One hundred chess grandmasters and counting

With Anuj Shrivatri becoming a grandmaster on Sunday, India crossed the 100-GM **threshold** in chess. Not many countries in the world can **boast of** those numbers. It was another sign of the nation's rising **heft** in the sport. In recent years, India has had an 18-year-old world champion in the form of Gukesh, two Olympiad teams that have **swept their way to** gold medals, and R Vaishali is **set to** fight for the Women's World Championship title early next year, the most **prestigious** title in women's chess.

Having 100 grandmasters in a country **is** not just a **mere statistic**. It will mean that the **ecosystem** of the sport itself will grow, because many of these grandmasters will soon **branch out** into coaching or will become seconds (**aides** who help with strategies for openings), just like their **predecessors** like Srinath Narayanan, R B Ramesh, Vishnu Prasanna and Shyam Sundar M — all of them grandmasters who **turned into elite** coaches early in their careers. Those four men have given the country **the likes of** Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa, Vaishali, Arjun Erigaisi and more by **moulding** them early on. It was **thanks to** the ready **expertise** of these grandmaster-turned-coaches that India went from having 65 grandmasters just before the **pandemic** in 2020 to having 100 in only six more years. The **pace establishes** India's **stature** as one of the fastest-growing nations in the sport.

Chances are that India will **blitz** its way from 100 to 200 grandmasters. The world has been **dazzled** by the talent of India's golden generation of Gukesh, Vaishali, Praggnanandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi and Divya Deshmukh. The **generation** that will follow **is** already showing signs that it's ready for the big stage. One only needs to look at the recent Chola Chess tournament in Chennai to get a measure of the **potential** of that generation. Young **stars** like Viresh Sharnarthi, Aarit Kapil, Sarbartho Mani and Madhvendra Pratap Sharma, who are not even international masters, a title just below the grandmaster level, **held** strong grandmasters to **draws** and occasionally **prevailed**. What is also **heartening** about India's century in chess is that the sport's reach is **widening** away from the traditional **nerve centres** like Tamil Nadu. Mayank Chakraborty, India's 94th GM, was not just Assam's but also Northeast India's first-ever grandmaster, while Shrivatri was Madhya Pradesh's first GM. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Threshold** (noun) - limit, boundary, brink, verge, margin सीमा
2. **Boast of** (phrase) - to speak with pride or exaggeration about something गर्व करना
3. **Heft** (noun) - weight, influence, power, clout, dominance प्रभाव
4. **Swept one's way to** (phrase) - to achieve something easily and decisively आसानी से जीत हासिल करना
5. **Set to** (phrasal verb) - ready or prepared to do something तैयार
6. **Prestigious** (adjective) - reputed, esteemed, distinguished, renowned, celebrated प्रतिष्ठित
7. **Mere** (adjective) - sheer, simple, bare, pure, absolute केवल
8. **Statistic** (noun) - figure, number, datum, fact, record आंकड़ा
9. **Ecosystem** (noun) - environment, network, structure, framework, system पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र
10. **Branch out** (phrasal verb) - to expand or extend one's interests or activities विस्तार करना
11. **Aides** (noun) - assistants, helpers, supporters, associates, deputies सहायक
12. **Predecessors** (noun) - forerunners, ancestors, precursors, antecedents, pioneers पूर्ववर्ती
13. **Turn into** (phrasal verb) - to change or develop into something else में बदल जाना
14. **Elite** (adjective) - top, exclusive, premium, superior, choice उत्कृष्ट
15. **The likes of** (phrase) - people or things of a similar type to someone or something के जैसे
16. **Mould** (verb) - shape, form, fashion, forge, construct ढालना
17. **Thanks to** (phrase) - as a result of or because of की वजह से
18. **Expertise** (noun) - proficiency, skill, mastery, competence, knowledge विशेषज्ञता
19. **Pandemic** (noun) - epidemic, plague, contagion, outbreak, infection महामारी
20. **Pace** (noun) - speed, rate, tempo, velocity, momentum गति
21. **Establish** (verb) - prove, demonstrate, confirm, validate, verify साबित करना
22. **Stature** (noun) - prestige, standing, status, reputation, eminence कद
23. **Blitz** (verb) - rush, dash, speed, surge, charge तेजी से आगे बढ़ना
24. **Dazzle** (verb) - amaze, astound, impress, stun, bewilder चकाचौंध करना
25. **Potential** (noun) - capability, capacity, ability, aptitude, promise क्षमता
26. **Draw** (noun) - tie, stalemate, deadlock, standoff, dead-heat बराबरी
27. **Prevail** (verb) - win, triumph, succeed, overcome, conquer जीतना

28. **Heartening** (adjective) - encouraging, cheering, uplifting, reassuring, promising उत्साहवर्धक
29. **Widen** (verb) - expand, broaden, extend, enlarge, spread विस्तार होना
30. **Nerve centres** (noun) - a place from which a system or activity is controlled or coordinated प्रमुख केंद्

