

COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST (CLAT) 2027
Mock 202704: Answer Key and Solution



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

Section A: English Language

1. Correct Answer: (a) Because dictionaries impose retrospective divisions.

Reference Line: "But we see the 'leaps' only when lexicographers, looking back, chop up a word's history into meanings for their dictionaries."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option correctly explains that the "leaps" are not actual sudden jumps in usage, but later divisions created by lexicographers when they classify meanings historically. The author's point is that dictionary categories can make continuous change look sharper than it really was. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option misreads the passage because the author does not say speakers consciously preserve older meanings. Instead, the passage says speakers gradually adopt new uses, and other words may later fill the space left by older meanings. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is directly inconsistent with the passage, which is entirely concerned with the fact that meanings do change across time. The author only denies that such change usually happens in visible sudden jumps. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option wrongly makes semantic change appear systematic in a rigid scientific sense. The passage describes predictable tendencies, but it does not suggest that every word must pass through fixed or formally arranged stages. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

2. Correct Answer: (c) Useful meanings find substitute expressions.

Reference Line: "For useful concepts, it seems, the lexicon abhors a vacuum."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage accepts semantic change as natural and frequent. The phrase does not mean language blocks change; it means that when one word shifts away from a useful meaning, another expression often serves that communicative function. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option gives dictionaries an active restorative role that the passage does not support. Dictionaries may record meanings, but the replacement of meanings happens through living usage, not through lexicographers formally bringing back lost meanings. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option correctly interprets the metaphor. The author means that language tends not to leave useful concepts unnamed for long; when one word moves away from an older sense, another word or expression usually fills the gap. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the passage shows speakers adopting unfamiliar or new usages, such as "hangry," "sick," and "amazeballs." The author presents linguistic innovation as normal, not as something speakers simply reject. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

3. Correct Answer: (b) Old meanings always remain irreplaceable.

Reference Line: "Yet true confusion is rare. For nauseous's old meaning we have nauseating."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is true in the context of the passage because the author states that there are predictable ways in which words change meaning. The example of "nauseous" moving from cause to experience is used to show that semantic shifts are often patterned rather than random. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is not true because the passage argues exactly the opposite. The author says that when a word leaves behind an older meaning, another word may fill that space, as "nauseating" does for the older sense of "nauseous." Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is true because the author explicitly says that "true confusion is rare." Even when word meanings shift, context and substitute expressions usually allow speakers to communicate clearly without serious misunderstanding. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is true because the passage explains that when words become overused or weakened, speakers still possess or create alternatives. The examples of “incredible,” “fantastic,” “sick,” and “amazeballs” show linguistic renewal. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

4. Correct Answer: (b) To divide continuous change into separate meanings.

Reference Line: “But we see the ‘leaps’ only when lexicographers, looking back, chop up a word’s history into meanings for their dictionaries.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is tempting because dictionaries may record older meanings, but “chop up” does not mean removing outdated meanings. It refers to the later division of a word’s gradual history into separate dictionary senses. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option correctly captures the contextual meaning. The author argues that semantic change is gradual, but lexicographers later divide that continuous history into distinct meanings, making it appear as if sudden “leaps” occurred. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage does not say old meanings were wrong. It only says meanings shift over time and later get classified by dictionary-makers. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the author does not suggest that word histories follow strict scientific stages. The passage discusses retrospective classification, not fixed linguistic sequencing. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

5. Correct Answer: (a) To show weakening through overuse

Reference Line: “Words also weaken with frequent use: The Lego Movie (2014) was on to something with its song ‘Everything Is Awesome’, because Americans really do use this word rather a lot.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) This option is correct because “awesome” is used as an example of semantic weakening caused by repeated use. The author explains that a once-powerful word can become suitable for ordinary approval or even polite routine speech, thereby losing some of its earlier intensity. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the author does not defend fixed dictionary meanings. The passage argues that words naturally move away from their earlier meanings, and dictionary divisions merely record changes retrospectively rather than preventing them. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the author does not reject informal modern expressions. Words such as “sick” and “amazeballs” are mentioned as examples of new expressive resources that speakers create when older intensifiers become overused. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the passage says English-speakers are “spoiled for choice” when expressing admiration. The discussion of “awesome” proves not that English lacks alternatives, but that alternatives arise when familiar words lose force. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

6. Correct Answer: (b) Reassuring

Reference Line: “Again, no chaos results.” / “Words change meaning gradually, as a small number of speakers use them in a new way, and they in turn cause others to do so.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is tempting because the passage discusses people who insist on fixed meanings, such as those who restrict “nauseous” to its older sense. However, the author does not support such rigid rules. Instead, the author explains that language changes naturally and remains functional despite semantic shifts. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option correctly captures the author’s stance. The author responds to anxieties about semantic change by explaining that meanings shift gradually, useful concepts receive substitute expressions, and communication does not collapse into chaos. The tone is therefore reassuring rather than alarmist. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because “fatalistic” would suggest helpless acceptance of decline or disorder. The author does not treat semantic change as linguistic damage or inevitable confusion. Instead, the passage presents language as flexible and self-regulating. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because the author does not express longing for older meanings. The discussion of words such as “hangry,” “sick,” and “amazeballs” shows openness toward new expressions rather than nostalgia for past usage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

