

Eyes on ice: On the Nobel Prize for physics

The Nobel tradition rewards individual talent in **collective** achievements

The Nobel Prize for physics to Francis Halzen **recognises** a **clever** idea: to use the Antarctic **landmass** to detect one of the universe's most **elusive** particles. Halzen's efforts helped create the IceCube observatory, which went on to detect high-energy particles from **astronomical** sources thousands to billions of **light-years** away and transformed **astronomy**. Yet, the committee's **decision** to award Halzen alone also **perpetuates** a **deleterious** tradition in how the institution has been recognising scientific achievement. The observatory consists of thousands of sensors **embedded** up to 2.5 kilometres **beneath** the South Pole, connected by cables to a laboratory aboveground. When subatomic particles called neutrinos interact with atoms in the ice, reactions **lead to** a small flash of light. Sensors detect and record it, allowing scientists to reconstruct the incoming neutrino's energy and direction. Since coming online in 2011, IceCube has detected neutrinos of extremely high energy, giving scientists stronger clues about the **crucibles** in which these particles were created, and **strengthening** neutrino astronomy. The IceCube **collaboration** consists of over 400 experts from 14 countries, **spanning** astrophysics, engineering, and software development. Halzen's leadership was necessary to create this entity.

However, the **need** to build IceCube **at its scale** should also **have rendered** the collective nature of its success impossible to ignore. The Nobel Foundation's statutes **prohibit** dividing each prize among more than three individuals. So, in 2017 as well, the physics prize was awarded to three scientists for the detection of gravitational waves, which really required a collaboration of hundreds of researchers. The **rules** that **govern** prizes **are** human **arrangements**, and the Foundation's choices are not explained away by its **fealty** to its traditions; in fact, its **statutes** allow prizes to be awarded to organisations as well — an option repeatedly **overlooked**. Every new science prize begins with **distinguishing** itself by identifying the 'right' **laureates**; the Nobel Prizes did so, too, until their **accumulated prestige** became so great that laureates were distinguished by receiving the prizes rather than distinguishing the prizes. Thus, even when the prize-giving committee follows an **outdated** model of scientific **recognition**, in the present **instance** by **reinforcing** the **notion** that exceptional scientific achievements can be cleanly **attributed to** exceptional individuals, it suffers **minimal** reputational damage. The institution is using its prestige — **owed to** the science it celebrates — to **entrench** a **distorted** understanding of how science works, more so at a time when scientific progress increasingly depends on **extensive** cooperation. No man is an **island**, least of all in science.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Collective** (adjective) - joint, shared, common, combined, cooperative सामूहिक
2. **Recognise** (verb) - acknowledge, appreciate, honor, commend, reward मान्यता देना
3. **Clever** (adjective) - ingenious, smart, brilliant, astute, shrewd चतुर
4. **Landmass** (noun) - continent, terrain, mainland, territory, expanse भूभाग
5. **Elusive** (adjective) - evasive, fleeting, intangible, subtle, transient पकड़ में न आने वाला
6. **Astronomical** (adjective) - celestial, stellar, planetary, cosmic, galactic खगोलीय
7. **Light-year** (noun) - a unit of astronomical distance equivalent to the distance that light travels in one year प्रकाश वर्ष
8. **Astronomy** (noun) - astrophysics, cosmology, stargazing, cosmogony, astrometry खगोल विज्ञान
9. **Perpetuate** (verb) - maintain, sustain, continue, prolong, preserve बनाए रखना
10. **Deleterious** (adjective) - harmful, damaging, detrimental, destructive, adverse हानिकारक
11. **Embed** (verb) - implant, insert, install, lodge, fix जड़ना
12. **Beneath** (preposition) - under, below, underneath, lower, underlying के नीचे
13. **Lead to** (phrasal verb) - to cause something to happen or exist का कारण बनना
14. **Crucible** (noun) - cauldron, forge, melting-pot, vessel, origin उत्पत्ति स्थान
15. **Strengthen** (verb) - reinforce, fortify, consolidate, bolster, enhance मजबूत करना
16. **Collaboration** (noun) - cooperation, partnership, teamwork, association, alliance सहयोग
17. **Span** (verb) - cover, bridge, encompass, extend, cross फैला होना
18. **At the scale** (phrase) - according to its massive size or extent इसके बड़े पैमाने पर
19. **Render** (verb) - make, cause, leave, turn, translate बना देना
20. **Prohibit** (verb) - forbid, ban, bar, restrict, prevent मना करना
21. **Govern** (verb) - rule, control, regulate, direct, command नियंत्रित करना
22. **Arrangement** (noun) - preparation, setup, organization, plan, provision व्यवस्था
23. **Faalty** (noun) - loyalty, allegiance, faithfulness, fidelity, devotion निष्ठा
24. **Statute** (noun) - law, rule, regulation, decree, ordinance कानून
25. **Overlook** (verb) - ignore, neglect, miss, disregard, omit अनदेखा करना
26. **Distinguish** (verb) - differentiate, separate, discern, discriminate, isolate अंतर करना
27. **Laureate** (noun) - winner, victor, recipient, champion, honouree पुरस्कार विजेता
28. **Accumulate** (verb) - gather, collect, amass, hoard, compile संचित करना
29. **Prestige** (noun) - status, reputation, stature, eminence, prominence प्रतिष्ठा