Summary of the Editorial

1. India has crossed the **100-grandmaster threshold** with Anuj Shrivatri becoming the country's 100th-plus grandmaster.
2. This achievement highlights India's growing **stature and influence** in international chess.
3. India has produced an 18-year-old World Champion, **D. Gukesh**, reflecting its rising chess talent.
4. India's men's and women's teams have won gold medals at the Chess Olympiad.
5. R. Vaishali is preparing to compete for the prestigious Women's World Championship title.
6. Crossing 100 grandmasters is not merely a statistic but a sign of a stronger chess **ecosystem**.
7. Many grandmasters are expected to become coaches and seconds, helping develop future chess players.
8. Grandmasters-turned-coaches such as Srinath Narayanan, R. B. Ramesh, Vishnu Prasanna and Shyam Sundar have nurtured young talents.
9. These coaches have helped produce leading players like Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa, Vaishali and Arjun Erigaisi.
10. India's grandmaster count increased from **65 in 2020 to 100 in 2026**, demonstrating rapid growth.
11. India could potentially increase its grandmaster count from 100 to 200 in the coming years.
12. The golden generation of Gukesh, Vaishali, Praggnanandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi and Divya Deshmukh has impressed the world.
13. Young players like Viresh Sharnarthi, Aarit Kapil, Sarbartho Mani and Madhvendra Pratap Sharma are showing exceptional potential.
14. These emerging players have challenged experienced grandmasters and secured impressive draws and victories.
15. Chess is expanding beyond traditional centres like Tamil Nadu, with Assam and Madhya Pradesh producing their first grandmasters.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **What structural factor enabled India to expand from 65 grandmasters in 2020 to 100 within six years?** [Editorial page]
   A. The early transition of accomplished grandmasters into dedicated coaches who mentored young prodigies into elite competitors.
   B. The emergence of non-international masters at the Chola Chess tournament who defeated established coaches in opening preparation.
   C. The relocation of traditional training academies away from Tamil Nadu toward newly established chess hubs in Assam.
   D. The sweep of double gold medals at the Chess Olympiad following Anuj Shrivatri's grandmaster title on Sunday.
2. **What does the phrase "ready for the big stage" imply about the generation following India's current golden cohort?**
   A. Emerging junior stars have already surpassed Gukesh's world championship record by winning consecutive Chess Olympiad team gold medals
   B. Young players below the grandmaster level already possess the skill to challenge top competitors and sustain India's title surge
   C. Non-international masters have replaced elite coaches like Vishnu Prasanna in preparing opening strategies for international tournaments
   D. Rising talents from Chennai are relocating to Assam and Madhya Pradesh to establish new coaching ecosystems
3. **Which of the following best describes the central contrast highlighted in the third paragraph regarding the new wave of Indian chess prodigies?**
   A. Although Gukesh and Divya Deshmukh hold grandmaster titles, they struggled to draw matches against international masters at Chola Chess.
   B. Although Tamil Nadu remains India's dominant chess hub, its players failed to produce a single grandmaster after the 2020 pandemic.
   C. Although players like Viresh Sharnarthi and Aarit Kapil lack even the international master title, they still drew and beat strong grandmasters.
   D. Although Mayank Chakraborty became Madhya Pradesh's first grandmaster, Assam still lacks any player ranked at the international master level.
4. **Why does the author credit Srinath Narayanan, R B Ramesh, Vishnu Prasanna, and Shyam Sundar M with India's rapid rise from 65 to 100 grandmasters?**
   A. Because they defeated foreign world champions in Olympiad team events before organizing the Chola Chess tournament in Chennai.
   B. Because they shifted Indian chess training away from Tamil Nadu by establishing regional grandmaster academies in Assam and Madhya Pradesh.
   C. Because they mentored non-international masters like Sarbartho Mani to bypass lower chess titles and qualify directly for world championships.
   D. Because they transitioned into coaching early in their grandmaster careers and used their expertise to mould top prodigies early on.
5. **The author's tone throughout the passage is best described as:**
   A. Commemorative and nostalgic
   B. Exuberant and analytical

C. Reflective and anecdotal
D. Laudatory and prescriptive

6. **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. Speaking to the media on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Atlanta, the U.S. Secretary of State announced that the leaders of the four Quad countries — India, Australia, Japan and the U.S. — are expected to meet in Manila in November, on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit.

1. The last Quad Leaders' Summit was held in Wilmington in 2024, when Joe Biden was U.S. President and Fumio Kishida was Japan's Prime Minister.

2. The announcement is significant, as this would be the first summit-level meeting of the Quad leaders since Donald Trump began his second term as U.S. President.

3. While India was expected to host the subsequent Quad Leaders' Summit, the grouping underwent a period of intense strategic turbulence in 2025, on account of Washington's shifting geopolitical priorities and changing political dynamics in its bilateral relations with Quad members, especially India.

4. It would also be the first such summit attended by Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi since she assumed office.

S6. However, this did not result in complete collapse of the grouping.

A. 2-4-1-3
B. 4-2-1-3
C. 2-1-4-3
D. 2-4-3-1

7. **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. In 2019, British writer M. John Harrison said he supported Extinction Rebellion, a global environmental movement, and people taking action to change the world.

1. Did something change in seven years?

2. He has said he was impressed by The Waste Land by T.S. Eliot, especially the way its narrative could pull fragments together into a coherent whole without also pretending it depicted a complete reality.

3. But last week, after winning the Booker Prize for his "destabilising and satirical dystopian novel", The End of Everything, he said he had lost hope for humanity — even as people continued to fight to change the world.

4. Harrison was born in 1945 and grew up in the shadow of the Second World War.

S6. Harrison later moved to London from Warwickshire determined to become a professional writer, despite financial difficulties.