7. Correct Answer: (c) Misleading beliefs often appear like dependable knowledge.

Reference Line: “An ignorant mind is precisely not a spotless, empty vessel, but one that’s filled with the clutter of irrelevant or misleading life experiences, theories, facts, intuitions, strategies, algorithms, heuristics, metaphors, and hunches that regrettably have the look and feel of useful and accurate knowledge.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option wrongly presents ignorance as a simple lack of education or information. The author’s argument is more complex because ignorance is described as being filled with misleading material that feels like knowledge. The danger arises not from emptiness of mind, but from false certainty created by distorted experience and intuition. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option misrepresents the author’s treatment of childhood intuition. The passage accepts that some early intuitions are reliable, but it also stresses that children carry certain misbeliefs into later life. Therefore, childhood intuition is neither wholly dependable nor a sufficient basis for adult judgment. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option accurately captures the passage’s central claim. The author argues that human beings often carry misleading experiences, theories, and intuitions that appear accurate despite being unreliable. This false appearance of knowledge is what makes ignorance especially difficult to recognise and potentially dangerous. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option directly contradicts the author’s warning about society. The passage says that mistaken popular beliefs may become destructive when a complex democratic society gives them power. Collective belief is therefore not treated as a safeguard against error, but as something that can magnify error. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

8. Correct Answer: (b) Misbelief often grows from cognition and learned experience.

Reference Line: “Because of the way we are built, and because of the way we learn from our environment, we are all engines of misbelief.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option incorrectly treats lack of environmental learning as the only source of misbelief. The passage says that the way humans learn from the environment itself can generate mistaken beliefs. Therefore, experience is not presented as a complete cure for ignorance, but as one possible source of misbelief. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option correctly reflects the author’s argument. The passage states that misbelief arises from both human mental structure and the way people absorb information from their surroundings. This means false beliefs are not accidental exceptions, but can naturally emerge from ordinary cognition and experience. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option wrongly suggests that misbelief mainly comes from deliberate deception. The author is not focusing on people intentionally spreading falsehoods, but on the mind’s natural tendency to form misleading beliefs. The passage treats misbelief as a cognitive tendency, not merely a social conspiracy. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option has no support in the passage. The author does not say that strong intuition removes misbelief; rather, some intuitions are shown to be unreliable and persistent. Emotional strength of intuition may even make false beliefs feel more convincing, not less mistaken. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

9. Correct Answer: (a) Excessively abundant in forming speculative explanations.

Reference Line: “We are unbridled pattern recognizers and profligate theorizers.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option correctly conveys the contextual meaning of “profligate.” The author uses the word to suggest that human beings produce theories too freely, too frequently, and often without adequate restraint. It describes excess in explanation-making rather than wisdom, accuracy, or disciplined reasoning. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option gives the opposite sense of the word in context. “Carefully restrained” suggests caution, moderation, and disciplined judgment, whereas “profligate” suggests excess and lack of control. The author’s criticism is that humans theorise too readily, not too cautiously. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option misapplies a moral meaning to the word. Although “profligate” can sometimes carry moral overtones, the passage uses it in a cognitive sense to describe excessive theory-making. The author is discussing how people form explanations, not whether they are morally corrupt. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option wrongly associates “profligate” with precision and scientific reliability. The passage does not praise humans as exact or technically disciplined theorists. Instead, it warns that humans generate many explanations, some of which may be misleading while still appearing convincing. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

10. Correct Answer: (d) become less vulnerable to confident false beliefs.

Reference Line: “But our genius for creative storytelling, combined with our inability to detect our own ignorance, can sometimes lead to situations that are embarrassing, unfortunate, or downright dangerous.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is too extreme and does not follow from the passage. The author does not say that intuition must be rejected completely, since some early intuitions about objects and movement are shown to be sound. The real issue is not intuition itself, but untested certainty in misleading beliefs. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option contradicts the author’s concern about democratic societies. The passage warns that mistaken popular beliefs can become destructive when given public power. Overcoming ignorance would therefore require critical scrutiny of popular beliefs, not automatic acceptance of them as valid. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option misreads the author’s discussion of early cognition. Although some childhood intuitions are useful, the author also says that children carry persistent misbeliefs. Depending only on childhood instincts would preserve the very errors that the passage asks us to understand and manage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option correctly follows from the author’s reasoning. If people can detect their ignorance, they are less likely to mistake false beliefs for certain knowledge. The passage’s danger lies in confident misbelief, and reducing that confidence would make individuals and societies less vulnerable to error. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

11. Correct Answer: (b) helps redirect flawed cognition toward objective truth.

Reference Line: “And the better we understand how our wonderful yet kludge-ridden, Rube Goldberg engine works, the better we—as individuals and as a society—can harness it to navigate toward a more objective understanding of the truth.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option wrongly assumes that all inherited intuitions are useful. The passage clearly distinguishes between sound early intuitions and misleading early beliefs that persist into later life. Understanding the mind does not validate every intuition; it helps identify which mental tendencies require correction. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option correctly reflects the author’s constructive argument. The author does not merely condemn the human mind as defective, but suggests that understanding its flawed mechanism can help us use it better. The phrase “harness it” implies directing imperfect cognition toward a more objective grasp of truth. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option introduces a claim that the passage does not support. The author mentions democratic society to show how mistaken beliefs can become powerful, not to argue that democratic judgment should disappear. The proposed solution is improved understanding, not abandonment of collective reasoning. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option exaggerates the author's claim. The passage does not say that creative storytelling can be transformed into scientific certainty. It only suggests that awareness of the mind's flaws can help individuals and society move closer to objective understanding. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

