

**COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST
(CLAT) 2026 Mock 202610:
ANSWER KEY AND SOLUTION**



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

Section - A : English Comprehension

1. Correct Answer: (a) It asserts that global stability is dependent on hegemonic control and lacks historical nuance.

Reference Line: "The premise of HST, crafted by Americans at the height of the American century, however, is wrong. History shows us that there are other pathways to international order, and that stability does not require hegemony."

Explanation:

(a) The author directly critiques the foundational assumption of HST—that global stability can only be achieved when a dominant power oversees the international system. He highlights how this model, "crafted by Americans," ignores alternative historical frameworks where world order existed without a hegemon. The passage urges a more nuanced view, pointing out that historical evidence undermines the necessity of hegemonic enforcement. The emphasis is on the theory's rigidity and failure to acknowledge multipolar or decentralized arrangements. This directly aligns with the author's core argument against HST. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) Although HST does consider military strength as one aspect of hegemony, the author does not isolate it as the sole or primary problem. The theory includes economic and ideological dominance, not just military power. Furthermore, the criticism in the passage is broader—it attacks the premise of needing a singular hegemon, not merely a preference for force over regional cooperation. Thus, this option misrepresents the scope and framing of the author's critique. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option introduces a speculative and evolutionary element not found in the author's discussion. The passage does not claim that HST views hegemony as a civilizational consequence or progression of economic dominance. Instead, the author critiques the normative assumption that hegemony is required at all, regardless of its historical development. The phrase "natural progression" implies inevitability, which is neither claimed by HST nor criticized directly in the passage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) While naval power is discussed in the context of Pax Americana being viewed as a "public good," this is not the central critique of HST itself. The author's issue is with the larger theoretical assumption of hegemonic necessity, not just with U.S. maritime dominance. Moreover, the concern over geopolitical shifts is mentioned in passing but not as the foundation of the criticism. Therefore, this option narrows the argument too much and misses the broader theoretical rejection. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

2. Correct Answer: (d) As a framework shaped by U.S. dominance in military, economic, and cultural domains. Reference Line: "A hegemonic power is generally expected to perform one or all of three main roles:... military power... economic actor... cultural and ideational leader..."

Explanation:

(a) Although the author notes that HST was developed by 20th-century American scholars, there is no indication that Pax Americana itself is portrayed as merely a retrospective Cold War construct. The focus remains on its structural features—military, economic, and ideational dominance—rather than on how it has been historically theorized. The passage critiques current fears about its decline but does not reduce it to scholarly reinterpretation alone. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option inaccurately characterizes Pax Americana as regional and collaborative. On the contrary, the passage describes it as a hegemonic order where one power, the U.S., takes on the dominant role globally. The three roles outlined—military enforcer, economic hub, and ideological leader—emphasize unilateral dominance, not shared control or regional balancing. Therefore, this framing conflicts with how Pax Americana is defined by the author. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The term "multilateral" and references to "postcolonial cooperation" do not appear anywhere in the passage, nor are they implied in the discussion of Pax Americana. The author frames the order as one constructed and upheld by the United States alone. There is no mention of trade flows being facilitated through collective global partnerships or postcolonial cooperation. This option projects themes that are outside the scope of the author's analysis. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option directly mirrors the author's definition of hegemonic leadership, as laid out in the passage. The United States is described as performing three primary roles: maintaining military security, acting as the central economic actor, and serving as a cultural-ideational model. These elements define the structure of Pax Americana in the passage, making this portrayal consistent and accurate. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

3. Correct Answer: (c) threatens

Reference Line: "...many thinkers now see China's growing power... as a consequential challenge... and fear that this assault on US hegemony portends disorder."

Explanation:

(a) “Escalates” implies intensification or increase in scale or severity, usually of an ongoing action. However, “portends” does not suggest the act of increasing a conflict or threat but rather a prediction or forewarning about a likely future outcome. The sentence suggests that thinkers fear future disorder due to China’s rise, not that the disorder is currently worsening. Thus, “escalates” misrepresents the predictive nature of the word “portends.” Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) “Conceals” means to hide or obscure, which is the opposite of what “portends” conveys. The passage uses the term to indicate that the growing power of China signals or indicates the possibility of global disorder. The notion of hiding is incompatible with this context, which is about visible and feared developments. Using “conceals” would entirely invert the author’s meaning. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) “Threatens” closely aligns with the meaning of “portends” in this context. The author describes a growing fear that China’s challenge to US hegemony could lead to instability or breakdown, which means it is seen as a potential danger. “Portends” here suggests that the rise of China foreshadows or warns of future disorder. This synonym captures both the predictive and ominous nature of the original word. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) “Regulates” refers to controlling or managing something, which has a neutral or even positive connotation. In contrast, “portends” indicates something ominous or threatening in the future. The phrase “portends disorder” cannot be read as implying control or regulation—it refers instead to a feared, negative development. The meanings of the two words diverge completely in tone and implication. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

4. Correct Answer: (a) That only a singular hegemon can maintain security across shared maritime routes.
 Reference Line: “US naval power is seen as a ‘public good’... many thinkers now see China’s growing power... as a consequential challenge... portends disorder.”

Explanation:

(a) This option directly reflects the logic of hegemonic stability theory, which the author explains is rooted in the belief that the hegemon provides public goods such as maritime security. US naval power is viewed as the stabilizing force, and China’s challenge is perceived as endangering that structure. Therefore, the anxiety stems from the belief that without a dominant power, the international maritime system would descend into disorder. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) While naval modernization is mentioned in reference to China’s growing capabilities, the author does not suggest that anxiety arises due to economic powers lacking naval forces. The concern is not about underdeveloped navies but rather about the disruption caused by China’s increasing parity with the US. This

option misrepresents the core reasoning behind the fears expressed. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage makes no mention of smaller states playing a collective role in naval affairs, nor does it argue that trade declines under multilateral security arrangements. Instead, it critiques the assumption that only a hegemon like the US can ensure maritime stability. This option introduces an idea unrelated to the author’s discussion and fabricates an alternative basis for fear. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Although the passage references “Pax Americana” and alludes to American-led structures, it does not suggest that regional maritime systems are limited to Cold War alliances. The fear stems from hegemonic decline, not outdated alliances. This option incorrectly locates the anxiety in historical affiliations rather than the theoretical foundation of hegemonic provision of order. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

5. Correct Answer: (b) History demonstrates that enduring world orders can exist without hegemonic enforcement.

Reference Line: “History shows us that there are other pathways to international order, and that stability does not require hegemony.”

Explanation:

(a) This option falsely assumes the author believes decentralisation leads to instability. In reality, the author argues against hegemonic necessity and presents decentralised or non-hegemonic orders as viable alternatives. There is no mention of civilisations collapsing due to the absence of a central power, and this statement contradicts the author’s reliance on historical evidence to undermine HST. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option accurately reflects the core claim in the final paragraph, where the author explicitly states that “stability does not require hegemony.” Historical examples are invoked to challenge the American-centric belief that dominance is essential for order. This directly supports the broader inference that multiple, non-hegemonic pathways to stability have existed and can exist. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Nowhere does the author support or imply this idea. On the contrary, the author critiques the idea that dominance—especially military—is necessary for maintaining peace or order. By highlighting maritime Asia’s stable past without a single hegemon, the passage suggests that stability can be organic and decentralized. Thus, this statement misrepresents the historical argument. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This statement introduces a rigid claim that alliances inherently fail in the absence of strong leadership. The passage does not mention the collapse of alliances or use diffusion of leadership as a trigger for instability. Instead, it critiques the belief that a

singular leader must exist to sustain order. The author's emphasis is on historical plurality, not fragility. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

6. Correct Answer: (a) theorized

Reference Line: "The premise of HST, crafted by Americans at the height of the American century..."

Explanation:

(a) The word "theorized" best captures the intended meaning, as the passage discusses how American scholars developed hegemonic stability theory based on their worldview at the time. The phrase refers to the intellectual construction of a conceptual framework, not an act of glorification or enforcement. The use of "crafted" in an academic context aligns well with "theorized." Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) "Glorified" implies celebration or excessive praise, which does not match the neutral or critical tone used in the passage. The author discusses HST as a product of academic reasoning rather than propaganda. There is no suggestion that the theory was designed to praise America's dominance—it was meant to rationalize it. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) "Imposed" suggests coercion or forceful application, which is not the context in which HST is introduced. The theory is described as something formulated by American scholars, not something forced onto the international system through military or political compulsion. This interpretation adds an element of enforcement absent from the passage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) "Mobilized" typically refers to organizing resources or people for action, especially in military or political contexts. The development of a theory does not involve mobilization—it involves intellectual formulation. The phrase in the passage refers to academic authorship, not strategic execution, so this word does not accurately substitute. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

7. Correct Answer: (a) Vertigo is a disease caused by permanent brain malfunction.

Reference Line: "While it may not be a disease, it may be a sign of a problem of the inner ear or the brain."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage explicitly states that vertigo "may not be a disease" and instead can be a symptom indicating problems of the inner ear or brain, so to call it a disease caused by a permanent cerebral malfunction contradicts the author's careful framing; many causes listed (displaced crystals, inflammation, fluid build-up) are treatable or transient rather than permanently degenerative. The text emphasises diagnostic variety and treatability—Epley manoeuvres, medication, and VRT are presented as corrective measures—so presenting vertigo as an irreversible brain disease

misstates both cause and prognosis. Moreover, the author distinguishes vertigo from broader medical conditions, framing it as a sensory and neurological sign rather than a singular pathological diagnosis. Therefore, labelling it as a permanent brain malfunction flattens the nuance the passage provides about causes and recoverability. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The author defines vertigo clearly as a "very specific sensation of spinning or unstable movement," distinguishing it from generic lightheadedness or faintness; this specificity is reiterated with descriptions of associated nausea, vomiting, sweating, and difficulty focusing that commonly accompany the spinning sensation. The passage uses vivid metaphors—ground spinning or tilting—to convey the phenomenology, which supports the accuracy of this option. Clinically, vertigo is treated as a vestibular symptom with characteristic features, which the passage reflects by naming BPPV, labyrinthitis, and Meniere's as causes. Thus, the statement that vertigo involves a specific spinning or unstable sensation faithfully mirrors the passage's core definitional claim. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The text identifies BPPV as triggered by tiny calcium particles (crystals) that shift within the inner ear, directly linking the mechanical displacement to symptomatic vertigo; this is presented as canonical pathophysiology and is the basis for recommending repositioning manoeuvres like Epley. By explaining the mechanism—crystals moving out of place—the author justifies the noninvasive corrective approach, reinforcing that BPPV's cause is physical and localized to the vestibular apparatus. This causal account aligns with standard clinical descriptions and is stated plainly in the passage, making the option accurate. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage explicitly mentions the Epley manoeuvre as "a series of head movements used to guide the crystals out of the inner ear," framing it as a practical, first-line intervention for BPPV rather than an abstract theory; the description ties mechanism to therapy, showing how repositioning resolves the disorder's mechanical basis. The author positions Epley as a simple, well-established technique that directly addresses the stated cause (displaced crystals), and it contrasts with broader treatments like medication or VRT reserved for other contexts. Therefore stating that Epley uses head movements to reposition crystals accurately reflects the passage's therapeutic explanation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

8. Correct Answer: (a) By linking sensory inputs with rehabilitative exercises that restore equilibrium.

Reference Line: "The body balances itself through a complex system of three sources in integration..." and

“In more severe or chronic cases, vestibular rehabilitation therapy (VRT) helps retrain the brain to maintain balance.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage links the physiological architecture of balance—vision, vestibular sense, and proprioception—with rehabilitative strategies such as vestibular rehabilitation therapy, showing how therapy leverages sensory mechanisms to restore equilibrium. The author explicitly connects sensory inputs to corrective practice by first explaining how the brain integrates those signals and then describing VRT as a method to retrain neural processing when integration fails. This integrative narrative demonstrates that understanding of physiology and therapeutic application are presented as two sides of the same clinical coin. The synthesis implies active rehabilitation is grounded in knowledge of sensory coordination. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Q8 (b) The text does not contrast inherited traits with lifestyle contributors; genetics and heredity are absent from the discussion, which instead focuses on mechanical, inflammatory, and fluid-related inner-ear problems as well as preventive measures like rest and hydration. The author’s emphasis is on identifiable pathologies (BPPV, labyrinthitis, Meniere’s) and on rehabilitative responses rather than on a nature-versus-nurture framing that pits inheritance against behaviour. Invoking inherited traits would introduce an analytical axis not present in the passage and would distract from the physiological and therapeutic integration the author develops. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Q8 (c) Although stress management and hydration are mentioned as helpful preventive measures, the passage does not equate emotional distress with the body’s mechanical systems of balance; the author treats psychological factors as modulators rather than as components of the vestibular apparatus. The core explanation centers on sensory inputs and their neural integration, not on affective states as primary determinants of postural control. Therefore, suggesting a direct association between emotional distress and the mechanical stability system overstates the passage’s claims and mischaracterises its emphasis. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Q8 (d) The author explicitly distinguishes symptomatic pharmacotherapy from curative strategies, indicating that medication can relieve nausea and dizziness but is not presented as a standalone, permanent fix; long-term restoration is associated with retraining the brain (VRT) and physical manoeuvres for mechanical causes like BPPV. Framing medication as ensuring permanent correction misreads the therapeutic hierarchy the passage outlines, which reserves definitive rehabilitation for targeted exercises and repositioning methods. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

9. Correct Answer: (d) Hormonal signaling from the endocrine glands.

Reference Line: “The body balances itself through a complex system of three sources in integration: eyes for vision, inner ear, or the vestibular system for detecting motion and position, and the muscles and joints to sense pressure and movement.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage explicitly lists vision, the vestibular system, and proprioceptive input from muscles and joints as the three integrated sources of balance, describing how these inputs are sent to the brain for posture control; visual input provides external reference frames that help stabilize orientation. The author details how the brain processes these streams and how conflicts among them produce vertigo, so vision’s inclusion is fundamental to the triadic model presented. Excluding eyes from the balance system would contradict the explanatory architecture the passage sets out. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Inner-ear vestibular sensing is singled out in the passage as the organ system that detects motion and position, and multiple disorders described (BPPV, labyrinthitis, Meniere’s) implicate vestibular dysfunction as a primary cause of vertigo, underlining its centrality to balance. The narrative anchors many etiologies and treatments to vestibular pathology, making this option directly supported by the text. Removing the vestibular contribution would obliterate the passage’s core causal claims about spinning sensations and positional vertigo. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Proprioceptive feedback from muscles and joints is described as the third essential input, providing information about pressure and movement that complements visual and vestibular cues; the text stresses how integration of these three sources allows the brain to maintain posture and coordinate movement. The passage’s description of proprioception completes the tripartite framework and is necessary to explain how the body senses its own position in space. Therefore, listing muscles and joints as a principal source of balance accords with the passage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage makes no reference to endocrine or hormonal signalling as a primary sensor for moment-to-moment balance control; while systemic health, hydration and general wellbeing are noted as preventive considerations, hormones are not described as one of the three sensory modalities that feed the brain’s postural computations. Introducing hormonal signalling as equivalent to vision, vestibular input and proprioception inserts an unrelated physiological domain and misrepresents the author’s explicit tripartite model. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

10. Correct Answer: (c) Vertigo refers to the perception of rotation or motion, whereas dizziness denotes a general imbalance or faint sensation.

Reference Line: “Vertigo is the very specific sensation of spinning or unstable movement, while dizziness is a broader term for feeling lightheaded, faint, or unsteady.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option misrepresents the author’s distinction by suggesting that vertigo merely involves mild unsteadiness and that dizziness implies fixed spinning, which directly reverses the meaning provided in the passage. The text explicitly identifies vertigo as the specific spinning sensation and dizziness as the broader sense of lightheadedness or imbalance. Therefore, this interpretation distorts the medical differentiation between the two conditions and contradicts the author’s purpose of clarification. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option incorrectly presents dizziness as visual distortion and vertigo as anxiety-related, whereas the passage frames both as physiological outcomes linked to the inner ear, brain, or vestibular dysfunction. The author does not associate these sensations with emotional or psychological causes, nor does he narrow them to visual distortion; instead, they are described in neurophysiological and sensory integration terms. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option precisely matches the author’s explanation. The passage clearly states that vertigo involves a sensation of spinning or unstable motion, while dizziness is a broader term describing general faintness or imbalance without rotation. This distinction forms the conceptual basis for the medical explanation of causes, symptoms, and treatment approaches given later in the passage. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option disregards the author’s deliberate effort to distinguish vertigo from dizziness both by experience and cause. The passage notes vertigo’s association with specific vestibular dysfunctions and contrasts it with the more general experience of dizziness, showing that they are not identical neurological conditions. By collapsing them into one, this option ignores the clinical nuance the author carefully builds. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

11. Correct Answer: (a) The harmonious processing of multiple bodily inputs to sustain stability.

Reference Line: “The body balances itself through a complex system of three sources in integration—vision, the vestibular system, and proprioception.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage defines sensory integration as the brain’s combining of visual, vestibular and proprioceptive signals to maintain posture and stability, so “harmonious processing of multiple bodily inputs” captures that technical sense; the author emphasises coordinated input rather than isolated function, indicating integrated neural computation that yields balanced movement and orientation. This interpretation aligns with the description of conflicting signals producing confusion and vertigo, demonstrating the centrality of integrative processing in maintaining equilibrium. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The term “sensory integration” implies interdependence and synthesis, not the independent operation of organs; the passage stresses how the brain receives and reconciles signals from eyes, inner ear and proprioceptors, suggesting collaboration rather than autonomy among systems. Presenting the organs as working independently contradicts the passage’s core claim that balance arises from integrated processing, making this option inconsistent with the text. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author does not describe sensory integration as a chemical interaction governing inner-ear fluid pressure; instead, the focus is on informational signals—motion detection, positional cues, pressure sensing—and their neural combination, so invoking neuronal chemical interactions about fluid regulation misreads the passage’s functional framing. While neurochemistry underpins neural processing generally, the passage’s practical sense of integration pertains to multisensory coordination, not biochemical fluid control. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Although stress management is advised as preventive, the passage does not present sensory integration as a partial coordination between physical and emotional responses; rather, integration is physiological and sensorimotor, with emotional factors treated as modulators but not constitutive elements of the balance apparatus. Framing integration as partially emotional overstates psychological involvement relative to the passage’s physiological account. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

12. Correct Answer: (b) Vestibular rehabilitation therapy using guided exercises and sensory adaptation.

Reference Line: “In more severe or chronic cases, vestibular rehabilitation therapy (VRT) helps retrain the brain to maintain balance.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Although medications may reduce acute symptoms such as nausea or dizziness, the passage clearly distinguishes short-term symptomatic relief from long-term rehabilitation. Continuous pharmacological

sedation would suppress brain activity rather than retrain it, preventing the adaptive neural adjustments required for balance recovery. The author never endorses indefinite drug use; instead, the focus is on therapies that promote sensory coordination and self-stabilisation. By advocating brain retraining over suppression, the passage rules out any approach that hinders compensation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage states that vestibular rehabilitation therapy helps “retrain the brain to maintain balance” in severe or chronic cases and highlights it as the long-term solution for persistent vertigo. It describes VRT as an active program involving guided exercises and sensory adaptation that rebuilds the brain’s capacity to coordinate visual, vestibular, and proprioceptive signals. This approach addresses the root cause — sensory miscommunication — by recalibrating neural pathways rather than only suppressing symptoms. The author contrasts this method with temporary measures like medication, positioning techniques, and rest, showing VRT as the sustained route to recovery. Therefore, it represents the most effective approach to restoring balance. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) The author nowhere mentions high-dose steroid regimens as part of vertigo management. Introducing steroid use would contradict the text’s central argument that vertigo recovery depends on retraining the brain and maintaining healthy sensory interaction. Steroids act biochemically and are not linked to the mechanical or neural recalibration described. The passage’s therapeutic emphasis is on exercises, positional techniques, hydration, and stress management — not pharmacological prevention. Thus, suggesting steroid therapy fabricates clinical guidance absent from the author’s explanation. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The passage discourages passivity, underscoring rehabilitation, movement, and sensory engagement as key to recovery. Avoiding motion entirely would worsen imbalance by depriving the vestibular system of the stimuli needed for recalibration. The author clearly prefers gradual exposure and retraining methods that teach the brain to interpret sensory signals correctly. Prolonged immobility, therefore, would impede adaptation and contradict the described approach of “retraining the brain to maintain balance.” Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