30. **Outdated** (adjective) - obsolete, old-fashioned, antiquated, archaic, outmoded
पुराना
31. **Recognition** (noun) - acknowledgment, appreciation, identification, awareness, credit पहचान
32. **Instance** (noun) - example, case, occurrence, occasion, situation उदाहरण
33. **Reinforce** (verb) - strengthen, fortify, bolster, support, consolidate सुदृढ़ करना
34. **Notion** (noun) - idea, belief, concept, conception, thought धारणा
35. **Attribute to** (phrasal verb) - to point to as the cause of something का श्रेय देना
36. **Minimal** (adjective) - least, slight, nominal, minimum, negligible न्यूनतम
37. **Owe to** (phrase) - to exist or be successful because of someone or something के कारण होना
38. **Entrench** (verb) - establish, settle, root, embed, fix स्थापित करना
39. **Distort** (verb) - twist, warp, falsify, misrepresent, alter विकृत करना
40. **Extensive** (adjective) - widespread, vast, broad, comprehensive, large-scale व्यापक
41. **Island** (noun) - isolated or entirely independent (used metaphorically for someone who stands alone) अलग-थलग

Summary of the Editorial

1. The **Nobel Prize for Physics awarded to Francis Halzen** recognises his important idea of using Antarctic ice to detect **neutrinos**, among the universe's most elusive particles.
2. Halzen's work helped create the **IceCube observatory**, which has detected high-energy neutrinos originating from astronomical sources thousands to billions of light-years away.
3. IceCube has significantly **transformed astronomy** by providing scientists with new information about the origins and properties of high-energy particles.
4. The observatory contains **thousands of sensors embedded up to 2.5 kilometres beneath the South Pole**, all connected to an above-ground laboratory.
5. When neutrinos interact with atoms in the Antarctic ice, they produce tiny **flashes of light**, which the sensors detect and record.
6. Scientists use these signals to determine the **energy and direction of incoming neutrinos**, allowing them to identify their possible cosmic sources.
7. Since becoming operational in **2011**, IceCube has detected extremely high-energy neutrinos and provided stronger clues about the **cosmic environments in which they are produced**.
8. The observatory has therefore contributed to the development of **neutrino astronomy**, an important new area of scientific research.
9. However, the editorial argues that awarding the Nobel Prize **only to Halzen ignores the collective nature of IceCube's achievement**.
10. The IceCube collaboration includes **more than 400 experts from 14 countries**, working across astrophysics, engineering and software development.
11. Although Halzen's leadership was essential, the enormous scale of IceCube means that its success was clearly the result of **collective scientific effort**.
12. The Nobel Foundation's statutes prohibit sharing an individual prize among **more than three people**, creating difficulties when major scientific discoveries involve hundreds of researchers.
13. The editorial points out that Nobel rules also allow prizes to be awarded to **organisations**, but this option has repeatedly been overlooked.
14. By continuing to reward exceptional individuals for achievements produced through large-scale collaboration, the Nobel system reinforces an **outdated and distorted idea of how modern science progresses**.
15. The editorial concludes that scientific progress increasingly depends on **extensive cooperation**, so Nobel recognition should better reflect collective achievement rather than treating science as the work of isolated individuals — **"No man is an island, least of all in science."**

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Which of the following statements best captures the central theme of the passage?**
 - A. The technical construction of deep polar sensor arrays has superseded satellite-based observations in modern astrophysics. [Editorial Page]
 - B. By insisting on glorifying lone figures, premier scientific prizes reinforce an outdated myth that misrepresents cooperative discovery.
 - C. The Nobel Foundation's statutory cap on laureates was created to prevent organizational research teams from claiming monetary awards.
 - D. Scientific progress in subatomic astronomy is fundamentally hindered when software engineers collaborate with astrophysicists.
2. **What does the phrase "crucibles in which these particles were created" in the passage most nearly mean?**
 - A. The extreme, energetic astrophysical environments where subatomic cosmic particles originate
 - B. The specialized high-pressure laboratory instruments used to manufacture artificial neutrinos
 - C. The underground sensory networks designed to reconstruct optical flashes inside polar glaciers
 - D. The administrative institutional committees that formulate eligibility protocols for global prizes
3. **Choose the word which is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word printed in bold as used in the passage.**

FEALTY

 - A. DISLOYALTY
 - B. DEVOTION
 - C. ADHERENCE
 - D. HOMAGE
4. **Identify the correct passive voice form of the following sentence from the passage:**

"The Nobel Foundation's statutes prohibit dividing each prize among more than three individuals."

