

The King Who Became a Sage

Some transformations are not sudden **revelations**, but the slow result of an entire lifetime spent in struggle.

Vishwamitra was born a king, **accustomed to** power, command, and the easy **deference** of an entire army, until an **encounter** with the **sage** Vasishtha, whose simple **hermitage possessed** a wish-fulfilling cow far more valuable than his own **considerable** military might, **humbled** him more deeply than any battle ever had. **Determined to attain** such spiritual power himself, he **renounced** his **throne entirely** and **undertook** centuries of **relentless penance**, facing repeated **setbacks** and **humiliating** failures along the way, including being **seduced** by the **celestial** Menaka and losing years of hard-won progress in a single **unguarded** moment of weakness.

Rather than **giving up** in shame, he simply began again, and then again, **eventually** earning the exceedingly rare title of Brahmarishi, a sage born a warrior, but **elevated** purely through **sustained** discipline rather than birth or **lineage**.

His path was never one of smooth, **uninterrupted** mastery, but rather repeated failure met each time with **renewed** effort, proving **convincingly** that **persistence** mattered far more in the end than an unbroken record of success.

We often **abandon** our own self-improvement after a single setback or **embarrassing** failure, quietly believing that failure has permanently disqualified us from ever truly **succeeding** at it.

Today, return to one goal you **abandoned** after a **setback**, and begin again, without treating that earlier failure as the final word on what you are capable of.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Revelation** (noun) - epiphany, discovery, disclosure, realization, manifestation
रहस्योद्घाटन
2. **Accustomed to** (phrase) - to become familiar with something and accept it as normal अभ्यस्त होना
3. **Deference** (noun) - respect, reverence, obedience, submission, compliance सम्मान
4. **Encounter** (noun) - meeting, confrontation, collision, skirmish, clash
आमना-सामना
5. **Sage** (noun) - philosopher, intellectual, scholar, thinker, ascetic ऋषि
6. **Hermitage** (noun) - retreat, sanctuary, ashram, monastery, hideaway आश्रम
7. **Possess** (verb) - own, hold, acquire, retain, control अधिकार में रखना
8. **Considerable** (adjective) - substantial, significant, ample, sizable, massive पर्याप्त
9. **Humble** (verb) - chasten, humiliate, abase, demean, subdue नीचा दिखाना
10. **Determined** (adjective) - resolute, steadfast, firm, unwavering, persistent दृढ़
11. **Attain** (verb) - achieve, accomplish, secure, obtain, acquire प्राप्त करना
12. **Renounce** (verb) - relinquish, reject, abandon, forsake, surrender त्यागना
13. **Throne** (noun) - sovereign, crown, royalty, dominion, sovereignty सिंहासन
14. **Entirely** (adverb) - completely, fully, wholly, totally, utterly पूरी तरह से
15. **Undertake** (verb) - assume, shoulder, tackle, commence, initiate आरंभ करना
16. **Relentless** (adjective) - persistent, unyielding, continuous, unabated, inexorable निरंतर
17. **Penance** (noun) - atonement, repentance, expiation, reparation, self-punishment तपस्या
18. **Setback** (noun) - hindrance, obstacle, impediment, hurdle, blow बाधा
19. **Humiliating** (adjective) - degrading, shameful, embarrassing, demeaning, mortifying अपमानजनक
20. **Seduce** (verb) - tempt, lure, entice, attract, beguile लुभाना
21. **Celestial** (adjective) - heavenly, divine, ethereal, otherworldly, astral स्वर्गीय
22. **Unguarded** (adjective) - vulnerable, unprotected, careless, unwary, defenseless असावधान
23. **Give up** (phrasal verb) - to stop trying to do something and accept defeat हार मानना
24. **Eventually** (adverb) - finally, ultimately, subsequently, lastly, conclusively अंततः
25. **Elevate** (verb) - raise, promote, upgrade, exalt, uplift उन्नत करना
26. **Sustain** (verb) - maintain, continue, preserve, prolong, uphold बनाए रखना
27. **Lineage** (noun) - ancestry, descent, pedigree, extraction, genealogy वंशावली

28. **Uninterrupted** (adjective) - continuous, constant, unbroken, incessant, ceaseless
निरंतर
29. **Renew** (verb) - revive, restore, regenerate, resurrect, replenish नवीनीकृत करना
30. **Convincingly** (adverb) - persuasively, decisively, firmly, forcefully, conclusively
प्रभावशाली ढंग से
31. **Persistence** (noun) - perseverance, tenacity, endurance, determination, resolve दृढ़ता
32. **Abandon** (verb) - forsake, desert, leave, discard, relinquish छोड़ देना
33. **Embarrassing** (adjective) - awkward, humiliating, shameful, uncomfortable, disconcerting शर्मनाक
34. **Succeed** (verb) - triumph, prevail, flourish, prosper, achieve सफल होना
35. **Abandon** (verb) - forsake, desert, leave, discard, relinquish छोड़ देना

