

**COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST  
(CLAT) 2026 Mock 202609:  
ANSWER KEY AND SOLUTION**



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

## Section - A : English Comprehension

**1. Correct Answer:** (a) It began as a spiritual invocation but became politically divisive due to its exclusive religious symbolism.

Reference Line: "What began as a song of liberation became a test of loyalty... The figure of Bharat Mata... carried an unmistakably Hindu form."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage illustrates how Vande Mataram evolved from a literary expression of devotion to the motherland into a powerful political tool during India's freedom struggle. It became a collective anthem, uniting people emotionally and spiritually through the image of Bharat Mata. However, its strong Hindu symbolism, particularly in the later stanzas, alienated many Muslims, who viewed bowing to a goddess figure as conflicting with Islamic beliefs. This transformation from unity to exclusion is central to the passage's narrative. The song, once a symbol of sacred rebellion, turned controversial in the post-independence period due to its religious imagery. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The passage explicitly refutes the idea that Vande Mataram remained confined to religious or elite nationalist circles. It notes that the song "travelled from page to street," being sung in Congress sessions, freedom rallies, and even whispered before executions, indicating widespread public embrace. The author presents it as a mass symbol of faith and rebellion that shaped popular imagination, not a private devotional chant among intellectuals. Its inscription on prison walls reflects a deep-rooted presence in grassroots activism. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage does not suggest any colonial interest in Vande Mataram, nor does it imply that it was preserved for its literary merit. On the contrary, the narrative is firmly rooted in indigenous resistance and the spiritual-political awakening of the Hindu nation. Bankim's novel is portrayed as an assertion of civilizational revivalism, not something admired or curated by colonial powers. There is no mention of colonial validation or artistic appreciation by British rulers. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage does not state that the song was designed to promote religious unity. In fact, it underscores how the song's goddess-centered symbolism became a barrier for many Muslims who, due to their theological beliefs, could not accept worshipping a national figure personified as a deity. While the song inspired patriotism, it unintentionally drew lines of exclusion along religious identity. The author emphasizes this divide, showing that unity was not achieved across faiths. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**2. Correct Answer:** (b) A fusion of divine personhood and national identity to inspire moral duty.

Reference Line: "The idea of the motherland, tender and protective yet wounded and enslaved, took the shape of a goddess."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) A secular call for unity beyond religious affiliations and sacred imagery. This choice conflicts with the passage's explicit claim that the motherland was given goddess form; that sacralisation is precisely what created theological friction for some communities. The author contrasts the worshipful imagery with a secular notion of civic love, noting that Muslims could love the land without worshipping it, thereby showing the portrayal was not secular. The passage demonstrates that Bankim's image carried religious connotations that made universal civic inclusion difficult. Consequently, this option mischaracterises the nature of the portrayal. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) A fusion of divine personhood and national identity to inspire moral duty. Bankim's image of a tender, wounded mother who needs awakening frames patriotism as a sacred responsibility; by turning the nation into a goddess the novelist sacralises political action, converting national awakening into an ethical, almost liturgical, task. The passage shows this fusion produced a morally charged nationalism that demanded devotion and service rather than mere civic affection. The author treats this sacral fusion as central to understanding both the song's appeal and its controversies. Therefore, this option accurately captures the passage's description. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) A romantic depiction of India's landscape as a source of literary beauty. Although Bankim's writing may contain evocative images, the passage frames the motherland in moral and political terms rather than pastoral or aesthetic ones; the "tender and protective yet wounded and enslaved" metaphor operates as ethical indictment and mobilising call more than scenic romance. The central conflict, the passage shows, hinges on theological interpretation and political mobilisation, not landscape aesthetics. Thus this reading reduces the passage's substantive concern to mere romanticism, making it inaccurate. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) A political satire directed at colonial authority through allegorical means. The tone and content described — devotional imagery, goddess figure, ascetic monks rising in sacred duty — are earnest and hortatory, not satirical; the passage gives no indication

of irony or parody aimed at colonial power. Bankim's work is presented as genuine mobilisation framed through civilisational revivalism rather than a satirical allegory. Consequently, interpreting it as satire misconstrues the author's presentation of intent and consequences. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**3. Correct Answer:** (d) It imposed a form of reverence inconsistent with the tenets of their faith.

Reference Line: "To bow before an image, however symbolic, was against their faith. The love of land was one thing, the worship of it quite another."

Explanation:

(a) It blurred the distinction between civic allegiance and ritualistic expression. This option proposes a civic-ritual conflation, which captures some of the passage's point, but it remains abstract and does not foreground the explicit doctrinal conflict the author stresses; the passage identifies a specific theological prohibition — the impropriety of bowing to an image — rather than a mere conceptual blurring. The civic-versus-ritual formulation risks generalising a concrete religious objection into a philosophical dilemma, making it less precise. Thus while partially resonant, this answer fails to name the primary cause the passage gives. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) It glorified ascetic rebellion without acknowledging cultural plurality. The passage mentions ascetic rebels and communal tensions, but Muslim objection is described in terms of religious practice and idolatry, not as a complaint about lack of plural recognition; the objection arises from worship imagery, not from any perceived neglect of pluralism or regional representation. The author's focus is on theological incompatibility with symbolic worship rather than a critique of ideological breadth. Therefore, this option mislocates the source of opposition. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) It replaced patriotic emotion with mythological abstraction of worship. This response suggests displacement of patriotism by myth, but the passage acknowledges that love of land and worship are distinct concerns for Muslims — it does not claim patriotism was overridden, only that the worshipful form created a barrier. The central issue is not that patriotism was absent, but that devotion was expressed in a form some believers could not accept; the passage separates love of country from ritual worship. Hence, this option does not align with the passage's clear distinction. Therefore, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) It imposed a form of reverence inconsistent with the tenets of their faith. The passage explicitly states that bowing before an image, even symbolically, was against Muslim faith, making ritual reverence the precise source of alienation; Muslims could love the nation but not participate in practices that resembled idolatry. The author presents this as the decisive reason

why many Muslims could not join the song's devotional practice, thereby turning what might have been a unifying anthem into an exclusionary test. This captures both the theological specificity and the social consequence the passage describes. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

**4. Correct Answer:** (c) It sought to preserve its legacy while ensuring the republic remained religiously neutral.

Reference Line: "The Assembly wished to recognise the emotion it carried without turning the republic into a religious state. Only the first two stanzas were accepted..."

Explanation:

(a) It regarded the song as outdated and thus unsuitable for national commemoration. The passage shows the Assembly honoured the song's historic role rather than dismissing it as outdated; their action to accept selected stanzas demonstrates respect for its emotional significance, even while they limited its religious reach. The text explicitly records a careful compromise rather than wholesale rejection, indicating that the song was still valued as part of independence-era memory. Characterizing the Assembly's attitude as simply dismissive therefore contradicts the documented conciliatory approach. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) It elevated it above 'Jana Gana Mana' as a definitive anthem of independence. The passage states that Vande Mataram would be honoured as the national song alongside Jana Gana Mana, which shows parity rather than hierarchical elevation; the Assembly's intent was recognition without religious endorsement, not replacement or supremacy. They consciously limited the accepted material to avoid sectarian implications, indicating a balancing act instead of preferring one over the other. Consequently, this option misreads the Assembly's equalising rather than prioritising posture. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) It sought to preserve its legacy while ensuring the republic remained religiously neutral. The Assembly's selective acceptance — endorsing only the stanzas free from overt goddess imagery — embodies a compromise designed to retain historical memory while upholding secular constitutional principles; the reference line explicitly frames this dual aim. By recognising the song's role in the freedom struggle but excising sectarian content, the Assembly attempted to reconcile emotional heritage with a pluralistic political order. This explanation aligns precisely with the passage's account of cautious preservation and secular safeguarding. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) It endorsed the complete composition to uphold historical and poetic authenticity. The passage directly contradicts this claim by specifying that only the first two stanzas were accepted and that the choice was intended to avoid turning the republic into a religious

state; there was therefore no full endorsement of the entire poem. The decision was deliberately partial to neutralise sectarian potential while keeping historical recognition, so claiming total endorsement misstates the documented compromise. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**5. Correct Answer:** (a) Balanced and critical toward the song's exclusionary impact within nationalism.

Reference Line: "What began as a song of liberation became a test of loyalty."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author recognises Vande Mataram as historically significant yet problematised by its Hindu goddess imagery that excluded sections of society. His tone combines respect for its emotional power with criticism of its divisive consequences. The analysis of the Constituent Assembly's decision to limit the verses shows sensitivity and caution rather than celebration. The author weighs reverence with realism, producing a reflective, analytical tone.

Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The passage highlights religious disagreement rather than harmony; Muslim leaders' discomfort with worship imagery reveals deep fractures. The author notes that what began as an anthem of unity became contested and selective. A purely celebratory reading ignores the nuanced critique of exclusion and sectarian tension. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author never expresses yearning for the song's early artistic or devotional purity. His discussion remains historical and interpretive, addressing political consequences and communal reactions rather than literary nostalgia. The focus is on socio-religious complexity, not emotional longing for its original form. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The tone is analytical, not defiant or nationalistic; the author does not champion the song's religious imagery as cultural unity. Instead, he underlines how that very imagery created division, leading to constitutional restraint. There is no hint of proud defence—only careful evaluation of its dual legacy. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**6. Correct Answer:** (d) It remains a revered yet contested symbol reflecting India's uneasy balance of faith and nationhood.

Reference Line: "The idea was to preserve its historical importance while avoiding its sectarian potential. Yet the debate never really ended."

Explanation:

(a) It demonstrates how art can unify diverse faiths under a single patriotic vision. The passage actually documents how the same art also produced exclusionary effects because of its worshipful imagery; while art played a unifying role for many, the author

emphasises unresolved tensions and theological objections that complicated universal embrace. To claim unqualified unification neglects the documented discomfort and the political compromise the Constituent Assembly had to engineer. Thus, presenting the song as a seamless unifier flattens the passage's nuanced account. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) It stands as a poetic monument disconnected from modern constitutional values. The author's description of the Constituent Assembly's selective acceptance shows active engagement with constitutional secularism rather than disconnection; the song's contested status is precisely about reconciling historic sentiment with republican principles, so it cannot be accurately described as detached from constitutional concerns. The debate's persistence underlines continued relevance to modern values, refuting the notion of disconnection. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) It reveals how religious emotion fully harmonized with democratic secularism. The passage stresses the opposite: attempts were made to preserve emotional heritage while guarding against sectarianisation, which indicates imperfect harmony rather than full reconciliation; the fact that the debate "never really ended" confirms ongoing friction. The author underscores the fragility of any harmonisation and the careful, contested compromise required, so claiming full harmony misrepresents the described legacy. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) It remains a revered yet contested symbol reflecting India's uneasy balance of faith and nationhood. The passage repeatedly foregrounds dualities — reverence for historical role and anxiety about sectarian implications — and documents institutional compromises (limited stanza acceptance) designed to maintain secular governance while recognising emotional significance. By noting the persistence of debate, the author portrays the song as emblematic of India's continuing struggle to balance devotional attachment with pluralist national identity. This choice captures both respect and unresolved contention, matching the passage's concluding assessment. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

**7. Correct Answer:** (b) They suggest humans are inherently in conflict with nature due to limited ecological resources.

Reference Line: "According to this view, humans are in an inescapable zero-sum game with the rest of nature."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The neo-Malthusian position emphasises population as the core variable, not primarily technology or policy, so attributing environmental degradation to "excessive industrial technology and

outdated policy” mislocates its causal priority; while technology and policy matter, neo-Malthusians treat sheer human numbers as the defining pressure on ecosystems rather than industrial form. The passage defines neo-Malthusianism in terms of a zero-sum relationship between people and nature, which is conceptually distinct from critiques that foreground industrial methods and governance failures. Thus, focusing on industrial technology narrows the diagnosis in a way the passage does not support. This option therefore fails to capture the specific population-centric thesis described. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage explicitly characterises neo-Malthusian thought as viewing humans locked in an inescapable zero-sum game with nature, which implies an inherent conflict over limited ecological resources; this formulation directly supports the idea that neo-Malthusians see human presence and growth as the primary antagonistic factor driving environmental harm. By making population size the “fundamental defining factor,” neo-Malthusianism posits resource scarcity as the core mechanism of environmental degradation, aligning with this option. The text therefore treats humans as essentially competitive with non-human nature under this doctrine. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Attributing environmental harm chiefly to “humanity’s ethical lapses toward biodiversity” reframes the problem as a moral failing rather than the demographic and material arithmetic central to neo-Malthusian arguments; the passage situates neo-Malthusianism in terms of quantity and ecological limits, not primarily as a critique of ethical attitudes or stewardship. While ethics can be part of environmental debates, the neo-Malthusian account described reduces causes to population dynamics rather than moral culpability. Therefore, this choice diverges from the passage’s specified definition. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Emphasising political neglect and consumption trends privileges governance and distributional explanations over the demographic determinism that neo-Malthusians advocate; the passage contrasts population-centric thinking with critiques that highlight inequality, extractivism, and per-capita consumption as central, showing these latter factors are specifically what neo-Malthusian views tend to downplay. Since the question asks how neo-Malthusians conceptualise the human–environment relationship, root causes framed in political and consumption terms do not align with the population-first thesis described. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**8. Correct Answer:** (c) Because they disproportionately emphasise population growth in specific global regions.

Reference Line: “Neo-Malthusian environmental ideas have also been embraced by xenophobic or outright racist groups, since they seem to justify focusing all attention on the areas where the human population is still growing...”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage indicates critics accuse neo-Malthusianism of shifting attention toward areas where population is growing rather than focusing on high-consumption polluters; saying they “focus blame on low-consumption groups” captures part of the criticism but risks misphrasing: the concern is not simply blame but the structural justification of targeting growing populations while ignoring wealthy polluters and historical plunder. The text stresses that neo-Malthusian emphasis appears to excuse unequal consumption patterns and historical exploitation, so reducing this to mere blame placement is an incomplete rendering. Thus, while related, this option lacks the specificity of the original critique. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage mentions that neo-Malthusian ideas have been embraced by xenophobic groups but does not claim these thinkers uniformly advocate authoritarian birth-control regimes; the concern highlighted is ideological alignment with racist groups by emphasising population control rhetorics, not an explicit policy endorsement of coercive governance in every instance. While some adherents might support repressive measures, the author’s point focuses on the discursive and justificatory uses of population arguments, not a necessary policy entailment. Therefore, this option overstates the passage’s claim. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage directly states that xenophobic and racist groups find neo-Malthusian ideas attractive because they “seem to justify focusing all attention on the areas where the human population is still growing,” which means such ideas disproportionately emphasise demographic growth in particular global regions and thereby lend themselves to discriminatory targeting and simplification. This disproportionate focus is precisely why critics link the ideology to xenophobia and racism: it redirects concern from unequal consumption and historical exploitation toward population geography. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The claim that neo-Malthusianism “promotes resource extraction from impoverished nations” is a mischaracterisation of the passage’s argument; the author instead contends critics fear neo-Malthusianism justifies ignoring extractivism and plunder by blaming population rather than focusing attention on those extractive practices. While extractivism is discussed as a factor neo-Malthusianism downplays, the passage does not say neo-Malthusians advocate extractive policies as a solution, so this option invents a policy



prescription not present in the text. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**9. Correct Answer:** (c) It risks exonerating earlier colonial and capitalist processes by narrowing the historical frame.

Reference Line: "If the Anthropocene is seen as originating in such a late date, would it not let the earlier phases of colonialism or capitalism off the hook?"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage's objection to late dating is that it risks letting earlier processes off the hook rather than merely overemphasising technological breakthroughs; although dating to the 1950s could highlight technological acceleration, the core critique is historiographical: it narrows responsibility by ignoring longer historical continuities like colonialism and earlier capitalist transformations. Therefore, the phrasing here is partly right but misses the political and historical exculpatory risk the author stresses. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) While atomic testing is sometimes cited as a mid-20th-century marker and postcolonial development matters to the wider debate, the passage does not single out nuclear tests as the central issue nor frame the critique primarily as a distraction from postcolonial development; rather, it emphasises the danger that a late origin date absolves prior colonial and capitalist actions. Thus, this option mischaracterises the specific historiographical worry. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage explicitly asks whether dating the Anthropocene to the Great Acceleration of the 1950s "would not let the earlier phases of colonialism or capitalism off the hook," signalling that critics worry a late origin risks exonerating longer historical processes that contributed to planetary transformation; this is the heart of the objection and aligns directly with the option's formulation. The author therefore foregrounds the need to excavate deeper political foundations rather than treat the Anthropocene as a sudden mid-century rupture. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) Accusing the late-dating perspective of "promoting politicised environmental science and exaggerating Western contributions" reverses the passage's nuance: stratigraphers worry about politicisation, but the critics being described claim the late dating understates earlier Western and colonial culpability rather than exaggerating it; this option thus misreads who is being accused of what and confuses the positions in dispute. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**10. Correct Answer:** (a) It demands shifting focus from climate outcomes to political and historical causation. Reference Line: "Thus, the deeper political foundations of the Anthropocene need to be excavated."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage argues that critics want to "excavate" the deeper political foundations of the Anthropocene, shifting analysis from mere environmental outcomes to historical, political, and systemic causation such as colonialism, inequality, and extractivism; this broader perspective demands attention to structural drivers rather than treating environmental change as an ahistorical, population-only phenomenon. The author therefore endorses a view that foregrounds causation and context, matching the option's claim about shifting focus to political and historical causation. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) Saying "no human actions can be isolated from natural systems across history" is true in a sense but is a vaguer metaphysical claim than the passage's explicit call to investigate political and historical roots; the text is more specific about the need for historically grounded, political analysis rather than advancing an abstract principle of inseparability. While related, this option lacks the targeted historiographical thrust the passage proposes. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage records stratigraphers' resistance to politicising the debate and affirms the value of technical distinctions, but it does not recommend privileging technical evidence over ideological narratives; instead it suggests complementing stratigraphic markers with excavation of political history, so elevating technical evidence above all else contradicts the passage's integrative impulse. Therefore, this option opposes the balanced approach the author outlines. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Framing environmental change as a biological inevitability rejects the passage's emphasis on political, economic, and historical causation; the author critiques deterministic or ahistorical framings such as neo-Malthusianism and insists on examining human institutions and processes, so attributing inevitability to biology runs counter to the argument advanced. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**11. Correct Answer:** (c) Ahistorical

Reference Line: "It is deemed fundamentally ahistorical and apolitical, blind to the differences between and within societies."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) "Unequal" highlights differences in distribution and consumption but does not convey the temporal and contextual blindness the passage attributes to critics of

the Anthropocene; the passage specifically calls the idea “ahistorical and apolitical,” so the single best word capturing blindness to historical difference is “ahistorical,” not merely “unequal.” Thus, while inequality is a central concern, it is not the lexical match the author uses. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) “Incoherent” suggests a lack of logical consistency, which is not the principal charge levelled in the passage; the critics argue the Anthropocene is blind to historical and political differences rather than being logically inconsistent, so this term misses the temporal and contextual critique central to the argument. Consequently, it does not capture the intended meaning. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage explicitly describes the Anthropocene as “fundamentally ahistorical and apolitical, blind to the differences between and within societies,” making “ahistorical” the precise term that captures the criticism that the concept ignores temporal sequences, historical causation, and prior socio-political processes. This word aligns exactly with the author’s quoted phrasing and the substantive concern about erasing historical specificity. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) “Apolitical” is part of the quoted critique but the question asks for the single word that best captures blindness to historical differences; while “apolitical” addresses lack of political attention, it does not as directly denote temporal or historical insensitivity as “ahistorical” does, so it is less accurate as the primary gloss on that specific charge. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**12. Correct Answer:** (b) They maintain that establishing a technical marker does not erase broader historical context.

Reference Line: “For them, dividing history with a gold spike would not mean that everything began then.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Claiming stratigraphers argue dating methods are subjective and driven by public discourse misstates their position; the passage portrays stratigraphers as defending technical markers and insisting that selecting a stratigraphic “gold spike” is a scientific action that does not erase broader histories, rather than conceding subjectivity or influence by popular debate. Thus, this option inverts the scientists’ stance. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage reports that stratigraphers contend dividing history with a technical marker “would not mean that everything began then,” which is to say that establishing a gold-spike does not nullify earlier historical contexts; they maintain technical demarcation need not imply exclusive causation or historiographical erasure, aligning precisely with this option’s claim. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) While some stratigraphers may acknowledge political objections, the passage emphasises their concern with maintaining scientific criteria and clarity of markers rather than framing the response as conceding to politics while insisting scientific authority prevail; the wording here overstates a conciliatory posture and simplifies the nuanced methodological defence they advance. Therefore, this choice is not the best match. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage does not indicate stratigraphers support broadening the definition to include socio-economic origins; on the contrary, they resist politicising the technical debate and defend the utility of a stratigraphic marker, so this option attributes to them a reformist stance they explicitly do not take according to the text. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**13. Correct Answer:** (a) Rights-based struggles in different parts of the world had to be treated as morally equivalent.

