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READING

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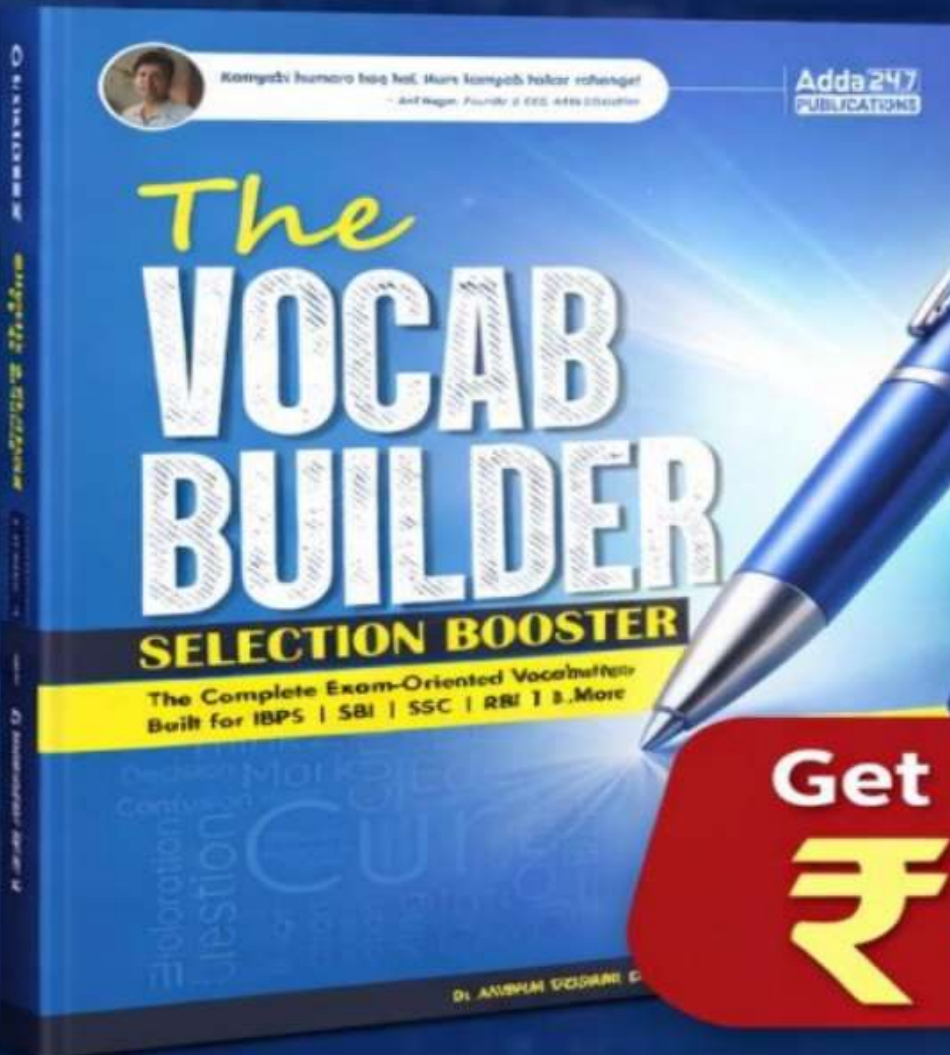
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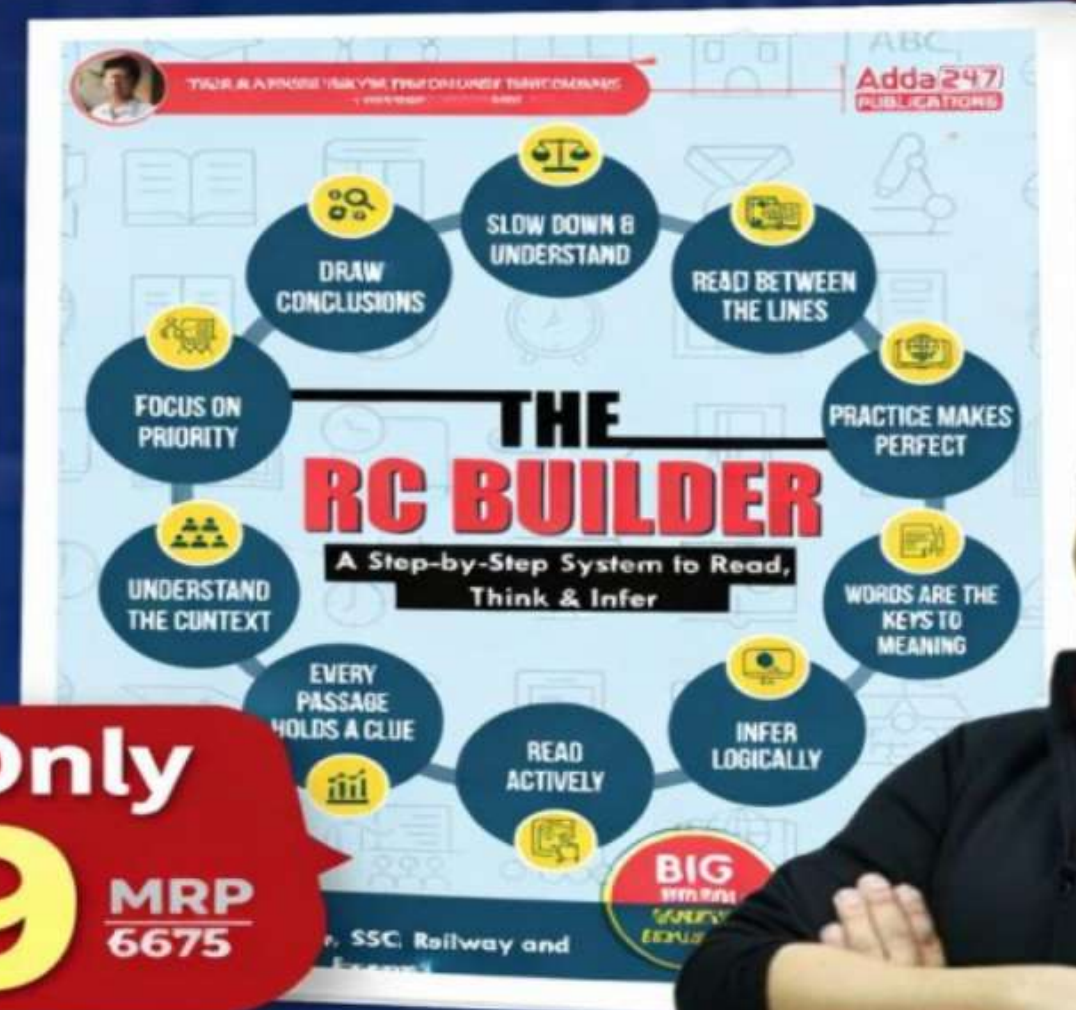
