alone before a comma. b) Against this backdrop: means "given this ongoing context" — as in "against this backdrop of rising prices, families are struggling," where the price rise is a general condition families are separately struggling within, not the direct cause of their struggle. Violating the requirement here since the sarin attack is not a general condition alongside which bin removal happened — the attack itself directly caused the removal. c) By the same token: means "for a similar reason, following the same logic" — as in "she works hard; by the same token, she expects the same from others," where the second point follows the same reasoning as the first, rather than resulting from it. Violating the requirement since bin removal is not a parallel point following the same logic as the attack, but a direct consequence of that specific attack. d) In the aftermath: means "in the period directly following a disruptive event" — as in "in the aftermath of the earthquake, aid poured in," where the event directly causes what follows. Matching the sentence exactly, since the bins were removed directly because of, and right after, the sarin attack.

Hindi:

- Blank (4) में ऐसा phrase चाहिए जो sentence शुरू करे और comma से पहले अकेले खड़ा हो सके, जिसका meaning हो "अभी बताई गई घटना के सीधे नतीजे में।" a) On the heels of: इसका meaning है "तुरंत बाद," meaning करीब है, पर violate करता है क्योंकि इसके ठीक बाद object

चाहिए ("on the heels of the attack"), और यह अकेला comma से पहले खड़ा नहीं हो सकता।
 b) Against this backdrop: इसका meaning है "इस चल रहे माहौल को देखते हुए" — जैसे "against this backdrop of rising prices, families are struggling," जहाँ महँगाई एक general स्थिति है जिसके बीच families अलग से परेशान हैं। यहाँ violate करता है क्योंकि sarin हमला ऐसी कोई general स्थिति नहीं थी — हमले ने ही सीधे dustbins हटाए। c) By the same token: इसका meaning है "उसी वजह से, उसी तर्क से" — जैसे "she works hard; by the same token, she expects the same from others," जहाँ दूसरी बात पहली जैसे ही तर्क पर बनी है, उसका नतीजा नहीं। यहाँ violate करता है क्योंकि dustbins हटाना हमले जैसे किसी तर्क को दोहराना नहीं, बल्कि उसी खास हमले का सीधा नतीजा है। d) In the aftermath: इसका meaning है "किसी उथल-पुथल भरी घटना के ठीक बाद के दौर में" — जैसे "in the aftermath of the earthquake, aid poured in," जहाँ घटना सीधे नतीजे की वजह बनती है। यह sentence से पूरी तरह match करता है, क्योंकि हमले की वजह से, उसके ठीक बाद, dustbins हटाए गए।

25. A) encourage

Blank (5) needs a base-form verb after "to," for gently steering people toward a voluntary behaviour through indirect means like fewer bins. a) encourage: means to make a behaviour more likely by creating favourable conditions, without direct pressure — like placing stairs invitingly near a lift so people naturally use them without being told to. Matching the passive method of reducing bins so people naturally carry rubbish home. b) persuade: means to convince through argument or conversation — like someone reasoning "trust me, this is the right thing to do." Violating the requirement since removing bins involves no direct conversation or argument, just a changed environment. c) induce: means to bring about through a clear, offered incentive — like "first 100 customers get a discount," a calculated reward for compliance. Violating the requirement since the passage describes no such offered reward — only fewer bins, with no incentive attached. d) compel: means to force, leaving no choice — like a fine imposed for breaking a rule. Violating the requirement since taking rubbish home remains entirely voluntary, with no penalty involved.

Hindi:

- Blank (5) में "to" के बाद ऐसा base-form verb चाहिए जो लोगों को बिना सीधे दबाव के किसी व्यवहार की ओर मोड़े। a) encourage: इसका meaning है अनुकूल हालात बनाकर किसी व्यवहार को संभावित बनाना, बिना सीधे दबाव के — जैसे सीढ़ी को lift के पास खुला और आकर्षक रखकर लोगों को बिना कहे सीढ़ी चढ़ने पर मोड़ना। यह dustbins कम करके लोगों को अपने-आप कचरा घर ले जाने पर उकसाने वाले तरीके से match करता है। b) persuade: इसका meaning है तर्क या बातचीत से किसी को मनाना — जैसे कोई कहे "मुझ पर भरोसा करो, ऐसा करना ठीक रहेगा।" यह violate करता है क्योंकि dustbins हटाना कोई सीधी बातचीत या दलील नहीं, बस माहौल बदला गया है। c) induce: इसका meaning है कोई साफ, तय इनाम देकर काम करवाना — जैसे "पहले 100 ग्राहकों को छूट" कहकर राज़ी करना। यह violate करता है क्योंकि passage में ऐसा कोई तय इनाम नहीं दिया जा रहा, सिर्फ dustbins कम किए गए हैं। d) compel: इसका meaning है मजबूर करना, जहाँ कोई विकल्प ना बचे — जैसे नियम तोड़ने पर जुर्माना। यह violate करता है क्योंकि कचरा घर ले जाना पूरी तरह मज़ी की बात है, कोई जुर्माना या मजबूरी नहीं।