

**COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST
(CLAT) 2026 Mock 202604:
Answer Key and Solution**



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
(a)	(b)	(d)	(a)	(c)	(a)	(d)	(a)	(c)	(a)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
(b)	(a)	(c)	(a)	(a)	(c)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(a)
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(a)	(a)	(d)	(d)	(d)
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
(a)	(c)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(b)	(c)	(b)	(a)	(a)
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
(c)	(a)	(c)	(d)	(b)	(a)	(d)	(a)	(c)	(c)
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
(c)	(d)	(d)	(a)	(c)	(b)	(d)	(a)	(d)	(d)
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(c)	(d)	(b)	(b)	(d)	(b)
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
(c)	(a)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(c)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(b)
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
(b)	(c)	(b)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(d)
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
(b)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(b)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(d)
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
(a)	(b)	(b)	(d)	(c)	(c)	(a)	(a)	(c)	(b)
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
(a)	(d)	(c)	(b)	(b)	(d)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(c)

Section – A : English Comprehension

1. Correct Answer: (a) the endurance of belief systems that continue to govern cultural interaction

Reference Line: “They still believe that if you name the Janara, she will come to your house at night and she will harm you in some way.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage reveals that fear of the Janare still influences everyday actions, proving that superstition continues to mediate relationships and communication. This shows that folklore is not passive memory but an active social force that dictates interaction within the community. The word “still” highlights continuity rather than revival, reinforcing the strength of inherited faith in unseen powers. Such endurance reflects the psychological depth of cultural conditioning that outlasts modernization. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) Although the Church historically influenced such beliefs, the author attributes the current fear to communal memory rather than clerical enforcement. The focus lies on oral transmission among residents, not ecclesiastical doctrine. The narrative does not present the Church as a present actor in shaping fear but rather as part of the distant origins of persecution. The phrase “depending on whom you ask” implies personal experience, not religious instruction. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The anthropologist’s role is that of documentation and understanding, not confrontation or reform. The hesitation of locals arises from fear of stigma, not from her failure to change their minds. Her tone of curiosity and restraint reveals scholarly observation, not incompetence. This shows respect for cultural complexity rather than an inability to influence it. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The fear described is experiential, not ceremonial; it shapes genuine behavior and perception. Rituals such as leaving brooms or avoiding names indicate functional belief rather than symbolic enactment. The term “must still be warded off” emphasizes urgency and conviction, not performance. These practices are portrayed as meaningful defense mechanisms rather than mere gestures. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

2. Correct Answer: (b) It conceals layers of superstition beneath its outward ordinariness and modernity

Reference Line: “Stepping off the train... is not a particularly haunting experience... yet this is the so-called city of witches.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The mention of Roman structures like the Arch of Trajan serves only as historical context, not as the city’s defining feature. The text highlights folklore and superstition more than monuments or tourism. It is the human belief system that gives the city its character, not its architecture. This eliminates any notion that Benevento’s identity is shaped solely by heritage sites. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage begins by contrasting an ordinary, uneventful arrival with the city’s dark mythical reputation, showing duality in its identity. This subtle contradiction implies that its mystical quality lies beneath the surface of everyday life. The words “so-called city of witches” imply a reputation that survives in spirit even when not visible. The author thus constructs Benevento as a place where myth coexists with apparent normalcy. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Far from being detached from faith or superstition, Benevento is presented as a community immersed in inherited fear and reverence. The phrase “many of whom still hold close these passed-down superstitions” underscores deep continuity. The city’s social reality resists rational detachment and reflects spiritual persistence. Thus, separation from superstition is inconsistent with the passage’s central claim. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author avoids presenting superstition as a remnant; instead, it remains part of the city’s living customs. References to rituals and prayers show ongoing belief rather than historical memory. Benevento’s mysticism is portrayed as active and evolving, not static or obsolete. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

3. Correct Answer: (d) evocative

Reference Line: “Stepping off the train in the southern Italian city of Benevento is not a particularly haunting experience...”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) “Terrifying” implies extreme fear, which is inconsistent with the author’s calm and descriptive

tone. The line portrays mild disappointment rather than dread. Choosing “terrifying” would narrow the emotional range to fear alone, stripping the word of its reflective quality. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) “Supernatural” aligns superficially with the theme of witchcraft but shifts the sense toward literal otherworldliness. The sentence focuses on perception, not on paranormal events, making this substitution inaccurate. The emphasis lies on atmosphere, not on the existence of mystical entities. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) “Mysterious” conveys intrigue but lacks the emotional persistence and depth implied by “haunting.” The author’s tone suggests subtle absence of atmosphere rather than concealment of secrets. Therefore, it does not adequately express the nuance of aesthetic evocation. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) In this context, “haunting” refers to a feeling that lingers in the imagination or memory, not one rooted in fear. The word “evocative” captures this subtle emotional resonance, suggesting a capacity to stir a deep or reflective response. The author’s phrasing implies that Benevento does not immediately invoke its mystical legacy. The contrast highlights the absence of evocative charm upon first encounter. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. Correct Answer: (a) analytically neutral yet appreciative of their anthropological significance

Reference Line: “Even now, when Maria Scarinzi, an anthropologist... interviews older residents... they hesitate to share everything for fear of retribution.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author presents these beliefs as cultural phenomena, adopting a detached yet respectful tone consistent with ethnographic observation. The description of fear and secrecy conveys empathy for the believers while refraining from judgment. The anthropological perspective implies academic curiosity rather than condescension. The tone thus blends neutrality with appreciation for the endurance of tradition. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) Skepticism would require language of doubt or mockery, which is absent throughout the passage. Instead, the author uses factual narration and reported speech, avoiding any dismissal of these customs. The treatment of rituals as living practices undermines the

idea of criticism. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) A condemnatory stance would emphasize irrationality or contrast science with faith, which the passage avoids. The focus is on the persistence of belief rather than its correctness. Emotional judgment is deliberately excluded from the narration, suggesting interpretive restraint. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The writing shows no trace of humor or irony; rather, it preserves dignity and seriousness in describing fear of the Janare. The inclusion of personal testimonies reinforces sincerity rather than mockery. The tone’s consistency across historical and cultural layers confirms its earnestness. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

5. Correct Answer: (c) repelled

Reference Line: “...a curse of the evil eye must still be warded off with a specific ritual involving oil and water and a traditional prayer.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) “Endured” replaces resistance with acceptance, implying passivity toward misfortune. It negates the active agency central to ritual performance. The tone of action and purpose found in the original phrase is lost entirely. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) “Alleviated” introduces an idea of relief rather than prevention, shifting emphasis from defense to healing. The curse is treated as an external threat, not an internal suffering to be eased. This change of function disrupts the original connotation of guarding against danger. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) “Repelled” accurately conveys active resistance against a perceived supernatural threat, matching the protective tone of the passage. It maintains the sense of defense rather than destruction, aligning with the ritual’s intent to keep harm away. The pairing of ritual objects and prayer strengthens the meaning of active rejection. This preserves both cultural and semantic integrity. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) “Nullified” suggests total erasure or invalidation, a concept too absolute and technical for the cultural context. Ritual acts in the passage are portrayed as continuous defenses, not final eliminations. The word’s formal tone conflicts with the mystical language of “evil eye.” Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

6. Correct Answer: (a) The coexistence of superstition and history defines its identity more than modern progress

Reference Line: "Some researchers argue... but to understand the root of the myth, we have to go back to 1428."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage intricately connects the present belief in witches with historical persecutions, creating continuity between past and present. This synthesis illustrates that Benevento's modern identity emerges from the intertwining of memory, myth, and community. The use of historical detail within living belief reinforces that progress has not displaced faith. The author's portrayal is of a city defined by cohabiting realities, not replacement. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The Church's role ended centuries ago, and its inquisitorial actions failed to eliminate superstition. The persistence of rituals and fear shows that the myth resisted suppression. This resilience contradicts any claim of total erasure or success of orthodoxy. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The anthropologist's work preserves oral history but does not attempt to rationalize or disprove it. The narrative describes continuity of faith rather than scientific substitution. Rational documentation functions as record, not as conversion of belief into fact. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The text does not treat local traditions as ornaments or superficial remnants but as integral to cultural self-understanding. They shape behavior and moral codes, demonstrating lived authenticity. Their continuity distinguishes Benevento's uniqueness among modern cities. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

7. Correct Answer: (d) the emotional turbulence provoked by confronting one's own mortality

Reference Line: "Alongside the rage many terminally ill people feel against the dying of the light, there are the memories that return to flagellate the conscience."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This interpretation confines Hurley's expression to the physical inevitability of death, reducing its metaphorical power. The passage instead uses "dying of the light" to evoke inner turmoil, not bodily decay. The emphasis lies on rage and self-reproach,

suggesting an existential rather than physiological perspective. The author portrays death as an emotional storm rather than a biological certainty. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The line does not portray memory as endurance or defiance; instead, memories appear as instruments of self-punishment. They "flagellate the conscience," indicating pain, not preservation. The characters are tormented by their recollections rather than empowered by them. Therefore, memory functions as a source of anguish, not resistance. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage contains no commentary on art or creativity as futile means of redemption. Hurley's focus remains intensely human and psychological, exploring moral failure and spiritual regret. The yearning for absolution arises from conscience, not artistic expression. Thus, connecting this to imagination misreads the novel's emotional register. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Hurley's phrase captures the tumultuous feelings of those facing death—rage, guilt, longing, and remorse. The passage portrays mortality as a confrontation with emotional chaos that unsettles one's moral equilibrium. The memories that haunt the dying emphasize their inner battle for peace and acceptance. This turmoil defines the novel's psychological texture and encapsulates its tragic vision. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

8. Correct Answer: (a) depict a decaying external world that mirrors the disintegration of inner life

Reference Line: "Saltwash, the titular town of his new novel, is a semi-abandoned coastal resort... the neglect was so rife as to seem wilful."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The imagery of neglect and abandonment mirrors the protagonist's confrontation with despair and death. Saltwash's physical ruin parallels Tom's spiritual fatigue and his reckoning with mortality. The decayed environment externalizes the character's fractured psyche, reinforcing Hurley's symbolic use of place. Through Saltwash, the line between landscape and emotion dissolves, creating a haunting correspondence between the physical and the mental. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The town's dereliction evokes despondency rather than endurance, and the atmosphere is pervaded by fatalism, not vitality. The aged characters appear

haunted, not heroic; they succumb to nostalgia and guilt rather than mastering it. The neglect of the town mirrors surrender, not resilience. Consequently, the mood of decline contradicts any notion of celebration. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage never suggests that Saltwash conceals moral corruption behind calm appearances. There is no illusion of serenity to betray; the town's ruin is laid bare and unapologetic. Its decay functions as exposure, not disguise, symbolizing psychological truth rather than social hypocrisy. Thus, the interpretation of hidden moral rot misreads the plain starkness of Hurley's tone. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Nostalgia in Hurley's fiction is corrosive rather than redemptive. Saltwash does not unite past and present but underscores their irreparable divide. The characters' return to this desolate place signifies confrontation with memory, not reconciliation with it. The crumbling architecture mirrors loss, not restoration, and nostalgia becomes an agent of torment. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

9. Correct Answer: (c) vigor

Reference Line: "The malaise of regret and the yearning for absolution vibrate through Andrew Michael Hurley's latest work of fiction."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Agitation implies nervous unrest or mental disturbance, which still conveys a sense of unease similar to malaise. Both represent discomfort and tension rather than their opposites. The emotional texture of malaise lies in weariness and guilt, not restlessness. Hence, agitation fails to counteract that state of inertia or fatigue. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Tranquility suggests calmness and emotional stillness, which differs from malaise but not as a true opposite. It describes serenity rather than vitality, while malaise implies lethargy rather than turmoil. The word's antonym must carry the sense of strength or renewal that opposes debility. Hence, tranquility lacks the energy needed for contrast. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Vigor embodies vitality, strength, and emotional robustness—everything absent in the drained moral tone of malaise. Where malaise reflects paralysis and despair, vigor expresses movement and life. This opposition captures the full semantic reversal of the term's psychological essence. Hurley's characters,

marked by regret and exhaustion, lack the vigor that defines its antonym. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) Suspicion relates to distrust or doubt, which lies outside the emotional and moral register of malaise. The term malaise concerns spiritual heaviness, not intellectual uncertainty. Suspicion neither negates nor complements that state; it belongs to an entirely separate semantic field. Thus, it cannot serve as the opposite of malaise in this context. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

10. Correct Answer: (a) privileges the psychological depth of characters over the atmosphere of place

Reference Line: "The driving animus of Hurley's fiction has always been place."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The reviewer explicitly establishes that place is the central driving force in Hurley's work, calling it his "animus." This refutes any interpretation that subordinates setting to character psychology. In his fiction, atmosphere shapes consciousness rather than merely reflecting it, making landscape integral, not auxiliary. The critic clearly admires how environment becomes a vessel for moral complexity, proving that Hurley's fiction arises from geography, not introspection alone. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The author praises Hurley's use of mixed conventions—folk horror and crime—to produce a subtle sense of unease. This stylistic hybridity deepens the thematic reach rather than diluting it. The blending of genres reinforces emotional complexity, showing admiration rather than disagreement. The critic values this ability to expand realism through tension and ambiguity. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The critic's statement that Hurley's territories are "psychic, even mythic" affirms the role of landscape as moral mirror. The physical and the spiritual intertwine, illustrating the author's alignment with this reading. Hurley's geographical detail channels states of conscience and grief, rather than serving as passive backdrop. This reinforces the author's interpretive agreement rather than objection. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The mention of folklore and atmosphere as defining traits underlines the critic's appreciation for Hurley's thematic union of myth and emotion. His settings breathe superstition, dread, and inherited guilt, all of which align with the review's tone. The passage's

language conveys admiration for this synthesis, making disagreement impossible. The critic views this integration as the hallmark of Hurley's originality. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

11. Correct Answer: (b) disguises its psychological depth beneath an unassuming narrative surface

Reference Line: "A wildly atmospheric, deceptively simple tale that borrows tropes from cosy crime only to snare you into something deeper, darker and more chilling."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage never criticizes the novel for lacking substance; instead, it highlights the presence of hidden depth and purpose. The work's simplicity is not an evasion but a strategy of narrative misdirection. Suggesting an absence of meaning contradicts the reviewer's admiration for Hurley's craftsmanship. Therefore, this option misinterprets the critical tone. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The expression "deceptively simple" implies that beneath the novel's accessible form lies an intricate structure of emotions and moral ambiguities. Hurley uses the familiarity of genre tropes to lure readers into deeper psychological and existential terrains. The critic acknowledges that its outward ease conceals carefully woven complexities that only emerge upon reflection. This shows that Hurley's simplicity operates as a mask for depth and intensity. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) The critic's description suggests amplification, not reduction, of moral complexity. Hurley's writing does not simplify but intensifies emotion through atmosphere and symbolism. The line emphasizes entrapment within "something deeper and darker," rejecting the idea of clarity or simplicity. The reviewer views the novel's subtlety as enriching, not diminishing, its moral scope. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The novel's surface plot might appear simple, but the passage asserts that it conceals philosophical gravity. The reviewer's use of "snare you into" indicates that the story deliberately subverts expectations of straightforwardness. The narrative's emotional layering contradicts the notion of direct simplicity. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

12. Correct Answer: (a) admiration for his ability to evoke dread through understated literary control

Reference Line: "A wildly atmospheric, deceptively simple tale that borrows tropes from cosy crime only to snare you into something deeper, darker and more chilling."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The critic's phrasing conveys clear appreciation of Hurley's mastery in balancing restraint with intensity. His ability to transform ordinary genre elements into profound emotional experiences is depicted as a mark of literary precision. The phrase "wildly atmospheric" coupled with "deeper, darker" reflects respect for his tonal control and psychological craftsmanship. The review praises rather than critiques his power to evoke dread through subtlety. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The passage does not express any skepticism toward Hurley's use of familiar motifs; rather, it commends how he reinvents them with new significance. The phrase "borrows tropes" is descriptive, not disapproving. The review's tone suggests admiration for his subversion of genre expectations rather than fatigue with repetition. Hence, this interpretation misreads the intent. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The critic acknowledges continuity with Hurley's earlier mythic themes rather than departure. The line "the driving animus of Hurley's fiction has always been place" reaffirms his enduring style. There is no disappointment; the tone reflects recognition of consistency and evolution. Suggesting discontent contradicts the reviewer's clear respect for his craft. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Ambivalence implies hesitation or mixed evaluation, which is absent from the passage's confident and admiring tone. The review expresses firm conviction in Hurley's artistic achievement. The consistent praise for atmosphere, tone, and thematic resonance leaves no room for uncertainty. Therefore, interpreting the tone as divided weakens the reviewer's clear stance. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

13. Correct Answer: (c) risk ignoring practical actions that could lessen existing injustice

Reference Line: "A theory of justice that can serve as the basis of practical reasoning must include ways of judging how to reduce injustice and advance justice, rather than aiming only at the characterization of perfectly just societies."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) While understanding moral history enriches ethical discourse, the author's project is not a historical study but a philosophical method of assessing current injustice. He discusses no temporal development or chronological insight, only practical reasoning. Thus, using historical interpretation misreads the analytical intent of his theory, which centers on action rather than retrospection. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage rejects the assumption that moral absolutes can generate institutional reforms. Abstract perfection does not automatically translate into procedures for equitable governance because theory and implementation are conceptually distinct. The author argues that institutions evolve through practical judgment rather than philosophical idealization. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author believes that prioritizing an ideal notion of perfect justice paralyzes immediate moral reasoning. When we idealize perfection before action, urgent injustices remain unresolved because attention shifts from remedy to imagination. He advocates a pragmatic framework where justice improves incrementally through comparative evaluation. Such reasoning transforms philosophy into a tool for real institutions rather than a static ideal. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The author carefully separates moral theory from political practice by calling them "analytically disjoined." Claiming that moral and institutional unity naturally cohere contradicts his purpose, which is to highlight their necessary differentiation. Such unity would reduce justice to theory, ignoring its evolving social execution. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

14. Correct Answer: (a) stress that moral reasoning should focus on actionable institutional change

Reference Line: "The latter question...is central to making decisions about institutions, behaviour and other determinants of justice."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author's central aim is to make justice operational within institutions by urging moral reflection that informs decision-making. He sees reasoning about comparative justice as a bridge between ethics and policy. By analyzing "institutions, behaviour, and determinants," he transforms justice

from a metaphysical question into an administrative necessity. Hence, option (a) captures his philosophical pragmatism and is correct.