12. Correct Answer: (d) Children grasp object rules yet misread purposes in organisms.

Reference Line: "They know that objects continue to exist when out of sight, and fall if left unsupported. They know that people can get up and move around as autonomous beings, but that the computer sitting on the desk cannot. But not all of our earliest intuitions are so sound. Very young children also carry misbeliefs that they will harbor, to some degree, for the rest of their lives."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option refers to the passage's broader warning about society, but it does not answer the specific question about early intuition. The author's evidence about childhood cognition concerns what babies and very young children believe about objects, agents, and purposes. Popular myths in democracy are relevant to social danger, not to the mixed reliability of early intuition. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option concerns adult theory-making rather than childhood intuition. The passage does say that humans invent theories that may become dangerous, but that point belongs to the earlier discussion of misbelief in complex societies. It does not directly show that early intuitions are partly sound and partly mistaken. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option captures only one side of the author's evidence. Babies' ability to distinguish people from computers shows that some early intuitions are reliable. However, the question asks for evidence that early intuition is mixed, so the answer must include both the reliable and mistaken aspects. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option correctly identifies the contrast used by the author. The passage shows that children understand certain physical rules, such as object permanence and unsupported falling, but also develop mistaken tendencies such as falsely assigning purpose to organisms. This combination proves that early intuition is useful but not wholly reliable. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

13. Correct Answer: (b) It wants new alliances beyond weakened US market dependence.

Reference Line: "Carney has said he is determined to build a new network of trade and diplomatic alliances after the loss of US markets under Donald Trump." / "Canadian diplomats have rejected suggestions Ottawa might seek EU membership."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage specifically notes that Canadian diplomats rejected suggestions that Ottawa might seek EU membership. Participation is therefore diplomatic outreach, not accession signalling. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is correct because the passage directly connects Canada's EPC participation with the search for alternative trade and diplomatic partnerships after reduced access to US markets. The move is strategic diversification, not formal European entry. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage does not present Canada as replacing the United States in Europe's defence architecture. Canada's role is described in terms of alliances and symbolic support, not strategic takeover. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because Armenia is important in the passage as a diplomatic and geopolitical setting, but Canada's motive is not framed as military leverage. The emphasis is on alliances and support, not force projection. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

14. Correct Answer: (b) Metaphor

Reference Line: "European leaders will have to walk a fine line in Yerevan. As they hold what looks like a pre-election rally for Pashinyan, they must also have a bigger conversation about building a more robust and less polarised Armenia."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) Simile is incorrect because the phrase does not use an explicit comparison through “like” or “as.” The passage does not say European leaders are “like” someone walking on a narrow line; it directly uses the image to describe diplomatic caution. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Metaphor is correct because “walk a fine line” does not refer to literal walking. It metaphorically describes the need to balance two sensitive concerns: supporting Pashinyan’s European orientation while avoiding deeper political polarisation in Armenia. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Hyperbole is incorrect because the phrase does not mainly exaggerate the situation for dramatic effect. It expresses delicacy and balance, not overstatement. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Personification is incorrect because no non-human object or abstract idea is given human qualities. The expression describes a political task through a metaphor of careful movement. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

15. Correct Answer: (a) They must support reform without deepening domestic polarisation.

Reference Line: “European leaders will have to walk a fine line in Yerevan. As they hold what looks like a pre-election rally for Pashinyan, they must also have a bigger conversation about building a more robust and less polarised Armenia.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option correctly identifies the author’s balanced concern. European leaders are expected to support Armenia’s European turn, but they must avoid appearing merely partisan. The larger goal is a stable and less divided Armenia, not only a short-term political endorsement. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage does not ask European leaders to stay away from Armenia before elections. On the contrary, their presence is already treated as significant. The author’s concern is about how they engage, not whether they should engage. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is too extreme and partisan. The passage mentions pro-Russian opposition parties but does not suggest that Europe should openly campaign against them. The author stresses careful diplomacy and reduced polarisation, not aggressive electoral intervention. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option misrepresents the author’s emphasis. Military issues are part of the summit’s wider agenda, but the quoted line focuses on Armenia’s political resilience and internal cohesion. The author prioritises a robust civic and political order over mere deterrence. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

16. Correct Answer: (c) It gradually places Armenia within Europe’s strategic orbit.

Reference Line: “Armenia’s prime minister, Nikol Pashinyan, has pursued a policy of diversification that in practice is slowly drawing his country into the European ambit.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option wrongly reduces diversification to election strategy. Although elections are mentioned later, the passage presents diversification as a substantive geopolitical shift. It has diplomatic consequences because it changes Armenia’s external orientation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option contradicts the passage because diversification is described as reducing overreliance on Russia. It does not preserve dependence on Moscow. Instead, it slowly draws Armenia closer to Europe’s political and diplomatic space. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option correctly captures the author’s implicit assessment. “European ambit” suggests a gradual movement into Europe’s sphere of influence, not necessarily formal membership. The process is slow, strategic, and linked to Armenia’s search for new partners. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because Pashinyan’s policy is connected with efforts to make peace with Azerbaijan. The passage does not present diversification as an anti-peace strategy. It suggests that a stronger mandate may help continue peace efforts. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

