Trump debacle: On the U.S. midterm election results

Democrats must use their win to **influence** policy and improve lives

President Donald Trump faced the worst political **setback** of his current term in office after the Republican Party lost control of both the Senate and the House of Representatives in the mid-term election. Democrats not only won **resoundingly** in their traditional **stronghold** States, such as Colorado, Oregon and Illinois, and **held onto** important **swing States**, such as Georgia, Michigan and Virginia, but they also made **historic** inroads into "red states" such as Texas, Kansas and Iowa. While Mr. Trump **fumed** that Republicans would have performed better had his name been on the **ballot**, he also appeared to be resigned to the **imminent** reality of working with Democratic lawmakers over the remaining two years of his administration. Beyond the immediate impact on the future functioning of the federal government, this week's "bluenami" has also brought **sweeping** changes at the State level: Democrats won a Senate seat in Texas for the first time in 37 years; Democrat Abdul El-Sayed won in Michigan, making him the first Muslim Senator in history; Chris Pappas of New Hampshire became the first openly gay man to be elected to the Senate; and Senate Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries will soon be the first African-American Speaker of the House.

It is **ironic** that Mr. Trump **alluded to** his name not being on the ballot as the **cause** for the Republican collapse because, for many voters, the midterm election was **indeed** a **referendum** on the second Trump administration's performance in office. The result has been an **unambiguous thumbs-down** from voters **so far** as top policy areas of the Trump administration are **concerned**, including cost of living and jobs, **immigration enforcement**, the war in Iran. **The writing was on the wall**, as were **the approval ratings**, especially in the case of oil prices and the Iran war, given that the price of gas in the U.S. has soared since the conflict around the Strait of Hormuz escalated. Similarly, the **widespread** raids by ICE and **accelerated deportation** processes for undocumented migrants led to protests across States and **galvanised** progressives around immigration reform. While Democrats may be **justified** in celebrating their victory after two years of harsh Trumpism, they would do well to remember that the President still retains **a veto vote** for policies passed by Congress. The **temptation** to launch a series of investigations and **interrogate** the functioning of the Trump White House may be strong, yet congressional Democrats may wish to avoid any posturing that **yields** no **palpable** policy impact, including **kicking off** **impeachment proceedings** against Mr. Trump. A more **productive** **way forward** for Democratic lawmakers would be to engage with the White House and, through negotiation and compromise, **mitigate** the real impact of **deleterious** policies in **critical** areas such as health-care insurance and **tariffs**. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Debacle** (noun) - fiasco, disaster, failure, catastrophe, collapse असफलता
2. **Influence** (verb) - affect, guide, shape, direct, impact प्रभावित करना
3. **Setback** (noun) - blow, obstacle, hindrance, impediment, reverse नाकामी
4. **Resoundingly** (adverb) - emphatically, decisively, completely, thoroughly, overwhelmingly जोरदार तरीके से
5. **Stronghold** (noun) - bastion, fortress, citadel, haven, domain गढ़
6. **Hold onto** (phrasal verb) - to keep something or maintain control over it बरकरार रखना
7. **Swing state** (noun) - a us state where the two major political parties have similar levels of support अनिर्णायक राज्य
8. **Historic** (adjective) - significant, momentous, memorable, consequential, groundbreaking ऐतिहासिक
9. **Fume** (verb) - rage, seethe, boil, storm, anger क्रोधित होना
10. **Ballot** (noun) - vote, poll, election, franchise, suffrage मतदान
11. **Imminent** (adjective) - impending, approaching, looming, forthcoming, upcoming आसन्न
12. **Sweeping** (adjective) - extensive, broad, comprehensive, wide, overarching व्यापक
13. **Ironic** (adjective) - sarcastic, paradoxical, satirical, sardonic, mocking विडंबनापूर्ण
14. **Allude to** (phrasal verb) - to mention someone or something in a brief or indirect way संकेत करना
15. **Cause** (noun) - reason, motive, origin, root, source कारण
16. **Indeed** (adverb) - certainly, truly, actually, really, undeniably वास्तव में
17. **Referendum** (noun) - an occasion when all the people of a country can vote on a particular political question जनमत संग्रह
18. **Unambiguous** (adjective) - clear, explicit, definite, indisputable, distinct स्पष्ट
19. **Thumbs-down** (noun) - an indication of rejection or disapproval अस्वीकृति
20. **So far** (phrase) - up to this point or to this extent अब तक
21. **Concern** (verb) - affect, involve, relate, pertain, touch संबंधित होना
22. **Immigration** (noun) - the process by which people come in to a foreign country to live there आप्रवासन
23. **Enforcement** (noun) - implementation, application, execution, imposition, administration प्रवर्तन
24. **The writing on the wall** (idiom) - clear signs that a situation is going to become very difficult or fail खतरे का संकेत
25. **Approval rating** (noun) - a percentage indicating how many people approve of a particular person or program जनसमर्थन दर
26. **Widespread** (adjective) - extensive, prevalent, common, ubiquitous, general व्यापक