A. 3-1-4-2
B. 1-3-4-2
C. 3-4-1-2
D. 3-1-2-4

8. **Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word**
ABSTRUSE
A. Evident
B. Spartan
C. Obscure
D. Common

9. **Choose the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.**
There is an **implicit** trust between a doctor and their patient.
A. Stated clearly
B. Hidden
C. Unspoken
D. Confusing

10. **Choose the correct meaning of idiom**
Which of the following options most accurately expresses the meaning of the idiom "**to hit a purple patch**"?
A. To experience a highly volatile period of civil unrest and institutional friction triggered by sudden austerity measures.
B. To enjoy an extended, highly successful period of outstanding performance, immense creativity, or exceptional good fortune.
C. To navigate an ideological gridlock within a legislative body where opposing parties refuse to reach an equitable policy compromise.
D. To have been luckily allotted a highly fertile piece of agricultural land that consistently yields an exceptionally bountiful crop.

11. **Choose the correct idiom for the word highlighted in bold.**
The parents are **in high spirits** as their son has got a decent job.
A. Very happy
B. Feeling dizzy
C. Extremely angry
D. In a confused state

12. **Choose the most appropriate antonym of the underlined word.**
The professor was known for his abstruse lecturing style.
A. Complex
B. Simple
C. Recondite
D. Obscure

13. **Choose the most appropriate antonym of the underlined word.**

His speech was marred by a certain infelicity of expression that confused the audience.

A. Unhappiness
B. Appropriateness
C. Misfortune
D. Awkwardness

14. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for: 'A person who flatters for personal gain.'**
A. Altruist
B. Protégé
C. Mentor
D. Sycophant

15. **Choose the correct one-word substitute for: 'Pleasure derived from others' misfortune.'**
A. Antipathy
B. Schadenfreude
C. Empathy
D. Sympathy

16. **Select the wrongly spelt word out of the four alternatives.**
A. Anesthetic
B. Intricate
C. Unexpectid
D. Creeping

17. **Select the correctly spelt word to replace the highlighted word in the given sentence.**
The gardens are **perenially** beautiful and lush.

A. Perennially
B. Perenially
C. Perenialy
D. Perennialy

18. **Select the correct option**
Not only ____ the funding, but he also offered strategic guidance.

A. did he provide
B. he provided
C. he did provide
D. had he provided

19. **Fill in the blank with appropriate parts of speech.**
Rarely ____ such blatant disregard for protocol, nor ____ it so openly tolerated.

A. had one witnessed, was
B. one had witnessed, was
C. had one witnessed, were
D. had witnessed one, were

20. **Fill in the blank with the appropriate adverb.**
The technology has ____ transformed the field of molecular biology.

A. marginally
B. ostensibly
C. consecutively

D. irreversibly

In the passage below, certain words have been removed. Read the passage thoroughly and choose the most suitable option to complete each blank appropriately.

As academics, we are expected to be able to write and respond to matters ever so easily, almost in a jiffy. Yet, there are moments when it is so very difficult to gather one's thoughts, to process what has happened. This is one such moment. It is difficult to believe that the vibrant Ranjeeta Dutta is no longer with us.

Ranjeeta, who passed away on October 25 at the age of 56, loved the colours of life. It could be the bright yellow and red of a sari; it could be the vibrant pattern on a kurta; it could be the colour of flowers. And this love for colour was reflected in her personality. She knew how to enjoy life: she could laugh (1)____ at a joke, talk about food, enjoy a drink, plan fun-events … She could also angrily speak out on issues that mattered to her, express her viewpoints in no uncertain terms, and share her insecurities and anxieties.

She was unusually (2)____ and sensitive as a person, almost simple — I use this word with deep (3)____ — in the way she would never hold back her thoughts. And it is this which made her so special as a teacher, colleague, and friend. She implicitly believed in human relationships, and was anxious with disagreements. Ranjeeta's world was more of black and white, and less of shades of grey.

A Bengali learning Tamil for academic purposes: this would sound (4)____ to many. Yet Ranjeeta, as Professor Champakalakshmi's student, learnt Tamil and wrote on medieval South India. As tributes pour in from across India and the world, one can quietly reflect on her contribution as editor of the Medieval History Journal, and why her book From Hagiographies to Biographies: Ramanuja in Tradition and History made such a mark. Creatively looking at the history of Srivaishnavism in South India between the 12th and 15th centuries, this book, as Professor Harbans Mukhia has written, is a "masterly exploration" which argues that "'History' and 'Tradition', far from being binaries, (5)____ each other in recovering the past".

21. **What should come in the place of blank number (1)?**
    A. heartily
    B. tepidly
    C. sardonically
    D. ruefully
22. **What should come in the place of blank number (2)?**
    A. diffident
    B. mercurial
    C. transparent
    D. reticent
23. **What should come in the place of blank number (3)?**
    A. rancour

B. admiration
A. condescension
B. derision

1. **What should come in the place of blank number (4)?**
   A. lucrative
   B. sacrilegious
   C. adventurous
   D. pedestrian
2. **What should come in the place of blank number (5)?**
   A. eclipse
   B. undermine
   C. supplant
   D. complement

Answers

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

Explanations

1. A) **The early transition of accomplished grandmasters into dedicated coaches who mentored young prodigies into elite competitors**.

   passage: "Those four men have given the country the likes of Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa, Vaishali, Arjun Erigaisi and more by moulding them early on. It was thanks to the ready expertise of these grandmaster-turned-coaches that India went from having 65 grandmasters just before the pandemic in 2020 to having 100 in only six more years."-----The question asks what structural factor enabled India's rise from 65 grandmasters in 2020 to 100 within six years. The passage states it: grandmasters like Srinath Narayanan, R B Ramesh, Vishnu Prasanna and Shyam Sundar M became elite coaches early in their careers and moulded young players, and the passage credits their expertise for the jump. Option A says exactly this, so it is correct.