Summary of the Editorial

1. Vishwamitra was born a king, accustomed to power, authority, command, and the respect of his army.
2. His life changed after an encounter with Sage Vasishtha, whose spiritual power deeply humbled him.
3. Vasishtha possessed a wish-fulfilling cow, demonstrating a kind of power that was greater than Vishwamitra's considerable military strength.
4. This experience motivated Vishwamitra to seek spiritual power and prove that greatness could be achieved beyond worldly authority.
5. He renounced his throne and began a life of intense spiritual discipline and relentless penance.
6. His journey was extremely difficult and involved numerous setbacks, failures, and moments of weakness.
7. One major setback occurred when he was seduced by Menaka, a celestial woman, causing him to lose years of spiritual progress.
8. Despite this failure, Vishwamitra did not give up or remain trapped in shame.
9. Instead, he repeatedly started again, demonstrating extraordinary determination and persistence.
10. After sustained effort and discipline, he eventually attained the rare title of Brahmarishi.
11. His transformation was remarkable because he was born a warrior but became a sage through discipline, rather than through birth or lineage.
12. Vishwamitra's story shows that true mastery is rarely smooth or uninterrupted and often involves repeated failures.
13. His life demonstrates that persistence and renewed effort can matter more than maintaining a perfect record of success.
14. The story encourages us not to abandon self-improvement because of one embarrassing failure or setback.
15. The central message is that failure does not have to be the final word; we can return to an abandoned goal, begin again, and continue working toward what we are capable of achieving.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following statements best captures the central theme of the passage?**
 - A. The inherent superiority of spiritual authority over traditional military power serves as the primary catalyst for total monarchical renunciation. [Editorial Page]
 - B. The rare elevation to the status of a Brahmarishi is predominantly determined by the rejection of ancestral lineage in favor of celestial encounters.
 - C. The transition from a life of command to one of penance is a sudden revelation that occurs when military might is confronted by a sage.
 - D. The eventual attainment of spiritual greatness is a product of unwavering resilience and the ability to rebuild after significant personal setbacks
2. **In the context of the above passage, "lineage" most nearly means:**
 - A. The total number of years spent in penance to achieve a title.
 - B. The social status or power inherited through one's family or birth.
 - C. The record of military victories achieved by a king before renunciation.
 - D. The series of setbacks faced by a sage during their spiritual journey.
3. **Identify the correct passive voice form of the following sentence: "Failure has permanently disqualified us from truly succeeding."**
 - A. We have been permanently disqualified by failure from truly succeeding.
 - B. We are being permanently disqualified by failure from truly succeeding.
 - C. Failure had been permanently disqualifying us from our true success.
 - D. Our true success has been permanently disqualified by our failures.
4. **How does persistence contribute to personal elevation, as mentioned in the passage?**
 - A. By ensuring that every single moment of weakness is avoided through the use of military discipline.
 - B. By allowing an individual to surpass their original status through renewed effort after every setback.
 - C. By promoting a sudden revelation of spiritual power that replaces the need for centuries of penance.
 - D. By discouraging the abandonment of goals only when the final word on capability is already known.
5. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Analytical and didactic
 - B. Narrative and hortatory
 - C. Contemplative and cautionary
 - D. Optimistic and enthusiastic
6. **Which of the following idiom given in the alternatives has the meaning?**
Slightly unwell or in low spirits.
 - A. Keep a weather eye out
 - B. Weather the storm
 - C. Break in the weather
 - D. Under the weather
7. **Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.**
The deer ran swiftly across the open _____.

- A. plane
B. plain
C. plan
D. plaid
8. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**
The person who cuts precious stones.
A. Gemologist
B. Polyglot
C. Lapidist
D. Drover
9. **Select the correct alternative to fill in the blank with the correct preposition in the following sentence.**
Thousands of students consume drugs _____ violation of the law.
A. for
B. of
C. in
D. by
10. **Choose the word that is the antonym of Hardly ever.**
A. Occasionally
B. Rarely
C. Seldom
D. Frequently
11. **Direction: Rearrange the following four sentences (1, 2, 3, 4) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent paragraph.**
Others are leaning into the darker evenings with a vibe-boosting portable lamp and a comfy mattress topper.
It may be unseasonably warm, but September's bestsellers list tells us you're definitely in an autumn state of mind.
From a pocket umbrella and a heated airer to a gorgeous pen and cashmere scarf, September's favourites make it clear that you're ready to hunker down, get back to the grind and, most importantly, get cosy.
Some of you are embracing the unofficial new year with a backpack perfect for commuting or a bento box to avoid overpriced work lunches.
A. 2-1-4-3
B. 2-4-1-3
C. 4-1-2-3
D. 2-4-3-1
12. **Choose the misspelt word from the given options.**
A. Credible
B. Inevitable
C. Invisible
D. Plausible
13. **Choose the correctly spelt word from the given options.**
A. Existance