27. **Accelerate** (verb) - hasten, quicken, speed, expedite, advance तेज करना
28. **Deportation** (noun) - expulsion, eviction, banishment, exile, extradition निर्वासन
29. **Galvanise** (verb) - stimulate, arouse, rouse, spur, inspire प्रेरित करना
30. **Justify** (verb) - defend, vindicate, warrant, validate, explain उचित ठहराना
31. **Veto vote** (noun) - the power or right to prohibit or reject a proposed or intended act निषेधाधिकार
32. **Temptation** (noun) - lure, enticement, appeal, draw, attraction प्रलोभन
33. **Interrogate** (verb) - question, grill, examine, cross-examine, quiz पूछताछ करना
34. **Yield** (verb) - produce, generate, provide, supply, bear उत्पन्न करना
35. **Palpable** (adjective) - tangible, noticeable, visible, obvious, perceptible स्पष्ट
36. **Kick off** (phrasal verb) - to begin or start something शुरू करना
37. **Impeachment** (noun) - indictment, accusation, prosecution, arraignment, charge महाभियोग
38. **Proceeding** (noun) - action, process, affair, procedure, event कार्यवाही
39. **Productive** (adjective) - fruitful, useful, constructive, effective, profitable उत्पादक
40. **Way forward** (phrase) - an action or plan that will lead to success in the future आगे का रास्ता
41. **Mitigate** (verb) - alleviate, reduce, ease, lessen, diminish कम करना
42. **Deleterious** (adjective) - harmful, damaging, detrimental, injurious, adverse हानिकारक
43. **Critical** (adjective) - crucial, vital, essential, important, key महत्वपूर्ण
44. **Tariff** (noun) - tax, duty, toll, levy, charge शुल्क

Summary of the Editorial

1. **Major Political Setback:** President Donald Trump faced the worst political setback of his term as the Republican Party lost control of both the Senate and the House of Representatives.
2. **Democratic Strongholds Maintained:** Democrats secured decisive victories in their traditional stronghold states, including Colorado, Oregon, and Illinois.
3. **Swing States Retained:** The Democratic Party held onto key swing states such as Georgia, Michigan, and Virginia.
4. **Historic Gains in Red States:** Democrats made significant, unexpected inroads into historically conservative "red states" like Texas, Kansas, and Iowa.
5. **Trump's Reaction:** President Trump claimed Republicans would have performed better with his name on the ballot, though he appeared resigned to working with a Democratic-led Congress for his remaining two years.
6. **State-Level Historical Milestone in Texas:** Democrats won a U.S. Senate seat in Texas for the first time in 37 years.
7. **First Muslim U.S. Senator:** Democrat Abdul El-Sayed won in Michigan, becoming the first Muslim Senator in U.S. history.
8. **First Openly Gay U.S. Senator:** Chris Pappas of New Hampshire became the first openly gay man elected to the Senate.
9. **First African-American Speaker of the House:** Senate Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries is set to become the first African-American Speaker of the House.
10. **A Referendum on Trump:** Despite Trump's claims, voters largely treated the midterms as a direct referendum on the performance of his second administration.
11. **Rejection of Key Policies:** Voters issued a clear vote of no confidence on core issues, including the cost of living, jobs, immigration enforcement, and the war in Iran.
12. **Economic Strain from Foreign Policy:** Escalation around the Strait of Hormuz led to soaring U.S. gas prices and declining approval ratings for the administration.
13. **Immigration Backlash:** Widespread ICE raids and accelerated deportations triggered nationwide protests and energized progressives around immigration reform.
14. **Trump's Retained Veto Power:** Despite Democratic control of Congress, President Trump still holds veto power over passed legislation.
15. **Strategic Recommendation for Democrats:** Rather than focusing solely on partisan investigations or impeachment, congressional Democrats should negotiate with the White House to deliver real policy impact in areas like health insurance and tariffs.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Why does the author describe Donald Trump's claim about his name not being on the ballot as ironic?** [Editorial page]
   A. Because congressional Democrats avoided initiating impeachment proceedings despite securing majorities across both legislative chambers.
   B. Because midterm voters treated the election as an explicit referendum evaluating his administration's governance.
   C. Because Republican candidates achieved historic victories across traditional Democratic stronghold states like Colorado and Oregon.
   D. Because soaring gasoline prices compelled federal lawmakers to pass bipartisan health-care insurance reforms before election day.
2. **What does the passage suggest regarding the political consequences of the military conflict around the Strait of Hormuz?**
   A. It prompted congressional leaders to negotiate compromise trade tariffs directly with the White House.
   B. It persuaded the executive branch to suspend accelerated deportation procedures across southern border states.
   C. It drove up domestic gas prices, contributing to an electoral backlash against the administration.
   D. It enabled Republican candidates to preserve legislative majorities across swing states like Virginia and Michigan.
3. **According to the passage, which historic political milestone was achieved in the state of Texas?**
   A. Democratic candidates secured a Senate seat for the first time in thirty-seven years.
   B. Progressive activists halted immigration enforcement raids conducted by federal border protection officers.
   C. Republican lawmakers retained legislative control over both chambers of the state government.
   D. Voters elected the first African-American lawmaker to serve as Speaker of the House.
4. **Why does the author argue that congressional Democrats should avoid initiating impeachment proceedings?**
   A. Because constitutional procedures require the approval of Republican governors before filing articles of impeachment.
   B. Because symbolic political confrontations will yield no palpable policy impact while the presidential veto remains.
   C. Because Democratic lawmakers lack sufficient majorities in the House of Representatives to approve investigative hearings.
   D. Because executive branch officials agreed to repeal contentious tariffs prior to the midterm legislative elections.
5. **Identify the correct passive voice form of the following sentence taken from the passage:**
   "Democratic lawmakers mitigated the real impact of deleterious policies in critical areas such as health-care insurance and tariffs through continuous negotiation and compromise."

A. The real impact of deleterious policies in critical areas such as health-care insurance and tariffs was mitigated by Democratic lawmakers through continuous negotiation and compromise.
B. The real impact of deleterious policies in critical areas such as health-care insurance and tariffs is mitigated by Democratic lawmakers through continuous negotiation and compromise.
C. The real impact of deleterious policies in critical areas such as health-care insurance and tariffs has been mitigated by Democratic lawmakers through continuous negotiation and compromise.
D. The real impact of deleterious policies in critical areas such as health-care insurance and tariffs had been mitigated by Democratic lawmakers through continuous negotiation and compromise.