   - Option B: Incorrect. The option says non-international masters at the Chola Chess tournament defeated established coaches in opening preparation, but the passage says these young players held strong grandmasters to draws and occasionally beat them, and it uses this only as a sign of the next generation's potential, not as a cause of the jump from 65 to 100. They did not play coaches or compete in opening preparation, hence incorrect.
   - Option C: Incorrect. The option says training academies relocated from Tamil Nadu to new hubs in Assam, but the passage says only that the sport's reach is widening beyond traditional centres like Tamil Nadu, citing Mayank Chakraborty as Assam's first grandmaster. It never says academies relocated, and this widening is presented as a heartening result, not as the cause of the growth, hence incorrect.
   - Option D: Incorrect. The option says the Olympiad double gold sweep followed Shrivatri's title, but the passage says the two Olympiad gold medals came in recent years, and Shrivatri became a grandmaster on Sunday as the 100th. His title marks the 100 milestone and cannot have caused the growth that led to it, hence incorrect.

2. B) **Young players below the grandmaster level already possess the skill to challenge top competitors and sustain India's title surge.**

   passage: "The generation that will follow is already showing signs that it's ready for the big stage. One only needs to look at the recent Chola Chess tournament in Chennai... Young stars like Viresh Sharnarthi, Aarit Kapil, Sarbartho Mani and Madhvendra Pratap Sharma, who are not even international masters... held strong grandmasters to draws and occasionally prevailed."-----"Ready for the big stage" means ready to compete at the top level. The passage

proves this with the Chola Chess tournament, where young players who do not yet hold even the International Master title drew with strong grandmasters and sometimes beat them. So they already have the skill to challenge top players and carry India's rise forward. Option B says exactly this, so it is correct.

- Option A: Incorrect. The option says junior stars have already beaten Gukesh's world championship record by winning consecutive Olympiad golds, but the passage says the Olympiad golds were won by India's current teams, and the young stars named only drew and won some games against grandmasters. It never says they surpassed Gukesh, hence incorrect.
- Option C: Incorrect. The option says non-international masters have replaced coaches like Vishnu Prasanna in preparing openings, but the passage says grandmasters like Vishnu Prasanna became elite coaches, and it never says young players replaced them, hence incorrect.
- Option D: Incorrect. The option says rising talents from Chennai are moving to Assam and Madhya Pradesh, but the passage says chess is spreading beyond centres like Tamil Nadu, with Assam and Madhya Pradesh producing their first grandmasters.

3. C) **Although players like Viresh Sharnarthi and Aarit Kapil lack even the international master title, they still drew and beat strong grandmasters**.

   Passage: "Young stars like Viresh Sharnarthi, Aarit Kapil, Sarbartho Mani and Madhvendra Pratap Sharma, who are not even international masters, a title just below the grandmaster level, held strong grandmasters to draws and occasionally prevailed."---The contrast is between the players' low formal titles (not even international masters) and their results against much higher-ranked grandmasters (draws and occasional wins). The author uses this to show the potential of the next generation. Option C says the same thing.

   - Option A is incorrect because the option says Gukesh and Divya Deshmukh struggled to draw against international masters at Chola Chess, but the passage names them only as part of the "golden generation". The Chola Chess results mentioned are those of the younger players, who held grandmasters, not international masters, to draws.
   - Option B is incorrect because the option says Tamil Nadu produced no grandmaster after the pandemic, but the passage says nothing like this. It only says the sport's reach is widening beyond traditional centres like Tamil Nadu, and that India went from 65 grandmasters in 2020 to 100 in six years.
   - Option D is incorrect because the option says Assam lacks any international master-level player, but the passage says Mayank Chakraborty was Assam's and Northeast India's first grandmaster. It also says Anuj Shrivatri, not Chakraborty, was Madhya Pradesh's first GM, so the option mixes up the facts.

4. D) **Because they transitioned into coaching early in their grandmaster careers and used their expertise to mould top prodigies early on**.

passage: "Those four men have given the country the likes of Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa, Vaishali, Arjun Erigaisi and more by moulding them early on. It was thanks to the ready expertise of these grandmaster-turned-coaches that India went from having 65 grandmasters just before the pandemic in 2020 to having 100 in only six more years."-----The question asks why the author credits these four men with India's rise from 65 to 100 grandmasters. The passage states it directly: all four became elite coaches early in their careers, shaped players like Gukesh and Vaishali while they were young, and the passage attributes the jump to their expertise. Option A says exactly this, so it is correct.

- Option B: Incorrect. The option says the four men set up regional grandmaster academies in Assam and Madhya Pradesh, but the passage says only that the sport's reach is widening beyond traditional centres like Tamil Nadu, citing Mayank Chakraborty as Assam's first grandmaster and Shrivatri as Madhya Pradesh's first. It never mentions academies or any shift of training by these coaches, and the widening is presented as a heartening development, not as the reason for their credit, hence incorrect.
- Option C: Incorrect. The option says the four men mentored players like Sarbartho Mani to bypass lower titles and qualify directly for world championships, but the passage mentions Sarbartho Mani only as a young star at the Chola Chess tournament who is not yet an international master. It says nothing about bypassing titles or qualifying for world championships, and these players are cited as signs of the next generation's potential, hence incorrect.
- Option D: Incorrect. The option says the four men defeated foreign world champions in Olympiad team events before organizing the Chola Chess tournament, but the passage credits them as coaches and seconds, not as players who beat world champions. It does not say they organized the Chola Chess tournament, and the Olympiad golds are mentioned only as recent signs of India's rising heft, hence incorrect.