Reference Line: “The ideological thread... when civil liberties, anti-racism, socialism, open societies, and decolonisation were all considered part of a single emancipatory movement. Freedom and justice were indivisible.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The phrase occurs within a passage that emphasizes the interconnectedness of civil liberties, anti-racism, socialism, and decolonisation — all as parts of one broad movement. The idea that “freedom and justice were indivisible” reflects the moral unity of struggles across geographies and ideologies. Supporting Indian independence, defending civil liberties in America, and fighting racism were seen as aspects of the same ethical project. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The passage never contrasts political freedom with economic prosperity. Instead, it argues for the integration of justice and freedom across causes and movements. This option introduces a separation that contradicts the author’s main point about their indivisibility. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) There is no reference to revolutionary violence being necessary for unity. The author focuses on collaboration through organisations, counsel, and ideological alliance, not armed struggle. This option misreads the peaceful, strategic tone of the described networks. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage argues against selective application of freedom or justice. It affirms that these values must apply together and universally—not that one can be granted without the other. Thus, this option misrepresents the phrase’s inclusive spirit. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**14. Correct Answer:** (b) acted as an interlocutor who transmitted American civil-liberties perspectives into anti-imperial and decolonising debates.

Reference Line: “Baldwin and Nehru were close friends. Baldwin shaped many of Nehru’s views on America and advised him on the Congress party’s American strategy.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage contradicts a narrow portrait of Baldwin as confined to domestic activism by documenting his friendship with a major Indian leader and involvement in transnational organisations, which demonstrates outward-looking engagement. Describing him as a mere local organiser ignores the text’s emphasis on his advisory role to non-American movements and his participation in international anti-imperial networks. The author attributes to Baldwin the capacity to shape foreign strategic thinking, which implies significant international reach. Consequently, this option understates his significance in global political currents. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author presents Baldwin as an interlocutor who conveyed American civil-liberties concepts into broader anti-imperial debates and advised foreign political actors, explicitly showing him as a transmitter of ideas across the Atlantic. His shaping of Nehru’s views and counsel on political strategy illustrate an active role in bridging movements and framing civil liberties as part of decolonising politics. Baldwin’s alignment with anti-imperialist figures and his work in international forums position him precisely as the kind of intermediary this option describes. Thus this characterisation closely matches the passage’s portrayal. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Nothing in the passage supports the claim that Baldwin opposed Nehru or discouraged dialogue; on the contrary, their closeness and Baldwin’s advisory influence are emphasised, making this antagonistic reading implausible. The author shows cooperation and counsel rather than hostility, and notes shared concerns such as communist influence that shaped mutual decisions. Casting Baldwin as an opponent contradicts the documented friendship and intellectual exchange. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage explicitly states Baldwin broke with an organisation over communist influence and situates him within a civil-liberties tradition distinct from communist organising; labelling him chiefly as a communist organiser misrepresents both his break and his ideological commitments. The narrative aligns Baldwin with liberal civil-liberties work and anti-imperial critique, not with Soviet-aligned agendas. This option therefore conflicts with the author’s factual description. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**15. Correct Answer:** (d) He held that exclusionary practices were instruments of bourgeois interest and that labour embodied true cosmopolitan openness.

Reference Line: “Debs saw racism and the exclusion of immigrants not as aberrations but as tools of bourgeois self-interest. For him, it was the working class — not the privileged elite — that heralded a genuinely open and cosmopolitan society.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Suggesting Debs supported elite management of immigration runs directly counter to the passage’s portrayal of him as criticising bourgeois interests for using exclusion to protect privilege; the author attributes to Debs a diagnosis that identifies elites as the source of exclusionary practices rather than their defenders for cultural integrity. Endorsing elite gatekeeping would invert his stance and ignore his pro-labour cosmopolitan argument. Thus this option is inconsistent with the text’s summary of Debs’s analysis. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Framing racism and exclusion as mere anomalies understates Debs’s contention that they function as deliberate instruments of class domination; the passage stresses systemic purpose rather than accidental occurrence, portraying these practices as integrated into bourgeois strategies of self-interest. Calling them “regrettable anomalies” softens the political critique and mischaracterises the forcefulness of his diagnosis. Therefore this choice distorts the intensity and structural focus of Debs’s view. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Claiming cultural cosmopolitanism required endorsement by capital contradicts Debs’s explicit inversion: he placed cosmopolitan openness in the working class, not in owners or capital; the passage affirms that for Debs cultural openness is rooted in labour solidarity rather than in elite economic endorsement. This answer therefore misattributes agency to the very social actors Debs criticised. As such it fails to reflect the passage’s depiction of his normative commitment. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage explicitly records Debs’s judgment that racism and immigrant exclusion served bourgeois self-interest and that the working class embodied a genuinely open, cosmopolitan society; this captures both his causal critique of exclusionary mechanisms and his normative elevation of labour as the basis for inclusive politics. By combining diagnosis and prescription, this option faithfully reflects the author’s summary of Debs’s position and explains why labour, not capital, promises cosmopolitanism. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.



**16. Correct Answer:** (c) they once formed a unified, cross-national emancipatory current in which freedom and justice were treated as inseparable aims.

Reference Line: "The ideological thread connecting these figures belonged to a historical moment we have largely forgotten when civil liberties, anti-racism, socialism, open societies, and decolonisation were all considered part of a single emancipatory movement. Freedom and justice were indivisible."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage asserts that civil liberties, anti-racism, socialism, and decolonisation were contemporaneously seen as connected, so claiming they were unrelated movements only later conjoined reverses the author's historical claim about a once-lived unity. The author describes a forgotten intellectual moment in which these causes were coherently allied, not an artificial retrospective stitching by scholars. Presenting their link as solely historiographical invention therefore misunderstands the text. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Casting civil-liberties work as a narrow legal project contradicts the passage's portrayal of its entanglement with anti-imperial and socialist struggles; the ACLU founder's engagement with decolonisation and anti-racism illustrates a broader political project rather than purely jurisprudential activism. The text situates legal freedoms within an emancipatory political horizon, so this reduction is misleading. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author explicitly states that these themes once formed a single emancipatory movement and that freedom and justice were considered indivisible, which directly supports the idea of a unified, cross-national current linking diverse struggles into one moral and political project. The passage treats the linkage as historical fact and as a model whose memory has faded, making this option an accurate encapsulation of the author's claim. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The passage emphasises mutual influence between decolonisation and domestic movements for equality, showing that anti-imperial politics were shaped by and helped shape struggles against racism and for civil liberties; to say decolonisation was unaffected by these movements contradicts the documented intersections the author highlights. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**17. Correct Answer:** (a) economic interests and global finance would actively work to maintain imperial profit structures in alliance with colonial powers.

Reference Line: "Baldwin warned Nehru that the fight for Indian independence would have to be waged on two fronts: Against 'the hidden enemy of Wall Street, backed by the American government, and against Britain'."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Baldwin's two-front warning frames global finance and state power as active defenders of imperial revenue streams, indicating he believed economic interests would work to preserve colonial arrangements in alliance with imperial powers; the passage's quotation shows he viewed Wall Street as a "hidden enemy" backed by state interests. This analysis reveals a strategic understanding that material economic structures and geopolitical alliances would resist decolonisation, requiring multifaceted struggle. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The passage foregrounds external economic actors as central to Baldwin's warning, not internal cultural deficits; interpreting the principal challenge as cultural backwardness ignores Baldwin's explicit concern about organised financial opposition and state backing to maintain imperial profit. This option therefore misreads the thrust of his strategic counsel. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Describing international finance as neutral is at odds with Baldwin's depiction of Wall Street as a "hidden enemy" actively aligned with imperial preservation; the text portrays finance as partisan and interventionist rather than indifferent or neutral. Thus, this option contradicts the passage's clear assertion about the adversarial role Baldwin attributed to finance. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Baldwin's emphasis on confronting economic and political fronts suggests a multifaceted approach rather than a narrow prescription of military confrontation; his warning about financial backing and state collusion indicates strategic complexity beyond simply advocating military struggle. Presenting his view as calling only for military action simplifies and mischaracterises the analysis offered in the passage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**18. Correct Answer:** (b) That histories of liberalism, labour radicalism, and anti-imperial struggle are intertwined and deserve recovery.

Reference Line: "The ideological thread connecting these figures belonged to a historical moment we have largely forgotten when civil liberties, anti-racism, socialism, open societies, and decolonisation were all considered part of a single emancipatory movement."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage directly contradicts the claim that American progressives lacked interest in anti-colonial causes by documenting Baldwin's and Debs's engagements with anti-imperial issues and their influence on non-American actors, so this assertion is false relative to the evidence presented. The author uses concrete examples to show American actors were crucial participants in transnational emancipatory currents. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) By recounting the Baldwin-Debs-Nehru links the author argues that histories of liberal civil-liberties activism, labour radicalism, and anti-imperial struggle

are entwined and that recuperating this integrated past is necessary; the passage frames these strands as components of a shared emancipatory moment that modern narratives have neglected. Recovering such intertwined histories is the larger historiographical point the author advances. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) The passage emphasises Nehru's responsiveness to Baldwin's counsel and the broader transatlantic flow of ideas, so claiming Nehru's foreign policy owes nothing to such exchange contradicts the textual evidence of intellectual influence and strategic advice; this option therefore runs counter to the author's argument. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The narrative treats civil-liberties discourse as integral to the period's decolonisation politics rather than irrelevant; showing the ACLU founder's ties to anti-imperial networks and debates demonstrates the centrality of rights discourse to anti-colonial strategy, so dismissing its relevance misreads the passage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**19. Correct Answer:** (c) It will fundamentally challenge humanity's sense of identity and cognitive superiority. Reference Line: "The biggest impact on humanity will be the identity crisis that hits us like a robotic punch in the face, stunning us into a new reality..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author acknowledges job-market concerns as common fears about superintelligence, noting worries about displacement and redundancy among his peers. However, he explicitly argues these economic effects are secondary to a deeper psychological shock and does not centre his thesis on labour market disruption. The passage contrasts tactical worries like employment impacts with an existential "identity crisis" as the primary consequence he fears. Therefore, while economically significant, job loss is framed as a consequential rather than the foremost impact in his account. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage touches on governance issues only insofar as people mention broad risks, but the author does not develop a normative claim about new political or ethical regimes as the central effect. His concern is phenomenological and personal — how humans will feel and conceive themselves — rather than prescriptive about institutional reforms. Although governance will matter in practice, the author's argument is about identity shock, not about the design of political orders. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author repeatedly frames the core problem as a challenge to human self-understanding and cognitive primacy, describing an "identity crisis" when devices outthink us in routine and profound ways. He foregrounds the image of standing alone with a phone

that is "the smartest one," to dramatize the blow to human exceptionalism and the consequent psychological and moral fallout. The passage's language — "stunning us into a new reality" — explicitly identifies the loss of cognitive superiority as the most profound effect. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) Innovation and efficiency are cited as possible upsides, such as curing disease or solving energy problems, but the author positions these benefits as peripheral to his primary worry about identity. He recognises transformative industrial gains but insists they do not capture the radical personal disorientation he anticipates. Thus, industrial transformation is acknowledged but not elevated to the passage's central claim about human self-perception. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**20. Correct Answer:** (b) He focused excessively on tactical dangers without reflecting on personal and emotional implications.

Reference Line: "I have been writing about the dangers of superintelligence... and I, too, have focused on specific tactical risks... At the same time, I have failed to honestly confront what life will really feel like..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author does not primarily claim he misjudged the tempo of AI progress in the quoted passage; his self-criticism centres on the scope of his reflection rather than empirical forecasting errors. He mentions tactical risks he previously wrote about, but his reproach is moral and affective — a failure to confront what this change will feel like personally. Understating acceleration or public-safety timelines is not the focal point of his admission here. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author explicitly confesses that while he attended to tactical dangers like manipulation problems, he neglected the personal, emotional, and existential implications of superintelligence for everyday life. He describes this omission as a failure to face how it will feel when devices outthink us, including the demoralizing shock to identity. This introspective critique is central to the passage and is presented as a corrective to a previously predominantly technical focus. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Although the author acknowledges socio-economic concerns in the public's repertoire of worries, his self-criticism is not that he ignored automation's role in inequality or corporate concentration; rather, he foregrounds an introspective blind spot about human dignity and cognitive supremacy. The passage does not claim he overlooked market structures or monopolies as his principal regret. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author does not confess to uncritical techno-optimism in the excerpt; on the contrary, he has been writing about AI dangers for years and foreground risks rather than optimism about problem-solving. His complaint is an emotional and existential one, not that he was overly sanguine about AI's technical promises. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**21. Correct Answer:** (c) The loss of human intellectual primacy in everyday, intimate situations.

Reference Line: "What I failed to confront is what my life will really feel like when I am standing alone in an elevator... and the smartest one speeding between floors is the phone."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The elevator image does suggest individualized reliance on technology, but the author's emphasis is less on social fragmentation and more on an intimate reversal of intellectual roles — it is about who is "smartest" in a private encounter. While collective reasoning may indeed be impacted, the passage uses the elevator as a vignette of quotidian intimacy where human cognitive primacy is displaced. Therefore, framing the contrast solely as the replacement of collective reasoning narrows the symbolic intent. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author's metaphor is not about physical strength or machines' bodily dominance in confined spaces; the elevator is a rhetorical device to highlight cognitive hierarchy, not corporeal superiority. The text explicitly locates the tension in intellect and problem-solving capacity, not spatial or physical competition. Consequently, focusing on physicality misreads the passage's symbolic focus on mind rather than body. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage's elevator vignette is crafted to dramatize the quotidian moment when a human discovers a device is cognitively superior, underscoring a loss of intellectual primacy in intimate settings — the phone becomes the "smartest one" in a private, everyday scenario. This microcosm captures the larger fear of being routinely outclassed in reasoning, creativity, and planning, making the image a potent emblem of intellectual dislocation. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) Although technology can provide emotional ease for some, the author's tone is anxious and disoriented rather than comforted by companionship; the elevator scene is presented as unsettling rather than consoling. The focus is on identity erosion and demoralization, not on solace derived from constant technological presence. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**22. Correct Answer:** (b) They limit their concern to practical risks and benefits without confronting deeper implications.

Reference Line: "They tend to shrug and express various worries... They also mention potential

upsides... In other words, they have never really considered what life will be like the day after..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage does not suggest most people frame superintelligence in abstract moral philosophy; instead, it reports they "shrug" and mention concrete worries and benefits, indicating pragmatic and surface-level engagement rather than metaphysical debate. The author's contrast is between everyday practicalities and his deeper existential concern, not between moral philosophers and lay publics. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author explicitly contrasts widespread conversational focuses on jobs and upsides with a lack of confronting what life will be like after AGI — i.e., people remain at the level of practical costs and benefits without facing deeper existential and identity implications. He notes that peers "have never really considered" the post-AGI human condition, making this the central distinction he highlights. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) While some may adopt celebratory stances, the passage portrays general attitudes as casual worries and upbeat speculation rather than an uncritical celebration as the norm; moreover, the author's binary is practical versus existential, not celebration versus fear. Claiming universal celebration oversimplifies the mixed, often complacent reactions described. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage does not depict widespread outright distrust and calls for halting research; instead, interviewees express pragmatic worries and optimism, not a blanket prohibitionist stance. The author's critique is about lack of deep reflection, not about the presence of an anti-AI activism majority. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**23. Correct Answer:** (a) Demoralized

Reference Line: "...the profound (and potentially demoralizing) impact it could have on our identity as humans."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author explicitly uses the adjective "demoralizing" to describe the potential impact on identity, and the passage foregrounds a sense of stunned, disorienting loss when humans realize they have ceded cognitive supremacy, making "demoralized" the apt descriptor. The elevator image and the admission of personal failure to confront such feelings underscore an anticipated emotional collapse or deflation in self-regard. Thus the textual evidence directly supports this emotional label. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) "Indifferent" implies emotional detachment, which contradicts the author's repeated emphasis on profound affective shock and identity crisis; the tone is one of alarm and introspective distress rather than

apathy. The passage describes active concern and personal unease, not indifference. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) "Vindicated" suggests triumph or justified superiority, which is the opposite of the passage's concern; the author fears being outclassed and demoted in intellectual standing, not validated. The anticipated reaction is loss, not vindication. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) "Euphoric" denotes elation, whereas the author stresses demoralization and existential discomfort; even when he mentions potential upsides, these are distinct from the visceral identity shock he foregrounds, so euphoria does not capture the anticipated emotional state. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

**24. Correct Answer:** (a) A collective identity shock from realizing machines surpass human intelligence.

Reference Line: "...the biggest impact on humanity will be the identity crisis that hits us like a robotic punch in the face..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author emphasizes that the deepest consequence of AI advancement will be psychological rather than material. When humans collectively confront the reality that they are no longer the smartest

beings on Earth, it will shake the foundation of human identity. This realization will redefine how people view intelligence, worth, and purpose in everyday life, making it an existential transformation. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) While automation and job loss are briefly mentioned, they are clearly secondary concerns in the author's view. He dismisses such economic effects as tactical risks compared to the emotional and cognitive reckoning that will follow humanity's loss of intellectual primacy. The text thus prioritizes identity over industry. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage does acknowledge AI-powered misinformation but treats it as another short-term risk rather than the defining issue. The author explicitly states that manipulation and deception are not the true crises; instead, the real disruption will come from the collapse of human self-perception. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author's elevator example shows continued reliance on devices, not withdrawal from them. He imagines a future where humans coexist with ever-smarter tools, not one in which such technologies vanish. The discomfort lies in comparison and dependence, not abandonment. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.



## Section - B : Current Affairs including General Knowledge

**25. Correct Answer:** (b) Amrit Dharohar Scheme

**Explanation:** The Amrit Dharohar Scheme, announced in the Union Budget 2023–24, is a landmark initiative to optimize wetland utilization across India over a three-year period. It aims to enhance biodiversity, increase carbon stock, and promote eco-tourism while creating livelihood opportunities for local communities. The scheme aligns with India's sustainable development vision and supports climate-resilient ecological conservation.

**26. Correct Answer:** (a) Bihar now has six Ramsar sites, ranking third in India after Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

**Explanation:** Bihar has achieved a milestone in wetland conservation with six Ramsar sites, placing it third nationally after Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. These sites enhance the ecological and hydrological balance of the state, promoting biodiversity, groundwater recharge, and local livelihood support. The achievement also reflects Bihar's commitment to the Ramsar Convention's global goals of preserving wetlands as vital ecosystems for sustainable development.

**27. Correct Answer:** (d) National Wildlife Action Plan

**Explanation:** The National Wildlife Action Plan (2017–2031) focuses on protecting and restoring India's inland aquatic ecosystems, including wetlands, as vital components of biodiversity. It calls for establishing a National Wetlands Mission to ensure ecological balance, sustainable water management, and habitat conservation.

The plan integrates community participation, research, and policy measures to address habitat degradation and climate change impacts, reinforcing India's commitment to long-term wildlife and ecosystem preservation.

**28. Correct Answer:** (b) Gokul Jalashay and Udaipur Jheel

**Explanation:** In 2025, Gokul Jalashay and Udaipur Jheel in Bihar were officially added to India's list of Ramsar sites, recognized under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. These designations highlight Bihar's growing role in wetland conservation and biodiversity protection.

With these inclusions, India further strengthens its position among the top nations globally with the highest number of Ramsar sites, promoting sustainable management of inland aquatic ecosystems.

**29. Correct Answer:** (d) 1971

**Explanation:** The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands was adopted in 1971 in the city of Ramsar, Iran. It is the oldest global environmental treaty focusing on the

protection and sustainable use of wetlands. The convention promotes the concept of the "wise use" of wetlands, recognizing their ecological, cultural, and economic importance. India became a contracting party in 1982, and today, several Indian wetlands are recognized as Ramsar Sites of International Importance.

**30. Correct Answer:** (c) Only I and II

**Explanation:** India ranks first in Asia and third globally in terms of the number of Ramsar sites, following the United Kingdom (176) and Mexico (144). These designations fall under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, an intergovernmental treaty aimed at promoting the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands worldwide. Ramsar sites are designated under the Ramsar Convention, not the IUCN Wetlands Programme, although both organizations collaborate on global wetland conservation efforts.

**31. Correct Answer:** (d) It is located in the trans-Himalayan region of northern India and represents a cold-arid ecosystem.

**Explanation:** The Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve, designated by UNESCO, is situated in the trans-Himalayan region of northern India, primarily covering parts of Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh. It features a cold-arid climate, high-altitude terrain, and sparse vegetation adapted to extreme conditions. The region supports unique biodiversity, including snow leopards, Himalayan ibex, and medicinal alpine flora. Unlike tropical or humid regions such as the Western Ghats or Indo-Gangetic plains, this biosphere reserve exemplifies adaptation to harsh, high-altitude ecosystems, making option (d) the correct choice.

**32. Correct Answer:** (a) Ecosystems representing biogeographic regions that include human communities as part of sustainable development.

**Explanation:** According to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Biosphere Reserves are established to represent characteristic ecosystems across India's biogeographic regions while recognizing human communities as an integral component. These reserves function as 'learning places for sustainable development', promoting coexistence between humans and nature. They aim to balance biodiversity conservation, scientific research, and sustainable livelihood practices, ensuring environmental preservation alongside socioeconomic progress.

**33. Correct Answer:** (d) Nepal

**Explanation:** UNESCO announced that six countries — Angola, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Iceland, Oman, and Tajikistan — received recognition for their first-ever biosphere reserves under the Man and the Biosphere

(MAB) Programme. This expansion marks a significant step in promoting global conservation and sustainable development across diverse ecological regions. Nepal, however, is not among these six nations, as it already hosts established biosphere reserves such as the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, highlighting its long-standing engagement in biodiversity protection and ecosystem management.

**34. Correct Answer:** (b) Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme

Explanation: The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme of UNESCO manages the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR) — a global network of sites recognized for promoting harmony between human activity and nature. The programme fosters research, education, and sustainable policy frameworks aimed at balancing biodiversity conservation with socio-economic development. Each biosphere reserve is nominated by its national government and approved by UNESCO based on ecological significance and community engagement. India currently has 13 biosphere reserves included in this global network, reflecting its strong commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability.

**35. Correct Answer:** (b) São Tomé and Príncipe

Explanation: São Tomé and Príncipe, an island nation in the Gulf of Guinea, became the first country globally whose entire territory was declared a UNESCO biosphere reserve. The recognition highlights the country's rich biodiversity, sustainable conservation model, and commitment to balancing ecological protection with community livelihoods. The archipelago's rainforests and endemic wildlife make it one of the most ecologically significant regions on Earth.

**36. Correct Answer:** (d) Three

Explanation: The Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve is strategically divided into three zones — the core (2,665 sq km), buffer (3,977 sq km), and transition (1,128 sq km). This zonation model follows UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) framework, which promotes a harmonious balance between ecosystem preservation and human livelihood activities. While the core zone focuses on strict protection of biodiversity, the buffer zone allows regulated research and education, and the transition zone encourages sustainable economic and community-based initiatives that support conservation goals.

**37. Correct Answer:** (b) A JPC is set up by Parliament for a specific purpose, consisting of members from both Houses, and is dissolved once its task is completed or its term ends.

Explanation: A Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) is a temporary, ad hoc body established by Parliament through a motion or resolution passed in one or both Houses. It comprises members from both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha and is constituted for a specific objective, such as conducting detailed scrutiny of a Bill, policy, or issue of national significance. Once the assigned task is completed or its tenure expires, the committee is automatically dissolved. Unlike standing committees, JPCs are not permanent and are reconstituted only when needed, ensuring Parliament can address complex or sensitive matters through focused, bipartisan investigation.

**38. Correct Answer:** (b) 31 members

Explanation: The JPC on the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025 will comprise 31 members. The committee's primary responsibility is to evaluate the provisions of the Bill, suggest improvements if necessary, and present its report before the next session of Parliament. This 31-member composition ensures balanced participation, cross-party representation, and careful legislative review — essential steps in maintaining the integrity and democratic process of constitutional amendments in India.

**39. Correct Answer:** (d) The Lieutenant Governor

Explanation: The Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Jammu and Kashmir holds the power to remove a minister if they are detained for 30 continuous days due to an offence punishable with imprisonment. Acting on the Chief Minister's advice, the LG ensures that ministers under serious criminal investigation are temporarily or permanently relieved from their duties. This process upholds the ethical and constitutional sanctity of the executive branch, preventing misuse of power and promoting transparent governance within the Union Territory's administrative system.

**40. Correct Answer:** (c) Article 75

Explanation: Article 75 is central to the executive framework of India as it details how the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers are appointed and function. It provides that the President appoints the Prime Minister, and other Ministers are appointed on the Prime Minister's advice. It also establishes that the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha, ensuring democratic accountability. The proposed amendment seeks to refine or clarify aspects of ministerial responsibilities, potentially influencing the balance of executive power and constitutional governance in India.

**41. Correct Answer:** (b) Jammu and Kashmir (Reorganisation) Act, 2019

**Explanation:** The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025 seeks to amend the Jammu and Kashmir (Reorganisation) Act, 2019, the legislation that divided the former state of Jammu and Kashmir into the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. The 2025 amendment introduces provisions for the removal of the Chief Minister or other Ministers if they are arrested and detained in serious criminal cases. Introduced in the Lok Sabha on August 20, 2025, this Bill was accompanied by the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, highlighting the government's ongoing focus on ensuring integrity and accountability in governance.

**42. Correct Answer:** (a) Only I and II

**Explanation:** Statements I and II correctly describe the provisions of the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, which seeks to uphold integrity and accountability in governance. It mandates that any executive office-holder convicted in a serious criminal case punishable with imprisonment of more than five years must resign from office. If such a person remains imprisoned for 30 consecutive days without obtaining judicial relief, the post is deemed vacant automatically. Statement III is incorrect because the Bill does not grant any discretionary power to the President or Governor to exempt convicted office-holders. This amendment reinforces the constitutional principle of equality before law and strengthens ethical standards in public office.

**43. Correct Answer:** (d) Only II and III

**Explanation:** The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) emerged from the Shanghai Five, created in 1996 by China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. Its initial purpose was to ensure border stability, mutual trust, and post-Soviet confidence-building measures through agreements on troop reduction and territorial cooperation.

Statement I is incorrect because while the SCO evolved from the Shanghai Five, the formal organisation itself was established later in 2001, expanding its scope to include counterterrorism, regional development, and economic cooperation.

**44. Correct Answer:** (a) Heads of State Council

**Explanation:** The Heads of State Council (HSC) is the supreme decision-making body of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). It meets annually to determine major policy directions, review key regional and global issues, and provide strategic guidance for the organisation's functioning. The host head of state chairs the meeting, ensuring continuity and coordination among member nations. The other bodies, such as the Council of Foreign Ministers and Council of National Coordinators, operate under the HSC's directives.

**45. Correct Answer:** (c) The summit adopted 24 key instruments, including the Tianjin Declaration and the SCO Strategy 2035.

**Explanation:**

According to official proceedings, the SCO Summit adopted 24 important instruments, notably the Tianjin Declaration and the SCO Development Strategy until 2035. These documents outline a comprehensive framework for security cooperation, economic growth, and socio-cultural exchange among member states. The strategy aims to strengthen institutional mechanisms and guide medium- and long-term priorities for regional peace, prosperity, and stability.

**46. Correct Answer:** (b) International North-South Transport Corridor

**Explanation:** The SCO's connectivity framework highlights India's International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) and Chabahar Port as vital links for strengthening trade and transport efficiency across Eurasia. The INSTC shortens cargo routes between India, Iran, Russia, and Central Asia, reducing transit costs and time. In tandem, Chabahar Port enhances India's maritime access to landlocked regions like Afghanistan, supporting the SCO's vision of deeper regional integration and sustainable connectivity.

**47. Correct Answer:** (d) 25 years of the SCO: together for a stable world, development, and prosperity

**Explanation:** The Kyrgyz Republic, while assuming the 2025–2026 chairmanship of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), declared the theme "25 years of the SCO: together for a stable world, development, and prosperity." This theme commemorates the organisation's 25-year journey and highlights its dedication to regional stability, economic growth, and mutual cooperation. It reflects the SCO's collective vision to foster peace, inclusiveness, and prosperity among its member states.

**48. Correct Answer:** (d) A 21-member committee

**Explanation:** The National Designated Authority (NDA) is a 21-member committee chaired by the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC). It includes members from the Ministries of External Affairs, Renewable Energy, Steel, NITI Aayog, and several other relevant departments. This diverse composition ensures comprehensive representation for policy coordination, environmental governance, and implementation of national and international commitments related to climate change.

**49. Correct Answer:** (a) 14 activities

**Explanation:** The National Designated Authority for Implementation of the Paris Agreement (NDAIPA), under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), has approved 14 activities for carbon credit trading under the Article 6.4 mechanism. These activities span renewable energy, waste

management, and carbon sequestration projects, enabling India to participate in global carbon markets. The approval signifies India's proactive approach to leveraging carbon finance while fulfilling its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement.

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

Explanation: All three statements are correct. Article 6 of the Paris Agreement establishes mechanisms for international cooperation through carbon markets and emissions trading to help nations meet their climate targets. It had been a major point of contention among negotiators for years due to disputes about carbon credit transfers and avoidance of double counting. The breakthrough came at COP 29 in Baku (2024), where countries finalized the rules for implementing Article 6, marking a significant step toward operationalizing global carbon markets.

**51. Correct Answer:** (b) National Steering Committee for the Indian Carbon Market

Explanation: The National Steering Committee for the Indian Carbon Market (NSCICM) plays a pivotal role in

shaping the country's carbon trading framework. It provides strategic direction on market design, sectoral inclusion, and phased rollout, ensuring transparency and scalability. By maintaining the integrity of India's carbon market architecture, NSCICM supports the nation's transition toward low-carbon growth and alignment with global climate commitments under the Paris Agreement.

**52. Correct Answer:** (a) Carbon markets allow trading of one-ton emission credits in reduced or avoided CO<sub>2</sub> or GHGs.

Explanation: Carbon markets enable the exchange of carbon credits, where each credit represents one ton of reduced, avoided, or sequestered carbon dioxide or greenhouse gas emissions. These markets provide a financial incentive for industries and countries to cut emissions and invest in sustainable practices. The other statements are incorrect because carbon markets are not associated with fossil fuel trade, agricultural subsidies, or monetary policies—they are frameworks for climate mitigation and emission reduction through economic mechanisms.



## Section - C : Legal Reasoning

**53. Correct Answer:** (d) The Court should presume the legislation serves public interest and accord weight to its socio-economic objectives.

Reference Line: "Bijoya Cotton Mills advised giving weight to socio-economic legislation and presuming public interest"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option represents the outdated early phase approach where the Court read Article 37 literally and treated Directive Principles as merely advisory, non-binding provisions subordinate to Fundamental Rights in all circumstances without exception. The passage clearly indicates that the Court moved beyond this restrictive interpretation to adopt a harmonious and integrative construction of Parts III and IV, recognizing them as complementary and supplementary rather than hierarchical. The evolution from Champakam Dorairajan to later cases demonstrates that absolute primacy of any one part over the other was rejected in favor of constitutional balance.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option contradicts the entire trajectory of judicial evolution described in the passage, where the Court progressively recognized that socio-economic goals embodied in Directive Principles could justify reasonable restrictions on Fundamental Rights through harmonious construction. This absolute position ignores the principles of harmonious construction, the complementary nature of Parts III and IV established through cases like C.B. Boarding and Lodging, and the integrative method that allows Directive Principles to inform the content and scope of Fundamental Rights. The passage demonstrates that the Court has consistently upheld reasonable socio-economic legislation that balances rights with collective welfare.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option reflects the early restrictive approach adopted by the Supreme Court where Fundamental Rights were given absolute and unqualified primacy over Directive Principles, requiring the state to comprehensively prove that no fundamental right was violated in any manner. The passage clearly demonstrates that the Court progressively moved away from this rigid stance toward a more balanced and harmonious approach that recognized the constitutional importance of Directive Principles in governance. This literalist interpretation of Article 37 was abandoned in favor of harmonious construction that treats both Parts III and

IV as complementary components of the constitutional scheme.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately reflects the principle established in Bijoya Cotton Mills, where the Court explicitly advised giving appropriate weight to socio-economic legislation and presuming that such legislation serves the public interest as envisaged by the Directive Principles. This represents the Court's evolved, integrative approach that seeks to balance individual rights with collective welfare objectives, moving beyond the early phase of conflict to a phase of harmony and calibrated balance. The presumption in favor of socio-economic legislation demonstrates the Court's recognition that Directive Principles, though non-justiciable, are fundamental in governance and must inform the interpretation and application of constitutional provisions.

**54. Correct Answer:** (c) The restriction must be reasonable and not implemented in a manner that renders Fundamental Rights meaningless.

Reference Line: "the Court stressed that Directive Principles must be implemented without abridging rights lest Part III become 'a mere rope of sand.'"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option suggests automatic and unquestioned validation of any law that claims to implement Directive Principles without examining the reasonableness, proportionality, or necessity of the restrictions imposed on Fundamental Rights. The passage explicitly shows that the Court rejected such an approach of blind deference and instead insisted on harmonious construction, ensuring that implementation of Directive Principles does not unreasonably or disproportionately abridge Fundamental Rights. The invalidation of the total cattle slaughter ban in Hanif Quareshi despite its connection to Directive Principles demonstrates that mere invocation of Part IV provisions does not automatically validate restrictions on Part III rights.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option proposes accepting total bans and complete prohibitions without scrutinizing their proportionality, reasonableness, or necessity merely because the legislation cites or invokes a Directive Principle as its objective or justification. The passage demonstrates that the Court has consistently evaluated the reasonableness of restrictions even when they ostensibly serve Directive Principles, as evidenced by the Hanif Quareshi decision

where a total ban was invalidated as an unreasonable restriction. The Court's approach requires examining whether less restrictive alternatives exist and whether the restriction is proportionate to the objective sought to be achieved under the Directive Principles.

Option (c) Correct: This option accurately captures the constitutional standard articulated by the Court in *Hanif Quareshi*, where the Court invalidated a total ban on cattle slaughter as an unreasonable restriction on Article 19(1)(g) while emphasizing that Directive Principles must be implemented without abridging rights to such an extent that Part III becomes "a mere rope of sand." This reflects the harmonious construction approach requiring that restrictions be reasonable, proportionate, and not so excessive as to render Fundamental Rights ineffective or illusory. The standard ensures that socio-economic goals are pursued through calibrated measures that respect the core of Fundamental Rights while allowing legitimate state action.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option suggests a blanket and unqualified superiority of all Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights, particularly trade and business rights under Article 19(1)(g), treating socio-economic goals as inherently and always superior to individual freedoms. The passage shows the Court explicitly rejected such rigid hierarchical ordering and absolute primacy of one part over another, instead requiring a balanced approach where socio-economic goals are pursued through reasonable restrictions that do not render Fundamental Rights ineffective. The evolution from conflict to harmony demonstrates that neither Part III nor Part IV enjoys absolute supremacy, and the constitutional balance between them is itself part of the basic structure.

**55. Correct Answer:** (a) The amendment violates basic structure by destroying the harmony between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles.

Reference Line: "Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud held that harmony between Parts III and IV is part of the basic structure, striking down Section 4 of the 42nd Amendment that granted unqualified primacy to Directive Principles over Articles 14 and 19."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly and accurately reflects the constitutional principle established in the landmark *Minerva Mills* judgment, where Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud held that the harmony between Parts

III and IV is an integral part of the basic structure of the Constitution. The Court struck down Section 4 of the 42nd Amendment precisely because it granted unqualified and absolute primacy to Directive Principles over Articles 14 and 19, thereby destroying the constitutional balance that forms an essential and immutable feature of the Constitution. This decision restored the structural equilibrium and established that neither individual rights nor collective welfare can claim absolute supremacy, as both must coexist in harmony.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option proceeds on the fundamentally flawed assumption that Parliament's constituent power under Article 368 is unlimited and unrestricted, allowing it to modify or destroy any constitutional feature including the relationship between different parts of the Constitution. The passage clearly indicates that certain constitutional features, including the harmony and balance between Parts III and IV, cannot be destroyed even through constitutional amendments as they form part of the basic structure. The *Minerva Mills* decision, where Section 4 of the 42nd Amendment was struck down, definitively establishes that amendment power has inherent limitations and cannot be used to alter or destroy the basic structure of the Constitution.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option assumes that collective good arguments and socio-economic welfare considerations can justify unlimited and unqualified primacy of Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights, treating the former as inherently superior constitutional values. The passage shows that while the Court in *Kesavananda Bharati* briefly considered arguments that rights of the few must subserve the common good, the constitutional position ultimately and definitively established in *Minerva Mills* rejected such unqualified primacy. The Court recognized that both individual rights and collective welfare must be harmoniously balanced within the basic structure framework, and neither can claim absolute supremacy that destroys this essential constitutional equilibrium.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option misinterprets and misconstrues Article 37's declaration that Directive Principles are "fundamental in the governance of the country" as authorizing or permitting their absolute and unqualified supremacy over Fundamental Rights in all circumstances. The passage demonstrates that despite this constitutional declaration emphasizing their importance, the Court has consistently held that Directive Principles must be implemented in harmony

with Fundamental Rights through reasonable restrictions that maintain constitutional balance. Any amendment that destroys this harmony by granting unqualified primacy violates the basic structure of the Constitution, as the balance itself is an essential and immutable feature that cannot be eliminated through amendment.

**56. Correct Answer:** (b) The Court must read the rights provisions by drawing upon the content and guidance from Directive Principles.

Reference Line: "Later, Unnikrishnan and DTC v. DTC Mazdoor Congress entrenched the integrative method, reading rights and directives together, most notably expanding Article 21 (life and personal liberty) through Directive-informed content."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option reflects the early literalist and compartmentalized approach that the Supreme Court progressively abandoned in favor of harmonious construction and integrated interpretation of constitutional provisions. The passage demonstrates that the Court moved away from treating Fundamental Rights as isolated guarantees existing in a vacuum, instead recognizing that they must be interpreted in light of the broader constitutional scheme including Directive Principles. The evolution from conflict to harmony shows that isolationist interpretation fails to capture the Constitution's integrated vision where different parts inform and enrich each other to create a coherent whole rather than fragmented silos.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately captures the integrative method that was entrenched and firmly established in landmark decisions like Unnikrishnan and DTC v. DTC Mazdoor Congress, where the Court explicitly adopted the approach of reading rights and directives together as complementary provisions. The passage specifically highlights how this integrative methodology expanded the content and scope of Article 21 (life and personal liberty) through Directive-informed interpretation, demonstrating that Directive Principles guide, enrich, and inform the interpretation of Fundamental Rights without displacing or overriding them. This method treats the Constitution as an organic whole where Parts III and IV work together harmoniously to fulfill constitutional objectives.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option represents the rigid and absolutist early phase approach where

Fundamental Rights were given unqualified primacy and Directive Principles were treated as irrelevant or inconsequential to constitutional interpretation and adjudication. The passage shows the Court explicitly rejected this hierarchical approach in favor of treating Parts III and IV as complementary and supplementary components requiring harmonious construction rather than competitive dominance. The decisions in cases like C.B. Boarding and Lodging and Golaknath describing the two parts as integrated demonstrate that ignoring Directive Principles entirely contradicts the mature constitutional philosophy developed by the Court over decades of evolving jurisprudence.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option suggests treating and applying Directive Principles as binding, enforceable law that supersedes and overrides the specific textual guarantees of Fundamental Rights, which directly contradicts Article 37's explicit declaration of their non-justiciable nature and settled constitutional position. The passage shows that while Directive Principles inform interpretation and provide valuable content to rights, they do not displace, supersede, or override the specific textual guarantees of Fundamental Rights which remain enforceable under Articles 32 and 226. The integrative method maintains the distinction between justiciable and non-justiciable provisions while ensuring they work harmoniously together, with Directive Principles guiding interpretation without becoming binding law that trumps fundamental guarantees.

**57. Correct Answer:** (c) The characterization is flawed because the Court has recognized Parts III and IV as forming an integrated constitutional scheme.

Reference Line: "Golaknath described Parts III and IV as an 'integrated scheme'"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misinterprets and overstates Article 37's declaration of non-justiciability as creating an absolute, impermeable separation between Parts III and IV that prevents any interaction or mutual influence between these constitutional provisions. The passage shows that despite Article 37's language, the Court progressively recognized the deep interconnectedness of rights and directives, moving from literal and rigid interpretation to harmonious construction and ultimately to a fully integrative approach where both parts inform, guide, and enrich each other. The evolution from early conflict to mature harmony demonstrates that non-

justiciability does not mean irrelevance or complete separation in constitutional interpretation and application.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly assumes that different constitutional purposes and objectives necessarily mean independent, autonomous operation without any connection, interaction, or mutual influence between the relevant provisions. The passage comprehensively demonstrates that while Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles serve different immediate functions, one protecting individual liberties and the other promoting socio-economic welfare, the Court has consistently and emphatically held that they must be read together as complementary and supplementary components of a unified constitutional vision. Cases like *C.B. Boarding and Lodging* explicitly declared the two parts as complementary, refuting the notion of separate silos operating without connection.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly and effectively refutes the siloed characterization by referencing Golaknath's explicit and unambiguous description of Parts III and IV as an "integrated scheme" rather than disconnected or autonomous constitutional compartments. This characterization, along with other landmark cases describing the two parts as complementary, supplementary, and forming a unified whole, definitively establishes that the Court views Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles not as isolated provisions existing in separate silos but as deeply interconnected elements of a coherent constitutional structure. The integrative method entrenched in later jurisprudence confirms this vision of constitutional unity and harmony.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option directly contradicts the entire trajectory and evolution of constitutional jurisprudence described comprehensively in the passage, which shows the Court's progressive recognition of Directive Principles as essential guides for constitutional interpretation. The Court explicitly recognized Directive Principles as a "lode star" for interpretation in the Kerala Education Bill case and subsequently used them to inform, expand, and enrich the content of Fundamental Rights, particularly Article 21. The integrative method entrenched in decisions like *Unnikrishnan* and *DTC v. DTC Mazdoor Congress* definitively demonstrates that Directive Principles do influence, guide, and shape the interpretation and application of rights provisions, making this characterization fundamentally flawed.

**58. Correct Answer:** (b) Culpable homicide occurred since any part of the child had been brought forth even though not completely born at death.

Reference Line: "Causing the death of a child in the mother's womb is not homicide, though it may become culpable homicide if any part of the child has been brought forth though not completely born."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option imposes a requirement of complete birth and physical severance from the mother before homicide provisions can be invoked, which represents a stricter standard than what the BNS actually prescribes for such situations. The passage explicitly provides a more nuanced and flexible approach that recognizes partial birth as sufficient for culpable homicide liability. The requirement of complete birth would create an unreasonable gap in legal protection and would contradict the clear statutory language that contemplates liability even when the child is not completely born, as long as any part has been brought forth from the mother's body.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately reflects the statutory provision outlined in the passage, which creates an intermediate category between complete protection of the unborn fetus and the killing of a fully born child. The BNS specifically provides that while causing death of a child entirely within the mother's womb does not constitute homicide, the offence transforms into culpable homicide if any part of the child has been brought forth, regardless of whether the birth process is complete. In this scenario, since the child's head had already emerged from the birth canal at the time of the fatal injury, the threshold of partial emergence has been clearly satisfied, making the killing culpable homicide.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that physical connection to the mother through the umbilical cord is the determinative factor in establishing whether homicide has occurred, when in fact the passage makes clear that the relevant criterion is whether any part of the child has been brought forth from the womb. The continued umbilical connection does not negate the partial emergence that has already occurred and does not prevent the application of culpable homicide provisions. The BNS framework focuses on the physical emergence of any part of the child rather than on questions of physiological



dependence or connection, making umbilical attachment legally irrelevant to the determination.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option introduces an independent breathing requirement that finds no support in the statutory framework described in the passage and represents a common law standard that has been superseded by the specific BNS provisions regarding partial birth. The passage makes no mention of respiration, breath, or independent lung function as prerequisites for establishing culpable homicide in cases involving children in the process of being born. The statutory test is solely whether any part of the child has been brought forth, creating liability based on physical emergence rather than respiratory independence, thereby rejecting any requirement of independent breathing as a condition precedent.

**59. Correct Answer:** (d) The doctrine of knowledge imposes liability where the act is done with awareness that it is likely to cause death.

Reference Line: "Complementing this, the doctrine of knowledge imposes liability where the act is done with awareness that it is likely to cause death, knowledge being a stronger mental state that imports a sense of certainty rather than mere probability."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fundamentally mischaracterizes the BNS framework by suggesting that knowledge alone is insufficient to establish culpable homicide, when in fact the passage explicitly describes the doctrine of knowledge as a complementary and independent basis for liability that operates alongside the doctrine of intention. The passage makes clear that culpable homicide can be established either through intention to cause death or through knowledge that the act is likely to cause death, and does not require both elements to be present simultaneously. The standalone sufficiency of knowledge means that proof of purpose or intention is unnecessary when awareness of likely death is demonstrated beyond reasonable doubt.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option erroneously suggests that the BNS requires the simultaneous presence of both intention and knowledge for establishing culpable homicide, when the passage actually describes these as alternative rather than cumulative mental states that independently suffice for liability. The use of the word "complementing" in the passage indicates that knowledge operates as a separate doctrine alongside intention, not that both must coexist in every case. The

disjunctive structure of the mental state requirements means that either intention or knowledge alone can establish culpable homicide, and imposing a requirement of both would create an unreasonably high threshold that contradicts the statutory scheme described.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats intention as the sole and exclusive mental state capable of establishing culpable homicide, thereby ignoring the complementary doctrine of knowledge that the passage explicitly recognizes as an independent and sufficient basis for liability. The BNS framework does not require proof of specific intention or purpose to cause death in all cases; rather, it accommodates situations where the accused acts with knowledge or awareness of the likely fatal consequences. The hope or desire to avoid harm is legally irrelevant when the accused proceeds with conduct while fully aware of its life-threatening nature, as subjective hope cannot negate objective awareness of dangerous consequences.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately applies the doctrine of knowledge as described in the passage, which establishes culpable homicide liability based on the accused's awareness that the act is likely to cause death, independent of any requirement to prove specific intention or purpose. The passage explicitly states that knowledge is "a stronger mental state that imports a sense of certainty rather than mere probability," meaning that when an accused acts with awareness and certainty about the likelihood of death, liability attaches regardless of desire or hope. In this scenario, the factory owner's full awareness of the substantial risk created by the defective machinery satisfies the knowledge requirement, making his lack of specific intention to kill legally immaterial.

**60. Correct Answer:** (c) The term act includes illegal omissions so death resulting from neglect of a legal duty may amount to culpable homicide.

Reference Line: "The term 'act' includes illegal omissions, so that death resulting from the neglect of a legal duty may also amount to culpable homicide."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option reflects a narrow and outdated common law conception that distinguishes sharply between acts of commission and omission, requiring affirmative physical conduct for criminal liability, which the BNS framework explicitly rejects through its inclusive definition of "act." The passage

makes clear that the statutory definition is deliberately broad and encompasses both positive actions and illegal omissions, thereby eliminating any categorical distinction that would immunize passive failures from liability. Limiting culpable homicide to affirmative physical conduct would create an arbitrary and unjustifiable gap in the law that would allow individuals with legal duties to escape liability for fatal neglect despite their moral and legal culpability.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly introduces a distinction between deliberate and negligent omissions that finds no support in the passage's description of how the BNS treats failures to act in the context of culpable homicide. The passage states that illegal omissions constitute acts without qualifying this principle by reference to the degree of culpability or the presence of deliberate intention versus negligence. While the mental state requirements of intention or knowledge must still be established separately, the threshold question of whether an omission can constitute an "act" does not depend on whether the failure was deliberate or negligent, making this distinction legally irrelevant to the issue.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly and accurately quotes the principle from the passage that defines "act" inclusively to encompass illegal omissions, specifically providing that death resulting from the neglect of a legal duty may amount to culpable homicide. In this scenario, the doctor had a clear legal duty arising from the physician-patient relationship to provide necessary medical care including prescribed medication, and his failure to fulfill this duty constitutes an illegal omission. Since death resulted directly from this neglect of legal duty, the statutory definition of "act" is satisfied, and the doctor's argument that only positive acts can establish culpable homicide must fail.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option improperly adds an additional requirement of accompanying positive conduct such as concealment or active prevention that is neither stated nor implied in the passage's straightforward and unqualified statement that acts include illegal omissions. The BNS framework does not require that an omission be coupled with affirmative wrongdoing or active interference to qualify as an act capable of establishing culpable homicide; rather, the illegal omission alone suffices when it involves neglect of a legal duty resulting in death. Imposing such an additional requirement would undermine the very purpose of including omissions within the definition of

acts and would create the same gap that the inclusive definition was designed to eliminate.

**61. Correct Answer:** (a) The doctrine of sufficiency in the ordinary course of nature holds that intending particular injury sufficient to cause death constitutes murder.

Reference Line: "The doctrine of sufficiency in the ordinary course of nature, drawn from the celebrated *Virsa Singh v. State of Punjab* ruling, holds that when a person intends to inflict a particular bodily injury and that injury is sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause death, the offence constitutes murder."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option accurately captures the doctrine of sufficiency in the ordinary course of nature as articulated in the passage, which establishes that murder is committed when a person intends to inflict a particular bodily injury and that specific injury is objectively sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause death. In this scenario, the defendant specifically intended to stab the victim in the abdomen with a knife to a depth and location that medical evidence confirms was ordinarily sufficient to cause death, thereby satisfying both elements of the doctrine: the intention to inflict the particular injury and the sufficiency of that injury to cause death in the ordinary course of nature.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option imposes a requirement of specific intention to kill or cause death that the doctrine of sufficiency in the ordinary course of nature was specifically designed to render unnecessary when the bodily injury intended is objectively sufficient to cause death. The passage makes clear that murder can be established without proving that the accused specifically intended death itself, provided the intended bodily injury was sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause death. This doctrine recognizes that when someone intentionally inflicts an inherently fatal injury, the law imputes to them the natural and probable consequences of their intended act, making proof of subjective death-intention superfluous.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that the doctrine creates only culpable homicide liability rather than murder liability when a person intends a bodily injury sufficient to cause death, which contradicts the passage's explicit statement that such cases "constitute murder." The whole purpose of the

doctrine of sufficiency in the ordinary course of nature is to elevate certain cases of culpable homicide to murder based on the objective characteristics of the intended injury, without requiring additional proof of subjective intention to cause death. By requiring separate proof of death-intention, this option would nullify the doctrine entirely and revert to a framework that the doctrine was established to supersede.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option improperly restricts the doctrine of sufficiency in the ordinary course of nature to cases involving multiple injuries and cumulative effects, when the passage describes the doctrine as applying when a person intends "a particular bodily injury" in the singular, without any requirement of multiple wounds or cumulative harm. The doctrine focuses on whether the single intended injury is itself sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause death, regardless of whether additional injuries were inflicted or contemplated. In the scenario presented, a single intentional stab wound that is ordinarily sufficient to cause death satisfies the doctrine, making any requirement of multiple injuries legally erroneous.

**62. Correct Answer:** (d) A sudden fight without premeditation and without cruelty or undue advantage constitutes an exception reducing murder charge.

Reference Line: "a sudden fight without premeditation and without cruelty or undue advantage"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option improperly adds a requirement that the deceased must have been the initial aggressor before the sudden fight exception can apply, when the passage describes the exception without any such limitation regarding who initiated the physical confrontation. The exception recognizes that in sudden, unpremeditated mutual fights conducted fairly, both parties bear reduced culpability regardless of who struck the first blow or initiated the physical violence, as the spontaneous and mutual nature of the conflict distinguishes it from deliberate, one-sided attacks. Requiring proof that the deceased was the aggressor would transform the exception from one based on mutual spontaneous combat to one based on self-defense considerations.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option directly contradicts the passage's explicit recognition of sudden fight as one of five statutory exceptions, and wrongly asserts that lack of premeditation is legally irrelevant when it is actually a core requirement of the exception. The

passage specifically includes "a sudden fight without premeditation and without cruelty or undue advantage" as an exception that reduces murder to culpable homicide not amounting to murder, making the absence of premeditation not merely relevant but essential to the exception's application. This option would entirely eliminate a statutory exception that the legislature deliberately created to recognize reduced culpability in spontaneous mutual confrontations.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option wrongly suggests that the mere use of a weapon creates an automatic disqualification from the sudden fight exception, when the passage specifies that the relevant statutory criteria are the absence of premeditation, cruelty, and undue advantage rather than the instrumentality used in the fight. The exception focuses on the nature and circumstances of the confrontation, whether it arose suddenly and was conducted fairly, rather than on the specific means employed to inflict the fatal injury. Imposing an absolute weapon-based disqualification would improperly add a requirement not found in the statutory language and would defeat the exception's purpose of recognizing reduced culpability in spontaneous mutual confrontations.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately states the statutory exception as described in the passage, which reduces murder to culpable homicide not amounting to murder when death occurs in a sudden fight that lacks premeditation and is conducted without cruelty or undue advantage by either party. The scenario presented satisfies all three requirements: the fight erupted spontaneously without planning (no premeditation), neither party took unfair advantage of the other (no undue advantage), and the confrontation was not conducted with unusual brutality (no cruelty). The use of a weapon that happened to be at hand does not negate these findings, as the statutory test focuses on the circumstances of the fight rather than the instrumentality used.

**63. Correct Answer:** (b) The doctrine of transfer of malice treats death of an unintended person as if caused to the person intended or known likely affected. Reference Line: "The doctrine of transfer of malice applies where the intended victim differs from the actual one, the death of an unintended person is treated as if it were caused to the person intended or known to be likely to be affected."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly suggests that the specific direction of intention toward a particular victim prevents liability for the death of another person killed by the same act, when the doctrine of transfer of malice was specifically developed to address exactly this situation and ensure liability despite the divergence between intended and actual victim. The passage makes clear that when the actual victim differs from the intended one, the law does not allow the defendant to escape liability based on the fortuitous circumstance that a different person was killed. Accepting this argument would create an arbitrary and unjust rule where a defendant's culpability depends on the identity of the victim rather than on the criminal nature of the act and mental state.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately reflects the doctrine of transfer of malice as described in the passage, which provides that when the intended victim differs from the actual one, the death of the unintended person is treated as if it were caused to the person the defendant intended to kill or knew was likely to be affected. In this scenario, the defendant possessed the requisite mental state for murder (intention to kill) and committed an act designed to cause death (administering lethal poison); the doctrine operates to transfer this criminal intention from Person A to Person B, treating Person B's death as if the defendant had intended to kill Person B, thereby ensuring full liability for murder.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the doctrine of transfer of malice by requiring separate proof of intention or knowledge regarding the actual victim, when the entire purpose of the doctrine is to eliminate the need for such victim-specific mental state by transferring the mental state from the intended to the actual victim. If the law required separate proof of intention toward each actual victim, the doctrine would be rendered meaningless and defendants could escape liability through the fortuity of killing the wrong person. The passage explicitly provides that the mental state directed at the intended victim is legally sufficient for liability regarding the actual victim through the operation of the transfer doctrine.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly fragments the defendant's liability into attempted murder of the intended victim and negligent homicide of the actual victim, when the doctrine of transfer of malice provides that the defendant is liable for the completed murder of the actual victim through transfer of the murderous

intent. There is no basis in the passage for treating the killing as negligent homicide when the defendant possessed clear intention to kill and employed lethal means; the only complication is the identity of the victim, which the transfer doctrine resolves by attributing the death-intention to the actual victim killed. The defendant's liability is for murder of Person B through transferred malice, not for a combination of attempt and negligence.

**64. Correct Answer:** (c) The printed copy is not primary evidence of the original digital file's contents as copies made from a common original lack primary status.

Reference Line: "The uniform-process principle (section 57) recognizes as primary evidence documents produced by uniform processes such as printing or photography, but it limits this by clarifying that copies made from a common original are not primary evidence of that original's contents."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fails to account for the critical limitation explicitly stated in the uniform-process principle, which distinguishes between documents that are themselves produced by uniform processes and copies made from a common original through such processes. While the passage does recognize documents produced by uniform processes as primary evidence in certain contexts, it specifically carves out an exception for copies made from a common original, which is precisely what the printed textbook represents in relation to the original digital manuscript file. The printed copies, though uniform in production, are derivatives of the original digital file and therefore fall within the exclusionary clause of the principle.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option reaches the correct conclusion that the printed copy is not primary evidence but misidentifies it as secondary evidence without proper justification, when the more precise legal position is that it simply does not qualify as primary evidence of the original digital file's contents under the uniform-process principle's limitation. While the printed copy might potentially serve as secondary evidence if certain conditions are met, the question focuses on whether it constitutes primary evidence, and the passage's limitation on copies made from a common original directly addresses this classification issue. The reasoning provided in this option



oversimplifies the nuanced distinction created by the statutory framework.

Option (c) Correct: This option accurately applies the limitation contained within the uniform-process principle as articulated in section 57, which explicitly clarifies that while documents produced by uniform processes such as printing may generally be recognized as primary evidence, this recognition does not extend to copies made from a common original. In this scenario, the printed textbook copy is derivative of the original digital manuscript file, which serves as the common original from which all 50,000 copies were produced. The passage makes clear that such copies, despite being produced through uniform printing processes, are not primary evidence of that original's contents, thereby requiring resort to secondary evidence principles if the original cannot be produced.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option improperly introduces a procedural requirement of proving the exact mechanical process as a condition for primary evidence status, when the passage's limitation on the uniform-process principle operates based on the relationship between the copy and the common original rather than on proof of the production method itself. The statutory framework does not condition the application of the uniform-process principle on detailed proof of the mechanical process used; instead, it creates a categorical exclusion for copies made from a common original regardless of how uniform or reliable the production process may be. This option misunderstands the basis of the limitation, which is structural rather than evidentiary.

**65. Correct Answer:** (d) Part A constitutes primary evidence of the contract as documents executed in parts are recognized with each part having primary evidence status.

Reference Line: "The principle of primary evidence (section 57) defines primary evidence as the original document produced for court inspection, and it extends to documents executed in parts and to counterparts, each of which is primary evidence against the parties who executed them."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misclassifies Part A as secondary evidence and improperly requires production of certified copies of other parts as a condition for establishing evidentiary status, when the passage clearly provides that documents executed in parts are themselves primary

evidence. The distinction between primary and secondary evidence is based on whether the original executed document is produced, not on whether all parts of a multi-part document are available simultaneously. Part A, being an original executed document produced for inspection, satisfies the definition of primary evidence without any need for supporting documentation from other parts, and requiring such accompaniment would conflate the independent evidentiary status that the statute accords to each executed part.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option partially quotes the principle regarding documents executed in parts but misapplies it by suggesting that Part A's primary evidence status is limited only to proving matters against those who executed it, when the question asks about the evidentiary status of Part A itself rather than its probative scope or binding effect. While it is true that each part is primary evidence "against the parties who executed them," this phrase describes the persons against whom the document may be used rather than limiting the document's classification as primary evidence. The evidentiary status of Part A as primary evidence is absolute when it is produced as an original executed document, though its probative value and binding effect may vary depending on the parties involved.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option imposes a requirement of collective production that contradicts the express statutory recognition that documents executed in parts are treated as primary evidence without necessitating simultaneous production of all parts for any single part to achieve primary evidence status. The passage specifically extends the definition of primary evidence to documents executed in parts, indicating that the legislature intended each part to independently qualify as primary evidence rather than requiring aggregation of all parts. Such a requirement would undermine the practical utility of the primary evidence principle in cases involving multi-jurisdictional or multi-party executions where simultaneous production may be logistically impossible or unnecessary for proving the relevant terms.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately reflects the principle of primary evidence as articulated in section 57, which explicitly extends primary evidence status to documents executed in parts, recognizing each part as primary evidence against the parties who executed them. The passage makes clear that when a document is executed in multiple parts, each part retains

independent primary evidence status without requiring production of all other parts to establish this classification. In this scenario, Part A, having been executed in India as one of four parts of the commercial contract, qualifies as primary evidence when produced for court inspection, allowing the court to examine the original executed portion without needing the other parts to be simultaneously present.

**66. Correct Answer:** (b) The backup server recording constitutes primary evidence when stored and transmitted simultaneously as recognized for video recordings in electronic form.

Reference Line: "The electronic-records principle (section 57) treats electronic or digital records as primary evidence when stored concurrently or sequentially across multiple files, recognizes video recordings in electronic form as primary evidence when stored and transmitted simultaneously, and affirms that digital records stored in multiple spaces, including temporary files, are primary evidence, with proper custody strengthening their legal validity unless contested."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option applies a traditional hierarchical concept of "original" that the electronic-records principle specifically rejects for digital and electronic records stored across multiple locations, wrongly treating simultaneous storage as creating a primary-secondary hierarchy when the statute recognizes concurrent storage as conferring equal primary evidence status. The passage explicitly provides that electronic or digital records stored concurrently or sequentially across multiple files are treated as primary evidence, without designating one location as the "original" and others as mere copies. This reflects the legislative understanding that digital records, unlike physical documents, do not have a single unique original but rather exist as data that may be authentically stored in multiple locations simultaneously.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately applies the electronic-records principle articulated in section 57, which specifically recognizes video recordings in electronic form as primary evidence when stored and transmitted simultaneously across multiple locations. The passage explicitly states that digital records stored in multiple spaces, including temporary files, are treated as primary evidence, reflecting the

understanding that electronic records do not follow the same original-copy distinction as physical documents. In this scenario, the video footage was simultaneously transmitted and stored in three locations including the backup server, satisfying the statutory criterion for primary evidence status without requiring production from any particular server or establishing superiority of one storage location over another.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option improperly elevates chain of custody from a factor that may strengthen legal validity when contested into an absolute prerequisite for primary evidence status, when the passage indicates that proper custody strengthens validity but does not constitute a definitional requirement for classification as primary evidence. The electronic-records principle provides that digital records stored in multiple spaces are primary evidence, with the custody issue becoming relevant only when the validity is contested rather than determining the initial evidentiary classification. The backup server recording's status as primary evidence derives from its simultaneous storage and transmission, not from establishment of custody, though custody evidence may become important if the opposing party challenges authenticity or integrity.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option wrongly imports secondary evidence principles and their foundational requirement of original unavailability into the classification of electronic records, when the electronic-records principle specifically provides that digital records stored in multiple locations all constitute primary evidence without creating conditional or hierarchical relationships. The passage makes clear that video recordings stored and transmitted simultaneously are primary evidence regardless of whether other simultaneously stored copies are available or unavailable. Requiring unavailability of the primary server recording before the backup server recording can be treated as primary evidence would contradict the explicit statutory recognition that concurrent storage across multiple files creates multiple instances of primary evidence rather than a primary-secondary hierarchy.

**67. Correct Answer:** (a) The accountant's testimony constitutes secondary evidence as testimony from persons who have examined documents where originals are too numerous or complex to examine.

Reference Line: "The principle of secondary evidence (section 58) defines secondary evidence to include

certified copies, copies made by mechanical processes, oral or written admissions, oral accounts of contents, and testimony from persons who have examined documents where originals are too numerous or complex to examine in court, and it applies when the original cannot be presented for inspection."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option accurately applies the principle of secondary evidence as defined in section 58, which explicitly recognizes testimony from persons who have examined documents where originals are too numerous or complex to examine in court as a valid form of secondary evidence. In this scenario, the forensic accountant examined thousands of original financial documents over several months and can testify about their contents, and the passage specifically contemplates this situation by including such testimony within the statutory definition of secondary evidence. The provision recognizes that when direct production and examination of voluminous or complex documents is impracticable, testimony from someone who has comprehensively examined the originals serves as an acceptable alternative method of proving documentary contents.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option fails to recognize that the principle of secondary evidence explicitly includes testimony from persons who have examined documents where originals are too numerous or complex to examine in court as a statutorily recognized category of secondary evidence. The passage comprehensively lists the various forms that secondary evidence may take, and the accountant's testimony describing the contents of voluminous financial documents examined over months falls squarely within the category of testimony from persons who have examined complex originals. Excluding such testimony would render this statutory category meaningless and would create insurmountable practical difficulties in cases involving large volumes of documentary evidence that cannot feasibly be produced and examined individually in court.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option creates a false dichotomy between expert opinion evidence and documentary evidence, failing to recognize that the accountant's testimony can simultaneously serve as secondary evidence of documentary contents while also involving expert analysis, and wrongly excludes such testimony from the documentary proof framework when the statute explicitly includes it. The principle of secondary evidence does not require that

testimony about examined documents be purely factual recitation devoid of expert interpretation; rather, it recognizes that when documents are too numerous or complex for direct court examination, testimony from persons who have examined them, which may necessarily involve expert analysis and synthesis, constitutes secondary evidence of their contents. The passage makes no such limitation excluding expert testimony from the categories of secondary evidence.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option fundamentally confuses the concept of primary evidence, which requires production of the original document itself for court inspection, with testimony about documents that have been examined, and wrongly suggests that examining originals converts testimony into primary evidence when such testimony is explicitly classified as secondary evidence. The passage clearly defines primary evidence as the original document produced for court inspection, not testimony about documents even by someone who examined the originals directly and comprehensively. While the accountant did examine the original documents, the evidentiary form being offered is the accountant's testimony describing those documents rather than the documents themselves, which by definition constitutes secondary rather than primary evidence regardless of the thoroughness of the examination.

**68. Correct Answer:** (c) The email statement constitutes secondary evidence as written admission of the partnership agreement's contents and is admissible when original is unavailable.

Reference Line: "The admissions-as-secondary-evidence principle (section 58) treats oral and written admissions of contents as secondary evidence, permitting use of statements acknowledging what a document contains."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly applies general hearsay exclusion principles without recognizing that the documentary proof framework specifically creates an exception by treating written admissions of contents as a statutorily recognized category of secondary evidence that may be used to prove what a document contains. The passage explicitly provides that the admissions-as-secondary-evidence principle permits use of statements acknowledging what a document contains, thereby removing such admissions from ordinary hearsay restrictions when offered to prove documentary contents. The email

statement, being a written admission by a party regarding the contents of the partnership agreement, falls squarely within this statutory exception and is admissible as secondary evidence when the original document cannot be produced after diligent search.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option improperly requires corroboration by oral testimony from witnesses as a prerequisite for admitting written admissions as secondary evidence, when the passage places no such corroboration requirement on the admissions-as-secondary-evidence principle and treats admissions as independently sufficient secondary evidence. The statutory framework recognizes written admissions of contents as a distinct category of secondary evidence that stands on its own probative foundation without requiring additional testimonial support from witnesses who examined the original document. While corroborating evidence might strengthen the case, the passage does not condition the admissibility of admissions as secondary evidence on such corroboration, and the email admission is sufficient secondary evidence once the original's unavailability is established.

Option (c) Correct: This option accurately applies the admissions-as-secondary-evidence principle articulated in section 58, which explicitly treats both oral and written admissions of contents as secondary evidence and permits use of statements acknowledging what a document contains. In this scenario, the email contains a written admission by one partner explicitly acknowledging that the partnership agreement contains a specific profit-sharing provision in Clause 7, which constitutes a statement acknowledging what the document contains. Since the original partnership agreement cannot be located despite diligent search, the condition for admitting secondary evidence, that the original cannot be presented for inspection, is satisfied, making the email statement admissible as secondary evidence of the partnership agreement's contents.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misclassifies the email statement as primary evidence of the partnership agreement's terms when it actually constitutes secondary evidence of those terms, confusing the email's status as an original electronic communication with its evidentiary function of proving the contents of a different document. While the email itself is indeed an original electronic record, the relevant evidentiary question is what the email proves, and when offered to establish the contents of the

partnership agreement rather than merely to prove that the email was sent, it functions as secondary evidence through the admissions principle. The passage distinguishes between documents that are themselves primary evidence and statements or copies that serve as secondary evidence of other documents' contents, and the email falls into the latter category.

**69. Correct Answer:** (a) The pharmaceutical company must prove the specific fact of process similarity to sustain its claim.

Reference Line: "The particular-facts principle in Section 106 requires a party who seeks to rely on a specific fact outside the general burden to prove that fact, ensuring that tailored assertions are supported by proof."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 106's particular-facts principle to the given scenario. The pharmaceutical company seeks to rely on the specific fact that the competitor's process matches its proprietary method, which constitutes a tailored assertion falling outside the general burden of proof. Under the particular-facts principle, this specific fact must be supported by proof from the party making the claim. The pharmaceutical company has only presented patent registration and market analysis but has failed to establish the crucial fact of process similarity. Without such specific proof, the infringement claim cannot be sustained and must fail.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly applies the general denial principle and misunderstands the allocation of burden in civil litigation. A mere denial by the competitor does not shift the burden of proving the affirmative claim of infringement onto the denying party. Under the particular-facts principle in Section 106, the party asserting the specific factual basis, in this case, that the competitor's manufacturing process matches the proprietary method, must establish it through evidence, not the party denying such similarity. The burden remains with the asserting party to prove tailored assertions.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the structured allocation framework established in Chapter VII of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam. The burden of proof does not automatically distribute equally simply because both parties possess technical knowledge or information about the subject matter. The framework explicitly assigns burden based



on who asserts a particular fact, not on the basis of who has access to information about it. Section 106 clearly places the burden on the party seeking to rely on a specific fact, which is the pharmaceutical company in this patent infringement dispute.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option reverses the applicable standard and conflates civil and criminal burdens of proof while creating an improper presumption. Patent registration alone establishes ownership of the patent but does not create a presumption of infringement by others; the claimant must affirmatively prove infringement occurred through specific evidence. Additionally, the standard of "beyond reasonable doubt" is applicable exclusively to criminal prosecutions under Section 104, not to civil patent disputes. In civil matters, the burden is on the party who would fail if no further evidence were adduced, as per Section 105.

**70. Correct Answer:** (d) Rajesh must prove the salary debt existed to bring his conduct within the claimed exception.

Reference Line: "The exceptions principle in Section 108 shifts the burden to an accused to prove that the case falls within any general or special exception, with the court presuming the absence of such circumstances unless the accused establishes them, thereby confining exceptions to proven situations."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that a mere "reasonable doubt" standard applies to the proof of exceptions and misunderstands the nature of the burden shift. The exceptions principle in Section 108 requires the accused to affirmatively prove that the exception applies, not merely to raise some doubt about whether it might apply. This represents a true burden shift where the accused must establish the exceptional circumstances through positive evidence, not just an evidentiary burden to adduce some preliminary evidence that would then shift the burden back to the prosecution. The framework confines exceptions to proven situations.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option creates an improper presumption not supported by the burden allocation framework and contradicts the explicit language of Section 108. The passage clearly states that the court presumes the absence of exceptional circumstances unless the accused establishes them. There is no provision for presuming the validity of mercantile customs or commercial relationships based solely on

the employment relationship without proof. Such a presumption would undermine the exceptions principle's purpose of confining exceptions to proven situations and would effectively reverse the burden that Section 108 deliberately places on the accused.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option misapplies the general criminal burden principle and fails to recognize the specific burden shift created by the exceptions framework in Section 108. While Section 104 establishes that the prosecution bears the burden of proving the guilt of the accused beyond reasonable doubt in criminal prosecutions, this general principle does not extend to proving the non-existence of exceptions. The exceptions principle creates a distinct and separate allocation requiring the accused to prove exceptional circumstances that would excuse otherwise criminal conduct. The prosecution's burden is limited to establishing the basic elements of the offense, not disproving every conceivable exception.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 108's exceptions principle to the theft prosecution scenario. The provision explicitly shifts the burden to the accused to prove that the case falls within any general or special exception, whether statutory or based on mercantile custom. The court presumes the absence of exceptional circumstances, here, the salary debt and right to retain, unless Rajesh affirmatively establishes them through evidence. This ensures that exceptions are confined to proven situations rather than mere speculation or unsubstantiated claims. Rajesh must prove both the salary arrears and the applicability of mercantile customs permitting retention.

**71. Correct Answer:** (b) Vikram must prove his recommendations were made in good faith despite the family connection.

Reference Line: "The active-confidence good-faith principle in Section 114 requires the party in a position of active confidence to prove good faith in transactions, guarding against exploitation in unequal relations."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option reverses the applicable burden created by the active-confidence good-faith principle in Section 114 and misapplies the general civil burden principle. While Meera must prove the basic facts establishing the partnership relationship, Vikram's role as managing partner, and the transactions that occurred, Section 114 specifically shifts the burden to prove good faith onto the party in



the position of active confidence. The partnership agreement granting discretion does not eliminate Vikram's fiduciary obligations or the burden allocation under Section 114, particularly where self-dealing or conflicts of interest are present.

Option (b) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 114's active-confidence good-faith principle to the partnership dispute scenario. As managing partner with discretionary authority over selecting subcontractors, Vikram occupied a position of active confidence relative to Meera and the joint venture. The provision places the burden squarely on the party in such a position to affirmatively prove good faith in transactions, particularly those involving potential conflicts of interest such as family relationships. This allocation guards against exploitation in inherently unequal relations where one partner reposes trust in another who exercises decision-making authority. Vikram must prove his recommendations served the partnership's interests despite apparent self-dealing.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option creates an improper presumption from contractual discretion that contradicts Section 114's protective purpose and burden allocation. The existence of discretionary authority in a partnership agreement does not create a presumption of good faith that would eliminate or reverse the burden placed on the fiduciary. Section 114 recognizes that positions of active confidence, including managing partner roles, create inherent power imbalances requiring special protections. The provision deliberately places the burden on the party exercising discretionary power to prove good faith, not on the vulnerable party to disprove it, precisely because formal grants of authority can facilitate exploitation.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option fundamentally mischaracterizes the burden allocation framework in Section 114 and contradicts the principle's explicit unilateral allocation of burden. The passage does not recognize shared or equal burdens in active-confidence situations; rather, it creates a specific allocation to the party in the superior position. The principle recognizes the structural inequality inherent in fiduciary relationships and deliberately places the burden on the fiduciary to prove good faith. Requiring equal presentation of evidence would undermine the protective purpose of Section 114, which guards against exploitation by imposing the burden precisely on the party best positioned to demonstrate their propriety.

**72. Correct Answer:** (c) The cooperative must prove death given evidence of life within thirty years of present.

Reference Line: "The thirty-year life presumption principle in Section 110 requires anyone alleging death to prove it where the person is shown to have been alive within the past thirty years, preventing premature assertions of death."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option correctly identifies that the cooperative bears some burden but incorrectly limits the analysis to the type of evidence required and fails to explain the temporal framework triggering this allocation. Section 110 does not specify that mortality evidence must be documentary; it requires the party alleging death to prove it when the person is shown to have been alive within thirty years. The option misses the crucial temporal element that activates the presumption and places burden on the party alleging death. The cooperative must prove death occurred, but Section 110's operation depends on the thirty-year timeframe, not the nature of evidence.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option improperly shifts the burden to Priya and creates a requirement for continuous proof not supported by Section 110's thirty-year life presumption framework. Once a person is shown to have been alive within the past thirty years, here, through the 1998 and 2002 voting records falling well within thirty years from the present 2025, the burden automatically shifts to anyone alleging death to prove it. The thirty-year presumption does not require the party relying on survival to prove continuous life throughout an entire period or account for every intervening year between documented instances of life.

Option (c) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 110's thirty-year life presumption principle to the property dispute. The provision specifically requires anyone alleging death to prove it where the person is shown to have been alive within the past thirty years. Priya's evidence of her grandmother's voter registration in 1998 and 2002, along with ration card renewals in 1999 and 2001, demonstrates life within the statutory thirty-year window from the present date of 2025. This triggers the presumption of continued life and places the burden squarely on the cooperative to substantiate its assertion that death occurred in 1994, thereby preventing premature and unsubstantiated assertions of death.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that will authentication is a prerequisite for applying Section 110's temporal presumption, confusing the admissibility of specific evidence with the operation of the life presumption framework. The thirty-year life presumption operates independently based on any evidence showing life within the temporal window, not solely evidence related to disputed documents. Priya has presented voter records and ration cards showing her grandmother alive in 1998, 1999, 2001, and 2002, evidence independent of the 2003 will. These records trigger Section 110's presumption regardless of whether the will is authentic, thereby placing burden on the cooperative to prove death.

**73. Correct Answer:** (a) DataSecure must prove facts establishing the logs' reliability and proper generation as evidence prerequisites.

Reference Line: "The foundational-admissibility principle in Section 107 imposes on the relying party the burden to prove any fact essential to making evidence admissible, tying admissibility to demonstrated factual predicates."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 107's foundational-admissibility principle to the data theft litigation scenario. The provision explicitly imposes on the relying party, DataSecure, the burden to prove any fact essential to making evidence admissible before that evidence can be considered. The reliability of the logging system, the accuracy of the timestamp correlation with Anil's work hours, the proper generation and maintenance of server logs, and the system's general trustworthiness are all foundational facts that must be demonstrated through testimony or documentation. The principle ties admissibility to demonstrated factual predicates rather than assumptions, requiring DataSecure to establish these foundations before the logs' substance can be evaluated.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option confuses the substantive elements of the theft claim with the foundational requirements for admitting evidence under Section 107. While motive and opportunity may be relevant to proving the ultimate claim that Anil stole customer data, they are not foundational facts essential to making the server logs admissible as evidence. Section 107's foundational-admissibility principle requires proof of facts that establish the evidence itself is what it purports to be and was properly created and

maintained, such as the reliability of the logging system, the accuracy of timestamps, and proper generation protocols, before the logs can be considered.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option fundamentally reverses the burden allocation established by Section 107's foundational-admissibility principle and creates an improper presumption of reliability for digital evidence. The principle explicitly places the burden on the party seeking to rely on evidence, here, DataSecure, to prove facts essential to admissibility, not on the opposing party to disprove authenticity or prove fabrication. There is no presumption of reliability that would shift the burden to the party challenging evidence; rather, admissibility must be affirmatively established first by the proponent through foundational proof. Only after admissibility is demonstrated does the evidence enter consideration for substantive evaluation and potential rebuttal.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option creates an improper presumption of self-authentication for digital business records that contradicts Section 107's requirement for affirmative foundational proof. While some jurisdictions recognize business records exceptions to certain evidentiary requirements, Section 107's foundational-admissibility principle requires the relying party to prove facts essential to admissibility, which includes establishing that records were made in the ordinary course of business, that the record-keeping system is reliable, and that proper procedures were followed. Mere characterization as "business records" or "digital logs" does not eliminate the burden to demonstrate foundational predicates. DataSecure must establish these foundations through testimony or documentation.

**74. Correct Answer:** (d) The combination fails as obvious integration of known elements without inventive merit beyond assembly.

Reference Line: "The inventive step principle under Section 2(1)(ja) demands that the claimed advance not be obvious to a person skilled in the art, thereby preventing patents for trivial or obvious modifications of existing inventions."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: While the combination may indeed be industrially applicable in streaming processes and demonstrate practical utility, industrial applicability alone does not satisfy all three mandatory requirements for patentability. Section 2(1)(ac)

requires industrial capability, but this must be coupled with novelty and inventive step. The option erroneously suggests that industrial usefulness is sufficient for patent grant without addressing whether the combination represents a non-obvious advance. A person skilled in video streaming technology would likely recognize that sequencing known filters with standard codecs to optimize bandwidth is a routine engineering practice rather than an inventive leap requiring patent protection.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option misapplies the novelty principle by treating component-level prior disclosure as defeating novelty of the specific combination. Under Section 2(1)(j), novelty is defeated when prior art discloses all elements of the claimed invention in an integrated form. While individual components existed in prior publications, the specific sequential combination for streaming bandwidth optimization may not have been previously disclosed as an integrated system. The novelty analysis requires examining whether the complete combination as claimed appeared in a single prior art reference, not whether individual elements existed separately in the prior art corpus.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option confuses novelty with inventive step and incorrectly concludes that a novel arrangement automatically satisfies the non-obviousness requirement. Even if the specific sequence and 12% bandwidth optimization have not been previously disclosed (satisfying novelty), the inventive step analysis asks a different question: would a person skilled in the art find this combination obvious? Merely assembling known image filters with a standard codec in a particular order to achieve incremental performance improvement represents the type of routine optimization that skilled engineers regularly perform. The modest 12% improvement through conventional component integration suggests obvious application rather than inventive merit.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 2(1)(ja)'s inventive step principle, which demands that claimed advances not be obvious to a person skilled in the art. The scenario presents a combination of publicly known image filters (Gaussian blur, edge detection, noise reduction) with a standard H.264 codec, all familiar tools in video processing. A person of ordinary skill in streaming technology would logically consider sequencing various filters with compression codecs to optimize bandwidth as routine engineering work. The 12% improvement through

conventional component integration represents the type of trivial modification that the inventive step requirement specifically excludes from patent protection, preventing patents for obvious assemblies of existing elements.

**75. Correct Answer:** (b) Reject the patent as a new form lacking enhanced efficacy beyond convenience.

Reference Line: "The anti-evergreening principle in Section 3(d) restricts patents on new forms of known substances unless there is an evident enhancement of efficacy, and in *Novartis AG v. Union of India* (2013) the Supreme Court held that a crystalline form of imatinib mesylate lacked enhanced therapeutic efficacy."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option erroneously treats improved patient compliance and convenience as satisfying the "enhanced efficacy" standard under Section 3(d)'s anti-evergreening principle. While reducing dosing frequency from three times daily to once daily certainly improves convenience and may indirectly improve therapeutic outcomes through better adherence, this does not constitute an evident enhancement of the therapeutic efficacy of the active pharmaceutical ingredient itself. The Supreme Court in *Novartis* emphasized that efficacy enhancement must relate to the therapeutic effect of the substance, not merely to formulation advantages or patient convenience factors. The 18% reduction in glycemic variability results from compliance, not superior therapeutic action.

Option (b) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 3(d)'s anti-evergreening principle to the controlled-release formulation scenario. QTX-247 represents a new form of a known substance (the established anti-diabetic compound) that has been in public use for fifteen years. While the polymer-based controlled-release mechanism modifies the pharmacokinetic profile and improves patient compliance, the therapeutic mechanism, enhancing insulin sensitivity, remains unchanged. The scenario explicitly states the drug's therapeutic action is identical to the original. Under the heightened pharmaceutical threshold established in *Novartis*, improved convenience and compliance do not constitute evident enhancement of therapeutic efficacy. The formulation modification addresses dosing frequency rather than superior therapeutic effect.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option conflates industrial applicability under Section 2(1)(ac) with the specific heightened threshold for pharmaceutical patents under Section 3(d). While the controlled-release formulation may indeed be capable of industrial manufacture and demonstrate practical utility (satisfying industrial applicability), Section 3(d) creates an additional barrier specifically for new forms of known pharmaceutical substances. The anti-evergreening principle demands evident enhancement of efficacy beyond merely demonstrating that the formulation can be industrially produced or that it has improved pharmacokinetic characteristics. Industrial applicability is necessary but not sufficient for pharmaceutical formulation patents of known substances.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option oversimplifies the Section 3(d) analysis by focusing solely on whether the therapeutic mechanism changed, without properly engaging with the "new form" and "enhanced efficacy" framework. While it correctly observes that the therapeutic mechanism (enhancing insulin sensitivity) remains identical, Section 3(d) does not automatically reject all modifications where the mechanism is unchanged. Rather, it asks whether the new form demonstrates evident enhancement of efficacy. If the controlled-release mechanism had produced superior glycemic control through better therapeutic action (not just compliance), it might satisfy Section 3(d) even with the same mechanism. The rejection should be based on lack of enhanced therapeutic efficacy, not mechanism identity alone.

**76. Correct Answer:** (c) Reject the patent as the journal article constitutes prior art disclosing all claimed elements.

Reference Line: "The novelty principle under Section 2(1)(j) requires that an invention not be included within prior art, which encompasses all publicly accessible information before the filing date, and a single prior disclosure that contains all claimed elements defeats novelty."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the novelty requirement under Section 2(1)(j) by suggesting that being the first to pursue industrial application can overcome a prior public disclosure that destroyed novelty. The novelty principle does not distinguish between theoretical research and commercial applications; it requires that

the invention not be included within prior art, regardless of the disclosing party's intent or subsequent industrial development. Once the research institution published the complete molecular structure, synthesis pathway, and enabling details in a publicly accessible journal, Compound X-19 entered the prior art. Patent law does not reward the first commercial exploiter when the invention was already publicly disclosed.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option creates a false distinction between theoretical research publications and prior art that is not supported by Section 2(1)(j)'s definition. The novelty principle defines prior art as "all publicly accessible information before the filing date" without excluding theoretical or academic publications. Scientific journals are quintessential prior art references because they make technical information publicly accessible to persons skilled in the art. The intent behind publication (theoretical research versus commercial development) is irrelevant to prior art status. If the publication enables a person skilled in the art to make or use the invention, it anticipates the claimed subject matter and defeats novelty.

Option (c) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 2(1)(j)'s novelty principle to the chemical compound patent scenario. The research institution's publication in the International Journal of Advanced Chemistry constitutes prior art as publicly accessible information disclosed before ChemCorp's filing date. The publication contains all elements claimed by ChemCorp: the complete molecular structure, synthesis pathway, reaction conditions, and enabling details sufficient for reproduction by a competent chemist. Under the novelty principle, a single prior disclosure that contains all claimed elements defeats novelty, regardless of whether the disclosure was made for theoretical research or commercial purposes. ChemCorp's application cannot satisfy the novelty requirement because Compound X-19 was already in the prior art.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option mischaracterizes the public accessibility standard for prior art under Section 2(1)(j) and improperly shifts the burden regarding prior art status. The International Journal of Advanced Chemistry is described as a published scientific journal, which presumptively constitutes publicly accessible information. Patent law does not require proof that prior art had unlimited circulation or was accessed by specific numbers of people; rather, it requires that information was publicly accessible, meaning available



to at least some members of the public without confidentiality restrictions. ChemCorp cannot overcome a published journal article by arguing limited circulation; the burden would be on ChemCorp to prove confidentiality restrictions, not on the examiner to prove broad public access.

**77. Correct Answer:** (a) Reject the patent as surgical methods are categorically excluded from patentable subject matter.

Reference Line: "The exclusions principle under Section 3 bars discoveries, scientific theories, and mathematical methods, business methods, pure software or algorithms lacking a technical solution, medical and surgical methods, and plant and animal varieties, ensuring that non-technical or publicly necessary practices remain outside patent protection."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 3's exclusions principle, which categorically bars surgical methods from patentable subject matter. Dr. Sharma's minimally invasive mitral valve repair technique, despite its innovation and superior clinical outcomes, constitutes a surgical method, a procedure performed on the human body for medical treatment purposes. The exclusions principle ensures that publicly necessary practices, particularly those involving healthcare and medical treatment, remain outside patent protection so that physicians can freely practice therapeutic techniques without licensing constraints. The categorical exclusion applies regardless of the technique's novelty, inventive merit, or clinical superiority. Training simulators or surgical instruments might be patentable, but the surgical method itself is excluded.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option misapplies the industrial applicability requirement under Section 2(1)(ac) by failing to recognize that even inventions satisfying industrial applicability can be excluded from patentability under Section 3's exclusions principle. While Dr. Sharma's surgical technique may indeed be capable of consistent reproduction and demonstrate practical utility in surgical practice (potentially satisfying industrial applicability in isolation), Section 3 creates categorical exclusions for certain subject matter regardless of industrial applicability. Medical and surgical methods are explicitly excluded to ensure that life-saving procedures and treatment techniques remain publicly accessible to healthcare practitioners

without patent restrictions. Industrial applicability does not override categorical exclusions.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly attempts to recharacterize a surgical method as a technical manufacturing process to circumvent Section 3's categorical exclusion. While the passage recognizes that manufacturing techniques and industrial procedures are patentable processes, a surgical technique involving arthroscopic incisions, instrument positioning, and suturing patterns on human patients is fundamentally a medical procedure, not an industrial manufacturing process. Patent law distinguishes between processes that produce commercial products (patentable industrial processes) and methods of medical treatment performed on human or animal bodies (excluded surgical methods). The instrument positioning protocol is an integral part of the surgical method and cannot be artificially separated to transform excluded subject matter into patentable process claims.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option correctly recognizes that surgical methods are excluded but incorrectly suggests that limiting claims to a training simulator device would somehow validate the original patent application for the surgical method. While medical devices, surgical instruments, and training simulators may indeed constitute patentable subject matter (as products rather than methods), Dr. Sharma's application claims the surgical method itself, the sequence of incisions, positioning protocol, and suturing pattern performed on patients. Narrowing or redirecting claims to a simulator would constitute filing a different patent application for different subject matter, not curing the fundamental defect that the current application claims categorically excluded surgical methods. The examiner must reject the surgical method claims as filed.

**78. Correct Answer:** (d) Reject the patent as pure software algorithms lacking integration with a technical solution beyond computation.

Reference Line: "The exclusions principle under Section 3 bars discoveries, scientific theories, and mathematical methods, business methods, pure software or algorithms lacking a technical solution, medical and surgical methods, and plant and animal varieties, ensuring that non-technical or publicly necessary practices remain outside patent protection; Yahoo! Inc. v. Controller of Patents (2015) and Google Inc. v. Controller of Patents (2021) confirm that



software algorithms and business methods are excluded unless tied to a technical solution."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option accepts FinTech Solutions' characterization of computational efficiency as a sufficient "technical problem" to overcome Section 3's exclusion of software algorithms and business methods. However, the passage and cited jurisprudence (Yahoo! and Google) establish that software algorithms are excluded unless tied to a technical solution that goes beyond mere computational implementation. Processing financial data efficiently through machine learning is a computational task, not a technical effect in the patent law sense. The underlying innovation relates to budget allocation methodology (a business method) implemented through mathematical algorithms (also excluded). Computational efficiency in executing excluded subject matter does not transform that subject matter into a technical solution qualifying for patent protection.

Option (b) Incorrect: While this option correctly identifies that SmartBudget AI involves a business method of automated budget allocation, it incompletely analyzes the exclusion by focusing primarily on business method aspects without fully addressing the software algorithm exclusion. The application claims both business methods (budget allocation strategy) and pure software/algorithms (machine learning neural networks, mathematical processing). Section 3 excludes both categories unless tied to a qualifying technical solution. The option reaches the correct conclusion (rejection) but through incomplete reasoning that emphasizes business method exclusion over the equally applicable software algorithm exclusion. A complete analysis must address that the mathematical algorithms themselves are excluded subject matter not redeemed by computational implementation.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option conflates industrial applicability under Section 2(1)(ac) with overcoming categorical exclusions under Section 3, repeating the error pattern from the surgical method question. While SmartBudget AI may be capable of being made or used in industry through mobile hardware implementation and demonstrate practical utility (potentially satisfying industrial applicability), Section 3 creates categorical exclusions that operate independently of industrial applicability. The passage explicitly states that software or algorithms are excluded unless tied to a

technical solution, and implementation on mobile platforms does not constitute such a technical solution, it merely represents conventional computational hardware executing excluded subject matter. Industrial applicability cannot override categorical exclusions.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly applies Section 3's exclusions principle as interpreted in Yahoo! and Google, which confirm that software algorithms and business methods are excluded unless tied to a technical solution beyond mere computation. SmartBudget AI's machine learning algorithms process financial data and implement budget allocation strategies, both representing excluded subject matter (mathematical methods/algorithms and business methods). While FinTech Solutions characterizes data processing efficiency as a "technical problem," this represents computational implementation of excluded subject matter rather than a technical solution in patent law's meaning. The neural network architecture, regardless of its sophistication, remains a pure software algorithm implementing a business method without integration into a qualifying technical solution such as industrial process control or technical device operation.

**79. Correct Answer:** (b) The officer can recover payment because he went beyond his statutory duty through extra vigilance and perimeter patrols.

Reference Line: "Existing legal duty: performance of a duty imposed by law is not consideration (Collins v Godefroy), unless the promisee goes beyond that duty (Glasbrook Bros)."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option states the general rule regarding performance of legal duties as absolute without recognizing the explicit exception that the passage identifies through Glasbrook Bros, where performance going beyond the statutory duty can constitute valid consideration despite the existence of a legal obligation. The passage uses the word "unless" to signal a critical qualification to the general prohibition, indicating that while baseline performance of a legal duty is not consideration, additional performance exceeding what the law requires can constitute valid consideration. Treating the rule as having no exceptions would ignore this judicially recognized principle that distinguishes between merely doing what one is legally required to do versus providing services that go substantially

beyond the statutory minimum, with the latter being capable of supporting a contractual promise.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately applies both the general rule and the exception regarding performance of duties imposed by law, recognizing that while baseline statutory duty to provide security cannot constitute consideration, the officer's provision of extra vigilance and specific perimeter patrols every thirty minutes went substantially beyond what the statute required. The passage explicitly states that performance of a duty imposed by law is not consideration "unless the promisee goes beyond that duty," citing *Glasbrook Bros* for this principle. In this scenario, the statutory duty required only general crowd control at public events, but the officer provided enhanced security measures with specific patrols at defined intervals that exceeded the legal minimum, thereby providing valid fresh consideration for the organizer's promise to pay the £500.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option introduces a categorical rule about public officials and additional compensation that is not found in the passage's discussion of consideration principles, wrongly conflating potential public policy concerns about official conduct with the doctrinal question of whether valid consideration exists to support a contractual promise. The passage focuses on whether performance of a legal duty can constitute consideration, not on whether public officials are permitted to receive additional payments, which is a separate question of professional ethics, employment law, or public policy. The consideration analysis under the *Glasbrook Bros* exception depends on whether the promisee performed services beyond the statutory duty, regardless of the promisee's status as a public official, making this categorical prohibition legally unsupported by the consideration doctrine.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option wrongly suggests that any performance of official duties at a private party's request automatically constitutes valid consideration, failing to recognize that the critical distinction in the passage is between performing exactly what the law requires (which is not consideration) versus going beyond the statutory duty (which can be consideration). If the officer had merely performed his standard statutory duty of general crowd control at the festival, even at the organizer's request, this would not constitute consideration under *Collins v Godefroy*. The passage makes clear that the exception for legal duties requires that the promisee "goes beyond that duty,"

meaning the additional nature of the performance is essential, not merely that the performance occurred at a private party's request or involved official duties.

**80. Correct Answer:** (c) The promise to pay extra is enforceable because the cinematographer did substantially more using specialized equipment and innovative techniques.

Reference Line: "Existing contractual duty owed to the same promisor: not normally valid (*Stilk v Myrick*). Exceptions: (i) where the promisee does substantially more (*Hartley v Ponsonby*)"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option applies the general rule from *Stilk v Myrick* regarding existing contractual duties without recognizing the first exception that the passage explicitly identifies for situations where the promisee does substantially more than originally required under the contract, thereby providing fresh consideration. While it is accurate that the cinematographer was contractually obligated to complete the documentary filming, the passage makes clear that when a party goes substantially beyond the original contractual obligation, that additional performance can constitute valid consideration for a promise to pay extra. In this scenario, the cinematographer did not merely complete the work as originally specified with standard digital cameras but instead used specialized drone equipment and underwater cameras with innovative filming techniques that substantially enhanced the documentary's visual quality beyond original specifications.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option applies the practical benefit exception from *Williams v Roffey* when the facts clearly establish that the cinematographer did substantially more work, confusing two distinct exceptions that operate under different circumstances and have different requirements. The passage identifies these as separate exceptions: the first applies "where the promisee does substantially more" (*Hartley v Ponsonby*), while the second applies "where the promisor obtains a practical benefit and there is no duress" (*Williams v Roffey*). When a promisee actually performs substantially more than the original contract required, as the cinematographer did here by using specialized equipment and innovative techniques beyond standard digital filming, the case falls under the

first exception based on the enhanced performance itself, making analysis of practical benefit unnecessary. Option (c) Correct: This option accurately applies the first exception to the rule on existing contractual duties owed to the same promisor, which the passage identifies as cases where the promisee does substantially more than the original obligation, referencing *Hartley v Ponsonby*. In this scenario, the cinematographer went substantially beyond the minimum requirements of the original contract by using specialized drone equipment and underwater cameras not contemplated in the agreement, employing innovative filming techniques, and substantially enhancing the documentary's visual quality beyond what was specified. This substantial additional performance constitutes valid fresh consideration that supports the producer's promise to pay the extra £8,000, making that promise legally enforceable despite the general rule against existing contractual duties serving as consideration.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option improperly introduces a requirement that the original contract price must be proven commercially inadequate before additional payment can be enforceable, when the passage's exception for doing substantially more focuses on the nature and extent of the performance rather than on the adequacy of the original price. The passage explicitly states in the general consideration principles that consideration "need not be adequate, any value suffices," indicating that courts do not generally inquire into the adequacy of bargains. The exception for substantially more work operates when the promisee provides performance that goes materially beyond what was originally contracted, regardless of whether the original price was adequate, inadequate, or even generous, making proof of commercial inadequacy irrelevant to the consideration analysis.

**81. Correct Answer:** (d) The contractor can recover payment because performance of a duty owed to a third party can be valid consideration.

Reference Line: "Duty owed to a third party: performance can be valid consideration when it confers a direct benefit/obligation in the new bargain (*The Eurymedon*)."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the structure of consideration doctrine by suggesting that the principle against

existing contractual duties operates uniformly regardless of whether the duty is owed to the same promisor or to a third party, when the passage explicitly distinguishes these scenarios and applies different rules to each. The passage structures this area of law with separate subsections: existing contractual duty owed to the same promisor is "not normally valid" (with specific exceptions), while duty owed to a third party "can be valid consideration when it confers a direct benefit/obligation in the new bargain." This structural separation demonstrates that the identity of the promisor is crucial to the consideration analysis, and performance of a duty owed to one party can constitute valid consideration for a promise from a different party.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option improperly imports the "substantially more" test from the first exception to existing contractual duties owed to the same promisor into the completely different context of duties owed to third parties, when these represent distinct doctrinal principles with different requirements. The passage makes clear that when dealing with duties owed to the same promisor, doing substantially more is one way to establish fresh consideration, but when dealing with duties owed to third parties, the relevant test is whether performance "confers a direct benefit/obligation in the new bargain." The contractor's performance for Developer B confers a direct benefit on Developer B regardless of whether the work for Developer B requires more or less effort than the work for Developer A, making comparative effort irrelevant to this analysis.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option wrongly extends the rule about existing contractual duties owed to the same promisor (*Stilk v Myrick*) to situations where the duty is owed to a different party, failing to recognize that the passage treats duties owed to third parties as a distinct category with different consideration rules. The critical distinction in consideration doctrine is between performing a duty one already owes to the same promisor versus performing a duty owed to a different party. When a contractor performs work for Developer B, even if similar work is owed to Developer A, the performance for Developer B confers a direct benefit on Developer B that Developer B was not previously entitled to receive, making it valid consideration for Developer B's promise to pay, regardless of the similarity to work owed elsewhere.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately applies the principle regarding duties owed to third parties as stated in the passage, which provides that

"performance can be valid consideration when it confers a direct benefit/obligation in the new bargain," citing *The Eurymedon*. In this scenario, although the contractor has an existing obligation to Developer A to perform electrical installation work, he has no pre-existing obligation to Developer B. When the contractor performs the electrical work for Developer B's property, this performance confers a direct benefit on Developer B in the new contract between them, satisfying the requirement for valid consideration. The fact that the contractor is performing similar work for another party (Developer A) does not negate the benefit that Developer B receives from the contractor's performance under their separate agreement.

**82. Correct Answer:** (a) The restoration work is past consideration and generally invalid as it was completed before the uncle's promise of payment.

Reference Line: "Past consideration: generally invalid (*Re McArdle*), save for requested performance where (a) the act was done at the promisor's request, (b) both understood some reward would follow, and (c) it would have been enforceable if promised in advance"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option accurately applies the general rule regarding past consideration as stated in the passage, which explicitly provides that past consideration is "generally invalid" as demonstrated in *Re McArdle*. In this scenario, the nephew completed all the restoration work on the uncle's vintage car collection before the uncle made any promise of payment, meaning the work was performed in the past relative to the promise and cannot constitute the bargained-for exchange required for valid consideration. While the passage identifies narrow exceptions to this rule requiring that the act was done at the promisor's request with mutual understanding that reward would follow and would have been enforceable if promised in advance, none of these conditions are satisfied here because the nephew acknowledges there was no discussion about payment before the work began and the uncle never requested the restoration work.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly suggests that conferring economic benefit on the promisor can constitute valid consideration for a subsequent promise, failing to recognize the fundamental temporal requirement that consideration must be given in exchange for the promise rather than completed before

the promise is made. The passage explicitly identifies past consideration as "generally invalid" under *Re McArdle*, meaning that acts performed before a promise is made cannot normally constitute the bargained-for exchange that is essential to consideration doctrine. While the restoration work may have conferred substantial benefit on the uncle by increasing the value of his vehicles, the passage makes clear that past acts, even highly beneficial ones, do not satisfy the consideration requirement absent the very specific circumstances outlined in the exceptions from *Lampleigh v Braithwaite*, none of which are present here.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option mischaracterizes the facts by suggesting the nephew performed the work at the uncle's request with mutual understanding of payment, when the scenario explicitly states that before beginning the restoration work, there was no discussion about any payment, the uncle never requested the work, and never indicated any expectation of compensation. The passage provides that the exception to past consideration applies when "(a) the act was done at the promisor's request, (b) both understood some reward would follow," with both conditions being necessary. The facts clearly negate both elements: the work was voluntary and unsolicited (not done at the uncle's request), and there was no mutual understanding about payment (no discussion of compensation beforehand), making this option factually and legally incorrect.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option selectively applies only the third element of the three-part exception test without recognizing that all three requirements must be satisfied simultaneously for past acts to constitute valid consideration, and in this scenario the first two requirements are clearly absent. The passage states that the exception applies when "(a) the act was done at the promisor's request, (b) both understood some reward would follow, and (c) it would have been enforceable if promised in advance," with all three conditions being necessary. While hypothetically the restoration work might have been enforceable if the uncle had promised payment before the work commenced, this alone does not satisfy the exception when the work was neither done at the uncle's request nor performed with mutual understanding that compensation would follow.



**83. Correct Answer:** (b) The landlord cannot claim the accumulated shortfall for the recession period but can demand full rent going forward.

Reference Line: "In High Trees, a landlord who promised reduced wartime rent, intending reliance, was estopped from claiming arrears for that period; the full rent revived once wartime conditions ended."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option correctly states that promissory estoppel is generally suspensory rather than extinctive and that it cannot create new rights, but it wrongly concludes that these characteristics allow the landlord to claim accumulated shortfalls for the period when the promise was operative and the tenant reasonably relied upon it. The passage specifically describes the High Trees case where the landlord was "estopped from claiming arrears for that period" when the promise was in effect during wartime conditions, even though "the full rent revived once wartime conditions ended," demonstrating that while estoppel is suspensory in the sense that rights can revive for the future, it does prevent claims for past periods when the promise was reasonably relied upon by the promisee. The suspensory nature means future rights revive prospectively, not that past arrears become retrospectively claimable.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately applies the principle from High Trees as described in the passage, where the landlord who promised reduced rent during specific conditions (wartime) was estopped from claiming arrears for the period when those conditions persisted and the promise operated, but the full rent revived once the conditions ended. In this scenario, the landlord promised reduced rent "until market conditions improve and your business stabilizes," the tenant relied on this promise by restructuring operations for eighteen months during the recession, and the landlord cannot now claim the shortfall for those eighteen months when the promise was operative. However, once market conditions recovered and the tenant's business returned to profitability, the landlord can reinstate the original £5,000 monthly rent for future periods, consistent with the suspensory nature of promissory estoppel described in the passage.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option wrongly suggests that promissory estoppel requires detrimental change of position when the passage explicitly states that reliance is established by "a low threshold, acting differently because of the promise," indicating that

detriment is not a necessary requirement for establishing reliance sufficient for estoppel. The passage describes the second requirement of estoppel as "reliance by the promisee (a low threshold, acting differently because of the promise)," demonstrating that the doctrine requires only that the promisee acted differently in reliance on the promise, not that the promisee suffered detriment. In this scenario, the tenant clearly acted differently by restructuring business operations based on the reduced rent, satisfying the reliance requirement even without proving specific financial detriment beyond the operational changes.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option overstates the effect of promissory estoppel by suggesting it permanently extinguished the landlord's right to full rent for the eighteen-month period, when the passage explicitly describes estoppel as "generally suspensory, not extinguishing rights" and provides that "when the basis for the concession ends, original rights can be reasserted (as in High Trees)." While the landlord cannot claim the accumulated shortfall for the recession period when the promise operated and the tenant relied, this is because enforcement would be inequitable during that period, not because the rights were permanently extinguished. The suspensory nature means the landlord's strict contractual right to full rent revives for future periods once the circumstances that justified the concession have ended, even though arrears for the past period remain unrecoverable due to the estoppel's operation during that time.

**84. Correct Answer:** (c) The supplier can claim the remaining £20,000 as paying less cannot discharge the whole debt even with signed acknowledgment.

Reference Line: "Part-payment of a debt: paying less cannot discharge the whole (Pinnel's Case; Foakes v Beer), subject to traditional exceptions (e.g., different thing/time/place)."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats the part-payment itself as valid consideration for the promise to accept less in full settlement, failing to recognize the specific rule articulated in Pinnel's Case and Foakes v Beer that payment of a lesser sum cannot constitute good consideration for discharge of a larger debt. The passage explicitly states that "paying less cannot discharge the whole," which means that the supplier's promise to accept £60,000 in satisfaction of



an £80,000 debt is not supported by consideration because the business owner is simply paying part of what is already owed. The business owner has provided no benefit to the supplier or undertaken no detriment beyond the pre-existing obligation to pay, and merely performing part of an existing debt obligation cannot constitute the bargained-for exchange required for valid consideration under the doctrine.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option attempts to apply the practical benefit exception from *Williams v Roffey* to the part-payment of debts scenario, but the passage explicitly states that "practical benefit does not validate part-payment of debts" citing *Foakes v Beer* and *Re Selectmove*, representing a deliberate limitation on the practical benefit doctrine. This means that even if the supplier obtained practical advantages from receiving £60,000 immediately in cash rather than pursuing potentially costly and uncertain litigation, this practical benefit cannot validate the discharge of the remaining £20,000. The passage creates a bright-line rule that part-payment cannot discharge a debt regardless of practical benefits to the creditor, distinguishing debt settlement cases from contractual variation cases where the practical benefit exception may apply.

Option (c) Correct: This option accurately applies the rule from *Pinnel's Case* and *Foakes v Beer* as stated in the passage, which provides that part-payment of a debt cannot discharge the whole debt even when the creditor agrees to accept the lesser amount in full settlement and provides written acknowledgment. The

passage explicitly states "paying less cannot discharge the whole" and notes this principle is "subject to traditional exceptions (e.g., different thing/time/place)." In this scenario, the business owner paid £60,000 when the full £80,000 was due at the same time, and payment of a lesser amount of money at the due date does not fall within any traditional exception. The signed receipt stating "full and final settlement" does not bind the supplier because the promise to accept less was not supported by valid consideration, making it unenforceable regardless of how clearly documented.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option reverses the legal burden and misunderstands the operation of the part-payment rule by suggesting the supplier must prove duress to claim the balance, when in fact the rule provides that the supplier can claim the balance as a matter of law unless the business owner can establish one of the recognized exceptions to the rule. The passage makes clear that paying less cannot discharge the whole debt, meaning the supplier's legal right to the full amount survives despite the agreement to accept less and the signed acknowledgment, and this right does not depend on proving duress or any other vitiating factor. The signed receipt stating "full and final settlement" does not bind the supplier because the promise to accept less was not supported by valid consideration, making the supplier's ability to claim the balance a function of the consideration doctrine rather than requiring proof of defects in the agreement's formation.

## Section - D : Logical Reasoning

**85. Correct Answer:** (b) India's healthcare framework addresses acute stroke phases but neglects sustained recovery.

Reference Line: "Unfortunately, India's healthcare system still prioritises acute treatment over long-term rehabilitation."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option refers to inadequate diagnostic services and an increase in stroke-related mortality in rural areas. While rural access is briefly discussed in the passage, the author does not highlight diagnostic services or mortality as the central concern. Instead, the passage strongly focuses on the lack of long-term rehabilitation, not early diagnosis or death rates. Moreover, the idea that rural patients "suffer higher mortality" is not supported anywhere in the passage. The passage suggests that survival is increasingly

possible, but recovery is compromised by systemic neglect of follow-up care. This option shifts the argument from long-term disability and recovery to mortality, which is not the author's primary concern. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option accurately captures the essence of the author's argument. The author recognizes that India has made strides in early stroke treatment, such as the use of clot-busting medications and emergency interventions. However, the core of the passage revolves around the lack of a structured, accessible, and affordable rehabilitation system to support survivors after this initial treatment. The argument is built on the idea that treatment cannot end with survival, and that long-term recovery is equally essential. By stating that the healthcare system addresses the acute phase but neglects the post-acute phase, this option precisely summarizes the imbalance and systemic gap that the

author criticizes. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option focuses on the cost of medication as a primary cause of poor outcomes. While the author does briefly mention the cost of acute treatment, including medication, the argument is not centered around drug pricing. The financial burden discussed in the passage relates more to the prolonged cost of rehabilitation therapy, which continues over months or years, often without insurance coverage. Thus, while cost is a theme, this option narrows it to a cause not highlighted as central, and thereby misrepresents the author's core concern. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option introduces the idea that insurance supports treatment but not preventive care. This is not reflected in the passage. In fact, the passage explicitly criticizes the lack of insurance coverage for rehabilitation, not for preventive care. Preventive measures or early interventions like stroke detection are not even mentioned in the passage. The author is not comparing insurance coverage between treatment and prevention, but instead arguing for the inclusion of post-treatment rehabilitation in insurance models. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**86. Correct Answer:** (a) Early rehabilitation improves functional recovery but is often delayed due to family neglect.

Reference Line: "Less than 20% of stroke survivors in India receive structured rehabilitation..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option claims that rehabilitation is delayed because of family neglect, implying that the primary reason patients do not get timely rehab is the carelessness or inaction of relatives. This contradicts the passage's repeated emphasis on systemic and structural issues: the lack of trained professionals, poor insurance coverage, geographical limitations, and infrastructural gaps. The passage presents caregivers as overburdened and unsupported, not negligent. In fact, it evokes sympathy for caregivers who are forced into roles for which they are unprepared. Therefore, attributing delay in rehab to family neglect goes against the core premise of the argument. If everything in the passage is accepted as true, this statement must be considered false because it replaces institutional failure with familial failure, which is never suggested by the author. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option is consistent with what the passage says. The author highlights that rehabilitation units are concentrated in large hospitals, mostly found in metro cities, and that rural and small-town populations are largely excluded from this access. This creates a geographic divide in rehabilitation services. The option doesn't introduce new reasoning but is compatible with the facts provided in the passage. Therefore, it could be true if the passage is true. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage provides empirical support for this option by referencing studies that found over 60% of caregivers experience depression or anxiety within the first six months of caregiving. The author discusses the emotional toll, financial burden, and social isolation faced by caregivers. These psychological burdens are a major theme in the passage and are presented as a consequence of poor systemic support. Therefore, if the passage is true, this statement is also true. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This statement is strongly supported by the author's description of stroke survivors returning home with limited mobility, cognitive impairments, and no structured rehabilitation. The passage emphasizes that without ongoing therapy, these conditions often worsen, leading to permanent disability. Therefore, the idea that many patients return home with ongoing disabilities due to lack of follow-up care is in full alignment with the argument presented. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**87. Correct Answer:** (c) Train community health workers to provide basic neuro-rehabilitation in rural districts.

Reference Line: "Greater investment is needed to train physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and speech-language pathologists."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Although providing subsidised clot-dissolving drugs may help during the acute phase of stroke care, the passage indicates that India has already improved emergency treatment access. The author's concern is not immediate treatment, but the absence of consistent rehabilitation after stabilization. Focusing on medication costs does not resolve long-term disability, which is the core issue discussed. Therefore, while beneficial, this course of action does not respond to the author's main argument about rehabilitation. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Constructing MRI centres would expand diagnostic capacity but would not improve rehabilitation access, which is the central concern of the passage. MRI machines help with identifying stroke damage during the early emergency phase, which the author states is already better supported than long-term recovery. This option misallocates resources by improving the part of the system the author believes is comparatively stronger rather than addressing the weakest link in recovery continuity. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option aligns with the author's emphasis on expanding the availability of rehabilitation services beyond major metropolitan hospitals. Training community health workers would help bridge the gap in regions where formally trained specialists are scarce and ensure early intervention continues after discharge. It acknowledges both the shortage of professionals and the burden placed on families,

supporting the argument that rehabilitation must be accessible and sustained. By decentralizing rehabilitation skill-building, this approach directly addresses the systemic gaps the author identifies. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) Encouraging caregivers to rely on online forums implies that emotional strain and skill gaps can be resolved through peer communication. The passage shows that caregivers are overwhelmed because rehabilitation duties are medically demanding and emotionally heavy, and therefore require structured professional support. Suggesting online forums shifts responsibility back to families, which the author criticizes as already overburdened, and does not solve the core structural issue. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**88. Correct Answer:** (a) National health budgets allocate a minor fraction to services beyond acute care treatment.

Reference Line: "India's healthcare system still prioritises acute treatment over long-term rehabilitation."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option strengthens the author's argument by providing systemic proof that rehabilitation is institutionally undervalued in policy and funding decisions. Budget allocation reflects governmental priorities, and if most funds are directed toward acute treatment rather than rehabilitation, it confirms the imbalance emphasized in the passage. This supports the claim that the neglect of rehabilitation is structural rather than incidental or situational. Demonstrating this resource disparity reinforces the passage's core argument about insufficient institutional emphasis on long-term recovery. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option shifts the focus to stroke medication availability rather than rehabilitation services. While the lack of medication may be a concern for emergency treatment, the passage states that acute care has improved and is not the underserved phase of stroke management. Therefore, highlighting medication shortages does not address the central issue of post-stroke rehabilitation being undervalued. It diverts the emphasis to an area not central to the author's critique. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option suggests that rehabilitation centres exist in disadvantaged areas but are difficult to access. However, the author states that rehabilitation facilities are predominantly concentrated in large metropolitan hospitals, indicating they are scarce in many regions. Therefore, this option contradicts the described problem by assuming broader availability than the passage supports. It shifts the issue from systemic absence to transportation challenges, which is not the

core argument. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) If patients report satisfaction with hospital care despite inadequate rehabilitation, it weakens the author's argument because it implies that stakeholders do not perceive rehabilitation as essential. This would suggest rehabilitation is undervalued by patients rather than by the healthcare system, thereby conflicting with the author's claim of systemic structural neglect. It reduces urgency instead of reinforcing the need for reform. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**89. Correct Answer:** (a) Meaningful recovery from stroke depends as much on sustained support as on emergency care.

Reference Line: "Rehabilitation is not an optional service – it is an essential part of stroke recovery."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option identifies an unstated but necessary belief that underlies the entire argument. The author insists that rehabilitation is essential and criticizes the system for neglecting it. For that argument to be valid, one must assume that emergency treatment alone does not ensure full recovery, and that rehabilitation plays an equally critical role in restoring function and quality of life. Without this assumption, the author's call for reform, policy change, and investment in long-term care would lose its foundation. The passage does not state this belief explicitly, but it must be accepted for the reasoning to hold. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option makes a claim about the diagnostic abilities of Indian families, which the author never references. Stroke detection, public awareness, or early symptom recognition by families is outside the scope of the passage. The author focuses entirely on institutional shortcomings in rehabilitation, not on household awareness or detection capabilities. Since the argument does not depend on this belief to be valid, it is not an assumption. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option suggests that the private sector is reluctant to support rural rehabilitation infrastructure. However, the author never attributes the rehabilitation crisis to private sector reluctance or investment failures. The argument is targeted at public healthcare policy and systemic gaps, particularly in government infrastructure and insurance coverage. As such, the argument does not rely on any assumption about the intentions or actions of private actors. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option introduces a contradiction to the author's view. The author acknowledges improvements in acute care (such as the availability of clot-busting drugs and emergency treatments) and

does not minimize their importance. This option wrongly assumes the author believes early intervention is ineffective for long-term outcomes, which would weaken the case for building on those improvements through rehabilitation. The author's position is that both early treatment and long-term care are essential. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**90. Correct Answer:** (d) Informal caregiving without proper support leads to emotional, physical, and financial burnout.

Reference Line: "The sudden shift into a full-time caregiving role can lead to emotional exhaustion, financial stress and social isolation."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option highlights the personal sacrifices made by caregivers but does not establish that the burden arises from systemic healthcare failures, which is what the question is testing. The author's focus is not just on the personal costs of caregiving, but on how these burdens are exacerbated by the lack of formal institutional support. Without tying caregiver strain to system-level inadequacy, this option only partially supports the fact in question. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option points to a workforce issue—low compensation discouraging professionals from entering rehabilitation. While it indirectly relates to access problems, it shifts the focus to provider incentives rather than caregiver consequences. The question seeks to support the claim about strain on informal caregivers, not professional supply shortages. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option introduces a geographical inequality between urban and rural survivors, suggesting better access in cities. Although this aligns with part of the passage, it does not emphasize caregiver burden, which is the central fact to be supported here. The option focuses on patient access, whereas the question concerns caregiver experience due to system gaps. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option addresses the precise issue discussed by the author: the heavy toll on caregivers caused by the absence of structured rehabilitation systems, trained personnel, and mental health support. The author links the healthcare system's failure to support survivors with the resulting emotional and financial collapse of caregivers, especially in the absence of institutional help. This option is closely aligned with the fact and provides a clear, causative explanation of caregiver burnout. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

**91. Correct Answer:** (a) The BJP's electoral use of caste reflects a recalibration of its ideological commitment to end caste-based identity politics.

Reference Line: "The abolition of caste-based reservation is a long-term goal the BJP aspires to achieve, but it may not be immediately realisable. In the meantime... strategically leveraging the insights offered by the caste census data."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option reflects a nuanced inference that the BJP is adapting its long-term ideological agenda to present-day political realities. While the party's stated aim is to move toward a casteless society, its current strategies involve using detailed caste data to fragment large social groups and court smaller sub-castes. This suggests a pragmatic recalibration of its ideals, not a complete abandonment of them. The contradiction between ideological aspiration and strategic necessity is not explicitly stated but emerges clearly from the interplay between long-term goals and short-term political behavior. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option mistakenly asserts that the BJP's strength rests on upper-caste consolidation, which the passage does not support. The text focuses extensively on how the party mobilizes smaller, neglected backward castes, often to the detriment of traditional dominant groups. The author provides several examples of outreach to non-Yadav OBCs, non-Kurmi groups, and SC sub-castes, indicating that the electoral strategy moves away from relying on historically powerful upper castes. This misreading makes the inference both factually unsupported and thematically inconsistent. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option proposes that the BJP is trying to unify backward groups through a cohesive narrative, but the passage shows the opposite. The party deliberately exploits intra-group resentments and inequities to divide larger blocs. Instead of fostering unity, it identifies neglected sub-castes and offers them political space, thus weakening collective identities. The author even suggests that this tactic "forestall[s] solidarities," making it evident that the BJP is not promoting cohesion but rather using disaggregation to expand its base. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage does not support the claim that caste census data has shaped the BJP's economic agenda. Instead, it emphasizes how caste data is used to structure electoral coalitions and fragment larger caste blocs. There is no mention of using such data for economic reforms, resource allocation, or development indicators. The use of data is framed within a sociopolitical context, focusing on identity mobilization rather than economic policymaking. As such, this option misrepresents the nature of the BJP's engagement with caste-disaggregated information. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.



**92. Correct Answer:** (b) Intra-group caste distinctions are increasingly significant in shaping electoral strategies among major political parties.

Reference Line: “The BJP has already instrumentalised intra-group inequities and resentments to build electorally successful coalitions.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage never indicates that privileged castes have lost political dominance as a result of the BJP’s caste-based outreach. On the contrary, the author implies that fragmenting backward and marginalized caste blocs may in fact preserve or shield upper-caste dominance by preventing solidarity among the oppressed. The assertion in this option takes the argument too far and contradicts the implication that existing hierarchies may remain intact or even be protected through these strategies. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This statement reflects a necessary truth based on the passage’s core argument. The author stresses that intra-group differences—such as those between dominant and non-dominant OBCs, or among Scheduled Castes—are no longer incidental but have become critical levers for electoral engineering. The BJP’s success, as outlined in multiple state-specific examples, relies on addressing these micro-identities within larger caste blocs. The use of caste census data and strategic co-option of smaller sub-castes confirms that intra-group caste distinctions now play a central role in electoral design. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) While the passage concedes that some caste policies address “genuine intra-group disparities,” it also suggests that these measures can be used politically. The author maintains a nuanced view, indicating that not all initiatives are socially motivated. Therefore, to state that all caste-based policies are primarily meant to restructure hierarchies misrepresents the author’s balanced perspective and assigns a singular motivation to diverse strategies. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Tamil Nadu’s model is cited as a precedent or inspiration, but the passage explicitly describes how other states have approached sub-categorisation differently—based on local caste configurations and political goals. The BJP’s strategy varies across states, as seen in Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, and Bihar. There is no indication that the central government has institutionalised Tamil Nadu’s model nationwide, which makes this claim factually unsound. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**93. Correct Answer:** (c) The BJP promotes cultural unification through Hindutva yet simultaneously encourages fragmented caste assertion for electoral gains.

Reference Line: “This has been the Sangh Parivar’s strategy: to target relatively neglected backward castes and tribes and culturally mould them into its support base...”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option points to an inconsistency between ideological commitment and political strategy, but the contradiction is not conceptually rich enough to be called a true paradox. It shows how a party’s public vision contrasts with its tactical behavior, which is a form of political pragmatism rather than an absurd or contradictory proposition that reveals a deeper truth when explored. While important, this contrast does not embody the philosophical tension or unexpected coexistence that defines a paradox. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option refers to a variation in central and state-level policy stances, but this is not paradoxical in nature. Federal systems often allow political parties to adapt their messaging and tactics based on local contexts, and such differentiated positioning is more reflective of administrative pragmatism than a contradiction in principle. The tension here is procedural rather than conceptual, and thus does not qualify as a paradox in the logical sense. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This is the most fitting paradox because it juxtaposes two seemingly incompatible strategies: promoting a unified Hindu identity through Hindutva while simultaneously leveraging the very caste divisions that Hindutva supposedly transcends. Caste fragmentation, by definition, undermines the unifying cultural narrative, yet the BJP manages to use both in tandem. This contradiction becomes intelligible only when examined in the political context where both goals serve different functions — cultural cohesion at the national level and electoral segmentation at the regional level. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option highlights a form of political hypocrisy — publicly rejecting identity politics while privately relying on it — but it does not create a paradox in the logical or structural sense. The behavior described is contradictory, but it does not involve two opposing principles being pursued as part of a coherent strategy. Rather, it reflects a dissonance between rhetoric and action, which is a common political maneuver rather than a paradox that demands deeper investigation. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**94. Correct Answer:** (b) Electoral outcomes in regions with active sub-categorisation campaigns show no significant gains for the BJP.