17. Correct Answer: (d) It may be difficult but could reshape Armenia’s future.

Reference Line: “It is on the verge of a painful but transformative peace agreement with Baku that will lead to the reopening of its two long borders with Azerbaijan and Turkey, which have been closed since the 1990s.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage does not suggest that the peace agreement would strengthen Russia. Rather, Armenia’s transformation is linked to reduced dependence on Moscow. Reopening borders would likely broaden Armenia’s regional options. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option oversimplifies the phrase “painful but transformative.” The word “painful” implies political, emotional, or strategic difficulty. The author does not suggest that peace will be effortless or eliminate every dispute. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option directly contradicts the passage. The expected peace agreement would reopen Armenia’s borders with Azerbaijan and Turkey, not isolate Armenia from them. The passage frames reopening as part of regional transformation. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option correctly explains the author’s intended meaning. The peace process may involve difficult compromises, but it could also change Armenia’s geopolitical and economic position. Reopening long-closed borders would mark a major shift in Armenia’s regional future. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

18. Correct Answer: (c) A rare chance to alter Armenia’s dependence

Reference Line: “The country also has a historic opportunity to loosen its overdependence on Moscow as the war in Ukraine continues to distract and drain Russia.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the phrase does not refer to a merely symbolic event. The passage connects the opportunity with Armenia’s real possibility of reducing dependence on Moscow. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is tempting because elections are discussed earlier, but “historic opportunity” is not limited to electoral advantage. It refers to Armenia’s broader geopolitical opening. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is correct because the phrase indicates a rare and significant chance for Armenia to loosen its overdependence on Russia while Russia is distracted by the Ukraine war. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is too absolute. The passage says Armenia has an opportunity to “loosen” overdependence, not that it has already completed a full break from Russia. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

19. Correct Answer: (c) Restores attention toward other mental concerns

Reference Line: “The motivational and emotional areas of our brain infuse the need to eat with a nonverbal imperative that feels so powerful it eclipses all else.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because “diminishes” is close to the effect of “eclipses,” not its opposite. In the passage, hunger becomes so dominant that other concerns lose significance. This option supports the same idea of overpowering rather than reversing it. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because it strengthens the meaning of “eclipses” rather than opposing it. If hunger intensifies instinctive impulses, it becomes even more dominant over other mental processes. That is consistent with the passage’s meaning, not an antonym. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is correct because “eclipses” means to overshadow, overpower, or make other concerns less visible. Its antonym would suggest restoring attention to other matters rather than suppressing them. The option correctly captures the opposite sense in the context of hunger overpowering consciousness. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because it describes the passage’s idea of hunger overwhelming deliberate thought. The phrase suggests replacement or suppression, which is conceptually close to eclipsing. It does not provide an opposite meaning. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

20. Correct Answer: (d) Hunger creates a coordinated neural pursuit.

Reference Line: “So by exciting the hunger neurons in those mice, Lowell catalyzed a storm of neural activity that spread to the cerebral cortex and other higher-order processing centers, leading directly to a chain of complex goal-directed behaviors (ineffective though they turned out to be).”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because food memories are only one part of the process described in the passage. The author moves beyond memory to motivation, perception, planning, movement, and behavior. The passage is therefore broader than the mere appearance of food-related images. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because the passage does not reduce hunger to primitive instinct alone. It explicitly mentions the cerebral cortex, higher-order processing centers, and the prefrontal cortex. These references show that higher cognitive systems participate in the hunger response. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage says the prefrontal cortex weighs danger and evaluates how food may be obtained. This means rational calculation is affected by hunger, not entirely eliminated. The option exaggerates the passage’s claim. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is correct because the passage presents hunger as a distributed neural process that turns sensation into purposeful action. It involves memory, emotion, planning, sensory systems, and motor systems. The phrase “goal-directed behaviors” confirms that hunger is not passive but behaviourally organizing. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

21. Correct Answer: (b) Triggered

Reference Line: “So by exciting the hunger neurons in those mice, Lowell catalyzed a storm of neural activity that spread to the cerebral cortex and other higher-order processing centers...”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) “Restricted” means limited or controlled, which is opposite to the idea of setting off a spreading storm of neural activity. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) “Triggered” correctly captures the contextual meaning of “catalyzed.” Lowell’s stimulation of hunger neurons set off or initiated a larger chain of neural activity. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) “Measured” is tempting because the passage concerns scientific research, but “catalyzed” does not mean observed or quantified. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) “Interrupted” means stopped or disrupted, whereas the passage shows neural activity being initiated and spread. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

22. Correct Answer: (b) They trace hunger pathways through careful neuron-level mapping.

Reference Line: “Together they are following known parts of the neural hunger circuits into uncharted parts of the brain, in some cases activating one neuron at a time to methodically trace new connections through areas so primitive that we share them with lizards.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage does not say the researchers abandon circuit-level neuroscience for public-health numbers. Obesity data are mentioned later as relevance, not as the main research method. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is correct because the passage explicitly describes a methodical effort to follow known hunger circuits into unknown brain regions by activating one neuron at a time. The emphasis is on careful mapping of pathways. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage does not limit the research to conscious food choices in adult humans. It discusses neural circuits, animal experiments, and primitive brain regions. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because lung disease is not the subject of Lowell and Andermann's method. Their research is about hunger circuits, motivation, and behaviour, not pulmonary illness. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