5. B) **Exuberant and analytical**

passage: "Having 100 grandmasters in a country is not just a mere statistic. It will mean that the ecosystem of the sport itself will grow... Chances are that India will blitz its way from 100 to 200 grandmasters." (These lines show the author's enthusiasm and the effort to explain what the milestone means.)-----The question asks for the author's overall tone. The author celebrates India's milestone with clear enthusiasm, citing a world champion, Olympiad golds and a possible 200-GM future. The author also analyses why the milestone matters: the coaching ecosystem, the jump from 65 to 100 in six years, the next generation's potential and the widening reach beyond Tamil Nadu. Celebration combined with explanation makes Option B correct.

- Option A: Incorrect. The option says the tone is commemorative and nostalgic, but the passage does mark the 100-GM milestone while looking forward, not back. It predicts a

rise to 200 and highlights the next generation, so it lacks the longing for the past that nostalgia needs, hence incorrect.

- Option C: Incorrect. The option says the tone is reflective and anecdotal, but the passage is built on statistics, trends and causes, such as the 65 to 100 growth and the role of grandmaster-turned-coaches. It does not rely on personal stories or contemplative musing, hence incorrect.
- Option D: Incorrect. The option says the tone is laudatory and prescriptive, but the passage praises India's achievements without prescribing anything. It never advises what players, coaches or authorities should do, and it only predicts and observes, so "prescriptive" does not fit, hence incorrect.

6. Correct Answer: A. 2-4-1-3

- Sentence 2 S1 के तुरंत बाद आएगा और S1-2 का direct referential link बनाएगा। S1 में U.S. Secretary of State द्वारा Quad नेताओं की बैठक की घोषणा ("announced") के तुरंत बाद Sentence 2 "The announcement is significant..." के माध्यम से इसका महत्व स्पष्ट करता है कि Donald Trump के दूसरे कार्यकाल की शुरुआत के बाद यह Quad नेताओं की पहली summit-level meeting होगी।
- Sentence 4 Sentence 2 को follow करेगा और 2-4 का mandatory additive pair बनाएगा। Sentence 2 में अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति के संदर्भ के बाद Sentence 4 "It would also be the first such summit..." के जरिए जापानी प्रधानमंत्री Sanae Takaichi के पदभार ग्रहण करने के बाद उनके पहले सम्मेलन में भाग लेने की बात जोड़ता है।
- Sentence 1 Sentence 4 के ठीक बाद आएगा और 4-1 का historical background link बनाएगा। वर्तमान नेताओं की पहली बैठक के उल्लेख के बाद Sentence 1 पिछली Quad Leaders' Summit (2024 में Wilmington में) का संदर्भ देता है, जब Joe Biden और Fumio Kishida अपने-अपने पदों पर थे।
- Sentence 3 Sentence 1 के बाद आएगा और 1-3 का chronological progression link बनाएगा। 2024 की बैठक के बाद Sentence 3 भारत द्वारा अगली मेजबानी की अपेक्षा और 2025 में उत्पन्न हुए रणनीतिक उथल-पुथल ("intense strategic turbulence in 2025") का विवरण देता है। इसके तुरंत बाद S6 विरोधाभासी संयोजक "However" के साथ यह स्पष्ट करते हुए कि इससे समूह का पूर्ण पतन ("complete collapse") नहीं हुआ, पूरे परिच्छेद को तार्किक रूप से समाप्त करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence 2 directly follows S1 (S1-2), picking up on the U.S. Secretary of State's announcement via "The announcement is significant..." to highlight that this will be the first summit-level meeting of Quad leaders since Donald Trump began his second term as U.S. President.
- Sentence 4 forms an immediate additive pair with Sentence 2 (2-4), building upon "this would be the first summit-level meeting" via "It would also be the first such summit..." to note Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's first attendance since taking office.
- Sentence 1 directly follows Sentence 4 (4-1), providing historical contrast by recalling the previous Quad Leaders' Summit held in Wilmington in 2024 under U.S. President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.
- Sentence 3 follows Sentence 1 (1-3), advancing the timeline from 2024 into 2025 by explaining that while India was expected to host the subsequent summit, the grouping faced intense strategic turbulence due to shifting geopolitical priorities. Finally, S6 connects directly via the contrastive "However", noting that this turbulence did not lead to the complete collapse of the grouping, concluding the sequence.

7. Correct Answer: A. 3-1-4-2
    - Sentence 3 S1 के तुरंत बाद आएगा और S1-3 का अनिवार्य विरोधाभासी युग्म (mandatory contrast pair) बनाएगा। S1 में 2019 के दौरान M. John Harrison के आशावादी समर्थन के ठीक विपरीत Sentence 3 "But last week..." से बताता है कि Booker Prize जीतने के बाद उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने मानवता के लिए उम्मीद खो दी है।
    - Sentence 1 Sentence 3 को follow करेगा और 3-1 का direct logical link बनाएगा। 2019 (S1) और पिछले सप्ताह (Sentence 3) के बीच आए इस बदलाव के बाद Sentence 1 सात वर्षों के इस अंतराल पर प्रश्न पूछता है—"Did something change in seven years?"
    - Sentence 4 Sentence 1 के ठीक बाद आएगा और 1-4 का biographical transition link बनाएगा। बदलाव के प्रश्न के बाद लेखक की पृष्ठभूमि को समझने के लिए Sentence 4 उनके जन्म (1945) और द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध (Second World War) के साये में उनके पालन-पोषण का विवरण देता है।
    - Sentence 2 Sentence 4 के बाद आएगा और 4-2 का direct referential pair बनाएगा। Sentence 4 में Harrison के पूर्ण परिचय के बाद Sentence 2 pronoun "He" का उपयोग करते हुए बताता है कि वे T.S. Eliot की रचना The Waste Land से प्रभावित थे। इसके तुरंत बाद S6 लंदन जाने और पेशेवर लेखक बनने के उनके दृढ़ संकल्प के साथ पूरे परिच्छेद को तार्किक रूप से समाप्त करता है।