13. Correct Answer: (d) restrictions imposed by tradition can unintentionally foster creative resilience
 Reference Line: "But necessity is the mother of invention, and it is the resourceful Bengali widow who cooked up the most delicious vegetarian dishes..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage acknowledges the role of religious beliefs, such as the taboo against masoor dal, but it does

not portray them as the central driving force of innovation. The emphasis is instead on the social adversity faced by widows and their creative responses to forced dietary restrictions. Framing religion as the main source ignores the broader context of deprivation and marginalization. The dishes are not products of religion alone but of lived hardship and imposed discipline. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author strongly contradicts this by celebrating the richness and flavour of the dishes that emerged despite the scarcity of ingredients. Dishes like shukto and alu posto are praised for their complexity and delicacy. The widows made inventive use of what little they had, proving that food can be both simple and delicious. Suggesting blandness runs counter to the praise of creativity in the face of limitation. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) There is no mention of academic or intellectual culinary evolution in the passage. On the contrary, the development of Bengali widow cuisine was a grassroots, domestic process carried out by widows with limited resources. The origin of these dishes is deeply rooted in everyday survival, not in any formal culinary theory. The author highlights domestic necessity, not scholarly advancement. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The central thesis of the passage is that Bengali widow cuisine emerged from adversity, and this resilience led to culinary innovation. Widows were stripped of ingredients and forced to cook separately, yet they crafted complex vegetarian dishes that define Bengali cuisine today. The author celebrates their ability to adapt and transform hardship into heritage. This interpretation aligns precisely with the author’s main argument. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

14. Correct Answer: (a) explain how adversity gave rise to many revered vegetarian Bengali dishes

Reference Line: "And from this emerged what we know as Bengali widow cuisine."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage highlights how dietary and social restrictions placed on widows gave rise to the innovation of several dishes like shukto, alu posto, and labra. These dishes are now integral to Bengali cuisine but originated under difficult conditions. The author shows how creativity thrived in these oppressive settings, leading to culinary brilliance. The widows’ forced exclusion created space for experimentation and flavour within limits. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) Although religious customs are discussed briefly (e.g., the ban on masoor dal linked to Kamdhenu), the main argument does not revolve around religion. The focus remains on social exclusion and the systemic oppression of widows, not the influence of religion per se. The driving force behind these food practices was

the lived reality of restriction, not dogma or ritual. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage does not aim to show that widows gained cultural identity through these food practices. In fact, it paints a grim picture of their marginalization, emphasizing their forced dietary austerity. The culinary legacy was a by-product of adversity, not a cultural badge. It doesn't imply that widows became celebrated figures through this identity. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The tone of the passage is far from romantic or nostalgic. It is revealing, reflective, and seeks to correct a misconception about Bengali cuisine's origins. The plight of widows is portrayed as harsh and unjust, with no reference to any romanticization in literature or folklore. The author critiques the suffering endured, not idealizes it. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

15. Correct Answer: (c) a hidden culinary tradition born from deprivation and creative adaptation

Reference Line: "...what we know as Bengali widow cuisine...when you read the list of vegetarian delicacies...you will realise the impact..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) While the cuisine was indeed vegetarian, the passage does not imply that dairy became the central ingredient. The focus is on vegetables, poppy seeds, and mustard rather than milk or paneer. The dietary restrictions extended beyond meat but did not shift emphasis toward dairy. Therefore, this does not accurately reflect the essence of the cuisine described. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author makes it clear that these recipes were not modern inventions or experimental recreations but traditional dishes born out of necessity. The cooking took place under severe limitations by widows in historical Bengal. There is no mention of gastronomy or culinary reinvention in the contemporary sense. The tradition is old, not new. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The entire passage builds toward revealing this underappreciated legacy of Bengali cuisine. The widows, denied many ingredients, developed subtle, flavourful dishes using what little they had. The phrase "Bengali widow cuisine" is used to spotlight this ingenuity under hardship, emphasizing its historical and cultural significance. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) Although Benaras is mentioned as a place where widows were sent, the cuisine itself is shown to have developed in Bengal. The author does not draw any link between Bengali widow cuisine and temple cuisine traditions in Vrindavan or Benaras. The origin is specific to Bengal's social history. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

16. Correct Answer: (c) The limitations on widows' diets ensured that their food lacked richness and variety

Reference Line: "...they were able to experiment with limited ingredients and complex cooking techniques."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage repeatedly emphasizes how Bengali widow cuisine was born out of oppressive conditions such as forced dietary limitations and social exclusion. Despite these, widows invented complex vegetarian dishes that are now cornerstones of Bengali food culture. This idea supports the author's portrayal of resilience and creativity under duress. Hence, option (a) aligns fully with the author's point of view. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author clearly states that most people remain unaware of the origins of these dishes, even though they are now well known. This gap between current popularity and historical knowledge is part of what the author is trying to address through the passage. The intention is to shed light on the socio-cultural background behind these recipes. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option stands in direct contradiction to the author's main message. Far from being dull or lacking, the widows' cuisine is described as flavourful, inventive, and central to Bengali identity. The author praises the use of minimal ingredients and sophisticated techniques to produce memorable dishes. Therefore, this interpretation undermines the narrative of resourceful innovation. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The author devotes the entire passage to showing how the cuisine evolved precisely because of the marginalization of widows, who cooked in separate spaces with restricted ingredients. This view is central to the argument—that social conditions and exclusion directly influenced culinary development. It supports the idea that cuisine is historically situated. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

17. Correct Answer: (a) Constraints often lead to meaningful innovation in traditional cooking

Reference Line: "Necessity is the mother of invention, and it is the resourceful Bengali widow..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage is built on the idea that hardship, especially imposed through social and dietary restrictions on widows, became a source of culinary creativity. It praises how widows used their limited means to produce refined and innovative dishes that are now celebrated. This shows the author supports the idea that constraint can inspire invention in food traditions. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) There is no mention of academic or formal culinary scholarship in the development of Bengali widow cuisine. The entire point of the passage is that these recipes emerged from everyday women in oppressive circumstances, not from researchers or chefs. Highlighting domestic innovation rather than scholarly input is central to the narrative. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage suggests quite the opposite—that the dishes were already flavourful and sophisticated even within the austere framework of widowhood. Modern experiments are not credited with enhancing flavour; rather, the traditional recipes are praised for their inherent complexity. This option misrepresents the timeline and source of culinary value. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Although temple towns like Vrindavan and Benaras are mentioned as places where widows were sent, the cuisine itself is stated to have evolved in Bengal. The focus is on regional oppression and adaptation, not temple rituals or customs. No significant influence from temple kitchens is highlighted in shaping the dishes. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

18. Correct Answer: (b) Revealing

Reference Line: "What most people don't know is that these dishes came about as a way of dealing with adversity..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) While the author does acknowledge the brilliance and sophistication of the dishes, the overall tone remains analytical and informative rather than jubilant. There is an undercurrent of respect, but the passage seeks to reveal hidden truths rather than glorify them. The emphasis is more on understanding history than on uncritical praise. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author opens the passage by addressing a common myth about Bengali cuisine and proceeds to disclose the lesser-known reality behind many vegetarian dishes. The use of lines like "what most people don't know" underscores the intent to unveil hidden cultural and historical facts. The tone is therefore best described as revealing and corrective. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) The author does not use sentimental or wistful language that is typical of nostalgia. Instead of longing for the past, the passage focuses on exposing injustice and celebrating resilience. There is no indication that the writer desires a return to the era discussed, making this tone inappropriate. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Although the author critiques the treatment of widows, the overall tone is not sharply accusatory or polemical. The aim is more to inform and highlight hidden histories than to attack any group or institution. The criticism is implied but not harsh or central to the tone. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

19. Correct Answer: (d) He longs to fulfill inherited glory by privately enacting visions of chivalric conquest
Reference Line: "So too would Orlando, he vowed. But since he was sixteen only... he would steal away... and there lunge and plunge and slice the air..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Orlando is indeed engaged in theatrical enactments, but the tone of the passage indicates sincerity rather than mere dramatization. His acts are not performative gestures meant for escape but are imbued with reverence for family history. This romantic longing suggests internalization of ancestral glory, not shallow pageantry. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage presents Orlando as someone retreating in solitude rather than seeking public applause. He does not pursue glory in the eyes of others but instead reimagines conquest in his attic space. His motivations appear private and symbolic, detached from public spectacle or recognition. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) There is no indication that Orlando's motivation stems from anxiety over masculinity or any crisis of honour. The passage does not explore gender insecurity but rather focuses on admiration of martial heritage and imaginative emulation. His actions are those of youthful aspiration, not psychological compensation. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Orlando's actions reflect a deeply internal longing to participate in the heroism of his forebears. Though too young to fight, he re-enacts imagined battles alone, suggesting that his desire is both sincere and symbolic. This private ritual affirms his inherited sense of glory, rooted in chivalric devotion. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

20. Correct Answer: (a) It functions as a living presence that shapes Orlando's internal fantasies and movements

Reference Line: "The skull swung to and fro, for the house... was so vast that there seemed trapped in it the wind itself..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The description of the wind moving through the house, the swinging skull, and the shifting tapestry gives the space a ghostly, almost animate character. The setting feeds Orlando's imagination and becomes a participant in his ritual. It creates an immersive world where memory and fantasy coexist. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) While Orlando is physically confined to the house, there is no suggestion that this isolation thwarts his ambition. Rather, it enhances his fantasies and provides a stage for personal heroism. The setting becomes a catalyst, not a constraint, in shaping his imagined journey. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The house embodies tradition, but there is no suggestion that it represses modernity or individuality. The atmosphere is described with reverence and wonder, not with critique. Orlando's relationship with tradition is celebratory and imaginative rather than burdensome or conflicted. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Although the house reflects noble lineage, it is not framed as a mandate for continuing territorial power. The focus is on martial memory and romantic legacy, not on political duties or conquest. The passage lacks any mention of governance or obligation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

21. Correct Answer: (b) ceaselessly

Reference Line: "The green arras with the hunters on it moved perpetually."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The term "deliberately" implies conscious intent or volition, which does not align with the inanimate motion of a tapestry. The movement described is natural and constant, driven by wind, not choice. The word choice in the passage emphasizes continuity, not decision. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The phrase "moved perpetually" evokes an image of constant, uninterrupted motion. In this context, "ceaselessly" captures the idea of something that continues without pause, propelled by the wind inside the enormous house. This sense of endless motion suits the setting described. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) "Cautiously" implies carefulness or restraint, which does not match the passive and natural movement of the tapestry. The motion described is involuntary and fluid, not careful or hesitant. The atmosphere is mystical, not cautious. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) "Faintly" refers to intensity, not duration or continuity. The passage highlights that the movement is ongoing, not necessarily weak. Using "faintly" would misrepresent the meaning, as the term misses the essential quality of uninterrupted motion. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

22. Correct Answer: (a) It reflects the unresolved violence of the past continually intruding on Orlando's present

Reference Line: "...the skull bumped on the floor and he had to string it up again... his enemy grinned at him through shrunk, black lips triumphantly."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The skull is described as if it were alive, grinning in defiance and swinging repeatedly despite Orlando's efforts. It becomes a symbol of ancestral violence that refuses to rest, haunting the present moment. The need

to continually rehang it evokes cyclical confrontation with legacy. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The passage does not suggest boredom or dissatisfaction with aristocratic life. Orlando romanticizes his heritage and actively engages with its symbols. There is no evidence that he longs for modern war or considers his current role inadequate. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Orlando's behaviour does not suggest inner decline or defeat. His actions are energetic and determined, portraying aspiration rather than despair. The skull represents a legacy he reveres, not a burden that corrodes his psyche. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) There is no commentary on nobility as a decaying class. The passage does not critique social order but instead glorifies ancestral exploits. The skull is not portrayed as grotesque spectacle but as a symbol of honour and inspiration. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

23. Correct Answer: (a) He ties the skull with a sense of idealistic bravery and ceremonial honour

Reference Line: "...fastening it with some chivalry almost out of reach so that his enemy grinned at him..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The word "chivalry" evokes ideals of noble conduct, honour, and valour. Orlando's act of placing the skull out of reach, as if to create a challenge or battlefield, reflects a ritualized sense of medieval bravery. His gesture romanticizes conflict as a knightly pursuit. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) There is no attempt to hide or avoid the skull; Orlando re-engages with it repeatedly. His interaction is celebratory and stylized, not escapist. The skull is part of his heroic imagination, not a weight he seeks to ignore. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) His action is solemn and reverent, not humorous. The passage lacks any tone of jest or self-amusement. Orlando's re-enactments are expressions of devotion to an imagined heroic tradition. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Orlando does not challenge or reject the legacy symbolized by the skull. On the contrary, he upholds and venerates it by recreating battles through it. His actions reflect reverence rather than protest. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

24. Correct Answer: (c) Orlando displayed disdain for the family legacy by confronting the skull as an enemy

Reference Line: "His fathers had been noble since they had been at all... Orlando stood now in the midst of the yellow body of an heraldic leopard."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage strongly emphasizes the martial legacy of Orlando's ancestors, who had fought in various regions like "Africa" and "France," and "struck many heads...off many shoulders," bringing them home as trophies. These repeated references to faraway "fields of asphodel" and "fields watered by strange rivers" confirm their engagement in widespread and generational battles. This proud history deeply informs Orlando's own fantasies of chivalry and heroism. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage describes the wind as a perpetual force within the house: it moves the "green arras" and causes the "skull [to swing] to and fro," suggesting that the house traps the wind "winter or summer." This environmental detail lends the attic a dynamic, ghostly presence that is central to Orlando's imaginative world. The wind's unceasing motion helps set the mood and animates the remnants of ancestral violence. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) At no point does the passage suggest that Orlando displays disrespect or disdain for his family's martial past. On the contrary, he idolizes his ancestors, wishes to emulate them, and treats the severed head as part of his noble training. His playful duels with the skull are part of a romanticized, almost reverential reenactment of his family's history. The skull is strung "with some chivalry," reinforcing admiration, not mockery. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The passage makes clear references to symbols of nobility and heraldry: Orlando stands "in the midst of the yellow body of an heraldic leopard," and the light filtering through the stained-glass forms "yellow pools" on the floor. These images conjure a physical and symbolic environment steeped in aristocratic heritage. The visual presence of coronets, coats of arms, and hunting tapestries in the home reaffirms the family's established noble identity. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Section - B : Current Affairs including General Knowledge

25. Correct Answer: (a) A situation where one in five households faces starvation, destitution, and extreme malnutrition leading to widespread death

Explanation: The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) defines famine as the most severe stage of food insecurity, where at least 20% of households face extreme food shortages and life-threatening malnutrition, resulting in widespread death and destitution. It represents a humanitarian emergency requiring urgent global intervention.

26. Correct Answer: (d) 20-point Comprehensive Plan

Explanation: The 20-point Comprehensive Plan, announced by the US President, lays out a multi-phase peace framework aimed at ending the Gaza conflict. The plan's first phase saw Israel publicly accepting the terms, while Hamas expressed willingness to release the remaining hostages in exchange for prisoner swaps and to consider a technocratic governance model for Gaza. The plan combines humanitarian, political, and security measures to restore long-term peace and stability.

27. Correct Answer: (c) The ISF will deploy to Gaza to train and support vetted police while coordinating borders and reconstruction logistics regionally.

Explanation: The International Stabilisation Force (ISF) is a temporary multinational initiative designed to stabilize Gaza by training Palestinian police, consulting with Jordan and Egypt, and coordinating with Israel to secure borders and ensure the safe flow of reconstruction materials. Its mission focuses on security cooperation and capacity building, not political governance or direct administrative control. Options (a), (b), and (d) are incorrect because they either exaggerate or misrepresent the ISF's operational mandate.

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

Explanation: Statements I and II are correct. The Famine classification (IPC Phase 5) is indeed the highest phase of the IPC Acute Food Insecurity scale and is applied when at least 20% of households face extreme food shortages and starvation. However, statement III is incorrect because famine is declared when at least 30% of children, not 50%, suffer from acute malnutrition. Therefore, the correct answer is Only I and II.

29. Correct Answer: (c) Israel and Egypt

Explanation: The Gaza Strip, one of the two Palestinian territories alongside the West Bank, is located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, bordered by Israel to the north and east and Egypt to the southwest, near the Sinai Peninsula. This narrow strip of land

holds immense geopolitical significance, serving as a focal point for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and humanitarian challenges. Its borders, especially the Rafah crossing with Egypt and Erez crossing with Israel, play crucial roles in trade, movement, and security coordination within the region.

30. Correct Answer: (a) Three Gorges Dam, China

Explanation: The Three Gorges Dam, China, located on the Yangtze River, is the world's largest hydropower station by installed capacity, generating over 100 terawatt-hours of electricity annually. Beyond energy production, it plays a critical role in flood control, navigation, and water resource management, while also symbolizing China's ambition to transition toward large-scale renewable energy infrastructure. Options (b), (c), and (d) are other major dams but none surpass the Three Gorges Dam in overall capacity or impact.

31. Correct Answer: (d) Siang

Explanation: In Arunachal Pradesh, the Yarlung Zangbo is called the Siang, one of the main tributaries of the Brahmaputra. Originating in Tibet as the Tsangpo, the river carves through the Himalayas and enters India at Arunachal Pradesh. Here, after merging with the Dibang and Lohit, it flows into Assam as the Brahmaputra. The Siang is crucial for Northeast India's ecosystem and agriculture, but upstream dam-building activities in Tibet pose environmental and strategic challenges for the region.

32. Correct Answer: (c) Tibetan Autonomous Region

Explanation: The Brahmaputra River system originates in the Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR) of China, where it is called the Yarlung Zangbo or Tsangpo. From its source in the Angsi Glacier near Mount Kailash, the river flows eastward across the TAR before making a dramatic U-turn at the "Great Bend" in Medog County. It then enters Arunachal Pradesh, India, as the Siang, later becoming the Brahmaputra in Assam and the Jamuna in Bangladesh. Its origin in the TAR is significant for understanding both hydrological patterns and geopolitical considerations, as upstream developments in China—such as hydropower projects—can impact water flow to downstream nations like India and Bangladesh.

33. Correct Answer: (c) Only II and III

Explanation: Statements II and III are correct. The Yarlung Zangbo, called the Brahmaputra once it enters India, flows through Tibet and makes a dramatic U-turn at the "Great Bend" in Medog county, before crossing into Arunachal Pradesh at Gelling. The dam is planned at this strategic location. Statement I is incorrect because the dam is not at the confluence with the

Mekong River; the Yarlung Zangbo and Mekong are separate river systems with distinct courses.

34. Correct Answer: (d) Upper Siang project

Explanation: The Upper Siang project in Arunachal Pradesh is one of India's most ambitious hydropower schemes, centered on a massive 300-metre-high dam. Beyond its ability to generate significant power, the project is seen as a strategic counterbalance to China's dam-building activities on the Yarlung Zangbo (Brahmaputra) in Tibet. Its storage capacity can serve as a buffer against sudden variations in water flow, ensuring downstream stability. Thus, the project has both economic and geopolitical importance for India's energy and security planning.