 - A. Dividing each prize among more than three individuals was prohibited by the Nobel Foundation's statutes.
 - B. Dividing each prize among more than three individuals has been prohibited by the Nobel Foundation's statutes.
 - C. Dividing each prize among more than three individuals is prohibited by the Nobel Foundation's statutes.
 - D. Dividing each prize among more than three individuals had been prohibited by the Nobel Foundation's statutes.
5. **What contradiction does the author point out between modern scientific practice and the Nobel tradition?**
 - A. Scientific breakthroughs increasingly depend on extensive team collaboration, while the prize insists on honoring solitary figures.

- B. Modern observatories rely on subsurface sensors, while prize committees only accept data gathered by surface laboratories.
- C. Research projects require funding from multiple nations, while the Nobel Foundation only evaluates single-nation initiatives.
- D. Particle physicists study high-energy cosmic sources, while the Nobel Foundation exclusively recognizes gravitational wave research.
6. **Direction: Rearrange the following four sentences (A, B, C, D) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent paragraph.**
- A. During the monsoon, tourist demand falls, and some hotels and resorts offer lower room rates or seasonal packages.
- B. Goa's busiest period is generally during the cooler months, particularly around the festive and winter holiday season.
- C. The monsoon also changes the Goa experience, making the countryside greener, with waterfalls and inland landscapes standing out more.
- D. However, travellers should check whether beach shacks, water sports and other seasonal activities are operating before booking.
- A. A-C-B-D
- B. B-A-C-D
- C. D-B-A-C
- D. C-A-D-B
7. **Direction: Rearrange the following four sentences (A, B, C, D) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent paragraph.**
- A. If you are comfortable planning around rain, however, this can be a relatively affordable time to visit.
- B. The weather does come with a trade-off: heavy showers can affect outdoor plans, road travel and some activities.
- C. The rain brings out the greenery across destinations such as Munnar, Wayanad and parts of the backwater region.
- D. Kerala's southwest monsoon makes June to August a quieter period for many leisure travellers.
- A. D-C-B-A
- B. C-B-D-A
- C. B-A-D-C
- D. A-D-C-B
8. **Select the synonym of 'Carnal'.**
- A. Demand
- B. Greed
- C. Jealousy
- D. Earthly
9. **Select the synonym of Candid.**
- A. Frank
- B. Dubious
- C. Insincere

- D. Secretive
10. **What does the idiom 'Get to the point' mean?**
- A. Speak directly
 - B. Interrupt
 - C. Avoid the matter
 - D. Speak indirectly
11. **What does the idiom 'Bury the hatchet' mean?**
- A. Fight again
 - B. Hide weapons
 - C. Ignore a problem
 - D. Make peace
12. **Pick the antonym of 'Knave'.**
- A. Shady
 - B. Fuzzy
 - C. Dark
 - D. Paragon
13. **Choose the antonym of 'withdraw':**
- A. Submit
 - B. Advance
 - C. Recede
 - D. Deduct
14. **Choose the one which can be substituted for the given sentence.**
A person who is extremely selective or difficult to please
- A. Docile
 - B. Hostile
 - C. Fastidious
 - D. Gullible
15. **Choose the one which can be substituted for the given sentence.**
An imaginary ideal place of perfection
- A. Monarchy
 - B. Utopia
 - C. Fable
 - D. Dystopia
16. **Choose the correctly spelt word:**
- A. Magnanemous
 - B. Magnanimus
 - C. Magnanamous
 - D. Magnanimous
17. **Find the misspelt word.**
- A. Garrulous
 - B. greteful
 - C. guarantee
 - D. suspicion
18. **Choose the correct option to complete the sentence.**

The hospital staff ensured proper _____ conditions in every ward.

- A. sanity
- B. sanitarium
- C. sanitory
- D. sanitary

19. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.**

He insisted ____ paying the bill.

- A. at
- B. on
- C. by
- D. of

20. **Identify the part containing a grammatical or structural error:**

He asked me that where I was going.

- A. I was going
- B. He asked me
- C. No error
- D. that where

Complete the passage by filling in the blanks with the most appropriate words.

A tiny turtle hatchling with two heads has been discovered on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, in a rare case that has caught the attention of wildlife experts. Researchers monitoring diamondback terrapins, a turtle species _____ A _____ (native) to the salt marshes and coastal areas of the eastern United States, found the unusual terrapin. What made this hatchling different was immediately visible: it had two distinct heads attached _____ B _____ a single body.

The condition is known as bicephaly, a form of conjoined development in which an embryo develops two heads. It happens when an embryo doesn't fully separate during early development.