23. Correct Answer: (d) A command differs from its underlying mechanism.

Reference Line: "But that's not really an explanation. How does that actually work?"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) This option is incorrect because the passage relies on neural activation experiments as a meaningful starting point. Lowell's experiment produced observable behaviour and raised deeper questions. The passage does not reject such research; it demands a fuller explanation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is incorrect because hunger neurons are clearly relevant in the passage. Their excitation triggered a chain of neural and behavioural events. The issue is not irrelevance, but the incomplete understanding of how the process unfolds. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is incorrect because the passage argues the opposite. Producing action does not complete scientific explanation; it creates the need to understand the pathway from signal to behaviour. The option mistakes outcome for mechanism. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is correct because Lowell distinguishes between causing a behavioural command and explaining the process behind it. The brain may be prompted to initiate eating-related behaviour, but the exact circuit-level transformation remains unclear. This captures the passage's deeper scientific concern. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

24. Correct Answer: (c) Neuroscientist

Reference Line: "Lowell has teamed up with Mark Andermann, a neuroscientist who studies how motivation shapes perception..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) "Neurologist" is tempting because it also relates to the brain and nervous system, but it usually refers to a medical doctor who diagnoses and treats neurological disorders. The question asks for a research scientist studying neural mechanisms. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) "Psychologist" studies the mind and behaviour, but the passage focuses more specifically on neural hunger circuits, brain pathways, and nervous-system mechanisms. Therefore, it is not the most precise one-word substitution here. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) "Neuroscientist" is correct because it refers to a scientist who studies the brain, nervous system, and neural mechanisms. This exactly matches the revised stem as well as the passage's description of Mark Andermann. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) "Biochemist" studies chemical processes in living organisms. Although biological processes may be relevant to the brain, the passage specifically concerns neural circuits and brain mechanisms, not biochemical processes in general. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Section B: Current Affairs including General Knowledge

25. Correct Answer: (c) Article 21

Explanation: The Supreme Court has linked the right to die with dignity with Article 21.

Article 21 protects life and personal liberty under the Constitution of India. The Court explained that life with dignity includes dignity in the process of dying. The Harish Rana judgment applied this constitutional reasoning in the context of passive euthanasia.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

26. Correct Answer: (a) Permanent vegetative state

Explanation: The medical board found that Harish Rana had irreversible brain damage.

It recorded that he fulfilled the criteria of permanent vegetative state. The condition followed severe traumatic brain injury with diffuse axonal injury. The Court considered this medical condition while applying the passive euthanasia framework. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

27. Correct Answer: (c) Clinically Assisted Nutrition and Hydration

Explanation: CANH stands for Clinically Assisted Nutrition and Hydration.

In Harish Rana's case, CANH was being administered through a PEG tube.

The Supreme Court treated CANH as medical treatment rather than mere basic care.

This classification was crucial because medical treatment can be withdrawn under the passive euthanasia framework. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

28. Correct Answer: (d) Common Cause 2023 completely banned passive euthanasia in India.

Explanation: Common Cause 2023 did not ban passive euthanasia. It modified the earlier procedure connected with withdrawal or withholding of medical treatment.

The Harish Rana judgment specifically referred to Common Cause 2018 and its 2023 modification. The 2026 ruling then applied that framework in Harish Rana's case.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

29. Correct Answer: (b) Justices J.B. Pardiwala and K.V. Viswanathan

Explanation: The judgment was authored by Justice J.B. Pardiwala. Justice K.V. Viswanathan delivered a concurring opinion. Together, they formed the Bench that decided the Harish Rana matter. The ruling clarified several aspects of passive euthanasia, medical treatment and palliative care. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

30. Correct Answer: (c) Kali River

Explanation: The dispute is closely linked with the origin of the Mahakali or Kali River.

Nepal claims areas east of the Mahakali River based on its interpretation of the Sugauli Treaty. India disputes Nepal's claim and maintains a different historical and geographical position. This makes the river's origin central to the boundary disagreement. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

31. Correct Answer: (a) Forests, wildlife, biodiversity and climate change

Explanation: India's Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change signed the MoU with Nepal's Ministry of Forests and Environment on 25 February 2026. It covers forests, wildlife, environment, biodiversity conservation and climate change. It also includes restoration of wildlife corridors and exchange of technical expertise. The MoU is important for questions on transboundary conservation and shared ecosystems.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

32. Correct Answer: (d) Ministry of External Affairs

Explanation: The Kailash Manasarovar Yatra is organised by the Ministry of External Affairs.

MEA conducts it in coordination with the Government of China and Indian state governments. For 2026, MEA announced the Yatra through Lipulekh Pass and Nathu La Pass. The ministry also manages online applications, selection and coordination support.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

33. Correct Answer: (b) Only I and II

Explanation: Statement I is correct because MEA announced 10 batches through each of the two official routes in 2026. Statement II is correct because Nepal referred to the 1816 Treaty of Sugauli in its claim. Statement III is incorrect because India said it remained open to constructive interaction with Nepal. India specifically referred to

resolving agreed outstanding boundary issues through dialogue and diplomacy. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

34. Correct Answer: (a) Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand

Explanation: Exercise SURYAKIRAN XIX commenced at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand on 25 November 2025. It was scheduled from 25 November to 8 December 2025. The Indian side was represented mainly by troops from the Assam Regiment. The Nepali side was represented mainly by troops from the Devi Datta Regiment. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

35. Correct Answer: (b) 1950

Explanation: The India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship was signed on 31 July 1950.