35. Correct Answer: (a) China, India, Bhutan, and Bangladesh

Explanation: The Brahmaputra River originates in Tibet (China), where it is known as the Yarlung Tsangpo, enters India through Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, receives tributaries from Bhutan, and finally flows into Bangladesh, where it merges with the Ganga River system to form the world's largest delta. Countries like Nepal and Myanmar are not part of the Brahmaputra basin, as their rivers belong to different hydrological systems.

36. Correct Answer: (b) Chilika Lake, Odisha

Explanation: Chilika Lake, located in Odisha, was designated in 1982 along with Keoladeo National Park as one of India's first two Ramsar sites under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. It is the largest brackish water lagoon in Asia, renowned for its rich biodiversity, migratory birds, and the presence of Irrawaddy dolphins. Options (a), (c), and (d) are Ramsar sites as well but were added in later years, not during the 1982 designation.

37. Correct Answer: (a) Eleven

Explanation: The Global Wetland Outlook 2025 evaluates eleven distinct broad wetland types. These include Seagrass, Kelp Forests, Coral Reefs, Estuarine Waters, Salt Marshes, Mangroves, Tidal Flats, Lakes, Rivers and Streams, Inland Marshes and Swamps, and Peatlands (Mires). The classification highlights the ecological diversity and functional importance of wetlands across marine, coastal, and freshwater ecosystems. This broad categorization helps policymakers and conservationists develop targeted strategies for wetland protection, restoration, and sustainable management worldwide.

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

Explanation: Statements II and III are correct. The Global Wetland Outlook is developed by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) and incorporates contributions from more than 60 experts across over 16 countries. Statement I is incorrect because the

Global Wetland Outlook is not produced by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); it is the flagship publication under the Convention on Wetlands, also known as the Ramsar Convention.

39. Correct Answer: (a) One in four

Explanation: The Global Wetland Outlook 2025 reports that one in four wetlands worldwide is already in poor ecological condition. This means that approximately 25% of the planet's wetlands are degraded to the extent that their ecological health and biodiversity support capacity are significantly reduced. The situation is particularly concerning in developing countries, especially in Asia and Africa, where rapid economic development, population growth, agricultural expansion, and industrialization exert intense pressure on wetland ecosystems. These factors not only accelerate habitat loss but also reduce the ability of wetlands to provide critical ecosystem services such as water purification, flood regulation, and carbon storage.

40. Correct Answer: (a) The report is being launched ahead of COP15, which will be held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

Explanation: The Global Wetland Outlook 2025 is strategically released in the lead-up to the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (COP15). This major international event will take place in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, bringing together representatives from contracting parties, scientists, and conservationists to review global wetland conservation progress. The timing of the report's release ensures that its findings and recommendations can directly inform the policy discussions and commitments made during COP15.

41. Correct Answer: (c) Gland, Switzerland

Explanation: The Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands, also known as the Ramsar Convention, is located at the headquarters of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Gland, Switzerland. This location serves as the central hub for coordinating the day-to-day operations of the Convention, including facilitating international cooperation, providing technical support to contracting parties, organizing global meetings, and monitoring the implementation of commitments under the treaty. Being hosted within the IUCN headquarters enables the Secretariat to collaborate closely with leading conservation experts and organizations worldwide, enhancing its ability to promote wetland conservation and sustainable use on a global scale.

42. Correct Answer: (b) PM-JANMAN is a three-year initiative from 2023-24 to 2025-26 for uplifting PVTGs through education and infrastructure.

Explanation: The Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) was launched on 15th

November 2023 as a three-year programme spanning 2023-24 to 2025-26. Its goal is to uplift Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) by bridging gaps in education, healthcare, and infrastructure. The Department of School Education & Literacy (DOSE&L) contributes through the Samagra Shiksha Scheme, while the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) serves as the nodal ministry. Options (a), (c), and (d) are incorrect because they misrepresent the scope, target group, or ministry of implementation.

43. Correct Answer: (a) Six categories

Explanation: The SHVR (Swachhata Hi Seva Rating) employs a 5-Star rating system to assess sanitation and hygiene performance across 60 key indicators. These are organized into six categories—water, toilets, handwashing with soap, operation & maintenance, behaviour change & capacity building, and Mission LiFE Activities that emphasize sustainable and eco-conscious practices. Options (b), (c), and (d) are incorrect because the framework is structured precisely around six categories, not eight, nine, or ten.

44. Correct Answer: a) Indian Knowledge Systems and Encyclopaedic Dictionary

Explanation: The Centre of Indian Knowledge Systems and Encyclopaedic Dictionary (IKS-ED) has been set up at Deccan College to strengthen Sanskrit studies and Indian Knowledge traditions. Its primary objectives include monitoring the Sanskrit Dictionary Project, developing an encyclopaedia on Indian Knowledge Systems, and offering structured SWAYAM-based courses. This makes it an important academic and cultural initiative to preserve and expand the understanding of Sanskrit literature across different disciplines and eras.

45. Correct Answer: c) C-DAC Pune

Explanation: The KoshaSHRI project was supported by C-DAC Pune. With DST funding under the SHRI scheme, it successfully digitised all 35 volumes of the Encyclopaedic Sanskrit Dictionary, which includes over 15 lakh words and 1 crore references from 1500 ancient texts spanning 62 disciplines. This digitisation marks a milestone in preserving and spreading India's Sanskrit knowledge systems digitally.

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

Explanation: All three statements are correct. The DA-JGUA (Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan) was launched by the Prime Minister to ensure saturation of tribal-majority villages and tribal villages in Aspirational Districts with essential interventions. It is designed as a five-year programme from 2024-25 to 2028-29, with a specific target of constructing 1000 hostels under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme. The Ministry of Education (DoSE&L) is a key participant,

implementing the scheme in convergence with Samagra Shiksha while aligning with the vision of NEP 2020. Thus, the correct answer is All I, II and III.

47. Correct Answer: (d) TARA App Portal

Explanation: The TARA App Portal, developed by IIT Bombay in collaboration with NCERT under the Ministry of Education, enhances data-driven governance by enabling real-time assessment and improvement of reading fluency among students in Grades 3–8. It also facilitates structured learning interventions and continuous progress tracking. Options (a), (b), and (c)—SHIKSHA Analytics Dashboard, VIDYA VISTAR Portal, and GYANDEEP Assessment Tool—are not associated with reading fluency evaluation or developed under this collaboration, making TARA App Portal the correct answer.

48. Correct Answer: (b) Telangana

Explanation: In 2017, Telangana became the first Indian State to impose a complete ban on online gaming, including those based on skill as well as chance. The decision was implemented through amendments to the Telangana Gaming Act, expanding its scope to cover online platforms. This move was driven by concerns over addiction, financial exploitation, and lack of legal oversight in the rapidly growing online gaming industry. Telangana's action also set a precedent for other States to consider similar restrictions and regulatory frameworks for digital gaming activities.

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

Explanation: Section 4 of the Online Gaming Regulation Bill empowers the government to encourage the creation and accessibility of online social games for both recreational and educational purposes. Additionally, the Act clearly defines e-sports as those games formally recognised under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025. Statement III is incorrect because the Act does not prohibit such recognition; rather, it aligns e-sports within the national sports governance framework to ensure proper regulation and standardisation.

50. Correct Answer: (c) Three categories

Explanation: The Act divides online games into three distinct categories. This classification enables the government to apply differentiated rules for each segment. Under competitive and skill-based gaming, social gaming includes casual or recreational online games, and RMGs involve financial stakes or rewards. This structured framework ensures clearer regulation, player protection, and responsible gaming practices and allows the government to regulate each category based on its risk, commercial nature, and social impact,

promoting responsible gaming and player protection within India's expanding digital gaming ecosystem.

51. **Correct Answer:** (d) A game played online, based on skill or chance, involving fee or money stakes.

Explanation: As per the Act, an online money game is defined as any game conducted digitally, whether skill-based, chance-based, or a combination of both, where players participate after paying a fee or with the expectation of monetary gain or other convertible stakes. These stakes may include virtual coins, credits, or tokens that can be exchanged for real money or goods. This broad definition ensures that all forms of online gaming with financial implications fall under regulatory purview, promoting consumer protection and responsible gaming practices.

52. **Correct Answer:** (d) Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN)

Explanation: The Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN), India's apex body for cyber incident response, has been tasked with blocking or disabling access to applications that persist in offering banned online money gaming services. As part of its enforcement powers, CERT-IN may also collaborate with Interpol to locate and act against offshore operators running such platforms. This step reflects the government's increasing emphasis on cybersecurity, lawful gaming operations, and digital user safety in the country's growing online economy.

53. **Correct Answer:** (b) Yes, because immediate misappropriation without reasonable owner-discovery steps attracts liability.

Reference Line: "The criminal misappropriation doctrine punishes dishonest misappropriation or conversion of movable property already in the offender's possession, and the finder-of-goods rule permits retention only after reasonable steps to discover the owner; immediate misappropriation attracts liability."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option incorrectly assumes that the absence of actual possession by another person at the time of finding defeats criminal liability. The finder-of-goods rule creates a specific exception to the general possession requirement in theft, imposing a duty on finders to take reasonable steps to locate the owner before they can legitimately retain found property. The mere fact that property is found rather than taken from possession does not immunize the finder from criminal liability when they immediately misappropriate it with dishonest intent.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately captures the legal position regarding found goods under the criminal misappropriation doctrine. When Ravi picked up the bracelet and immediately wore it with the intention of keeping it for himself without making any effort to discover the owner, he committed immediate misappropriation. The passage explicitly states that the finder-of-goods rule permits retention only after reasonable steps to discover the owner and that immediate misappropriation attracts liability, making Ravi's conduct criminally punishable despite the property being found rather than taken from possession.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option misrepresents the temporal element of the offence by suggesting that only delayed misappropriation escapes liability. The passage specifically states that "immediate misappropriation attracts liability," which means the offence is complete at the moment the finder dishonestly appropriates the property without first taking reasonable steps to find the owner. The two-day delay before detection is irrelevant; the criminal act occurred when Ravi immediately wore the bracelet with dishonest intent, not when the police later traced it to him.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option overstates the liability by suggesting that the mere act of picking up found property constitutes theft automatically. The criminal misappropriation doctrine and finder-of-goods rule together indicate that liability depends on dishonest misappropriation without reasonable steps to discover the owner, not on the physical act of picking up alone. A finder who picks up property with the intention of taking reasonable steps to locate the owner would not commit an offence; it is the immediate misappropriation with dishonest intent that attracts liability.

54. **Correct Answer:** (a) No, because servants with dominion over entrusted property face aggravated liability for dishonest misappropriation or use.

Reference Line: "The criminal breach of trust doctrine requires entrustment or dominion over property and dishonest misappropriation, use, or disposal in violation of law or contract, with aggravated penalties for carriers, clerks or servants, and public servants or bankers."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option correctly applies the criminal breach of trust doctrine with its aggravated penalty provision for servants. The passage establishes that the offence requires entrustment or dominion over property coupled with dishonest misappropriation, use, or disposal in violation of law or contract. Kavita had dominion over the coins as a servant, and she dishonestly misappropriated and used them by selling valuable coins and replacing them with common ones. The passage specifically identifies servants as a category attracting aggravated penalties, and violation of law or contract includes implied duties arising from entrustment, not merely explicit written prohibitions.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that only explicit written contractual prohibitions can establish violation for criminal breach of trust purposes. The passage states that the offence involves violation of "law or contract," and when property is entrusted for a specific purpose, there are implied duties regarding its proper handling even without written instructions. Kavita's entrustment with managing the coin collection carried implicit duties not to dishonestly sell or replace the coins. The doctrine does not require that every possible act of dishonesty

be specifically prohibited in writing for liability to attach.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the concept of misappropriation by focusing on physical appearance rather than the value and nature of property. Misappropriation involves dishonestly dealing with entrusted property in a manner inconsistent with the entrustment. By replacing valuable rare coins with common coins while maintaining similar appearance, Kavita dishonestly appropriated the genuine articles for herself and used her position to facilitate this conversion. The passage's reference to "misappropriation, use, or disposal" encompasses such qualitative substitution, not merely complete removal of items.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option overstates the legal position by suggesting automatic liability based solely on employee status and unauthorized replacement. While the passage does identify servants as attracting aggravated penalties, it does not make the offence automatic. The doctrine requires proof of entrustment or dominion, dishonest intent, and misappropriation, use, or disposal in violation of law or contract. Not every replacement of one item with another by an employee constitutes aggravated breach of trust; the critical elements of dishonesty and violation must be established beyond the mere fact of substitution.

55. Correct Answer: (d) No, because the act that both severs and moves attached property can constitute theft.

Reference Line: "The severance doctrine specifies that things attached to the earth are not movable property until severed, and the very act that both severs and moves can constitute theft."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option incorrectly introduces a geographical completion requirement that is not supported by the passage. The severance doctrine focuses on the transformation of attached property into movable property through severance and the potential for that very act of severance-and-movement to constitute theft. The passage states that the doctrine of theft "does not require permanent deprivation" and that "the offence is complete upon dishonest movement." Once Suresh severed the tree and moved it by loading it onto his cart with dishonest intention, the theft was complete regardless of crossing land boundaries.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option overstates the legal position by suggesting that mere presence on another's land with tools and dishonest intention automatically converts actions into completed theft. While Suresh's trespass and his dishonest intention are relevant factors, the passage's severance doctrine requires that the act both severs and moves the property. The doctrine does not make theft automatic based merely on the location, tools carried, or sequence of mental and physical acts; rather, it establishes that when severance and movement occur together with dishonest intention, theft is complete.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option misunderstands the temporal relationship between intent, severance, and movement as established by the severance doctrine. The passage does not require that dishonest intention must arise only after property becomes movable; rather, it recognizes that the act of severing and moving can occur simultaneously with dishonest intent. Suresh's dishonest intention existed throughout his conduct of cutting and dragging the tree, and the severance doctrine specifically contemplates that the very act accomplishing both severance and movement can constitute theft, meaning pre-existing intent is not a temporal barrier to conviction.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly applies the severance doctrine articulated in the passage. While things attached to the earth are not movable property until severed, the passage explicitly states that "the very act that both severs and moves can constitute theft." Suresh's conduct of cutting down the tree while simultaneously dragging it toward his cart and immediately loading it constitutes a unified act that both severed the tree from the earth, making it movable property, and moved it with dishonest intention. The doctrine recognizes that simultaneous severance and movement with dishonest intent satisfies theft requirements.

56. Correct Answer: (c) No, because five persons committing robbery conjointly constitutes gang robbery regardless of victim resistance.

Reference Line: "The dacoity doctrine defines 'gang robbery' as robbery committed or attempted conjointly by five or more persons, counting those present and aiding, and it does not depend on the victim offering resistance."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option incorrectly introduces victim resistance as a requirement for gang

robbery, which directly contradicts the passage. The dacoity doctrine explicitly states that gang robbery "does not depend on the victim offering resistance," meaning resistance or lack thereof is not a defining element of the offence. The classification as gang robbery depends solely on the numerical threshold of five or more persons acting conjointly to commit robbery, and Vikram's surrender without physical resistance does not affect this classification when all other elements are satisfied.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option misstates the numerical threshold required for gang robbery by suggesting six or more persons are needed. The passage clearly defines gang robbery as robbery committed by "five or more persons," not six or more. Since exactly five persons participated in the robbery of Vikram, Anjali and her four friends, the minimum threshold is met. The attempt to argue for a higher numerical requirement has no support in the doctrine as stated, and this mischaracterization of the threshold would incorrectly allow offenders to escape the graver charge.

Option (c) Correct: This option accurately applies the dacoity doctrine as articulated in the passage. The doctrine defines gang robbery as robbery committed or attempted conjointly by five or more persons, counting those present and aiding. Since Anjali and her four friends, totaling exactly five persons, acted together to commit robbery by surrounding Vikram and threatening him while blocking escape routes, the numerical threshold is met. The passage explicitly states that the classification "does not depend on the victim offering resistance," making victim behavior irrelevant to establishing gang robbery when five or more persons act conjointly.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option overgeneralizes by suggesting that blocking escape routes automatically elevates robbery to gang robbery without considering the actual requirements of the doctrine. While blocking escape routes may demonstrate joint action and aiding in the robbery, the dacoity doctrine specifically requires five or more persons acting conjointly. The blocking of routes is evidence of coordinated participation but does not itself create gang robbery absent the numerical threshold. The doctrine focuses on the number of participants and their joint action, not on specific tactical methods employed during the robbery.

57. Correct Answer: (b) Yes, because cheating requires dishonest or fraudulent intention existing at the time of inducement.

Reference Line: "The cheating doctrine demands deception coupled with dishonest or fraudulent inducement causing delivery, retention, or prejudicial acts or omissions, the culpable intention existing at the time of inducement, and includes cheating by personation."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that the mere combination of deception and inducement causing delivery automatically establishes cheating without regard to the mental state of the accused. The passage explicitly requires "dishonest or fraudulent inducement" and emphasizes that "the culpable intention existing at the time of inducement" is a necessary element. The cheating doctrine is not a strict liability offence; it requires proof of the accused's dishonest or fraudulent state of mind contemporaneous with the inducement. Without this culpable mental state, the elements of cheating are incomplete regardless of the victim's loss.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately captures the essential mental element of the cheating doctrine as articulated in the passage. The doctrine demands not just deception and inducement causing delivery or prejudicial acts, but specifically "dishonest or fraudulent inducement" with "the culpable intention existing at the time of inducement." Since Pradeep genuinely believed the investment scheme was legitimate when he induced Ramesh to invest, he lacked the requisite dishonest or fraudulent intention at that critical moment. His subsequent false claim about being a certified advisor, while deceptive, does not establish cheating absent the culpable intention contemporaneous with inducement.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option conflates the specific form of cheating by personation with the general mental state requirement applicable to all cheating offences. While the passage includes "cheating by personation" within the doctrine, it does not suggest that personation eliminates the requirement of dishonest or fraudulent intention. The phrase "includes cheating by personation" indicates that personation is one method of committing the offence, but the fundamental requirement that "culpable intention existing at the time of inducement" still applies. Personation without dishonest or fraudulent intent at

the time of inducement does not automatically constitute cheating.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly prioritizes the victim's loss over the accused's mental state, suggesting that actual financial harm alone establishes cheating. The passage makes clear that cheating requires both objective elements (deception, inducement, causing delivery or prejudicial acts) and a subjective element (dishonest or fraudulent intention at the time of inducement). Victim loss may be evidence of prejudice caused, but it cannot substitute for proof of the accused's culpable mental state. The doctrine does not create liability based solely on harmful outcomes without the necessary concurrent dishonest or fraudulent intention.

58. Correct Answer: (d) The adoption is valid because the wife's unsound mind constitutes a specified disability that excuses the consent requirement.

Reference Line: "a male Hindu of sound mind and not a minor may adopt with the living wife's consent unless specified disabilities apply"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly restricts the exceptions to only physical separation or dissolution of marriage, thereby misreading the statutory framework. While the passage does mention dissolution of marriage as one circumstance under which a married female may adopt independently, it uses the broader and more inclusive term "specified disabilities" when describing the exceptions applicable to male adopters seeking to adopt with a living wife. The passage does not limit these specified disabilities to only marital dissolution or physical separation; rather, mental incapacity declared by a court would naturally fall within the scope of disabilities that excuse the consent requirement.