English Explanation:

- Sentence 3 directly follows S1 (S1-3), forming an immediate contrastive pair via "But last week..." to highlight his shift in outlook after winning the Booker Prize, stating he had lost hope for humanity despite people's ongoing efforts.
- Sentence 1 follows Sentence 3 (3-1), directly referencing the seven-year gap between 2019 (S1) and the present (Sentence 3) by posing the reflective question: "Did something change in seven years?"
- Sentence 4 directly follows Sentence 1 (1-4), transitioning into Harrison's biographical background to explore the roots of his worldview—noting his birth in 1945 and upbringing in the shadow of the Second World War.
- Sentence 2 forms an immediate referential pair with Sentence 4 (4-2), picking up on Harrison via the pronoun "He" to describe the literary influence of T.S. Eliot's The Waste Land on his narrative approach. Finally, S6 advances his biography by detailing his move from Warwickshire to London to become a professional writer, completing the passage.

8. C) **Abstruse** (adjective) – Difficult to understand, obscure. (गूढ़, कठिन)

   Synonym: **Obscure** (adjective) – Unclear, hard to understand, little known. (अस्पष्ट)

   - **Evident** (adjective) – Clear, obvious. (स्पष्ट)
   - **Spartan** (adjective) – Simple, austere. (सादा, कठोर)
   - **Common** (adjective) – Usual, ordinary. (आम)

9. C) **Implicit** (adjective) – Implied though not plainly stated, understood. (निहित)

   Synonym: **Unspoken** (adjective) – Understood without being said. (अनकहा)

   - **Stated clearly** (phrase) – Expressed openly. (साफ़ कहा हुआ)
   - **Hidden** (adjective) – Concealed, out of sight. (छिपा हुआ)
   - **Confusing** (adjective) – Puzzling, unclear. (भ्रमित करने वाला)

10. B) **To hit a purple patch** (idiom) – To enjoy an extended period of outstanding performance, creativity or good fortune. शानदार प्रदर्शन या सफलता का दौर

11. A) **In high spirits** (idiom) – Very happy and cheerful. बहुत खुश और उत्साहित

12. B) **Abstruse** (adjective) – Difficult to understand, obscure, profound. (गूढ़, कठिन)

    Antonym: **Simple** (adjective) – Easy to understand, plain. (सरल)

    - **Complex** (adjective) – Complicated, intricate. (जटिल)
    - **Recondite** (adjective) – Little known, profound. (गूढ़)
    - **Obscure** (adjective) – Unclear, hidden. (अस्पष्ट)

13. B) **Infelicity** (noun) – Inappropriateness, awkwardness of expression. (अनुपयुक्तता, अटपटापन)

    Antonym: **Appropriateness** (noun) – Suitability, fitness. (उपयुक्तता)

    - **Unhappiness** (noun) – Sadness. (दुख)
    - **Misfortune** (noun) – Bad luck. (दुर्भाग्य)
    - **Awkwardness** (noun) – Clumsiness, lack of ease. (अटपटापन)

14. D) **Sycophant** (noun) – A person who flatters important people to gain advantage. चापलूस

    - **Altruist** (noun) – A selfless person who cares for others. परोपकारी
    - **Protégé** (noun) – A person guided by an experienced person. शिष्य
    - **Mentor** (noun) – An experienced adviser. मार्गदर्शक

15. B) **Schadenfreude** (noun) – Pleasure derived from another's misfortune. दूसरों के दुख से मिलने वाली खुशी

    - **Antipathy** (noun) – Strong dislike. घृणा
    - **Empathy** (noun) – Ability to share another's feelings. समानुभूति
    - **Sympathy** (noun) – Feeling of pity for another's sorrow. सहानुभूति

16. C) 'Unexpectid' गलत spelling है। सही spelling 'Unexpected' है, जिसका अर्थ है "not anticipated" अप्रत्याशित।

17. A) The correct spelling of 'perenially' is 'Perennially', which means "throughout the year, constantly". सदाबहार, हमेशा

18. A) 'did he provide' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य "Not only" से शुरू हो रहा है, और Negative adverbial से शुरू होने वाले वाक्य में Inversion (auxiliary + subject + V1) आता है; जैसे— Not only did he sing, but he also danced।

    - 'Did he provide' will be used because the sentence begins with "Not only", and a sentence that begins with a negative adverbial takes inversion (auxiliary + subject + V1); Like— Not only did he sing, but he also danced.

19. A) 'had one witnessed, was' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "Rarely" से शुरू होने वाले वाक्य में Inversion आता है ("had one witnessed"), और "nor" के बाद भी Inversion के साथ Singular Verb "was it so openly tolerated" आता है, क्योंकि Subject 'it' Singular है।

    - 'Had one witnessed, was' will be used because a sentence beginning with "Rarely" takes inversion ("had one witnessed"), and after "nor" the singular verb "was it so openly tolerated" is used with inversion as the subject 'it' is singular.