- B. Existense
C. Existence
D. Existanse
14. **Which of the following idioms given in the alternatives has the meaning?**
A person who is strong, resilient, and not easily defeated or discouraged in difficult situations.
A. Tough cookie
B. Tough cheese
C. Tough sledding
D. Tough row to hoe
15. **Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.**
The lawyer asked the witness to take an oath and speak the _____.
A. troof
B. troth
C. truth
D. trough
16. **Which of the following options is the most suitable conversion of the following sentence into active voice?**
The championship trophy will be presented by the governor at the closing ceremony.
A. The governor will present the championship trophy at the closing ceremony.
B. The governor presents the championship trophy at the closing ceremony.
C. The governor is presenting the championship trophy at the closing ceremony.
D. The governor has presented the championship trophy at the closing ceremony.
17. **Choose the most suitable one-word substitution for the following.**
The study of mountains.
A. Mycology
B. Entomology
C. Virology
D. Orology
18. **Direction: Rearrange the following four sentences (1, 2, 3, 4) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent paragraph.**
“You do transmit bacteria from the food you have eaten back into the source,” says Prof John Tregoning, the author of *Live Forever? A Curious Scientist’s Guide to Wellness, Ageing and Death*.
The concern is that bacteria from your mouth get transferred into the dip and could cause illness in the people you’re sharing it with.
He points to a study testing salsa, chocolate sauce and cheese dip, which found bacteria were transferred to all three, with salsa showing the most contamination.
Double - dipping means eating part of a piece of food and then putting it back into a communal dip – for example, biting a carrot and dipping it into shared hummus, or redipping a half-eaten tortilla chip in salsa.
A. 4-1-2-3
B. 4-2-1-3
C. 2-4-1-3
D. 4-2-3-1

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

The company CEO announced, "We will not be able to meet the deadline for this quarter, which is a great disappointment for all of us, but we will have to work harder next time."

- A. The company CEO announced that they will not be able to meet the deadline for this quarter, which is a great disappointment for all of us, but that they will have to work harder next time.
- B. The company CEO announced that they would not be able to meet the deadline for this quarter, which was a great disappointment for all of them, but that they would have to work harder the next time.
- C. The company CEO announced that they would not be able to meet the deadline for that quarter, which was a great disappointment for all of them, but that they would have to work harder next time.
- D. The company CEO announced that they would not be able to meet the deadline for that quarter, which was a great disappointment for all of them, but that they would have to work harder the next time.

20. Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the underlined word in the given sentence.

The new medication was prescribed primarily to alleviate the chronic pain that had prevented the patient from sleeping through the night, though the treating physician was careful to explain that it addressed only the symptoms rather than the underlying condition responsible for producing them.

- A. Aggravate
- B. Mitigate
- C. Assuage
- D. Palliate

Read the cloze passage and answer the following questions:

JRR Tolkien's *The Hobbit* begins with Gandalf the wizard visiting Bilbo, the titular hobbit, and persuading him to go on a dangerous quest. But would the British author himself have accepted the challenge? "If a wizard had come to me as a small boy, the situation would be totally different than that in *The Hobbit*," Tolkien revealed in a rare interview, filmed by the BBC in 1968. "I should have found some excuse for not going... I had no desire whatever to place myself in an awkward position just for the sake of adventure."

Besides, he added, "I'd been very well brought up to avoid conversations with (1) dubious old gentlemen."

Yet this admission was never broadcast. Only a few extracts from the interview made it onto television in 1968, while most of it _____ (3) stored deep in the BBC archive until it was unearthed for a radio programme in 2019. The previously unseen and unheard footage features startling moments of (2) candour from the author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, and reveals Tolkien's thoughts on key characters in his bestselling books. *The Hobbit* was first published _____ (5) 21 September 1937, and the calendar week around then _____ (4) since been designated "Tolkien Week" in celebration. In the 1968 interview, Tolkien told the BBC about a hiking trip in Switzerland in 1911, when he was just 19, that inspired his much-loved epic.

21. The word "dubious" in the passage is closest in meaning to: (1)

- A. celebrated

- B. trustworthy
 - C. illustrious
 - D. suspicious
22. **Select the word that is the most appropriate antonym of "candour" as used in the passage: (2)**
- A. frankness
 - B. sincerity
 - C. deceitfulness
 - D. honesty
23. **Choose the correct auxiliary verb to fill in the blank: (3)**
- A. were
 - B. was
 - C. are
 - D. is
24. **Choose the correct auxiliary verb to fill in the blank: (4)**
- A. have
 - B. having
 - C. had
 - D. has
25. **Select the correct preposition to complete the sentence: (5)**
- A. on
 - B. in
 - C. at
 - D. during

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. D) **The eventual attainment of spiritual greatness is a product of unwavering resilience and the ability to rebuild after significant personal setbacks.**

passage: "His path was never one of smooth, uninterrupted mastery, but rather repeated failure met each time with renewed effort, proving convincingly that persistence mattered far more in the end than an unbroken record of success."---The passage's entire structure builds toward this point — it describes Vishwamitra's failures (including the Menaka episode where he lost years of progress) and shows that his eventual success as a Brahmarishi came not from never failing, but from consistently starting over after every setback. This is directly reinforced by the opening line ("Some transformations are not sudden revelations, but the slow result of an entire lifetime spent in struggle") and the closing call to action about not letting past failure be "the final word." This matches Option D precisely.