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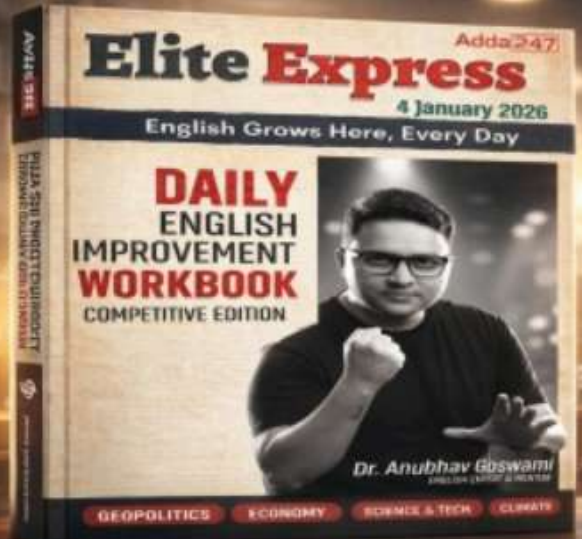
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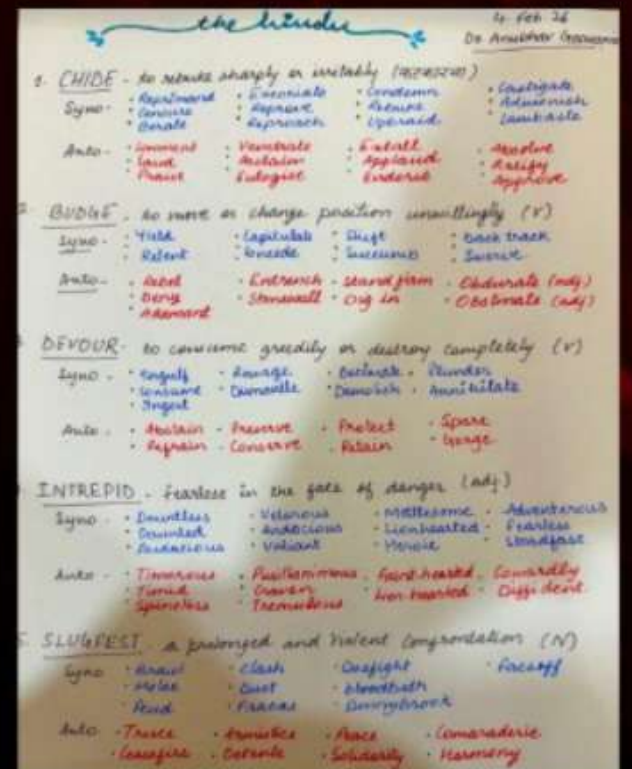