Reference Line: “The BJP has already instrumentalised intra-group inequities and resentments to build electorally successful coalitions.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult



Explanation:

(a) This option suggests that caste reclassification decisions were made based on institutional and legal assessments rather than political convenience. However, even if the process was rigorous, that does not rule out the possibility that the BJP still supported or timed these efforts to extract political benefit. Institutional review may influence the decision-making process, but it does not necessarily negate electoral motivations. The passage's argument is about political intent, and this option only partially affects that. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option undermines the premise that sub-categorisation is a politically effective tool. If empirical evidence shows that the BJP failed to gain electoral advantage in areas where such tactics were used, then the strategy appears misaligned with its intended purpose. It challenges the assumption that these policies are primarily motivated by vote-bank politics. Without tangible political gains, the rationale behind such targeted strategies would shift away from electoral logic. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) While national rhetoric about unity may appear inconsistent with caste-based strategies, this does not weaken the argument about electoral motivation. Politicians often craft messages that vary across scales — unifying themes for national platforms and identity-based appeals for state or local elections. This kind of duality in messaging is common in politics and does not in itself invalidate the claim that sub-categorisation is electorally motivated. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The fact that economic issues influence voter behavior more than caste issues in general does not directly challenge the motivation behind the BJP's actions. Political strategies can be based on a range of assumptions, including niche identity appeals that work for specific constituencies. Moreover, voter perception and party intent are separate variables. Even if caste politics is not universally persuasive, it could still be used where it is effective. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**95. Correct Answer:** (a) The party has framed the Pasmanda Muslim identity as distinct to encourage reservation-based political participation.

Reference Line: "The BJP's effort to forge a 'Pasmanda Muslim' narrative—explicitly distinguishing socially and economically backward Ajlaf and Arzal Muslim communities from the elite Ashraf segment—demonstrates how caste-disaggregated data can be wielded selectively."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option reflects the central idea of "selective wielding" by showing how caste-disaggregated data is not just used descriptively but strategically — in this case, to separate out a marginalized segment within a religious group and promote it as a political identity.

The BJP's cultivation of the Pasmanda Muslim narrative serves both to target a sub-group with promises of inclusion and to subtly divide a larger minority bloc. This is a clear example of how data is wielded in a politically advantageous but selective manner. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option touches on inclusion of previously neglected groups but focuses on caste groups absent from official records, which suggests a gap-filling or data-updating exercise rather than a strategic selection. It lacks the element of purposeful differentiation or political framing that characterizes selective wielding. The passage does not indicate whether these artisan castes were chosen to meet electoral ends, making this option less aligned with the specific claim. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Forming pacts with dominant OBCs reflects tactical electoral alignment but does not necessarily involve the manipulation of caste-disaggregated data. The strategy described here focuses on already established communities, not the selective activation or reclassification of data-defined sub-groups. It is a conventional political move, not an example of selective wielding of data to reshape group boundaries or create new political identities. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Releasing caste data to guide funding decisions suggests transparent policy-making rather than strategic identity construction. While the publication of such data may influence political dynamics, this scenario lacks the element of selectivity — the party is not using the data to emphasize or suppress specific identities for electoral gain. Instead, the proposal implies open use of data in developmental planning, not selective deployment to influence voting patterns. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**96. Correct Answer:** (a) The approach has allowed smaller backward castes to view the BJP as a vehicle for social recognition and policy inclusion.

Reference Line: "The party builds alternative hegemonies and expands its support base by breaking down dominant caste blocs and empowering smaller groups."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option accurately evaluates the strategy's effectiveness by linking the party's outreach to smaller castes with a tangible political benefit: perceptual alignment. By targeting communities that historically lacked representation, the BJP positions itself as an advocate for inclusion, which enhances its appeal among these groups. This aligns closely with the passage's description of alternative hegemonies built through fragmenting larger blocs and empowering sub-castes, making this a robust and conceptually consistent evaluation. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) Although the strategy may have resulted in voter shifts, the passage does not offer conclusive or widespread evidence of such patterns. Moreover, the statement assumes that the lack of backlash and party gains are consistent across regions, which oversimplifies a complex political landscape. Evaluating a strategy's effectiveness based on generalized electoral outcomes without contextual nuance weakens the reliability of this assessment. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) There is no mention in the passage of any resistance from constitutional or institutional bodies against the BJP's sub-categorisation policies. This option introduces external information and shifts the evaluation away from political effectiveness toward bureaucratic reaction, which is outside the scope of the author's argument. It addresses legitimacy rather than electoral consolidation, making it irrelevant for evaluating effectiveness as defined by the passage. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Improvement in public satisfaction with reservation policy might be a desirable outcome, but the question concerns electoral consolidation — not policy approval or citizen satisfaction. Moreover, the passage frames sub-categorisation primarily as a political strategy rather than a policy reform initiative, meaning the success should be measured by vote consolidation, not by public sentiment about reservation frameworks. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**97. Correct Answer:** (c) A multiyear tax treaty clean up caused temporary repatriations as legacy vehicles unwound positions.

Reference Line: "In 2024-25, foreigners repatriated \$52 billion, and Indians invested \$29 billion overseas, together totalling to about twice the outflow recorded two years earlier."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) A global minimum tax could indeed change corporate finance choices, yet it does not explain why both foreign repatriations and Indian outbound equity rose so sharply in the same window, nor why this would be benign for domestic investment conditions. Policy harmonization might reallocate profit booking but would not by itself double gross outflows unless accompanied by sentiment or valuation shifts. Therefore, it offers a partial story that does not directly address the author's charge that outflows signal a weakening domestic investment case. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Position closures around currency hedging concern balance sheet risk management rather than capital formation and would usually be visible in derivatives data rather than in large scale equity and FDI flows. Even if some investors took gains on dollar positions,

that would not plausibly account for the magnitude and breadth of the outflow numbers cited by the author. The explanation therefore lacks scope and fails to rebut the core contention that the surge reflects deeper concerns about deploying capital in India. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option presents a transient, policy induced mechanism that can inflate outflows without implying a deterioration in India's risk reward profile. If treaty revisions forced funds that historically routed through certain jurisdictions to settle gains and repatriate capital, the resulting spike would reflect compliance timing rather than pessimism about India. This would undercut the author's narrative that the surge evidences deeper fragility and would align with a mature market that cleans up channels while preserving investment appetite. It also fits the data pattern of a sharp two year rise that could unwind as structures normalize, which would most effectively counter the structural weakness claim. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) An acceleration in outbound M&A by Indian companies could lift overseas investment, yet it leaves unexplained the contemporaneous rise in foreign repatriations from India that dominates the author's statistic. Strategic acquisitions abroad do not automatically imply health at home if exit pressure from foreign owners grows at the same time. This option therefore cannot neutralize the author's inference that the combined outflows reflect weakness rather than a neutral rebalancing. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**98. Correct Answer:** (c) Efficient capital mobility usually strengthens credibility, so higher exits should be welcomed as evidence of depth.

Reference Line: "The Reserve Bank of India's commentary is either cynical or illiterate... This is nonsense."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author explicitly criticizes the RBI for portraying the exit surge as a positive sign of maturity and argues that the volume and composition of outflows undermine that framing. A stance that accepts smooth exits as good in isolation but refuses to read net outflows as comforting is aligned with the author's critique. Since it does not endorse the RBI's optimistic inference, it is compatible rather than in conflict with the author's view. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage asserts that the troubling action centers on the outflows and calls for soul searching, which implies that liquidity benefits do not erase the diagnostic signal from large withdrawals. Saying that liquidity is useful while urging scrutiny of fundamentals mirrors the author's tone and logic, not

an opposing stance. Therefore this reading would not be something the author would dispute. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option converts the fact of easy exits into a blanket endorsement of the outcome, implying that larger exits are themselves markers of depth that deserve applause. The author labels the RBI's framing as nonsense, insisting that the surge in exits contradicts narratives of impending greatness and should not be celebrated. Because this option echoes the very reasoning the author rejects, it captures the interpretation the author would most likely disagree with. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) Calling for differentiation between cyclical and structural drivers of exits is consistent with the author's demand for careful diagnosis of why capital is leaving despite growth rhetoric. The passage urges examination beyond slogans and highlights the mismatch with claims of an Indian decade, which supports a test of causality rather than complacency. This stance therefore sits alongside the author's critique rather than against it. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**99. Correct Answer:** (a) Labour-intensive manufacturing zones report declining investor inquiries despite abundant available workforce supply. Reference Line: "India is a poor country with a vast pool of surplus labour that supplies its services at pitifully low wages."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option shows that even in places where India's labor is plentiful and inexpensive, investor interest in manufacturing is weakening rather than growing. This directly supports the author's concern that low wages alone are not translating into productive investment, which is the core logic of the Lucas paradox discussed in the passage. If investor inquiries decline in these labor-rich zones, then the idea that India can rely on wage advantage to attract foreign factories is undermined. It aligns with the author's claim that structural barriers outweigh theoretical cost benefits. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) An increase in retail equity trading reflects internal financial speculation and expanding household participation in markets, which does not speak to foreign firms' willingness to commit long-term manufacturing capital. This concerns domestic stock behavior rather than sustained global investor judgment on India's industrial competitiveness. It does not indicate whether low wages are functioning as a magnet for productive investment. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Global commodity price volatility impacts many developing nations and does not uniquely explain India's inability to attract manufacturing despite labor cost advantages. It addresses external trade conditions rather than the structural capacity of the Indian

economy to convert wage conditions into capital inflow. The author's argument revolves around internal constraints, not fluctuation in export prices. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Growth in service outsourcing employment does show that India remains competitive in low-cost service delivery, but this does not relate to the manufacturing-based wage-advantage proposition at the heart of the paradox. Service expansion may coexist with weak manufacturing investment and therefore cannot confirm or strengthen the claim about India's failure to attract manufacturing capital. It is relevant to another sector entirely. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**100. Correct Answer:** (d) The interpretation that rising outflows are being misunderstood and require deeper structural evaluation instead.

Reference Line: "Indian and international elites, including such eminent people as Jeff Bezos, indulge in happy talk about an imminent Indian decade."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author challenges the idea that India is on the verge of manufacturing dominance by pointing to the declining net FDI and rising capital outflows. The passage suggests that this belief is based on optimism rather than evidence, making it a narrative that is inspirational but unsupported by current investment behavior. The author presents the manufacturing-superpower claim as part of the rhetoric used to portray India's rise, which contrasts sharply with the financial indicators described. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The Viksit Bharat ambition is framed alongside lofty claims of an approaching Indian century, which the author critiques by highlighting the contradiction between such future-oriented confidence and the present reality of capital flight. The author indicates that the progress narrative is overstated because investment patterns do not align with the promises of rapid advancement. Therefore, the expectation of achieving advanced-economy status by 2047 is treated as an aspirational myth. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author brings in the Lucas paradox to show that low wages do not automatically draw investment unless institutional conditions support productive deployment. The idea that cheap labor guarantees capital attraction is directly challenged in the passage, demonstrating that such a belief oversimplifies the investment decision-making process. This belief collapses when confronted with the evidence of investors choosing to leave rather than enter. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author insists that policymakers must examine why capital is leaving and consider underlying weaknesses rather than celebrating the ability of investors to exit. The suggestion to interpret outflows

critically is encouraged by the author and aligns with the call to investigate structural impediments rather than rely on slogans. This perspective is presented as an analytical stance grounded in evidence, not as a myth built on optimism. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

**101. Correct Answer:** (a) It assumes that transactional fluidity indicates sustained confidence rather than short-term risk avoidance behavior.

Reference Line: "This gush of funds out of India warrants soul-searching."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author argues that the RBI interprets the ability of investors to move funds out smoothly as proof that the system is healthy, yet the very scale of withdrawals may signal that investors anticipate better returns or stability elsewhere. The flaw here is confusing the ease of withdrawing capital with the desirability of staying invested, which are two separate economic conditions. If investors are exiting in large amounts, this may indicate declining confidence rather than maturity. Therefore, the RBI's interpretation overlooks the intention behind the movement. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option frames outflows as a matter of routine profit scheduling, but the author points to the unprecedented magnitude of capital leaving as evidence of something deeper than normal financial cycles. The author challenges not the fact of exit, but the positive interpretation assigned to it. Suggesting profit realization does not address the core misinterpretation that the author criticizes. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author does not claim that the RBI assumes uniform motives among investors, so this does not represent the reasoning flaw at issue. The central problem is not the variety of motivations but the interpretation of aggregate exit behavior as a sign of economic strength. Since this option shifts focus to portfolio strategies rather than interpretive error, it does not match the author's critique. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) While the RBI may associate maturity with the capability for smooth inflows and outflows, the author's objection is not to the metric of maturity but to the conclusion drawn from current conditions. The problematic inference is not that transferability is

valuable, but that high outflow volumes should be seen positively. This option identifies a secondary mischaracterization rather than the key flaw. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**102. Correct Answer:** (b) Systemic constraints may be preventing India from translating theoretical investment potential into realized capital inflows.

Reference Line: "Invites us to examine weaknesses that prevent poor economies from taking advantage..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option shifts responsibility to global monetary conditions, but the author's focus is on internal barriers that limit India's competitiveness. The argument does not attribute investment exits to temporary global factors but to weaknesses in India's economic environment that contradict the optimistic growth narrative. Therefore, this explanation does not align with the reasoning in the passage. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author highlights a paradox where India's low labor costs and predicted rise as a global manufacturing center are not translating into growing investment inflows. Instead, the data shows rising repatriation by foreign firms and larger overseas investments by Indian firms. This discrepancy suggests that underlying structural issues limit India's ability to convert theoretical advantages into actual capital attraction. Therefore, the conclusion that systemic constraints are impeding realizable growth follows logically from the passage. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) While Mauritius is highlighted as a suspiciously large source of inflows, the author uses it to show opacity and routing practices, not to claim that India's entire capital environment is dependent on tax havens. The author's critique concerns broader structural conditions rather than a single jurisdiction. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author states that Indian firms are investing abroad more than before, but does not conclude that domestic opportunities have vanished entirely. Rather, the argument is about unfavorable conditions preventing India from becoming the investment destination it is believed to be. Therefore, the claim overstates the author's position. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

**104. Correct answer:** (a) tasks

Explanation: "hi" appears only in sentences (4) and (5).

Sentence (4): tough, tasks, need, patience → to, cu, hi, re

Sentence (5): smart, tasks, grow, faster → ge, lu, hi, zo

The common word is tasks, so "tasks" = hi.

**103. Correct answer:** (b) ka

Explanation: "people" appears in sentences (1) and (3).

Codes in (1): mi, su, ka, re, lu

Codes in (3): ka, zo, na, pi

The common code is ka, so "people" = ka.

105. **Correct answer:** (b) lu zo

Explanation: From sentences (1) and (5):

“smart” appears in (1) and (5). Common code between {mi, su, ka, re, lu} and {ge, lu, hi, zo} is lu → smart = lu.

“grow” appears in (3) and (5). Common code between {ka, zo, na, pi} and {ge, lu, hi, zo} is zo → grow = zo.

Thus, “smart grow” can be coded as lu zo.

106. **Correct answer:** (a) da

Explanation: “clear” appears only in sentence (2):

“problems need clear thinking” → pi, da, su, to. In (2), we already know:

problems = su (common between sentences 1 and 2)

thinking = pi (common between sentences 2 and 3)

need = to (common between sentences 2 and 4)

The remaining code da must represent “clear”.

107. **Correct answer:** (c) da cu

Explanation: From the sentences we derived:

clear = da (only remaining code in sentence 2 after assigning others),

patience = cu (only remaining code in sentence 4 after assigning others).

So any correct code for “clear patience” must contain both da and cu together. Among the options, only (a) da cu satisfies this, so it is the only correct answer.

108. **Correct answer:** (d) na

Explanation: “thinking helps people grow” (sentence 3) is coded as ka, zo, na, pi.

We have already identified:

thinking = pi (from overlap between sentences 2 and 3)

people = ka (from Q1)

grow = zo (from overlap between sentences 3 and 5)

The remaining code na corresponds to “helps”.



## Section - E : Quantitative Aptitude

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

Explanation:

$$t_1 = 4/18 = 0.222...h = 13m20s$$

$$t_2 = 8/15 = 0.533...h = 32m$$

$$\text{Total} = 45m20s.$$

$$7:30 + 45:20 = 8:15:20 \text{ a.m.}$$

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

Explanation:

$$t_1 = 1.2/4.5 = 16 \text{ min};$$

$$t_2 = 1.2/3.6 = 20 \text{ min};$$

$$t_3 = 0.6/5.4 = 6 \text{ min } 40 \text{ s.}$$

$$\text{Sum} = 42 \text{ min } 40 \text{ s.}$$

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

Explanation:

$$\text{Metro cruise} = 16/40 = 24 \text{ min};$$

$$\text{halts} = 3 \text{ min}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{to Station N} = 27 \text{ min}$$

$$\Rightarrow 8:12 \text{ a.m.}$$

$$\text{Jog } 2/8 = 0.25 \text{ h} = 15 \text{ min}$$

$$\Rightarrow 8:27 \text{ a.m.}$$

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

Explanation:

$$\text{Time} = \frac{10}{30} + \frac{18}{54} + \frac{4}{60} = 0.3333 + 0.3333 + 0.0666 = 0.7333 \text{ h.}$$

$$\text{Avg speed} = 28/0.7333 = 38.1818 \text{ km/h} \approx 38.18 \text{ km/h.}$$

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

Explanation:

Departure: 12 min after Asha, so at 7:42 a.m.

Speed: 24 km/h

He stops for 2 min after 6 km.

$$\text{Time for 6 km} = 6/24 = 0.25 \text{ h} = 15 \text{ min}$$

At 7:59, Rohit resumes after his stop at 6 km.

By then Asha is at

Asha's location at 7:59 a.m.:

At 7:43:20, Asha finished 4 km (drizzle starts)

$$\text{Time from 7:43:20 to 7:59} = 15 \text{ min } 40 \text{ s} = 47/180 \text{ h}$$

So, distance covered in drizzle zone in 15 min 40 s at 15 km/h:

$$\text{Distance} = 15 \times 47/180 = 3.916 \text{ km}$$

$$\text{Total covered} = 4 \text{ km} + 3.9166 \text{ km} = 7.9166 \text{ km}$$

$$\text{Gap} = 7.9166 - 6 = 1.9166$$

Relative speeds after 7:59 a.m.

Asha: 15 km/h

Rohit: 24 km/h

Relative speed: 9 km/h faster

Time required to close 1.91666 km gap:

$$t = 1.9166/9 = 0.2137 \text{ h}$$

$$0.2137 \text{ h} \times 60 \text{ min} = 12.823... \text{ min} \approx 12 \text{ min } 47 \text{ s}$$

Asha's distance:

She was at 7.9166... km at 7:59

Time spent to catch: 0.2137 h

$$\text{Distance covered by Asha} = 15 \times 0.2137 = 3.206 \text{ km}$$

Total distance from start:

$$7.9166 + 3.2066 \approx 11.11 \text{ km}$$

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

Explanation:

$$\text{Time} = \text{Distance/Speed}$$

$$= 9/36 = 1/4 \text{ hour}$$

$$= 15 \text{ minutes.}$$

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

Explanation:

After 25% off:

$$300 \times 0.75 = ₹225$$

$$\text{Extra 10% off: } 225 \times 0.90 = ₹202.50$$

$$\text{GST 5%: } 202.50 \times 1.05 = ₹212.625 \approx ₹212.63.$$

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

Explanation:

$$\text{Students} = 480 \text{ at } ₹68 \Rightarrow ₹32,640.$$

$$\text{Adults} = 320 \text{ at } ₹108 \Rightarrow ₹34,560.$$

$$\text{Total } ₹67,200.$$

$$\text{Average} = 67,200/800 = ₹84$$

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

Explanation:

$$40\% \text{ markup} \Rightarrow ₹28$$

Buy 4 and 20% combos  $\Rightarrow$  Effective ₹22.40 per pack

$$\text{Revenue} = 48 \times 22.40 + 48 \times 28 = ₹1,075.20 + ₹1,344 = ₹2,419.20$$

$$\text{Average} = 2,419.20/96 = ₹25.20.$$

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

Explanation:

$$\text{GST per bottle} = 202.50 \times 0.05 = ₹10.125$$

$$\text{For 30 bottles: } 30 \times 10.125 = ₹303.75$$

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

Explanation:

$$\text{Excess} = 1,92,000 - 1,50,000 = ₹42,000$$

$$\text{Bonus} = 0.08 \times 42,000 = ₹3,360$$

$$\text{Total} = 25,000 + 3,360 = ₹28,360.$$

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

Explanation: If planned selling value is S, planned cost = 0.65S

With 8% wastage, revenue = 0.92S

$$\text{Actual margin} = (0.92S - 0.65S)/0.92S$$

$$= 0.27S/0.92S = 0.2935 \approx 29.35\%.$$