Option A — Incorrect. While the passage does show Vishwamitra being humbled by Vasishtha's spiritual power, it does not argue this comparison is the "primary catalyst" for the whole passage's message. The passage's main focus is on his persistence through repeated failures.

Option B — Incorrect. The passage does mention Vishwamitra being "a sage born a warrior, but elevated purely through sustained discipline rather than birth or lineage" — but this is about discipline overcoming birth, not about "rejecting" lineage specifically because of "celestial encounters." The Menaka encounter is actually described as a setback/failure, not as a reason for his elevation.

Option C — Incorrect. The passage explicitly states the opposite in its opening line: "Some transformations are not sudden revelations, but the slow result of an entire lifetime spent in struggle." This directly contradicts Option C's claim that the transformation was "sudden."

2. B) **The social status or power inherited through one's family or birth.**

passage: "A sage born a warrior, but elevated purely through sustained discipline rather than birth or lineage."---The passage directly pairs "lineage" with "birth" — both referring to inherited status one is born into, as opposed to something earned through effort ("sustained discipline"). This shows "lineage" refers to one's inherited family background or social standing, matching Option B exactly.

Option A — Incorrect. "Lineage" has nothing to do with "years spent in penance" — that concept relates to effort and time invested, which the passage contrasts against lineage (birth), not equates with it.

Option C — Incorrect. "Lineage" is not about a "record of military victories." While Vishwamitra was a king with military power, the word "lineage" specifically refers to inherited status/birth, not to accomplishments or victories achieved during his reign.

Option D — Incorrect. "Lineage" does not refer to "setbacks faced" during a spiritual journey — setbacks are a separate concept discussed elsewhere in the passage (like the Menaka episode), unrelated to the meaning of inherited birth status.

3. A) We have been permanently disqualified by failure from truly succeeding.

Given Sentence: "Failure has permanently disqualified us from truly succeeding."

The object in the active sentence is "us." In the passive voice, it becomes the subject "We."

The active verb "has... disqualified" is in the Present Perfect tense. The formula for Present Perfect passive is has/have + been + past participle. Since the new subject is "We," we use "have been disqualified."

The original subject "Failure" is added after the preposition "by."

The adverb "permanently" and the phrase "from truly succeeding" remain in their relative positions.

Option B: Changes the tense to Present Continuous ("are being"). The original sentence is in the Present Perfect tense.

Option C: This is still in the active voice (failure is still the subject doing the action) and changes the tense to Past Perfect Continuous ("had been disqualifying").

Option D: Changes the meaning of the sentence. It incorrectly makes "true success" the subject being disqualified, whereas in the original sentence, "us" (we) are the ones being disqualified.

4. B) By allowing an individual to surpass their original status through renewed effort after every setback.

passage: "Rather than giving up in shame, he simply began again, and then again, eventually earning the exceedingly rare title of Brahmarishi, a sage born a warrior, but elevated purely through sustained discipline rather than birth or lineage... proving convincingly that persistence mattered far more in the end than an unbroken record of success."----The passage shows Vishwamitra repeatedly failing (including the Menaka episode) but always starting over, eventually rising from being a warrior-king to the rare status of Brahmarishi. This elevation happened specifically because of his renewed effort after each setback, not because he avoided failure — matching Option B exactly, which describes surpassing one's original status through repeated renewed effort.

Option A — Incorrect. The passage shows the opposite — Vishwamitra did NOT avoid moments of weakness; he was seduced by Menaka and "lost years of hard-won progress in a single unguarded moment of weakness." His elevation came from overcoming this failure, not from avoiding it through military discipline.

Option C — Incorrect. The passage explicitly states the opposite — his transformation was not a "sudden revelation" but rather the result of "centuries of relentless penance" and repeated effort over time, directly contradicting the idea of persistence replacing penance with a sudden revelation.

Option D — Incorrect. The passage does not connect persistence to "discouraging abandonment only when the final word is already known." In fact, the passage's message is to NOT treat failure as "the final word" at all.

5. B) Narrative and hortatory

passage: "Vishwamitra was born a king... he renounced his throne entirely and undertook centuries of relentless penance... Today, return to one goal you abandoned after a setback, and begin again, without treating that earlier failure as the final word on what you are capable of."---The passage tells Vishwamitra's life story in narrative form — describing his birth, his journey, his failures, and eventual success as a flowing account. It then shifts directly into a call

to action at the end, urging ("Today, return to one goal...") the reader to act — this exhorting, motivating quality is "hortatory" (urging someone toward action). The combination of storytelling followed by direct encouragement to act matches "narrative and hortatory" precisely.