Option (b) Incorrect: While this option reaches the correct conclusion that the adoption is valid, its legal reasoning is fundamentally flawed and mischaracterizes the statutory mechanism. It suggests that the consent requirement is "automatically waived by operation of law" due to legal impossibility, which incorrectly implies a general principle of automatic waiver whenever compliance becomes impossible. The passage indicates that specified disabilities constitute recognized and express statutory exceptions built into the legislative framework, not that requirements are automatically waived by courts or operation of law whenever practical compliance becomes impossible,

the distinction lies in express statutory provision versus implied judicial waiver.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly states an absolute rule requiring consent in all circumstances without exception. The passage explicitly provides that a male Hindu may adopt with his wife's consent "unless specified disabilities apply," clearly indicating that there are statutory exceptions to the consent requirement. The wife being declared of unsound mind constitutes such a disability exception that relieves the husband from obtaining consent that cannot legally be given. This blanket assertion ignoring the "unless specified disabilities apply" clause makes the option fundamentally incorrect.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly identifies that the wife's judicially declared unsound mind constitutes a "specified disability" that excuses the mandatory consent requirement under the statutory framework. The passage states that consent is required "unless specified disabilities apply," and being declared of unsound mind is precisely such a disability that would render meaningful consent impossible and therefore excuse its requirement. Since Sita has been judicially declared of unsound mind, this specified disability exempts Ramesh from the obligation to obtain her consent, making the adoption valid despite proceeding without it.

59. Correct Answer: (b) Kavita has capacity to adopt because her husband's conversion constitutes cessation of being Hindu, allowing married females to adopt independently.

Reference Line: "a female Hindu of sound mind and not a minor may adopt if unmarried, or if married only where the marriage has dissolved, the husband has died, renounced the world, ceased to be Hindu, or been declared of unsound mind"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fails to recognize that the statutory framework provides specific and enumerated exceptions for married women to adopt independently, regardless of whether the marriage continues to exist legally. The passage explicitly lists "ceased to be Hindu" among the circumstances where a married female may adopt without requiring either dissolution of marriage or the husband's consent. The continuation of legal marriage as a valid marital bond does not prevent adoption when one of the specified statutory conditions, such as the husband ceasing to be

Hindu, is satisfied, making this analysis incomplete and legally incorrect.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately applies the statutory provision that allows a married Hindu female to adopt independently when the husband has "ceased to be Hindu" through religious conversion. Arun's conversion to Islam means he has definitively ceased to be Hindu, which is explicitly enumerated as one of the conditions in the passage that confers independent capacity on a married female to adopt. The statute treats cessation of Hindu status as an independent ground on equal footing with death, renunciation, and mental incapacity, thus Kavita possesses full capacity to adopt Priya despite her marriage remaining legally intact and despite Arun's objection.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option erroneously and artificially excludes religious conversion from the complete list of circumstances that permit a married woman to adopt independently under the statutory framework. The passage explicitly and unambiguously includes "ceased to be Hindu" as one of the specified conditions alongside death, renunciation of the world, and declaration of unsound mind that enable a married female to exercise adoption capacity. By omitting this expressly stated ground, the husband ceasing to be Hindu, from the enumeration, this option presents an incomplete and therefore fundamentally incorrect statement of the law governing a married female's capacity to adopt.

Option (d) Incorrect: While this option reaches the correct result that Kavita has capacity to adopt, it relies on legally flawed reasoning by invoking the concept of "constructive dissolution" of marriage. The statutory framework outlined in the passage does not require any form of marital dissolution, whether actual or constructive, when the husband has ceased to be Hindu through religious conversion. The passage lists cessation of Hindu status as a completely independent and self-sufficient ground for conferring adoption capacity on married females, not as something that operates through or depends upon any theory of constructive or implied dissolution of the marital relationship.

60. Correct Answer: (a) The adoption is invalid because the father's right to give the child must be exercised with the mother's concurrent consent when both are alive.

Reference Line: "The principle governing persons who may give a child in adoption (Section 9) vests the right

in the father with the mother's consent, in the mother alone when statutory contingencies exist, and in a guardian with prior court permission when parents are unavailable"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option correctly interprets the statutory provision that the father may give a child in adoption only "with the mother's consent," establishing that both parental consents are mandatory and concurrent requirements when both parents are alive and available. The use of the preposition "with" in the statutory language indicates simultaneity and necessity, the father's right exists but cannot be exercised validly without the mother's accompanying consent. Since Rajesh proceeded with giving Maya in adoption despite Sunita's explicit refusal to consent, the adoption fails to satisfy this fundamental statutory condition mandating dual parental agreement, thereby rendering the entire adoption invalid and legally ineffective from its inception.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option fundamentally mischaracterizes the mother's consent as "merely advisory," which directly contradicts the clear statutory framework established in the passage. The passage explicitly and unambiguously states that the father's right to give a child in adoption must be exercised "with the mother's consent," indicating through the mandatory preposition "with" that the mother's consent is an essential, concurrent, and legally binding requirement for a valid giving in adoption, not an optional or advisory formality. This characterization of consent as advisory undermines the statutory scheme that treats both parents' participation as necessary when both are alive and available, making the father's unilateral action without the mother's agreement insufficient and legally defective for a valid adoption.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly introduces concepts of "sufficient cause" and "implied judicial permission" that have absolutely no foundation or support in the statutory framework described in the passage. The passage clearly requires actual, express consent from the mother when the father exercises his right to give a child in adoption, with no provision for waiving or inferring consent based on disagreement or the father's unilateral determination of sufficient cause. Judicial permission is specified exclusively and narrowly for guardians giving children in adoption when parents are unavailable due to death or

incapacity, not as a mechanism to override, bypass, or substitute for a living parent's refusal to consent to adoption proceedings.

Option (d) Incorrect: While this option correctly concludes that the adoption is invalid without the mother's consent, it provides legally incorrect and unsupported reasoning by suggesting that the mother's emotional attachment creates a "superior parental right" that hierarchically trumps the father's authority. The passage does not establish any hierarchy of parental rights based on emotional factors, strength of attachment, or qualitative assessment of parent-child bonds. Rather, it simply and neutrally requires that the father obtain the mother's consent as a concurrent requirement, making both parents' consents equally necessary and co-equal in legal effect. The invalidity stems from straightforward statutory non-compliance with the dual-consent requirement, not from the mother possessing superior or overriding emotional rights.

61. Correct Answer: (d) Vikram cannot validly adopt because the statutory bar applies when the adopter already has a child of the relevant line.

Reference Line: "The principle of other mandatory conditions (Section 11) bars adoption where the adopter already has a child of the relevant line"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option attempts to read a purposive or functional exception into the clear and unqualified statutory bar that simply does not exist in the legislative text or framework. While the reasoning about the existing son's age, independence, and separate life may appear pragmatically sound or may serve legitimate family planning objectives, the passage provides absolutely no textual or interpretive basis for such a functional, purpose-based, or circumstantial interpretation that would create exceptions to the prohibition. The statutory language is deliberately clear, categorical, and unqualified: having a child of the relevant line bars adoption, period, without inviting courts or parties to assess whether the policy purposes underlying the restriction have been functionally satisfied in individual cases.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option erroneously introduces a mechanism for seeking judicial permission to override or create exceptions to the statutory bar, which finds no support whatsoever in the statutory framework described in the passage. The passage mentions judicial permission exclusively and

solely in the narrow context of a guardian giving a child in adoption when the natural parents are unavailable due to death, incapacity, or other disqualifying circumstances. There is no provision, suggestion, or indication that judicial permission can be sought or granted to allow an adoption that directly violates the mandatory condition barring adoption when the adopter already has a child of the relevant line, the prohibition is statutory, categorical, and not subject to judicial discretion or exception-making.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that the capacity to adopt can be "revived" or restored based on circumstantial factors such as the existing child's marital status, independence level, or establishment of a separate household. The statutory bar referenced in the passage is expressed in absolute and unqualified terms, applying whenever the adopter "already has a child of the relevant line" without contemplating or providing for exceptions based on the existing child's current life circumstances, degree of independence, residential arrangements, or functional separation from the adoptive parent's household. The prohibition is categorical and admits no revival mechanism based on changed family dynamics or the maturation and independence of existing children.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately and precisely states the statutory prohibition as articulated in the passage without adding unauthorized qualifications or exceptions. The passage clearly and unambiguously indicates that adoption is barred "where the adopter already has a child of the relevant line," which creates an absolute disqualification. Since Vikram already has a biological son Karan, making Karan a child of the male line, Vikram falls squarely and unavoidably within this statutory prohibition against adopting another male child. The statute provides no exceptions, qualifications, or escape mechanisms based on the existing child's age, marital status, residential independence, or any other circumstantial factors, making Vikram's capacity to adopt another male child legally non-existent.

62. Correct Answer: (d) Meera cannot adopt Asha because while abandoned children are recognized, no explicit age exception exists for them under the general fifteen-year rule.

Reference Line: "The principle defining who may be adopted (Section 10) requires that the child be Hindu, generally under fifteen, and recognises adoption of an abandoned or illegitimate child"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option incorrectly infers and assumes that the statutory recognition of abandoned children automatically creates or implies an exception to the age requirement for adoption, which represents an unjustified logical leap not supported by the text. The passage states that children must be "generally under fifteen" as one requirement and separately, as a distinct provision, notes that the statute "recognises adoption of an abandoned or illegitimate child." These are presented as separate and independent requirements addressing different aspects of adoptability, the recognition of abandoned children addresses their eligibility for adoption despite their abandonment status and the resulting absence of parental care, not an exemption from or modification of the separately stated age limitations that apply to all adoptions generally.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option overstates and misrepresents the rigidity and absoluteness of the age requirement by claiming it applies "without exception" to all adoptions under all circumstances. The passage carefully and deliberately uses the qualifying adverb "generally" before stating the "under fifteen" age requirement, which linguistically and legally suggests that some degree of flexibility, discretion, or exceptions may exist in the statutory scheme or judicial interpretation. However, critically, the passage does not specify, enumerate, or describe what circumstances, if any, would permit exception to this general rule, and specifically does not indicate that abandoned status constitutes such an exception, making this absolute formulation both overly rigid and technically incorrect.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that procedural elements, specifically the orphanage director's consent as a de facto guardian combined with the child's abandoned status, can somehow "cure," remedy, or overcome substantive age-related defects in the capacity to be adopted. The passage establishes no mechanism by which guardian consent, whether from a de facto guardian or otherwise, can modify, waive, or eliminate the substantive eligibility requirements for who may be adopted. These are presented as separate and distinct statutory conditions that must all be independently satisfied: the child's eligibility based on religion, age, and other factors is analytically separate from the procedural requirement of proper consent from authorized persons to give the child in adoption.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly identifies the critical interpretive ambiguity and limitation in the

statutory framework as presented in the passage. While the passage does recognize that abandoned or illegitimate children may be adopted, addressing their eligibility despite their irregular family circumstances, it does not explicitly state or clearly indicate that this recognition of abandoned children creates, implies, or encompasses an exception to the separately stated requirement that adoptees be "generally under fifteen" years of age. The recognition of abandoned children appears to address their adoptability despite abandonment, but Asha's age of sixteen places her outside even the "generally" applicable age limit, and without a clear and explicit statutory exception linking abandoned status to age flexibility, the adoption cannot proceed validly.

63. Correct Answer: (c) No, because a lawful adoption completed with statutory compliance becomes final and irrevocable.

Reference Line: "Ancillary principles include the non-cancellable character of a valid adoption (Section 15) refers to the rule that once a lawful adoption has been completed in accordance with all statutory requirements, it becomes final and irrevocable."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The law does not permit emotional or subjective dissatisfaction to undo a legally completed adoption. Consent in adoption is tested objectively through procedural compliance, not by later change of intention. Once validly executed, the act of adoption acquires binding finality, and emotional coercion alleged after years cannot vitiate its effect. To hold otherwise would expose adopted children to legal instability and emotional insecurity. The principle of irrevocability ensures that adoption remains a permanent legal transformation, not a conditional arrangement dependent on emotional convenience.

Option (b) Incorrect: Adoption is not a private contract between two consenting adults that can be cancelled by mutual agreement. It is a legal institution governed by statute, and once completed, neither party retains ownership-like rights over the child. Allowing mutual cancellation would reduce the adoptive child to a transferable subject, violating principles of dignity and welfare. The state, through statutory design, ensures that adoption creates irrevocable familial ties independent of adult convenience. Mutual termination has no legal effect once the adoption is lawfully completed and recognized under the Act.

Option (c) Correct: Adoption, once validly completed under statutory requirements, is absolute and cannot be revoked by either party. The law treats the adopted child as the natural child of the adoptive parents from the moment adoption is effected. This legal transformation severs all ties with the biological family and substitutes a permanent parent-child relationship. Revocation would contradict the purpose of adoption, to provide certainty, belonging, and welfare for the child. The statutory rule thereby upholds both the sanctity and permanence of the adoptive bond and prevents misuse of the process as a reversible act of guardianship.

Option (d) Incorrect: The breakdown of the marriage between adoptive parents does not affect the validity of the adoption, as the legal relationship formed is between each parent and the child, not contingent upon marital harmony. The adoptive child's rights, status, and identity remain fully preserved despite separation or divorce. Allowing adoption to lapse on the basis of marital instability would contradict the welfare objective and undermine permanence of familial security. The law prioritizes the best interests of the child over personal conflicts, ensuring continuity and stability of parentage irrespective of subsequent disputes.

64. Correct Answer: (c) The venture is invalid because it exceeds the powers in the memorandum, rendering the transaction null and void under applicable doctrine. Reference Line: "The doctrine of ultra vires restricts a company from performing acts that exceed the powers set out in its memorandum of association, the term translating to 'beyond powers.' By confining activities to stated objectives, this doctrine renders acts outside those objectives null and void and protects shareholders and creditors from unauthorized or risky ventures."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the nature of corporate capacity and the limitations imposed by constitutional documents on directorial authority. Directors do not possess inherent or unlimited authority to pursue any business opportunity merely because it might be profitable; their powers are circumscribed by the company's memorandum of association, which defines the scope of permissible activities. The passage explicitly states that the doctrine restricts companies from performing acts that exceed memorandum powers, and

profitability alone cannot justify ultra vires acts. The agricultural venture, being entirely outside the stated software and IT services objectives, falls beyond the company's legal capacity regardless of its potential financial benefits.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly prioritizes commercial profitability over the mandatory constitutional limitations imposed by the memorandum of association, thereby inverting the proper legal hierarchy. The passage makes clear that the doctrine confines company activities to stated objectives specifically to protect shareholders and creditors from unauthorized ventures, and this protective function does not yield to considerations of commercial benefit or potential profitability. Constitutional restrictions in the memorandum are fundamental to the company's legal capacity and cannot be overridden by directors' business judgment or profit expectations. The doctrine exists precisely to prevent directors from exposing the company to ventures outside its authorized scope, even when those ventures might appear commercially attractive.

Option (c) Correct: This option accurately applies the doctrine of ultra vires as described in the passage, which restricts companies from performing acts that exceed the powers set out in their memorandum of association. Since TechCorp's memorandum specifies software development and IT services as its objectives, the purchase of an agricultural farm for organic produce cultivation clearly exceeds these stated powers. The passage explicitly states that this doctrine renders acts outside stated objectives "null and void," meaning the transaction has no legal effect from its inception. This protection exists to safeguard shareholders and creditors from unauthorized or risky ventures that fall outside the company's designated business scope, regardless of the directors' commercial justifications or profit motives.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that shareholder ratification can retroactively cure or validate an ultra vires transaction, transforming it from void to valid. However, the passage states unequivocally that acts outside stated objectives are rendered "null and void," which means they lack legal effect from inception and are fundamentally beyond the company's capacity. Ultra vires acts are not merely voidable (capable of being ratified) but void ab initio (void from the beginning), meaning they cannot be validated even with unanimous shareholder approval without first amending the memorandum itself to expand the company's objectives. Ratification can cure

irregularities in execution of authorized acts, but it cannot confer capacity where none exists under the constitutional documents.

65. Correct Answer: (a) ForeignCorp cannot enforce the contract because public documents are deemed known to all dealing with the company, making the limitation binding.

Reference Line: "The doctrine of constructive notice presumes that anyone dealing with a company knows its public documents, such as the memorandum and articles of association, which outline internal rules, objectives, and limitations and are available for public inspection. Under this presumption, third parties are treated as aware of these contents and cannot later claim ignorance of restrictions, because they are assumed to have reviewed the documents and understood the company's powers and limitations."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option correctly applies the doctrine of constructive notice as articulated in the passage, which presumes that anyone dealing with a company has knowledge of its public documents, including the memorandum and articles of association. Because these documents were publicly filed and available for inspection at the registrar's office, ForeignCorp is legally treated as having knowledge of the \$5 million limitation on export contracts, regardless of whether it actually reviewed these documents. The passage explicitly states that third parties "cannot later claim ignorance of restrictions" because they are presumed to have reviewed and understood the company's limitations. This presumption operates as a strict legal rule, making ForeignCorp bound by the restriction even though it had no actual knowledge of it.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option mischaracterizes the legal operation of constructive notice by suggesting that actual knowledge should be required instead of the presumed knowledge that the doctrine establishes. While the argument that constructive notice may be harsh on outsiders has merit from a policy perspective, the passage makes clear that the doctrine operates as a legal presumption that treats third parties as aware of public document contents regardless of actual knowledge. The passage explicitly states that parties "are assumed to have reviewed the documents and understood the company's powers and limitations," creating a legal fiction that binds third parties whether

or not they actually conducted such review. The harshness of this rule is precisely why the indoor management doctrine exists as a mitigating principle.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly attempts to shift the burden of proof and introduces concepts of estoppel or apparent authority that are not relevant under the doctrine of constructive notice. The passage makes clear that third parties are treated as aware of public document contents without any requirement that they prove reasonable belief or reliance on company conduct. Constructive notice operates as an automatic presumption based solely on the public availability of documents, not on the third party's subjective beliefs or the company's representations. While estoppel principles might apply in other contexts, the doctrine of constructive notice does not require proof of reasonable belief or company conduct creating such belief, the mere public filing of documents creates the presumption.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the scope of managerial authority and ignores the effect of constitutional limitations contained in public documents. Managing directors do not possess inherent or unlimited authority to bind companies in all commercial transactions; their authority is circumscribed by the company's constitutional documents and any limitations contained therein. The passage establishes that public documents outline "internal rules, objectives, and limitations" that are binding on third parties through constructive notice. Therefore, even though the managing director signed the contract, this action cannot override the constitutional limitation requiring shareholder approval for contracts exceeding \$5 million, and ForeignCorp is deemed to know of this limitation through constructive notice.

66. Correct Answer: (b) Riverside Bank can enforce the agreement because good faith outsiders may assume internal procedures were followed, protecting them from internal irregularities.