20. D) 'Irreversibly' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "irreversibly transformed" का अर्थ है इस तरह बदल देना कि पहले जैसा न हो सके, जो molecular biology में तकनीक के बड़े प्रभाव से मेल खाता है। जबकि marginally (थोड़ा-सा), ostensibly (दिखावटी तौर पर) और consecutively (लगातार) का अर्थ यहाँ सही नहीं है।
    - 'Irreversibly' should be used because "irreversibly transformed" means changed so that it cannot go back, which suits the major impact of technology on molecular biology. Whereas, 'marginally' means slightly, 'ostensibly' means apparently and 'consecutively' means one after another, which do not fit.

21. A) heartily

    Blank (1) needs an adverb for laughter full of real enjoyment, since the sentence opens "She knew how to enjoy life" and lists pleasures: food, a drink, fun events. a) heartily: means loudly and with genuine enjoyment, matching a woman who "knew how to enjoy life." b) tepidly: means half-heartedly, without enthusiasm, violating the requirement since it is the opposite of the zest the sentence describes. c) sardonically: means in a mocking, cynical way, violating the requirement since scornful laughter is not the laughter of someone enjoying life. d) ruefully: means with regret or sorrow, as in a rueful smile at one's own mistake, violating the requirement since the list is about pleasure, not regret.

    Hindi:

    - Blank (1) में सच्चे आनंद वाली हँसी के लिए adverb चाहिए, क्योंकि sentence "She knew how to enjoy life" से आरंभ होता है और pleasures गिनाता है: food, a drink, fun events। a) heartily: इसका meaning है खुलकर और सच्चे आनंद के साथ, जो उस व्यक्ति से match करता है जो "knew how to enjoy life।" b) tepidly: इसका meaning है बिना उत्साह के, आधे मन से, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह sentence में बताए गए उत्साह का उल्टा है। c) sardonically: इसका meaning है व्यंग्य भरे, तिरस्कार वाले ढंग से, जो violate करता है क्योंकि तिरस्कार वाली हँसी जीवन का आनंद लेने वाले की हँसी नहीं होती। d) ruefully: इसका meaning है पछतावे या दुख के साथ, जैसे अपनी भूल पर फीकी मुस्कान, जो violate करता है क्योंकि list आनंद की है, पछतावे की नहीं।

22. C) transparent

    Blank (2) needs an adjective for a person who hides nothing, since the sentence itself explains the quality: "she would never hold back her thoughts." a) diffident: means shy and lacking self-confidence, which tempts because she shared her "insecurities," but violates the requirement since she spoke out "in no uncertain terms." b) mercurial: means changing mood quickly and unpredictably, which tempts because she could both laugh and speak angrily, but violates the requirement since the sentence defines the quality by openness, not changeability. c)

transparent: means open and honest, with nothing hidden, matching someone who never held back her thoughts. d) reticent: means reserved and unwilling to reveal one's thoughts, violating the requirement since it is the exact opposite of never holding them back.

Hindi:

- Blank (2) में ऐसे व्यक्ति के लिए adjective चाहिए जो कुछ नहीं छिपाता, क्योंकि sentence ही इस गुण को समझाता है: "she would never hold back her thoughts।" a) diffident: इसका meaning है दब्बू और आत्मविश्वास के अभाव वाला, जो tempting है क्योंकि वह अपनी "insecurities" share करती थी, पर violate करता है क्योंकि वह "in no uncertain terms" बोलती थी। b) mercurial: इसका meaning है जिसका mood पल-पल change हो, जो tempting है क्योंकि वह हँस भी सकती थी और क्रोध में बोल भी सकती थी, पर violate करता है क्योंकि sentence इस गुण को खुलेपन से परिभाषित करता है, mood के change होने से नहीं। c) transparent: इसका meaning है खुला और सच्चा, जिसमें कुछ छिपा न हो, जो उस व्यक्ति से match करता है जो अपने विचार कभी नहीं रोकती थी। d) reticent: इसका meaning है संकोची, अपने विचार न बताने वाला, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह विचार कभी न रोकने का ठीक उल्टा है।

23. B) admiration

Blank (3) needs a noun for the respectful feeling with which the writer calls her "simple," since the next sentence makes clear that this quality "made her so special as a teacher, colleague, and friend." a) rancour: means bitter, long-held resentment, violating the requirement since the whole piece is an affectionate tribute. b) admiration: means warm respect and approval, matching a quality the writer says made her special. c) condescension: means a patronising sense of superiority, which tempts because "simple" can sound like a put-down, but violates the requirement since the writer adds the aside precisely to rule that reading out. d) derision: means mockery or ridicule, violating the requirement since the writer is praising her openness, not laughing at it.

Hindi:

- Blank (3) में उस सम्मान भरी भावना के लिए noun चाहिए जिसके साथ writer उन्हें "simple" कहता है, क्योंकि अगला sentence स्पष्ट करता है कि इसी गुण ने उन्हें "so special as a teacher, colleague, and friend" बनाया। a) rancour: इसका meaning है लंबे समय से मन में रखी कड़वाहट, जो violate करता है क्योंकि पूरा लेख एक स्नेह भरी श्रद्धांजलि है। b) admiration: इसका meaning है गहरा सम्मान और प्रशंसा, जो उस गुण से match करता है जिसे writer उनकी विशेषता बताता है। c) condescension: इसका

meaning है स्वयं को बड़ा समझकर दूसरे को छोटा दिखाना, जो tempting है क्योंकि "simple" शब्द अपमान जैसा लग सकता है, पर violate करता है क्योंकि writer यह बीच की बात इसी अर्थ को रोकने के लिए जोड़ता है। d) derision: इसका meaning है उपहास या हँसी उड़ाना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि writer उनके खुलेपन की प्रशंसा कर रहा है, उसका उपहास नहीं।