(b) The author rejects the notion that perfectionist ideals must underpin moral reasoning. He views those ideals as barriers that detach philosophy from the human condition. Treating them as foundational leads to theoretical paralysis, where reasoning serves contemplation rather than reform. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Comparative reasoning, in the author's view, refines moral understanding by allowing continuous evaluation of injustice. It does not weaken ideals but strengthens them through engagement with practical conditions. Suggesting that it weakens coherence undermines his argument for its necessity in moral discourse. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Abstract moral principles, according to the author, cannot dictate practical justice because they lack the flexibility to handle contextual differences. He insists that justice must emerge through rational dialogue rather than from transcendental rules. Claiming total dependence on abstraction distorts his entire comparative framework. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

15. Correct Answer: (a) complacent acceptance of conflicting views without rational scrutiny

Reference Line: "...rather than for what can be called 'disengaged toleration', with the comfort of such a lazy resolution as: 'you are right in your community and I am right in mine'"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The phrase "disengaged toleration" is used by the author to expose a moral weakness that masquerades as open-mindedness. He suggests that accepting opposing views without critical engagement amounts to an abdication of reason. This kind of passive acceptance allows intellectual comfort but blocks moral progress, as it prevents dialogue that could refine justice. True reasoning, in his view, must involve rational scrutiny even when agreement is unattainable. The term therefore condemns tolerance that is hollow and unexamined, where disengagement replaces inquiry. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The author's criticism is philosophical rather than political, and he never addresses the question of global or institutional cooperation. His focus lies on the nature of reasoning itself, not on the structures of international engagement. Misinterpreting his concern

as political misplaces the intellectual target of his critique, which is aimed at the moral habit of avoiding argumentative engagement. Thus, this option falsely attributes his concern to societal coordination rather than moral inquiry. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author's objection is not to emotional intolerance but to cognitive passivity. "Disengaged toleration" does not describe hatred or prejudice but an indolent acceptance of pluralism that lacks intellectual depth. He believes that reasoning must challenge differences to preserve the moral vitality of discourse. Emotional intolerance would involve hostility, whereas he criticizes indifference, which is more insidious because it disguises disengagement as civility. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author does not attack those who question universal moral values; rather, he reaffirms the importance of impartial and reasoned universality. He insists that reasoning can occur across differences, grounded in shared rational faculties. Describing "disengaged toleration" as philosophical skepticism misconstrues his meaning because skepticism rejects the very possibility of common reasoning, which he defends. Therefore, the phrase targets apathy, not philosophical doubt. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

16. Correct Answer: (c) Moral analysis must first establish perfect justice before reforms are attempted. Reference Line: "The assumption that this comparative exercise cannot be undertaken without identifying, first, the demands of perfect justice, can be shown to be entirely incorrect."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

(a) The author insists that justice should be examined through comparative assessment rather than by reaching for perfectionist ideals. He shows that practical reforms and moral evaluation can proceed independently of any ideal model of justice. Such comparative reasoning makes philosophy functionally relevant and adaptable to evolving realities. This position allows decision-making to remain morally responsible without requiring a flawless blueprint. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author accepts that pluralism in moral reasoning is both natural and necessary for intellectual progress. Conflicting yet reasonable arguments illustrate the richness of moral understanding rather than its failure. Justice, for him, is shaped through

debate and revision, not through uniformity of thought. This acceptance of unresolved differences reflects his confidence in rational pluralism. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage rejects the notion that justice requires prior perfection. Claiming that moral analysis must first identify an ideal society imposes an unrealistic demand that halts practical progress. The author's method relies on comparison and reform, not on designing flawless systems. Such dependency on perfection is what he exposes as a major conceptual error in modern theories. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) He regards continuous reasoning as the heart of moral inquiry, even when consensus remains elusive. The persistence of disagreement does not weaken justice but deepens the rational process by which it is pursued. The necessity of deliberation sustains the ethical integrity of societies that seek fairness. This idea positions reasoning as both a moral tool and a civic responsibility. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

17. Correct Answer: (b) Justice develops through continuous reasoning that balances conflicting claims. Reference Line: "There is a need for reasoned argument, with one self and with others, in dealing with conflicting claims..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Moral relativism, for the author, represents a form of disengagement that denies the role of rational exchange. While it may preserve surface harmony, it sacrifices the moral depth achieved through argument. He calls this condition "disengaged toleration," where coexistence replaces inquiry. For him, peace without reasoning is stagnation, not justice. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author treats reasoning as the essence of moral progress, showing that justice evolves through sustained argumentation. He values intellectual struggle over conformity, believing that disagreement refines moral understanding. Justice, in this sense, becomes an evolving discourse rather than a fixed state. By insisting on rational dialogue within and across traditions, he grounds justice in continual moral effort. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) He firmly rejects the dependency of comparative reasoning on an ideal conception of justice. Comparative reasoning thrives precisely because it

allows judgments within imperfect societies. Claiming it becomes futile without perfection undermines his insistence on pragmatic evaluation and practical reform. Justice emerges from reasoning within limitations, not from transcending them. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author considers disagreement a source of moral vitality rather than exhaustion. Concluding the pursuit of justice because disputes persist contradicts his central principle that reasoning must never cease. The moral life, in his framework, is sustained by questioning and reconsideration, not by closure. Justice ends only when reflection does. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

18. Correct Answer: (a) Analytical

Reference Line: "Its aim is to clarify how we can proceed to address questions of enhancing justice and removing injustice..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author adopts an analytical tone, dissecting concepts of justice with philosophical precision. He compares competing frameworks, defines their limitations, and constructs a coherent approach centered on reasoning. His purpose is not emotional persuasion but logical clarification. The sustained balance between critique and exposition reinforces the text's academic neutrality. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) Although he offers suggestions for moral inquiry, the author avoids instructing readers in absolute moral rules. His tone emphasizes reasoning and evaluation rather than issuing prescriptive norms. The focus on clarification over command makes prescriptive an overstatement of his intent. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Reflective writing usually reveals self-examination or emotional depth, neither of which characterizes this passage. The author's concern is philosophical structure, not personal experience. His tone engages intellect rather than introspection, maintaining distance from emotional reflection. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author critiques perfectionist theories but does so with calm logical analysis, not with aggression or rhetorical attack. A polemical tone would rely on provocation or confrontation, which the measured argument here entirely avoids. The passage maintains scholarly restraint and reasoned objectivity. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

19. Correct Answer: (c) Recording more experiences can deepen our comprehension of self and relationships.

Reference Line: "Recording social interaction allows reminiscing about it more accurately, improving our understanding of what was said and our picture of ourselves and others."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is misleading because the author never advocates for exclusive dependence on biological recall. He explicitly states that audiovisual or technological recordings complement rather than replace natural memory. His perspective rejects the assumption that authenticity lies only in organic recollection. Instead, he promotes an integrated approach that merges human consciousness with recorded experience. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author's position is optimistic about technology's role in shaping identity and memory, not fearful of its consequences. He argues that memory devices can reinforce personal continuity and awareness, contradicting this idea of fragmentation. The notion of threat to identity originates from suspicion, not the author's philosophical optimism. The passage views technology as a collaborator in meaning-making, not a rival. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author asserts that recording contributes meaningfully to the refinement of human memory, allowing individuals to re-examine their past interactions with greater precision. This reflective process strengthens comprehension of oneself and others by preserving subtleties that would otherwise be forgotten. He sees recording as a conscious form of self-augmentation rather than mechanical storage. The aim is not to replace natural memory but to enhance its interpretive power. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The suggestion that limiting recording ensures balance contradicts the author's challenge to "status quo bias." He contends that we likely have not reached the right level of recording yet, urging exploration rather than reduction. The concept of "balance" in this choice simplifies his nuanced view about self-experimentation. His purpose is expansion guided by reflection, not restriction guided by caution. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

20. Correct Answer: (a) A mindful act of documenting experience to enhance future comprehension.

Reference Line: "Recording social interaction allows reminiscing about it more accurately, improving our understanding of what was said and our picture of ourselves and others."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author conceives recording as an intentional cognitive tool that refines the capacity to recall and analyze lived experiences. It serves as a medium to bridge past and present selves, deepening interpretation rather than merely preserving data. By describing it as an act that "improves our understanding," he positions recording as an extension of awareness. It demonstrates human agency in transforming recollection into insight. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option portrays recording as emotional dependence, whereas the author's emphasis is on intellectual and reflective enrichment. He never frames it as insecurity about forgetting but as curiosity about self-understanding. While emotions are involved, they serve comprehension rather than control. This misreads an empowering practice as a psychological weakness. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author criticizes the mechanical limitations of current technology but not the act of recording itself. He acknowledges that recordings miss inner experience but still regards them as valuable frameworks for meaning. By calling them "valuable yet incomplete," he distinguishes mechanical process from reflective purpose. Thus, equating recording solely with mechanical storage distorts his viewpoint. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author's discussion is not about societal trends or digital culture but about individual introspection and philosophical enhancement. Treating recording as a mere social craze for data trivializes his argument about memory ethics and identity. He promotes reflection through technological mediation, not accumulation for its own sake. This interpretation lacks the reflective dimension emphasized in the passage. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

21. Correct Answer: (b) Habitual comfort with what already exists.

Reference Line: "There is a risk of a status quo bias here. It is, however, unlikely that we have chanced upon the sweet spot of recording just the right amount."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The phrase does not describe technological fear but mental resistance to change in general. Although technology is part of the debate, the bias extends beyond devices to how individuals rationalize their comfort zones. Reducing it to fear oversimplifies a complex cognitive behavior. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author uses the phrase "status quo bias" to critique humanity's unconscious preference for current habits. He implies that our resistance to experimenting with expanded recording arises from mental inertia. The bias is depicted as psychological self-satisfaction rather than thoughtful decision. It prevents people from realizing that improvement may require disruption. Thus, this captures the cognitive complacency the author warns against. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) The author's use of the phrase is analytical, not moral; he discusses psychological patterns rather than ethical restraint. This option incorrectly infers that the bias involves ethical self-control. It shifts the meaning from cognition to morality, which distorts its conceptual accuracy. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The concern is not about societal caution or customs but about personal reasoning that avoids experimentation. The author's argument applies to the individual's evaluative mindset rather than collective conduct. By focusing on "social habits," this option loses the psychological precision the passage conveys. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

22. Correct Answer: (a) Losing recorded data would feel like losing an essential part of personal identity.

Reference Line: "I would feel devastated, like having lost a part of me and a prized basis of understanding myself and others in my life."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author's emotional tone reveals deep attachment to recorded data, treating it as an extension of identity. He suggests that memories stored through technology carry not only factual but existential value. Losing them equates to losing interpretive continuity of one's life. The devastation he anticipates demonstrates that recordings form part of the self's narrative framework. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The author explicitly states that audiovisual recordings “miss much” of experience, admitting their incapacity to capture consciousness. This makes the claim of perfect replication inaccurate. He differentiates between enhancement and equivalence, rejecting technological omnipotence. Thus, this statement overestimates what the author accepts. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Nowhere does the passage suggest that biological memory is superior or more authentic. The author regards memory as partial, proposing augmentation through recording. He perceives reliance on biology alone as limiting human potential for reflection. Therefore, this option misrepresents the purpose of the argument. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author links recording to emotional intensity, not depletion. He views it as enabling people to feel and remember more vividly by anchoring experiences in tangible form. Suggesting that it weakens emotion contradicts his depiction of loss as deeply painful. Thus, this interpretation distorts the emotional logic of the text. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

23. **Correct Answer:** (b) Lifelogging

Reference Line: “Lifelogs are almost like this, although voluntary, accurate and restricted to recordable sensory modalities.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Archiving signifies the act of storing data for future reference, yet it lacks the experiential and introspective dimension that the author assigns to recording. Archives are inert repositories, designed for preservation rather than engagement or reflection. The phrase in question emphasizes a living, dynamic process of capturing personal experience to deepen understanding. Therefore, archiving, being static and impersonal, fails to embody the sense of reflective continuity that the author values. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Lifelogging encapsulates the author’s concept of an active, ongoing documentation of one’s sensory and experiential world to aid introspection. It conveys the deliberate effort to preserve the fragments of existence that form the basis of memory, identity, and self-analysis. The author’s description of lifelogs as “voluntary” and “accurate” highlights autonomy and self-reflection, making it a perfect linguistic fit. The act is not mechanical but deeply philosophical, linking technology to self-knowledge. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Recording, though relevant, refers only to the act of capturing sounds or images without implying the deeper engagement of self that the author associates with memory enhancement. It is limited in scope, representing a technical process rather than a cognitive one. The author’s idea goes beyond mere documentation to include reflection and identity formation, which recording alone cannot encompass. It is the base tool, not the higher conceptual process. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Memorizing is confined to internal retention and recall within the biological mind, completely detached from technological preservation. It deals with cognitive encoding rather than external storage or digital reconstruction of experience. The author’s idea of reflective preservation depends on external augmentation of human faculties, not internal repetition. Thus, memorizing fails to express the technological and philosophical essence of the described act. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

24. **Correct Answer:** (a) Expanding recording practices can meaningfully enhance human identity and memory.

Reference Line: “This vision from the future gives us reason to pursue more extensive recording: more will be more!”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author’s central thesis is that increasing our engagement with recording technology can amplify rather than diminish human experience. He envisions a future where lifelogging acts as an extension of consciousness, bridging gaps between memory, reflection, and understanding. By arguing that “more will be more,” he defends the notion that fuller documentation of life will lead to richer emotional and intellectual insight. His optimism frames technology not as intrusion but as co-creator of meaning, enhancing rather than diluting humanity. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The author never promotes restrictions or moral caution against recording; instead, he challenges complacency by inviting self-experimentation with memory tools. He critiques the “status quo bias” that limits our willingness to record more, showing that restraint would hinder growth. His argument values curiosity and exploration over fear of erosion. Thus, this option misreads the visionary and forward-looking

tone of the text. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage's tone is reflective and constructive, not alarmist. The author does not consider technology as endangering emotional or subjective reflection; rather, he claims it deepens understanding of experience. His vision of lifelogging integrates emotion and cognition, rejecting the dichotomy between technology and humanity. The idea of "overreliance" conflicts with his belief that memory technology enhances rather than limits reflection. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author's advocacy for "more extensive recording" directly contradicts the suggestion that technology should not attempt to improve recall. He encourages progress toward universal, frictionless lifelogging, perceiving it as an aspirational model. His goal is to refine rather than restrain the art of remembering, treating recording as a philosophical experiment. Denying this potential undermines the entire argument of enhancement through integration. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

Section – B : Current Affairs including General Knowledge

25. **Correct Answer:** (c) National Security Act

Explanation: Sonam Wangchuk was detained under the National Security Act (NSA), a stringent preventive detention law that allows authorities to hold individuals without formal charges if they are perceived as a threat to public order or national security. This detention sparked widespread concern because Wangchuk's protest was non-violent and related to democratic demands for Ladakh's constitutional rights, bringing attention to civil liberties issues in a strategically sensitive region.

26. **Correct Answer:** (a) Governor

Explanation: Under the Sixth Schedule, the Governor of the respective state wields significant administrative authority in tribal areas. If multiple tribes reside within an Autonomous District, the Governor may divide it into Autonomous Regions to adequately represent and safeguard diverse tribal interests. This ensures better self-governance tailored to each group's socio-cultural needs.

27. **Correct Answer:** (a) Honoured in 2018 for improving Ladakh youth education and community progress

Explanation: Sonam Wangchuk received the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 2018 specifically for his work in Ladakh that transformed local education and empowered communities. His initiatives like SECMOL helped students excel in real-life learning adapted to the high-altitude environment. The recognition was based on his grassroots, community-driven reforms and sustainable development efforts. The other options are incorrect because his award was not related to commercial activities, tourism-mining business, or diplomatic representation.

28. **Correct Answer:** (d) National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

Explanation: Following Ladakh's creation as a Union Territory without a legislature in August 2019, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) reviewed the concerns of the region's large tribal population. Minutes from a September 11, 2019 meeting reveal that NCST, with support from three Union Ministries, formally recommended Ladakh's inclusion under the Sixth Schedule to safeguard tribal rights, community governance, and protection of land and culture.

29. **Correct Answer:** (d) All I, II and III

Explanation: All three statements are correct. The Sixth Schedule was specifically created to provide a framework for autonomy and self-governance in tribal-majority areas of the Northeast. It is enshrined under Article 244(2) and Article 275(1) of the Constitution. The framework was based on the Bardoloi Committee's recommendations, ensuring protection of tribal identity, culture, land rights, and governance structures through autonomous district and regional councils.

30. **Correct Answer:** (d) Leh Apex Body and the Kargil Democratic Alliance

Explanation: The Leh Apex Body (LAB) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) represent the two key constituencies of Ladakh: Buddhist-majority Leh and Muslim-majority Kargil. After Wangchuk's detention and reports of firing on protesters, these groups suspended talks with the government and demanded accountability through an independent judicial inquiry. Their action reflects a united regional political voice pushing for democratic rights, safety of citizens, and constitutional safeguards.

31. **Correct Answer:** (a) An armed Palestinian group and political movement in Gaza seeking Islamic state rule

Explanation: Hamas operates both as a political organization and an armed militant group primarily controlling the Gaza Strip. It aims to establish an Islamic Palestinian state over Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem, which it considers occupied territory. Hamas has a long history of conflict with Israel and significant political influence in Palestinian governance. The other choices incorrectly label Hamas as a peacekeeping force, a trade alliance, or a humanitarian agency, none of which align with its ideology or activities.

32. **Correct Answer:** (c) Israel, Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea

Explanation: The Gaza Strip is a narrow coastal territory located along the Mediterranean Sea, bordered by Israel to the north and east and Egypt to the southwest. Covering an area of about 41 km in length and 10 km in width, it is among the most densely populated places on Earth. Under the 1947 UN Partition Plan, it was designated as part of a proposed

Arab state, later occupied by Egypt following the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, and subsequently captured by Israel during the 1967 Six-Day War.

33. Correct Answer: (b) International Stabilization Force

Explanation: The United States plans to collaborate with Arab states and global partners to create an International Stabilization Force (ISF) for Gaza. The ISF's role includes supporting vetted Palestinian police units, securing border regions with Israel and Egypt, preventing weapons smuggling, and facilitating safe movement of humanitarian goods. This temporary force is expected to evolve into Gaza's long-term internal security framework.

34. Correct Answer: (c) Only I and III

Explanation: The new "Board of Peace" has been proposed as a temporary international mechanism to supervise Gaza's redevelopment while the Palestinian Authority undergoes a reform programme. President Donald J. Trump is designated to head and chair this Board, which will control the funding and reconstruction strategy. The Board will not be led by the Palestinian Authority itself but by an external leadership structure, reflecting international oversight rather than internal control.

35. Correct Answer: (d) India

Explanation: India has been a steadfast supporter of the Palestinian cause since the early years of its foreign policy. In 1974, India became the first Non-Arab country to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of Palestinians. This recognition signaled India's diplomatic commitment to Palestinian self-determination and political rights on international platforms.

36. Correct Answer: (b) It aims to expand sustainable marine aquaculture by enabling improved large-scale open sea cage farming systems.

Explanation: Samudrajivah is developed to boost India's marine aquaculture capabilities by enabling efficient and sustainable large-scale cage farming in open sea environments. The technology helps increase fish production, improve seafood availability, and support coastal communities through job creation. It aligns closely with India's Blue Economy vision, which emphasizes responsible utilization of marine resources

to strengthen food security and economic growth. The other statements are incorrect because Samudrajivah is not limited to freshwater farming, does not focus on deep-sea mineral exploration, and is not designed for tourism-oriented aquaculture ventures.

37. Correct Answer: (c) Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) jointly conducting the initiative.

Explanation: The training programme on fisheries is a collaborative effort between the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA). This partnership aims to enhance skills, promote innovation, and support sustainable fisheries development in India. Other options are incorrect because they mention institutions that are not involved in this specific programme.

38. Correct Answer: (b) Only II and III

Explanation: Matsya 6000 is designed to carry three scientists for deep-sea exploration under the Deep Ocean Mission. It uses a specially engineered spherical titanium hull to maintain structural integrity and safety under immense pressures at great depths. These features make the submersible capable of operating in extreme ocean environments. Matsya 6000 is officially classified as a 4th-generation manned submersible, not 3rd-generation. Though its weight is approximately 25 tonnes and it is built to withstand pressure, the generational classification in the statement is inaccurate, making it incorrect overall.

39. Correct Answer: (a) Germany

Explanation: A small number of nations currently operate advanced deep sea submersibles and have proven capabilities to explore ocean depths beyond 6,000 meters. These include the United States, Russia, China, Japan, and France, each having specialized technologies and research programs for deep ocean missions. Germany, while known for marine science and oceanographic research, does not operate full-fledged deep-sea manned exploration systems like deep submergence vehicles capable of reaching extreme depths.

40. Correct Answer: (a) The National Institute of Ocean Technology

Explanation: The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), based in Chennai under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, is the lead organisation

developing the manned submersible for the Samudrayaan Project. This mission aims to enable deep sea exploration and resource studies in the Indian Ocean. The other organisations listed have different primary domains: CSIR focuses on scientific research across disciplines, ISRO works on space exploration, and DRDO concentrates on defence technologies.