Reference Line: "To mitigate the harshness of constructive notice, the doctrine of indoor management, also known as Turquand's Rule and originating in *Royal British Bank v. Turquand* (1856), protects outsiders who deal with the company in good faith. It entitles them to assume that internal procedures, such as obtaining approvals, have been properly followed so that they are not disadvantaged by internal irregularities, and it permits enforcement of

contracts where they acted in good faith and were unaware of the irregularity."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fails to recognize the protective doctrine of indoor management that exists precisely to prevent external parties from being disadvantaged by internal procedural failures of which they have no knowledge. While internal constitutional requirements must indeed be satisfied for the company's internal governance purposes, the passage establishes that good faith outsiders are not required to verify compliance with every internal procedure and should not bear the risk of non-compliance when they act in good faith. The doctrine of indoor management operates as a protective shield for external parties, allowing them to enforce contracts despite internal irregularities, provided they acted in good faith and were unaware of the irregularity, which Riverside Bank clearly did in this scenario.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately applies the doctrine of indoor management (Turquand's Rule) as described in the passage, which protects outsiders who deal with companies in good faith by entitling them to assume that internal procedures have been properly followed. Riverside Bank acted in good faith, had no knowledge of the internal irregularity regarding the missing shareholder approval, and was presented with what appeared to be proper authorization through a board resolution. The passage explicitly states that this doctrine "permits enforcement of contracts where they acted in good faith and were unaware of the irregularity," which precisely describes Riverside Bank's position. This protection exists to mitigate the harshness of constructive notice and prevent external parties from being disadvantaged by internal procedural failures.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that constructive notice of the articles of association extends to requiring third parties to verify that all internal procedural requirements have actually been complied with in practice. While the articles are indeed public documents subject to constructive notice, the doctrine of indoor management specifically mitigates this harshness by allowing outsiders to assume that internal procedures outlined in those documents have been properly followed. The passage distinguishes between knowing what the internal requirements are (constructive notice) and having to verify that they were actually satisfied (which indoor management relieves outsiders from doing). Riverside Bank is

deemed to know that shareholder approval is required but is entitled to assume it was obtained.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that banks or financial institutions receive special categorical protection that other contracting parties do not enjoy, which mischaracterizes the basis of the indoor management doctrine. The protection afforded by indoor management is not specific to banks or dependent on the nature of the transaction (lending) but rather applies generally to all outsiders who deal with companies in good faith and are unaware of internal irregularities. The passage makes no distinction between types of contracting parties or transactions; the protection extends to any good faith outsider. While the originating case involved a bank, the principle applies universally to protect all good faith third parties, not just financial institutions.

67. Correct Answer: (d) Marcus can be held personally liable because misuse of corporate form allows courts to disregard separation and hold individuals accountable.

Reference Line: "The doctrine of lifting or piercing the corporate veil qualifies this separateness when it is misused, allowing courts to disregard the barrier between the company and individuals to hold them personally liable for wrongful actions. This intervention is typically applied in cases of fraud, tax evasion, or misrepresentation to prevent the use of the corporate form as a façade to escape personal liability, deter illegal activities, and protect creditors."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option incorrectly imposes an overly restrictive requirement that creditors must prove specific fraudulent intention at the time of incorporation to justify piercing the corporate veil. The passage indicates that veil-piercing intervention is "typically applied in cases of fraud, tax evasion, or misrepresentation" to prevent use of corporate form as a façade, but it does not require proof of fraudulent intent at incorporation specifically. The doctrine can be applied based on subsequent conduct and misuse of the corporate form, as demonstrated by Marcus's systematic transfers, commingling of funds, and treatment of company assets as personal property. The focus is on misuse of the corporate structure and wrongful actions, not necessarily on proving specific fraudulent intention at the moment of incorporation.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the basis for personal liability by

suggesting that majority shareholding combined with insolvency automatically triggers personal liability. The passage makes clear that personal liability arises from misuse of the corporate form, fraud, façade, wrongful actions, not from the mere size of shareholding or the company's financial condition. Many majority shareholders of insolvent companies maintain limited liability protection because they have not misused the corporate form. Personal liability under veil-piercing doctrine depends on conduct demonstrating misuse of the corporate structure (as Marcus exhibited through fund transfers and commingling), not on the mechanical combination of majority ownership and insolvency, which would undermine the fundamental principle of limited liability for all legitimate corporate activities.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly treats the separate legal entity doctrine and limited liability as absolute principles that apply without exception or qualification in all circumstances. While the passage does establish that the separate legal entity doctrine creates a company distinct from its shareholders with limited shareholder liability as the general rule, it explicitly states that the doctrine of piercing the corporate veil "qualifies this separateness when it is misused." The facts demonstrate classic misuse: systematic transfer of company funds to personal accounts, treatment of company property as personal property, and failure to maintain corporate formalities. These circumstances constitute precisely the type of misuse that justifies disregarding the corporate barrier and holding the individual shareholder personally liable.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly applies the doctrine of lifting or piercing the corporate veil as articulated in the passage, which allows courts to disregard the barrier between company and individuals when the corporate form is misused to hold them personally liable for wrongful actions. Marcus's conduct, systematically transferring company funds to his personal account, treating company properties as his own, and commingling finances, demonstrates use of the company as a "façade to escape personal liability," which is explicitly mentioned in the passage as justifying veil piercing. The passage states this intervention is applied to "protect creditors," which is precisely the situation here where creditors seek to hold Marcus accountable for debts he cannot escape by hiding behind the corporate structure he misused.

68. Correct Answer: (d) BuildRight cannot enforce the contract because forgery by company officers constitutes circumstances where the indoor management protection does not apply.

Reference Line: "This protection does not extend to circumstances involving fraud, dishonesty, or knowledge of irregularity, in which case the transaction may be invalidated."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: While BuildRight may have initially acted in good faith believing the managing director's representations, this option fails to recognize that the indoor management doctrine has explicit limitations and exceptions that prevent its application in circumstances involving fraud or dishonesty. The passage clearly states that the protection afforded by indoor management "does not extend to circumstances involving fraud, dishonesty, or knowledge of irregularity." The forgery of the board resolution by Zenith's managing director constitutes fraud and dishonesty, criminal acts that fall squarely within the enumerated exceptions to indoor management protection. Therefore, despite BuildRight's initial good faith, the presence of fraud removes the transaction from the protective scope of the doctrine, making this option incorrect.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that the indoor management doctrine requires external parties to conduct reasonable due diligence and verify the authenticity of corporate authorizations, which contradicts the fundamental purpose of the doctrine. The passage establishes that the doctrine entitles outsiders "to assume that internal procedures, such as obtaining approvals, have been properly followed," which necessarily includes assuming the authenticity of presented authorizations. If parties were required to verify authenticity of every document and authorization, the protective purpose of indoor management would be defeated. The contract fails not because BuildRight lacked due diligence, but because the presence of forgery and fraud brings the transaction within the explicit exceptions to indoor management protection stated in the passage.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly asserts that managing directors possess inherent or apparent authority to bind companies in construction contracts regardless of internal authorization limits, which fundamentally misunderstands the nature of corporate authority and the scope of indoor management

protection. Managing directors' authority is derived from and limited by internal corporate governance structures, board delegations, and constitutional documents, they do not possess unlimited inherent authority. While indoor management allows outsiders to assume internal procedures were followed, this assumption-based protection is explicitly withdrawn in circumstances involving fraud or dishonesty. The forged board resolution means no actual authority existed, and the fraudulent nature of the authorization removes any potential indoor management protection that might otherwise have been available.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately applies the explicit exception to indoor management protection stated in the passage, which provides that the protection "does not extend to circumstances involving fraud, dishonesty, or knowledge of irregularity, in which case the transaction may be invalidated." The managing director's forgery of the board resolution constitutes both fraud and dishonesty, deliberate criminal conduct that created false authorization. While indoor management typically protects good faith outsiders from internal irregularities, the doctrine draws a clear line at fraudulent conduct by company officers. The presence of forgery and fraud removes the transaction from the protective scope of indoor management, allowing Zenith to invalidate the contract despite BuildRight's initial good faith, because the exception for fraud and dishonesty takes precedence over the general protective rule.

69. Correct Answer: (b) The supplier cannot enforce the contract because acts exceeding memorandum powers lack legal effect regardless of third party knowledge or interpretation.

Reference Line: "The doctrine of ultra vires restricts a company from performing acts that exceed the powers set out in its memorandum of association, the term translating to 'beyond powers.' By confining activities to stated objectives, this doctrine renders acts outside those objectives null and void and protects shareholders and creditors from unauthorized or risky ventures."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fundamentally confuses the doctrine of constructive notice with the doctrine of ultra vires, incorrectly suggesting that actual knowledge of the memorandum somehow validates or cures an ultra vires transaction. Constructive notice ensures that third parties are

deemed aware of constitutional limitations, but such awareness does not confer validity on transactions that exceed the company's powers. The passage clearly establishes that ultra vires acts are "null and void", meaning they have no legal effect from inception, regardless of whether third parties have actual or constructive knowledge of the limitations. The supplier's actual review of the memorandum satisfies constructive notice requirements, but this knowledge actually reinforces rather than eliminates the transaction's invalidity, as the supplier proceeded despite being aware of potential scope limitations.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately applies the doctrine of ultra vires as articulated in the passage, which restricts companies from performing acts that exceed powers set out in their memorandum and renders such acts "null and void." The manufacturing of electronic components clearly exceeds NovaTech's stated objectives of software development, IT consulting, and related technology services, these are fundamentally different business activities requiring different expertise, assets, and operational structures. The passage emphasizes that acts outside stated objectives are rendered void and explains this doctrine protects shareholders and creditors from unauthorized ventures. The absolute nature of this doctrine means the contract lacks legal effect regardless of the supplier's actual knowledge of the memorandum, reasonable interpretation attempts, or beliefs about relatedness to technology, ultra vires transactions are void, period.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly attempts to introduce principles of contractual interpretation and ambiguity resolution into the ultra vires analysis, suggesting that reasonable interpretations of constitutional terms should favor enforcement. However, the passage makes clear that the ultra vires doctrine operates as a bright-line rule that renders acts outside stated objectives "null and void" without contemplating judicial balancing between enforcement and technical invalidity. The memorandum's statement of "software development, IT consulting, and related technology services" is not ambiguous, manufacturing electronic components is objectively outside this scope. Moreover, the doctrine exists precisely to confine companies to stated objectives and protect stakeholders from unauthorized ventures, which purpose would be defeated if courts could reinterpret limitations based on perceived reasonableness or technological relatedness.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly attempts to import concepts of estoppel or representation-based liability into the ultra vires context, suggesting that company conduct creating reasonable beliefs could validate otherwise ultra vires transactions. However, the passage establishes that ultra vires acts are "null and void," meaning they are void ab initio (void from the beginning) and incapable of validation through conduct, representation, or estoppel. A company cannot be estopped from asserting its lack of capacity because allowing such estoppel would effectively permit companies to exceed their constitutional limitations through conduct, defeating the protective purpose of the ultra vires doctrine. The doctrine operates as a limitation on corporate capacity itself, not merely on authority to contract, and capacity limitations cannot be overcome by representations or conduct that might create apparent authority.

70. Correct Answer: (b) The remedy can be granted if there is a prima facie case, irreparable injury, and no adequate alternative remedy.

Reference Line: "...it averts irreparable harm pending trial and issues only on a prima facie case, irreparable injury, a balance of convenience and public interest, and the absence of an adequate alternative remedy such as sufficient monetary damages."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The builder's admission of ownership is not the determinative factor for granting temporary injunctive relief. The court must examine whether Ramesh has established a prima facie case showing his legal rights are threatened, assess if irreparable injury would occur pending trial, evaluate the balance of convenience between the parties, consider public interest implications, and determine whether adequate alternative remedies exist. A mere admission by the defendant does not satisfy this comprehensive multi-factor test that courts must apply before exercising discretionary power to grant interim relief.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately captures the cumulative legal requirements for granting temporary injunctive relief as enumerated in the passage. The court must determine whether Ramesh has established a prima facie case demonstrating his legal rights and their threatened violation, assess whether the potential injury would be irreparable in nature and cannot be adequately compensated through monetary damages

after trial, evaluate the balance of convenience between parties, consider public interest implications, and determine whether adequate alternative remedies exist. Only when all these stringent conditions are cumulatively satisfied will the court exercise discretion to grant preventive relief.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the purpose and legal foundation of temporary injunctions as preventive equitable remedies. The passage explicitly states that temporary injunctions issue precisely where monetary damages would be inadequate compensation for the harm suffered. Courts recognize that certain injuries, particularly those relating to unique property rights such as ancestral land with sentimental or irreplaceable characteristics, cannot be adequately remedied through money alone after trial. The rationale behind granting preventive relief is to avert irreparable harm during litigation when waiting until after trial would leave the plaintiff without effective remedy.

Option (d) Incorrect: There is no requirement that the defendant must be a government body or public authority for temporary injunctive relief to be granted. Any party, whether private individual, corporate entity, or government body, can be restrained through injunction if they threaten to invade or breach the plaintiff's legal rights, provided all other statutory requirements are satisfied. The focus is on the nature of threatened harm, adequacy of alternative remedies, and balance of equities between parties, not on the legal status or identity of the defendant as public or private entity.

71. Correct Answer: (c) The injunction, being in personam, can bind legal representatives and is transferable with heritable and partible rights.

Reference Line: "...it is a right in personam, may pass with heritable and partible rights, and binds legal representatives."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Perpetual injunctions have broader effect than merely binding the immediate defendant who was party to the original proceedings. The passage explicitly states that such injunctions operate as rights in personam that may pass with heritable and partible rights and bind legal representatives. This means successors in interest, transferees who acquire the defendant's business or

property, heirs who inherit rights, and legal representatives who step into the defendant's shoes can all be bound by the terms of the perpetual injunction. This expansive binding effect prevents parties from circumventing court orders simply by transferring ownership or changing corporate structure.

Option (b) Incorrect: A perpetual injunction is fundamentally a prohibitory decree that permanently restrains the defendant from engaging in specified conduct found to infringe the plaintiff's legal rights after full trial. It operates to stop wrongful acts, not to provide monetary compensation for those acts. The passage clearly distinguishes injunctive relief from damages, with Section 40 separately addressing damages as supplementary or alternative relief. A perpetual injunction functions to permanently prevent repetition or continuation of acts violating legal rights, thereby protecting those rights prospectively rather than merely compensating for past or future violations through monetary awards.

Option (c) Correct: This option accurately reflects the legal characteristics and binding scope of perpetual injunctions as described in the statutory provision. The injunction operates "in personam" meaning it binds specific individuals, but this right may pass with heritable rights (transferring to heirs and successors through inheritance), with partible rights (transferring when rights are divided among co-owners), and critically binds legal representatives of the original defendant. This comprehensive binding effect ensures the perpetual injunction maintains its force even when there are changes in ownership, management, or legal succession, preventing circumvention of the court's protective order and ensuring continued enforceability.

Option (d) Incorrect: Civil courts possess well-established statutory jurisdiction to issue perpetual injunctions as civil restraints without any requirement of criminal prosecution or penalties. The passage describes injunctions as part of the civil remedy framework under the Specific Relief Act, 1963, entirely separate from criminal law frameworks. Section 41 mentions that courts will not restrain criminal matters through injunctions, indicating separation between civil injunctive relief and criminal proceedings. Civil injunctions protect private legal rights through restraint of wrongful conduct, while criminal law operates through public prosecution to punish offenses, serving different purposes and functioning independently.

72. Correct Answer: (d) Yes, if the landlord has performed all obligations binding upon him and the negative promise is separate.

Reference Line: "...when a contract couples an affirmative promise with a negative covenant, inability to compel specific performance of the affirmative promise does not bar injunctive enforcement of the negative, provided the plaintiff has performed so far as binding."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The enforceability of negative covenants through injunction does not depend on whether monetary loss from breach can be quantified or calculated later. The legal foundation rests on the existence of a clear negative promise, the plaintiff's own performance of contractual obligations, and the principle that injunctions issue to prevent breaches where monetary damages would be inadequate. Injunctions are granted precisely where money cannot adequately compensate for harm, cases where losses may be difficult to quantify or where financial compensation would not make the plaintiff whole. The focus is on upholding contractual restraints, not on feasibility of computing future financial losses.

Option (b) Incorrect: Judicial intervention through injunction to enforce contractual negative covenants does not require mutual consent or written authorization of both parties. Once parties have entered into a valid contract containing negative covenants, the court's power to grant injunctive relief arises from statute and equity, operating based on breach by the defendant and satisfaction of other prerequisites. The court does not require fresh negotiation or subsequent consent between parties. If the landlord establishes a valid negative covenant exists, is being breached, that he has performed his obligations, and other conditions are met, the equitable remedy becomes available independent of whether the tenant consents to enforcement.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the established legal doctrine concerning separate enforceability of negative covenants in contracts that also contain positive promises. The passage explicitly recognizes that negative covenants can be enforced through injunctions independently of whether affirmative promises in the same contract are specifically enforceable. Courts distinguish between compelling positive performance (which may be difficult or impossible) and restraining negative covenants

through injunctions. The inability to force specific performance of positive obligations does not automatically preclude injunctive enforcement of separate, clear negative promises that protect important interests and can appropriately be enforced through restraint.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly states the legal position articulated in the passage regarding enforcement of negative agreements. When a contract contains both affirmative promises and negative covenants, the court can enforce the negative covenant through injunction even if specific performance of the affirmative promise is not available, provided the plaintiff has performed his own obligations under the contract. This reflects the equitable principle requiring "clean hands", the landlord seeking injunctive enforcement must demonstrate compliance with his own contractual duties. Provided this condition is satisfied, the court can enforce the separate negative covenant regardless of whether positive renovation duties can be specifically enforced.

73. Correct Answer: (a) Whether usual remedies like monetary damages are equally efficacious unless the claim involves a breach of trust situation.

Reference Line: "...relief is also refused for acquiescence in a continuing breach, for an equally efficacious usual remedy except in breach of trust, for impediment to infrastructure projects or related services..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option accurately reflects one of the specific statutory grounds for refusing injunctive relief enumerated in Section 41 as described in the passage. The court must refuse an injunction when an equally efficacious usual remedy such as monetary damages is available and sufficient to adequately compensate the plaintiff. This embodies the equitable doctrine that injunctions, being extraordinary remedies, should only be granted when ordinary legal remedies prove inadequate. However, the statute carves an important exception for breach of trust cases, recognizing the special fiduciary nature and importance of ensuring trustees perform duties rather than simply paying compensation. In patent infringement where harm is readily calculable and compensable, the court would properly refuse injunctive relief.

Option (b) Incorrect: The defendant's status as a government agency or entity entitled to sovereign immunity is not mentioned in the passage as a relevant factor for assessing whether to refuse injunctive relief on grounds of remedy adequacy. The passage focuses on whether ordinary remedies like monetary damages sufficiently protect the plaintiff's interests, not on the identity or governmental character of the defendant. While Section 41 lists specific refusal grounds including impediments to infrastructure projects, these are separate grounds unrelated to remedy adequacy. The controlling inquiry is whether damages suffice to make the plaintiff whole, applying uniformly regardless of whether the defendant is private or governmental.

Option (c) Incorrect: While the passage mentions acquiescence in continuing breach as one separate ground in Section 41 for refusing relief, the question specifically addresses remedy adequacy, not temporal pattern of infringing conduct. The fact that infringement is continuing versus one-time does not by itself justify injunction if the fundamental requirement is not satisfied, that monetary damages are inadequate. Both continuing and one-time violations can be subject to injunctive relief or refusal based primarily on whether ordinary remedies are equally efficacious. The continuing versus isolated nature may be relevant to other aspects like irreparable harm, but is not controlling when the specific ground at issue is remedy adequacy.

Option (d) Incorrect: The availability or classification of damages as punitive versus compensatory is not the relevant consideration under Section 41's refusal ground concerning equally efficacious usual remedies. The passage focuses on whether usual remedies, primarily ordinary monetary damages compensating actual losses, are equally efficacious, not on specific types or classifications of damages available. The court examines whether monetary compensation of any appropriate form suffices to make the plaintiff whole, regardless of whether labeled compensatory, nominal, or punitive. The controlling question is fundamental adequacy of the remedy, not technical legal classification of what type of monetary award might be appropriate under damages law.

74. Correct Answer: (b) Issue a mandatory injunction requiring the manager to take specific affirmative actions to prevent breach of obligations.

Reference Line: "Section 39 states the doctrine of mandatory injunction, empowering the court to

compel acts necessary to prevent breach of an enforceable obligation."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Monetary compensation for future losses from continued neglect is fundamentally inadequate when the beneficiary's rights require the trust manager to perform specific fiduciary duties to preserve trust property. The passage emphasizes that injunctions issue where monetary damages are insufficient to protect legal rights or make the plaintiff whole. In trust relationships, where fiduciary duties are paramount and trust property must be actively safeguarded, the inadequacy of monetary remedies is particularly acute. Section 41 specifically recognizes breach of trust as an exception to the rule refusing injunctions where usual remedies exist, confirming that courts grant injunctive relief in trust cases to ensure actual performance, not merely money after property loss.

Option (b) Correct: This answer provides the precise application of the doctrine articulated in Section 39 as described in the reference line. A mandatory injunction empowers courts to compel the defendant to perform affirmative acts necessary to prevent breach of an enforceable obligation, going beyond mere prohibition of wrongful conduct. Unlike prohibitory injunctions that tell a party what not to do, mandatory injunctions require specific positive actions, securing property, maintaining accounts, overseeing repairs. When ongoing mismanagement threatens irreversible loss, mere passive restraint is insufficient; the beneficiary's rights require active performance of protective duties. Section 39 expressly provides courts with jurisdiction to issue such mandatory orders compelling performance.

Option (c) Incorrect: A temporary injunction as defined in Section 37(1) is fundamentally a prohibitory remedy that prevents parties from doing certain acts during litigation to preserve status quo. Temporary injunctions avert changes causing irreparable harm while the suit is adjudicated, but cannot compel affirmative action or require positive performance of obligations. The beneficiary's situation requires active intervention to protect trust property through affirmative duties of securing, maintaining, and preserving. A temporary injunction might prevent harmful actions like transferring property, but cannot require the manager to actively take protective steps needed. For such affirmative relief, the specific remedy of mandatory injunction under Section 39 is necessary.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly conflates two distinct categories of injunctive relief and suggests mandatory orders can only be issued after full trial as perpetual injunctions. Perpetual injunctions under Section 37(2) are decrees granted after full trial that permanently restrain acts infringing legal rights, primarily prohibitory, focusing on restraining wrongful conduct rather than compelling positive duties. Mandatory injunctions under Section 39 empower courts to compel acts necessary to prevent breach of enforceable obligations, and this power is not restricted to post-trial relief only. Courts possess jurisdiction to issue mandatory injunctions at various stages, including interim stages, whenever circumstances demand immediate affirmative action to prevent irreparable harm that cannot wait until final adjudication.

75. Correct Answer: (a) The confession is inadmissible because it was induced by a promise of bail from a person in authority.

Reference Line: "The voluntariness doctrine governs admissibility: a confession induced by threat, promise, or coercion from a person in authority is inadmissible."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option correctly applies the voluntariness doctrine as articulated in the passage. The police officer's promise that Ravi would be released on bail if he confessed constitutes an inducement from a person in authority, the police officer. Such inducements, whether in the form of threats or promises, render the confession involuntary and therefore inadmissible. The law requires that confessions be made freely, without any external pressure or benefit being offered. Since the confession was directly induced by the promise of bail, it fails the voluntariness test and must be excluded from evidence regardless of whether Ravi spoke willingly in response to that promise.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly limits the voluntariness doctrine to only physical threats or force, ignoring the broader scope of the rule. The passage explicitly states that confessions induced by threat, promise, or coercion from a person in authority are inadmissible, meaning the doctrine extends beyond physical coercion. A promise of bail by a police officer is a classic example of inducement that vitiates voluntariness. The mere absence of physical violence does not render a confession voluntary if it was obtained through promises or other forms of

psychological inducement. The law recognizes that promises can be just as coercive as threats in undermining the free will of an accused person.

Option (c) Incorrect: The admissibility of a confession induced by promise does not depend on whether the promise itself was truthful or could have been fulfilled by the officer. The voluntariness doctrine is concerned with the accused's state of mind at the time of making the confession, whether it was made freely or in response to inducement. Even if the police officer had the authority to arrange bail and the promise was accurate, the confession would still be inadmissible because it was not given voluntarily but rather as a response to an offered benefit. The truth or accuracy of the inducing promise is irrelevant to the analysis of voluntariness under the established doctrine.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly places the burden on the accused to prove severe mental distress, which is not required under the voluntariness doctrine. Once it is shown that a confession was induced by threat, promise, or coercion from a person in authority, the law treats it as inadmissible without requiring the accused to further demonstrate the degree of mental distress experienced. The focus is on whether inducement occurred, not on the subjective mental state or level of distress of the accused. The law presumes that inducements from persons in authority compromise voluntariness, and no additional proof of mental suffering is necessary to exclude such confessions.

76. Correct Answer: (b) The confession is admissible with presumptions of regularity because it was recorded by a judicial officer after due warning.

Reference Line: "The doctrine of judicial confession applies to statements recorded by a judge or magistrate after due warning, and such statements are admissible with presumptions of regularity in their recording."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option fails to recognize the special status accorded to judicial confessions under the law. While confessions obtained through improper means or from vulnerable individuals may be inadmissible, the passage establishes that judicial confessions recorded by magistrates after proper warning are treated differently. The fact that an accused is in custody does not automatically render a judicial confession inadmissible if all procedural safeguards have been followed. The Magistrate's

warning that Maya was under no obligation to speak and that her statement could be used against her specifically addresses the vulnerability concern, ensuring that her confession was made with full awareness of her rights and the consequences.

Option (b) Correct: This option accurately reflects the doctrine of judicial confession as stated in the passage. When a confession is recorded by a judicial officer (judge or magistrate) after providing the mandatory warning about the right to remain silent and the potential use of the statement, it is admissible in court. Moreover, such confessions carry presumptions of regularity in their recording, meaning courts presume that proper procedures were followed unless proven otherwise. Since Maya received the required warning and the Magistrate followed all procedural requirements, her confession falls squarely within the category of admissible judicial confessions and benefits from these presumptions.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option imposes an incorrect and excessive corroboration requirement on judicial confessions. The passage distinguishes between different types of confessions and their evidentiary weight. While extra-judicial confessions require caution and corroboration, and retracted confessions are considered unsafe without corroboration, judicial confessions recorded after proper warning are treated as stronger evidence and do not require independent corroboration of every detail. The passage specifically states that judicial confessions are admissible with presumptions of regularity, not that they must be corroborated in every particular. Such confessions are considered reliable due to the safeguards built into their recording process.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that a judicial confession loses its admissibility unless reaffirmed at trial. The passage does not require that an accused confirm or stand by a judicial confession made before a magistrate in order for it to be admitted at trial. Once properly recorded with due warnings and procedural compliance, a judicial confession becomes admissible evidence. If Maya later wishes to retract her confession, the doctrine of retracted confession would apply, but that is a separate issue affecting the weight of the evidence, not its admissibility. The mere absence of confirmation at trial does not render an otherwise proper judicial confession inadmissible.

77. Correct Answer: (c) The statement is admissible as an extra-judicial confession, but the court should receive it with caution and corroboration.

Reference Line: "The doctrine of extra-judicial confession covers confessions made outside court, through letters, conversations, or overheard remarks, which are inherently weaker forms of proof. Courts receive them with caution, relying on them only when they appear credible, consistent, and sufficiently corroborated."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option incorrectly concludes that extra-judicial confessions are inadmissible simply because they lack formal procedures and judicial oversight. The passage explicitly recognizes the doctrine of extra-judicial confession, which covers confessions made outside court through various means including conversations and overheard remarks. While such confessions are treated as weaker forms of proof than judicial confessions, they are not automatically excluded from evidence. The law acknowledges that accused persons may make admissions of guilt in informal settings, and such statements can be relevant evidence. The absence of formality affects the weight and reliability of such evidence, not its admissibility in principle.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option fails to recognize the fundamental distinction between judicial and extra-judicial confessions established in the passage. Judicial confessions recorded by magistrates after proper warning carry presumptions of regularity and are treated as stronger evidence, while extra-judicial confessions made in informal settings like conversations are inherently weaker forms of proof. The passage explicitly categorizes overheard remarks as extra-judicial confessions requiring caution and corroboration. Therefore, Arjun's statement at the wedding cannot be accorded the same evidentiary weight as a formal judicial confession, and courts must apply greater scrutiny and require corroboration before relying on such evidence.

Option (c) Correct: This option correctly applies the doctrine of extra-judicial confession as described in the passage. Arjun's statement made during a casual conversation at a wedding constitutes an extra-judicial confession, an admission of guilt made outside the formal court setting. The passage clearly states that such confessions are inherently weaker forms of proof and that courts receive them with caution, relying on them only when they appear credible, consistent, and

sufficiently corroborated. Therefore, while Arjun's overheard statement is admissible, the court must evaluate it carefully, consider its credibility, and look for corroborating evidence before relying on it to convict.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option misapplies the law regarding intoxication and confessions. While the passage mentions that recent statutory developments clarify that intoxication alone does not erase evidentiary value, this refers to the general admissibility of confessions, not their automatic exclusion. The fact that Arjun may have been drinking at a wedding does not automatically render his confession inadmissible. Instead, intoxication might be one factor affecting the credibility and weight of the confession, to be considered alongside other circumstances. The court would evaluate whether the statement appears credible and consistent despite any intoxication, rather than categorically excluding it based solely on that ground.

78. Correct Answer: (a) The retracted confession may be used if the court is satisfied of its voluntariness and truthfulness, with corroboration being prudent.

Reference Line: "The doctrine of retracted confession holds that a voluntary confession, even if later withdrawn, may still be used if the court is satisfied of its truthfulness and voluntariness. As a rule of prudence, convictions based solely on retracted confessions are considered unsafe unless there is corroboration, though corroboration of the overall pattern rather than every detail is deemed adequate."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option accurately captures the doctrine of retracted confession as articulated in the passage. A confession that is later withdrawn remains usable if the court is satisfied that it was made voluntarily and is truthful, despite the subsequent retraction. The passage establishes that as a rule of prudence, convictions based solely on retracted confessions are considered unsafe unless there is corroboration, though such corroboration need only support the overall pattern rather than every specific detail. In Deepak's case, the judge should examine whether the original confession was voluntary and truthful, and may rely on it if satisfied on those points, particularly given the circumstantial evidence providing some corroboration.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the doctrine of retracted confession by

suggesting that retraction automatically eliminates the evidentiary value of the confession. The passage explicitly states that a voluntary confession, even if later withdrawn, may still be used by the court. Retraction does not render a confession inadmissible or unusable; rather, it affects the weight and reliability of the confession as evidence. The court must examine both the circumstances of making the confession and the reasons for retraction, but the mere fact of withdrawal does not strip the confession of all evidentiary value or prevent the court from considering it alongside other evidence in reaching a verdict.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly places the burden on Deepak to prove the truth of his reasons for retraction, which misunderstands the legal framework. The passage indicates that courts should inquire into the reasons for both making and retracting a confession, but this does not mean the accused must prove the factual basis of the retraction claim. The focus is on whether the original confession was voluntary and truthful, not on whether the accused can establish the truth of the circumstances claimed for retraction. The court evaluates the overall credibility and reliability of the confession considering all circumstances, rather than requiring the accused to substantiate specific threats or pressure after the fact.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option imposes an excessive and incorrect corroboration standard on retracted confessions. While the passage states that convictions based solely on retracted confessions are considered unsafe without corroboration, it explicitly clarifies that corroboration of the overall pattern rather than every detail is deemed adequate. The law does not require independent verification of every particular mentioned in the confession. The court may convict based on a retracted confession if satisfied of its voluntariness and truthfulness, supported by corroboration of the general narrative or key facts, without needing every minor detail independently proven. This balanced approach recognizes evidentiary realities while maintaining prudent safeguards.

79. Correct Answer: (d) Only the judicial confession before the magistrate is admissible, as later voluntary confessions are permitted despite earlier inadmissible ones.

Reference Line: "Recent statutory developments preserve these safeguards. The new evidentiary code excludes confessions obtained through pressure,

allows later voluntary confessions to be admitted, and clarifies that intoxication or ignorance alone does not erase evidentiary value. It also regulates confessions to police officers and those involving multiple accused."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that both confessions are admissible, ignoring the fundamental rule that confessions to police officers are inadmissible. The passage indicates that the evidentiary code regulates confessions to police officers, generally excluding them from evidence to prevent coerced statements obtained during police custody. The fact that Salim repeated the same information does not cure the inadmissibility of the police confession, it remains excluded. However, the consistency between the two statements might be relevant to assessing the truthfulness and voluntariness of the second judicial confession, but this does not render the first confession admissible in its own right.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly places the burden on the prosecution to affirmatively prove the absence of pressure during police interrogation before the judicial confession can be admitted. The passage indicates that later voluntary confessions are permitted despite earlier ones that may have been obtained through pressure. The focus is on whether the subsequent judicial confession was voluntary, not on proving the circumstances of the earlier inadmissible police confession. Once the magistrate provides proper warnings and the accused makes a confession, it is presumed regular and voluntary unless the defense establishes inducement or coercion in the making of that particular judicial confession. The earlier police interrogation's validity is irrelevant to the admissibility of the later independent judicial confession.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly applies the "fruit of the poisonous tree" doctrine in an overly rigid manner without recognizing the specific statutory provisions governing confessions in criminal law. The passage explicitly states that recent statutory developments allow later voluntary confessions to be admitted despite earlier inadmissible ones. This reflects a legislative judgment that if an accused makes a fresh confession before a magistrate after receiving proper warnings and with full awareness of rights, it represents an independent voluntary act rather than merely being derivative of an earlier inadmissible confession. The second confession has its own

independent evidentiary foundation and procedural safeguards that distinguish it from the tainted police confession.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly applies the legal principle stated in the passage regarding later voluntary confessions. While confessions made to police officers are generally inadmissible and the first confession would be excluded, the new evidentiary code specifically allows later voluntary confessions to be admitted. When Salim made a second confession before the magistrate after receiving proper warnings about his rights and his lack of obligation to speak, this constituted a fresh voluntary act. The judicial confession, recorded with all procedural safeguards, is independently admissible regardless of the earlier inadmissible police confession. The law recognizes that proper judicial recording provides sufficient safeguards to ensure voluntariness.

80. Correct Answer: (b) The agreement is a void wagering agreement because neither party has any real interest in the ship beyond the stake.

Reference Line: "Third, as to interest, contingent contracts typically involve a real or insurable interest in the subject (e.g., insurance, guarantee, indemnity), while wagers involve no real interest beyond winning or losing."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: While the agreement does involve an uncertain event that has occurred, this does not automatically make it an enforceable contingent contract. The passage distinguishes between contingent contracts and wagers based on whether parties have a real or insurable interest in the subject matter. Here, neither Priya nor Raj has any ownership, financial stake, or legitimate interest in the ship or its voyage, they are merely betting on an outcome. The absence of real interest beyond winning or losing transforms what might appear to be a contingent contract into a wagering agreement, which is void under Section 30 and unenforceable regardless of whether the event has occurred.

Option (b) Correct: This option correctly identifies the agreement as a wagering agreement void under Section 30. The passage explicitly states that contingent contracts typically involve a real or insurable interest in the subject, such as insurance, guarantee, or indemnity, while wagers involve no real interest beyond winning or losing. Since neither Priya nor Raj has any genuine interest in the ship, its cargo, or the

voyage except for the stake they have placed, the agreement falls squarely within the definition of a wager. The statute declares such agreements void and unenforceable ab initio, meaning no suit lies to recover alleged winnings or the stake.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option fundamentally misunderstands the nature of wagering agreements and their legal status. The passage clearly states that wagering agreements are void and unenforceable from the beginning, meaning no party can sue to recover winnings regardless of the outcome. Raj has not "performed" anything in a legal sense, he has merely taken one side of a speculative bet. The fact that his prediction turned out to be correct does not create any enforceable obligation on Priya's part, because the underlying agreement lacks legal validity. Courts will not enforce agreements that are declared void by statute, even when the uncertain event has been resolved.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that the timing of the event's occurrence within the stipulated period somehow voids a contingent contract. In fact, for valid contingent contracts, the occurrence of the specified contingency within any agreed timeframe generally makes the contract enforceable, not void. The real issue here is not the timing of the ship's arrival but the fundamental nature of the agreement itself. Since neither party has any real interest in the subject matter beyond the stake, the agreement is a wager from the outset, void under Section 30, regardless of when or how the uncertain event resolves itself.

81. Correct Answer: (d) The agreement is a valid contingent contract that became enforceable when Bina's father recovered from his illness as specified.

Reference Line: "A contingent contract (Section 31) is a contract to do or not to do something if an event collateral to the contract happens or does not happen; performance becomes due only on the occurrence or non-occurrence of that collateral event."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option confuses contingent contracts with wagering agreements by focusing solely on the uncertain nature of the event. The passage distinguishes these concepts based on whether parties have a real interest in the subject matter beyond winning or losing. Here, Bina has a genuine interest in acquiring the house for her family's residence, not merely in the outcome of her father's health.

Additionally, the consideration for the contract is the ₹1 crore purchase price, not a wager on her father's recovery. The involvement of an uncertain event regarding someone's life does not automatically make an agreement a wager when there is legitimate commercial purpose and real interest.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option misunderstands the concept of collateral events in contingent contracts. The passage states that the event must be "collateral, external to the contract's primary promise, consideration, or object." Bina's father's recovery is indeed collateral, it is external to the primary promise (sale of house), the consideration (₹1 crore), and the object (transfer of property). The event serves as a condition precedent to performance but is not part of the contract's core subject matter. The fact that the event is personal to one party does not make it non-collateral; it remains an external circumstance upon which performance is conditioned.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option incorrectly assumes that any agreement involving an uncertain event related to health is automatically void. The passage clearly establishes that contingent contracts are valid and enforceable when the specified contingency occurs. The fact that an event is uncertain at the time of agreement does not render the contract void, uncertainty is a defining feature of contingent contracts. What matters is whether the agreement satisfies the essentials of a contingent contract: an uncertain triggering event that is collateral to the contract, not within the parties' control, and linked to performance. Bina's father's recovery meets these criteria, making this a valid contingent contract.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly applies the law of contingent contracts as stated in the passage. The agreement between Amit and Bina is a contract to sell the house if the collateral event (father's recovery) happens. The father's illness and recovery are external to the primary promise (sale of house), consideration (price), and object (transfer of property), making it a collateral event. Since Bina has a genuine interest in purchasing the house for residence and is not merely wagering on her father's health, this is a valid contingent contract. When the specified contingency occurred, the father's recovery within six months, the contract became enforceable under Sections 32–36.

82. Correct Answer: (c) It is a void wagering agreement because both parties have reciprocal promises based solely on an uncertain event without real interest.

Reference Line: "Its features are: (i) an uncertain event; (ii) a mutual chance of gain or loss; (iii) no genuine interest in the event other than the stake; (iv) the result lies outside both parties' control; (v) two distinct parties; and (vi) reciprocal promises to pay according to the result."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: While the agreement does involve an uncertain event that has been determined, this does not make it an enforceable contingent contract. The passage establishes clear distinctions between contingent contracts and wagers. This agreement exhibits all the hallmarks of a wager: both parties have reciprocal promises to pay based on opposite outcomes, each stands to gain or lose depending solely on the result, and neither has any genuine interest in the election beyond the stake. The certainty of determination after the event does not cure the fundamental defect, the agreement is void ab initio under Section 30 as a wagering agreement.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly suggests that the public nature or legitimacy of the event underlying an agreement affects its characterization as a wager. The passage makes clear that what matters is not the nature of the event itself but whether parties have a genuine interest in it beyond winning or losing the stake. Even though political elections are lawful public events, agreements to pay money based solely on their outcomes without any real interest constitute wagering agreements. The legitimacy of the event does not transform a wager into an enforceable contract when all other features of wagering are present and parties are merely speculating for profit.