Option A — Incorrect. "Analytical and didactic" would mean breaking down ideas logically and teaching lessons in a structured, instructional way. While the passage does teach a lesson, it does so through storytelling (narrative), not through analytical breakdown or formal instruction — this doesn't fully capture the passage's flowing, story-driven approach.

Option C — Incorrect. "Contemplative and cautionary" would mean quietly reflecting while warning against something risky. The passage does reflect, but it is not "cautionary" — it doesn't warn readers away from a danger; instead, it encourages them toward positive action (trying again), which is the opposite of a caution/warning tone.

Option D — Incorrect. "Optimistic and enthusiastic" would suggest an energetic, excited tone. While the passage is hopeful in encouraging readers to try again, its tone is calm and thoughtful (reflective) rather than highly energetic or enthusiastic — the pacing and word choice remain measured throughout.

6. D) **Under the weather** (idiom) – Slightly unwell or in low spirits थोड़ा अस्वस्थ या उदास महसूस करना
7. B) **'Plain'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि sentence में deer के खुले मैदान में दौड़ने की बात हो रही है। "open plain" का अर्थ होता है खुला, समतल क्षेत्र जहाँ पेड़-पौधे कम होते हैं। इसलिए, "plain" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।
 - 'Plain' should be used because the sentence describes a deer running across an open field. "Open plain" means a wide, flat land with few trees. Thus, "plain" is the most appropriate choice.
8. C) **Lapidist** (noun) – A person who cuts, polishes, and engraves precious stones रत्न तराशने वाला
 - **Gemologist** (noun) – A person who studies gemstones रत्न विशेषज्ञ
 - **Polyglot** (noun) – A person who knows many languages बहुभाषी व्यक्ति
 - **Drover** (noun) – A person who drives livestock पशु हांकने वाला
9. C) **'in'** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि अंग्रेजी में fixed expression होता है — "in violation of the law", जिसका अर्थ होता है कानून का उल्लंघन करना। इसलिए, sentence में सही preposition "in" ही होगा।
 - 'in' should be used because it forms a standard expression — "in violation of the law," which means breaking or acting against the law. Hence, "in" is the most appropriate choice.
10. D) **Hardly ever** (adverb) – Rarely, seldom, almost never, scarcely ever बहुत कम / शायद ही कभी

Antonym: **Frequently** (adverb) – Often, regularly, repeatedly, commonly अक्सर / बार-बार

 - **Occasionally** (adverb) – Sometimes, now and then, at times कभी-कभी
 - **Rarely** (adverb) – Seldom, hardly ever, infrequently बहुत कम
 - **Seldom** (adverb) – Rarely, scarcely, infrequently शायद ही कभी

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

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence 2 paragraph की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह introductory sentence है। यह बिना किसी previous context के seasonal paradox पेश करता है कि मौसम भले ही गर्म हो, लेकिन September की bestsellers list दिखाती है कि buyers "autumn state of mind" में आ चुके हैं।
- Sentence 4 Sentence 2 को follow करेगा क्योंकि यह Sentence 2 के general trend का पहला consumer segment introduce करता है ("Some of you..."), जो work routine और commuting gear (backpack, bento box) की तैयारी कर रहे हैं।
- Sentence 1 Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह Sentence 4 के "Some of you" के साथ correlative pair बनाता है—"Others are leaning into..."—और darker evenings के लिए home comfort items (portable lamp, mattress topper) का उल्लेख करता है।
- Sentence 3 Sentence 1 के बाद आएगा और paragraph का conclusion बनेगा। यह overall list के key items (umbrella, heated airer, cashmere scarf) को summarize करते हुए निष्कर्ष निकालता है कि खरीदार काम पर लौटने (back to the grind) और cosy महसूस करने के लिए पूरी तरह तैयार हैं।

English Explanation:

- Sentence 2 functions as the standalone introductory sentence, establishing the central theme: an unseasonably warm climate juxtaposed against September's retail data reflecting consumer readiness for autumn.
- Sentence 4 follows Sentence 2 directly by illustrating the first retail segment via the partitive pronoun "Some of you", focusing on professional utility and commuting upgrades (backpacks and bento boxes).
- Sentence 1 follows Sentence 4 as the natural correlative counterpart ("Others are leaning into..."), transitioning from daytime productivity to evening comfort products suited for earlier sunsets (portable lamps and mattress toppers).
- Sentence 3 follows Sentence 1 as the overarching conclusion, synthesizing specific product mentions (pocket umbrella, heated airer, cashmere scarf) into an emphatic takeaway: consumers are actively equipping themselves to hunker down, resume routines, and embrace seasonal comfort.