24. C) adventurous

Blank (4) needs an adjective for something daring and out of the ordinary, since "Yet" in the next sentence shows that Ranjeeta went ahead with a path many would find bold: a Bengali learning Tamil for academic work. a) lucrative: means producing a lot of money, violating the requirement since the sentence is about the challenge of learning Tamil, not profit. b) sacrilegious: means disrespectful towards something sacred, violating the requirement since learning a language for scholarship offends nothing holy. c) adventurous: means daring and willing to take on something new, matching a scholar who crossed a language barrier for her research. d) pedestrian: means dull and ordinary, violating the requirement since "Yet" would make no sense after calling the plan ordinary.

Hindi:

- Blank (4) में किसी साहसी और असाधारण काम के लिए adjective चाहिए, क्योंकि अगले sentence का "Yet" दिखाता है कि Ranjeeta ने वह मार्ग चुना जिसे बहुत लोग साहसिक मानते: एक Bengali का academic काम के लिए Tamil सीखना। a) lucrative: इसका meaning है बहुत पैसा देने वाला, जो violate करता है क्योंकि sentence Tamil सीखने की चुनौती की बात करता है, लाभ की नहीं। b) sacrilegious: इसका meaning है किसी पवित्र वस्तु का अनादर करने वाला, जो violate करता है क्योंकि scholarship के लिए भाषा सीखने से किसी पवित्र बात का अनादर नहीं होता। c) adventurous: इसका meaning है साहसी और कुछ नया करने को उत्सुक, जो उस scholar से match करता है जिसने अपने research के लिए भाषा की बाधा पार की। d) pedestrian: इसका meaning है साधारण और नीरस, जो violate करता है क्योंकि plan को साधारण कहने के बाद "Yet" का कोई अर्थ नहीं बनता।

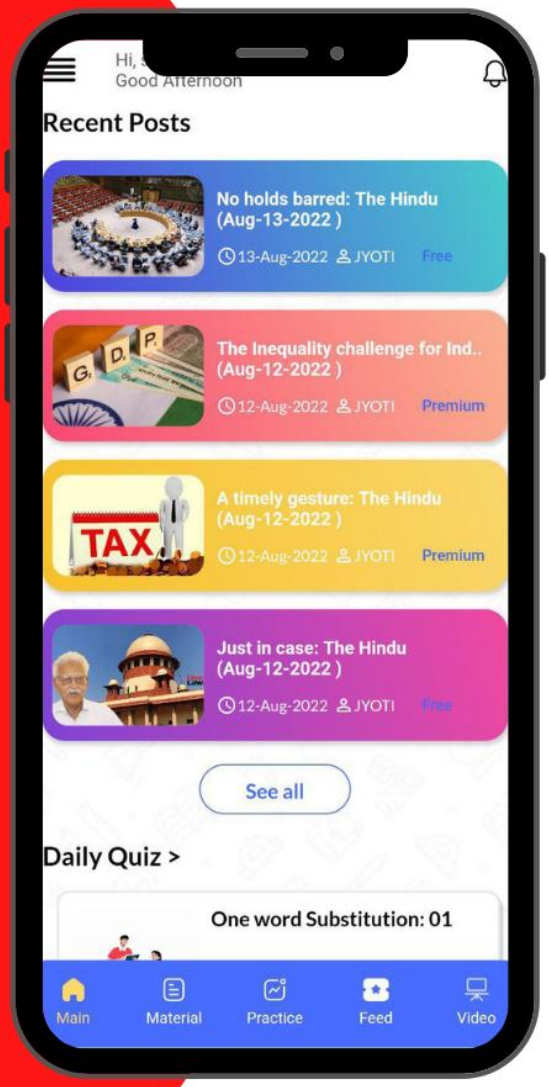
25. D) complement

Blank (5) needs a verb meaning "complete or enhance each other," since "far from being binaries" rules out opposition: History and Tradition work together "in recovering the past." a) eclipse: means to overshadow, violating the requirement since it casts the pair as rivals, which "far from being binaries" denies. b) undermine: means to weaken gradually, violating the requirement since it is the opposite of the mutual support the sentence describes. c) supplant: means to replace something, violating the requirement since the book argues that both

survive and help each other, not that one takes the other's place. d) complement: means to complete or enhance each other, matching two sources that together recover the past.

Hindi:

- Blank (5) में ऐसा verb चाहिए जिसका meaning हो "एक-दूसरे को पूरा करना या निखारना," क्योंकि "far from being binaries" विरोध को नकारता है: History और Tradition मिलकर "in recovering the past" काम करते हैं। a) eclipse: इसका meaning है किसी पर छा जाना, उसे फीका कर देना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह दोनों को rivals बना देता है, जिसे "far from being binaries" नकारता है। b) undermine: इसका meaning है धीरे-धीरे weak करना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि यह sentence में बताए गए आपसी सहयोग का उल्टा है। c) supplant: इसका meaning है किसी का स्थान ले लेना, जो violate करता है क्योंकि book का तर्क है कि दोनों बने रहते हैं और एक-दूसरे की सहायता करते हैं, न कि एक दूसरे का स्थान लेता है। d) complement: इसका meaning है एक-दूसरे को पूरा करना या निखारना, जो उन दो स्रोतों से match करता है जो मिलकर past को recover करते हैं।



Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam