

COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST (CLAT) 2027
Mock 202703: Answer Key and Solution



NISHANT PRAKASH
LAW CLASSES

Gurukul for CLAT & AILET

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

Section A: English Language

1. Correct Answer: (b) Psychology relies on inherited habits that may outlive their usefulness.

Reference Line: “But we do have ways of doing things, bundles of assumptions and practices that get handed down and spread around.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the author does not argue that psychology has failed as a discipline. The passage only suggests that psychology does not yet possess a mature paradigm and instead functions through inherited proto-paradigms. The criticism is methodological and developmental, not a complete rejection of psychology as a science. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is correct because the reference line shows that psychology depends on transmitted assumptions and practices that become accepted ways of working. The later criticism of outdated proto-paradigms confirms that such inherited methods can continue even after their usefulness declines. The author is therefore warning against intellectual habits that survive merely because they are familiar. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage does not say that psychology consciously rejects paradigms or prefers informality. The author says psychology is “too young” to have a full paradigm, which implies an incomplete stage of development rather than a deliberate refusal. This option misreads the author’s cautious description as a stronger institutional rejection. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the passage does not present psychology as steadily replacing assumptions through experiments. On the contrary, the author argues that psychology remains trapped in old proto-paradigms that no longer yield much value. This option sounds scientific, but it misses the author’s concern about intellectual stagnation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

2. Correct Answer: (c) It now produces diminishing returns through excessive classification.

Reference Line: “But we’ve been piling up cognitive biases since 1973, and the last 100 biases we added to the pile don’t seem to have done much.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the author does not claim that cognitive-bias research treats humans as wholly irrational. The passage accepts that human beings do not always follow optimal rules of decision-making, but it does not deny their capacity for rationality. The problem is not the existence of the insight but its excessive repetition. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the author expressly acknowledges that the insight into cognitive biases has won Nobel Prizes and was historically important. The tone is partly appreciative before becoming critical of later accumulation. Therefore, this option wrongly suggests that the author ignores the field’s importance, whereas he actually recognises it. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is correct because the author’s objection is that adding more and more cognitive biases has stopped producing meaningful advancement. The phrase “last 100 biases” implies that further classification has become repetitive and intellectually unproductive. The criticism is therefore aimed at diminishing returns, not at the original idea itself. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because situational explanation belongs to the second proto-paradigm discussed in the passage, not to the cognitive-bias craze. Cognitive-bias research concerns decision-making errors, whereas situational theories concern behaviour shaped by context. This option confuses two distinct lines of criticism developed by the author. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

3. Correct Answer: (a) Exhausted its usefulness.

Reference Line: “This proto-paradigm, too, has run its course.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is correct because “run its course” means that something has completed its useful period or has no further meaningful value. In the passage, the author accepts that the “situations matter” idea was once useful, but argues that it no longer offers much productive insight. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the author does not say the proto-paradigm has gained wider evidence or become stronger. Instead, he points to failed replications and exaggerated claims. Therefore, “broadened its evidence” reverses the meaning of the phrase. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage does not confirm the authority of the “situations matter” approach. The author says it has become exhausted and overextended. Therefore, the phrase does not mean that its standing has been firmly established. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because “run its course” does not mean escaping criticism. The passage actually criticises the proto-paradigm by showing that its most dramatic claims often fail to replicate. Therefore, this meaning does not fit the context. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

4. Correct Answer: (d) The author endorses situations as the sole source of moral difference.

Reference Line: “But humans are not brainless automatons tossed about by their circumstances.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because it is true in the context of the passage. The author accepts that situations influence behaviour, but he does not accept that situations fully determine human conduct. His view is balanced rather than absolute. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because it is true in the context of the passage. The author includes nudges as part of the “situations matter” approach, since they involve small changes in situations producing behavioural effects. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because it is true in the context of the passage. The author is sceptical of the strongest versions of situational claims, especially those that make humans appear helpless before circumstances. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is correct because it is not true in the context of the passage. The author mentions the extreme view that the only difference between sinners and saints is their situations, but he does not endorse it. He rejects such total determinism by saying humans are not brainless automatons. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

5. Correct Answer: (b) It concedes past usefulness before arguing for conceptual renewal.

Reference Line: “We’re currently stuck with two proto-paradigms that were once useful but aren’t anymore...”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the author does not defend the lasting authority of famous experiments. In fact, he questions the continuing value of the situational framework and notes failed replications of some celebrated social-priming studies. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is correct because the passage first accepts that cognitive-bias research and situational psychology once produced meaningful insights. It then argues that both frameworks have become stale and should not continue dominating the field. This captures the movement of the passage accurately. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage does not choose situational explanation over cognitive explanation. The author criticises both cognitive-bias accumulation and exaggerated situational determinism. Therefore, the structure is not a comparison ending in preference for one theory. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the author does not reject psychology for being young. He says psychology is too young to have a full paradigm, but he does not demand rigid paradigms. His concern is with stale proto-paradigms, not with youth itself. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

6. Correct Answer: (c) Dramatic claims about subtle cues require stronger evidentiary support.

Reference Line: “That’s why the most magical-seeming social priming studies keep failing to replicate, including the ‘unscrambling words about old people makes you walk slower,’ one.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the author does not dismiss all situational studies as worthless. He accepts that situations influence behaviour and even acknowledges that the idea was once useful. His objection is limited to overdramatic claims that appear unreliable when tested again. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage does not criticise laboratory methods as such. Failed replication is used to challenge exaggerated conclusions, not to argue that behavioural research must avoid controlled settings. This option introduces a methodological claim that the passage does not support. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is correct because the author's examples show that spectacular claims about tiny cues producing large behavioural effects need more reliable proof. When such studies repeatedly fail to replicate, their explanatory force weakens. The implication is not that situations never matter, but that dramatic claims require stronger evidence. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the author does not claim that surroundings are irrelevant to behaviour. The passage expressly accepts that circumstances influence people more than earlier thinkers may have assumed. This option wrongly converts the author's rejection of extreme situational claims into a denial of contextual influence. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

7. Correct Answer: (a) Household clutter often reveals emotional conflicts beneath ordinary possessions.

Reference Line: "Clutter is not a character flaw. It is, more often than not, a conversation your home is having with you about something deeper."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is correct because the author does not treat clutter as a mere household inconvenience or a sign of personal weakness. The phrase "something deeper" indicates that clutter often carries hidden emotional meanings linked to anxiety, grief, identity, shame, or transition. Therefore, this option correctly captures the author's broader psychological interpretation of clutter. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage rejects the idea that clutter is a character flaw, so it cannot be reduced to weak discipline or careless household habits. The author's tone is empathetic and analytical rather than judgmental. This option wrongly converts a psychological issue into a moral failing. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because smaller homes are mentioned as one factor that can intensify clutter, especially when rooms are expected to perform several functions. However, the author does not treat shrinking space as the sole or primary explanation. The central claim is emotional and psychological, not merely architectural or logistical. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the author does not argue that people must discard old objects to become mature or independent. In fact, the passage recognises that some objects carry grief, memory, identity, and emotional connection. This option oversimplifies the author's sensitive view of possessions. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

8. Correct Answer: (d) Personification.

Reference Line: "Clutter is not a character flaw. It is, more often than not, a conversation your home is having with you about something deeper."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because metonymy involves referring to something by the name of something closely associated with it. The line does not replace one idea with an associated term. It gives a non-human thing a human action. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because apostrophe involves addressing an absent person, an abstract idea, or a non-human object directly. Here, the author is not speaking to the home; the home is described as speaking to the person. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because hyperbole involves deliberate exaggeration for emphasis. The line is figurative, but its main device is not exaggeration. Its main effect comes from giving the home a human-like communicative role. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is correct because the home is given the human ability to have a conversation. The author does not mean that the home literally speaks; rather, clutter is presented as if the home is communicating an emotional or psychological message. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

9. Correct Answer: (b) Detached.

Reference Line: "To throw away a parent's favourite mug can feel, at a visceral level, like throwing away the parent."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because "instinctive" is close to the contextual meaning of "visceral." The passage uses the word to suggest an immediate, bodily, emotional reaction. Throwing away the mug feels painful before the person can rationally separate the object from the parent. Therefore, this word cannot function as an antonym. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is correct because "detached" is the best antonym of "visceral" in this context. "Visceral" suggests something deeply felt, instinctive, and emotionally intense, while a detached response would be distant, rational, and emotionally separated from the object. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because "tender" fits the emotional atmosphere of the passage, but it does not oppose "visceral." Tenderness may even accompany a deeply felt emotional reaction. Thus, it is contextually related but not opposite in meaning. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because "painful" is not an antonym of "visceral" in this context. The sentence implies that discarding the mug may feel emotionally painful because the mug symbolically stands for the parent. Therefore, "painful" reinforces the emotional intensity of "visceral" rather than opposing it. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

10. Correct Answer: (c) It separates ordinary attachment from a formal clinical diagnosis.

Reference Line: "Hoarding disorder is a clinical diagnosis. Most of us sit somewhere in the vast, ordinary middle ground."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the author does not treat domestic disorder as unavoidable. Smaller homes and multiple uses of space intensify clutter, but they do not fully explain it. The passage also stresses grief, anxiety, shame, transition, and identity. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage does not reduce clutter to storage alone. The author says clutter is often a conversation about something deeper. Therefore, the problem is emotional, psychological, and practical, not merely a calculation of where things should be kept. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is correct because the author clearly distinguishes everyday clutter from hoarding disorder. The point is to prevent ordinary emotional attachment, domestic unease, or disorganisation from being confused with a clinical condition. This distinction allows a more sensitive understanding of clutter. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the author avoids pathologising ordinary clutter. Emotional possessions may carry grief or identity, but that does not automatically make them symptoms of illness. The passage is empathetic rather than diagnostic in its treatment of ordinary clutter. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

11. Correct Answer: (d) Clutter begins to obstruct daily functioning within overburdened living spaces.

Reference Line: "As homes shrink while being asked to do more, the pressure intensifies: the living room becomes a home office, a homework station, a gym. Clutter stops being cosmetic; it becomes logistical."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the author does not suggest that clutter becomes attractive or creatively arranged. The word “cosmetic” refers to surface appearance, not decoration or beauty. The passage instead explains that clutter becomes serious when it interferes with the practical use of space. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the author is not concerned with whether visitors notice untidiness. The shift from “cosmetic” to “logistical” means that clutter affects the people who must live, work, study, and exercise in the same space. Therefore, the issue is functional pressure, not public appearance. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage does not claim that storage problems disappear once emotional attachment is removed. It recognises that clutter has both emotional and practical dimensions, especially when homes are smaller and serve multiple purposes. This option oversimplifies a complex problem into a single emotional cause. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is correct because the author implies that clutter becomes logistical when it begins to disturb the ordinary functioning of the home. Since the same room may now serve as an office, study area, gym, and living room, excess objects create practical obstacles. This answer correctly captures the movement from appearance-based concern to daily functional difficulty. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

12. Correct Answer: (a) Objects may preserve past selves that people fear losing completely.

Reference Line: “She has watched people cling to what looks like rubbish: an old backpack that is actually a talisman from a Himalayan trek they took in their 20s, when their limbs worked differently.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is correct because the old backpack is not valuable because of its practical use, but because it preserves a memory of youth, travel, physical strength, and a former self. The phrase “when their limbs worked differently” suggests that the object is tied to a body and identity that have changed over time. Therefore, discarding it may feel like erasing a past version of oneself. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the author does not accuse people of pretending that ordinary rubbish has emotional value in order to avoid cleaning. Instead, the passage asks the reader to understand why an apparently useless object may hold deep personal meaning. This option moralises attachment in a way the author specifically avoids. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the backpack is described as something that “looks like rubbish,” so the passage clearly does not emphasise material or financial worth. Its importance lies in memory and symbolism, not market value. This option misunderstands the emotional function of the object. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the reference to limbs working differently points to bodily change, age, or altered physical capacity, but not to confusion or inability to judge. The person recognises the object’s meaning very clearly, even if others see it as rubbish. The issue is emotional preservation, not mental incapacity. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

13. Correct Answer: (b) It is trapped by pressure yet positioned for possible adaptation.

Reference Line: “This point in history gives the Indian middle class a chance to turn the tide...”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage does not say education insulates the middle class. Instead, it questions the older belief that university education naturally leads to a secure job and steady promotions. Consumption is also shown as weakening, not merely threatening from outside. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is correct because the passage presents the middle class as under serious pressure from AI disruption, wage stagnation, and household debt. At the same time, it does not present the future as hopeless, since AI may create new work opportunities. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage says white-collar job growth has almost disappeared. It does not claim that white-collar growth protects the middle class. Debt is indeed a pressure, but the second half of the option contradicts the passage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because AI is not presented as a complete rescue. It is described as both disruptive and potentially opportunity-creating. The passage also clearly mentions wage compression, so the middle class is not untouched by wage stagnation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

14. Correct Answer: (c) Reverse setbacks through emerging work-related opportunities.

Reference Line: "...a chance to turn the tide on the setbacks they have suffered over the last 10-20 years."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage does not suggest postponing disruption through older pathways. In fact, the older pathway of university, safe job, and steady promotion is itself shown as weakening. Therefore, this does not capture the idiom's contextual meaning. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage treats heavier household borrowing as a sign of pressure, not recovery. Increasing consumption through debt would worsen the condition being discussed. It does not fit the idea of reversing setbacks. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is correct because "turn the tide" is a real idiom meaning to reverse an unfavourable situation. In the passage, it refers to the possibility that new AI-led work opportunities may help the middle class respond to years of economic pressure. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the passage does not recommend avoiding technology. AI is treated as a disruption but also as a possible source of future employment. Traditional salaried employment is not presented as a secure solution. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

15. Correct Answer: (d) Explanatory.

Reference Line: "There are three different layers to the title."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage is not a personal confession or emotional life story. It discusses economic trends, work disruption, household debt, and the meaning of the book's title. The style is explanatory rather than autobiographical. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage is not satirical or openly dismissive. It does not mock the middle class or ridicule economic changes. Instead, it presents a serious explanation of pressure, disruption, and possible adaptation. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage is not merely descriptive. Although it describes pressures faced by the middle class, it also explains the layered meaning of "breakpoint" and evaluates the significance of AI, debt, and wage stagnation. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is correct because the passage explains the title "Breakpoint" through three layers and analyses the pressures facing the Indian middle class. The style is not purely factual, because it also evaluates wage stagnation, AI disruption, and debt pressure with caution. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

16. Correct Answer: (a) University degrees can still secure predictable long-term advancement.

Reference Line: "...go to university, graduate with a good degree, get a safe job, get promoted over 20 years."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is correct because the passage directly challenges the older belief that the middle class could follow a predictable path of university education, a safe job, and steady promotion over 20 years. It says that this consumption-driven era is coming to an end, meaning the earlier model of secure advancement is no longer reliable. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage clearly connects household debt with middle-class economic pressure. It says household debt has tripled, excluding mortgages, and presents this as one of the reasons the middle class is at a breaking point. Therefore, debt is highly relevant to the crisis. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage clearly says AI disruption affects middle-class employment prospects. It mentions technological disruption and states that sectors such as call centres and IT services are badly affected. Therefore, saying AI has no effect contradicts the passage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the passage links the older career model with a consumption-driven era that is now coming to an end. Consumption patterns are therefore connected to middle-class career security and economic stability. The option wrongly treats consumption as unrelated to the issue. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

17. Correct Answer: (b) Stagnant incomes make rising borrowing more economically severe.

Reference Line: "Real income has been crushed... household debt has tripled..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage does not say salaries are higher. It says real income has been crushed. Therefore, the claim that higher salaries reduce the visibility of non-mortgage loans is unsupported and inconsistent with the passage. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is correct because the passage connects crushed real income with sharply rising household debt. When income weakens while borrowing increases, household pressure becomes more severe. The inference depends on combining both parts of the passage rather than reading one figure alone. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage does not describe falling debt. It says non-mortgage household debt has tripled. The option reverses the factual situation and therefore cannot be inferred from the passage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because excluding mortgages does not make household pressure irrelevant. Rather, the exclusion highlights the seriousness of non-mortgage borrowing. The passage uses that detail to intensify concern, not to dismiss the problem statistically. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

18. Correct Answer: (c) They frame breakpoints as pressure, reversal and debt strain together.

Reference Line: "There are three different layers to the title."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage does not treat the meanings as unrelated sport, design, and marketing ideas. The tennis sense, cover image, and economic meaning are all connected to the middle-class crisis. Therefore, "separately" misrepresents the structure. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because breakpoint is not confined to wage data. The passage also discusses AI disruption, career insecurity, consumption patterns, and household debt. This option narrows a layered concept into one economic indicator. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is correct because the passage explains "breakpoint" through three connected layers. It refers to punishment and possible recovery, the turning of an adverse trend, and the strain of excessive household debt. These meanings work together to describe crisis and possibility. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the passage does not limit breakpoint to household borrowing. Debt is only the third layer. Work disruption, wage compression, and the collapse of the older career model are also central to the idea. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

19. Correct Answer: (d) A hegemonic practice presenting power as knowledge.

Reference Line: "...colonialism and imperialism has attained more power and greater legitimacy."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage does not show representation as reciprocal or balanced. The Orient is represented by the West, not allowed to define itself equally. The relationship is one of power, not mutual cultural exchange. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage repeatedly connects scholarship with imperial interests. It mentions teaching, settling, ruling, colonial offices, and Western hegemony. Therefore, Orientalist scholarship is not detached from political power. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage says representation provides a uniform perspective despite the apparent diversity of Orientalist discourses. Therefore, Orientalism is not fragmentary in the sense of lacking common structure. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is correct because the passage presents representation as a tool through which Western power becomes knowledge. Orientalism is not neutral description; it gives colonial and imperial discourse greater legitimacy. Therefore, “hegemonic practice” captures the passage’s critical view. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

20. Correct Answer: (a) Hegemony.

Reference Line: “...within the umbrella of Western hegemony over the Orient...”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option is correct because “hegemony” means dominance, leadership, or control exercised by one group over another, often through ideas, institutions, and cultural authority. In the passage, Western hegemony refers to the West’s power over the Orient through knowledge and representation. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because “reciprocity” means mutual exchange or a two-way relationship. The passage does not describe Orientalism as equal exchange between East and West. It presents Western representation as one-sided and power-laden. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because “plurality” means multiplicity or diversity. Although the passage mentions diverse Orientalist discourses, the word asked for in the question refers to dominance through power and ideas. Therefore, “plurality” does not fit. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because “neutrality” means absence of bias or preference. The passage argues the opposite by showing that Orientalist knowledge includes ideology, prejudice, and imperial power. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

21. Correct Answer: (b) Implications.

Reference Line: “In his introduction to Orientalism Said looks into the complex ramifications of this issue...”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because “elaborations” means detailed explanations or expansions. Although the passage is theoretical, “ramifications” here does not merely mean added detail. It refers to consequences and connected effects. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is correct because “ramifications” means wider consequences, effects, or implications. In the passage, the word refers to the larger intellectual and political consequences of representing the Orient within Western knowledge systems. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because “interruptions” means breaks or disturbances. The passage does not use “ramifications” to indicate disruption in the flow of an argument. It refers to the wider implications of the issue. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because “accusations” means charges or allegations. The passage criticises Orientalism, but the word “ramifications” does not mean accusations. It means the broader consequences arising from the issue. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

22. Correct Answer: (c) Studying others through power-laden categories has methodological limits.

Reference Line: “...brings out the problematics of studying and representing others, and its methodological limitations.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage does not say museums remove imperial ideology. Museums are listed as one of the institutional spaces where the constructed Orient is displayed. This supports the critique of representation, not its purification. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage does not present Western representation as equal dialogue. It describes a one-sided process in which the West studies, displays, reconstructs, and theorises the Orient. The relationship is hierarchical, not reciprocal. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is correct because the passage says Western representation reveals the difficulties and limits involved in studying and representing others. Since this representation occurs within Western hegemony, it is not neutral but shaped by power. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because scholarship does not dissolve hierarchy in the passage. Orientalism defines the Orient as other, mysterious, changing, and inferior. Therefore, scholarship is shown as reinforcing hierarchy rather than eliminating it. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

23. Correct Answer: (d) They show how representation travels across institutional settings.

Reference Line: "...suitable for study in the academy, for display in the museum, for reconstruction in the colonial office..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage does not say museums replaced colonial offices. Both are listed as different sites where the constructed Orient appears. The relationship is not replacement but institutional spread. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because anthropology is included within the larger system of Western knowledge about the Orient. The passage does not show anthropology escaping imperial knowledge. It places anthropological theory inside the same representational structure. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because theory does not remove the Orient from politics. The passage links theoretical illustration with colonial reconstruction and Western hegemony. Therefore, theory is part of the political knowledge system rather than an escape from it. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is correct because the examples show that Orientalist representation is not limited to one domain. The Orient is produced as an object of study, display, administration, and theory across several institutional spaces. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

24. Correct Answer: (a) Knowledge about the Orient can remain separate from imperial power.

Reference Line: "It has functioned as an instrument... colonialism and imperialism has attained more power and greater legitimacy."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is correct because the passage strongly criticises the idea that Orientalist knowledge is neutral or separate from power. It argues that Western representation of the Orient helped colonialism and imperialism gain legitimacy. Therefore, this claim is most clearly criticised by the passage. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage would not criticise this claim. Hourani's quotation includes imaginative writers among those who helped produce a shared representation of the Orient. Therefore, literature is shown as part of the representational system. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage supports this claim. It connects Orientalist representation with institutions concerned with teaching, settling, and ruling. Thus, institutional knowledge is shown as linked to colonial authority. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the passage itself argues that diverse Orientalist discourses are unified by representation. This claim reflects the passage's central argument rather than something it criticises. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Section B: Current Affairs including General Knowledge

25. Correct Answer: (c) Part II

Explanation: Part II deals with citizenship at the commencement of the Constitution. It covers Articles 5 to 11 and identifies the classes of persons who were treated as citizens when the Constitution came into force on January 26, 1950. It does not provide a general definition of citizen, but it fixes entitlement for specific categories connected with domicile, migration, and related conditions. This makes Part II the relevant constitutional location for citizenship-related commencement provisions.

26. Correct Answer: (a) 1951 Census

Explanation: The first preparation of the National Register of Citizens was linked to the 1951 Census. It recorded residents through organised local units, including houses and holdings, creating a structured record of persons residing in each unit. This register was published only once, making the 1951 Census its foundational source. The other Census years are not associated with the original creation of this register. Hence, the correct constitutional and administrative reference is 1951 Census.

27. Correct Answer: (d) The amended rules introduced e-OCI as a formal legal category alongside the physical OCI card system.

Explanation: The amended rules formally recognised electronic OCI, or e-OCI, as a legal category. They did not abolish OCI registration, remove physical cards, or treat e-OCI as an informal facility. Instead, they created a dual-mode framework under which registered individuals may receive either a physical OCI card or an electronic OCI document.

28. Correct Answer: (c) Rule 3

Explanation: Rule 3 is the correct provision because the newly added restriction is placed there. It deals with the position of a minor child who already holds an Indian passport and makes simultaneous possession of another country's passport impermissible. The change removes earlier uncertainty regarding dual passport holding by minors. Rule 1, Rule 2, and Rule 4 are not identified as the location of this restriction

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

Explanation: Statements I, II, and III are correct. Under the amended Citizenship Rules, OCI registration under Section 7A must be filed only through Form XXVIII on the official online portal. The rules also require a centralised digital registry in Form XXX for all OCI holders. Further, when a person formally renounces OCI status, the physical OCI card must be surrendered to the nearest Indian Mission, Post, or Foreigners Regional Registration Officer.

30. Correct Answer: (b) 6

Explanation: The correct answer is 6 because the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 identifies Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians as eligible communities. These groups are covered only when they migrated from Pakistan, Afghanistan, or Bangladesh and entered India on or before December 31, 2014. The number is therefore fixed by counting the listed communities. Options 5, 7, and 8 are inaccurate because they either reduce or increase the legally recognised count.

31. Correct Answer: (d) K. Subrahmanyam

Explanation: The Kargil Review Committee was set up after the Kargil War in 1999 to examine India's security and defence-related issues. It was headed by K. Subrahmanyam. The committee recommended the need for a CDS-like integrated military structure to improve coordination among the armed forces. The question asks who headed this committee, making K. Subrahmanyam the correct answer

32. Correct Answer: (a) fifth department

Explanation: The given statement explains that the Government of India created the Chief of Defence Staff post in 2019. Along with this post, the Department of Military Affairs was also created within the Ministry of Defence. Its role is linked to improving military administration and inter-service coordination. The statement identifies the DMA as the fifth department within the Ministry of Defence.

33. Correct Answer: (c) The Chief of Defence Staff will head the Department of Military Affairs as its Secretary.

Explanation: The statement says that the Union Cabinet approved the creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff in the rank of a four-star General, with salary and perquisites equivalent to a Service Chief. It also states that the Chief of Defence Staff will head the Department of Military Affairs within the Ministry of Defence and function as its Secretary. Therefore, option (c) accurately captures the approved institutional role of the Chief of Defence Staff.

34. Correct Answer: (d) 12th

Explanation: The statement clearly mentions that the Chief of Defence Staff ranks 12th in the Indian order of precedence. It also states that this position is equivalent to the three service chiefs. The question asks for the rank of the CDS in the order of precedence, not its military function or departmental role. Therefore, 12th is the only correct answer.

35. Correct Answer: (c) General Bipin Rawat

Explanation: General Bipin Rawat became India's first Chief of Defence Staff on 1 January 2020. The question asks for the person who first held the newly created CDS post, not the committee that recommended the reform or the department created with it. The other names are not connected with India's first CDS appointment.

36. Correct Answer: (a) Telangana

Explanation: The correct answer is Telangana because it recorded the highest cybercrime rate in India, with over 70 cases per lakh population. Karnataka and Maharashtra followed it, which means their cybercrime rates were high but still below Telangana's level. Tamil Nadu is not identified among the leading three in this comparison. The ranking is based on rate per lakh population, so the focus is proportional crime incidence, not merely the total number of reported cybercrime cases.

37. Correct Answer: (d) Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems

Explanation: The correct answer is Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems because this is the official expansion of CCTNS. The system connects more than 15,000 police stations across India and supports real-time sharing of FIRs, investigation details, and crime-related information. The other choices look similar but replace or rearrange important terms, making them inaccurate.

38. Correct Answer: (b) The report reflects the implementation of the BNS, which replaced the IPC and changed offence classification.

Explanation: The Crime in India 2024 report is significant because it is the first major crime census to reflect the implementation of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. Since the BNS replaced the Indian Penal Code and altered the classification of several offences, the report marks a structural shift in how crime data is recorded and categorised.

39. Correct Answer: (c) 10-digit

Explanation: The correct answer is 10-digit because NAFIS uses fingerprint records to assign a unique lifetime identification number to arrested individuals. The purpose of this number is to create a stable biometric reference within a centralised fingerprint database. The other numerical choices are inaccurate because they change the officially specified format. Since the identification number under NAFIS consists of ten digits and remains linked to the individual through fingerprint data.

40. Correct Answer: (b) Police Statistics India

Explanation: The correct answer is Police Statistics India because NCRB's three major annual publications are Crime in India, Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India, and Prison Statistics India. These publications cover crime trends, unnatural deaths, suicide patterns, and prison-related data across India. Police Statistics India is not included among these three major yearly publications. Therefore, it does not belong to the recognised annual publication set of NCRB.

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

Explanation: Statements I and II are correct. The National Crime Records Bureau was established in 1986, and its formation drew from recommendations associated with the Tandon Committee, the National Police Commission, and the Ministry of Home Affairs Task Force. However, statement III is incorrect because the Bureau was not established exclusively on the recommendation of the National Police Commission. Its establishment was based on multiple institutional inputs.

42. Correct Answer: (d) A person whose gender identity differs from sex assigned at birth

Explanation: Transgender refers to people whose gender identity differs from the sex assigned to them at birth. It may include persons who identify as men, women, both, neither, or another gender, depending on their self-identification. The term does not depend on sexual orientation, medical treatment, or appearance. Options (a), (b), and (c) wrongly define it through clothing, attraction, or biological variation alone. Therefore, option (d) gives the most accurate meaning.

43. Correct Answer: (c) The scheme provides Rs 5 lakh annual health cover per transgender beneficiary for gender-affirming medical interventions.

Explanation: Ayushman TG Plus provides health insurance coverage of Rs 5 lakh per year for each transgender beneficiary. It was established through an MoU between the National Health Authority and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The scheme focuses on gender-affirming medical interventions and aims to reduce out-of-pocket healthcare expenses for economically marginalised transgender persons.

44. Correct Answer: (a) Karnataka

Explanation: Karnataka is correct because it became the first Indian state to provide one percent horizontal reservation for transgender persons across civil services categories. This measure is important because horizontal reservation cuts across existing categories and ensures representation within each applicable group, rather than creating a separate vertical category. Telangana, Rajasthan, and Jharkhand are incorrect because they are not identified as the earliest state to introduce this specific affirmative action in public employment.

45. Correct Answer: (d) Shabnam Mausi

Explanation: Shabnam Mausi became the first openly transgender person elected to public office after winning a seat in the Madhya Pradesh state legislative assembly from Sohagpur in 2000. The question asks for the person associated with this historic electoral achievement. The other names are not connected with the given fact and do not match the statement. Therefore, Shabnam Mausi is the only accurate answer based on the information given.

46. Correct Answer: (c) October 11

Explanation: June is observed internationally as Pride Month, while October 11 is specifically designated as National Coming Out Day. The question asks for the date, not the month associated with Pride Month. Therefore, options mentioning January 01, October 01, and October 31 are incorrect because they do not match the specified date. October 11 is the only option that accurately reflects the given statement. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

47. Correct Answer: (b) Section 4(2)

Explanation: The correct answer is Section 4(2) because the 2026 amendment removed the clause that recognised the right to self-perceived gender identity. The government argued that the earlier wording was too broad and created difficulties across criminal, civil, and personal law. The amendment instead shifted eligibility toward biological characteristics, aiming to identify beneficiaries more narrowly under the proposed change for legal clarity. Sections 3(2), 5(2), and 6(2) are not identified as the removed provision.

48. Correct Answer: (c) International North South Transport Corridor

Explanation: The correct answer is International North South Transport Corridor because it links the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea through Iran. It also extends further toward northern Europe through St. Petersburg. The corridor was initiated by Russia, India, and Iran to improve regional connectivity. Its strategic value lies in reducing transit time by nearly 20 days and cutting freight costs by about 30% compared with the Suez Canal route.

49. Correct Answer: (b) Terminal High Altitude Area Defense

Explanation: The correct answer is Terminal High Altitude Area Defense because THAAD intercepts ballistic missiles at very high altitude, including outside the atmosphere. It uses kinetic hit-to-kill technology, where the target is destroyed through impact rather than an explosive warhead. Patriot PAC-3, APKWS, and Coyote perform different defence roles. The other options change the official expansion of THAAD and therefore fail to identify the correct missile defence system.

50. Correct Answer: (a) Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action

Explanation: The correct answer is the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action because this was the 2015 nuclear agreement signed by Iran with the P5+1 countries and the European Union. It provided sanctions relief to Iran in return for strict and verifiable limits on uranium enrichment. The remaining options are fabricated names that resemble diplomatic agreements but do not identify the recognised nuclear arrangement.

51. Correct Answer: (a) Fordow

Explanation: Fordow is Iran's most heavily fortified nuclear site, intentionally built deep inside a hollowed-out mountain base under 90 metres of solid rock. This specialized underground design protects its advanced uranium enrichment centrifuges from standard airstrikes and bunker-buster munitions. Unlike above-ground facilities, its unique mountain-sheltered infrastructure makes it the definitive deep-underground enrichment target in military and intelligence assessments.

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

Explanation: Statements II and III are correct. Israel and the United States carried out coordinated strikes, with Israel naming its operation Operation Lion's Roar and the United States naming its operation Operation Epic Fury. The targets included nuclear and military installations across key Iranian locations such as Tehran, Isfahan, Natanz, and Fordow. However, statement I is incorrect because the operation was not carried out by Israel alone.

Section C: Legal Reasoning

53. Correct Answer: (c) The pedestrian succeeds because no person, including public officials, is above law.

Reference Line: “Equality before the law, derived from English Common Law, means absence of special privilege and that no person, including public officials, is above the law.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly creates a special privilege for official families. The reference line makes it clear that equality before law means absence of special privilege and that no person, including public officials, is above the law. Therefore, the minister’s son cannot escape ordinary legal process merely because of political connection. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Administrative dignity cannot justify unequal enforcement of ordinary law where the difference is based only on influence or status. Article 14 rejects special privilege and requires the State to act consistently with equality before law. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line’s core idea that no person, including public officials, is above the law. The pedestrian’s challenge is strong because the direction to suppress the case is based on status, not on any lawful distinction. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: The claim does not depend on whether the minister personally drove the vehicle. The problem is unequal treatment of the accused because of official family connection, which violates the idea that law applies equally without special privilege. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

54. Correct Answer: (a) Researcher succeeds because Article 14 applies to citizens and non-citizens within India.

Reference Line: “Article 14 applies to all persons, citizens as well as non-citizens, within Indian territory.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line that Article 14 applies to all persons, including citizens and non-citizens, within Indian territory. Since the researcher is within India and is being denied equal treatment by a State hospital, the citizenship objection cannot defeat his Article 14 claim. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option is too broad and legally inaccurate. Non-citizens may not enjoy every right available to citizens, but Article 14 protection is expressly available to all persons within Indian territory. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Article 14 is not confined to voting or political participation. It protects against arbitrary and discriminatory State action generally, including access to State-administered services where similarly situated persons are treated differently. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Article 14 protection does not depend on reciprocity by the foreigner’s home country. The reference line focuses on the person’s presence within Indian territory, not on diplomatic or reciprocal treatment. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

55. Correct Answer: (d) Noor succeeds because similarly situated persons must receive equal legal treatment.

Reference Line: “Equal protection of laws, borrowed from the American Constitution, requires persons similarly situated to be treated alike, while permitting reasonable distinctions where justice requires.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Administrative convenience may sometimes justify classification, but it cannot support arbitrary unequal treatment where the scheme itself contains no district restriction. The reference line requires similarly situated persons to be treated alike unless a reasonable distinction exists. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Scholarship distribution by the State is not beyond equality review. Even discretionary benefits must be administered fairly and consistently where applicants are similarly placed under the governing criteria. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Noor's right to equal treatment does not depend on Kavya objecting to her own scholarship. The issue is whether Noor was denied equal protection despite being similarly situated, not whether another beneficiary complains. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly applies the reference line that similarly situated persons must be treated alike. Since Kavya and Noor satisfy the same eligibility conditions, rejecting Noor without a reasonable distinction violates equal protection. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

56. Correct Answer: (b) It is valid if the classification has intelligible differentia and rational nexus.

Reference Line: "Article 14 does not insist on mechanical uniformity; it recognises substantive equality and permits reasonable classification where the classification is based on intelligible differentia and has a rational nexus with the object of the law."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats Article 14 as requiring mechanical uniformity. The reference line states that Article 14 recognises substantive equality and permits reasonable classification where there is intelligible differentia and rational nexus with the law's object. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly uses "intelligible differentia" and "rational nexus," matching the reference line. Chemical factories near reservoirs may form a distinct class, and the inspection requirement has a rational connection with protecting drinking water. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Environmental risk can form a legitimate basis for classification if it is real, logical, and connected with the statutory purpose. The law is not invalid merely because it distinguishes factories based on location and risk. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Article 14 does not require the State to regulate every industry in exactly the same way. Different industries or locations may be treated differently if the distinction is reasonable and related to the object of the law. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

57. Correct Answer: (c) Rule is invalid because the distinction lacks rational connection with food safety.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Reference Line: Article 14 permits reasonable classification but forbids arbitrary class legislation. A valid classification must be based on an intelligible differentia and must have a rational nexus with the object of the law.

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect because Article 14 does not permit the State or a municipality to grant statutory benefits to any named or favoured group merely by identifying that group separately. A classification must be reasonable and must serve the object of the law. Since food-safety inspection fees are connected with hygiene regulation and public welfare, exempting former councillors only because of their political status amounts to arbitrary class legislation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) is incorrect because former councillors may form an identifiable group, but that alone is not sufficient under Article 14. The classification must also have a rational connection with the purpose of the rule. Political status has no natural or reasonable link with restaurant hygiene, food-safety inspection, economic need, or public welfare. Therefore, former councillors cannot automatically be treated as a reasonable commercial class for exemption from inspection fees. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) is correct because the exemption is based only on the political status of the restaurant owner and not on any factor connected with food safety. The object of the rule is food-safety inspection, so any exemption must have a reasonable connection with that object. Since former councillors are exempted without any relation to hygiene, size of business, public welfare, or economic need, the distinction is arbitrary and violates Article 14. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) is incorrect because the validity of the classification does not depend only on whether the exempt restaurants actually violate hygiene standards. The constitutional defect arises at the level of classification itself. If the exemption is granted on a politically favoured basis without rational nexus to food safety, it is invalid even before proving actual hygiene violations. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

58. Correct Answer: (d) Families succeed because arbitrariness is the antithesis of equality under Article 14.

Reference Line: "The doctrine of arbitrariness, developed in *E.P. Royappa v. State of Tamil Nadu* and expanded in *Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India*, holds that arbitrariness is the antithesis of equality."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Article 14 is not limited only to testing written statutes. It also protects individuals from arbitrary and discriminatory State action, including administrative decisions such as public housing allotments. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Merely saying that applicants were "considered" does not cure arbitrariness. If the process uses undisclosed criteria, ignores relevant hardship, and favours political connections, the decision-making itself may violate equality. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Public housing allocation by a State authority is not private charity immune from constitutional scrutiny. When the State distributes public benefits, it must act fairly, non-arbitrarily, and consistently with Article 14. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line that arbitrariness is the antithesis of equality. The authority's undisclosed, politically influenced allotment process lacks fair criteria and therefore invites Article 14 scrutiny. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

59. Correct Answer: (a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

Reference Line: "Indra Sawhney upheld OBC reservations with a 50% cap, balancing equality with social justice."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: Assertion (A) is true because the reference line clearly states that Indra Sawhney upheld OBC reservations with a 50% cap. Reason (R) is also true because the same reference line explains that this approach was meant to balance equality with social justice. Since the reason explains why reservations were upheld but limited by a cap, it is the correct explanation of the assertion. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but this option wrongly denies the explanatory connection between them. The 50% cap is not unrelated to the validity of OBC reservations; it reflects the constitutional balance between equality for all and social justice for backward classes. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is not false. The reference line itself states that the judgment balanced equality with social justice, which supports the reason. Therefore, this option incorrectly treats a valid explanation as false. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Assertion (A) is not false because the reference line expressly says that Indra Sawhney upheld OBC reservations with a 50% cap. Since both the assertion and reason are true, this option cannot be accepted. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

60. Correct Answer: (a) Preparation may be punishable because preparation to commit dacoity is specifically covered.

Reference Line: "However, preparation is punishable in serious offences, such as preparing to wage war against the Government under Section 122 IPC, preparation for counterfeiting coins or government stamps under Sections 233 to 235, 255 and 257 IPC, possession of counterfeit money or forged documents under Sections 242, 243, 259 and 266 IPC, and preparation to commit dacoity under Section 399 IPC."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line by recognising that preparation to commit dacoity is a punishable serious offence. The accused had weapons, masks, assigned roles, and a planned target, so their conduct may fall within the exceptional category where preparation itself is punishable. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option states the general rule too broadly and ignores the exception. While preparation is generally not punishable, the reference line specifically lists serious offences where preparation is punishable, including preparation to commit dacoity. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Actual removal of stolen property would relate to completion of the offence, not preparation. The reference line shows that the law may punish preparation itself in serious offences even before successful commission. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: A confession is not the only way to prove punishable preparation. Courts may infer preparation from surrounding facts such as weapons, timing, planning, tools, location, and coordinated conduct. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

61. Correct Answer: (c) Rohit is not liable because unlawful intention was not accompanied by any act.

Reference Line: "Criminal law does not punish mere evil thoughts or unlawful intentions unless they are accompanied by some act."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats intention alone as punishable. The reference line clearly states that criminal law does not punish mere evil thoughts or unlawful intentions unless they are accompanied by some act. Rohit's diary and thoughts show a mental stage, but not a punishable physical step. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Dislike or hostility may explain motive, but motive alone does not create criminal liability. Without an act moving beyond thought, the law does not punish a person merely for having a guilty intention or hostile feeling. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line by requiring some act in addition to unlawful intention. Since Rohit neither entered the shop nor touched or attempted to remove the bracelet, the matter remains at the mental stage only. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Forgiveness by the shopkeeper is irrelevant because no punishable act has occurred on these facts. The real reason for non-liability is absence of an act accompanying the intention, not subsequent forgiveness. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

62. Correct Answer: (d) It becomes attempt because she performed a direct overt act toward theft.

Reference Line: "It involves a direct or overt act towards the commission of the offence, though the offence is not completed."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that attempt requires actual removal of property. The reference line states that attempt involves a direct or overt act toward the offence even though the offence is not completed. Meena's entry and opening of the drawer crossed preparation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Entering the office may not always amount to attempt, but in these facts it was combined with use of a duplicate key and opening the target drawer. These acts were directly connected with the intended theft. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Theft is not completed merely by opening the drawer if no property is moved or taken. The act may be an attempt, but the offence of theft itself is not complete merely because the drawer was opened. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly uses "direct or overt act" and "offence is not completed," matching the reference line. Meena had moved beyond preparation by entering the office and opening the drawer to steal cash, though theft was interrupted before completion. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

63. Correct Answer: (b) Arvind may be punished for attempt, though usually less than the completed offence.

Reference Line: "Under Section 511 IPC, attempt to commit an offence punishable with imprisonment for life or other imprisonment is punishable, though the punishment is generally lesser than that for the completed offence."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly denies punishability of attempt. The reference line expressly states that attempt to commit an offence punishable with imprisonment for life or other imprisonment is punishable under Section 511 IPC. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line's idea that attempt is punishable, though the punishment is generally lesser than for the completed offence. Arvind's acts cutting the wire and opening the shutter show movement toward commission, even though the theft was not completed. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option ignores the reference line's distinction in punishment. Attempt is punishable, but generally with lesser punishment than the completed offence, depending on the applicable legal provision and facts. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Full market-value loss is not necessary for attempt liability. Attempt punishes the direct movement toward commission even where the offence is interrupted before actual loss is fully caused. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

64. Correct Answer: (c) It remains generally non-punishable preparation because it is remote from commission.

Reference Line: "Generally, preparation is not punishable because it is still remote from actual commission."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly converts every plan into attempt. Attempt requires a direct or overt act toward the offence, while a rough plan and general arrangements may remain at the preparatory stage unless the conduct moves close to commission. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Buying gloves does not complete robbery. Commission occurs only when the offence itself is successfully completed; here, Nitin never entered the bank or took any immediate step toward forcibly taking property. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line that preparation is generally not punishable because it is remote from actual commission. Nitin's actions show planning, but not an overt act sufficiently proximate to robbery. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Nitin's liability cannot depend solely on whether the friend later acts independently. The question is whether Nitin's own conduct crossed from preparation into attempt or fell within a specific punishable preparation category. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

65. Correct Answer: (d) Analyse phases from mental intention to execution and post-commission conduct separately.

Reference Line: "The stages of crime under the Indian Penal Code, 1860 refer to the different phases through which a criminal offence passes, from the first mental intention to commit the crime to its actual execution and post-commission conduct."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats every act as mere intention simply because theft was not completed. The facts include buying tools, studying guards, breaking a lock, and hiding evidence, which go beyond mental desire alone. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Some acts may be preparatory, but breaking the rear lock may amount to attempt because it is a direct act toward commission. Hiding tools after the incident may also raise separate post-commission concerns. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option collapses different stages into one completed offence without examining whether the idols were actually stolen. The passage requires careful stage-wise analysis, not automatic treatment of every step as completed crime. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly uses the reference idea that stages range from first mental intention to actual execution and post-commission conduct. The investigator must separately examine intention, preparation, attempt, possible completion, and later concealment-related conduct. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

66. Correct Answer: (d) The petition faces the restriction because the clause overrides other provisions.

Reference Line: “The provision begins with a non-obstante clause, showing that this restriction overrides other provisions.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that mutual agreement can override a statutory bar. The reference line states that the provision begins with a non-obstante clause, showing that the restriction overrides other provisions. Therefore, adult consent alone is not enough to bypass the one-year rule. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Free consent between spouses may be relevant for mutual consent divorce, but it does not automatically cancel the statutory restriction on timing. The overriding nature of the provision means the court must still apply the one-year rule unless the exception is properly invoked. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Mutual consent divorce is not permanently barred. The issue is timing and compliance with the statutory restriction, not the complete unavailability of mutual consent divorce as a remedy. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly uses the reference idea that the provision begins with a non-obstante clause and overrides other provisions. Since the petition is filed before one year, it faces the statutory restriction unless leave under the narrow exception is granted. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

67. Correct Answer: (a) Prior leave is required because court permission is mandatory for early invocation.

Reference Line: “However, the proviso creates a narrow exception where the court may allow a petition before one year if the petitioner faces exceptional hardship or the respondent is guilty of exceptional depravity. Leave of the court is mandatory for invoking this exception.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line that leave of the court is mandatory for invoking the exception. Even if Priya alleges serious violence or hardship, she must seek the court’s permission before presenting a divorce petition within one year. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Serious allegations may support a request for exception, but they do not automatically remove the need for court leave. The reference line makes permission mandatory, meaning the court must first be asked to allow early filing. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: The law does not require permanent rejection of all early petitions. It creates a narrow exception, but that exception can be used only with leave of the court. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Leave is not a matter of party choice or convenience. The reference line expressly states that court leave is mandatory, so the parties cannot waive it informally. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

68. Correct Answer: (c) The petition should face the cooling-off bar because divorce should not be hasty.

Reference Line: “Section 14 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 is based on the policy that divorce should not be sought in a hasty or impulsive manner immediately after marriage.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats every disagreement as sufficient for immediate divorce proceedings. The reference line shows that the law discourages hasty or impulsive divorce immediately after marriage, especially where the dispute concerns ordinary adjustment problems rather than grave circumstances. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Family pressure does not by itself defeat the statutory policy of preventing impulsive divorce. The purpose of the cooling-off approach is to allow time for adjustment and reconciliation, not to permit immediate proceedings merely because families want a quick separation. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line by focusing on the policy against hasty or impulsive divorce immediately after marriage. The facts involve routine incompatibility within three months, making the cooling-off principle relevant. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option goes too far by saying divorce is never available. The law does not prohibit divorce permanently; it regulates timing and permits early filing only in narrow exceptional situations. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

69. Correct Answer: (d) The bar does not apply because nullity and void-marriage petitions are excluded.

Reference Line: "The restriction applies only to divorce petitions under Section 13 and Section 13B, and not to petitions for nullity under Section 12 or declaration of void marriage under Section 11."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly extends the one-year bar to every matrimonial petition. The reference line limits the restriction to divorce petitions and expressly excludes nullity and void-marriage proceedings from that restriction. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: A void-marriage claim is not treated exactly like a divorce petition for this purpose. Divorce assumes a valid marriage that is sought to be dissolved, while nullity or void-marriage proceedings challenge the legal validity of the marriage itself. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: The exclusion does not depend on joint admission by both spouses. If the petition is legally one for nullity or declaration of void marriage, the one-year divorce restriction does not apply merely because the other spouse contests the claim. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line by recognising that the restriction applies only to divorce petitions and not to petitions for nullity or declaration of void marriage. Nisha's petition therefore is not automatically barred by the one-year rule. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

70. Correct Answer: (b) The court may dismiss the petition if leave was obtained by concealment or misrepresentation.

Reference Line: "The court may also dismiss a petition if leave was obtained through misrepresentation or concealment, or may grant a decree which takes effect only after one year is completed."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats leave as irreversible even when it was obtained through unfair means. The reference line expressly permits the court to dismiss a petition if leave was obtained through misrepresentation or concealment. Therefore, earlier permission does not protect a party who secured it by hiding material facts. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly uses the reference words "dismiss a petition," "misrepresentation," and "concealment." Rohan concealed the child's birth, ongoing counselling, and misstated abandonment facts, all of which are material to early leave. The court may therefore dismiss the petition rather than mechanically proceed on merits. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Early leave does not automatically entitle a spouse to divorce. It merely permits presentation of the petition in exceptional circumstances. If the leave itself was obtained through misrepresentation or concealment, the court may refuse to continue the proceeding. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Concealment at the leave stage is not irrelevant. The court's permission depends on honest disclosure of exceptional facts, children's interests, and reconciliation possibilities. Hiding such facts affects the foundation on which early filing was allowed. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

71. Correct Answer: (c) The court must consider children's interests and the possibility of reconciliation.

Reference Line: "While exercising this power, the court must consider the interests of children and the possibility of reconciliation."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly narrows the court's inquiry to Vikram's personal inconvenience. The reference line expressly requires the court to consider the interests of children and the possibility of reconciliation while exercising this power. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: The child's interests are not irrelevant. The reference line specifically mentions children's interests as a factor the court must consider when deciding whether to permit early presentation of a divorce petition. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line's two requirements: children's interests and possibility of reconciliation. Since a newborn child and counselling efforts exist, the court must factor them into its decision. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Financial arguments may be relevant to marital strain, but they do not automatically establish exceptional hardship. The court must consider the broader statutory factors, including reconciliation and the child's welfare. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

72. Correct Answer: (a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

Reference Line: "Courts have held that ordinary matrimonial problems, temperamental differences, lifestyle variations, or refusal of sexual relations may not be sufficient. Thus, Section 14 balances individual relief with the public policy of preserving matrimonial harmony."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: Assertion (A) is true because the reference line clearly states that ordinary matrimonial problems, temperamental differences, lifestyle variations, or refusal of sexual relations may not be sufficient for early relief under Section 14. Reason (R) is also true because Section 14 balances individual relief against the public policy of preserving matrimonial harmony. The reason correctly explains why ordinary marital difficulties are not treated as enough for bypassing the one-year restriction. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but this option wrongly denies the explanatory connection between them. The reason is directly connected to the assertion because the public policy of preserving matrimonial harmony explains why courts do not treat ordinary adjustment problems as sufficient for early divorce petitions. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is not false. The reference line expressly says that Section 14 balances individual relief with the public policy of preserving matrimonial harmony. Therefore, this option wrongly rejects the reason even though it is supported by the passage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Assertion (A) is not false because it directly follows the reference line. Reason (R) is true, but since the assertion is also true, this option cannot be accepted. The correct relationship is that both statements are true and the reason explains the assertion. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

73. Correct Answer: (a) The accepted proposal became a promise once the buyer accepted the stated terms.

Reference Line: "Section 2(b) further explains that when a proposal is accepted, it becomes a promise."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line that a proposal becomes a promise when accepted. The buyer accepted the exact quantity, price, and delivery date, so the manufacturer cannot deny the promise merely because no separate document carried that label. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: The absence of the word "promise" is not decisive. The legal effect arises from acceptance of the proposal, not from the parties using a particular heading or formal expression in their communication. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: The passage recognises communication of proposal and acceptance and does not exclude email acceptance. The problem is not the mode of acceptance but whether the proposal was accepted. Here, acceptance was clear. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Delivery may relate to performance, but a proposal can become a promise before performance occurs. The legal transformation happens on acceptance, not only after the goods are physically delivered. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

74. Correct Answer: (d) Only an agreement enforceable by law can properly be treated as a contract.

Reference Line: "Under Section 2(h), only an agreement enforceable by law is a contract."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option ignores the distinction between agreement and contract. The reference line makes enforceability by law the dividing factor; therefore, every agreement does not automatically become a contract. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Enforceability does not mean that litigation must already be completed. A contract is an agreement that is capable of legal enforcement, even before a dispute reaches court. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Stamped paper may be relevant for certain instruments, but it is not the general test under the reference line. The core requirement is whether the agreement is enforceable by law. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line that only an agreement enforceable by law is a contract. Since the motorcycle agreement appears lawful, competent, and intended for legal consequences, it may qualify as a contract if all enforceability requirements are met. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

75. Correct Answer: (c) An agreement exists because reciprocal promises formed consideration for each other.

Reference Line: "An agreement under the Indian Contract Act, 1872 is defined under Section 2(e) as "every promise and every set of promises, forming the consideration for each other.""

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly insists on a printed document as the only way to create an agreement. The reference line focuses on promises forming consideration for each other, not on whether the understanding is printed, formally drafted, or registered. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: The nature of the service does not prevent an agreement from arising. A promise to build software in return for payment can be a valid set of reciprocal promises if other legal requirements are satisfied. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line because the developer promised to build the application, and the owner promised to pay ₹2 lakh in return. Each promise forms the consideration for the other, thereby satisfying the basic idea of an agreement. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Registration of an email is not required merely to show that promises exchanged for consideration may amount to an agreement. The essential point is reciprocal promises supported by consideration, not external registration. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

76. Correct Answer: (b) The reply was counter-offer because it modified the terms of the original offer.

Reference Line: "If acceptance modifies the offer, it becomes a counter-offer."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats the word "accepted" as conclusive. Acceptance must match the offer; if it changes a material term, the legal effect is not acceptance but counter-offer. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line by recognising that a modified acceptance becomes a counter-offer. The company added dinner for 200 guests at the same price, changing the original offer, which expressly excluded food. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Dinner for 200 guests is a material commercial addition, not an insignificant detail. Since the original offer excluded food, the company's reply altered the scope and cost of performance. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Silence after receiving a counter-offer does not automatically prove consent. The hotel expressly refused the changed term, so no contract arose on the company's modified terms. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

77. Correct Answer: (c) Agreement is not enforceable unless it satisfies Section 10 requirements, including competency.

Reference Line: “For an agreement to become legally enforceable, it must satisfy the requirements of Section 10 of the Act. There must be a lawful offer and acceptance, and the acceptance must be absolute, unqualified, properly communicated, and must correspond exactly with the terms of the offer as required under Section 7.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Fair price does not cure lack of legal capacity or other essential requirements. The reference line makes Section 10 requirements necessary for enforceability, so commercial fairness alone cannot convert a defective agreement into an enforceable contract. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: The existence of property only shows that the subject matter is identifiable. It does not replace the requirement that parties must be legally competent and that the agreement must satisfy the other conditions for enforceability. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line because an agreement becomes legally enforceable only if it satisfies Section 10 requirements. Since one party is 17, the competency requirement becomes a serious issue, despite the agreed price and identifiable bike. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Payment alone cannot validate an agreement that fails essential enforceability requirements. If a party lacks competence, the fact that money was paid may raise restitutionary issues, but it does not automatically create an enforceable contract. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

78. Correct Answer: (d) Dev is not competent unless he attained majority and met other legal conditions.

Reference Line: “The parties must also be competent under Section 11, meaning they must have attained majority, be of sound mind under Section 12, and must not be disqualified by law.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Understanding the transaction may relate to soundness of mind, but it does not replace the requirement of majority. The reference line requires majority, sound mind, and absence of legal disqualification together for contractual competence. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Participation in business dealings does not automatically prove majority. A minor may appear commercially active, but legal competence still depends on the statutory requirements, including having attained majority. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: The company need not prove both minority and unsoundness of mind. Failure to satisfy any essential component of competence, such as majority, is enough to raise incapacity under the stated rule. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly uses “attained majority,” “sound mind,” and “not disqualified by law,” matching the reference line. Since Dev is only 16, he has not attained majority and therefore does not satisfy the competency requirement. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

79. Correct Answer: (c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

Reference Line: “Jus cogens differs from jus positivism because positivism treats law as based on State consent and domestic legal authority, while jus cogens operates universally and cannot be avoided by domestic law.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Assertion (A) is true because the reference line clearly states that jus cogens operates universally and cannot be avoided by domestic law. However, Reason (R) is false because it wrongly says jus positivism and jus cogens are identical. The reference line expressly distinguishes them. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true. While Assertion (A) accurately reflects the universal and overriding nature of jus cogens, Reason (R) contradicts the reference line by treating jus positivism and jus cogens as the same. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: Assertion (A) is correct because jus cogens norms operate universally and cannot be defeated by internal law. Reason (R) is false because jus positivism is based on State consent and domestic legal authority, whereas jus cogens stands above such consent-based limitations. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Assertion (A) is not false because it directly follows the reference line. Reason (R) is also not true because the passage does not treat jus positivism and jus cogens as identical; it clearly contrasts their legal foundations. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

80. Correct Answer: (d) Victims succeed because internal law cannot justify slavery, genocide, or torture.

Reference Line: "A State cannot justify genocide, slavery or torture by relying on its internal law."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly gives internal law complete control over international accountability. The reference line clearly states that a State cannot justify genocide, slavery or torture by relying on its internal law, even if that law is formally enacted. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Democratic approval does not convert conduct violating peremptory norms into lawful policy. Jus cogens norms operate as limits on State authority, including authority exercised through elected institutions. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option denies the controlling effect of jus cogens over domestic justifications. The passage expressly states that such norms operate universally and cannot be avoided by internal law. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line's idea that internal law cannot justify genocide, slavery, or torture. State G's domestic statute cannot shield conduct that violates fundamental non-derogable international norms. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

81. Correct Answer: (c) State F succeeds because an inconsistent existing treaty becomes void and terminates.

Reference Line: "Article 64 further provides that if a new jus cogens norm emerges, any existing treaty inconsistent with it becomes void and terminates."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option contradicts the reference line by saying later peremptory norms can never affect existing treaties. Article 64, as stated in the passage, specifically addresses new jus cogens norms and their effect on inconsistent existing treaties. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Treaty survival does not depend only on renewal or party intention when a new jus cogens norm emerges. The reference line says inconsistency with such a new norm makes the existing treaty void and terminates it. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly uses "existing treaty," "inconsistent," "void," and "terminates," matching the reference line. Once the new peremptory prohibition emerges, the earlier treaty cannot continue to authorise the prohibited experimentation. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: An express termination clause is unnecessary where the treaty becomes void due to inconsistency with a new jus cogens norm. The terminating effect arises from the superior legal status of the peremptory norm, not contractual drafting. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

82. Correct Answer: (b) The treaty is void because it conflicts with a peremptory norm.

Reference Line: "The doctrine was formally codified in Article 53 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, 1969, which states that a treaty conflicting with a peremptory norm is void."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Ratification does not cure a treaty that conflicts with a peremptory norm. The reference line states that such a treaty is void, meaning formal treaty-making steps cannot validate an agreement contrary to jus cogens. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line's core rule that a treaty conflicting with a peremptory norm is void. Forced labour of captured civilians would raise serious conflict with fundamental non-derogable norms, so treaty form cannot save it. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Domestic incorporation cannot validate a treaty that is void at the level of international law. If the treaty conflicts with a peremptory norm, internal regulations cannot convert it into a lawful obligation. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Voidness does not depend on later joint cancellation by the parties. The treaty's conflict with a peremptory norm itself makes it void under the stated rule. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

83. Correct Answer: (a) The pact is invalid because absolute non-derogable norms bind States despite consent.

Reference Line: "These norms are non-derogable, absolute and binding on all States, irrespective of their consent."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line's terms "non-derogable," "absolute," and "binding on all States." Since torture is treated in the passage as a recognised jus cogens concern, State B cannot validate it through a regional pact or emergency-based consent. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that emergency clauses can suspend every international obligation. The reference line states that jus cogens norms are non-derogable, meaning they cannot be set aside even by special circumstances or contrary agreement. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Regional consent cannot override a norm that is absolute and binding on all States. The legal status of jus cogens is higher than ordinary consent-based arrangements, so neighbouring States cannot collectively authorise torture. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Invalidity does not depend on State B's later withdrawal. If the pact conflicts with a non-derogable jus cogens norm, the problem exists from the point of conflict itself, not only after voluntary withdrawal. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

84. Correct Answer: (c) State A fails because fundamental international norms bind beyond individual consent.

Reference Line: "Jus cogens refers to those norms of international law which are universally recognised and accepted as fundamental by the international community as a whole."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats every international norm as dependent only on express State consent. The reference line explains that jus cogens norms are universally recognised and accepted as fundamental by the international community as a whole, which gives them a status beyond ordinary consent-based obligations. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: A peace agreement cannot legitimise conduct that violates a fundamental norm of international law. The fact that parties are negotiating peace does not allow them to bargain away protections recognised as fundamental by the international community as a whole. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line by treating jus cogens as fundamental international norms recognised by the international community as a whole. A proposed arrangement permitting slavery would conflict with such a fundamental norm and cannot be justified merely by party consent. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Jus cogens does not depend on every State signing the same treaty. Its binding character arises from universal recognition and acceptance as fundamental, not from unanimous treaty ratification in each individual case. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Section D: Logical Reasoning

For Q85-Q90:

At the beginning of Quarter 1, the teams were as follows:

Team	Members
Core Team	Ananya, Bhavesh, Charu
Training Team	Deepak, Esha, Farid

In Quarter 1, the Training Team ratings are directly known. Deepak received 1, Esha received 3, and Farid received 2. Since Esha had the highest score in the Training Team at the end of Quarter 1, she was shifted to the Core Team. In the Core Team, Bhavesh received 1 in Quarter 1. Since the three Core Team ratings had to be 1, 2, and 3, Ananya and Charu received 2 and 3 in some order. Bhavesh had the lowest score in the Core Team, so he was shifted to the Training Team.

So, at the beginning of Quarter 2, the teams became:

Team	Members
Core Team	Ananya, Charu, Esha
Training Team	Bhavesh, Deepak, Farid

In Quarter 2, Bhavesh received 1, Deepak received 2, Farid received 3, and Esha received 3. Therefore, the scores in the Training Team at the end of Quarter 2 were:

Member	Score at the end of Q2
Bhavesh	$1 + 1 = 2$
Deepak	$1 + 2 = 3$
Farid	$2 + 3 = 5$

Farid had the highest score in the Training Team, so Farid was shifted to the Core Team at the end of Quarter 2. It is also given that at the beginning of Quarter 3, the Training Team consisted of Ananya, Bhavesh, and Deepak. This means Ananya must have been shifted down from the Core Team at the end of Quarter 2. Now look at the Core Team in Quarter 2. Its members were Ananya, Charu, and Esha. Esha received 3. For Ananya to be the lowest-ranked member and move to the Training Team, Ananya must have received 1 and Charu must have received 2.

So, at the beginning of Quarter 3, the teams were:

Team	Members
Core Team	Charu, Esha, Farid
Training Team	Ananya, Bhavesh, Deepak

In Quarter 3, the Training Team ratings were given as follows:

Member	Q3 Rating
Ananya	1
Bhavesh	3
Deepak	2

At the end of Quarter 3, their scores were:

- Ananya = either $2 + 1 + 1 = 4$, or $3 + 1 + 1 = 5$
- Bhavesh = $1 + 1 + 3 = 5$
- Deepak = $1 + 2 + 2 = 5$

Bhavesh and Deepak both had a score of 5, but Bhavesh received a higher latest-quarter rating. Bhavesh received 3 in Quarter 3, while Deepak received 2. Therefore, Bhavesh was shifted to the Core Team at the end of Quarter 3.

At the beginning of Quarter 4, the Core Team had Bhavesh, Esha, and Farid. Therefore, Charu must have been shifted down from the Core Team at the end of Quarter 3.

In Quarter 3, the Core Team members were Charu, Esha, and Farid. Esha received 3. Since Charu was shifted down, Charu must have received 1 and Farid must have received 2.

The ratings can now be written as follows:

Member	Q1 Rating	Q2 Rating	Q3 Rating
Ananya	2 or 3	1	1

Bhavesh	1	1	3
Charu	3 or 2	2	1
Deepak	1	2	2
Esha	3	3	3
Farid	2	3	2

The only uncertainty is between Ananya and Charu's Quarter 1 ratings. They received 2 and 3 in some order.

85. Correct Answer: (b) 6

Esha received 3 in Quarter 1 and 3 in Quarter 2. Her score at the end of Quarter 2 was 6. Hence, option (b) is correct.

86. Correct Answer: (c) Farid

At the end of Quarter 2, Farid had the highest score in the Training Team. Therefore, Farid was shifted to the Core Team. Hence, option (c) is correct.

87. Correct Answer: (a) 1

Esha changed once, Bhavesh changed twice, Farid changed once, Ananya changed once, Charu changed once, and Deepak did not change teams. Only Bhavesh changed teams more than once. Hence, option (a) is correct.

88. Correct Answer: (b) 5

Bhavesh received ratings of 1, 1, and 3 in the first three quarters. His score at the end of Quarter 3 was 5. Hence, option (b) is correct.

89. Correct Answer: (a) 4

The Quarter 3 scores of Bhavesh, Deepak, Esha, and Farid can be determined with certainty. The scores of Ananya and Charu depend on their Quarter 1 ratings. Therefore, the scores can be determined with certainty for 4 members. Hence, option (a) is correct.

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

Statement I is not necessarily true because Ananya could have received either 2 or 3 in Quarter 1. Statement II is necessarily true because Charu had to receive 2 in Quarter 2 for Ananya to be the member shifted down at the end of that quarter. Statement III is also necessarily true because Deepak remained in the Training Team throughout. Hence, option (b) is correct.

For Q91-Q96:

Since Neha gave 7 points in total, and she gave White to Varun, Blue to Kunal, and White to Salim, these three cards account for: $1 + 2 + 1 = 4$ points

So, Neha must have given 3 points to Priya. Therefore, Neha gave a Gold Card to Priya.

Since Salim gave 7 points in total, and he gave Gold to Priya and White to Kunal, these two cards account for: $3 + 1 = 4$ points

So, his cards to Neha and Varun together must account for 3 points. Therefore, those two cards must be White and Blue in some order.

Now, Neha and Salim together gave: $7 + 7 = 14$ points

The total response points are 38. Hence, Varun, Kunal, and Priya together gave: $38 - 14 = 24$ points

Since Varun, Kunal, and Priya gave equal points in total, each of them gave: $24 \div 3 = 8$ points

Now look at Kunal. He gave Gold to Varun and Gold to Salim. These two cards account for: $3 + 3 = 6$ points

Since Kunal gave 8 points in total, his remaining two cards must account for 2 points. The only way this is possible is: $1 + 1$

So, Kunal gave a White Card to both Neha and Priya.

Now look at Priya. She gave Gold to Kunal and White to Salim. These two cards account for: $3 + 1 = 4$ points

Since Priya gave 8 points in total, her cards to Neha and Varun together must account for 4 points. She did not give Gold to either of them. Therefore, she must have given a Blue Card to both Neha and Varun.

Now look at Salim's presentation. Salim received:

- White from Neha
- Gold from Kunal
- White from Priya

Since every presentation received at least one White, one Blue, and one Gold, Varun must have given a Blue Card to Salim.

Varun gave Gold to Neha and White to Kunal. He has now also given Blue to Salim. These three cards account for: $3 + 1 + 2 = 6$ points

Since Varun gave 8 points in total, he must have given 2 points to Priya. Therefore, Varun gave a Blue Card to Priya. Now Salim's presentation has received:

White from Neha + Blue from Varun + Gold from Kunal + White from Priya = $1 + 2 + 3 + 1 = 7$ points

It is given that Varun's and Salim's presentations received an equal number of points. Therefore, Varun's presentation also received 7 points.

Varun's presentation received:

- White from Neha = 1
- Gold from Kunal = 3
- Blue from Priya = 2
- Salim's card is still unknown

So far, the total is: $1 + 3 + 2 = 6$ points

To make the total 7, Salim must have given 1 point to Varun. Therefore, Salim gave a White Card to Varun.

Since Salim's cards to Neha and Varun together had to be White and Blue, and he gave White to Varun, he must have given a Blue Card to Neha.

The final table is:

Student giving card / Presentation by	Neha	Varun	Kunal	Priya	Salim	Total points given
Neha	-	White	Blue	Gold	White	7
Varun	Gold	-	White	Blue	Blue	8
Kunal	White	Gold	-	White	Gold	8
Priya	Blue	Blue	Gold	-	White	8
Salim	Blue	White	White	Gold	-	7
Total points received	8	7	7	9	7	38

91. Correct Answer: (b) 7

Explanation: Varun's presentation received the same points as Salim's presentation. Since Salim's presentation received 7 points, Varun's presentation also received 7 points.

92. Correct Answer: (a) Neha and Salim

Explanation: Neha gave a total of 7 points, and Salim also gave a total of 7 points. Varun, Kunal, and Priya each gave 8 points.

93. Correct Answer: (a) White Card

Explanation: Varun's presentation received 7 points in total. Since Neha, Kunal, and Priya together gave him 6 points, Salim must have given him a White Card worth 1 point.

94. Correct Answer: (b) 6

Explanation: Gold Cards were given by Neha to Priya, Varun to Neha, Kunal to Varun and Salim, Priya to Kunal, and Salim to Priya. Therefore, a total of 6 Gold Cards were given.

95. Correct Answer: (d) Priya

Explanation: The total points received were Neha = 8, Varun = 7, Kunal = 7, Priya = 9, and Salim = 7. Hence, Priya's presentation received the highest points.

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

Explanation: Kunal gave White Cards to both Neha and Priya, and Varun gave Blue Cards to both Priya and Salim. Priya gave a Blue Card to Varun, not a Gold Card, so Statement III is false.

For Q97-Q102:

97. Correct Answer: (b) Ravish

Explanation: Let us first test the possible positions of the Barkha–Arnab block, because Barkha must sit immediately to the left of Arnab.

Possible placements of Barkha and Arnab are:

- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3
- 3 and 4
- 4 and 5
- 5 and 6

If Barkha and Arnab occupy Stalls 1 and 2, then Arnab is in Stall 2. Since exactly one stall lies between Arnab and Sudhir, Sudhir must be in Stall 4. Since Sudhir is immediately to the left of Rajdeep, Rajdeep must be in Stall 5. The remaining stalls are 3 and 6 for Ravish and Anjana. But Anjana cannot occupy an end stall, so Anjana must be in Stall 3, leaving Ravish in Stall 6. This violates the condition that Sudhir must be to the right of Ravish.

If Barkha and Arnab occupy Stalls 2 and 3, then Arnab is in Stall 3. Sudhir must be in Stall 5, because exactly one stall lies between Arnab and Sudhir. Since Sudhir is immediately to the left of Rajdeep, Rajdeep must be in Stall 6. The remaining stalls are 1 and 4 for Ravish and Anjana. Since Anjana must be to the right of Arnab and cannot occupy an end stall, Anjana must be in Stall 4. Therefore, Ravish must be in Stall 1.

This gives the valid arrangement: Ravish, Barkha, Arnab, Anjana, Sudhir, Rajdeep
So, Stall 1 is occupied by Ravish.



98. Correct Answer: (d) Ravish, Barkha, Arnab, Anjana, Sudhir, Rajdeep

Explanation: From the deductions, the only arrangement that satisfies all the given conditions is:

Ravish, Barkha, Arnab, Anjana, Sudhir, Rajdeep

Now verify option (d):

Barkha is immediately to the left of Arnab.

Exactly one stall lies between Arnab and Sudhir.

Sudhir is immediately to the left of Rajdeep.

Sudhir is to the right of Ravish.

Anjana is not in an end stall.

Ravish is not adjacent to Anjana.

Anjana is to the right of Arnab.

All the conditions are satisfied. Therefore, option (d) is the correct order.

99. Correct Answer: (b) Anjana

Explanation: The final arrangement is:

Ravish, Barkha, Arnab, Anjana, Sudhir, Rajdeep

Arnab is in Stall 3 and Sudhir is in Stall 5. Since exactly one stall lies between them, the middle stall is Stall 4. Stall 4 is occupied by Anjana.

Therefore, Anjana occupies the stall immediately between Arnab and Sudhir.

100. Correct Answer: (c) Ravish's interview is scheduled immediately to the left of Barkha's interview.

Explanation: The complete arrangement is:

Ravish, Barkha, Arnab, Anjana, Sudhir, Rajdeep

Option (a) is false because Anjana is in Stall 4, which is to the right of Arnab in Stall 3.

Option (b) is false because Sudhir occupies Stall 5, not Stall 4.

Option (c) is true because Ravish is in Stall 1 and Barkha is in Stall 2. Therefore, Ravish is immediately to the left of Barkha.

Option (d) is false because Arnab occupies Stall 3, not an end stall.

Therefore, option (c) must be true.

101. Correct Answer: (a) Rajdeep occupies Stall 6.

Explanation: A statement is redundant if adding it gives no new information because it is already guaranteed by the original conditions.

From the given conditions, the only valid arrangement is:

Ravish, Barkha, Arnab, Anjana, Sudhir, Rajdeep

Therefore, Rajdeep occupies Stall 6 is already implied by the original conditions. It is therefore redundant.

Option (b) is false because Anjana occupies Stall 4, not Stall 2.

Option (c) is false because Arnab occupies Stall 3, not Stall 4.

Option (d) is false because Ravish is to the left of Sudhir, not to his right.

Thus, the only redundant statement is option (a).

102. Correct Answer: (a) Barkha, Arnab, Ravish, Sudhir, Rajdeep, Anjana

Explanation: In this question, only one condition is removed:

Anjana does not occupy an end stall.

All other conditions still remain:

Barkha's interview stall is immediately to the left of Arnab's stall.

Exactly one stall lies between Arnab and Sudhir.

Sudhir's interview stall is immediately to the left of Rajdeep's stall.

Sudhir's interview stall is to the right of Ravish's stall.

Ravish does not occupy a stall adjacent to Anjana.

Anjana's interview is scheduled to the right of Arnab's interview. Now test option (a):

Barkha, Arnab, Ravish, Sudhir, Rajdeep, Anjana

Barkha is immediately to the left of Arnab.

Exactly one stall lies between Arnab and Sudhir, because Arnab is in Stall 2 and Sudhir is in Stall 4.

Sudhir is immediately to the left of Rajdeep.

Sudhir is to the right of Ravish.

Ravish is not adjacent to Anjana.

Anjana is to the right of Arnab.

Since the condition preventing Anjana from occupying an end stall has been removed, Anjana can now occupy Stall 6.

Therefore, option (a) is valid.

Option (b) is invalid because Anjana is to the left of Arnab, whereas Anjana must be to the right of Arnab.

Option (c) is invalid because Barkha is not immediately to the left of Arnab.

Option (d) is invalid because exactly one stall does not lie between Arnab and Sudhir.

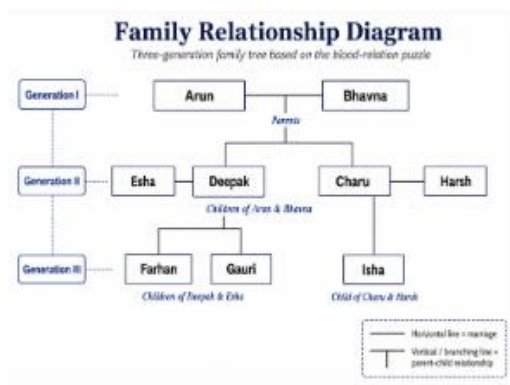
Hence, option (a) could be a valid arrangement.



For Q103-Q108:

103. Correct Answer: (b) Granddaughter

Explanation: Arun and Bhavna are the oldest married couple. Their son Deepak is married to Esha. Farhan and Gauri are the children of Deepak and Esha. Since Gauri is the daughter of Bhavna's son Deepak, Gauri is Bhavna's granddaughter. Therefore, option (b) is correct.



104. Correct Answer: (c) Brother-in-law

Explanation: Deepak and Charu are siblings because both are children of Arun and Bhavna. Charu is married to Harsh. Therefore, Harsh is the husband of Deepak's sister. This makes Harsh the brother-in-law of Deepak. Therefore, option (c) is correct.

105. Correct Answer: (d) Deepak

Explanation: Isha is the only child of Charu and Harsh. Charu's brother is Deepak, as both Deepak and Charu are children of Arun and Bhavna. A mother's brother is called the maternal uncle. Therefore, Deepak is the maternal uncle of Isha. Therefore, option (d) is correct.

106. Correct Answer: (a) Gauri and Isha

Explanation: Gauri is the daughter of Deepak and Esha. Isha is the daughter of Charu and Harsh. Deepak and Charu are siblings. Therefore, the children of Deepak and Charu are cousins. Since Gauri and Isha belong to the third generation and their parents are siblings, they are cousins. Therefore, option (a) is correct.

107. Correct Answer: (b) Daughter-in-law

Explanation: Arun and Bhavna are the parents of Deepak. Deepak is married to Esha. Therefore, Esha is married to Arun's son. A son's wife is called a daughter-in-law. Hence, Esha is Arun's daughter-in-law. Therefore, option (b) is correct.

108. Correct Answer: (c) Charu is Gauri's paternal aunt.

Explanation: Gauri is the daughter of Deepak and Esha. Charu is Deepak's sister because Deepak and Charu are the two children of Arun and Bhavna. A father's sister is called a paternal aunt. Since Charu is the sister of Gauri's father, Charu is Gauri's paternal aunt. Therefore, option (c) is correct.

Section E: Quantitative Aptitude

109. Answer: (c) 75 lakh

Explanation: In November the footfall at the four stations was 24 lakh, 20 lakh, 17 lakh and 14 lakh respectively. Adding them: $24 + 20 + 17 + 14 = 75$ lakh.

110. Answer: (c) 50%

Explanation: Rajiv Chowk footfall in August was 20 lakh and in December was 30 lakh. The increase is $30 - 20 = 10$ lakh. Percentage increase = $10 / 20 \times 100 = 50\%$.

111. Answer: (c) 16 lakh

Explanation: Hauz Khas footfall across the five months was 12, 14, 15, 17 and 22 lakh. Sum = $12 + 14 + 15 + 17 + 22 = 80$ lakh. Average over five months = $80 / 5 = 16$ lakh.

112. Answer: (b) Two months

Explanation: Rajiv Chowk footfall across the five months was 20, 24, 28, 24 and 30 lakh. The months in which it exceeded 25 lakh were October (28 lakh) and December (30 lakh). The count is two.

113. Answer: (c) ₹24 crore

Explanation: Botanical Garden footfall across the five months was 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 lakh, summing to 60 lakh = 60,00,000 passengers. Each passenger pays ₹40, so total revenue = $60,00,000 \times 40 = ₹24,00,00,000 = ₹24$ crore.

114. Answer: (c) 15 : 8

Explanation: December footfall at Rajiv Chowk was 30 lakh and at Botanical Garden was 16 lakh. The ratio is 30 : 16. Dividing both terms by their greatest common divisor of 2 gives 15 : 8.

115. Answer: (b) ₹4,200 crore

Explanation: The infrastructure head receives 18% of ₹15,000 crore = ₹2,700 crore. The digital learning head receives 10% of ₹15,000 crore = ₹1,500 crore. Combined allocation = $2,700 + 1,500 = ₹4,200$ crore.

116. Answer: (c) ₹3,900 crore

Explanation: The teacher salaries head receives 40% of ₹15,000 crore = ₹6,000 crore. Of this, the rural share is 65%. Rural portion = $6,000 \times 65\% = ₹3,900$ crore.

117. Answer: (c) ₹2,250 crore

Explanation: The original scholarships budget is 15% of ₹15,000 crore = ₹2,250 crore. Twenty per cent of this is $2,250 \times 20\% = ₹450$ crore, which is moved to mid-day meals. The original mid-day meals budget is 12% of ₹15,000 crore = ₹1,800 crore. New mid-day meals allocation = $1,800 + 450 = ₹2,250$ crore.

118. Answer: (b) ₹90 crore

Explanation: The rural allocation under mid-day meals is 80% of ₹1,800 crore = ₹1,440 crore. The rural allocation under scholarships is 60% of ₹2,250 crore = ₹1,350 crore. The required difference = $1,440 - 1,350 = ₹90$ crore.

119. Answer: (b) ₹1,650 crore

Explanation: The administration head originally receives 5% of ₹15,000 crore = ₹750 crore. When this is redistributed equally across the other five heads, each of those heads receives an additional $750 / 5 = ₹150$ crore. The original digital learning allocation is ₹1,500 crore. New allocation = $1,500 + 150 = ₹1,650$ crore.

120. Answer: (d) 12 : 5

Explanation: The mid-day meals head receives ₹1,800 crore (12% of ₹15,000 crore). The administration head receives ₹750 crore (5% of ₹15,000 crore). The ratio is 1,800 : 750. Dividing both terms by 150 gives 12 : 5.