12. B) The correct spelling of 'Inevitable' is '**Inevitable**', which means "certain to happen; unavoidable" अनिवार्य, टालना असंभव।

13. C) The correct spelling of 'Existence / Existense / Existanse' is '**Existence**', which means "the state of being alive or real" अस्तित्व, मौजूदगी।

14. 14. A) **Tough cookie** (idiom) – A person who is strong, resilient, and not easily discouraged मजबूत और हिम्मती व्यक्ति

- **Tough cheese** (idiom) – Used to express lack of sympathy; "that's your bad luck" कोई सहानुभूति नहीं
- **Tough sledding** (idiom) – A difficult situation कठिन परिस्थिति
- **Tough row to hoe** (idiom) – A hard task or challenging situation कठिन काम

15. C) **Truth** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि sentence में lawyer witness से oath लेकर सही और सच्ची बात बोलने के लिए कह रहा है। "Speak the truth" एक fixed expression है, जिसका अर्थ है सच बोलना। इसलिए, "truth" सबसे उपयुक्त विकल्प होगा।

- 'Truth' should be used because in the sentence, the lawyer is asking the witness to take an oath and speak honestly. "Speak the truth" is a standard expression meaning to tell the facts without lying. Thus, "truth" would be the most appropriate choice.

16. A) **The governor will present the championship trophy at the closing ceremony**

Passive से Active Voice में बदलने के लिए, Passive वाक्य का Subject (agent) Active वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है और Passive का Subject Active का Object बन जाता है। Verb को Passive से Active में बदलते समय वही tense रखा जाता है। दिए गए वाक्य में "The championship trophy" Passive Subject है, "will be presented" Verb (Simple Future Passive) है और "by the governor" agent है। Active में बदलने पर "the governor" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "will present" (Simple Future) में बदला गया है और "the championship trophy" Object के रूप में प्रयोग हुआ है। इसलिए सही वाक्य होगा — "The governor will present the championship trophy at the closing ceremony."

- To change a sentence from Passive to Active Voice, the agent becomes the subject and the passive subject becomes the object, while keeping the same tense. Here, "The championship trophy" (Passive Subject), "will be presented" (Simple Future Passive), and "by the governor" (agent) are transformed into "the governor" (Subject), "will present" (Active Verb in Simple Future), and "the championship trophy" (Object). Therefore, the correct sentence is — "The governor will present the championship trophy at the closing ceremony."

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

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence 4 paragraph की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह introductory sentence है। यह बिना किसी previous context के central concept—"Double - dipping"—की clear definition और examples (hummus, salsa) देता है।
- Sentence 2 Sentence 4 को follow करेगा क्योंकि यह Sentence 4 में explain किए गए act के primary risk को introduce करता है—"The concern is that bacteria..."—कि मुँह से bacteria communal dip में transfer हो सकते हैं और दूसरों को बीमार कर सकते हैं।
- Sentence 1 Sentence 2 के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह Sentence 2 के concern को scientific authority से validate करता है। इसमें Prof John Tregoning का direct quote है जो confirm करता है कि खाए हुए food से bacteria वास्तव में source में transmit होते हैं।
- Sentence 3 Sentence 1 के बाद आएगा और paragraph का conclusion बनेगा। इसमें use किया गया pronoun "He" सीधे Prof John Tregoning को refer करता है और उनके द्वारा cite की गई empirical study (salsa, chocolate sauce, cheese dip) के specific results बताकर sequence को complete करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence 4 functions as the standalone introductory sentence, defining the central subject—"Double - dipping"—and illustrating the practice with familiar food pairings like carrots in hummus and tortilla chips in salsa.
- Sentence 2 follows Sentence 4 directly by highlighting the physiological hygiene risk associated with the action via the noun phrase "The concern", detailing the microbial transfer from saliva into communal food.
- Sentence 1 follows Sentence 2 by substantiating that concern through scientific expert testimony, quoting Prof John Tregoning on the biological reality of back-transmitting oral bacteria into the communal bowl.
- Sentence 3 follows Sentence 1 as the natural conclusion, where the pronoun "He" links back to Prof John Tregoning, referencing experimental data across multiple dips to confirm bacterial spread and identify salsa as the most susceptible medium.

18. C) **The company CEO announced that they would not be able to meet the deadline for that quarter**, which was a great disappointment for all of them, but that they would have to work harder next time.