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THE HINDU VOCAB NOTES



THE HINDU

WEEKLY

REVISION + TEST

500 Words in One Class

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#3



RBI ASSISTANT 2026



40

DAYS

CRASH COURSE



11:30

SUPERMOCK

ENGLISH

DAY-17

जान लगा दो
या जाने दो



सत्यमेव
जयते

STOP VOTE CHORI

STOP SIR

STOP SIR

STOP VOTE CHORI

वोट चोरी

वोट चोरी

STOP SIR

STOP SIR



VANGAURD

अग्रदूत Noun

leader/front position



avant garde

Adherent

SYNONYMS

ANTONYMS

pioneer ✓
harbinger ✓
precursor ✓
trailblazer ✓

Bellweather
Pathfinder

laggard ✓
follower ✓
straggler ✓
reactionary ✓

Conservative
Trailer

Spearhead

Conformist

Mimic

FORMS

lead the charge ↑
at the forefront — ↑

Imitator

break new ground

Unlike her, he remained a _____, resisting even minor changes.



PARTISAN

पक्षपाती

biased/supporter

Un-interested



SYNONYMS

- biased ✓
- prejudiced ✓
- sectarian ✓
- factional ✓

Arbitrary
partial

ANTONYMS

- impartial ✓
- neutral ✓
- objective ✓
- unbiased ✓

Non-alignment
Equilable
at par

FORMS

- toe the party line ✓
- play favorites ✓

Dogmatic
Biased

Chauvinistic

Ideological

Dis-interested

Indifferent - Apathetic

The committee's ① approach undermined the credibility of the selection process.



DISCONCERTED

व्याकुल / भ्रमित (Aps)

disturbed/confused

Non plussed Vexed

Tranquil
Serene



SYNONYMS

Confound

ANTONYMS

perturbed
flustered
rattled
unsettled

Baffled
Perplexed

composed
calm
collected
poised

Equanimous
Unruffled
Self-assured

Bewildered
Exasperated

FORMS

- ✓ throw off balance
- ✓ lose composure
- to rattle someone

He felt _____ when his well-prepared argument was abruptly dismissed.



PONDER

think deeply ✓

गहराई से सोचना Verb



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SYNONYMS

contemplate ✓
deliberate ✓
reflect ✓
muse ✓

ruminate
Cogitate

Scrutinize

Inspect

brood

ANTONYMS

ignore ✓
dismiss ✓
disregard ✓
overlook ✓

Evade

Reject

undermine

trivialize

bypass

FORMS

mull over
chew over

Many chose to _____ the issue, assuming it would resolve itself.



DELUDE

mislead/deceive ✓

भ्रमित करना (Verb)

Delusion

Gull

SYNONYMS

deceive ✓

mislead ✓

hoodwink ✓

dupe ✓

Beguile

trick

Deceit

bamboozle

Snare

ANTONYMS

enlighten ✓

clarify ✓

disillusion ✓

inform ✓

Unmask

Unveiled

illuminate

Correct

Guide



FORMS

pull the wool over eyes ✓

lead astray

The fraudulent scheme was designed to _____ unsuspecting investors.