41. Correct Answer: (c) PRANA portal

Explanation: The PRANA portal is a dedicated digital monitoring platform created under the National Clean Air Programme. It helps NCAP cities record their action plan implementation status, track improvements over time, and report verified outcomes. This improves accountability, enables data-driven decision making, and ensures transparency in clean air governance. The other platforms focus on different sectors such as urban development and water supply, not air pollution management.

42. Correct Answer: (a) Indore

Explanation: Indore performed exceptionally well in air quality management parameters under Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2025. It received the highest possible score of 200 out of 200 due to systematic actions such as large-scale plantation drives, clean public transport adoption, and effective pollution control measures. Its consistent leadership in cleanliness and environmental governance helped it secure the top position in Category-1 cities with population over 10 lakh.

43. Correct Answer: (c) Mission LiFE promotes sustainable lifestyles through themes like 'Save Water' for daily citizen action.

Explanation: Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) emphasizes people-led environmental protection by encouraging citizens to adopt eco-friendly habits such as conserving water, reducing waste, and saving energy. These small lifestyle changes collectively support climate goals. The other options narrow the mission to tourism, industry, or wildlife protection, which does not reflect its broad citizen-centric approach.

44. Correct Answer: (d) Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam

Explanation: The Union Minister commended plantation drives carried out in 131 cities under the Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign. This initiative, launched by the Prime Minister, encourages citizens nationwide to plant trees to support environmental sustainability. The other options involve broader environmental

programs but are not connected to this specific city-focused plantation effort.

45. Correct Answer: (b) Racing for Air

Explanation: The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed September 7 as the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies in 2019. The 2025 theme, "Racing for Air," emphasizes the urgency of accelerating solutions and collective action to deliver clean air for everyone. The campaign links clean air to sports, highlighting themes of performance, endurance, and equity, and shifts the focus towards finding solutions to air pollution.

46. Correct Answer: (a) Only I and II

Explanation: Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan applies a structured due diligence framework to examine how effectively cities are implementing clean air action plans under NCAP. It helps evaluate measurable outcomes, identify gaps, and ensure transparency in policymaking. By ranking 130 NCAP cities each year, it encourages administrative accountability and motivates faster action to improve air quality. Participation is not limited to large metropolitan areas; cities of various sizes that fall under NCAP are included in the assessment.

47. Correct Answer: (d) All I, II and III

Explanation: All three statements are correct. In 1969, V.V. Giri resigned from the office of Vice-President to contest and subsequently win the Presidential election. Similarly, R. Venkataraman, Shanker Dayal Sharma, and K.R. Narayanan resigned from the Vice-Presidency after being elected President, resulting in temporary vacancies. Additionally, the Vice-President's office remained vacant for over three weeks in 2002 following the death of Krishan Kant, until Bhairon Singh Shekhawat took office.

48. Correct Answer: (a) M. Hidayatullah

Explanation: When President Zakir Husain died in office in May 1969, leaving the President offices vacant. As per constitutional provisions and the President (Discharge of Functions) Act, 1969, Chief Justice of India M. Hidayatullah assumed the role of Acting President. His appointment ensured uninterrupted functioning of the highest executive office during a critical constitutional transition.

49. Correct Answer: (c) Article 67(a)

Explanation: According to his resignation letter and multiple reports, Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned under Article 67(a) of the Indian Constitution, which empowers the Vice-President to vacate office by writing addressed to the President.

This clause forms part of the provisions governing the office of the Vice-President (the term, resignation, removal and functions).

50. Correct Answer: (c) It allows the CJI or senior-most judge to act as President when both top offices fall vacant together.

Explanation: The President (Discharge of Functions) Act, 1969 was enacted using Article 70 to ensure uninterrupted functioning of the highest executive office. It clearly states that the Chief Justice of India, or in his absence the senior-most Supreme Court judge, will temporarily discharge presidential duties only when both the President and Vice-President offices are vacant at the same time. The other options incorrectly assign this responsibility to offices that hold no such constitutional authority.

51. Correct Answer: (c) Five years

Explanation: Article 67 of the Constitution clearly specifies that the Vice-President holds office for a term of five years from the date he enters upon his office. The Constitution also allows the Vice-President to continue beyond the five-year term until a newly elected Vice-President assumes office. This provision ensures constitutional continuity, preventing any vacuum in the second highest office of the country. In addition, the Vice-President may resign earlier by writing to the President or can be removed by a resolution of the Rajya Sabha agreed to by the Lok Sabha, reflecting both flexibility and accountability in the tenure structure.

52. Correct Answer: (d) Article 68

Explanation: Article 68 of the Constitution lays down the provisions for the election of the Vice-President. Specifically, Clause 2 mandates that if a vacancy occurs due to reasons like death, resignation, or removal, an election must be conducted as soon as possible. This ensures continuity in the high constitutional office and prevents long periods without a Vice-President. The other articles deal with different aspects of constitutional offices and succession.

Section – C : Legal Reasoning

53. **Correct Answer:** (d)

Reference Line: "Section 38 recognizes performers' rights, granting them exclusive control over their performances for fifty years. Section 38A empowers them to reproduce, issue copies, communicate their performances to the public, and commercially exploit them"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option erroneously imports the consumer confusion standard from trademark and passing-off jurisprudence into the distinct realm of performers' rights under copyright law, where such confusion is neither necessary nor determinative of infringement. The statutory scheme protects the performer's exclusive control over reproduction and commercial exploitation of performances as independent rights, without requiring proof that consumers were deceived about endorsement. Voice misappropriation through AI synthesis violates the performer's proprietary control regardless of whether consumers mistakenly believe the performer has endorsed particular products.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option attempts to create an artificial distinction between different contexts of unauthorized use, commercial advertisements versus streaming platform features, that finds no basis in the statutory framework governing performers' rights. The exclusive rights to reproduce, distribute, and commercially exploit performances apply uniformly across all unauthorized uses, whether in direct advertising or through platform features generating revenue. Safe harbor provisions, while relevant to intermediary liability for user-generated content, do not protect platforms that themselves develop and deploy AI systems systematically reproducing protected performances.

Option (c) Incorrect: While artistic styles and general techniques may belong to the public domain, this option fails to distinguish between abstract style elements and the concrete, identifiable vocal performance of a specific artist. The statutory framework explicitly grants performers proprietary control over their actual performances, which includes distinctive vocal identity when directly replicated through technological means. AI synthesis reproducing a performer's recognizable voice constitutes unauthorized reproduction of the performance itself,

regardless of whether resulting content might be characterized as transformative in nature.

Option (d) Correct: The statutory provisions establish that performers are vested with exclusive rights of control over their performances, extending specifically to reproduction, distribution, public communication, and commercial exploitation for a defined period. Kavita's distinctive vocal performance constitutes protectable subject matter, and StreamVoice's AI synthesis directly implicates multiple exclusive rights by reproducing her vocal performance, issuing copies through user-generated tracks, and enabling commercial exploitation through advertisements, all without authorization and within the statutory protection period.

54. **Correct Answer:** (a)

Reference Line: "Article 19(1)(a) further guarantees the freedom of expression, implying that individuals possess autonomy over how their personality is projected in public."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: The constitutional guarantee of freedom of expression inherently encompasses an individual's right to exercise autonomy and control over how their personality and persona are projected in the public sphere. TikChef's unauthorized deployment of an AI avatar that comprehensively replicates Vikram's distinctive visual appearance, characteristic mannerisms, and signature expressions for commercial promotional purposes constitutes a direct violation of this constitutional autonomy, as it appropriates his projected public identity without consent for their commercial benefit, irrespective of whether the technology used creates some transformative element.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option fundamentally mischaracterizes Vikram's claim by focusing narrowly on isolated elements like gestures and phrases while ignoring the comprehensive appropriation of his complete persona through AI replication. While individual functional elements might belong to the public domain, the systematic replication of a celebrity's entire distinctive identity, appearance, mannerisms, vocal patterns, and catchphrases combined, transcends any legitimate educational use doctrine. The constitutional framework recognizes that individuals retain control over the commercial

projection of their integrated persona, and mere use of AI technology does not negate this fundamental violation.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option improperly reduces personality rights to mere economic torts requiring demonstration of quantifiable monetary damages, thereby fundamentally misunderstanding the constitutional and dignitary foundations underlying protection of personal autonomy over identity. The constitutional framework protects the right to control one's projected persona as an inherent aspect of individual liberty and dignity, not merely as a commercial property interest subject to economic loss calculations. Requiring proof of tangible commercial harm before recognizing violations of constitutional autonomy would eviscerate the protective framework.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option erroneously conflates the distinct legal regimes governing personality rights under constitutional principles with the statutory trademark registration system, imposing formal registration requirements that have no application to constitutional protection of personal autonomy over identity. While trademark registration may provide additional commercial protections for specific identifiers, the constitutional autonomy to control the public projection of one's personality exists independently of any registration formalities and does not depend upon contractual relationships. The constitutional framework recognizes inherent rights over personal identity without regard to registration procedures.

55. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Line: "Section 38 recognizes performers' rights, granting them exclusive control over their performances for fifty years. Section 38A empowers them to reproduce, issue copies, communicate their performances to the public, and commercially exploit them"

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: While generating new choreographic sequences through AI might superficially appear to constitute original content creation, this characterization fundamentally obscures the underlying unauthorized exploitation of Priya's protected performances. VirtualStage's AI system necessarily reproduced Priya's existing recorded performances during the training process, utilized her visual appearance and performance characteristics to

generate the digital replica, and communicated these AI-generated performances to paying subscribers for commercial gain. The statutory framework grants performers exclusive control over reproduction and commercial exploitation, and these rights are directly implicated regardless of whether AI subsequently generates variations.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly attempts to impose the consumer confusion standard derived from trademark and passing-off law onto the fundamentally different statutory framework governing performers' exclusive rights under copyright law. The statutory scheme protects the performer's control over reproduction, distribution, public communication, and commercial exploitation as independent proprietary rights that do not require any showing of consumer deception or false endorsement. VirtualStage's systematic appropriation of Priya's performances and performance identity for commercial gain violates her statutory exclusive rights regardless of whether subscribers understood they were viewing AI-generated rather than authentic performances.

Option (c) Correct: The statutory provisions vest performers with comprehensive exclusive rights encompassing reproduction, distribution, public communication, and commercial exploitation of their performances for the designated protection period. VirtualStage's activities directly violate multiple dimensions of these exclusive rights by reproducing Priya's recorded performances through AI training, creating and issuing copies in the form of AI-generated digital replicas utilizing her performance style and visual appearance, communicating these performances to the subscribing public, and commercially exploiting her performance identity for subscription and licensing revenue, all without obtaining authorization.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option attempts to artificially segment VirtualStage's integrated commercial operation into permissible and impermissible components in a manner unsupported by the statutory framework governing performers' rights. The exclusive rights to reproduce and commercially exploit performances extend beyond mere protection of fixed historical performances to encompass the broader commercial use of the performer's performance identity. VirtualStage's entire business model depends upon the unauthorized appropriation of Priya's performances and performance persona, and the fact that AI algorithms

generated new sequences does not immunize the systematic commercial exploitation of her identity.

56. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Line: "The Madras High Court in a case involving Rajinikanth held that personality rights vest in persons who have achieved celebrity status and that any unauthorized depiction of such figures infringes their right to dignity and identity."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The judicial framework for personality rights does not condition their recognition or enforcement upon demonstration of quantifiable financial harm or professional reputation damage. Personality rights protect the inherent dignity and autonomy over one's identity as fundamental values, independent of whether the unauthorized use causes measurable economic injury. Requiring proof of actual financial loss would fundamentally undermine the dignitary foundation of personality rights and would permit widespread misappropriation of celebrity identities so long as no immediate monetary damage could be demonstrated, which contradicts the protective intent underlying these rights.

Option (b) Correct: The judicial precedent establishes a clear framework wherein individuals who attain celebrity status acquire vested personality rights that protect against unauthorized depiction of their persona. This protection extends to distinctive identity elements including voice, facial features, and characteristic mannerisms. The recognition that personality rights vest in celebrities means Arjun can establish his claim based on his celebrity status combined with the unauthorized replication of his persona, without needing to prove additional elements like consumer confusion or economic harm, as the infringement of dignity and identity rights forms the core basis for protection.

Option (c) Incorrect: The requirement of proving actual consumer confusion imports standards from trademark and passing-off law into the distinct domain of personality rights, where such confusion is neither necessary nor determinative. Personality rights protect a celebrity's control over their identity and dignity as autonomous interests, separate from market-based concerns about consumer deception. The unauthorized creation of deepfake videos replicating Arjun's complete persona violates his fundamental rights regardless of whether viewers understood the content was fabricated, as the violation inheres in the

unauthorized appropriation itself rather than in any resulting marketplace confusion.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that personality rights require formal trademark registration to be enforceable, thereby conflating distinct legal regimes. While trademark registration may provide additional commercial protections for specific identifiers, personality rights, particularly those grounded in dignity and identity, exist independently of any registration formalities. The judicial recognition that personality rights vest in celebrities operates as a matter of law based on their achieved status, not on whether they have undertaken administrative registration procedures. Personality rights arise from celebrity status itself and do not depend on compliance with trademark registration requirements.

57. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Line: "The Court observed that the unconsented replication of a celebrity's voice, image, or gestures by AI systems violates both privacy and performer rights under the Copyright Act. It held that such digital manipulation amounts to misappropriation of goodwill and breaches the individual's autonomy over their identity."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The fair use doctrine, while applicable in certain educational and transformative contexts, does not provide blanket immunity for commercial exploitation of celebrity personas through AI replication. FashionBot's use extends beyond mere learning from publicly available data to creating a commercial product that specifically markets itself using Meera's identity and charges subscribers for access. The judicial framework recognizes that unconsented replication violates personality rights, and the commercial nature of FashionBot's offering, combined with its direct appropriation of Meera's persona for revenue generation, places it outside any legitimate fair use or technological advancement exceptions.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option artificially restricts performer rights to traditional performers registered under specific Copyright Act provisions, ignoring the broader recognition of personality rights that extend to celebrities across various domains. The judicial framework's reference to performer rights encompasses individuals who have achieved celebrity status through various means, including social media

influence. Meera's status as a fashion influencer with millions of followers establishes her celebrity standing, and the protection against unconsented replication of voice, image, and gestures applies regardless of whether she fits traditional definitions of registered performers under older statutory categorizations.

Option (c) Incorrect: While social media platform terms of service may govern the relationship between users and platforms, these contractual provisions do not supersede or displace statutory personality rights and performer protections that exist independently of any platform agreement. Third-party commercial exploitation of a celebrity's persona by entities like FashionBot is not governed by platform terms of service but by the substantive legal framework protecting personality rights. The cause of action arises from unauthorized replication of identity elements protected under privacy and performer rights statutes, not from breach of contract with social media platforms.

Option (d) Correct: The judicial framework specifically addresses scenarios where AI systems replicate celebrities' distinctive characteristics without consent. The observation establishes that such unconsented replication violates both privacy interests and performer rights protected under copyright law. FashionBot's systematic reproduction of Meera's voice, visual appearance, characteristic gestures, and styling choices through AI technology directly implicates this framework, as the digital manipulation misappropriates the goodwill and commercial value associated with her persona while breaching her autonomy over identity, regardless of the technological means employed or claims of transformation.

58. Correct Answer: (a)

Reference Line: "The Information Technology Act, 2000, particularly Sections 66D and 43A, also penalizes digital impersonation, cheating by personation, and negligent dissemination of personal likeness or data by online platforms."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: The Information Technology Act specifically establishes criminal provisions addressing digital impersonation, cheating by personation, and critically, negligent dissemination of personal likeness or data by online platforms. TrendyMart's situation directly falls within this framework as the platform's algorithm actively prioritized and disseminated fake

celebrity endorsements for commercial gain. The statute's explicit inclusion of online platform liability for negligent dissemination demonstrates that platforms can face criminal prosecution even when they did not directly create the impersonating content, particularly when their systems facilitate such violations and they benefit commercially from the resulting engagement.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly restricts personality rights violations to exclusively civil remedies under the Copyright Act, ignoring the specific criminal provisions under the Information Technology Act that address digital impersonation and personation offenses. The statutory framework explicitly creates criminal liability for digital impersonation and cheating by personation, demonstrating that personality rights violations can indeed attract criminal prosecution beyond civil copyright claims. Furthermore, criminal liability under IT Act provisions does not require proving that the victim had registered copyrighted performances, as these provisions protect against broader identity appropriation and impersonation offenses.

Option (c) Incorrect: While intermediary safe harbor provisions exist under the Information Technology Act, these protections are not absolute shields against criminal liability when platforms have been negligent in their operations. The statute specifically addresses negligent dissemination by online platforms, indicating that safe harbor protections do not apply when platforms fail to exercise reasonable care in preventing personality rights violations. TrendyMart's algorithm that actively prioritized celebrity-featuring content for higher engagement, combined with commercial benefit from resulting sales, demonstrates a level of involvement that exceeds neutral intermediary functions and exposes the platform itself to criminal liability for facilitating impersonation offenses.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option erroneously suggests that criminal prosecution for personality rights violations under the Information Technology Act requires prior trademark registration of identity elements, conflating distinct legal frameworks. The IT Act provisions penalizing digital impersonation and cheating by personation operate independently of trademark registration requirements and protect against unauthorized appropriation of personal identity regardless of registration status. Criminal liability under these provisions is triggered by the impersonation and fraudulent use of another's likeness

itself, not by infringement of registered intellectual property rights, and does not condition protection on completion of formal registration procedures.

59. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Line: "After the decree, upon application by petition, the court may make from time to time all such orders and provisions with respect to the custody, maintenance and education of such children; and the court may also revoke, suspend or vary any such orders previously made."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Maintenance orders are not irreversibly final or immune from modification. The statute expressly provides for modification of orders even after the decree is passed, recognizing that circumstances may change over time and justice requires flexibility in adjusting financial obligations accordingly. If orders were truly immutable, parents facing genuine hardship would be trapped by decrees that no longer reflect reality, and children might suffer if parental capacity genuinely diminishes. The legislative framework contemplates ongoing judicial supervision precisely to address such evolving situations and ensure that orders remain just and appropriate throughout the child's minority.

Option (b) Incorrect: While courts do possess power to modify orders, this power is not unlimited but must be exercised judiciously based on changed circumstances and the welfare of the child. Courts cannot arbitrarily alter orders without proper justification or application by a party showing material change in circumstances. The power exists to serve justice, not to create uncertainty or instability in arrangements affecting children. Any modification must be grounded in demonstrable changes that make the existing order unjust or impractical, and the court must balance the interests of all parties while keeping the child's welfare paramount in its consideration.

Option (c) Incorrect: The power to modify is not restricted only to custody arrangements. The statute specifically grants courts authority to vary orders concerning maintenance and education as well, ensuring that all aspects of a child's welfare remain subject to continuing judicial oversight. Limiting modification power to custody alone would create an artificial and harmful distinction, leaving financial provisions frozen even when they become inappropriate or impossible to fulfill. The comprehensive language covers all three elements,

custody, maintenance, and education, reflecting legislative intent that courts should retain supervisory jurisdiction over every dimension of the child's wellbeing throughout the duration of minority.

Option (d) Correct: Courts retain continuing jurisdiction over maintenance matters even after the final decree. When circumstances change substantially, as in Ramesh's case with job loss, the court can exercise its power to modify the earlier order to reflect current realities while ensuring the child's needs are met. This continuing jurisdiction prevents injustice that would arise from treating initial orders as unchangeable regardless of supervening events. The court can revoke, suspend, or vary earlier provisions upon proper application, balancing the changed financial capacity of the parent against the ongoing needs of the child to arrive at a fair and sustainable arrangement.

60. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Line: "An application with respect to the maintenance and education of the minor children pending the proceeding shall, as far as possible, be disposed of within sixty days from the date of service of notice on the respondent."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Courts do not enjoy absolute discretion regarding timelines for maintenance and education applications. The legislature has specifically imposed a time-bound obligation to protect children's interests, recognizing that delays in such matters directly affect a child's welfare and daily needs. While courts retain discretion in managing their dockets generally, this discretion is circumscribed by statutory directives aimed at preventing prolonged uncertainty and hardship for children caught in parental disputes. The use of the phrase "as far as possible" indicates legislative awareness of practical constraints but does not grant unfettered freedom to ignore temporal expectations, particularly when eight months have elapsed without resolution.

Option (b) Incorrect: The sixty-day requirement is not universal for all applications but is specifically targeted at maintenance and education applications pending the main proceedings. This reflects legislative recognition that children's immediate needs cannot wait for final resolution of matrimonial disputes. Other aspects of divorce proceedings, such as property division or complex factual determinations about marital conduct, may justifiably require more time. The specificity of the provision demonstrates parliamentary intent to

prioritize children's welfare by fast-tracking only those applications directly affecting their day-to-day survival, healthcare, and educational continuity, without imposing similar rigid timelines on all procedural aspects of matrimonial litigation.

Option (c) Incorrect: The timeline specifically applies to interim applications concerning maintenance and education during pending proceedings, not to final decrees. The provision aims to ensure children receive timely support even while the main case continues, preventing hardship during litigation. If the sixty-day directive applied only to final decrees, children would remain without support throughout potentially years-long proceedings, defeating the protective purpose of the provision. The statute's language clearly contemplates applications made "pending the proceeding," which necessarily refers to interim relief sought before final adjudication, recognizing that children's needs are immediate and cannot be deferred until all marital issues are comprehensively resolved.

Option (d) Correct: The statute directs courts to dispose of maintenance and education applications within sixty days as far as possible. Eight months of delay in Priya's case, particularly involving urgent medical needs, represents a failure to meet this statutory expectation and undermines the protective intent behind the provision. While the phrase "as far as possible" acknowledges that some cases may present genuine complexities, the substantial temporal deviation here, four times the prescribed period, without documented extraordinary circumstances suggests inadequate prioritization of the child's welfare. The legislature's choice to specify a timeline demonstrates recognition that children cannot endure the same delays as other litigants, and courts must organize proceedings to honor this priority.

61. **Correct Answer:** (a)

Reference Line: "The statute emphasises that the court must consider the child's wishes 'wherever possible', thereby introducing a degree of flexibility and recognition of the child's views."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: While the statute requires consideration of the child's wishes wherever possible, it does not make those wishes binding on the court. The phrase introduces flexibility, meaning courts must give due weight to children's views but retain discretion to decide based on overall welfare assessment. The use of

"wherever possible" and "consideration" rather than "adherence" or "compliance" indicates legislative intent to recognize children's agency without surrendering judicial responsibility to evaluate all relevant factors. A court may determine, after considering Arjun's wishes alongside other evidence, that his expressed preference does not align with his best interests when viewed comprehensively, including factors he may not fully appreciate at fourteen.

Option (b) Incorrect: There is no absolute rule requiring courts to follow children's wishes once they reach a particular age. The consideration of wishes is one factor among many, and courts must weigh it against other welfare considerations to determine what serves the child's best interests comprehensively. While maturity and age may increase the weight given to a child's preference, they do not transform the child's wish into a binding directive on the court. Children, even articulate teenagers, may lack full appreciation of long-term consequences, may be influenced by immediate gratifications or temporary circumstances, and may not perceive subtler aspects of parental capability that courts must evaluate to protect the child's holistic development and wellbeing.

Option (c) Incorrect: The statutory language does not create a mandatory obligation to follow children's wishes but rather to consider them. Courts must balance expressed preferences against other factors like educational opportunities, emotional development, and parental capability to arrive at a holistic decision. Ignoring a child's wishes would be problematic, but considering them and then determining that other welfare factors outweigh the stated preference is entirely consistent with statutory duty. The statute's emphasis on flexibility and the qualifier "wherever possible" demonstrate that consideration, not automatic implementation, is the legislative mandate, allowing courts to protect children even from their own potentially shortsighted or externally influenced preferences when necessary.

Option (d) Incorrect: Children's preferences are not irrelevant but are expressly recognized as a consideration in custody decisions. The statute specifically mentions taking wishes into account wherever possible, acknowledging that children's voices deserve recognition even if they are not determinative in every case. To treat preferences as irrelevant would violate the statutory directive and ignore the growing recognition in family law that children possess agency and insight into their own

needs. However, relevance does not equate to conclusiveness, preferences inform but do not dictate custody determinations, particularly where other factors suggest the expressed wish may not serve the child's best interests when evaluated against the full spectrum of welfare considerations.

62. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Line: "The maintenance clause contemplates ongoing financial support for the child's living expenses, including food, clothing, healthcare and education costs, and allows for sharing of burden between parents or other persons as the court deems fit."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Maintenance obligations as fixed by court decree do not automatically adjust based on fluctuating actual expenses. Any modification of decreed amounts requires formal court intervention through proper application, and parties cannot unilaterally alter their obligations even when costs change temporarily. Court decrees carry binding legal force precisely because they establish certainty and predictability, allowing custodial parents to plan for children's needs with confidence. If obligated parents could independently reduce payments whenever they perceived reduced expenses, the entire enforcement mechanism would collapse, leaving children vulnerable to arbitrary financial decisions and custodial parents unable to ensure stable support for meeting children's comprehensive and evolving needs throughout their development.

Option (b) Correct: The maintenance provision encompasses comprehensive ongoing financial support covering all aspects of the child's living expenses and education. The decreed amount represents the court's assessment of necessary support, and temporary reductions in one component do not authorize unilateral payment adjustments by the obligated parent. Maintenance serves not merely to reimburse actual expenditures but to ensure the child has access to appropriate resources for holistic development. The comprehensive nature of maintenance means that savings in one area (like reduced school fees) might be appropriately redirected to other developmental needs, enrichment activities, or savings for the child's future, all falling within the custodial parent's discretion in managing the child's overall welfare.

Option (c) Incorrect: While maintenance aims to meet actual needs, the court determines the appropriate quantum through its decree, and parents cannot independently adjust payments even when costs fluctuate. Unilateral modifications undermine the certainty and enforceability that decree-based obligations are meant to provide. The assumption that maintenance should precisely mirror actual costs at any given moment misconceives the nature of child support, which is designed to provide comprehensive resources for the child's welfare rather than function as mere expense reimbursement. Children's needs vary over time, with some months requiring more expenditure than others, and the decreed amount represents an averaged assessment meant to provide stable support through these variations without requiring constant judicial recalibration.

Option (d) Incorrect: The decree does not merely fix minimum obligations but establishes the specific maintenance amount based on the child's needs and parental capacity. While formal modification is indeed required for changes, the decreed sum represents the court's complete determination of maintenance, not a floor subject to automatic adjustment. This option incorrectly suggests the decree sets only a baseline that floats with actual expenses. In reality, the decreed amount is the legally binding obligation until formally modified through proper court proceedings where both parties can present evidence and the court can reassess all relevant factors. The maintenance figure reflects the court's holistic judgment about appropriate support given the child's needs and parental resources at the time of decree.

63. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Line: "The education clause ensures that interruption of schooling or educational progress is avoided even as matrimonial proceedings continue."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Waiting for final decree would directly contradict the protective purpose of provisions allowing interim educational support. Children cannot be expected to suffer educational disruption or discontinuation simply because parents are engaged in protracted litigation over matrimonial issues. A child's education progresses along a critical developmental timeline that cannot be paused or postponed to accommodate the pace of litigation. If Rohit is expelled or falls behind academically during two years of proceedings, the harm would be irreversible, lost

academic years, disrupted peer relationships, and educational gaps that cannot be fully remediated later. The statute recognizes this temporal urgency by specifically empowering courts to make interim educational provisions without awaiting comprehensive financial determinations.

Option (b) Incorrect: Interim orders for education do not prejudice final determinations but rather serve the immediate welfare of the child. Courts can always modify or adjust provisions in the final decree based on comprehensive assessment, but interim protection prevents irreversible harm to the child's education. The notion of prejudice assumes that interim relief somehow binds the court's final decision, but in reality, interim orders are provisional and subject to final review. What would truly prejudice the case is allowing a child's education to be disrupted, creating irreversible harm that no final decree could remedy. Interim orders preserve the status quo and protect the child's interests precisely because they are temporary measures pending fuller adjudication.

Option (c) Correct: The statute specifically addresses the need to protect children's educational continuity during the pendency of proceedings. Courts are empowered to make interim provisions precisely to prevent situations where ongoing litigation causes interruption to schooling or hampers a child's academic progress. Education is a time-sensitive developmental process where disruption at critical stages can have cascading negative effects on a child's future opportunities and psychological wellbeing. By ensuring uninterrupted educational progress, the law prioritizes the child's developmental needs over procedural convenience or the timeline of parental dispute resolution, recognizing that children should not become collateral damage in their parents' conflicts.

Option (d) Incorrect: Educational support decisions need not await final custody determination. The statute recognizes education as a distinct concern requiring immediate attention, and courts can make interim provisions for educational expenses independent of resolving custody questions in the final decree. Education and custody, while related, are analytically distinct, a child requires educational support regardless of which parent ultimately receives custody, and the urgency of maintaining schooling does not depend on or wait for resolution of custody disputes. The statute's treatment of education as a separate element alongside custody and maintenance reflects

legislative understanding that each serves different aspects of child welfare and may require intervention at different stages of proceedings.

64. Correct Answer: (a)

Reference Line: "It ensures that no child is denied education for lack of documents or previous academic background."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: The statutory framework establishes an absolute prohibition against denying education to any child on the ground of missing documents or lack of previous academic background. This provision reflects legislative recognition that documentary requirements, while administratively convenient, can become exclusionary barriers that prevent marginalized children from accessing their constitutional right to education. Ramesh's situation, loss of documents due to natural disaster, exemplifies precisely the kind of circumstance the statute seeks to address by removing documentation as a precondition for admission. The school must admit Ramesh and may subsequently undertake age verification and educational assessment through alternative means without making admission contingent on production of certificates.

Option (b) Incorrect: While administrative convenience and record-keeping are legitimate concerns for educational institutions, these procedural requirements cannot be elevated above the fundamental statutory mandate that protects children's access to education. The legislative framework specifically anticipates situations where children may lack formal documentation due to various socio-economic circumstances, natural calamities, displacement, or institutional failures. To permit schools to deny admission based solely on absence of documents would effectively nullify the protective intent of the statute and create a barrier that disproportionately affects vulnerable children from marginalized communities, tribal areas, or disaster-affected regions who are most in need of educational access and state protection.

Option (c) Incorrect: Though age verification and educational assessment serve legitimate pedagogical purposes in appropriate grade placement, the statute does not permit these concerns to operate as absolute bars to admission when documentation is unavailable. Schools retain authority to assess a child's educational

level and appropriate class placement through examinations, interviews, or other evaluative methods that do not require formal certificates. The emphasis on ensuring no child is denied education indicates legislative priority: access first, with administrative verification and appropriate placement following admission rather than conditioning entry. Concerns about fraudulent admissions, while valid, cannot justify blanket denial of education to genuine students lacking documents through no fault of their own.

Option (d) Incorrect: The duty to admit children without documents is not a matter of discretionary waiver by schools but rather a statutory obligation that binds all educational institutions covered under the Act. Schools do not enjoy unlimited discretion to decide when documentation may be dispensed with based on their assessment of individual need or genuineness. The statute creates a categorical rule against denial of education for lack of documents, removing this decision from institutional discretion entirely. While schools must exercise judgment in alternative methods of age and grade-level assessment, the fundamental obligation to admit children without requiring production of certificates is non-negotiable and applies uniformly regardless of whether the school perceives the case as presenting genuine need.

65. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Line: "while the right to higher education is subject to the limits of the State's economic capacity."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: States do not possess absolute autonomy in structuring higher education fees without any constitutional limitations or oversight. While the constitutional framework acknowledges that higher education differs from elementary education in terms of state obligations, this differentiation does not translate into unbridled discretion to impose arbitrary or prohibitive fees. Courts retain jurisdiction to examine whether fee structures are reasonable, whether they bear rational relationship to actual costs, and whether they effectively nullify educational access for substantial sections of society. The recognition that higher education is subject to economic capacity constraints does not eliminate all constitutional scrutiny of pricing policies or permit states to impose fees so high that they exclude all but the wealthiest students.

Option (b) Incorrect: While it is constitutionally established that the right to education forms an

integral part of the right to life under Article 21 and that states cannot adopt policies making education completely inaccessible, this principle applies differently to higher education compared to elementary education. The judicial pronouncements that recognized education as fundamental to life and dignity also simultaneously acknowledged a distinction between compulsory elementary education for children and higher education for adults. The latter category, while important and constitutionally valued, is explicitly recognized as being subject to state economic capacity, meaning that cost considerations and resource constraints can legitimately shape access and affordability in ways that would be impermissible for elementary education.

Option (c) Correct: The constitutional and judicial framework explicitly recognizes that while elementary education up to age fourteen is an absolute fundamental right requiring free and compulsory provision by the state, the right to higher education operates within different parameters shaped by the State's economic capacity and resource availability. This distinction permits states facing genuine fiscal constraints to implement reasonable cost-recovery measures, including fees for higher education, provided these measures are not arbitrary, discriminatory, or so excessive as to completely defeat educational access. The ₹5 lakh fee here, while substantial, may be constitutionally permissible if justified by actual infrastructure costs and the state's demonstrable resource limitations, though courts would examine reasonableness and proportionality.

Option (d) Incorrect: The constitutional mandate for free education extends specifically to children aged six to fourteen years under Article 21A and does not create an unlimited obligation for states to provide all education at all levels entirely free of cost regardless of resource availability. The judicial evolution of education as a fundamental right explicitly distinguished between elementary education, which must be free and compulsory, and higher education, which remains subject to state economic capacity and resource constraints. To read the Constitution as requiring free provision of education from primary through postgraduate levels would ignore this carefully crafted distinction and impose obligations on states that the constitutional text and judicial interpretation have deliberately not included.

66. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Line: "Article 21A provides that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children aged six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The constitutional language requiring that the manner of implementation be determined "by law" does not mandate that the legislature itself must directly specify every operational detail of the educational system without any role for subordinate rule-making or executive implementation. The phrase "by law" requires legislative authorization and framework-setting but has been consistently interpreted in constitutional jurisprudence to permit reasonable delegation of detailed rule-making to executive authorities or specialized bodies, provided the legislative policy, standards, and essential features are determined by the statute itself. To interpret Article 21A as prohibiting all delegation would render educational administration impossibly rigid and would be inconsistent with established principles of permissible legislative delegation.

Option (b) Incorrect: While Article 21A permits the State to determine the manner of providing education through law, this flexibility does not extend to complete or unrestricted delegation to executive authorities without any legislative framework or guidance. The Constitution requires that the manner be determined "by law," which necessarily involves legislative action in establishing the fundamental parameters, policy objectives, and essential features of the educational system. Executive bodies may certainly play a role in detailed implementation and rule-making, but only within a legislative framework that determines the broad contours and essential elements. Complete delegation that leaves all substantive decisions to executive discretion without legislative policy would violate the constitutional requirement.

Option (c) Incorrect: The constitutional and legal framework governing fundamental rights does not impose an absolute prohibition against delegated legislation for implementation of rights or require that every operational detail must be directly enacted by the legislature itself through primary legislation. Established principles of administrative law recognize that while legislative policy and essential features of rights implementation must be determined by the legislature, detailed rules concerning technical,

procedural, or operational matters may be appropriately delegated to executive authorities or specialized bodies with relevant expertise. Such delegation is permissible and often administratively necessary, provided adequate legislative standards and guidance are provided and the delegation does not amount to abdication of legislative function.

Option (d) Correct: The constitutional provision authorizing the State to determine by law the manner of providing education permits the legislature to establish the fundamental framework, policy, and standards for elementary education while delegating detailed rule-making concerning curriculum, teacher qualifications, infrastructure, and procedures to appropriate executive bodies or specialized educational authorities. This interpretation reconciles the requirement of legislative determination with practical necessities of educational administration, which require technical expertise and flexibility that specialized bodies can provide. The phrase "in such manner as the State may, by law, determine" contemplates legislative policy-setting with permissible subordinate rule-making for implementation details within that framework.

67. **Correct Answer:** (b)

Reference Line: "It prohibits charging any fees that may prevent completion of schooling and mandates maintenance of neighbourhood schools."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The characterization of charges as being for "additional services" or "extra-curricular activities" cannot circumvent the statutory prohibition when these charges are in practice made mandatory for students to complete their education or when non-payment results in denial of essential educational activities like examinations. The statute is concerned with the practical effect of charges on a child's ability to complete schooling, not merely the formal labeling of fees. If examination fees must be paid for a student to appear in assessments necessary for grade progression, or if activity fees are prerequisites for participation in mandatory school programs, these charges effectively prevent completion of schooling for students whose families cannot afford them, thus violating the statutory prohibition.

Option (b) Correct: The statutory framework prohibits not just nominal tuition fees but any fees whatsoever that may prevent or impede the completion of

elementary schooling by children in the specified age group. This comprehensive prohibition extends to all forms of charges, whether labeled as examination fees, activity fees, maintenance charges, or any other designation, that create financial barriers to a child's continued enrollment, participation in essential educational activities, or progression through grades. When schools make such charges mandatory or condition participation in examinations and necessary school activities on payment, these fees effectively prevent completion of schooling and thus fall within the statutory prohibition, particularly for students from economically weaker sections.

Option (c) Incorrect: The statutory language does not limit the fee prohibition merely to charges explicitly designated as "tuition fees" while permitting other categories of institutional charges that similarly impede educational completion. The provision targets any fees that may prevent completion of schooling, which necessarily encompasses all mandatory charges that students must pay to continue their education, participate in assessments, or access essential educational activities. To permit schools to circumvent the prohibition by simply relabeling charges as "examination fees" or "activity fees" rather than tuition would defeat the protective purpose of the statute and create precisely the kind of financial barriers to educational completion that the law seeks to eliminate.

Option (d) Incorrect: While the statute prohibits fees that may prevent completion of elementary education for children in the specified age group, this prohibition does not necessarily extend to requiring that private schools provide all conceivable services completely free to all students without any charges whatsoever. The statutory focus is on preventing financial barriers to completion of schooling, which means that truly voluntary services or facilities that are not necessary for educational completion might potentially involve some cost without violating the Act. However, the critical inquiry is whether charges create barriers to completion, and in this case, the mandatory nature of the challenged charges and their linkage to examinations and essential activities brings them within the prohibition.

68. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Line: "It prohibits charging any fees that may prevent completion of schooling and mandates maintenance of neighbourhood schools."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: While states necessarily exercise planning and administrative discretion in educational infrastructure development, this discretion is not unfettered but operates within the boundaries of statutory mandates that obligate states to ensure actual accessibility of elementary education to all children. The statutory requirement to maintain neighborhood schools is not merely advisory or aspirational but represents a binding obligation that reflects legislative recognition that meaningful access to education requires physical proximity. Courts may intervene when state inaction or inadequate planning results in violations of statutory mandates, particularly where large populations of children are effectively denied practical access to education despite the formal existence of schools in the district.

Option (b) Correct: The statutory framework imposes an affirmative obligation on states to maintain neighborhood schools, recognizing that physical accessibility is fundamental to ensuring children can actually complete elementary education. This mandate is not subject to complete nullification based on budgetary constraints or administrative convenience, particularly where, as here, a substantial child population faces genuine access barriers due to distance. When children cannot regularly attend school because of distance-related difficulties, the very purpose of compulsory education, ensuring attendance and completion, is defeated. The mandate to maintain neighborhood schools addresses precisely this concern by requiring states to plan and provide educational infrastructure within reasonable proximity to residential areas.

Option (c) Incorrect: Technical or theoretical accessibility through public transportation does not satisfy the state's obligation when practical circumstances make regular attendance extremely difficult or impossible for children from economically weaker sections. A 90-minute commute each way for a 12-year-old child imposes severe hardships that predictably result in irregular attendance and eventual dropout, defeating the purposes of compulsory education. The concept of "neighborhood schools" in the statutory framework contemplates reasonable proximity that enables regular daily attendance without undue burden, not merely some technical possibility of reaching a distant school. States cannot discharge their obligation by pointing to distant schools when such distances create practical barriers to the completion of education.

Option (d) Incorrect: While this option correctly identifies that distance creates barriers to completion of schooling, it incorrectly links this problem to the fee prohibition rather than to the separate but related mandate to maintain neighborhood schools. The statutory prohibition against fees addresses financial barriers to completion, whereas the neighborhood school mandate addresses physical accessibility barriers. Though both provisions serve the overarching goal of ensuring children can complete elementary education, they operate through different mechanisms. The appropriate basis for compelling establishment of a local school is the neighborhood school maintenance mandate, not the fee prohibition, even though the practical effect, removing barriers to completion, is similar.

69. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Line: "if two passengers accidentally collide in a crowded train, no offence is committed; but if one deliberately pushes the other to insult or intimidate, criminal force is established"

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Negligence in maintaining balance does not automatically convert accidental contact into criminal force. Criminal force is defined by intentional use of force without consent and with wrongful purpose, not by mere carelessness or failure to exercise caution. While negligence might give rise to civil liability in appropriate circumstances, it does not satisfy the mens rea requirement for criminal force, which demands deliberate intention or knowledge directed toward causing injury, fear, or annoyance.

Option (b) Incorrect: The fact that Meera's phone dropped as a consequence of the contact does not establish criminal force unless there was deliberate intent behind the push. Criminal force is not determined solely by the consequences or results of physical contact, but by the intention or knowledge accompanying the use of force. Accidental consequences arising from involuntary movements do not transform non-criminal conduct into an offence, as the essential element of wrongful intention remains absent.

Option (c) Incorrect: Physical contact alone, without the element of wrongful intention, does not establish criminal force. The law does not criminalize every instance of touching or contact in public spaces, as this would be impractical and unjust given the realities of

crowded environments. Culpability arises only when the actor's mind is directed toward a wrongful objective such as causing injury, fear, annoyance, or committing an offence. Mere physical contact in a crowded setting, without deliberate intent to harm or intimidate, falls outside the scope of criminal force.

Option (d) Correct: Criminal force requires both the use of force and a deliberate intention to cause injury, fear, or annoyance, or to commit an offence. Vikram's fall against Meera resulted from the train's sudden braking and was entirely accidental, lacking any deliberate intent to push, insult, or intimidate her. The absence of wrongful intention separates this scenario from criminal conduct. The law recognizes that in crowded public transport, accidental collisions occur frequently and do not warrant criminal liability absent deliberate wrongful purpose.

70. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Line: "assault as a gesture or preparation creating the reasonable apprehension that criminal force is about to be used"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Assault does not require actual physical contact with the victim. The offence is complete when a gesture or preparation creates reasonable apprehension in the victim's mind that criminal force is imminent. The law protects individuals not only from physical harm but also from the mental fear and anxiety of being harmed. Arjun's act of throwing a brick that passed inches from Rajesh's head constitutes sufficient gesture to establish assault, regardless of whether contact ultimately occurred.

Option (b) Correct: Assault is established when a gesture or preparation creates reasonable apprehension that criminal force is about to be used, regardless of whether physical contact actually occurs. Arjun's act of throwing a brick that passed extremely close to Rajesh's head would reasonably create apprehension in any person that they were about to be struck. The fact that the brick missed Rajesh does not negate the offence, as assault protects against both physical harm and the mental fear of being harmed.

Option (c) Incorrect: A defendant's self-serving explanation about their purpose does not automatically negate criminal liability if their conduct objectively created reasonable apprehension of criminal force. The test for assault is whether a reasonable person in the victim's position would

apprehend imminent use of criminal force, not whether the accused subjectively claims innocent intent. Arjun's claim about testing brick quality does not alter the fact that throwing a brick inches from someone's head creates reasonable fear of being struck.

Option (d) Incorrect: Assault does not require verbal threats accompanying the physical gesture or preparation. The offence can be committed through actions alone that create reasonable apprehension of imminent criminal force. While verbal threats may accompany assault, they are not an essential element of the offence. A gesture or preparation that causes reasonable fear of immediate harm suffices to establish assault, regardless of whether any words were spoken before or during the threatening conduct.

71. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Line: "it is not limited to physical touching but also includes causing movement that brings an object or creature into contact with another person"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The definition of force is not confined to direct physical touching between the accused and the victim. The law recognizes that force can be exerted through indirect means, including the use of objects, substances, or animals as intermediaries. Sameer's deliberate act of releasing his dog's leash and causing the dog to run at and jump on Kavita constitutes use of force, even though Sameer himself did not physically touch her. The dog acted as the medium through which force was applied.

Option (b) Incorrect: The law expressly contemplates the use of animals as instruments through which force can be applied to another person. While animals may possess some degree of independent will, when a person deliberately causes an animal to make contact with another person, this constitutes use of force by that person. The statutory framework specifically includes causing force through creatures, recognizing that human agency in directing or releasing an animal toward a victim establishes liability for using force.

Option (c) Correct: Force encompasses not only direct physical touching but also causing movement that brings an object or creature into contact with another person. Sameer deliberately released his dog and caused it to run at Kavita, resulting in the dog jumping on her and tearing her clothes. This indirect application of force through the instrumentality of an animal falls squarely within the statutory definition, which

expressly includes causing contact through creatures as well as substances and objects.

Option (d) Incorrect: There is no requirement that an animal must be specifically trained to attack for its use to constitute force. The key element is whether the accused deliberately caused the animal to make contact with the victim, not the animal's level of training or sophistication. Sameer's deliberate act of releasing his dog's leash while the dog ran at Kavita suffices to establish use of force through an animal, regardless of whether the dog had prior attack training.

72. Correct Answer: (a)

Reference Line: "criminal force as intentionally using force on any person without their consent, either in committing an offence or intending to cause injury, fear, or annoyance"

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: Criminal force is established when a person intentionally uses force on another without their consent, either while committing an offence or with the intention to cause injury, fear, or annoyance. Rahul deliberately pushed Priya during a heated argument while making a dismissive statement, clearly intending to annoy or insult her. The absence of Priya's consent combined with Rahul's intentional use of force to express anger or dominance in their workplace dispute satisfies the definition of criminal force.

Option (b) Incorrect: The absence of visible physical injury or falling does not negate the commission of criminal force. The offence is established when force is intentionally used without consent with the intention to cause injury, fear, or annoyance, regardless of the actual quantum of harm caused. Rahul deliberately pushed Priya aside during a heated argument while telling her to get out of his way, demonstrating clear intent to annoy or insult her in the context of their ongoing dispute.

Option (c) Incorrect: The context of the incident matters in determining whether force was used with wrongful intent. While incidental contact in genuinely crowded spaces may lack criminal intent, Rahul's push occurred during a heated argument with accompanying aggressive words, indicating intent to annoy or intimidate rather than mere spatial navigation. The presence of an ongoing dispute and the aggressive manner of the push distinguish this from socially acceptable conduct in crowded environments.

Option (d) Incorrect: Explicit verbal refusal of consent is not a prerequisite for establishing criminal force.

Consent is generally absent when force is used in hostile circumstances or with wrongful intent such as to annoy, intimidate, or insult. In the context of a heated workplace dispute, Priya's lack of consent can be inferred from the circumstances. The law does not require victims to formally articulate refusal before every unwanted physical contact can be deemed non-consensual.

73. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Line: "Raising a stick to strike someone or moving aggressively toward them can constitute assault even if the blow never lands."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The accused's subjective intention to stop short of actual contact does not negate assault if the conduct creates reasonable apprehension of imminent criminal force in the victim's mind. Assault protects individuals from the mental fear and anxiety of being harmed, not merely from actual physical harm. Aditya's act of suddenly accelerating toward Mohit and stopping just feet away created reasonable apprehension that he was about to be struck, regardless of Aditya's hidden intention to stop.

Option (b) Incorrect: Assault does not require proof that the accused had actual present ability to carry through with the threatened harm. The test is whether the conduct created reasonable apprehension of imminent criminal force in the victim's mind. Aditya's act of accelerating toward Mohit appeared threatening and created genuine fear of being struck. Whether Aditya secretly intended to stop or could have avoided impact is irrelevant to determining whether his conduct caused reasonable apprehension of imminent harm.

Option (c) Correct: Assault is established by a gesture or preparation that creates reasonable apprehension that criminal force is about to be used, regardless of whether physical contact actually occurs or was ever intended. Aditya's act of suddenly accelerating his vehicle aggressively toward Mohit and stopping just feet away constitutes preparation or action that would cause a reasonable person to fear imminent contact. The fact that actual impact never occurred does not negate the offence, as assault protects against both physical harm and the mental fear of being harmed.

Option (d) Incorrect: Assault can be committed through threatening actions alone without accompanying verbal threats or hand gestures. The

offence is complete when a preparation or gesture creates reasonable apprehension of imminent use of criminal force. Aditya's act of suddenly accelerating his vehicle toward Mohit constitutes sufficient threatening conduct to establish assault, regardless of whether any words were spoken or additional gestures made. The aggressive vehicular movement itself serves as the gesture that creates apprehension.

74. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Line: "Where the contract is contingent on an event within a specified time frame, if the time expires without the event happening, or if before the time expires the event becomes impossible, then the contract becomes void."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The payment and acceptance of earnest money does not insulate a contingent contract from the statutory consequences of impossibility of the contingent event. The legal framework applies uniformly to contingent contracts regardless of whether partial performance, advance payments, or earnest money deposits have occurred. The fundamental principle is that impossibility of the contingent event within the specified timeframe voids the contract, and this consequence operates independently of any preliminary financial transactions between the parties. Earnest money provisions may affect remedies and restitution, but they do not alter the basic rule that impossibility voids the contingent contract.

Option (b) Incorrect: While the contract does become void due to impossibility of the contingent event, the characterization that contingent contracts "automatically reverse obligations" misrepresents the legal mechanism. The contract becomes void, which means it ceases to have legal effect and is treated as if no enforceable contract existed. This voidness triggers restitutionary principles requiring return of benefits conferred, but this is distinct from the contract becoming "enforceable in reverse." The voiding of the contract due to impossibility places parties in a position where the original contractual obligations disappear, and any refund obligations arise from restitution principles rather than from the contract becoming enforceable for opposite performance.

Option (c) Incorrect: While it is true that parties originally agreed to a two-year timeframe, the legal framework governing contingent contracts does not

require passive waiting when the contingent event becomes legally impossible before the stipulated period expires. The statutory scheme recognizes that impossibility occurring during the specified timeframe has immediate legal consequences rather than requiring parties to wait until the temporal limit is reached. The government's rejection making conversion impossible triggers legal consequences immediately, and the mere fact that some time remains within the agreed period does not preserve the contract's validity when the foundational contingency can no longer be fulfilled.

Option (d) Correct: The statutory framework establishes that when a contract is made contingent upon an event occurring within a specified time frame, and that event becomes impossible before the stipulated time expires, the contract is rendered void. Raj and Sunita's agreement was explicitly conditioned on government notification for land conversion within two years, making this a contingent contract with a temporal limitation. The State Government's rejection of all conversion applications based on environmental concerns made the contingent event legally impossible after eighteen months, which falls before the expiration of the two-year timeframe, thereby voiding the contract and entitling Raj to recover his earnest money.

75. Correct Answer: (a)

Reference Line: "Fourth, the event should not be at the absolute discretion or control of the promisor, otherwise the contingency becomes illusory and the contract may be treated as a simple promise rather than a contingent one."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: The statutory framework establishes that when the contingent event is at the absolute discretion or control of the promisor, the contingency becomes illusory and fails to create a valid contingent contract. Instead, such arrangements are treated as simple promises for the underlying performance. TechVista's board approval represents an event entirely within the company's own control, the board is TechVista's decision-making body, and its resolution depends solely on TechVista's internal discretion. This places the purported contingency at the absolute discretion of the promisor, rendering it illusory. Consequently, the contract should be treated as a simple promise to pay for completed work rather than as a valid contingent contract.

Option (b) Incorrect: While parties generally enjoy contractual freedom to define conditions, this freedom is circumscribed by the requirement that contingencies in contingent contracts must involve genuine uncertainty rather than events within the promisor's complete control. Board satisfaction, when the board is that of the paying company itself, represents a condition entirely within TechVista's control rather than a truly uncertain future event. The statutory framework requires that contingent events possess genuine uncertainty and not be subject to the promisor's absolute discretion. When the purported contingency can be arbitrarily triggered or prevented by the promisor, it lacks the essential characteristic of uncertainty that defines valid contingent contracts.

Option (c) Incorrect: The fact that a board resolution involves a collective corporate body does not transform an event within the promisor's control into a collateral event independent of that control. The board of directors is the promisor company's own decision-making organ, and resolutions passed by it represent the company's exercise of its own discretion rather than an external or independent event. The concept of collateral events refers to occurrences that are genuinely external to the contract's main consideration and not subject to the promisor's unilateral determination. A company cannot create genuine contingency by routing its discretion through its own internal governance structures.

Option (d) Incorrect: While the contract fails as a contingent contract due to the promisor's control over the event, it is not void from inception nor does the law require that all valid contingencies must involve external third parties. Contingent contracts can validly depend on various types of events, including some that involve parties to the contract, provided those events are genuinely uncertain and not at the promisor's absolute discretion. The issue here is not that the event lacks third-party involvement, but specifically that it is entirely within the promisor's control, making the contingency illusory. The contract is not void but rather transforms into a simple promise for completed work.

76. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Line: "Third, the event must be collateral to the contract, meaning that the contract's main obligation is not the event itself but the contract is conditioned on it."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This characterization fundamentally misreads the contractual structure by treating the price condition as a mere "target figure" or incidental term rather than recognizing it as the defining contingency upon which the entire obligation depends. The express language "if international wheat prices fall below ₹28,000" creates a condition precedent rather than a simple pricing term. The parties clearly structured their agreement so that Meena's delivery obligation would arise only upon the occurrence of the specified price event. Treating this as a simple sale contract would rewrite the parties' bargain and ignore the conditional nature they explicitly established, fundamentally altering the risk allocation they Option (b) Incorrect: While the contract involves commodity pricing, the mere involvement of commodities does not automatically transform a contingent contract into a futures contract governed by different legal principles. Futures contracts have specific legal and regulatory characteristics including standardization, exchange trading, and settlement mechanisms that are absent here. This agreement exhibits all the essential features of a contingent contract: a clear condition precedent, an uncertain future event (price movement), and obligations that activate only upon the condition's fulfillment. The subject matter being a commodity does not override the contingent contract framework when the agreement's structure clearly creates conditional obligations rather than firm futures commitments. negotiated.

Option (c) Correct: The contract exemplifies the principle that in contingent contracts, the event must be collateral to the contract, the main obligation is not the event itself but rather the contract is conditioned upon that event. Here, the main obligation is Meena's delivery of wheat, which is a separate and distinct obligation from the contingent event of price falling below ₹28,000. The price fall is collateral because it is neither the primary performance nor the consideration, but rather an external condition that must occur before the delivery obligation activates. Since the contingent event has become impossible due to global crop failure, and delivery was properly conditioned on this collateral event, the contract cannot be enforced.

Option (d) Incorrect: Contracts that condition performance on market price movements are not inherently void or prohibited under contract law. The legal framework explicitly recognizes contingent

contracts as valid and enforceable when properly structured, allowing parties to allocate commercial risks by tying obligations to future uncertain events including market conditions. Such arrangements are distinguished from prohibited wagering agreements because the parties have a genuine commercial interest in both the underlying transaction and the contingent event. Meena and Karthik's agreement to trade wheat at favorable prices if market conditions permit represents legitimate commercial risk management rather than speculation, and the law does not void such arrangements simply because they reference market price movements.

77. **Correct Answer:** (b)

Reference Line: "For a contract contingent on an event's happening, it cannot be enforced until that event occurs; if the event becomes impossible, the contract becomes void."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The principle demands that the uncertain event must occur exactly as stipulated. Safe arrival of the ship represents the contingency's essence, not partial salvage. Since the ship was destroyed, the contingency never materialised. Treating recovery of remnants as performance would alter the contract's fundamental nature.

Option (b) Correct: The contract's enforceability depended entirely on the happening of a future uncertain event safe arrival of the ship. Once that event became impossible due to its sinking, the condition failed absolutely. The impossibility extinguished the contractual obligation, making the agreement void under the principle governing contingent events.

Option (c) Incorrect: A contingent contract does not remain suspended indefinitely when the event has already become impossible. The impossibility of performance terminates enforceability immediately. Further verification or speculation about recovery cannot postpone or revive the void condition once impossibility occurs.

Option (d) Incorrect: The doctrine of contingency rejects the idea of partial satisfaction. When the entire event fails, the legal consequence is extinction of the obligation. The sinking of the vessel negates the possibility of safe arrival, so no partial survival can sustain the original condition or extend its effect.

78. **Correct Answer:** (a)

Reference Line: "First, there must be a valid contract capable of being enforced once the contingency is fulfilled. Secondly, the condition must hinge on an uncertain event, an event that may or may not happen."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: The uncertain event was defined as rain on Diwali night. Since the event did not happen within that precise time, the condition failed entirely. In contingent contracts, enforceability depends strictly on the event as stipulated, and once the time fixed for its occurrence passes without fulfillment, the contract becomes void and unenforceable.

Option (b) Incorrect: The principle does not allow a contract to remain open beyond the agreed scope. The temporal limit forms part of the uncertainty; extending it would distort the meaning of the agreed event. Legal certainty requires that the contingency be confined to the specified time frame alone.

Option (c) Incorrect: Contingent contracts do not accept approximations or near coincidences. The drizzle after the stipulated time cannot substitute for the agreed event, as the event must occur exactly as defined. The deviation in time prevents the contract from becoming enforceable.

Option (d) Incorrect: The idea of partial or near-fulfilment is inconsistent with the structure of contingent obligations. Such contracts hinge on an all-or-nothing principle, either the event happens as stated or it does not. Any deviation, however minimal, leaves the condition unfulfilled and the contract void.

79. **Correct Answer:** (c)

Reference Line: "On the other hand, where the obligation is contingent on the event not happening, the contract becomes enforceable once it is certain the event will not happen or the time fixed for it has passed."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Even if a delayed decision later grants the permit, the obligation became enforceable once the specified time lapsed. The law evaluates enforceability at the moment of expiry, not at a future possibility. Future acts do not undo the legal finality of elapsed time.

Option (b) Incorrect: Contingent contracts are not designed to continue indefinitely. Allowing such perpetual extension would nullify the parties' purpose in fixing a definite time. The expiration of the period

without occurrence marks a definitive legal point for enforceability, preventing indefinite uncertainty.

Option (c) Correct: When a contract is contingent on an event not occurring, enforceability arises the moment it becomes certain that the event will not happen or the fixed period ends. Since the deadline expired without the permit being granted, the obligation crystallised automatically. The law values certainty of time and non-happening over potential administrative delay.

Option (d) Incorrect: The principle does not permit suspension beyond the agreed term. The expiry of the fixed period conclusively determines whether the event occurred or not. Waiting for an authority's later decision would defeat the agreed temporal certainty built into such contracts.

80. **Correct Answer:** (b)

Reference Line: "if the injured person signs a release under duress or without proper understanding, the release may be invalid"

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Voluntary signing alone does not guarantee the validity of a release. The discharge of liability through release requires both voluntary execution and informed consent. When an injured party lacks proper understanding of their rights or the extent of their damages, the voluntary nature of the signature does not cure this defect. The law recognizes that releases signed without adequate comprehension fail to meet the requirement of informed waiver and cannot effectively discharge the wrongdoer's liability.

Option (b) Correct: The discharge of tort liability through release is only valid when the injured party signs with proper understanding of their rights and consequences. Rajesh lacked comprehension of his actual damages and legal entitlements. This absence of proper understanding renders the release potentially invalid as a discharge mechanism. The law protects injured parties who execute releases without adequate knowledge, recognizing such releases cannot constitute genuine waiver of rights.

Option (c) Incorrect: Insurance settlements do not enjoy automatic enforceability that bypasses the requirement of proper understanding. The discharge through any release must satisfy the condition that the injured party comprehends what they are signing. Insurance-mediated settlements are subject to the same principles, they must be executed with proper understanding to validly discharge liability. The involvement of an insurance company does not create

a special category of releases binding regardless of comprehension.

Option (d) Incorrect: Lack of legal knowledge can constitute improper understanding that invalidates a release. When an injured party does not understand their rights, extent of damages, or what they are waiving, this constitutes the type of improper understanding that vitiates consent. The requirement encompasses awareness of legal rights and entitlements, not just literacy. Rajesh's unfamiliarity and mistaken belief demonstrate the improper understanding that prevents valid discharge.

81. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Line: "if someone has both contractual and tortious claims for the same act and picks one, they may lose the other"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: While contractual and tortious damages may serve different purposes, this does not mean both remedies remain available when arising from the same act. The principle governing discharge by waiver recognizes that when a single act gives rise to multiple remedies, the injured party's choice to pursue one operates as relinquishment of others. The different purposes do not override this waiver principle.

Option (b) Correct: When a single wrongful act gives rise to both contractual and tortious liability, and the injured party elects to pursue one remedy, this choice operates as a waiver that discharges the alternative claim. Malini's decision to file for breach of contract and prosecute it to final judgment constituted an election of remedies. By choosing the contractual route and obtaining judgment, she relinquished her right to pursue the tortious claim arising from the same transaction.

Option (c) Incorrect: Discovery of additional evidence after judgment does not create an exception to the waiver principle. When an injured party elects to pursue one of multiple available remedies, this choice operates to relinquish others regardless of what evidence later emerges. The waiver occurs at the point of election, not at evidence discovery. Subsequent findings do not revive a tortious remedy already waived through election.

Option (d) Incorrect: The distinct nature of exemplary damages does not preserve a tort claim waived through election of remedies. While exemplary damages differ

from compensatory contractual damages, this distinction does not prevent discharge through waiver. The principle focuses on the act giving rise to claims, not damage types. When Malini chose the contractual remedy, she waived any tort remedy for that conduct, including claims for exemplary damages.

82. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Line: "Consent must be free and untainted by fraud, coercion or undue influence for the discharge to be valid."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The validity of discharge depends on whether consent was free and untainted, not on who exercised the improper influence. When threats occur during negotiations in circumstances connecting them to the wrongdoer's side, this taints consent regardless of whether the defendant personally made threats. The requirement focuses on the quality of the agreement-making process. The associate's threats, made in Arjun's interest and presence, compromise voluntariness and prevent valid discharge.

Option (b) Incorrect: The timing of seeking legal advice does not cure fundamental defects in consent that invalidate a discharge. The three-week delay does not transform tainted consent into free consent. When consent is compromised by undue influence at signing, the discharge is defective from inception, regardless of how quickly the injured party recognizes this or seeks to challenge it. The requirement for untainted consent is assessed at the moment of execution, not by subsequent actions.

Option (c) Correct: For settlement to validly discharge tort liability, the injured party's consent must be entirely free and untainted by fraud, coercion, or undue influence. Deepak's consent was compromised by economic intimidation through veiled threats regarding his business contracts, constituting undue influence that overcame his free will. The threats created improper pressure that induced signing out of fear rather than genuine agreement. Since consent was tainted, the fundamental requirement for valid discharge has not been met.

Option (d) Incorrect: Not all economic pressure is acceptable, and undue influence through intimidation specifically falls within improper pressure that invalidates consent. While ordinary negotiation involves some economic considerations, veiled threats about loss of business contracts go beyond normal

bargaining and constitute the kind of undue influence that taints consent. The law distinguishes between legitimate negotiation and improper pressure that overcomes free will. The threats represent economic intimidation designed to coerce acceptance, preventing valid discharge.

83. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Line: "The law recognises exceptions such as where the legal representative or heir is permitted by statutory or succession law to carry on the claim."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: While tort actions may be personal in nature, this does not mean they automatically perish with the individual in all circumstances. The general principle that personal rights may die with the individual is subject to important exceptions. Modern legal systems recognize that strict application would lead to injustice, particularly where death occurs before pursuing the claim. The personal nature does not conclusively determine whether succession is possible; this depends on whether exceptions apply under statutory provisions.

Option (b) Correct: While the general rule suggests personal rights of action in tort may perish with the individual, the law provides exceptions permitting legal representatives or heirs to carry forward these claims. The critical determination is whether statutory or succession law allows such continuation, not whether the claim was formally filed during the deceased's lifetime. If applicable statutes grant legal heirs the right to pursue tort claims on behalf of deceased persons injured by wrongful acts, then Karan can proceed despite his mother's death.

Option (c) Incorrect: Failure to file suit before death does not necessarily demonstrate lack of intent to pursue a remedy or prevent succession. Many factors can explain why an injured party has not yet filed suit, ongoing negotiations, time needed to assess injuries, gathering evidence, or insufficient time before unexpected death. The law's recognition of exceptions allowing legal representatives to carry forward claims acknowledges that death may occur before formal action is taken. If statutory provisions permit succession, lack of filed suit does not bar the heir from initiating action.

Option (d) Incorrect: Succession laws and statutory exceptions do not necessarily limit themselves to claims already formally initiated through court

proceedings. The recognition that legal representatives may carry forward tort claims extends to situations where the injured party died before filing suit, provided the statutory framework permits such succession. Requiring formal initiation during the deceased's lifetime would severely limit the protective scope of these exceptions and defeat their remedial purpose. The relevant inquiry is whether succession law permits the legal heir to pursue the claim, not whether formal proceedings had commenced.

84. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Line: "Once that settlement is completed with free consent, the right to pursue the tort is extinguished."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Tort liability can be validly discharged through accord and satisfaction even without formal written documentation, provided essential elements are present. While written agreements provide better evidence and clarity, the law does not mandate formal documentation as an absolute prerequisite for valid settlements. The critical requirements are that parties reach genuine agreement with free consent (accord) and that agreed consideration is provided and accepted (satisfaction). If these elements are completed, the right to pursue tort is extinguished regardless of written documentation.

Option (b) Correct: For settlement to effectively discharge tort liability, both elements must be completed, parties must reach agreement (accord) and the wrongdoer must provide agreed consideration which the injured party accepts (satisfaction). While Anita and Ramesh reached verbal accord on ₹6 lakhs, the satisfaction component was never completed because Anita refused to accept Ramesh's tendered payment. Without completed satisfaction through actual acceptance, the settlement process remains incomplete and cannot extinguish the right to pursue the tort claim.

Option (c) Incorrect: Merely tendering payment does not constitute completed satisfaction when the injured party refuses to accept it. For settlement to discharge tort liability, there must be actual completion and acceptance of agreed consideration, not just an offer or attempted delivery. The satisfaction element requires that the injured party actually receive and accept the agreed compensation, thereby fulfilling the bargain. Ramesh's tender, while demonstrating willingness to

perform, does not complete the satisfaction necessary for discharge when Anita rejected it.

Option (d) Incorrect: Subsequent filing of a lawsuit does not necessarily prove absence of free consent at the time of original agreement. An injured party may have genuinely consented initially but later changed their mind, developed regret, or received advice suggesting insufficient compensation. Filing suit after

reaching verbal agreement might indicate many things, reconsideration, new information about damages, or legal advice, but does not automatically demonstrate that free consent was absent when accord was made. Whether free consent existed must be determined by examining circumstances at the time of agreement, not inferred from subsequent actions.

Section – D : Logical Reasoning

85. Correct Answer: (a) Estrogen's cardiovascular benefits during exercise depend on broader physiological systems beyond hormone levels alone, including factors like muscle composition or metabolic pathways.

Reference Lines: "Physiological differences between males and females likely account for some of the varying effects of exercise. Estrogen can prompt body fat loss during exercise... Women's greater proportion of slow-twitch muscles also tends to help their bodies work more efficiently during exercise."

Explanation:

(a) If estrogen supplements in men don't replicate women's benefits, it suggests that estrogen operates within a broader physiological context rather than functioning as an isolated variable. The passage already mentions multiple physiological differences—estrogen levels, slow-twitch muscle proportion, and body composition—suggesting these factors may interact rather than operating independently. The failure of supplemental estrogen to produce similar benefits would indicate that hormone levels alone are insufficient and that estrogen's effects depend on other systems present in female physiology. This supports understanding cardiovascular benefits as emerging from integrated physiological systems rather than single hormonal factors, which aligns with the passage's presentation of multiple contributing differences between male and female bodies.

(b) The failure of estrogen supplements to replicate benefits does not invalidate the study's findings but rather refines understanding of why the differences exist. The study documented that women receive greater cardiovascular benefits from exercise than men—this observational finding remains valid regardless of the mechanism. The passage states that "physiological differences between males and females likely account for some of the varying effects," presenting estrogen as one contributing factor among others rather than the sole explanation. If supplemental estrogen doesn't work, it suggests the mechanism is more complex than simple hormone levels but doesn't negate the observed differential benefits. The study's core finding about different benefit levels would still stand even if the explanation for those differences requires refinement.

(c) While the passage mentions slow-twitch muscles as one physiological difference, the hypothetical finding about estrogen supplements does not establish that

muscle fiber development should be men's focus for cardiovascular benefits. The passage presents both estrogen and muscle composition as contributing factors without establishing their relative importance or whether either can be meaningfully modified through intervention. The failure of hormone supplementation doesn't logically lead to recommending muscle fiber modification as an alternative strategy. This conclusion makes an unsupported leap from one intervention not working to prescribing a different specific intervention without evidence that muscle composition can be altered or that doing so would produce the desired benefits.

(d) The hypothetical finding shows that supplemental estrogen doesn't work but doesn't establish that no medical intervention could ever replicate women's cardiovascular efficiency or that it's permanently superior. The conclusion is too absolute given that only one type of intervention (estrogen supplements) has been tested in this hypothetical. Other potential interventions addressing different physiological factors or combinations of factors remain unexplored. The passage describes women's benefits as "greater" rather than "permanently superior," and the failure of one intervention approach doesn't prove that women's cardiovascular response to exercise can never be replicated through any means. This overgeneralizes from limited evidence about one specific intervention type to an absolute claim about all possible interventions.

86. Correct Answer: (c) Data reveals that women who take estrogen-suppressing medications for medical conditions continue to derive greater exercise benefits than men with comparable activity.

Reference Lines: "Physiological differences between males and females likely account for some of the varying effects of exercise. Estrogen can prompt body fat loss during exercise, which is linked to improved cardiovascular health, and women naturally have higher levels of estrogen than men."

Explanation:

(a) While this shows that reduced estrogen doesn't eliminate benefits, it doesn't definitively rule out estrogen's role because post-menopausal women still have other physiological characteristics that differ from men, such as slow-twitch muscle proportion and different body composition. The comparison is between younger and older women, not between

women and men, so it doesn't directly test whether estrogen explains the gender difference in exercise benefits. Post-menopausal women might maintain benefits due to other persistent female physiological traits mentioned in the passage. Additionally, even reduced post-menopausal estrogen levels may still be sufficient to provide cardiovascular benefits during exercise, so this doesn't definitively eliminate estrogen as a contributing factor to the observed gender differences.

(b) This finding would actually support rather than weaken the estrogen inference because it suggests that having higher estrogen alone is insufficient without the broader female physiological context. The passage presents estrogen as one factor among others, including slow-twitch muscle proportion. Men with higher estrogen still have male muscle composition and other male physiological characteristics. This finding would indicate that estrogen works in conjunction with other female traits rather than contradicting estrogen's role. It shows that estrogen operates within a system rather than as an isolated variable, which refines rather than weakens the understanding

of estrogen's contribution to women's greater exercise benefits.

(c) This would most seriously weaken the estrogen inference because it shows that even when estrogen is actively suppressed in women, they still derive greater cardiovascular benefits from exercise than men. If women without functional estrogen still show the advantage, it strongly suggests that estrogen is not the primary mechanism explaining the gender difference. This directly tests the causal role of estrogen by removing it while holding gender constant, and finding that the benefit persists despite estrogen suppression indicates other physiological factors must be responsible. This is the most direct challenge to the estrogen explanation because it isolates estrogen's effect within the female population and shows benefits persist in its absence.

(d) This comparison is complicated by the fact that pre-pubertal girls and adult men differ in many ways beyond estrogen levels, including overall developmental stage, muscle mass, cardiovascular system maturity, and body composition. Finding similar exercise responses could reflect the fact that pre-pubertal girls haven't yet developed the full constellation of adult female physiological characteristics, including the slow-twitch muscle advantage mentioned in the passage. The comparison

confounds developmental stage with gender, making it difficult to isolate estrogen's specific contribution. Additionally, the passage discusses adult exercise benefits, and pre-pubertal physiology may not be directly relevant to understanding adult gender differences in cardiovascular response to exercise.

87. Correct Answer: (b) Women's physiological advantages in deriving cardiovascular benefits from exercise mean that physically inactive women face lower cardiovascular risks than inactive men.

Reference Lines: "We particularly hope that our findings could encourage physically inactive females to become more active, thereby reducing their cardiovascular risk."

Explanation:

(a) This inference is supported by the study's finding that men required more than 8.5 hours of exercise per week to achieve the same cardiovascular benefits that women achieved with four hours. The WHO recommends 150 minutes (2.5 hours) of moderate or 75 minutes of vigorous activity per week, which is substantially less than the 8.5 hours men needed for optimal benefits in this study. While the passage notes that any exercise is good and doesn't explicitly state WHO guidelines are insufficient, the research findings suggest that men following minimum WHO guidelines may not be achieving the maximum possible cardiovascular protection. This makes it plausible and consistent with the passage that current guidelines may be insufficient for optimal male cardiovascular benefits.

(b) This statement is least likely true because it confuses the benefits women receive from exercise with baseline cardiovascular risk in the absence of exercise. The passage demonstrates that women derive greater benefits per unit of exercise but does not suggest that inactive women have lower baseline cardiovascular risk than inactive men. The finding is about differential response to intervention (exercise), not about baseline risk levels. The research team's hope that findings will "encourage physically inactive females to become more active, thereby reducing their cardiovascular risk" clearly indicates that inactive women face cardiovascular risk that needs reduction. The passage provides no evidence that women's physiological advantages translate to protection when sedentary; the advantages specifically relate to how exercise benefits them when they do exercise.

(c) This is directly stated in the passage's conclusion where the researchers express that "we particularly hope that our findings could encourage physically inactive females to become more active, thereby reducing their cardiovascular risk." The research team explicitly identifies motivating inactive women as a goal of publishing these findings. While the passage also mentions that men need more exercise and should "do better," the specific

hope about encouraging physically inactive individuals is explicitly directed toward women. This makes the statement clearly true according to the passage, reflecting the researchers' stated intentions for how their findings should influence behavior among sedentary women to improve their cardiovascular health.

(d) This is explicitly stated in the passage's final sentence: "Understanding how these findings apply to a more racially diverse and socioeconomically disadvantaged population will be imperative in the future, given their higher burden of cardiovascular disease." The researchers directly identify examining these gender differences across diverse populations as a future research priority. The passage acknowledges that the current study may have limitations in terms of population diversity and that extending this research to understand whether findings generalize across racial and socioeconomic groups is necessary. This makes the statement clearly true according to the passage, reflecting recognized limitations and future research directions identified by the study authors.

88. Correct Answer: (a) The reasoning is flawed because the study shows women gain more benefits per hour, not that they need less exercise overall.

Reference Lines: "For women in this group, around four hours of exercise per week decreased their risk of heart disease by 30 percent. Men in this group required more than 8.5 hours of exercise per week for the same heart health benefits... And while it's reassuring for women who are busy all the time, I also think women should not miss the fact that they need to exercise as well."

Explanation:

(a) This correctly identifies the logical flaw in using efficiency of benefit to justify reduced recommendations, as the study demonstrates differential benefit rates rather than reduced exercise necessity. The passage explicitly states that women achieve a 30 percent risk reduction with four hours while men need 8.5 hours for the same reduction, showing women gain more per hour exercised.

However, the passage emphasizes that "women should not miss the fact that they need to exercise as well," indicating that greater efficiency does not translate to needing less exercise. The study shows that at any given exercise level, women receive greater cardiovascular protection, but this doesn't establish that women have met all their exercise needs at lower durations or that recommendations should be lowered.

(b) This incorrectly interprets efficiency of benefit as justification for lower recommendations, missing that better outcomes per unit of exercise don't establish optimal total exercise needs. The fact that women achieve certain cardiovascular benefits more efficiently doesn't mean they've maximized all health benefits at lower exercise levels or that they couldn't gain additional benefits from more exercise. The passage notes that "any exercise is good" and emphasizes women "need to exercise as well," suggesting the goal should be encouraging adequate exercise for everyone rather than lowering standards based on efficiency. Efficiency in achieving one specific outcome (cardiovascular protection) doesn't determine overall exercise requirements for comprehensive health benefits.

(c) While this raises a valid consideration about comprehensive health outcomes beyond cardiovascular benefits, it doesn't identify the most fundamental flaw in the reasoning about lowering recommendations based on this study. The passage focuses specifically on cardiovascular benefits, and within that domain, the study shows women gain more benefit per hour exercised. The primary logical error is misinterpreting efficiency as a basis for reduced recommendations rather than the scope of health outcomes examined. Even if the study comprehensively examined all health outcomes and found women more efficient across all domains, this still wouldn't necessarily justify lowering exercise recommendations, as the fundamental confusion between efficiency and necessity would remain.

(d) This incorrectly accepts that efficiency justifies lower recommendations and overlooks that gender-specific guidelines based on this study would be misapplied if they lowered standards for women. While establishing guidelines that reflect physiological differences could be reasonable in principle, using this particular study to lower women's exercise recommendations misinterprets the findings. The study shows women are more efficient at gaining cardiovascular benefits, not that they need less total exercise. Gender-specific guidelines informed by this

research might instead emphasize that men need more exercise to achieve equivalent protection, rather than that women need less. The reasoning error is in the direction of application rather than the concept of gender-specific guidelines itself.

89. Correct Answer: (b) Meeting WHO exercise goals requires the same absolute time commitment from both men and women despite physiological differences in benefit.

Reference Lines: "The World Health Organization advises that adults get at least 150 minutes of moderate aerobic activity or 75 minutes of vigorous activity each week. Past research has found that, worldwide, fewer women than men meet these exercise goals."

Explanation:

(a) While access barriers might explain why fewer women meet exercise goals, this explanation is not implicitly assumed in stating the conclusion itself. The statement that "fewer women than men meet these exercise goals" is an observational claim about compliance rates that doesn't inherently assume any particular reason for the difference. Access disparities could be one of many potential explanations—including time constraints, cultural factors, or motivation differences—but identifying that fewer women meet the goals doesn't require assuming any specific causal mechanism. The conclusion simply reports a measurement difference without embedding assumptions about why the difference exists or what factors contribute to differential compliance rates between genders.

(b) This assumption is implicit in applying the same WHO guidelines to both genders and then concluding that fewer women meet them, given the study's findings about differential benefits. The WHO recommends the same 150 minutes for all adults regardless of gender, and measuring compliance against this uniform standard assumes it represents an equivalent standard for both sexes. However, the study shows women achieve significant cardiovascular benefits with different exercise durations than men. By stating fewer women meet WHO goals without acknowledging that these goals may represent different physiological targets for men versus women, the conclusion implicitly treats the time-based standard as universally equivalent despite evidence of gender differences in benefit derived per unit of exercise.

(c) While the passage mentions the need for future research with diverse populations, the conclusion about women meeting WHO goals doesn't implicitly assume guidelines were based primarily on male research. The statement simply compares compliance rates against existing guidelines without making claims about how those guidelines were developed or whose data informed them. The conclusion could be true regardless of whether WHO guidelines were based on male, female, or mixed-population research. The research basis for guidelines is a separate issue from measuring compliance rates, and stating that fewer women meet the goals doesn't embed assumptions about the demographic composition of the research that established those recommendations.

(d) This states something that is likely factually true—that current WHO guidelines predate this study's findings about gender differences—but this isn't an implicit assumption of the conclusion that fewer women meet the goals. The conclusion is an observational statement about compliance rates that remains valid regardless of whether WHO has incorporated new research. The passage presents the gender difference in exercise efficiency as a recent finding from a new study, so guidelines naturally wouldn't yet reflect it. However, saying fewer women meet current goals doesn't assume anything about whether the goals incorporate recent research; it simply measures compliance against whatever the current standard is, making this a factual observation rather than an embedded assumption.

90. Correct Answer: (d) Analysis shows that certain soil types require less fertilizer than others to achieve equivalent crop yields across different farms.

Reference Lines: "For women in this group, around four hours of exercise per week decreased their risk of heart disease by 30 percent. Men in this group required more than 8.5 hours of exercise per week for the same heart health benefits."

Explanation:

(a) This argument compares different technologies achieving different absolute ranges rather than the same outcome with different input amounts, missing the passage's parallel structure. The passage's reasoning shows two groups (men and women) achieving the same outcome (30 percent risk reduction) with different amounts of input (4 versus 8.5 hours of exercise). Electric cars traveling farther per charge than gasoline cars per tank describes

different distance achievements rather than equivalent outcomes achieved through different input levels. The comparison is about superior performance rather than differential efficiency in reaching identical targets. This doesn't parallel the structure where different amounts of the same intervention produce equivalent results in different populations.

(b) This superficially resembles the passage by showing different time investments producing equivalent outcomes, but it inappropriately concludes that shorter duration is optimal rather than recognizing differential efficiency. The passage explicitly states that despite women achieving benefits more efficiently, "women should not miss the fact that they need to exercise as well," and that men should "do more exercise" rather than concluding anyone should do less. The passage's reasoning acknowledges differential efficiency without advocating for reduced effort by the more efficient group. This argument makes the logical error of interpreting efficiency as justifying reduced effort, which the passage specifically warns against when it emphasizes that reassurance for busy women shouldn't obscure their need to exercise.

(c) This compares two different medications at different doses rather than the same intervention producing different results in different populations, missing the passage's key structural element. The passage's reasoning examines how the same intervention (exercise) produces different benefit rates in two populations (men versus women) due to physiological differences. Comparing medication A at low doses to medication B at high doses involves fundamentally different substances rather than the same substance acting differently in different contexts. The parallel structure would require the same medication producing equivalent outcomes at different doses in different patient populations, not different medications being compared, making this an imperfect match for the passage's reasoning about differential response to identical interventions.

(d) This correctly parallels the passage's reasoning structure by showing that the same intervention (fertilizer) produces equivalent outcomes (crop yields) with different amounts required in different contexts (soil types) due to inherent differences. Just as women achieve cardiovascular benefits with less exercise than men due to physiological differences, certain soil types achieve equivalent agricultural outcomes with less fertilizer due to their inherent characteristics. Both arguments demonstrate differential efficiency in converting input to outcome based on the

characteristics of what's being treated, without suggesting the more efficient group should receive less or that standards should be lowered. The structure matches: same intervention, equivalent outcome, different amounts needed, explained by contextual differences.

91. Correct Answer: (b) The discrepancy between satellite and aerial estimates requires further investigation to understand the biases inherent in each methodology.

Reference Lines: "While these numbers are lower than some previous aerial estimates, this should not necessarily be interpreted as evidence of a population decline, and we encourage more surveying effort to work out the relative error biases in each approach."

Explanation:

(a) The author explicitly rejects the idea that satellite surveys should replace aerial surveys, stating "rather than replacing aerial surveys, they offer a complementary perspective on seasonal population dynamics." The passage emphasizes coordination between methods, with the next step being to "coordinate aerial and satellite surveys in parallel" so "each method can help refine the other." The author views satellite technology as an additional tool that works alongside traditional methods rather than a replacement. The passage's entire framework treats these as complementary approaches that together can "build a more complete picture" rather than suggesting one should supplant the other, making this position inconsistent with the author's explicitly stated view.

(b) The author directly endorses this position by acknowledging the numerical discrepancy between satellite counts (fewer than 600,000) and aerial estimates (about 1.3 million) while cautioning that this "should not necessarily be interpreted as evidence of a population decline." The explicit encouragement to "work out the relative error biases in each approach" demonstrates the author believes both methods have potential biases that need understanding. Rather than declaring one method correct, the author calls for "more surveying effort" to investigate why the methods produce different results. This approach of coordinating methods so "each method can help refine the other" reflects the author's belief that understanding methodological biases is essential.

(c) The author explicitly cautions against this interpretation, stating that lower satellite numbers "should not necessarily be interpreted as evidence of a population decline" and that comparative biases need

investigation. The passage acknowledges that "some animals are inevitably missed, under trees or outside the imaged area" in satellite surveys, suggesting the satellite method has its own limitations. Rather than claiming aerial surveys were inflated, the author presents both methods as having potential error sources that require systematic comparison. The call for parallel surveys to refine both methods indicates the author views this as a question requiring further research rather than accepting that satellite counts definitively prove aerial estimates were wrong.

(d) The passage does not claim artificial intelligence demonstrates superior accuracy to traditional methods, instead emphasizing complementary strengths and the need to understand comparative biases. The author notes that while AI can detect wildebeest in satellite imagery, the resulting counts are lower than aerial estimates without declaring which is more accurate. The statement that satellite surveys "offer a complementary perspective" rather than a superior one indicates the author does not believe AI has proven more accurate. The entire emphasis on coordinating methods to "help refine" each other suggests both have value and limitations rather than AI having demonstrated superiority over decades of established aerial survey methodology.

92. Correct Answer: (a) Discovery that wildebeest cluster densely under tree canopy during the dry season when satellite imagery is captured for surveys. Reference Lines: "While some animals are inevitably missed, under trees or outside the imaged area, it is unlikely that such factors could account for hundreds of thousands more."

Explanation:

(a) This would directly undermine a decline conclusion by providing a systematic reason why satellite counts would consistently undercount the population without actual decline occurring. The passage acknowledges that "some animals are inevitably missed, under trees" but suggests this is unlikely to account for the large discrepancy. However, if research discovered that wildebeest systematically cluster under tree canopy during the dry season when satellite surveys occur, this would explain consistent undercounting by satellites as a methodological artifact rather than real population decline. This behavioral pattern would mean the same total population appears smaller in satellite imagery not because numbers have dropped but because a large

proportion is systematically hidden from overhead detection during the survey period.

(b) Improved pilot experience over time would affect the trajectory of aerial survey accuracy but doesn't explain why satellite surveys consistently report lower numbers or undermine a decline conclusion. If pilots have gotten better at counting, this might mean recent aerial surveys are more accurate than older ones, but this doesn't address the systematic difference between current aerial and satellite counts. For this to undermine a decline conclusion, it would need to show aerial surveys are now overcounting, which improved experience wouldn't cause. This addresses changes within aerial methodology over time rather than explaining the consistent discrepancy between the two different methods or providing evidence against actual population decline.

(c) More dispersed herds during surveys would likely affect both aerial and satellite methods similarly rather than explaining why satellites consistently count fewer animals than aerial surveys. Both methods would face challenges detecting widely dispersed animals, so this wouldn't explain the systematic difference between them. Additionally, wider dispersion doesn't undermine a decline conclusion unless accompanied by evidence that the total population remains stable despite appearing scattered. This could actually complicate both survey methods without resolving whether lower counts reflect real decline or methodological issues, and doesn't provide a specific reason why satellites would systematically detect fewer animals than aerial surveys detect.

(d) Decreased satellite image resolution over recent years would explain declining satellite counts over time but doesn't undermine the conclusion that population is declining—it would just attribute the decline seen in satellite data to methodological degradation. This would mean satellite surveys show decline due to worsening technology rather than revealing the true population trend. However, this doesn't address why satellite and aerial surveys produce different results or provide evidence that the actual population hasn't declined. If anything, this would make satellite data less reliable for detecting real trends while leaving open the possibility that actual decline is occurring, failing to undermine the decline conclusion about the real population.

93. Correct Answer: (b) A correction factor of two could be applied to satellite counts to make them comparable to aerial surveys for population estimates.

Reference Lines: "Rather than replacing aerial surveys, they offer a complementary perspective on seasonal population dynamics. The next step is to coordinate aerial and satellite surveys in parallel. This way each method can help refine the other and build a more complete picture."

Explanation:

(a) A consistent, predictable relationship between methods does not indicate fundamental flaws requiring abandonment but rather suggests systematic bias that can be understood and corrected. The passage emphasizes using both methods to "help refine the other" and build a more complete picture rather than discarding one approach. If satellite surveys consistently detect exactly half what aerial surveys count, this predictable pattern indicates a systematic difference that could be calibrated rather than random error indicating methodological failure. The author's emphasis on complementary perspectives and coordinating methods suggests that understanding systematic differences between approaches is valuable for improving monitoring, not grounds for abandoning a promising new technology that offers unique advantages like spatial coverage.

(b) A consistent ratio of exactly 2:1 between aerial and satellite counts represents a systematic, predictable relationship that could be calibrated through a correction factor. This approach aligns with the author's emphasis on methods refining each other and building a more complete picture through coordination. If the relationship is stable and predictable, applying a correction factor would allow satellite surveys to contribute useful population estimates while acknowledging their systematic detection limitations. This pragmatic approach treats the consistent discrepancy as a characteristic of the method that can be accounted for rather than as invalidating the approach, consistent with the passage's view that both methods offer valuable complementary perspectives on population dynamics.

(c) While this hedging approach might seem cautious, a perfectly consistent 2:1 ratio suggests a systematic methodological difference rather than both methods being partially correct with the truth in between. If satellite surveys always detect exactly half what aerial surveys count, this indicates one method has a systematic bias or detection limitation with a predictable magnitude rather than both methods

having random errors that average out. The passage's emphasis on understanding "relative error biases in each approach" suggests identifying which method more accurately reflects reality rather than assuming the truth lies somewhere in the middle. A perfectly consistent ratio provides strong evidence for systematic undercounting by one method or overcounting by another rather than suggesting both are partially capturing different portions of the population.

(d) The passage provides no basis for concluding that satellites reveal accurate counts while aerial surveys overcount, particularly given that aerial surveys are "long-established" methods with decades of "dedicated and arduous work." The author explicitly states lower satellite numbers "should not necessarily be interpreted as evidence of a population decline," cautioning against assuming satellite counts are more accurate. The call to "work out the relative error biases in each approach" indicates uncertainty about which method better reflects reality. A 2:1 ratio could result from satellites systematically missing animals (under trees, as noted) just as easily as from aerial surveys overcounting. Without additional validation, concluding that satellites reveal truth while established methods are wrong contradicts the passage's cautious, comparative approach.

94. Correct Answer: (c) Satellite-based monitoring provides advantages over aerial surveys in terms of cost-effectiveness and frequency of data collection.

Reference Lines: None directly addressing cost or frequency advantages.

Explanation:

(a) This can be clearly inferred from the passage's description of the migration as "the engine of the Serengeti-Mara ecosystem" that "feeds predators," "fertilises the land," and "sustains the grasslands." The passage states that "countless other species, and human livelihoods tied to rangelands and tourism, depend on it," indicating that the ecosystem's stability relies on the migration continuing at a scale that can fulfill these functions. The emphasis on how "a change in numbers would not only affect wildebeest, but would ripple outward to predators, vegetation and the millions of people" demonstrates that maintaining current scale and patterns is critical for ecosystem stability, making this a valid inference about the system's dependence on the migration.

(b) This is directly stated in the passage: "Earlier work showed that other species – Weddell seals, beluga

whales and elephants – could be identified in satellite imagery using artificial intelligence." The passage explicitly mentions these previous successful demonstrations before describing the 2023 study on wildebeest. This establishes that the application to wildebeest builds on proven success with other large mammal species, making this clearly inferable from the text. The passage uses these prior examples to establish the feasibility and precedent for applying similar technology to monitoring the wildebeest migration, demonstrating that AI identification of various mammals in satellite imagery has been validated.

(c) While satellite monitoring might logically have these advantages, the passage never mentions or implies cost-effectiveness or frequency of data collection as benefits of satellite surveys over aerial surveys. The passage discusses complementary perspectives, detection capabilities, and the need to coordinate both methods, but makes no claims about economic efficiency or how often surveys can be conducted. The author focuses on methodological differences in detection and counting rather than practical advantages like cost or frequency. Without explicit mention or clear implication of these specific advantages, this cannot be validly inferred from the passage, making it the exception among the options provided.

(d) This is explicitly stated in the passage: "To confirm that the main herds were covered, we validated the survey extent using GPS tracking data from collared wildebeest and ground-based observations from organisations monitoring herd movements in the region." The passage directly describes using both GPS collar data and ground observations as validation methods to ensure satellite imagery captured the primary herds. This verification process was important for confirming that lower satellite counts were not simply due to missing major herds outside the surveyed area, making this clearly inferable as it is directly stated in the text describing the methodology.

95. Correct Answer: (d) Research demonstrates that wildebeest herds exhibit stress responses to low-flying aircraft but show no behavioral changes during satellite passes overhead.

Reference Lines: "Rather than replacing aerial surveys, they offer a complementary perspective on seasonal population dynamics... This way each method can help

refine the other and build a more complete picture of this extraordinary migration."

Explanation:

(a) While weather independence might be practically useful, it doesn't address the fundamental concerns raised in the passage about detection accuracy and understanding biases in satellite methodology. The passage's emphasis is on whether satellite surveys accurately detect and count wildebeest, not on logistical advantages over aerial surveys. The author calls for understanding "relative error biases in each approach" and coordinating methods to refine each other, focusing on methodological accuracy rather than operational convenience. Weather-related advantages wouldn't strengthen confidence in satellite monitoring's ability to provide accurate population estimates, which is the primary concern when lower counts are observed compared to established aerial survey results.

(b) The ability to track individual wildebeest across dates is interesting but doesn't address the core concern that satellite surveys detected fewer than 600,000 wildebeest compared to aerial estimates of about 1.3 million. Consistently detecting the same individuals doesn't resolve whether satellites are missing large portions of the population or whether the lower counts are accurate. This capability might be useful for studying movement patterns but doesn't strengthen the case for using satellites for population monitoring specifically, which requires confidence that the method adequately detects most of the population. The passage's concern is about total population estimation accuracy, not individual tracking capability over time.

(c) Declining aerial survey accuracy would undermine confidence in aerial methods but wouldn't inherently strengthen satellite methodology unless it also showed satellites don't have similar or worse limitations. The passage emphasizes both methods offering complementary perspectives and needing to refine each other rather than one replacing the other. Even if aerial surveys face challenges, this doesn't address whether satellites provide more accurate counts or simply different counts with their own biases. The author's call to "work out the relative error biases in each approach" suggests both methods need evaluation, so undermining one method doesn't automatically validate the other without demonstrating the alternative's superior accuracy.

(d) This would strengthen the case for satellite monitoring by revealing a significant methodological advantage: satellites don't disturb the animals being counted, while aerial surveys potentially do. If aircraft cause stress responses, wildebeest might scatter or behave abnormally during aerial surveys, potentially affecting count accuracy. Satellite passes that don't alter behavior would provide more naturalistic population estimates. This addresses a fundamental advantage of satellite methodology—non-invasive observation—that directly relates to monitoring accuracy and animal welfare. Combined with the passage's emphasis on understanding ecosystem dynamics, a non-disturbing monitoring method would be particularly valuable for long-term studies where repeated observations are needed without impacting the migration itself.

96. Correct Answer: (b) New satellite technology with AI successfully counted wildebeest from space, but lower numbers compared to aerial surveys require investigation of biases.

Reference Lines: "These results provide the first satellite-based dry-season census of the Serengeti-Mara migration... While these numbers are lower than some previous aerial estimates, this should not necessarily be interpreted as evidence of a population decline, and we encourage more surveying effort to work out the relative error biases in each approach."

Explanation:

(a) This summary incorrectly claims satellites have "proven more accurate" and characterizes aerial estimates as "inflated," neither of which the passage supports. The author explicitly states that lower satellite numbers "should not necessarily be interpreted as evidence of a population decline" and calls for investigating "relative error biases in each approach" without declaring which method is more accurate. The passage presents satellite surveys as offering "a complementary perspective" rather than superior accuracy, and emphasizes coordinating both methods so "each method can help refine the other." Characterizing aerial estimates as inflated contradicts the passage's cautious, comparative approach that treats both methods as having potential biases requiring investigation rather than declaring one correct.

(b) This accurately captures the passage's main points: satellite technology with AI successfully demonstrated the capability to count wildebeest from space (described as "the first satellite-based dry-season

census"), the counts were lower than aerial estimates (fewer than 600,000 versus about 1.3 million), and the discrepancy requires understanding biases in both approaches rather than immediately accepting either as definitive. The summary reflects the author's balanced perspective that satellite monitoring represents a significant achievement while acknowledging uncertainty about why the methods produce different results. This aligns with the passage's emphasis on complementary approaches and the need for parallel surveys to refine both methods and build a more complete picture.

(c) This summary incorrectly interprets lower satellite counts as evidence of population decline, which the passage explicitly cautions against. The author states that lower numbers "should not necessarily be interpreted as evidence of a population decline" and suggests methodological differences may explain the discrepancy. The passage does not claim the migration faces serious decline but rather presents a methodological study comparing two survey approaches. The emphasis is on developing and validating new monitoring technology rather than reporting population decline. This summary contradicts the passage's central message that discrepancies between methods require investigation of biases rather than immediate conclusions about population trends or conservation status.

(d) This summary incorrectly claims AI enables "complete replacement" of aerial surveys, directly contradicting the passage's explicit statement that satellite surveys should not replace aerial methods but "offer a complementary perspective." The author emphasizes coordinating "aerial and satellite surveys in parallel" so "each method can help refine the other," explicitly rejecting replacement in favor of integration. While the passage mentions aerial surveys are "arduous work," it doesn't characterize them as dangerous or emphasize cost concerns. The summary misrepresents the passage's collaborative, complementary framework as advocating for technological replacement, fundamentally mischaracterizing the author's position on how these methods should relate to each other.

97. Correct Answer: (b) Physical resistance is no longer required to prove rape occurred during the sexual encounter.

Reference Lines: "France has adopted a law that defines rape as any non-consensual sexual act, a milestone for the women in the country... to establish that the use of

force without consent causing injury, rape, fear or annoyance is a criminal act."

Explanation:

(a) This contradicts the fundamental logic of a consent-based definition, which shifts focus from physical evidence of force to the presence or absence of consent. If rape is defined by lack of consent rather than use of force, then visible physical injuries become unnecessary for establishing that rape occurred. The Pelicot case exemplifies this—she was drugged and unconscious, so there would be no injuries from resistance, yet the non-consensual nature was clear. A consent-based definition actually moves away from requiring physical injury as proof, recognizing that rape can occur without visible trauma if the act was non-consensual. Making conviction depend on visible injuries would undermine the entire purpose of the reform, which is to recognize sexual autonomy violations regardless of whether force left physical marks.

(b) This represents the strongest logical consequence because defining rape solely on absence of consent removes the requirement to demonstrate physical resistance as proof of non-consent. Traditional legal frameworks often required evidence that the survivor physically resisted the attack, which placed an unfair burden on victims and failed to account for situations where fear, coercion, or incapacitation prevented resistance. By making consent the sole defining criterion, the law recognizes that absence of consent—not presence of resistance—is what makes an act rape. This shift acknowledges that victims may be unable to resist due to fear, drugs (as in Pelicot's case where she was drugged), power imbalances, or psychological trauma, making physical resistance an inappropriate standard for determining whether rape occurred.

(c) A consent-based definition does not logically require that only verbal consent establishes legality, as consent can be demonstrated through various means including behavior, context, and non-verbal communication. The law defines rape as any non-consensual act, but this doesn't mandate that consent must always be verbal or explicit. Consent can be implied through actions and circumstances, though the burden shifts to establishing that consent was present rather than assuming it. Limiting legal sexual acts to only those with verbal consent would be an overly narrow interpretation that goes beyond what logically follows from simply making absence of consent the defining criterion. The reform focuses on recognizing

when consent is absent, not on prescribing the exact form consent must take when present.

(d) Intent typically remains a component of criminal law even under consent-based definitions because criminal liability generally requires both actus reus (the act) and mens rea (criminal intent or knowledge). A consent-based definition means that lack of consent defines the wrongful act, but the accused's knowledge or reasonable belief about consent may still be relevant to culpability. The law would need to establish whether the accused knew or should have known that consent was absent. Making intent completely irrelevant would be an extremely strong consequence that doesn't necessarily follow from defining rape by absence of consent—the reform changes what constitutes the wrongful act but doesn't automatically eliminate all consideration of the accused's mental state regarding consent.

98. Correct Answer: (a) Public awareness campaigns emphasizing consent were launched simultaneously with the legal reform.

Reference Lines: "Preventing sexual violence will also involve shaping community views on gender roles, dismantling rigid patriarchal codes with a measure of law, but also awareness programmes that begin early."

Explanation:

(a) Simultaneous public awareness campaigns would most weaken the claim that legal change alone caused improved conviction rates because campaigns could independently influence multiple parts of the justice process—juror attitudes, victim reporting behavior, witness cooperation, and community support—making it impossible to isolate the law's effect. The passage explicitly emphasizes that law is insufficient alone and must be accompanied by "awareness programmes" and changing "community views on gender roles." If awareness campaigns ran concurrently, higher convictions could result from shifted public attitudes about consent making jurors more likely to convict, victims more willing to pursue cases, or communities more supportive—all independent of the legal definition change. This creates a confounding variable that directly challenges attributing improvement "solely" to legal reform.

(b) Improved police investigation quality following the reform could be a consequence of the legal change itself rather than an independent factor weakening the causal claim. The new consent-based definition might have prompted police training, changed investigation

protocols to focus on consent rather than physical evidence, or motivated better practice. If investigation improvements stemmed from implementing the new law, they would be part of how the legal change produced better outcomes rather than an alternative explanation. While better investigations could contribute to higher convictions, if they resulted from the reform, this doesn't weaken the claim that legal change drove improvement—it just elaborates the mechanism through which legal reform operated to increase convictions.

(c) Increased reporting doesn't weaken the claim that legal reform caused higher conviction rates; in fact, it could support it. Higher conviction rates are calculated as convictions divided by cases prosecuted, so more reporting doesn't automatically explain higher conviction rates unless the additional cases were easier to prove. More reporting might actually result from the legal change itself if victims felt the consent-based law made justice more achievable. Additionally, increased reporting could make conviction rates harder to raise if many new cases are difficult to prove. This option doesn't provide an alternative explanation for higher conviction rates but rather describes a phenomenon that could be either a consequence of the legal change or unrelated to conviction rate improvements.

(d) Faster trials through case prioritization could affect justice system efficiency but wouldn't necessarily increase conviction rates unless delay somehow systematically affected case outcomes. Prioritization might reduce case backlog and get cases to trial sooner, but this affects timing rather than conviction likelihood. Unless delayed trials specifically caused cases to fail (through lost evidence, fading memories, or victim withdrawal), faster processing wouldn't explain higher conviction rates. The passage doesn't suggest that trial speed is a major barrier to convictions. This represents a procedural change that could improve the justice process but doesn't provide a strong alternative explanation for why conviction rates specifically would rise, making it a weaker challenge to attributing improvement to the substantive legal reform.

99. Correct Answer: (c) Legal definitions alone do not ensure justice without systemic and cultural change.

Reference Lines: "And this, despite the fact that Section 129 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita recognises 'criminal force'. To establish sexual autonomy as the cornerstone of the judicial process, while a first step, is scarcely all. Preventing sexual violence will also involve

shaping community views on gender roles, dismantling rigid patriarchal codes... besides funnelling resources into assisting survivors cope with the trauma."

Explanation:

(a) The passage makes no comparison of judicial efficiency between France and India, nor does it provide information about case processing speed, court backlogs, or administrative functioning in either country. The conviction rate statistic is used to illustrate that legal provisions alone don't ensure justice, not to compare how efficiently judiciaries operate. Conviction rates reflect complex factors including investigation quality, prosecution effectiveness, evidentiary standards, jury attitudes, and systemic biases—not simply judicial efficiency. The author's point is about the gap between having laws and achieving justice, which requires addressing social, cultural, and systemic factors beyond court efficiency in either country.

(b) This directly contradicts the passage, which explicitly states "despite the fact that Section 129 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita recognises 'criminal force.'" The author mentions India's legal provision precisely to show that even with legal recognition of criminal force, conviction rates remain low. The point is not that India lacks legal provisions but that having such provisions doesn't automatically yield high conviction rates without broader systemic and cultural support. The author uses India as an example of a country that has legal definitions but still struggles with low convictions, undermining the idea that legal frameworks alone solve the problem of securing justice for sexual violence survivors.

(c) This captures the author's central argument that despite India having legal provisions recognizing criminal force (Section 129 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita), conviction rates remain low at 27-28%. The author uses this example immediately before stating that "to establish sexual autonomy as the cornerstone of the judicial process, while a first step, is scarcely all," then elaborates on the need for systemic changes including shaping community views, dismantling patriarchal codes, awareness programs, police orientation, and survivor support. The juxtaposition of India's legal provision with low conviction rates demonstrates that having the law on the books is insufficient—systemic and cultural factors determine whether laws translate into justice, illustrating the broader point that France's legal reform, while significant, is only the beginning.

(d) This contradicts the passage, which explicitly states "there is a great deal of stigma, and worse, judgement of the survivors in cases of rape, as recent public statements in India by leaders blaming the women have painfully underlined again, and again." The author emphasizes that stigma remains pervasive in India, with survivors facing judgment and even public victim-blaming by leaders. Far from suggesting stigma has disappeared, the author uses India's persistent stigma as part of the explanation for why conviction rates remain low despite legal provisions. The continued stigma represents one of the cultural barriers that must be addressed beyond legal reform to improve justice outcomes for survivors.

100. Correct Answer: (d) Legal reform alone is sufficient to eradicate sexual violence if the definition of rape is broadened.

Reference Lines: "To establish sexual autonomy as the cornerstone of the judicial process, while a first step, is scarcely all. Preventing sexual violence will also involve shaping community views on gender roles, dismantling rigid patriarchal codes with a measure of law, but also awareness programmes that begin early, and orienting the police force to these principles, besides funnelling resources into assisting survivors cope with the trauma."

Explanation:

(a) The author strongly agrees with this statement, explicitly calling for "dismantling rigid patriarchal codes with a measure of law, but also awareness programmes" as part of preventing sexual violence. The passage emphasizes that preventing sexual violence involves "shaping community views on gender roles" alongside legal measures, directly arguing that patriarchal social structures must be challenged concurrently with legal reform. The author's framework treats patriarchal codes as fundamental barriers to preventing sexual violence and securing justice, requiring both legal tools and cultural transformation. This dual approach—law plus cultural change—is central to the author's argument that legal reform alone is insufficient, making this statement entirely consistent with the passage's position.

(b) The author explicitly agrees with this statement, noting that "many women from disadvantaged social and economic backgrounds, indeed do not have that privilege" of bringing their case to court. The passage acknowledges that survivors face "an arduous journey bringing their case to a court of law" and that this

journey is particularly difficult for those from disadvantaged backgrounds. This recognition of differential access to justice based on social and economic position is consistent with the author's broader emphasis on systemic barriers that extend beyond legal definitions. The author's call for governments to commit to standing by survivors and employing empathy reflects awareness that disadvantaged survivors face compounded challenges in accessing justice.

(c) The author explicitly endorses this position in the passage's conclusion, calling for "governments should start with a complete intolerance for sexual violence, and a commitment to stand by survivors, employing empathy in the investigation and trial processes." The emphasis on empathy during investigation and trial directly reflects the author's belief that sensitivity can reduce trauma for survivors navigating the justice system. This aligns with the broader argument about making "the journey of the survivors to be eased," suggesting that how investigations are conducted affects the traumatic burden on survivors. The author's framework treats empathetic processes as essential components of a justice system that truly serves survivors rather than re-traumatizing them.

(d) The author would least likely agree with this statement because the passage explicitly argues against the sufficiency of legal reform alone. The author states that establishing sexual autonomy through law "while a first step, is scarcely all," then elaborates extensively on the multiple additional measures required: shaping community views, dismantling patriarchal codes, awareness programs, police orientation, and survivor support resources. The passage uses India as an example where despite having legal provisions recognizing criminal force, conviction rates remain low, demonstrating that legal definitions don't automatically translate to eradicating sexual violence. The author's entire argument emphasizes that preventing sexual violence requires comprehensive systemic and cultural change beyond legal reform, making this statement fundamentally inconsistent with the passage's central thesis.

101. Correct Answer: (a) The transformation of legal definitions can act as a catalyst for deeper cultural and institutional change.

Reference Lines: "France has adopted a law that defines rape as any non-consensual sexual act, a milestone for the women in the country, but overall, a strike against

sexual violence... It has been well established that survivors of sexual violence have an arduous journey bringing their case to a court of law... To do any less, would be an injustice that would interrupt the momentum of the women's 'Arab Spring' Pelicot had set in motion."

Explanation:

(a) This can be reasonably inferred from how the passage describes France's legal reform as creating "momentum" and being a "milestone" that represents a "strike against sexual violence" with broader implications. The author characterizes the Pelicot case and resulting legal change as a "watershed moment" that sparked a women's movement (referenced as an 'Arab Spring'), suggesting the legal transformation catalyzed broader social mobilization. While the author emphasizes that legal change alone is insufficient, the passage implies that legal reform can initiate wider transformation by establishing principles that then require supporting cultural and institutional changes. The author's call not to "interrupt the momentum" suggests the legal change has set broader processes in motion beyond the law itself.

(b) This contradicts the passage's argument, which presents India's conviction rates of 27-28% as evidence that legal provisions alone don't ensure progress against sexual violence. The author uses conviction rates to illustrate limitations rather than treating them as reliable progress indicators. The passage emphasizes that "even when a case of rape enters the trial stage, the chances of securing a conviction are not encouraging," despite India having legal provisions recognizing criminal force. The author's framework suggests that genuine progress requires multiple factors—legal definitions, cultural change, police orientation, survivor support—beyond what conviction rates alone can measure. Conviction rates reflect only one dimension of a complex problem, making them insufficient as standalone progress indicators.

(c) The passage provides no information about how public outrage typically behaves over time or whether it requires legislative response to persist. While the passage describes the Pelicot case creating momentum and France responding with legal reform, this doesn't establish a general pattern about public outrage fading without legislation. The author focuses on what's needed to prevent sexual violence and ensure justice rather than analyzing the temporal dynamics of public attention. The passage discusses sustained efforts required (awareness programs, institutional change,

survivor support) without suggesting that public concern is inherently fleeting or dependent on legislative response. This inference goes beyond what the passage supports about the relationship between public sentiment and legal action.

(d) This contradicts the passage, which presents France's adoption of consent-based rape law as a recent milestone and achievement, implying this approach is not yet universal even among democracies. The fact that France establishing consent as the foundation is described as significant and hard-won ("the most Herculean of battles") suggests this legal approach is not uniformly accepted across democratic legal systems. If all democracies had already accepted consent as rape law's foundation, France's reform would not be noteworthy or require extraordinary courage. The passage treats the consent-based definition as an advancement rather than an already universal standard, indicating that democratic legal systems vary in their approaches to defining rape.

102. Correct Answer: (b) Objective, procedural investigation without emotional involvement yields higher conviction rates than empathetic approaches.

Reference Lines: "The road ahead is long and arduous; for the journey of the survivors to be eased, governments should start with a complete intolerance for sexual violence, and a commitment to stand by survivors, employing empathy in the investigation and trial processes."

Explanation:

(a) This supports rather than contradicts the author's position by showing that empathy makes the justice process less difficult for survivors. The author emphasizes that survivors face "an arduous journey" and calls for empathy to ease this journey. Evidence that survivors feel more comfortable with empathetic officers validates the author's concern for survivor experience and supports the argument that empathy should be employed in investigations. While this focuses on survivor comfort rather than conviction outcomes, the author's framework includes easing the survivor's journey as part of achieving justice, not just securing convictions. This finding would reinforce rather than challenge the author's advocacy for empathetic investigation approaches.

(b) This would directly contradict the author's position by demonstrating that empathy in investigations is not essential for achieving justice outcomes (measured by convictions) and may even be counterproductive. If purely objective, emotionally detached procedures

produce higher conviction rates, it suggests that empathy, while potentially comforting, is not essential to the core justice goal of securing convictions. The author argues that governments should employ "empathy in the investigation and trial processes" as part of ensuring justice, implying empathy contributes to justice outcomes. Evidence that non-empathetic approaches achieve better results would undermine the claim that empathy is essential rather than merely preferable or humane, challenging whether it's a necessary component of justice.

(c) This strongly supports rather than contradicts the author's position by demonstrating that empathy contributes to better evidence collection, directly linking it to justice outcomes. If trauma-informed empathetic methods yield more reliable evidence, empathy becomes not just humane but practically essential for effective investigations that can support successful prosecutions. This would validate the author's call for "orienting the police force to these principles" and employing empathy in investigations by showing it improves investigative quality. The author's framework emphasizes both survivor experience and justice outcomes; evidence that empathy serves both purposes would reinforce rather than contradict the claim that empathy in investigation is essential for achieving justice.

(d) This supports the author's position by showing empathy has broader systemic benefits for justice through increased public trust. The author's framework for justice encompasses not just individual case outcomes but systemic functioning, including community engagement and support for survivors. Public trust in the justice system affects whether survivors come forward, whether communities cooperate with investigations, and whether the system's legitimacy is maintained. Evidence that empathy increases public trust demonstrates that empathetic approaches contribute to the broader functioning of justice beyond individual investigations. This would reinforce rather than contradict the author's argument that empathy should be integral to the investigation process as part of comprehensive justice.

103. Correct Answer: (b) Katrina

Explanation:

Floors	Persons

8	Ranveer
7	Shah Rukh
6	Bhumi
5	Salman
4	Deepika
3	Katrina
2	Aamir
1	Alia

104. Correct Answer: (d) Salman

Explanation:

Floors	Persons
8	Ranveer
7	Shah Rukh
6	Bhumi
5	Salman
4	Deepika
3	Katrina
2	Aamir
1	Alia

105. Correct Answer: (c) None

Explanation:

Floors	Persons
8	Ranveer
7	Shah Rukh
6	Bhumi
5	Salman
4	Deepika
3	Katrina
2	Aamir
1	Alia

106. **Correct Answer:** (c) More than four

Explanation:

Floors	Persons
8	Ranveer
7	Shah Rukh
6	Bhumi
5	Salman
4	Deepika
3	Katrina
2	Aamir
1	Alia

107. **Correct Answer:** (a) Ranveer

Explanation:

Floors	Persons
8	Ranveer
7	Shah Rukh
6	Bhumi
5	Salman
4	Deepika
3	Katrina
2	Aamir
1	Alia

108. **Correct Answer:** (a) Aamir

Explanation:

Floors	Persons
8	Ranveer
7	Shah Rukh
6	Bhumi
5	Salman
4	Deepika
3	Katrina
2	Aamir
1	Alia

Section – E : Quantitative Aptitude

109. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Outer radius $R = 5$ m, inner radius $r = 2$ m.

Area = $\pi(R^2 - r^2) = (22/7)(25 - 4) = (22/7) \times 21 = 66$ m².

110. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Volume of cylinder = $\pi r^2 h$

$$= \pi \times (22)^2 \times 1.5$$

$$= 6\pi \text{ m}^3.$$

Half-filled = $3\pi \text{ m}^3$

$$= 3 \times (22/7)$$

$$= 66/7 = 9.42857 \text{ m}^3 \approx 9,429 \text{ L.}$$

111. Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Outer rectangle = $(12 + 2) \times (8 + 2) = 14 \times 10 = 140$ m².

Inner (bed) = $12 \times 8 = 96$ m².

Gravel area = $140 - 96 = 44$ m².

112. Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Outer rectangle dimensions = $14 \text{ m} \times 10 \text{ m}$.

Perimeter = $2(14 + 10) = 48 \text{ m}$.

Net fencing = $48 - 2 = 46 \text{ m}$.

113. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Cylinder CSA = $2\pi r h = 2 \times \pi \times 2 \times 1.5 = 6\pi$.

Hemisphere CSA = $2\pi r^2 = 2 \times \pi \times 4 = 8\pi$.

Total = $14\pi = 14 \times (22/7) = 44$ m².

114. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Area of one triangular face = $(1/2) \times \text{base} \times \text{slant} = (1/2) \times 3 \times 4 = 6$ m².

There are 4 faces; one open \rightarrow paint 3 faces = $3 \times 6 = 18$ m².

Paint needed = $18 \div 3 = 6$ L.

115. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Week 1 = 4 h/day, Week 2 = 5 h/day.

Two-week average = $(4 + 5) / 2 = 4.5$ hours/day.

116. Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Week 1 = 2 h/day, Week 2 = 3 h/day.

Two-week average = $(2 + 3) / 2 = 2.5$ hours/day.

117. Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Rohit: $76 + 82 + 88 = 246$;

Meera: $85 + 80 + 90 = 255$;

Ananya: $78 + 84 + 86 = 248$;

Dev: $90 + 88 + 92 = 270$.

Total = $246 + 255 + 248 + 270 = 1,019$.

Average = $1,019 / 12 = 84.9167 \approx 84.92$.

118. Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Total spend = $1,200 + 1,500 + 1,800 + 2,100 = ₹6,600$.

Equal share = $6,600 / 4 = ₹1,650$ each.

Rohit paid ₹1,200 \rightarrow owes $1,650 - 1,200 = ₹450$ (pay).

119. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Two-week total = $7 \times 3 + 7 \times 4 = 21 + 28 = 49$ hours.

Target average over 15 days = 3.8

\rightarrow required total = $15 \times 3.8 = 57$ hours.

Bonus day = $57 - 49 = 8$ hours.

120. Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Current sum = $85 + 80 + 90 = 255$.

Replace 80 with k : new sum = $255 - 80 + k = 175 + k$.

Required average = 90 $\rightarrow (175 + k) / 3 = 90 \rightarrow 175 +$

$k = 270 \rightarrow k = 95$.