It remains one of the foundational agreements in India-Nepal relations. The treaty has recently been discussed in relation to residence, property and reciprocal rights.

It is important for questions on open-border relations and treaty-based India-Nepal ties.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

36. Correct Answer: (c) 2019

Explanation: Before the 2026 proposal, the last increase came through the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2019. That amendment raised the number from 30 to 33 judges, excluding the CJI. The 2026 proposal further increased the figure from 33 to 37.

Thus, the 2026 development came after the 2019 expansion. Hence, 2019 is the correct answer.

37. Correct Answer: (b) Consolidated Fund of India

Explanation: The Cabinet note stated that the expenditure on judges' salaries, supporting staff and facilities would be met from the Consolidated Fund of India. This is important because Supreme Court judges are constitutional functionaries, and their salaries are charged to this fund. The proposed increase in sanctioned strength would involve recurring administrative and institutional expenditure. Such expenditure cannot be treated as an emergency advance from the Contingency Fund. It is also not linked to investment management or public account transactions. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

38. Correct Answer: (c) Only I and II

Explanation: Statement I is correct because the 1956 Act fixed the maximum number of Supreme Court judges excluding the CJI. Statement II is correct because the 2019 amendment increased the number from 30 to 33 excluding the CJI. Statement III is incorrect because the 2026 proposal increases the number to 37 excluding the CJI. The figure 38 is correct only when the Chief Justice of India is included. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

39. Correct Answer: (b) Article 124

Explanation: Article 124 of the Constitution provides for the establishment and constitution of the Supreme Court of India. It originally provided for a Chief Justice of India and not more than seven other judges. The number of judges can be increased by Parliament through law.

This is why changes in the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court are linked to Article 124. Article 123 deals with the President's ordinance-making power. Article 130 relates to the seat of the Supreme Court, while Article 143 deals with advisory jurisdiction. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

40. Correct Answer: (a) Parliament

Explanation: Parliament to prescribe a larger number of Supreme Court judges by law. This is why an amendment to the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 is required. The Chief Justice of India or the Law Commission cannot directly increase the sanctioned strength. The executive may propose the change, but the legal increase must be through legislation. Hence, Parliament is the correct answer.

41. Correct Answer: (c) The President may remove a Supreme Court Judge after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a special majority.

Explanation: A Judge of the Supreme Court can be removed only in the manner provided under Article 124(4) of the Constitution. The removal must be on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity. The President can pass the removal order only after each House of Parliament presents an address supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting. This is why option (c) is correct.

Option (a) is incorrect because the Chief Justice of India alone cannot recommend the removal of a Supreme Court Judge. The constitutional process requires parliamentary approval through a special majority.
 Option (b) is incorrect because a simple majority is not enough. The Constitution requires a special majority in both Houses of Parliament.
 Option (d) is incorrect because the collegium has a role in judicial appointments and transfers, but it does not have the constitutional power to remove a Supreme Court Judge.

42. Correct Answer: (a) SAR and MSI

Explanation: Mission Drishti carries SAR and MSI sensors on a single satellite platform. SAR stands for Synthetic Aperture Radar, while MSI refers to a multispectral imager. GalaxEye states that Drishti is the first to combine MSI and SAR on one platform. This enables aligned, analysis-ready Earth imagery from a single satellite pass. The other sensor pairs are not the key OptoSAR combination. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

43. Correct Answer: (a) Optical and Synthetic Aperture Radar imaging

Explanation: Mission Drishti is described as the world's first OptoSAR satellite. OptoSAR combines optical imaging with Synthetic Aperture Radar imaging. Optical systems provide visually interpretable images, while SAR supports imaging in cloud cover and darkness. This combination makes the satellite useful for reliable Earth observation. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

44. Correct Answer: (c) Only I and II

Explanation: Statement I is correct because GalaxEye describes Mission Drishti as its first satellite mission. Statement II is correct because it combines MSI and SAR sensors on one platform. Statement III is incorrect because Mission Drishti is an Earth observation satellite, not a crewed ISS mission. It was launched aboard Falcon 9 as a satellite payload. Therefore, only statements I and II are correct. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

45. Correct Answer: (a) Private orbital satellite launch

Explanation: Vikram-1 is being developed by Skyroot Aerospace as India's first privately developed orbital rocket. It is meant to place satellites into orbit. Reuters reported that Skyroot is preparing for Vikram-1's maiden orbital launch. This mission is important because it can mark a major shift from private suborbital testing to private orbital launch capability. It is not linked with lunar sample return, docking or deep-sea communication. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

46. Correct Answer: (a) 500 kg-class satellite platform

Explanation: Dhruva Space secured support for Project Garud to develop an indigenous satellite platform. The project focuses on a production-ready platform in the 300–500 kg class. It is intended for scalable constellation deployment. This can help reduce dependence on foreign satellite platforms and strengthen domestic space supply chains. It is not a crewed moon module, ocean-floor robot or Mars flight tester. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