While two-headed animals are exceptionally rare, this is not the first such turtle to _____ C _____ on Cape Cod. According to Live Science, the newly discovered hatchling is the third bicephalic terrapin found on Cape Cod in the past five years. The discovery is particularly unusual because researchers already closely monitor diamondback terrapins in the region. Finding multiple hatchlings with the same rare developmental _____ D _____ (abnormality) has therefore raised questions about what might be happening during their development.

A two-headed turtle does not necessarily have two completely separate bodies. Instead, the hatchling generally shares organs and other body structures, even though the two heads may function _____ E _____ (independently). That can make movement, feeding and other basic behaviours more difficult.

21. **Choose the most appropriate synonym for the word in (A): (native).**

- A. extraneous
- B. adventitious
- C. autochthonous
- D. itinerant

22. Fill in blank (B) with the correct preposition to complete the phrase.
- A. upon
 - B. onto
 - C. to
 - D. with
23. Fill in blank (C) with the correct phrasal verb meaning "to appear or be found."
- A. turn in
 - B. turn out
 - C. turn over
 - D. turn up
24. Choose the most appropriate synonym for the word in (D): (abnormality)
- A. paradigm
 - B. aberration
 - C. rectitude
 - D. convention
25. Choose the antonym of the word in (E): (independently).
- A. autonomously
 - B. severally
 - C. unilaterally
 - D. concomitantly

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) **By insisting on glorifying lone figures, premier scientific prizes reinforce an outdated myth that misrepresents cooperative discovery.**

passage: "The institution is using its prestige — owed to the science it celebrates — to entrench a distorted understanding of how science works, more so at a time when scientific progress increasingly depends on extensive cooperation. No man is an island, least of all in science."---The passage says IceCube was built by over 400 experts from 14 countries, but the Nobel went to one person. The author argues the Nobel keeps giving prizes to individuals, which creates a wrong idea that science is done by lone geniuses, when it really depends on teamwork. This is the main point of the passage and matches option B.

Option A — Incorrect. The passage never compares IceCube with satellite observations or says one replaced the other. It only explains how IceCube works, as a supporting detail.

Option C — Incorrect. The passage says the three-person limit exists in the Foundation's rules, but it never says the rule was made to stop teams from winning money. It also notes that the rules allow prizes to organisations, which the Nobel has overlooked.

Option D — Incorrect. The passage says the opposite. It praises the mix of astrophysicists, engineers and software developers, and says science increasingly depends on such cooperation. It never says this teamwork hinders progress.

2. A) **The extreme, energetic astrophysical environments where subatomic cosmic particles originate**

passage: "Since coming online in 2011, IceCube has detected neutrinos of extremely high energy, giving scientists stronger clues about the crucibles in which these particles were created, and strengthening neutrino astronomy."--A "crucible" is a place where things are made under intense heat and pressure. The passage says the neutrinos come from "astronomical sources thousands to billions of light-years away." So "crucibles" means those far-away, extremely powerful places in space where these particles are born. This matches option A.

Option B — Incorrect. The passage talks about detecting neutrinos from space, not making them in a lab. No laboratory machines that "manufacture" neutrinos are mentioned.

Option C — Incorrect. The sensors under the ice are the tools that detect the particles. They are not the place where the particles were created. The passage clearly keeps these two things separate.

Option D — Incorrect. Prize committees are discussed later in the passage, in a different context. They have nothing to do with where particles come from.

3. A) — **DISLOYALTY**

passage: "The rules that govern prizes are human arrangements, and the Foundation's choices are not explained away by its fealty to its traditions."---"Fealty" means loyalty or faithful commitment. Here, it means the Foundation is loyal to its old traditions. "Disloyalty" means not being faithful or loyal, so it is the direct opposite.

Option B (Devotion) — Incorrect. "Devotion" means strong loyalty and love for something. It is similar to "fealty," not opposite.

Option C (Adherence) — Incorrect. "Adherence" means sticking to a rule or belief. This is close to being loyal to traditions, so it is a similar word, not an opposite.

Option D (Homage) — Incorrect. "Homage" means showing respect or honour. This is also similar in spirit to "fealty," not its opposite.

4. C) **Dividing each prize among more than three individuals is prohibited by the Nobel Foundation's statutes.**

Active Voice Tense: The original sentence ("The Nobel Foundation's statutes prohibit...") is in the simple present tense (verb: prohibit).

Passive Conversion: In the simple present tense, the passive structure uses is/am/are + past participle (is prohibited).

The object of the active sentence ("dividing each prize among more than three individuals") becomes the new subject, followed by is prohibited, and the agent (by the Nobel Foundation's statutes).

Option (A) — Incorrect. "Was prohibited" is simple past. The original talks about a rule that exists now, so this wrongly moves it into the past

Option (B) — Incorrect. "Has been prohibited" is present perfect. The original is simple present, so this changes the tense and the meaning.