6. **Select the synonym of Tranquil.**
   A. Agitated
   B. Peaceful
   C. Violent
   D. Sad
7. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the phrasal verb "Embark on."**
   A. To officially include someone in a project or plan.
   B. To start something new, important, or exciting.
   C. To explain the reason or logic behind a decision.
   D. To move in a wobbly or unstable manner.
8. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
   Abide
   A. Dwell
   B. Anticipate
   C. Endure
   D. Reject
9. **Choose the one which can be substituted for the given sentence.**
   One who studies the evolution of mankind
   A. Archaeologist
   B. Sociologist
   C. Anthropologist
   D. Philologist
10. **Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.**
    Wisdom
    A. Dexterity
    B. Competency
    C. Imbecility
    D. Cogency
11. **Select the correct passive form of the given sentence.**
    "He wrote the letter."
    A. The letter had been wrote.
    B. The letter is written by him.

C. The letter wrote by him.
D. The letter was written by him.

12. **What does the phrase "Off the cuff" mean?**
    A. Carefully prepared
    B. Offended
    C. With delay
    D. Without preparation
13. **A sentence is provided in direct speech. From the four given options, choose the one that most accurately conveys the sentence in its corresponding indirect speech.**
    The officer said, "Had I known about the problem earlier, I would have helped."
    A. The officer said that he know if he had helped.
    B. The officer said he had helped if he had known it.
    C. The officer told if he knew about the problem, he would help.
    D. The officer said that if he had known about the problem earlier, he would have helped.
14. **Select the correctly spelt word out of the four alternatives.**
    A. Pharmacutical
    B. Pharmaceutical
    C. Pharmaceuticle
    D. Pharmacetical
15. **Select the synonym of Abolish.**
    A. Establish
    B. Eliminate
    C. Construct
    D. Approve
16. **Direction: In the following question, the first and the last sentences of the passage are numbered S1 and S6. The rest of the passage is split into four parts and numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4. Rearrange these four parts to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent passage.**
    S1. Access to the Internet is essential for ensuring a bright digital future for children and building an inclusive and informed society.
    1. The court observed that the general perception that safety and freedom are at odds with each other is a false notion, and protecting children does not necessarily mean restricting their freedom.
    2. In this regard, the Supreme Court recently recognized internet access as a fundamental right and an essential component of freedom of speech under Article 19(1)(a).
    3. However, striking a balance between freedom and safety remains the need of the hour.
    4. It emphasized that, particularly for children, the digital space serves as an irreplaceable gateway to knowledge, creativity, and self-expression.
    S6. It is therefore equally important to create an environment in which children can explore the digital world safely while having their fundamental rights protected and fulfilled.
    A. 3-2-4-1
    B. 2-4-3-1
    C. 3-4-2-1
    D. 1-3-2-4
17. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate option:**

The memorandum was neither meticulously structured nor ____ proofread, leading to interpretive confusion.

A. adequately
B. adequateness
C. adequate
D. adequacy

18. **Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'No substitution'.**
Not only the manager give me a refund, but he also offered me a 50% discount on my next meal

A. Not only do the manager give me a refund,
B. Not only did the manager gave me a refund,
C. Not only did the manager give me a refund,
D. No substitution

19. **Direction: In the following question, the passage is split into five parts and named A, B, C, D, and E. Rearrange these five parts to form a meaningful, logical, and coherent paragraph.**
A. This freeing up of the mind in the last year and a half has manifested itself in a new, exciting, exhilarating, compelling Virat Kohli.
B. Just when we thought we had seen it all when it came to Kohli, a senior international for 18 years now, he shook us out of our complacent slumber, uncorking an avatar that is even more attractive and authoritative.
C. Virat Kohli is at that stage of his career where he is thoroughly enjoying himself.
D. It's not as if he isn't as driven as previously; it's just that, having shouldered the burden of the Indian batting for so long, he feels he has earned the right to express himself with greater freedom than ever before.
E. As if that were possible, you ask? It most certainly is.

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

20. **The following sentence has been split into four segments. Identify the segment that contains a grammatical error.**
The judge decided that / the defendant was guilty of all charges, / and that apunishment of five years / in prison were appropriate.

A. and that a punishment of five years
B. The judge decided that
C. in prison were appropriate
D. the defendant was guilty of all charges,

Directions: Five words or phrases in the passage below have been replaced with blanks. Choose the option that best completes each one.
How do you fit the Ramayana, an epic of gods, demons, warring kingdoms and human frailty, into 26 letters? For Ishan Khosla, a Dehradun-based designer and educator with a fascination (1)___ the history of typography, the question was not entirely absurd. He had spent years thinking about the strange relationship between pictures and words: how Egyptian (2)___

represented objects and sounds, and how medieval European manuscripts turned their opening letters into elaborate (3)___ worlds, populated by saints, animals and sword-wielding men. Letters are things we read, but what if they could become pictures again?
Khosla had been exploring this possibility through The Typecraft Initiative, founded in 2011, born of a frustration with how little of India's own visual culture he saw in contemporary design. "I also wanted to (4)___ of the confines of the urban, air-conditioned studio," he recalls, "and typography became a means of dialogue, through words as much as images." Working with practitioners of Gond art and Baiga tattoos, kolam and other visual traditions, he has sought to bring artistic knowledge (5)___ through generations into digital typography. Having previously collaborated with Madhubani artists Pradyumna Kumar and Pushpa Kumari on a Devanagari typeface, he wondered whether they might help him turn the Ramayana into an alphabet.

21. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (1):**
    A. on
    B. of
    C. for
    D. to
22. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (2):**
    A. hieroglyphs
    B. runes
    C. cuneiform
    D. papyrus
23. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (3):**
    A. intricately
    B. barren
    C. colossal
    D. miniature
24. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (4):**
    A. get across
    B. get out
    C. get over
    D. get away
25. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank (5):**
    A. passed over
    B. passed off
    C. passed away
    D. passed down

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. B) **Because midterm voters treated the election as an explicit referendum evaluating his administration's governance.**
   passage: "It is ironic that Mr. Trump alluded to his name not being on the ballot as the cause for the Republican collapse because, for many voters, the midterm election was indeed a referendum on the second Trump administration's performance in office."---"Ironic" means the result is the opposite of what you would expect. Trump said Republicans lost because his name was not on the ballot. The author says that for many voters, the election was in fact a vote on his performance, on things like cost of living, immigration enforcement and the Iran war. So his name was effectively on the ballot, which makes his claim ironic. Option B says exactly this, so it is correct.
   - Option A: Incorrect. The option says the irony is that Democrats avoided impeachment despite winning both chambers, but the passage says the author only advises Democrats to avoid impeachment proceedings. This is unrelated to Trump's remark about his name, hence incorrect.
   - Option C: Incorrect. The option says Republicans won historic victories in Democratic strongholds like Colorado and Oregon, but the passage says Democrats won in those states, and Republicans lost both the Senate and the House, hence incorrect.
   - Option D: Incorrect. The option says soaring gas prices made lawmakers pass bipartisan health-care reforms before election day, but the passage mentions high gas prices only as a reason voters were unhappy, and it never says any health-care reform was passed, hence incorrect.
2. C) **It drove up domestic gas prices, contributing to an electoral backlash against the administration.**
   passage: "The writing was on the wall, as were the approval ratings, especially in the case of oil prices and the Iran war, given that the price of gas in the U.S. has soared since the conflict around the Strait of Hormuz escalated."---The passage says gas prices in the US shot up after the conflict around the Strait of Hormuz escalated. It lists the Iran war and oil prices among the policy areas where voters gave a clear "thumbs-down" to the Trump administration. So the conflict raised fuel prices, and this added to the voters' anger and the Republican loss. Option C says exactly this, so it is correct.
   - Option A: Incorrect. The option says the conflict made congressional leaders negotiate tariff compromises with the White House, but the passage says the author only advises Democrats to negotiate on issues like health-care insurance and tariffs after their win. This is a suggestion and is not linked to the Hormuz conflict, hence incorrect.
   - Option B: Incorrect. The option says the conflict made the executive branch suspend deportation procedures, but the passage says the ICE raids and accelerated deportations led to protests, and it never says they were suspended or tied to the conflict, hence incorrect.

- Option D: Incorrect. The option says the conflict helped Republicans keep majorities in swing states like Virginia and Michigan, but the passage says Democrats held on to swing states such as Georgia, Michigan and Virginia, and Republicans lost both the Senate and the House, hence incorrect.

3. A) **Democratic candidates secured a Senate seat for the first time in thirty-seven years.**
passage: "Democrats won a Senate seat in Texas for the first time in 37 years."--The passage names the Texas milestone directly. Democrats won a Senate seat there for the first time in 37 years. Option A says exactly this, so it is correct.
    - Option B: Incorrect. The option says activists halted immigration enforcement raids, but the passage says the ICE raids led to protests across States and galvanised progressives around immigration reform. It never says the raids were stopped, and it does not link this to Texas, hence incorrect.
    - Option C: Incorrect. The option says Republicans kept control of both chambers of the state government, but the passage says Democrats made "historic inroads" into red states like Texas and won a Senate seat there, and Republicans lost both the Senate and the House nationally, hence incorrect.
    - Option D: Incorrect. The option says Texas voters elected the first African-American Speaker of the House, but the passage says Hakeem Jeffries "will soon be" the first African-American Speaker. He is the Senate Minority Leader as named in the passage, and the passage does not connect this milestone to Texas, hence incorrect.
4. B) **Because symbolic political confrontations will yield no palpable policy impact while the presidential veto remains.**
Passage: "While Democrats may be justified in celebrating their victory after two years of harsh Trumpism, they would do well to remember that the President still retains a veto vote for policies passed by Congress. The temptation to launch a series of investigations... may be strong, yet congressional Democrats may wish to avoid any posturing that yields no palpable policy impact, including kicking off impeachment proceedings against Mr. Trump."-----The author reminds Democrats that Trump can still veto laws. So investigations and impeachment would be mostly show, with no real change in policy. The author suggests negotiating with the White House instead, to reduce the harm of policies on health insurance and tariffs. Option B says this.
    - Option A is incorrect because the option says Republican governors must approve impeachment articles, but the passage never says this. The author's reason is about lack of policy impact, not a procedural rule.
    - Option C is incorrect because the option says Democrats lack a House majority, but the passage says Republicans lost control of both the House and the Senate. Democrats have the majority.
    - Option D is incorrect because the option says officials agreed to repeal tariffs before the election, but the passage never says this. It only says Democrats could negotiate to reduce the impact of policies on areas like tariffs.
5. A) **The real impact of deleterious policies in critical areas such as health-care insurance and tariffs was mitigated by Democratic lawmakers through continuous negotiation and compromise.**

Sentence: "Democratic lawmakers mitigated the real impact of deleterious policies in critical areas such as health-care insurance and tariffs through continuous negotiation and compromise."
To change a sentence into passive voice, we do three things:
The object ("the real impact of deleterious policies...") becomes the new subject.
The verb changes to "be + past participle" in the same tense as the original. The original verb "mitigated" is simple past, so the passive is "was mitigated." ("Impact" is singular, so "was.")
The doer ("Democratic lawmakers") moves to the end with "by."
All other words stay in place. So the correct form is: The real impact of deleterious policies in critical areas such as health-care insurance and tariffs was mitigated by Democratic lawmakers through continuous negotiation and compromise.