INSOUCIANT

निश्चित / उदासीन

carefree/indifferent

(नाज)

Negligent

SYNONYMS

Unconcerned

ANTONYMS

Earnest

Diligent

Meticulous

Assiduous

nonchalant
indifferent
blasé
heedless

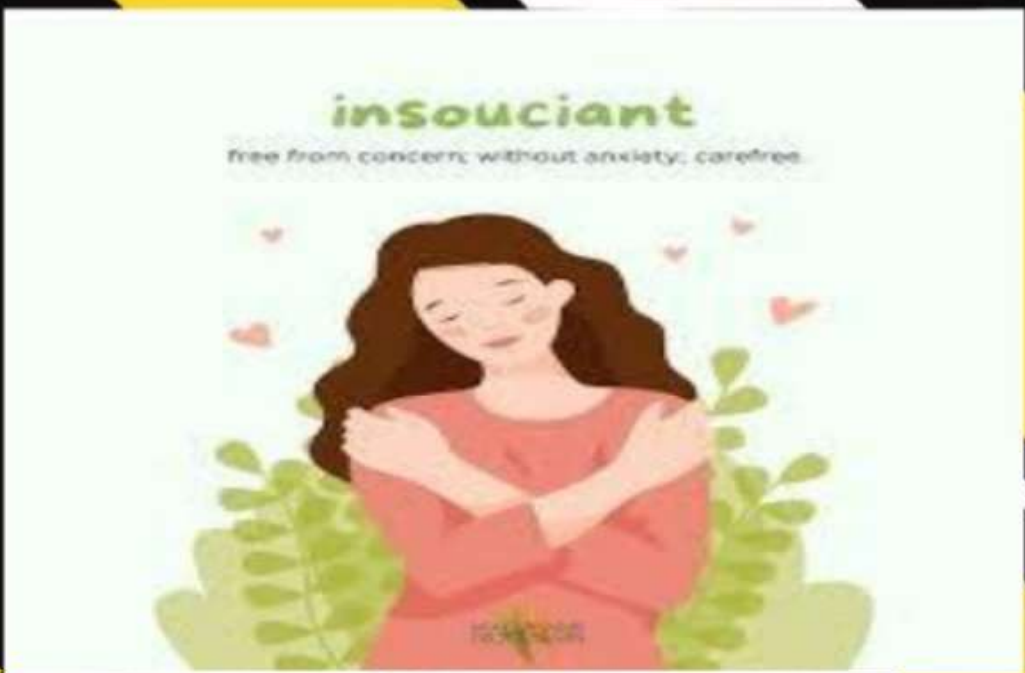
Flippant

concerned
anxious
vigilant
attentive

Generous

Casual

Lachadaisical



FORMS

not a care in the world
take lightly

In contrast, she stayed _____, monitoring every development closely.



REPLETE

परिपूर्ण (Aam)

fully filled/abundant



SYNONYMS

- saturated ✓
- brimming ✓
- overflowing ✓
- teeming ✓

Surfeit

Gorge

plentiful

Stuffed

Laden

Prolific

ANTONYMS

- scarce ✓
- deficient ✓
- lacking ✓
- sparse ✓

Barren

Scanty

Deplete - End
↓

Sparse / Meagre

trivial / Miniscule

FORMS

filled to the brim
in abundance

The proposal was _____ with innovative solutions to longstanding problems.



LAMENT

शोक व्यक्त करना

Verb ✓

express sorrow ✓

SYNONYMS

mourn ✓
bewail ✓
bemoan ✓
grieve ✓
Deplore

Repent ✓
Regret ✓
Pine
agonize
Elegize

ANTONYMS

rejoice ✓
celebrate ✓
exult ✓
delight ✓

Cheer
Relish
Revel
Exalt ✓
Eulogize
Jovial - (Adj) - happy



FORMS

cry over spilt milk ✓
weep over ✓

The author continued to deplore the erosion of cultural values.



MADE OFF

भाग जाना

escaped/stole and fled



SYNONYMS

absconded ✓
 fled ✓
 decamped ✓
 bolted ✓

Sneak off

Evade

Vanish

ANTONYMS

surrendered ✓
 stayed ✓
 remained ✓
 returned ✓

FORMS

make a getaway ✓
 take to heels ✓

Cornered later, he eventually _____ without resistance.





CALL FOR

मांग करना

demand/require ✓



SYNONYMS

demand ✓
 necessitate ✓
 require ✓
 warrant ✓

Urge
ask
Invoke
Stipulate
press for

ANTONYMS

reject ✓
 waive ✓
 renounce ✓
 forgo ✓

Abdicate

FORMS

call the shots ✓
 call for action ✓

Yet, some officials chose to ____ the urgency of the matter.







1. Pugnacious → fond of fighting
2. Repugnant → strongly offensive
3. Impugn → attack verbally
4. Expunge → wipe out completely
5. Propugn → defend strongly

An impeachment move with no winners

A win-win situation benefits all stakeholders even if a compromise is reached in search of a workable alternative. It could even be a way in which the winning side deludes the losing side to perceive its loss as a necessary price it paid for survival.

The impeachment motion of the Opposition parties against the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) is one such example. It is a motion destined not to carry. Yet its prime movers may not see the loss as a defeat. But can the CEC see their loss as his victory?

The move of the Opposition parties is doubtlessly dramatic. However, the question that needs to be pondered by the well-wishers of the Election Commission of India (ECI) is what prompted them to don the gloves for a fight with no chance of victory. Perhaps, sometimes one fights not to win but to wound the opponent. And the troubling part is that political parties treat the CEC as an opponent.

Steadfast defiance

The move to impeach the CEC is a first in the history of an institution that is supposed to be a vanguard of Indian electoral democracy. "India built many institutions after attaining freedom and adopting a Republican constitution... If anyone were to conduct an opinion poll on which of these institutions rendered the best service to Indian democracy with the highest degree of integrity, I have no doubt that the ECI will be our people's first choice," said Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the then Prime Minister at the ECI's golden jubilee celebrations on January 17, 2001.

And now, 25 years later, 193 parliamentarians of the Opposition have submitted notices for an impeachment motion against the CEC citing charges of "partisan and discriminatory conduct", "obstruction of investigation into electoral fraud" and disenfranchisement via the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. The notice is as



Ashok Lavasa

Former Election Commissioner and Union Finance Secretary of India

The exclusion of even a single eligible voter due to the way the SIR has been conducted would legitimise the criticism of this arbitrary and aggressive exercise

unprecedented as the manner in which the revision of electoral rolls has been undertaken despite serious challenge by most political parties, except the ruling dispensation. Such an alignment of thinking disconcerted the Opposition, which sharpened their attack against the CEC. The repeated press conferences by the Leader of the Opposition (LOP) exposing discrepancies in the electoral rolls of States where elections had been held, further eroded trust in the body.

While the aggressive style and severity of the LOP's attack on the poll body, questioning its integrity was surprising, what was more surprising was the poll body's obduracy in not providing a credible response to the doubts raised on its functioning and impartiality. As the attacks became more and more bitter, communication channels between the poll body and the opposition political parties seemed to choke.

The nation had seldom seen such a relentless campaign against a CEC even as the Supreme Court heard endless petitions against his decisions. As the petitions failed to yield any substantive relief, frustration mounted and so did the CEC's apparent indifference. The CEC persisted with the SIR despite the fortnight-long Vote Adhikar Yatra just before the Bihar State elections.

Not that there was no dialogue. The one between the poll body and the Trinamool Congress caused more rancour culminating in the theatrical presence of Mamata Banerjee in the Supreme Court. Never before had a Chief Minister appeared in Court arguing against the ECI's unfair decisions. The dharnas against the SIR in West Bengal or officials dying in the course of conducting the SIR failed to deter the CEC or change his avowed commitment to "purify" the electoral rolls.

The ECI invented the "logical discrepancy" tool that pitted electors against the AI used to detect discrepancies. West Bengal saw 58,20,899 electors deleted at

the draft stage and 60,06,675 "under adjudication" in the final list. But the ECI went on to announce elections in the State, where the fate of nearly 10% electors remained undetermined. It employed micro-observers for finalising the revised rolls, something never done in the past. The SC also took the extraordinary step of appointing over 500 judicial officers to decide the fate of these electors in a short span.

It is unusual for a constitutional body mandated with electoral rolls preparation to involve another constitutional body in discharging its routine functions by disregarding the elector's voting right, which it was created to protect. The exclusion of even a single eligible voter due to the way the SIR has been conducted would legitimise the criticism of this arbitrary and aggressive exercise.

A loss for the common man

However, does all of this justify the impeachment move? The answer depends on which side of the divide one stands. The crores of voters who figure in the final electoral roll might not protest, treating the tension and trauma during the revision process as part of the routine struggle that helpless citizens go through to secure their rights. The voice of those excluded doesn't count in the elections in any case.

Eventually, the valid concern of protecting the right to vote turns into the lament of losers who are left with no choice but to resort to the ultimate constitutional weapon against the CEC.

Meanwhile, the ECI has sounded the poll bugle asking players to contest against each other rather than against the referee. It is now in full control. The successful completion of the poll process will justify all its decisions. Victors will exult; losers will find reasons to complain.

What the nation would be left with will be a poll body in which the Opposition, representing more than half the voting population, has expressed no confidence.

A win-win situation benefits all stakeholders even if a compromise is reached in search of a workable alternative. It could even be a way in which the winning side **deludes** the losing side to perceive its loss as a necessary price for survival.

The impeachment motion of the Opposition parties against the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) is one such example. It is a motion destined **not to carry**. Yet its prime movers may not see the loss as a defeat. But can the CEC see their loss as his victory?

The move of the Opposition parties is doubtlessly dramatic. However, the question that needs to be **pondered** is what prompted them to engage in a fight with no chance of victory. Perhaps, sometimes one fights not to win but to wound the opponent. The troubling part is that political parties treat the CEC as an opponent.

The move to impeach the CEC is a first in the history of an institution that is supposed to be a **vanguard** of Indian electoral democracy. Atal Bihari Vajpayee once remarked that among India's institutions, the Election Commission of India (ECI) would be the people's first choice for integrity.

Yet, 25 years later, 193 Opposition parliamentarians have submitted notices for impeachment citing "**partisan** and discriminatory conduct", "obstruction of investigation into electoral fraud" and disenfranchisement through the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The manner in which electoral rolls have been revised, despite serious challenges by most political parties, **disconcerted** the Opposition. Repeated press conferences by the Leader of the Opposition (LOP), highlighting discrepancies in States where elections had been held, further eroded trust in the poll body.

While the severity of the Opposition's attack was striking, what was more surprising was the poll body's reluctance to provide a credible response to doubts about its functioning and impartiality. As tensions escalated, communication between the poll body and Opposition parties appeared to break down.

The country seldom had seen such a relentless campaign against a CEC, even as the Supreme Court heard numerous petitions against his decisions. The CEC persisted with the SIR despite protests such as the Vote Adhikar Yatra before the Bihar elections.

West Bengal witnessed large-scale deletions of voters at the draft stage and many cases remained "under adjudication" even as elections were announced. The ECI employed micro-observers and the Supreme Court appointed judicial officers to decide such cases—extraordinary measures in a routine administrative process.

The exclusion of even a single eligible voter due to the manner in which the SIR was conducted would legitimise criticism of this _____ (A) exercise.

However, whether all this justifies the impeachment move depends on one's perspective. Many voters included in the final rolls may accept the process as part of securing their rights, while the voices of those excluded remain unheard.

Ultimately, concerns about protecting voting rights risk being reduced to political grievances, prompting recourse to impeachment as a constitutional weapon.

Meanwhile, the ECI has called for parties to contest each other rather than challenge the referee. The successful completion of elections may justify its actions. Victors will celebrate, losers will complain.

What remains is a poll body in which the Opposition, representing a significant section of voters, has expressed no confidence.

1. Why is the impeachment motion described as "destined not to carry"?

- A) It is rejected due to judicial intervention beforehand
- B) It violates constitutional provisions governing removal procedures
- C) It is procedurally invalid under parliamentary traditions
- D) It is opposed unanimously by all regional political groups
- E) It lacks sufficient legislative backing to secure approval

2. What historical significance is attached to the impeachment move?

- A) It aligns with global practices of administrative accountability
- B) It follows a long tradition of similar institutional confrontations
- C) It reflects a rare political exigency to Election commission of India
- D) It represents an unprecedented challenge to an electoral authority
- E) It signifies a minor procedural anomaly within governance

3. According to the passage, criticism of the revision process becomes valid if:

A) even one eligible individual is excluded through flawed implementation

B) the number of participating voters declines significantly overall

C) election outcomes differ from pre-poll expectations substantially

D) political parties fail to reach consensus on procedural norms

E) judicial authorities delay adjudication of electoral disputes

4. What underlying idea is conveyed through the “win-win situation” analogy?

- A. A negotiated outcome may disguise asymmetrical gains as mutual benefit
- B. A weaker side may internalize defeat as a rational compromise (p)
- C. A compromise invariably leads to equitable distribution of power (p)
- D. Strategic framing can alter perceptions of victory and loss

Options:

- (a) Only A ✓
- (b) Only C ✗
- (c) Both A and B ✗
- (d) Both B and C ✗
- (e) A, B and D ✗

delude

5. What word should come in the blank A ?

A. Unequivocal

- clear b

B. Arbitrary

C. Veracious

- true b

D. Mendacious

- (x)

E. Sanguine

partisan

6. Identify the error

had seldom seen ^{M.✓}

The country seldom had seen such a (A) /relentless campaign against a CEC, (B) /even as the Supreme Court heard (C) /numerous petitions against his decisions (D) / No Error (E)

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

I have played
H.✓ M.✓

Before M.✓

Freq.
always
Never

barely
scarcely

I seldom have played
I have seldom played

Seldom
rarely

almost never

7. What does the concluding remark about victors and losers imply?

- A) Outcomes influence perceptions of fairness more than procedures
- B) Electoral processes are universally accepted irrespective of results
- C) Administrative actions are always judged independently of outcomes
- D) Political actors avoid questioning results after elections conclude
- E) Judicial oversight eliminates disputes related to electoral outcomes

THE INDIAN EXPRESS – APRIL 1, 2026

Ladies and gentlemen, this is a robbery

IT IS not for nothing that the head of Art Recovery International has lamented the current “smash and grab period” of art theft. The masked men who broke into the Magnani Rocca Foundation in Italy’s Parma region and made off with three paintings — a Renoir, a Cézanne and a Matisse — showed little patience for the finesse and style that seem to have characterised such endeavours in the past. They used a crowbar to force open an entrance and were in and out in under three minutes.

Gentlemen thieves like Thomas Crown and Arsène Lupin may be mere products of the imagination, but art history is replete with stories of purloiners who combined their taste for the rare and beautiful — and the profits they bring — with a sense of mischief and real love for the art. Take the two Norwegian burglars who stole Edvard Munch’s “The Scream” from the National Museum in Oslo, leaving behind a courteous note: “A thousand thanks for your poor security”. Or consider the two men dressed as policemen who walked into the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston and made the now infamous announcement, “Gentlemen, this is a robbery”, making off with 13 works.

Then there was Stéphane Breitwieser, art thief extraordinaire who walked off with pieces from nearly 200 museums — simply because they moved him. No smashed glass, hold-ups or bloodshed were involved, just good taste and chutzpah. His luck turned in 2001 when his mother, angered by his criminal behaviour, disposed of his nearly \$1.25-billion collection, and Breitwieser was arrested. The smashers-and-grabbers of today may not execute their crimes with quite the same insouciance or love, but their desire to turn their loot to profit at least keeps alive the hope that someday the priceless works will be found and restored.

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8. The phrase “smash and grab period” most nearly implies:

- A) Careful planning with minimal physical damage ✓
- B) Reckless stealing marked by speed and destruction ✓
- C) Intellectual crimes executed with aesthetic judgement
- D) Organized thefts involving diplomatic negotiations
- E) Slow crimes designed to avoid public suspicion

9. Why are fictional characters mentioned in the passage?

- A) To highlight exaggerated criminal stereotypes in literature
- B) To compare imagination with historical criminal realities
- C) To criticize unrealistic depictions of artistic thefts
- D) To establish legal differences between fiction and crime
- E) To emphasize the decline of imaginative storytelling

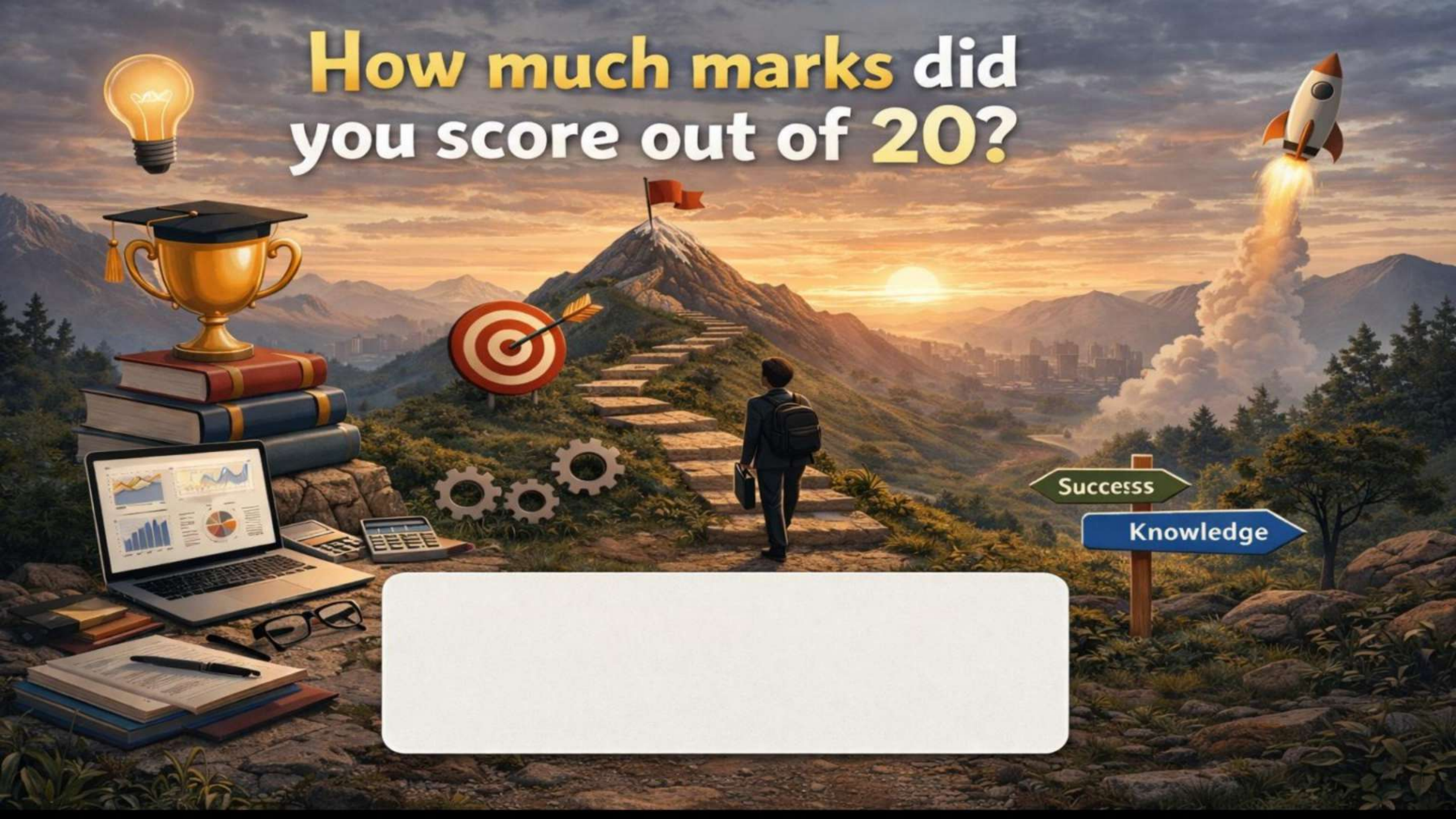
The tone towards earlier art thieves can best be described as:

- A) Admiring yet cautiously ironic in its presentation
- B) Entirely critical and morally condemning throughout
- C) Detached and purely analytical in expression
- D) Mocking and dismissive of their motivations
- E) Neutral and indifferent to their actions

Sarirical
Ironic



How much marks did you score out of 20?



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