47. Correct Answer: (c) It depends only on visible light for Earth imaging.

Explanation: OptoSAR does not depend only on visible light. It combines optical or multispectral imaging with Synthetic Aperture Radar. The radar component helps overcome limitations caused by cloud cover and darkness. GalaxEye also highlights aligned, analysis-ready data from a single satellite platform. Thus, the claim that it depends only on visible light is incorrect. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

48. Correct Answer: (a) G42, MBZUAI and C-DAC

Explanation: A term sheet was exchanged for setting up an 8-Exaflop Supercomputing Cluster in India. The entities involved were G42 Group, Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence and C-DAC. This outcome is important for questions on artificial intelligence and high-performance computing. It also shows the technology dimension of the India-UAE partnership. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

49. Correct Answer: (a) Strategic Collaboration Agreement on petroleum reserves

Explanation: During the UAE visit, a Strategic Collaboration Agreement was exchanged between Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited and ADNOC. This agreement was linked with strategic petroleum reserves. It is important for India's energy-security strategy because the UAE is a major energy partner. The agreement was one of several India-UAE outcomes announced in Abu Dhabi. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

50. Correct Answer: (a) Oslo

Explanation: The 3rd India-Nordic Summit was held in Oslo on 19 May 2026. It was hosted by the Prime Minister of Norway. Prime Minister Modi attended the summit with leaders of the five Nordic countries. The summit built on earlier India-Nordic summits held in Stockholm and Copenhagen. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

51. Correct Answer: (a) Leaders of Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland and Sweden joined PM Modi.

Explanation: The India-Nordic Summit involved Prime Minister Modi and leaders of the five Nordic countries. These countries were Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland and Sweden. The joint statement listed the leaders participating in the Oslo summit. This makes the composition of the Nordic grouping important for GK questions.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

52. Correct Answer: (a) Cochin Shipyard Limited

Explanation: A Memorandum of Understanding was exchanged between Cochin Shipyard Limited and Drydocks World. The MoU was related to setting up a Ship Repair Cluster at Vadinar. Another MoU involved Cochin Shipyard, Drydocks World and CEMS for skill development in ship repair. This shows that the initiative covered both infrastructure creation and maritime skill development. The other listed companies were not linked with this specific Vadinar ship repair initiative. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

Section D: Legal Reasoning

53. Correct Answer: (d) The clinic may claim liability if wrongful conduct caused protected legal harm.

Reference Line: "It arises when a wrongful act or omission causes injury, loss, or damage to another person's legally protected interest."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that tort liability requires physical damage to an object. The reference line covers injury, loss, or damage to legally protected interests, which may include interference with business premises, professional functioning, or peaceful enjoyment of property. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Advertising activity is not automatically immune from civil liability. If promotional conduct becomes wrongful and causes legally recognised injury or loss to another, it may attract tortious consequences. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Individual written statements from every patient are not the legal requirement stated in the principle. Evidence may be needed, but the core issue is whether the wrongful act caused injury, loss, or damage to a legally protected interest. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line. If the gym's loudspeaker use wrongfully interfered with the clinic's functioning and caused loss, the clinic may rely on injury to a legally protected interest even without physical entry or breakage. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

54. Correct Answer: (c) The farmer may seek damages and also injunction to prevent further harm.

Reference Line: "The primary remedy in tort law is compensation in the form of monetary damages, though courts may also grant injunctions to prevent further harm."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly excludes compensation. The reference line states that the primary remedy in tort law is monetary damages, so the farmer may seek compensation for the crop loss already suffered. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats damages as the only possible remedy. The reference line expressly recognises that courts may also grant injunctions to prevent further harm where continuing wrongful conduct threatens future injury. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line. The farmer has already suffered crop damage, supporting monetary compensation, and the continuing discharge threatens future loss, supporting an injunction to prevent further harm. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: An admission of intentional pollution is not necessary for every tort remedy. Liability may arise from wrongful conduct causing damage, and remedies may be shaped by the harm already caused and the risk of continuing injury. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

55. Correct Answer: (b) The decorator may be liable because a civil wrong causing injury creates liability.

Reference Line: "A tort is a civil wrong committed by one person against another, which results in legal liability."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly makes contractual relationship necessary for liability. Tort law deals with civil wrongs independent of agreement, and the passer-by's lack of written contract with the decorator does not by itself defeat a claim for injury caused by unsafe conduct. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line because the decorator's unsafe installation may constitute a civil wrong against the passer-by, resulting in legal liability. The injury occurred due to the allegedly careless arrangement of metal arches, not because of breach of a private contract. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option wrongly suggests that only criminal wrongs produce legal consequences. Tort law is specifically concerned with civil wrongs that result in liability, even where the conduct may not be prosecuted criminally. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Payment of entry charges is not necessary for tortious liability. The issue is whether a civil wrong caused injury to another person, not whether the injured person had paid to enter the function. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

56. Correct Answer: (d) The company may be liable for an employee's wrongful act during employment.

Reference Line: "Tort law also recognises vicarious liability, where an employer may be liable for the wrongful acts of an employee done in the course of employment, as held in Pushpabai Purshottam Udeshi v. Ranjit Ginning and Pressing Co."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly denies employer responsibility altogether. The reference line expressly recognises vicarious liability, where an employer may be liable for wrongful acts of an employee done in the course of employment. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Physical control of the vehicle by the driver does not automatically protect the employer. The key issue is whether the driver was acting in the course of employment when the wrongful act occurred. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: The company need not have specifically ordered the traffic violation for vicarious liability to arise. If the negligent act occurred while the driver was performing assigned delivery duties, employer liability may still be considered. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line because the driver was delivering medicines using the company van during working hours on an assigned route. The wrongful act occurred in the course of employment, making employer liability arguable. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