इस question में direct speech को indirect speech में बदलना है, इसलिए कुछ standard grammatical changes ज़रूरी होते हैं। Direct sentence में future tense (will) का प्रयोग हुआ है, जिसे reporting verb announced (past tense) होने के कारण indirect speech में would में बदल दिया जाता है। साथ ही this quarter जैसे time reference को that quarter में change किया जाता है और we / us जैसे pronouns को speaker (company CEO) के अनुसार they / them में बदला जाता है। इसके अलावा indirect speech में time expressions को अधिक formal और definite बनाया जाता है, next time unchanged रहेगा। Option 3 में ये सभी आवश्यक changes सही और पूर्ण रूप से लागू किए गए हैं। इसलिए सही indirect version Option 3 है।

- In this question, the task is to convert the given direct speech into indirect speech, which requires applying standard grammatical rules. Since the reporting verb "announced" is in the past tense, the future tense "will" in the direct speech must change to "would" in indirect speech. Time expressions also need to be shifted, so "this quarter" becomes "that quarter." Pronouns such as "we" and "us" are changed to "they" and "them" to match the third-person perspective of the reporting sentence. In addition, indirect speech generally prefers more definite and formal time expressions; therefore, "next time" is expressed as "next time." Option 3 correctly applies all these changes, making it the most accurate indirect version of the sentence.

19. A) **Alleviate** (verb) – To make suffering or a problem less severe; to provide relief; to reduce the intensity of something burdensome. कम करना, हलका करना, धीमा करना Antonym: Aggravate (verb) – To make a problem or injury worse or more serious; to intensify. बिगाड़ना, और बुरा करना, तीव्र करना

- **Mitigate** (verb) – To make less severe or painful; to moderate. कम करना, घटाना
- **Assuage** (verb) – To make an unpleasant feeling less intense; to relieve. शांत करना, कम करना
- **Palliate** (verb) – To make the effects of something less severe without removing the cause. कम करना, हलका करना

20. D) **suspicious**

The passage records Tolkien remarking that as a well-raised boy, he was taught to avoid talking to untrustworthy, questionable strangers (avoid conversations with dubious old gentlemen). Blank (1) requires the closest synonym for "dubious" (meaning suspicious, doubtful, or not to be relied upon). a) celebrated: means widely praised or famous. b) trustworthy: means reliable (antonym). c) illustrious: means well-known, respected, and admired. d) suspicious: means giving the impression of being questionable or untrustworthy (dubious/suspicious), fitting the context.

In Hindi:

- यह sentence टॉल्किन द्वारा बचपन में अजनबी, संदिग्ध और अविश्वसनीय वृद्ध पुरुषों से बातचीत न करने की सीख ("dubious old gentlemen") को describe करता है। Question में "dubious" (संदिग्ध/संदेहास्पद) का सबसे सटीक synonym पूछा गया है। a) celebrated: इसका meaning प्रसिद्ध होता है। b) trustworthy: इसका meaning भरोसेमंद (antonym) होता है। c) illustrious: इसका meaning प्रख्यात होता है। d) suspicious: इसका meaning 'संदिग्ध या संदेहास्पद' (untrustworthy/questionable) होता है, जो "dubious" के संदर्भ से perfectly match करता है।

21. C) **deceitfulness**

The passage highlights the footage capturing genuine openness, unvarnished honesty, and straightforwardness from the author (startling moments of candour). The question asks for the antonym of "candour" (meaning openness, directness, and sincere honesty). a) frankness: means directness and openness (synonym). b) sincerity: means honesty and genuineness (synonym). c) deceitfulness: means the practice of deceiving, misrepresenting, or lying, serving as the direct antonym of "candour." d) honesty: means truthfulness (synonym).

In Hindi:

- यह sentence इंटरव्यू में लेखक की सहज स्पष्टवादिता, ईमानदारी और बेबाक विचारों ("moments of candour") को describe करता है। Question में "candour" (स्पष्टवादिता/सच्चाई) का direct antonym पूछा गया है। a) frankness: इसका meaning स्पष्टवादिता (synonym) होता है। b) sincerity: इसका meaning निष्ठा/सच्चाई (synonym) होता है। c) deceitfulness: इसका meaning 'कपट, छल या धोखेबाजी' (dishonesty/deception) होता है, जो "candour" का direct antonym है। d) honesty: इसका meaning ईमानदारी (synonym) होता है।

22. B) **was**

The sentence describes the historical fact that the majority portion of the interview footage remained stored away in the archives until 2019 (while most of it _____ stored deep in the BBC archive until it was unearthed...). The indefinite pronoun "most" refers back to the singular uncountable noun "interview" through the singular pronoun "it" (most of it), strictly requiring the singular past auxiliary verb "was" to form the passive voice. a) were: is a plural auxiliary verb, violating agreement with the singular non-count reference "most of it." b) was: is the third-person singular past auxiliary verb that agrees with "most of it" (most of it was stored). c) are: is a plural present verb, violating the past narrative context. d) is: is a singular present verb, contradicting the historical past frame (until it was unearthed in 2019).