Option (D) — Incorrect. "Had been prohibited" is past perfect. It means the rule was in place before some other past event. The original has no such event, so the time meaning is wrong.

5. A) **Scientific breakthroughs increasingly depend on extensive team collaboration, while the prize insists on honoring solitary figures.**

passage: "The institution is using its prestige... to entrench a distorted understanding of how science works, more so at a time when scientific progress increasingly depends on extensive cooperation... in the present instance by reinforcing the notion that exceptional scientific achievements can be cleanly attributed to exceptional individuals."---The author's complaint is that science today is done by big teams, like the 400+ experts from 14 countries behind IceCube. But the Nobel still gives the prize to one person, as if one genius did it all. This clash between teamwork in real science and the "single winner" tradition is the contradiction. This matches option (a).

Option (b) — Incorrect. The passage never says prize committees only accept data from surface laboratories. The underground sensors are mentioned only to explain how IceCube works.

Option (c) — Incorrect. The passage says nothing about the Nobel Foundation judging only single-nation projects. The 14 countries are mentioned as the home of the team members, not as a prize rule.

Option (d) — Incorrect. The passage does not say the Nobel only recognises gravitational wave research. Gravitational waves are mentioned just as one earlier example (2017) of a prize given to three people for a team effort.

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

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence B paragraph की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह introductory sentence है। यह बिना किसी पूर्व संदर्भ के गोवा के सामान्य पर्यटन चक्र का परिचय देता है कि इसका सबसे व्यस्त समय आमतौर पर ठंडे महीनों, विशेषकर त्योहारों और सर्दियों की छुट्टियों के दौरान होता है।
- Sentence A Sentence B को follow करेगा क्योंकि यह व्यस्त मौसम के विपरीत मानसून के मौसम का पहला पहलू प्रस्तुत करता है कि मानसून के दौरान पर्यटकों की मांग घट जाती है और कुछ होटल व रिसॉर्ट कम दरों या मौसमी पैकेजों की पेशकश करते हैं।
- Sentence C Sentence A के बाद आएगा क्योंकि इसमें प्रयुक्त additive connector "also" ("The monsoon also changes the Goa experience...") Sentence A के व्यावसायिक बदलाव से आगे बढ़कर मानसून के प्राकृतिक और दृश्य प्रभावों (हरियाली, झरने और अंतर्देशीय परिदृश्य) का विवरण जोड़ता है।
- Sentence D Sentence C के बाद आएगा और paragraph का conclusion बनेगा। यह contrast connector "However" के साथ यात्रियों के लिए एक व्यावहारिक सावधानी और सलाह जोड़ता है कि बुकिंग करने से पहले उन्हें यह जांच लेना चाहिए कि बीच शेक्स, वॉटर स्पोर्ट्स और अन्य मौसमी गतिविधियां संचालित हो रही हैं या नहीं।

English Explanation:

- Sentence B functions as the standalone introductory sentence, establishing the baseline tourist calendar in Goa by identifying the peak holiday rush during the cooler winter months.
- Sentence A follows Sentence B directly by contrasting peak season with the off-peak monsoon period, detailing how reduced tourist volume leads to discounted room tariffs and seasonal offers.
- Sentence C follows Sentence A via the additive marker "also" ("The monsoon also changes the Goa experience..."), expanding beyond commercial changes to depict the lush environmental shift across the countryside and waterfalls.
- Sentence D follows Sentence C as the natural conclusion, using the contrast connector "However" to deliver essential practical advice, warning travelers to verify whether beach shacks and water sports are open before finalizing reservations.

7. A) D-C-B-A

Explanation:

Hindi Explanation:

- Sentence D paragraph की शुरुआत करेगा क्योंकि यह introductory sentence है। यह बिना किसी पूर्व संदर्भ के मुख्य विषय प्रस्तुत करता है कि केरल का दक्षिण-पश्चिम मानसून जून से अगस्त के समय को कई अवकाश यात्रियों (leisure travellers) के लिए एक शांत अवधि बना देता है।
- Sentence C Sentence D को follow करेगा क्योंकि इसमें प्रयुक्त noun phrase "The rain" सीधे Sentence D के मानसून (monsoon) से जुड़ता है और इसके सकारात्मक पहलू का विवरण देता है कि बारिश मुन्नार, वायनाड और बैकवाटर क्षेत्रों में हरियाली बिखेर देती है।
- Sentence B Sentence C के बाद आएगा क्योंकि यह प्राकृतिक सुंदरता के समानांतर व्यावहारिक समस्या प्रस्तुत करता है ("The weather does come with a trade-off...") कि भारी बारिश बाहरी योजनाओं, सड़क यात्रा और कुछ गतिविधियों को प्रभावित कर सकती है।
- Sentence A Sentence B के बाद आएगा और paragraph का conclusion बनेगा। यह Sentence B में उल्लिखित बारिश की चुनौतियों के संदर्भ में contrast connector "however" के साथ अंतिम