Option (c) Correct: This option correctly identifies all the essential features of a wagering agreement as enumerated in the passage. The agreement involves an uncertain event (election outcome), mutual chance of gain or loss (one pays ₹10 lakhs depending on result), no genuine interest in the event other than the stake (neither party has financial or legitimate interest in election), result outside both parties' control (determined by voters), two distinct parties (Deepak and Eshwar), and reciprocal promises to pay according to the result. Since all six features are present, this is clearly a wagering agreement void under Section 30, and no suit lies to recover the stake.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option misapplies the requirement that events in contingent contracts should not be within the control of promisor or promisee.

While it's true that the election outcome is collectively determined by voters and influenced by candidates, neither Deepak nor Eshwar individually controls the result, it lies outside both their control, which actually satisfies one requirement of both contingent contracts and wagers. The agreement fails not because of control issues but because it exhibits all features of a wagering agreement: reciprocal promises based solely on opposite outcomes without any genuine interest beyond the stake. The control element doesn't determine whether this is a wager versus contingent contract.

83. Correct Answer: (a) No, because performance is conditional on the contingency, which failed to occur.
 Reference Line: "Where the specified contingency occurs (or fails to occur), the contract is valid and enforceable, with timing and effect governed by Sections 32–36 (e.g., enforcement when the event happens; discharge where the event becomes impossible)."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: The contract's enforceability depends entirely on the occurrence of the collateral event, approval of the metro project. Since that event never occurred, the promise to sell remains inoperative and cannot be enforced. The law explicitly provides that contingent contracts stand discharged when the underlying event becomes impossible. Rohan's liability never matured because the contingency, which formed the essence of the agreement, was never fulfilled. This approach preserves fairness by linking performance strictly to the event's happening or non-happening.

Option (b) Incorrect: The fundamental distinction between absolute and contingent contracts lies in the dependency on an uncertain future event. In a contingent contract, the obligation to perform arises only if the specified event materialises. Treating the obligation as independent of the event would erase this foundational distinction and distort the contractual intent. Rohan's promise was conditional, not absolute, and hence cannot survive the non-occurrence of the event. The law does not punish parties for external contingencies but instead terminates the obligation when the condition fails.

Option (c) Incorrect: The law does not recognize partial or tentative progress toward the event as fulfilling a contingency. The occurrence must be complete, definite, and identical to what the contract contemplates. Any assumption that preparatory steps,

proposals, or partial approvals equate to actual approval would contradict the precise condition agreed upon. The parties consciously tied performance to the final approval, not to intermediate developments. Therefore, partial or prospective fulfillment cannot substitute for actual occurrence, and the contract remains unenforceable in the absence of the specified event.

Option (d) Incorrect: While it is true that impossibility leads to discharge, the rule operates after the failure of the event, not before or based on speculation. The contract becomes void once it is clear that the event will not occur, as seen in this case. However, the discharge flows from the event's failure, not from general impossibility principles unrelated to the contingency. Here, the impossibility was established through government cancellation of the project, which ends the contract automatically. The doctrine ensures that parties are released once the condition fails definitively, protecting them from indefinite obligation.

84. Correct Answer: (c) Yes, because contingent contracts are enforceable when the contingency is satisfied under the law.

Reference Line: "Contingent contracts are enforceable when the contingency is satisfied (per ss.32–36), but wagering agreements are never enforceable."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: While the contract does hinge on an uncertain event, enforceability depends on its character and purpose. A mere dependence on uncertainty does not make it valid unless the event is collateral and forms the lawful condition for performance. Here, the contract is valid only because the event occurred as contemplated, not simply because it was uncertain. The emphasis lies on fulfillment of the contingency, not its unpredictability. Enforceability flows from proper satisfaction of the condition rather than the presence of uncertainty itself.

Option (b) Incorrect: The argument that all uncertainty renders a contract void confuses a wager with a contingent contract. The law recognises that legitimate business or technical outcomes may depend on uncertain events without losing enforceability. The key factor is that the parties had a genuine interest in the event—Aditi's success was a condition tied to achievement, not speculation. Invalidating every uncertain contract would defeat the very purpose of Sections 32–36, which preserve conditional

agreements tied to collateral events rather than mere gambling.

Option (c) Correct: The statutory rule establishes that when the specified contingency occurs, the promise becomes binding and enforceable. The event—successful certification—was the triggering condition that converted Aditi’s expectancy into a legal right. The agreement is lawful because it aligns with the principles of collateral dependency and real interest in the event. It is neither speculative nor reciprocal in the manner of a wager. The occurrence of the contingency activates Kunal’s duty to pay, making the contract enforceable under the law governing contingent contracts.

Option (d) Incorrect: The distinction between a wager and a contingent contract is decisive. Wagering agreements are void because they involve reciprocal speculation with no real interest in the event, while contingent contracts rest on bona fide business or operational contingencies. The successful certification of the scooter was not a game of chance but a legitimate commercial objective. To treat it as wagering would collapse the doctrinal boundary between lawful and unlawful agreements. Therefore, the event’s occurrence validates, rather than invalidates, the contractual obligation under law.

Section - D : Logical Reasoning

85. Correct Answer: (a) Early structured lessons amplify a latent pitch trait, but cannot guarantee outcomes across heterogeneous learners.

Reference Line: "Chances are, it could also be a combination of both... early musical training is almost essential... Some don't even acquire AP in spite of early musical training."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option integrates the passage's dual-cause account by conceding that early training can strengthen an inherited disposition while recognizing variability in attainment; the text emphasizes both a probable genetic contribution and the near necessity of childhood exposure, yet it also notes non-universal success, which means amplification rather than assurance; the wording captures the author's probabilistic stance rather than certainty; it avoids overclaiming and aligns with the author's caution that the genetic component is complex; the inference therefore preserves the multifactor, non-deterministic view advanced in the passage; Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This statement invents a temporal decay of genetic influence that the author never proposes, since the passage frames heredity as a stable predisposition whose expression may depend on training rather than something that fades without adolescent drills; it also implies a strict timeline of constant ear work that the text does not specify; by adding a claim about attenuation, it misrepresents the nuanced interaction the author sketches; the conclusion therefore departs from the evidentiary base; Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage does report higher AP incidence among tonal language speakers, but it does not claim that such exposure fully substitutes for genetic factors; calling tonal language use a complete replacement ignores the author's repeated insistence on a combined pathway and on genetic complexity; the option overshoots the data from the Eastman study by universalizing an advantage into sufficiency; this converts correlation into determinative causation; Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author never suggests that memorizing anchors will neutralize childhood input or linguistic environment; on the contrary, the text highlights a sensitive period and advantages tied to early tonal exposure, which makes the claim of equivalence regardless of childhood input inconsistent with the developmental framing; this treats adult strategy as a substitute for critical period effects without evidence; the reasoning conflicts with the passage's core mechanism; Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

86. Correct Answer: (b) Children raised with two phoneme sets later distinguish subtle accents because early categorization tunes perception.

Reference Line: "It might sound weird, but if you can speak languages like Punjabi, Chinese, or Korean, you are likely to have perfect pitch... These are tonal languages."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Here the mechanism centers on oxygen debt producing permanent fast-twitch dominance, which the passage never analogizes; the author's model is not about a single physiological stressor conferring lifelong traits but about early representational categories enabling later identification; the training context and biological target differ, and the claim of permanence from camps is unsupported and mechanistically mismatched; the structure diverges from the tonal language account; Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage links early tonal experience to later pitch labeling by implying that early auditory categories scaffold fine-grained distinctions, and this option mirrors that mechanism with speech sounds, where exposure in childhood shapes phonemic boundaries that persist into expert discrimination; both accounts rely on an early sensitive window that calibrates perception rather than on sheer practice volume; the parallel sits at the level of causal structure, mapping early categorical tuning to later effortless identification; it therefore reflects the same developmental logic; Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This claims that adult labeling alone creates painterly intuition, which reverses the passage's emphasis on early exposure and sensitive periods; it suggests that names can manufacture perceptual acuity without developmental timing, whereas the text stresses that early environments prime the system for high-resolution pitch; the causal architecture is therefore distinct and lacks the critical period component that defines the author's argument; Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The option asserts that repetition guarantees broad transfer from timing drills to melodic skill, but the passage avoids promises of guaranteed transfer and underscores selective benefits tied to early tonal contexts; it also shifts from perceptual categorization to motor timing and assumes automatic generalization, which the author would treat cautiously; the logical shape fails to track the sensitive-period and category-tuning rationale; Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

87. Correct Answer: (c) Introducing guided pitch exposure in early childhood to increase the probability

of AP development even when hereditary predisposition varies among learners.

Reference Line: "Several studies point to musical training at a young age aiding in the development of AP."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This contradicts the passage's emphasis on the critical period by suggesting training should be delayed until adolescence. The author implies that missing the early window may reduce the likelihood of acquiring AP, regardless of motivation. Prioritizing interest over developmental timing ignores the role of biological sensitivity highlighted in the text, making the policy misaligned with the author's reasoning. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage acknowledges tonal-language speakers show higher likelihood of AP but does not claim tonal language alone can replace the need for training or genetic predisposition. This option falsely converts correlation into sufficiency, assuming tonal familiarity automatically yields AP. It therefore imposes a deterministic expectation not supported by the evidence presented. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author highlights childhood as a sensitive period where early musical training can activate or strengthen a latent predisposition. The text describes AP acquisition as most successful when training occurs early, even though not all who are trained will acquire it, which supports a policy of providing early exposure rather than limiting access. The argument is framed in terms of increased opportunity rather than guaranteed outcomes, reflecting a nuanced view that training interacts with heredity. This option aligns with the author's perspective that early training is meaningful and advantageous in shaping auditory development. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This assumes that spontaneous early tonal recognition is the only legitimate basis for training, implying that innate ability is fixed and training is unnecessary for others. The author, however, stresses that early training is beneficial and sometimes essential even when predisposition is present. This option embraces genetic determinism, which the passage explicitly treats as incomplete. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

88. Correct Answer: (b) When tonal-language and non-tonal-language speakers were matched for early training and home musical exposure, differences in AP prevalence disappeared completely.

Reference Line: "Native Chinese and Vietnamese speakers were more likely to have absolute pitch as opposed to English speakers... because they were tonal languages."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(b) This option directly challenges the causal inference that tonal language experience increases AP likelihood by showing that once early training and exposure conditions are equalized, the difference vanishes. This implies that tonal language may correlate with AP because tonal speakers often receive different types of auditory input early in life, not because tonal language itself independently causes AP. By removing the difference under controlled conditions, the justification for treating tonal language as a driving factor becomes substantially weaker, undermining a key interpretive link in the passage. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(a) This implies that training method could be an influencing factor, but it does not eliminate the association between tonal background and AP; it merely adds another partial explanation. The language influence could still be relevant even if instruction style amplifies it. Therefore, the causal interpretation is not meaningfully weakened. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(c) This speaks to performance difficulty under complex listening conditions rather than the likelihood of developing AP. A person may still possess AP even if certain musical contexts make tone recognition harder. Since the claim concerns acquisition rather than performance consistency, this does not weaken the argument. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This indicates that AP may be trainable to some degree, but it does not disprove that tonal language exposure statistically increases the likelihood of acquiring AP. Improvement through training says nothing about baseline probability differences; both can coexist. Therefore, this does not weaken the central claim. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

89. Correct Answer: (d) Identifying these conclusions as flawed because each reduces a complex multi-causal development to a single decisive causal explanation.

Reference Line: "Some don't even acquire AP in spite of early musical training, suggesting that the genetic component is rather complex."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option presents a case in which a shared outcome is attributed to genetics alone, ignoring the shared environment of upbringing. The reasoning parallels one possible misunderstanding in the passage, where observers may assume that AP runs in families because of inheritance alone without acknowledging similar musical surroundings. However, this example reflects only one instance of the broader flawed reasoning pattern. It identifies a single misleading inference but does not capture the general form of the logical mistake across contexts. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option illustrates a situation where multiple contributing variables are collapsed into one simplified explanation, assuming that climate alone produces mathematical talent. While this kind of reasoning resembles the oversimplification that could occur regarding AP's causes, it again only provides one example rather than addressing the full logical structure. It shows how correlation may be mistaken for causation, but the question seeks the pattern that unites these mistakes. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option displays reasoning that treats early training as wholly decisive, ignoring cognitive and developmental variation between learners. The passage stresses that even with early training, some individuals still do not acquire AP, demonstrating that training alone is insufficient. However, this is again a single version of the broader conceptual error where one factor is mistaken as decisive. Therefore, although relevant, it does not answer the question most comprehensively. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option points out that the central flaw across all such misinterpretations is the reduction of a multi-factor developmental process to a single controlling cause. The passage emphasizes that AP emerges through a combination of genetic predisposition and early musical exposure, indicating that neither factor alone fully determines the outcome. The flawed reasoning identified by the author is the error of attributing the outcome to only one variable. Therefore, this option correctly characterizes the general pattern of faulty inference described. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

90. Correct Answer: (a) The pitch of a musical note remains recognizable as the same frequency across different sound sources commonly encountered.

Reference Line: "Relative pitch... means to identify a note in relation with other notes."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) For absolute pitch to function in the manner described, the identity of a pitch must remain stable even when heard in varied contexts such as alarms, speech, or instruments. The passage relies on the idea that an individual with AP can recognize a tone as the same tone regardless of its acoustic source, which is only meaningful if the pitch itself is consistent. This stability is not stated directly but underlies the logic that AP is fundamentally different from relative pitch. Without this assumption, the distinction between the two abilities would collapse because tones would not be reliably identifiable in isolation. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option suggests all listeners have the same initial auditory sensitivity, but the passage explicitly allows for genetic and experiential differences. The argument about AP does not depend on uniform

starting levels of hearing ability, only on how pitch is categorized or learned. Therefore, this assumption is not required for the argument to hold. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage does not assert that pitch recognition is isolated from other auditory features such as timbre or rhythm. The definition of AP concerns reference-independence of tone identification, not independence from all musical elements. Thus, this assumption overreaches and is not essential to the author's explanation. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author never claims that training in relative pitch obstructs or interferes with developing AP. The two skills can coexist, and the passage's focus lies on early exposure and predisposition, not conflict between processing systems. Therefore, this assumption is not necessary for the argument. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

91. Correct Answer: (a) The UN has recently updated its extinction monitoring framework to include invertebrates and microfauna.

Reference Line: "Insects hardly figure in this information though: it is largely dominated by vertebrates."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option most directly responds to the author's underlying criticism that insects are being excluded from mainstream biodiversity conversations, such as those led by the UN. The author suggests that extinction data skews heavily towards vertebrates, implying institutional neglect or oversight regarding insect species. However, if the UN has since revised its monitoring framework to actively include invertebrates and microfauna, it undermines the basis for that criticism. The author's concern rests on the premise that institutional frameworks are outdated or incomplete. If this has changed, then the entire urgency around underrepresentation weakens. This countering evidence addresses both the core concern and the system responsible for ecological reporting. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option offers a justification for the dominance of vertebrate data by asserting that such data is more accurate. While this might explain the preference for vertebrates, it does not invalidate the author's concern that insects are underreported. The author is not questioning the accuracy of vertebrate data but rather the comprehensiveness of extinction data. This explanation might defend current reporting biases but does not neutralize the claim that an important category—namely, insects—is being excluded. It diverts rather than refutes. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option suggests that the complexity of monitoring insects explains why they are often left out of high-level reports. While this may offer a logistical

explanation, it essentially agrees with the author's premise that insects are underrepresented. The author believes that insect declines are not being recorded adequately, and this option merely reinforces that point under the guise of explanation. It does not challenge the factual basis of the author's argument; instead, it adds reasoning that could even strengthen it. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option reframes the prioritization in extinction reporting as a matter of ecological triage, arguing that vertebrates deserve more attention because their loss may cause more visible or immediate ecological consequences. However, this is a matter of value judgment or policy prioritization and does not contradict the author's factual assertion that insect extinction is underrepresented. The concern is about data presence, not ecological impact prioritization. Even if vertebrates have a more dramatic impact, the lack of insect data still remains a concern. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

92. Correct Answer: (b) Personal observations can serve as useful early indicators for deeper scientific investigations.

Reference Line: "One of the first alerts came from what is now famous as the 'windshield phenomenon'... the results were a rude awakening for many."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option assumes that anecdotal observations are inherently unreliable and should be excluded from ecological discourse. However, the passage credits the "windshield phenomenon" with alerting the scientific community and the public to a potential decline in insect populations. Far from being misleading, it served as an early cue that led to data-driven confirmation. The tone in the passage is reflective, almost appreciative of how human perception was aligned with eventual scientific verification. To dismiss this as "misleading" is to ignore the way anecdotal triggers played a valuable role. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author explicitly recounts how the windshield phenomenon prompted people to recall their own experiences of seeing fewer insects than before, and how that in turn encouraged a closer scientific look at the data. The implication is that while anecdotal observations may not replace scientific analysis, they can initiate or support the need for investigation. The passage blends empirical data with collective perception to create a compelling narrative of ecological awareness. The author clearly sees anecdotal experiences not as standalone evidence, but as a spark for structured research. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option falsely assumes a competitive relationship between anecdotal observation and long-

term data. The author does not suggest that one is superior to the other in all respects. In fact, the author values both: the anecdotal cue (windshield phenomenon) is presented as complementary to the scientific datasets from Krefeld and Rothamsted. The narrative uses both forms of evidence in tandem to create a fuller picture of insect decline. Claiming anecdotal experiences rarely align with trends is too strong and misrepresents the author's balanced approach. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) By stating that public engagement must rely solely on peer-reviewed studies, this option contradicts the passage's emphasis on how anecdotal experiences, especially those shared widely by laypeople, created awareness and concern. The public's sense that something was wrong helped set the stage for institutional response. The author seems to appreciate that science and citizen observation can coexist and support each other. To eliminate public experiential input would undermine one of the key narrative arcs of the passage. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

93. Correct Answer: (c) Localised changes in insect biomass may not indicate a global trend, especially in under-monitored regions like Africa and Asia.

Reference Line: "The Entomological Society Krefeld had been deploying malaise traps for over 27 years in 63 nature reserves in Germany..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option presents a partial exception to the overall trend discussed in the passage by citing specific increases in agricultural areas. However, the author already acknowledges in the Rothamsted data that agricultural, parkland, and scrubland habitats did not exhibit the same level of insect decline as other areas. Therefore, this information is not new or surprising and actually aligns with the variation already discussed in the passage. An exception in a specific habitat does not refute the broader claim of alarming decline across multiple habitats and geographic regions. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option introduces a methodological concern regarding over-reporting due to advanced technology. However, the two main data sources in the passage—Krefeld and Rothamsted—are described as using consistent, standardized tools such as malaise, suction, and light traps over decades. There is no mention of sudden adoption of new, unreliable technologies. Since the argument is built on long-term, stable monitoring methods, this concern does not significantly undercut the data's credibility. The premise of technological error is speculative and less relevant to the passage's empirical foundation. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option goes to the core of the author's reasoning by questioning the scope and generalizability of the data. The passage relies heavily on studies conducted in Germany and England and then frames the findings as indicative of a wider, even global, ecological crisis. If it turns out that insect populations have not been similarly monitored in large swaths of the world, such as Africa or Asia, then extrapolating from the European data would be problematic. This weakens the argument by revealing that what appears as a global crisis may, in fact, be a regional pattern. It highlights a critical gap in data coverage and challenges the universal applicability of the author's claims. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) While species migration could explain the absence of certain insects in local contexts, it does not explain a measurable decline in biomass, especially the kind tracked consistently over time by physical trapping devices. Migration may impact distribution, but it would not fully account for a 76–82% seasonal decline as documented by Krefeld or a 31% decline over 47 years in Rothamsted's moth counts. Moreover, the author's concern is not merely with where insects are found, but with their total ecological volume. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

94. Correct Answer: (b) The daily collection and standardized method provide consistent, long-term insect population data.