In Hindi:

- यह sentence 1968 के इंटरव्यू के अधिकांश हिस्से के 2019 तक आर्काइव में बंद रखे जाने की पिछली घटना को describe करता है। Subject "most of it" में pronoun "it" एकवचन संज्ञा (interview) को दर्शाता है, अतः past passive voice के लिए singular past auxiliary verb की आवश्यकता है। a) were: यह plural verb है जो singular संदर्भ के साथ गलत है। b) was: यह singular past auxiliary verb है जो "most of it was stored..." में subject-verb agreement के अनुसार perfectly fit होता है। c) are: यह present tense है। d) is: यह present tense है जो भूतकालिक संदर्भ (until it was unearthed) के साथ गलत है।

23. D) has

The sentence uses the adverb "since" with a passive construction to describe a status that began in the past and continues into the present (the calendar week around then _____ since been designated "Tolkien Week"). The singular subject noun phrase "the calendar week" strictly requires the third-person singular auxiliary verb "has" to form the present perfect passive tense (has + since + been + V3). a) have: is a plural auxiliary verb, violating subject-verb agreement with the singular subject "the calendar week." b) having: is a participle that cannot function as a finite auxiliary verb. c) had: is past perfect, which does not convey an ongoing current tradition indicated by "since". d) has: is the singular present auxiliary verb completing the present perfect passive construction (has since been designated).

In Hindi:

- यह sentence तब से लेकर अब तक उस कैलेंडर सप्ताह को "टॉल्किन वीक" के रूप में नामित किए जाने की वर्तमान स्थिति को present perfect passive tense में describe करता है। Singular subject "the calendar week" और समयावधि सूचक शब्द "since" के अनुसार singular auxiliary verb "has" की आवश्यकता है। a) have: यह plural auxiliary verb है जो singular subject "week" के साथ गलत है। b) having: यह non-finite participle है। c) had: यह past perfect है। d) has: यह singular present auxiliary verb है जो "has since been designated" की present perfect संरचना में perfectly fit होता है।

24. A) on

The sentence refers to the specific historical calendar date on which the book was published (published _____ 21 September 1937). In standard English grammar, complete specific calendar dates (day + month + year) strictly require the preposition "on". a) on: is the standard preposition of time used before specific calendar dates (on 21 September 1937). b) in: is used for months or years alone (e.g., in September, in 1937), but not for complete specific dates. c) at: is used for exact clock times or points in time. d) during: denotes a duration or stretch of time rather than a pinpoint calendar date.

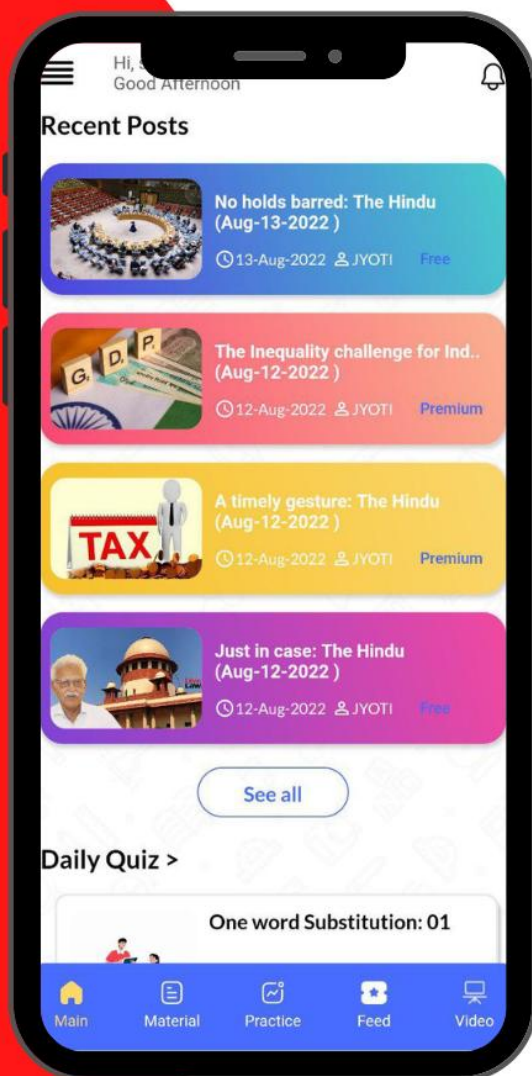
In Hindi:

- यह sentence पुस्तक के प्रकाशित होने की एक निश्चित कैलेंडर तारीख (21 September 1937) को describe करता है। अंग्रेजी व्याकरण के नियमानुसार किसी निश्चित तारीख (specific date) के पहले standard preposition "on" का use किया जाता है। a) on: यह निश्चित तारीखों से पहले प्रयुक्त होने वाला मानक preposition है, जो expression "on 21

September 1937" में perfectly fit होता है। b) in: इसका use केवल महीने या वर्ष के लिए होता है (जैसे in 1937), पूरी तारीख के लिए नहीं। c) at: यह घड़ी के निश्चित समय के लिए आता है। d) during: यह समयावधि के दौरान के लिए आता है।

25. D) **Orology** (noun) – The study of mountains पर्वतों का अध्ययन

- **Mycology** (noun) – The study of fungi कवक विज्ञान
- **Entomology** (noun) – The study of insects कीट विज्ञान
- **Virology** (noun) – The study of viruses विषाणु विज्ञान



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