सुझाव प्रस्तुत करता है कि यदि कोई यात्री बारिश के अनुसार योजना बनाने में सहज है, तो यह यात्रा करने का एक अपेक्षाकृत किफायती (affordable) समय हो सकता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence D functions as the standalone introductory sentence, setting up the premise by defining the June-to-August southwest monsoon season in Kerala as a quieter window for leisure travel.
 - Sentence C follows Sentence D directly because the definite subject "The rain" links back to the southwest monsoon, highlighting the scenic upside of lush greenery across Munnar, Wayanad, and the backwaters.
 - Sentence B follows Sentence C by introducing the pragmatic downside via the phrase "trade-off", noting that heavy downpours frequently disrupt outdoor sightseeing, vehicular transit, and regional activities.
 - Sentence A follows Sentence B as the natural conclusion, using the contrastive connector "however" to resolve the disruption concerns by offering a traveler caveat: for those willing to adapt around the weather, this season serves as a budget-friendly, affordable window to visit.
8. D) **Carnal** (adjective) – Physical, worldly, sensual, fleshly शारीरिक / सांसारिक
 Synonym: **Earthly** (adjective) – Worldly, material, physical सांसारिक
 a. **Demand** (noun/verb) – Request, need, requirement मांग
 b. **Greed** (noun) – Excessive desire, avarice लालच
 c. **Jealousy** (noun) – Envy, resentment, suspicion ईर्ष्या
9. A) **Candid** (adjective) – Honest, truthful, straightforward, outspoken. स्पष्टवादी / ईमानदार
 Synonym: **Frank** (adjective) – Direct, open, sincere, honest. साफ़-साफ़ बोलने वाला
 • **Dubious** (adjective) – Doubtful, uncertain, suspicious, questionable. संदिग्ध
 • **Insincere** (adjective) – Dishonest, fake, hypocritical, untruthful. कपटी / असत्यनिष्ठ
Secretive (adjective) – Reserved, hidden, mysterious, covert. गुप्त स्वभाव वाला
10. A) **Get to the point** (idiom) – Speak directly सीधे और मुख्य बात पर आना
11. D) **Bury the hatchet** (idiom) – Make peace झगड़ा समाप्त कर शांति स्थापित करना
12. D) **Knave** (noun) – A dishonest man, rogue, cheat, scoundrel धूर्त / बदमाश
 Antonym: **Paragon** (noun) – A model of excellence, virtue, perfection आदर्श व्यक्ति
 • **Shady** (adjective) – Dishonest, suspicious, dubious संदिग्ध / बेईमान
 • **Fuzzy** (adjective) – Unclear, blurred, indistinct धुंधला
 • **Dark** (adjective) – Gloomy, dim, without light अंधकारमय
13. B) **Withdraw** (verb) – Retreat, pull back, remove, recede पीछे हटना
 Antonym: **Advance** (verb) – Move forward, progress, proceed, march ahead आगे बढ़ना
 • **Submit** (verb) – Surrender, yield, present समर्पण करना
 • **Recede** (verb) – Move back, retreat, decline पीछे हटना
 • **Deduct** (verb) – Subtract, reduce, decrease कटौती करना
14. C) **Fastidious** (adjective/noun) – a person who is very selective, hard to please, or careful about details अत्यधिक चुस्त या कठिनाई से संतुष्ट होने वाला व्यक्ति
 • **Docile** (adjective) – easy to control or teach आज्ञाकारी