- Option B is incorrect because the option says "is mitigated," which is present tense, but the original verb "mitigated" is past tense.
- Option C is incorrect because the option says "has been mitigated," which is present perfect, but the original is simple past. This changes the time meaning.
- Option D is incorrect because the option says "had been mitigated," which is past perfect. This would mean the action happened before another past event, which the original sentence does not say.

6. B) **Tranquil** (adjective) – Free from disturbance; calm. शांत
   Synonym: **Peaceful** (adjective) – Free from disturbance; calm. शांतिपूर्ण
   - **Agitated** (adjective) – Troubled or nervous. व्याकुल
   - **Violent** (adjective) – Using force to hurt. हिंसक
   - **Sad** (adjective) – Feeling sorrow. उदास
7. B) **Embark on** (phrasal verb) – to start something new or important. (शुरू करना)
8. D) **Abide** (verb) – To accept or act in accordance with, tolerate, stand, bear. पालन करना
   Antonym: **Reject** (verb) – To dismiss, refuse, decline, spurn.अस्वीकार करना
   - **Dwell** (verb) – To live or stay as a permanent resident, reside. रहना
   - **Anticipate** (verb) – To foresee, expect, predict, forecast. पूर्वानुमान लगाना
   - **Endure** (verb) – To suffer patiently, tolerate, withstand.सहना
9. C) **Anthropologist** – A person who studies the evolution, behaviour, and culture of human beings (mankind). मानवविज्ञानी
   - **Archaeologist** – One who studies human history through excavation of ancient sites and artefacts. पुरातत्त्ववेत्ता
   - **Sociologist** – One who studies human society and social relationships. समाजशास्त्री
   - **Philologist** – One who studies languages, especially historical and comparative aspects of language. भाषाशास्त्री
10. C) **Wisdom** (noun) – The quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment; insight, sagacity, intelligence. बुद्धिमत्ता
    Antonym: **Imbecility** (noun) – The state of being weak in intellect, foolishness, stupidity, senselessness. मूर्खता
    - **Dexterity** (noun) – Skill in performing tasks, especially with the hands; adeptness, proficiency, agility. निपुणता

- **Competency** (noun) – The ability to do something successfully or efficiently; capability, proficiency, skill. साक्षरता
- **Cogency** (noun) – The quality of being clear, logical, and convincing; persuasiveness, forcefulness, effectiveness. तर्कसंगतता

11. D) **The letter was written by him.**
Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Active से Passive में बदलते समय सही Tense का प्रयोग किया जाता है। Active वाक्य में "He" Subject है, "wrote" Verb (Past Simple) है और "the letter" Object है। Passive में Object "the letter" Subject बन गया है, Verb को "was written" (Past Simple Passive) में बदला गया है और "by him" जोड़ा गया है।
To change a sentence from Active to Passive Voice, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the passive sentence. The verb is transformed from the active form to the passive form, ensuring correct tense usage. In this case, "He" (Subject), "wrote" (Verb in Past Simple), and "the letter" (Object) from the active voice have been transformed into "The letter" (Subject), "was written" (Passive Verb in Past Simple), and "by him".
12. D) **Off the cuff** (idiom) – Without preparation (spoken or done spontaneously) बिना तैयारी के, तात्कालिक
13. D) **The officer said that if he had known about the problem earlier, he would have helped.**
Active से Passive Voice में बदलने के लिए, Active वाक्य का Object Passive वाक्य का Subject बन जाता है। Verb को Active से Passive में बदलते समय सही Tense का use किया जाता है। यहाँ हम direct speech को indirect speech में बदल रहे हैं। Active वाक्य में "The officer" Subject है, "said" Verb है और पूरा conditional sentence "Had I known about the problem earlier, I would have helped" Object के रूप में आता है। Passive में Object "if he had known about the problem earlier, he would have helped" Subject बन गया और "The officer said that" के रूप में use किया गया।
To change a sentence from direct to indirect speech, the object of the active sentence becomes the subject of the indirect sentence. The verb is transformed from the active form to the correct tense in indirect speech. In this case, "The officer" (Subject), "said" (Verb), and "Had I known about the problem earlier, I would have helped" (Object) from the direct speech have been transformed into "if he had known about the problem earlier, he would have helped" (Subject) and "The officer said that" (used as reporting clause).
14. B) **The correct spelling is 'Pharmaceutical' which means "relating to medicinal drugs or their preparation" औषधीय, दवा-संबंधी।**
15. B) **Abolish** (verb) – To formally put an end to a system or practice. समाप्त करना
Synonym: **Eliminate** (verb) – To completely remove or get rid of. हटाना, समाप्त करना
    - **Establish** (verb) – To set up; opposite in meaning. स्थापित करना
    - **Construct** (verb) – To build. निर्माण करना
    - **Approve** (verb) – To officially agree to. स्वीकृति देना
16. A) **3-2-4-1**
Explanation:
Hindi Explanation:

Sentence 3 S1 के तुरंत बाद आएगा और S1-3 का सीधा contrastive link बनाएगा। S1 में internet access को आवश्यक बताया गया है; Sentence 3 contrastive marker "However" के साथ मूल चुनौती पेश करता है कि स्वतंत्रता और सुरक्षा के बीच संतुलन साधना समय की मांग है ("striking a balance between freedom and safety is the need of the hour")।