Reference Line: "The data is systematically collected on a daily basis, allowing us to investigate this question of insect decline in incredible detail."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option focuses on how Rothamsted's methods are replicated across Europe, which may indicate methodological value but does not necessarily confer global significance to Rothamsted's own data. Being imitated by others shows influence, not that the original data itself holds unique importance to understanding global insect trends. Replication elsewhere may produce other useful datasets, but it does not make Rothamsted's results more globally critical on their own. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage emphasizes Rothamsted's unmatched ability to provide consistent, standardized, and daily data on insect populations over decades. This kind of longitudinal dataset is rare and critical to understanding long-term ecological trends. The consistent methodology ensures comparability across years and gives researchers confidence in identifying genuine patterns rather than anomalies. This is what makes Rothamsted's work globally significant—not just because of the data's existence, but because of its scientific rigor and scale. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) While diversity of species may be valuable, the passage specifically discusses the collection of moths and aphids, rather than a broad survey of rare or endangered insects. Furthermore, the significance of Rothamsted's work, as discussed, is not rooted in species diversity but in the sheer quantity, consistency, and structure of the data collected. Claiming global relevance based on inclusion of rare species mischaracterizes the core value of the Rothamsted dataset. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The expertise or international composition of the research team might enhance credibility or add perspectives, but it does not directly speak to the global significance of the insect monitoring. The value lies in the dataset's characteristics—its length, scale, and consistency—not the affiliations of those managing it. This option shifts focus from the data to the people, which does not strengthen the argument that the monitoring itself is of global importance. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

95. Correct Answer: (d) Inferring that multiple habitats reflect the same trajectory of decline despite differing ecological dynamics.

Reference Line: "The drop in moth numbers varied in different habitats, with the highest decline recorded from coastal, urban, and woodland habitats, while agricultural, parkland, and scrubland habitats did not show this trend."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option suggests the author equates visibility (such as fewer insects on windshields) with actual population decline. However, the passage explicitly states that personal observations (like the windshield phenomenon) served only as an initial cue that prompted scientific inquiry. These anecdotal cues were not treated as conclusive evidence. Instead, the author strengthens the argument using large-scale, long-term datasets from research institutions. Therefore, the author does not rely solely on visibility to assert population decline. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage uses long-term data to track patterns of decline, not necessarily to explain the causes of these declines. In fact, it avoids attributing causality in most parts. For instance, Rothamsted's data is presented to show trends over time, and there is no indication that the data is meant to explain the why behind the changes. Therefore, there is no reasoning flaw in assuming that long-term data is sufficient to observe patterns, especially when the passage does not claim it fully explains underlying causes. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) While the passage acknowledges the role of human influence—especially through phrases like "human-driven" extinction—it does not state or imply that all insect declines are exclusively caused by anthropogenic factors. The author presents this idea as a viewpoint

held by scientists or UN reports rather than as an unquestioned fact. There is also no denial of potential natural drivers. Hence, this option falsely assumes that the author commits an attribution error. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option correctly identifies the flaw in reasoning. The author appears to generalize the decline in insect populations across various ecosystems, contributing to an overarching claim of an insect crisis. However, the Rothamsted data itself shows that the degree of decline varies by habitat, with some habitats not showing the same downward trend. Despite this, the narrative leans toward a broad, systemic crisis, implying uniformity where the data actually reveals complexity and variability. This overgeneralization without due regard for habitat-specific ecological conditions reflects a classic logical flaw. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

96. Correct Answer: (a) The areas under observation are representative of larger biogeographical regions with similar insect population dynamics.

Reference Line: "The Entomological Society Krefeld had been deploying malaise traps for over 27 years in 63 nature reserves in Germany... Rothamsted... across the country since the late 1960s."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This is the most critical assumption underpinning the author's reasoning. If Germany and the UK are being used to make claims about insect declines that have broader global or ecological implications, it is essential to assume that these regions reflect patterns found elsewhere. However, the author never states this assumption explicitly. Without this, the entire extrapolation—from local data to a broader ecological crisis—would be weak or invalid. This assumption is therefore essential for the author's argument to have wider relevance beyond the two countries studied. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option suggests that biomass measurements can only be meaningful if species composition remains constant. While this could affect interpretability, the argument in the passage focuses on overall biomass trends, not species-level diversity. The author does not claim that the exact same species were consistently present; rather, he focuses on the drop in the amount of insect life. Thus, while species turnover might complicate biodiversity studies, it is not central to the argument being made here. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The use of fixed-location traps is indeed a methodological feature of the datasets, but the passage does not require them to track migratory patterns or detailed movements of individual species. The main purpose of these traps is to monitor changes in biomass and abundance, not to capture the full spatial behavior

of insect populations. Therefore, this option introduces a concern that the author's argument does not depend on, making it less relevant as an assumption. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Fluctuations in population numbers are acknowledged in the passage, with phrases like "despite short periods of recovery and loss," indicating the author is aware of natural variability. The assumption that long-term data remains valid despite these short-term fluctuations is actually stated or implied by the structure of the analysis. Thus, this is more of an observed condition than an unstated assumption. The question is about what is left unsaid but must be true for the argument to hold, which makes this less appropriate. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

97. Correct Answer: (a) Police tend to treat fatal incidents involving sanitation workers as vague occurrences that do not merit formal investigation.

Reference Line: "Every FIR was registered as a Section 174 case, which is done when a death is seen as 'suspicious'... most of the FIRs ended with the police filing a B (closure) report."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option accurately reflects the author's criticism of how fatal incidents involving conservancy workers are processed. Registering such deaths under Section 174, which pertains to suspicious but not necessarily criminal deaths, followed by filing B (closure) reports, suggests that these incidents are not treated with the seriousness or legal rigour that criminal deaths demand. Instead of pursuing a full investigation, the system treats them as vague and not worthy of prosecution. This inference is based not on a specific statement but on the pattern the author reveals across multiple cases, implying a procedural tendency to underplay the gravity of these deaths. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) While caste discrimination is central to the passage, the author does not claim that legal authorities are consciously or consistently overlooking caste as a factor during judicial proceedings. The passage is focused more on systemic patterns of apathy and procedural classification than on whether caste is discussed during legal deliberations. The inference here assumes an intent that is not clearly supported by the passage. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author does not discuss the accountability of officials responsible for the physical maintenance of sanitation infrastructure, such as supervisors or engineers. While it is true that no one is typically held liable for the deaths, the passage focuses on the classification and closure of cases, not on tracing responsibility to infrastructure management.

Therefore, this option brings in an angle not directly explored in the text. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Section 174 does not deal with natural causes of death but rather with cases where the cause of death is suspicious or unclear. Although the author criticizes the consistent use of this section, it is not accurate to say that these deaths are classified as natural. In fact, this classification represents a middle ground that avoids criminal investigation without declaring the death natural or accidental. Thus, this option mischaracterizes the legal framing. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

98. Correct Answer: (c) Municipal hiring policies are now uniformly merit-based and blind to the applicant's caste identity.

Reference Line: "The modern Indian state has worked in various ways to institutionalise this work and keep it caste-based..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage explains that widows of deceased workers have taken up the same work their husbands did, and they were not rehabilitated under the 2013 Act. This strongly implies that most affected families are not being compensated or offered alternative livelihoods. While the statement in this option contradicts that implication, it could be argued as a contrast, not a logical impossibility. This is a plausible outcome that conflicts with the author's observations, but not necessarily with their foundational claims. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) While the passage briefly mentions the role of media and public visibility, the author does not discuss the effectiveness of public advocacy groups in altering caste-based employment practices. The critique remains focused on the failure of the state and institutional neglect. Since the role of advocacy groups is not explored in the passage, this option brings in external content that may or may not contradict the passage, but cannot be said to do so necessarily. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author clearly argues that caste-based occupational roles are sustained and even institutionalised by the modern Indian state. If hiring practices in municipalities had become caste-neutral and purely merit-based, this would fundamentally contradict the passage's claim that the state plays an active role in maintaining caste-based employment structures in sanitation work. The contradiction is not merely thematic but logical, as the author's conclusion rests on the notion that state mechanisms do not merely fail to break caste cycles but actively reinforce them. Therefore, a shift to neutral hiring would undermine the core argument. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The author explicitly states that most of these cases are closed without anyone being booked, indicating

that charges are rarely filed. However, this option would only contradict the passage if it were demonstrated as a consistent and institutional practice across cases. Without such evidence within the passage, this statement may be inconsistent with the tone of the argument, but it cannot be proven as a necessary contradiction. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

99. Correct Answer: (a) Rehabilitation schemes require that applicants prove prior involvement in sanitation work within their caste group.

Reference Line: "...the modern Indian state has worked in various ways to institutionalise this work and keep it caste-based, rather than professionalise it and open it up to all castes."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option supports the author's claim most directly by illustrating how even rehabilitative frameworks—intended to help people leave caste-imposed roles—are structured in a way that reinforces caste identity. If access to support requires proof of caste-tied work, then only those from historically oppressed groups are eligible, further binding the occupation to a particular community. This would reveal a structural feedback loop in which institutional aid ironically maintains caste distinctions. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) While this option suggests institutional bias, it refers to advertisements, which are more about public communication than policy design. Including social classifications in job notices may reflect social attitudes, but this alone doesn't explain systemic reinforcement of caste-based labour through institutional rules or legal frameworks. It highlights prejudice, but not embedded structural dependency. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Distribution of benefits based on generational continuity implies a bureaucratic preference for stability, but it doesn't necessarily tie the benefit to the caste system unless caste is a defined factor in eligibility. The link between generational role continuity and caste must be explicit to support the author's argument effectively. Without that, this policy could reflect socio-economic targeting rather than caste-based reinforcement. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Community verification may be burdensome, but requiring identity confirmation is not the same as institutionalising caste-based work. It could be intended to prevent fraud or ensure program targeting. Unless the verification is specifically tied to caste identity or inherited roles, it doesn't reveal reinforcement of caste-based occupations. It highlights procedural opacity, not caste entrenchment. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

100. Correct Answer: (b) Those who perform society's most dangerous tasks receive minimal institutional protection and recognition.

Reference Line: "No government to date has formulated a policy to provide hazard pay or safeguards to these workers despite the risky nature of their work."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) While this presents a conflict between law and social practice, it is not paradoxical in nature. Legal bans often coexist with continued informal practices in many domains. This tension may reflect poor implementation or resistance to reform, but it does not qualify as a paradox because it lacks the element of internal contradiction or irony in outcome. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option captures the true essence of a paradox: that conservancy workers, whose labor is essential and hazardous, are the least protected by the very state that employs them. The contradiction lies in the expectation that those performing essential, life-threatening public duties would be highly safeguarded, but instead, they are systematically neglected. This aligns with the author's emphasis on how risk is normalised for these workers, revealing the institutional failure as more than accidental—it is structurally entrenched. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Public outrage not translating into policy reform is disappointing, but it is not logically contradictory. It simply reflects a disconnect between social sentiment and bureaucratic action, which is a common feature in many public issues. The lack of response does not defy expectation in a structural sense, as governments often fail to act even in response to visible suffering. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Rising fatalities despite claims of protocol compliance could point to inadequate implementation or superficial adherence to safety norms. However, it suggests inefficiency or deception, not a true paradox. A paradox would involve an outcome that defies the fundamental assumptions of the stated facts; in this case, the facts simply reflect policy failure. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

101. Correct Answer: (a) Cities would need to recruit new personnel through open application systems not based on caste identity.

Reference Line: "...which mandates that the kin of the deceased receive the state's support to move away from the caste-imposed occupation."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The core aim of the 2013 Act is to rehabilitate manual scavengers and ensure that their families do not remain trapped in the same caste-bound occupation. If rigorously enforced, this would require municipalities to replace those vacating these roles

with new applicants not selected on the basis of caste. Recruitment would have to be open, transparent, and delinked from hereditary or social identity. This option logically follows from the Act's intent to dismantle caste-based employment. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This outcome is inconsistent with the law's rehabilitative purpose. The Act aims to support families in moving away from manual scavenging, not to encourage continued engagement through incentives. Providing such incentives would defeat the law's foundational goal of caste emancipation and imply a contradiction within the law's own structure, which is not what the passage suggests. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option assumes that enforcement of the law would push municipalities toward informalisation to avoid compliance. While plausible in a real-world scenario, this is not the most likely or legal outcome if the law is rigorously enforced. The assumption of non-compliance under strict enforcement undermines the logic of the question. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Increased reliance on caste-based recruitment by private companies would suggest a regression in employment practices, not a result of the law's enforcement. The Act aims to eliminate caste bias in occupational roles. If the state enforces that mandate strictly, it would not logically trigger greater caste-based hiring by private entities under lawful oversight. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

102. Correct Answer: (a) Institutional structures have preserved caste-linked labour systems under the appearance of neutrality.

Reference Line: "...affirming that their status quo is probably by design."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This conclusion aligns closely with the author's central argument: that while overt caste-based recruitment or labour assignment may no longer be explicit, state institutions continue to uphold caste-based occupational patterns under procedural and bureaucratic disguises. The routine closure of cases, lack of hazard pay, and continued employment of widows in the same caste-assigned jobs all point to a system that reinforces caste identity even without stating it. This reflects the "design" mentioned by the author—an institutional structure that mimics neutrality but replicates hierarchy. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

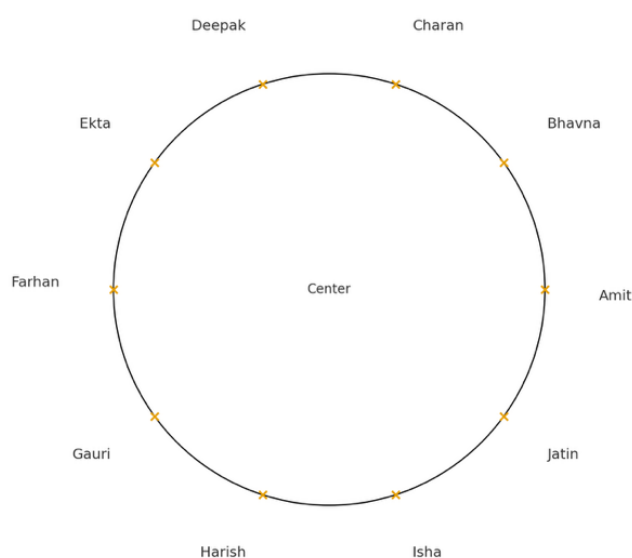
(b) The passage gives no indication that sanitation work has become more inclusive. Instead, it states that the majority of workers are still from Scheduled Castes, especially Madigas, and that there has been little meaningful change in employment patterns. The

critique is not focused on compensation alone but on systemic caste entrapment, making this option an inadequate representation of the passage's core message. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) While the author does mention that deaths of sanitation workers appear in the media and are documented in literature, there is no comparison drawn between civil society progress and legal reform effectiveness. The main thrust of the passage is not about the efficacy of civil advocacy versus state mechanisms, but about how the state perpetuates

103. Correct answer: (b) Isha

Explanation: From the final arrangement, to the left of Gauri we have Harish (immediate left) and then Isha. Hence, Isha is second to the left of Gauri.



104. Correct answer: (c) 3

Explanation: Moving left from Amit: Bhavna → Charan → Deepak → Ekta.

So the persons between Amit and Ekta (on this side) are Bhavna, Charan and Deepak, i.e. 3 persons.

caste-based labour through institutional failure. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Although social stigma may contribute to exclusion, the passage is focused almost entirely on state practices, legal loopholes, and administrative decisions. The emphasis is on how institutions, not communities, sustain caste-based labour systems. This conclusion misattributes the source of the problem by placing it in social attitudes instead of systemic design. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

105. Correct answer: (c) Isha

Explanation: With 10 people, opposite seats are 5 places apart.

Starting from Deepak, counting five positions around the table leads to Isha, so Isha sits directly opposite Deepak.

106. Correct answer: (b) Farhan and Gauri

Explanation: From the arrangement:

Ekta's neighbours are Deepak and Farhan.

Farhan's neighbours are Ekta and Gauri.

Amit's neighbours are Bhavna and Jatin.

Charan's neighbours are Bhavna and Deepak.

Only Farhan and Gauri sit next to each other.

107. Correct answer: (b) 2

Explanation:

From Charan, move to the right: Bhavna → Amit → Jatin. Between Charan and Jatin on this side are Bhavna and Amit, so 2 persons sit between them.

108. Correct answer: (a) Amit and Charan

Explanation: In the circular arrangement, Bhavna's immediate neighbours are Amit on one side and Charan on the other. Thus Bhavna sits exactly between Amit and Charan and not between any other listed pair.

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

Explanation:

Curcumin needed = $0.08 \times 50 = 4$ L.

From 25% extract: $0.25x = 4$

$\Rightarrow x = 16$ L (extract),

Water = 34 L.

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

Explanation:

Alum = $0.30 \times 60 = 18$ L (unchanged).

For 15%: $18/V = 0.15$

$\Rightarrow V = 18/0.15 = 120$ L.

Water to add = $120 - 60 = 60$ L.

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

Explanation:

Use A = 12 kg (max), B = 28 kg.

Avg = $(12 \times 900 + 28 \times 600)/40$

$= (10,800 + 16,800)/40 = ₹690$

(Target ₹720 needs 16 kg A, not feasible.)

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

Explanation:

At 120 L, alum = 18 L.

Removing 12/120 removes 10% alum

$\Rightarrow 18 \times 0.9 = 16.2$ L alum left.

Volume back to 120 L with water

$\Rightarrow 16.2/120 = 0.135 = 13.5\%$.

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

Explanation:

Original cost = $100 \times 156 = ₹15,600$.

Add solvent cost = $10 \times 80 = ₹800$.

Total = ₹16,400 over 110 L

$\Rightarrow 16,400/110 = ₹149.0909 \approx ₹149.09$.

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

Explanation:

For ₹950/L, attar fraction (f) satisfies

$2000f + 500(1-f) = 950$

$\Rightarrow f = 450/1500 = 0.30$.

New fraction = $0.30 \times 1.25 = 0.375$.

New avg = $2000(0.375) + 500(0.625) = 750 + 312.5 = ₹1,062.50$.

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

Explanation:

S.I. = $(P \times R \times T)/100$

First phase: $60,000 \times 0.05 \times (10/12) = ₹2,500$

Second phase: $60,000 \times 0.08 \times (14/12) = ₹5,600$

Total = $2,500 + 5,600 = ₹8,100$

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

Explanation:

A: $70,000(1 - 0.02) = ₹68,600$

B: $70,000(1 + 0.01 \times 1.5) = ₹71,050$

Difference = $71,050 - 68,600 = ₹2,450$

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

Explanation:

First 8 months on ₹1,20,000:

$I_1 = 1,20,000 \times 0.10 \times (8/12) = ₹8,000$

Next 10 months on ₹80,000:

$I_2 = 80,000 \times 0.10 \times (10/12) = ₹6,666.67$

Total I = ₹14,666.67

(Without prepay: $1,20,000 \times 0.10 \times 1.5 = ₹18,000$; saving $\approx ₹3,333.33$.)

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

Explanation:

Quarterly rate = $0.07/4 = 0.0175\%$

$n = 8$.

$A = P(1+R)^n$

$A = 80,000(1+0.0175)^8$

$= 80,000 \times 1.14888178 = ₹91,910.54 \approx ₹91,911$

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

Explanation:

X: half-year rate = $0.09/2 = 0.045$, $n=3$

$AX = 1,50,000(1.045)^3 \approx ₹1,71,175$

Y: $AY = 1,50,000(1+0.10 \times 1.5) = ₹1,72,500$

Savings: $1,72,500 - 1,71,175 = ₹1,325$

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

Explanation:

Monthly rate = $0.06/12 = 0.005$, $n=12$

$A = 50,000(1.005)^{12} \approx 50,000 \times 1.0616779 = ₹53,083.89 \approx ₹53,084$.