- **Hostile** (adjective) – unfriendly or aggressive शत्रुतापूर्ण
 - **Gullible** (adjective) – easily deceived or fooled आसानी से धोखा खाने वाला
15. B) **Utopia** (noun) – an imaginary ideal place or state of perfection आदर्श और पूर्ण काल्पनिक स्थान
- **Monarchy** (noun) – a form of government ruled by a king or queen राजतंत्र
 - **Fable** (noun) – a short story conveying a moral lesson नीति कथा
 - **Dystopia** (noun) – an imaginary place where life is unpleasant or frightening दुःस्वप्न जैसा समाज / कष्टदायक काल्पनिक स्थान
16. D) The correct spelling is '**Magnanimous**' which means "generous and forgiving, especially toward a rival or less powerful person" उदार, विशाल हृदय वाला।
17. B) The correct spelling of 'greteful' is '**grateful**' which means "feeling or showing thanks" कृतज्ञ, आभारी।
18. D) '**Sanitary**' का use होगा क्योंकि "sanitary conditions" एक correct and common phrase है, जिसका अर्थ होता है स्वच्छ और स्वास्थ्यकर परिस्थितियाँ। Sentence में hospital ward की साफ-सफाई और hygiene की बात हो रही है, इसलिए 'sanitary' यहाँ सबसे उपयुक्त adjective है। जबकि 'Sanity' का अर्थ मानसिक संतुलन, 'Sanitarium' का अर्थ स्वास्थ्य-लाभ केंद्र, और 'Sanitary' गलत spelling है, इसलिए ये context में सही नहीं हैं।
- 'Sanitary' will be used because "sanitary conditions" is a correct and commonly used phrase meaning clean and hygienic conditions. The sentence talks about cleanliness and hygiene in hospital wards, so 'sanitary' fits perfectly here. Whereas, 'Sanity' means mental stability, 'Sanitarium' refers to a health resort or hospital, and 'Sanitary' is an incorrect spelling, so they do not suit the context.
19. B) **On** का use होगा क्योंकि "insist on" एक fixed prepositional phrase है, जिसका अर्थ होता है किसी बात पर दृढ़ रहना या ज़ोर देना। जब "insist" के बाद verb आती है, तो verb की first form में "-ing" लगाया जाता है और उससे पहले 'on' का प्रयोग होता है। इसलिए sentence होगा — "He insisted on paying the bill." जबकि 'At', 'By', और 'Of' के साथ "insist" का प्रयोग इस structure में grammatical रूप से सही नहीं है।
- 'On' will be used because "insist on" is a fixed prepositional phrase meaning to strongly demand or persist in something. When a verb follows "insist," it takes the "-ing" form along with the preposition 'on'. Therefore, the correct sentence is — "He insisted on paying the bill." Whereas, 'At', 'By', and 'Of' are not grammatically correct with "insist" in this structure.
20. D) **that where** में त्रुटि है क्योंकि Indirect Question में 'that' का प्रयोग नहीं किया जाता। 'asked' के बाद सीधे Question Word 'where' आता है; जैसे— He asked me where I was going.
- 'that where' is incorrect because 'that' is not used in an Indirect Question. After 'asked', the Question Word 'where' comes directly; Like— He asked me where I was going.
21. C) **autochthonous**
- The passage describes the diamondback terrapins as a species that naturally belongs to the coastal areas of the US (native to the salt marshes). The question asks for the most appropriate synonym for "native" (meaning indigenous or originating in a particular place). a) extraneous: means irrelevant or unrelated to the subject. b) adventitious: means happening or carried on according to chance rather than design or inherent nature. c) autochthonous:

means indigenous or native to a place, serving as the exact formal synonym for "native." d) itinerant: means traveling from place to place.

- यह sentence डायमंडबैक टेरापिन कछुओं को अमेरिका के तटीय क्षेत्रों का मूल निवासी या स्वदेशी ("native") प्रजाति बताता है। Question में "native" (मूल निवासी/स्वदेशी) का सबसे सटीक synonym पूछा गया है। a) extraneous: इसका meaning बाहरी या असंगत होता है। b) adventitious: इसका meaning आकस्मिक या बाहरी होता है। c) autochthonous: इसका meaning 'मूल निवासी या उसी स्थान पर उत्पन्न' (indigenous/native) होता है, जो "native" के अर्थ से perfectly match करता है। d) itinerant: इसका meaning भ्रमणकारी होता है।

22. C) to

The sentence explains that the turtle had two distinct heads physically joined or fastened to one shared body (attached _____ a single body). Blank (B) requires the correct preposition to denote physical connection or fastening. a) upon: indicates being supported by or resting on top of. b) onto: indicates movement to a position on a surface. c) to: is the standard preposition used with the verb "attached" to denote linking or fastening one thing to another ("attached to"). d) with: indicates accompaniment.

- यह sentence कछुए के दो अलग-अलग सिरों का एक ही शरीर से जुड़े होने को describe करता है। किसी चीज़ को दूसरी चीज़ से जोड़ने या चिपकाने के अर्थ में verb "attached" के साथ हमेशा standard preposition "to" का use किया जाता है। a) upon: यह के ऊपर होने का भाव देता है। b) onto: यह किसी सतह पर गति को दर्शाता है। c) to: यह निश्चित अभिव्यक्ति "attached to" (से जुड़ा हुआ) बनाता है, जो context में perfectly fit होता है। d) with: यह साथ दर्शाता है।

23. D) turn up

The passage states that this newly discovered two-headed turtle is not the first of its kind to be found or to appear in the Cape Cod area (not the first such turtle to _____ on Cape Cod). Blank (C) requires a phrasal verb meaning to be found, discovered, or to appear. a) turn in: means to submit something or to go to bed. b) turn out: means to prove to be the case or to attend an event/gathering. c) turn over: means to flip or to transfer control. d) turn up: means to appear, arrive, or be found/discovered unexpectedly (turn up on Cape Cod), fitting the context of discovery perfectly.