Sentence 2 Sentence 3 को follow करेगा और 3-2 का mandatory pair बनाएगा। Sentence 3 में उठाए गए मुद्दे के संदर्भ में Sentence 2 "In this regard" phrase का उपयोग करके Supreme Court के हालिया फैसले और Article 19(1)(a) के तहत internet access को मौलिक अधिकार घोषित किए जाने का उल्लेख करता है।

Sentence 4 Sentence 2 के ठीक बाद आएगा और 2-4 का direct link बनाएगा। Pronoun "It" कोर्ट के फैसले को संदर्भित करता है और स्पष्ट करता है कि बच्चों के लिए इंटरनेट ज्ञान, रचनात्मकता और आत्म-अभिव्यक्ति का प्रवेश द्वार ("gateway to knowledge, creativity, and self-expression") है।

Sentence 1 Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा। Sentence 1 सुरक्षा और स्वतंत्रता के रिश्ते पर कोर्ट के रुख को सामने लाता है कि "safety and freedom are at odds with each other is a false notion"। इसके तुरंत बाद S6 बच्चों के मौलिक अधिकारों की रक्षा करते हुए उन्हें सुरक्षित डिजिटल परिवेश प्रदान करने की आवश्यकता के साथ passage को तार्किक रूप से पूर्ण करता है।

English Explanation:

Sentence 3 directly follows S1 (S1-3), introducing the central conflict using the contrastive transition "However" to state that balancing freedom and safety is paramount.

Sentence 2 follows Sentence 3 (3-2), using the contextual phrase "In this regard" to cite the institutional intervention by the Supreme Court, framing internet access under the constitutional guarantee of Article 19(1)(a).

Sentence 4 forms an immediate referential link with Sentence 2 (2-4). The subject pronoun "It" refers back to the Supreme Court's ruling, emphasizing the platform's role as a vital gateway for children's learning and creative growth.

Sentence 1 follows Sentence 4, addressing the conceptual dilemma by highlighting the court's observation that safety and freedom are not mutually exclusive. Finally, S6 logically concludes the argument, urging the creation of an ecosystem that balances digital safety with children's rights.

17. A) 'adequately' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'neither... nor' में दोनों भाग parallel होने चाहिए। पहले भाग में 'meticulously structured' (Adverb + V3) है, इसलिए दूसरे भाग में भी Adverb 'adequately' आएगा जो verb 'proofread' को modify करता है। 'adequateness' और 'adequacy' noun हैं तथा 'adequate' adjective है, जो verb को modify नहीं कर सकते।

'adequately' should be used because 'neither... nor' requires parallel structure. The first part has 'meticulously structured' (adverb + past participle), so the second part also needs the adverb 'adequately' to modify the verb 'proofread'. 'adequateness' and 'adequacy' are nouns and 'adequate' is an adjective, which cannot modify a verb.

18. C) 'give' के बदले 'did give' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि इस सेंटेंस में Past Tense का प्रयोग हुआ है और 'not only...but also' के साथ Past Tense में हम 'did' का प्रयोग करते हैं; जैसे— Not only did he eat the cake, but he also drank the milk.

'did give' will be used instead of 'give' because the sentence is in Past Tense and with 'not only...but also' in Past Tense, we use 'did'; Like— Not only did he eat the cake, but he also drank the milk.

19. A) **C-D-A-B-E**
Explanation:
Hindi Explanation:
Sentence C पूरे paragraph का exact opening statement है। यह subject—Virat Kohli और उनके career के current stage ("thoroughly enjoying himself") को introduce करता है।
Sentence D Sentence C के तुरंत बाद आएगा और C-D का direct link बनाएगा। Sentence C के enjoyment के बाद Sentence D स्थिति को clarify करता है—"It's not as if he isn't as driven as previously..." और वर्षों तक batting का भार उठाने के बाद अधिक स्वतंत्रता से खेलने ("express himself with greater freedom") के अहसास को जोड़ता है।
Sentence A Sentence D के ठीक बाद आकर D-A का mandatory pair बनाएगा। Sentence D के "greater freedom" वाले भाव को Sentence A noun phrase "This freeing up of the mind" से point out करता है और बताता है कि पिछले डेढ़ साल में इसने उनके खेल को नए और रोमांचक अंदाज में बदला है।
Sentence B Sentence A को follow करेगा। Sentence A के compelling Kohli के बाद Sentence B 18 साल के अंतरराष्ट्रीय करियर के बाद उनके नए अवतार ("uncorking an avatar that is even more attractive and authoritative") का विवरण देता है।
Sentence E Sentence B के बाद आकर sequence complete करेगा। Sentence B के authoritative avatar पर एक rhetorical question और उसका पुख्ता जवाब देते हुए—"As if that were possible, you ask? It most certainly is."—paragraph logically conclude होता है।
English Explanation:
Sentence C serves as the verbatim standalone opening sentence, introducing the primary subject, Virat Kohli, and the present mindset defining this mature phase of his career.
Sentence D directly follows Sentence C (C-D), qualifying the observation by clarifying that his relaxed demeanor does not signal a lack of drive, but rather a hard-earned prerogative to play with "greater freedom".
Sentence A forms an immediate referential link with Sentence D (D-A). The demonstrative phrase "This freeing up of the mind" directly picks up the thread of greater freedom from D, charting its concrete manifestation over the past eighteen months.
Sentence B follows Sentence A, elaborating on this transformation by highlighting how an 18-year international veteran continues to surprise onlookers with an avatar that is strikingly fresh and authoritative.
Sentence E concludes the sequence (B-E), responding directly to the disbelief surrounding Kohli's elevated authority with the crisp affirmation: "As if that were possible, you ask? It most certainly is."