- यह sentence बताता है कि केप कॉड इलाके में मिलने या सामने आने वाला यह पहला दो सिरों वाला कछुआ नहीं है। Blank (C) को 'मिलना, सामने आना या प्रकट होना' दर्शाने वाले phrasal verb की आवश्यकता है। a) turn in: इसका meaning सौंपना या सोने जाना होता है। b) turn out: इसका meaning साबित होना या उपस्थित होना होता है। c) turn over: इसका meaning पलटना या सौंपना होता है। d) turn up: इसका meaning 'अप्रत्याशित रूप से मिलना या सामने आना' (be found/appear) होता है, जो कछुए के मिलने के संदर्भ में perfectly fit होता है।

24. B) aberration

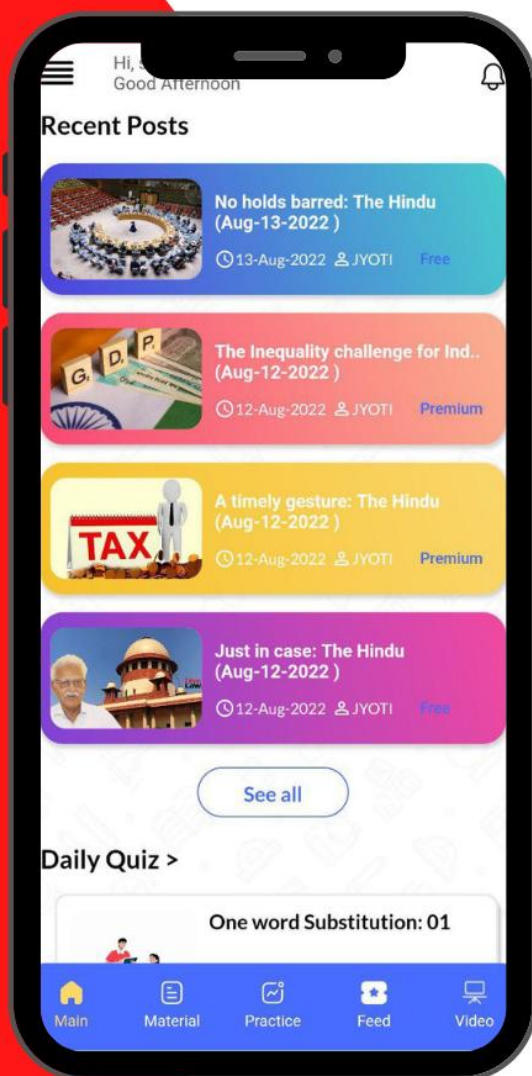
The sentence discusses researchers finding multiple hatchlings sharing the exact same rare developmental defect or irregularity (developmental abnormality). The question asks for the synonym of "abnormality" (meaning a deviation from what is normal or usual). a) paradigm: means a typical example or pattern of something; a model. b) aberration: means a departure from what is normal, usual, or expected, typically an unwelcome one, serving as the direct synonym for "abnormality." c) rectitude: means morally correct behavior or righteousness. d) convention: means a way in which something is usually done (antonym).

- यह sentence विकास के दौरान कछुओं में पाई जाने वाली एक ही प्रकार की दुर्लभ विकृति या असामान्यता ("abnormality") को describe करता है। Question में "abnormality" (असामान्यता/विकृति) का सबसे सटीक synonym पूछा गया है। a) paradigm: इसका meaning मिसाल या आदर्श प्रतिमान होता है। b) aberration: इसका meaning 'सामान्य स्थिति से भटकाव, विपथन या विकृति' (deviation from normal) होता है, जो "abnormality" के अर्थ से perfectly match करता है। c) rectitude: इसका meaning ईमानदारी या इंसाफ होता है। d) convention: इसका meaning परंपरा या सामान्य प्रथा होता है।

25. D) concomitantly

The passage notes that although they share a single body, the two distinct heads generally operate and act on their own, separately from each other (function independently). The question asks for the antonym of "independently" (meaning without outside control or separately). a) autonomously: means acting independently or having the freedom to do so (synonym). b) severally: means separately or individually; each in their own way (synonym). c) unilaterally: means performed by or affecting only one person, group, or country involved in a situation. d) concomitantly: means happening at the same time, concurrently, or acting jointly in association, serving as the best antonym for independent/separate functioning.

- यह sentence शरीर एक होने के बावजूद दोनों सिरों के अलग-अलग या स्वतंत्र रूप से काम करने ("independently") को describe करता है। Question में "independently" (स्वतंत्र रूप से / अलग-अलग) का direct antonym पूछा गया है। a) autonomously: इसका meaning स्वायत्त रूप से या स्वतंत्र रूप से (synonym) होता है। b) severally: इसका meaning अलग-अलग (synonym) होता है। c) unilaterally: इसका meaning एकतरफा रूप से होता है। d) concomitantly: इसका meaning 'एक साथ, संयुक्त रूप से या समवर्ती रूप से' (happening together/jointly) होता है, जो "independently" का विपरीत (antonym) अर्थ देता है।



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