20. C) were' के बदले 'was' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'a punishment of five years' singular है अत: Verb भी Singular में होगा; जैसे— A book is on the table.
'was' will be used instead of 'were' because 'a punishment of five years' is singular, so the verb will also be in Singular; Like— A book is on the table.

21. C) **for**
Blank (1) needs the preposition that follows the noun "fascination" to name what holds a person's interest — here, "the history of typography." a) on: goes with nouns like "focus" ("a focus on"), violating the requirement since "fascination on" is not an English pairing. b) of:

follows "fascination" when naming the charm something holds, as in "the fascination of old manuscripts," violating the requirement since here a person has the interest, so the noun needs "for" (or "with"), not "of." c) for: forms "a fascination for," meaning a strong interest in something ("fascination with" is also standard), matching Khosla's deep interest in how letters developed. d) to: suits nouns like "attraction" ("an attraction to"), violating the requirement since "a fascination to" is not standard English.

Hindi:

Blank (1) में वो preposition चाहिए जो noun "fascination" के बाद आकर बताए कि किस चीज़ में किसी person की गहरी interest है — यहाँ "the history of typography।" a) on: यह "focus" जैसे nouns के साथ आता है ("a focus on"), जो violate करता है क्योंकि "fascination on" English की कोई जोड़ी नहीं है। b) of: यह "fascination" के बाद तब आता है जब किसी चीज़ के charm की बात हो, जैसे "the fascination of old manuscripts," जो violate करता है क्योंकि यहाँ interest एक person की है, इसलिए noun के बाद "for" (या "with") चाहिए, "of" नहीं। c) for: यह "a fascination for" बनाता है, जिसका meaning है किसी चीज़ में गहरी interest ("fascination with" भी standard है), जो letters की history में Khosla की गहरी interest से match करता है। d) to: यह "attraction" जैसे nouns के साथ आता है ("an attraction to"), जो violate करता है क्योंकि "a fascination to" standard English नहीं है।

22. A) **hieroglyphs**

Blank (2) needs a plural noun for the ancient Egyptian picture-symbols that "represented objects and sounds" — the oldest example of the overlap between pictures and words that interests Khosla. a) hieroglyphs: means the picture-symbols of ancient Egyptian writing, standing for both things and sounds, matching the passage's example of pictures doubling as words. b) runes: means the letters of ancient Germanic and Norse alphabets, violating the requirement since they belong to northern Europe, not Egypt. c) cuneiform: means the wedge-shaped script of ancient Mesopotamia, violating the requirement since it was not Egyptian. d) papyrus: means the reed-based material Egyptians wrote on, which makes it tempting, but violates the requirement since it is a writing surface, not symbols that stand for objects and sounds.

Hindi:

Blank (2) में ancient Egypt के उन picture-symbols के लिए plural noun चाहिए जो "represented objects and sounds" — pictures और words के मेल का वो सबसे पुराना example जिसमें Khosla की interest है। a) hieroglyphs: इसका meaning है ancient Egyptian writing के picture-symbols, जो चीज़ों और sounds दोनों को दिखाते थे, जो pictures के words का काम करने वाले passage के example से match करता है। b) runes: इसका meaning है ancient Germanic और Norse alphabets के letters, जो violate करता है क्योंकि ये northern Europe के हैं, Egypt के नहीं। c) cuneiform: इसका meaning है ancient Mesopotamia की कील जैसी shape वाली script, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह Egyptian नहीं थी। d) papyrus: इसका meaning है सरकंडे से बना वो material जिस पर Egyptians लिखते थे, इसलिए tempting है, पर violate करता है क्योंकि यह लिखने की surface है, objects और sounds को दिखाने वाले symbols नहीं।

23. D) **miniature**

Blank (3) needs an adjective describing the tiny painted worlds squeezed inside a manuscript's opening letter — "elaborate," yet small enough to fit within a single capital, "populated by

saints, animals and sword-wielding men." a) intricately: is an adverb meaning in a detailed, complicated way, close in sense, violating the requirement since "elaborate ___ worlds" needs an adjective before the noun, not an adverb. b) barren: means empty and lifeless, violating the requirement since these worlds are "populated by saints, animals and sword-wielding men." c) colossal: means enormous, violating the requirement since a scene drawn inside a single letter must be tiny, not huge. d) miniature: means very small in scale, like the detailed paintings in illuminated manuscripts, matching whole worlds fitted inside an opening letter.

Hindi:

Blank (3) में ऐसा adjective चाहिए जो manuscript के opening letter में बनी छोटी-छोटी painted दुनियाओं को describe करे — "elaborate," पर इतनी छोटी कि एक ही capital letter में समा जाएँ, "populated by saints, animals and sword-wielding men।" a) intricately: यह adverb है जिसका meaning है बारीक, उलझे हुए तरीके से, sense करीब है, पर violate करता है क्योंकि "elaborate ___ worlds" में noun से पहले adjective चाहिए, adverb नहीं। b) barren: इसका meaning है खाली और lifeless, जो violate करता है क्योंकि ये दुनियाएँ "populated by saints, animals and sword-wielding men" हैं। c) colossal: इसका meaning है बहुत विशाल, जो violate करता है क्योंकि एक letter के अंदर बना scene छोटा होगा, विशाल नहीं। d) miniature: इसका meaning है बहुत छोटे scale का, जैसे illuminated manuscripts की बारीक paintings, जो opening letter में समाई पूरी दुनियाओं से match करता है।

24. B) **get out**

Blank (4) needs a base-form "get" phrasal verb after "to" that pairs with "of" and means "leave" or "escape," since Khosla wanted to break free of "the confines of the urban, air-conditioned studio." a) get across: means to make an idea understood, as in "get across a message," violating the requirement since the sentence is about leaving a place, not communicating. b) get out: forms "get out of," meaning to leave or escape a place, matching Khosla's wish to leave the studio and work with artists in their own settings. c) get over: means to recover from or overcome something, as in "get over a setback," violating the requirement since it takes its object directly, and "get over of the confines" is ungrammatical. d) get away: means to escape, close in meaning, but violating the requirement since it pairs with "from," as in "get away from the studio," not "of."

Hindi:

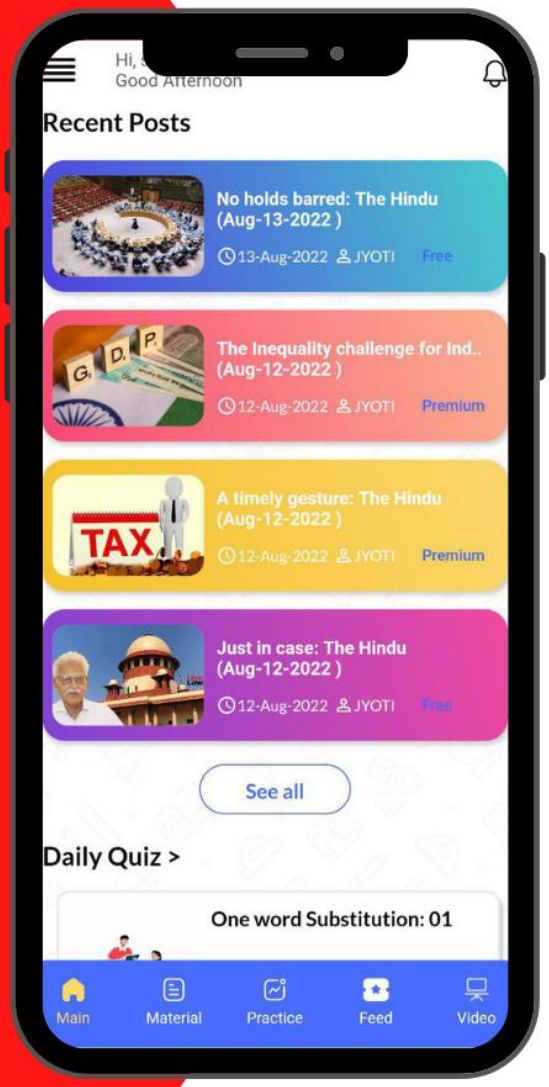
Blank (4) में "to" के बाद "get" वाला base-form phrasal verb चाहिए जो "of" के साथ जुड़े और जिसका meaning हो "बाहर निकलना" या "निकल भागना," क्योंकि Khosla "the confines of the urban, air-conditioned studio" से free होना चाहते थे। a) get across: इसका meaning है किसी idea को समझा पाना, जैसे "get across a message," जो violate करता है क्योंकि sentence जगह छोड़ने की बात करता है, बात समझाने की नहीं। b) get out: यह "get out of" बनाता है, जिसका meaning है किसी जगह से बाहर निकलना, जो studio छोड़कर artists के साथ उनकी अपनी जगहों पर काम करने की Khosla की इच्छा से match करता है। c) get over: इसका meaning है किसी चीज़ से उबरना या उसे पार करना, जैसे "get over a setback," जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह object सीधे लेता है, और "get over of the confines" grammar के हिसाब से गलत है। d) get away: इसका meaning है निकल भागना, meaning करीब है, पर violate करता है क्योंकि इसके साथ "from" आता है, जैसे "get away from the studio," "of" नहीं।

25. D) **passed down**

Blank (5) needs a "pass" phrasal verb in the past participle meaning "handed from older to younger generations," since the folk artists' knowledge has travelled "through generations" before Khosla brings it into digital typography. a) passed over: means ignored or left out, as in "passed over for promotion," violating the requirement since the knowledge was preserved and handed on, not overlooked. b) passed off: means falsely presented as something else, as in "a copy passed off as an original," violating the requirement since nothing is being faked — the knowledge is genuine tradition. c) passed away: means died, which may tempt beside "generations," but violates the requirement since knowledge cannot die "through generations," and the phrase takes no object or passive use. d) passed down: means handed on from one generation to the next, matching the traditional skills of Gond, Baiga and kolam artists.

Hindi:

Blank (5) में "pass" वाला past participle phrasal verb चाहिए जिसका meaning हो "पुरानी पीढ़ी से नई पीढ़ी को सौंपा गया," क्योंकि folk artists का knowledge "through generations" आगे बढ़ता रहा, उसके बाद Khosla उसे digital typography में लाए। a) passed over: इसका meaning है ignore करना या छोड़ देना, जैसे "passed over for promotion," जो violate करता है क्योंकि knowledge को संभालकर आगे सौंपा गया, ignore नहीं किया गया। b) passed off: इसका meaning है किसी चीज़ को falsely कुछ और बताकर पेश करना, जैसे "a copy passed off as an original," जो violate करता है क्योंकि यहाँ कुछ fake नहीं है — knowledge असली tradition है। c) passed away: इसका meaning है मर जाना, जो "generations" के साथ tempting लगता है, पर violate करता है क्योंकि knowledge "through generations" मर नहीं सकता, और यह phrase object या passive use नहीं लेता। d) passed down: इसका meaning है एक पीढ़ी से अगली पीढ़ी को सौंपना, जो Gond, Baiga और kolam artists की traditional skills से match करता है।



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