57. Correct Answer: (b) The parent may succeed if duty, breach, causation and damage are shown.

Reference Line: "The essential elements of tortious liability include duty of care, breach of duty, damage or injury, and causation."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly says injury is never relevant. Injury is one essential element, though not sufficient by itself; the claimant must connect it with duty, breach and causation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line. The school may have owed a duty to visitors, breached it by ignoring a known broken railing, and caused injury when the parent fell. If these elements are proved together, liability may arise. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Visitors do not automatically assume all risks merely by entering school premises. The school may still owe a duty to maintain reasonably safe conditions, especially after staff complaints about a known hazard. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Intent to cause the fall is not required for every tort claim. Negligence-based liability may arise from breach of duty causing damage, even without deliberate intention to injure. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

58. Correct Answer: (a) The pedestrian may succeed because liability may arise from a legal duty.

Reference Line: "Tortious liability is different from contractual liability because it does not arise from an agreement between parties, but from a duty imposed by law."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly applies the reference line because the pedestrian's claim does not depend on a contract with the contractor. Leaving an open trench without warnings may breach a legal duty owed to persons using the public footpath, creating tortious liability. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats contractual duty as the only source of civil responsibility. Tortious liability is distinct precisely because it may arise from duties imposed by law, even between strangers. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: The pedestrian's status as a non-contracting party does not defeat a tort claim. Members of the public using a footpath may still be owed legal duties of care by those creating hazards on it. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: The municipality's admission of contractual breach is not necessary for the pedestrian's tort claim. The relevant question is whether the contractor breached a legal duty causing injury, not whether the municipality first accepts breach of its own contract. Hence, Option (d) is not 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: "Strict liability applies where dangerous things escape and cause harm, while absolute liability under Indian law imposes liability on hazardous enterprises without allowing exceptions."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: Assertion (A) is true because absolute liability is stricter than strict liability, particularly in relation to hazardous enterprises under Indian law. Reason (R) is also true because the reference line states that strict liability depends on escape of dangerous things causing harm, whereas absolute liability imposes liability without allowing exceptions. This distinction directly explains why absolute liability is more stringent. 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 link between them. The reason clearly explains the assertion by showing that absolute liability is stricter because it does not permit exceptions, unlike strict liability which is tied to escape of dangerous things. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is not false. The reason accurately reproduces the contrast given in the reference line between strict liability and absolute liability. Therefore, this option incorrectly rejects a true and relevant reason. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Assertion (A) is not false because absolute liability is indeed stricter in the context of hazardous enterprises, as it allows no exceptions. Reason (R) is true, but since the assertion is also true, this option cannot be accepted. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

60. Correct Answer: (a) Karan continues to receive juvenile protection during inquiry for the earlier offence.

Reference Line: "Children who turn eighteen during inquiry, and adults arrested for offences committed while they were below eighteen, continue to receive juvenile protection during the inquiry."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly follows the reference line because Karan is an adult arrested for an offence allegedly committed while he was below eighteen. His present age does not defeat juvenile protection during the inquiry. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats age on arrest as the controlling factor. The reference line protects adults arrested for offences committed while they were below eighteen, showing that the relevant protection continues despite later arrest. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Delay in investigation cannot convert a child-at-the-time-of-offence into an ordinary adult accused for the purpose of inquiry. The juvenile protection is preserved to prevent delay from defeating statutory safeguards. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Juvenile protection does not depend on prosecution consent. If the legal condition is satisfied, the accused continues to receive protection during inquiry because of the statutory framework, not prosecutorial discretion. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

61. Correct Answer: (d) Preliminary assessment is required before deciding further course in the case.

Reference Line: "Under Section 15, where a child between sixteen and eighteen years is alleged to have committed a heinous offence, the Board conducts a preliminary assessment of the child's mental and physical capacity, understanding of consequences and circumstances of the offence, within three months."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats age above sixteen as automatically sufficient for adult-style trial. The reference line requires a preliminary assessment where a child between sixteen and eighteen is alleged to have committed a heinous offence. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: A heinous allegation triggers the preliminary assessment process; it does not eliminate it. The Board must examine capacity, understanding of consequences, and circumstances of the offence before deciding the next legal step. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Police opinion cannot replace the statutory function of the Board. The reference line specifically assigns the preliminary assessment to the Board, not to the investigating agency. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line because the child is between sixteen and eighteen and is alleged to have committed a heinous offence. The Board must conduct the required preliminary assessment within the stated framework before deciding the matter further. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

62. Correct Answer: (c) Juvenile forum jurisdiction applies because it is exclusive for such children.

Reference Line: "The Juvenile Justice Board has exclusive jurisdiction over children in conflict with law."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: The presence of adult co-accused does not remove the specialised jurisdiction over the child. The reference line states that the Juvenile Justice Board has exclusive jurisdiction over children in conflict with law. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Group assault may be serious, but seriousness alone does not permit an ordinary criminal court to ignore juvenile jurisdiction. The child's status requires treatment under the juvenile justice framework. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line. Since the accused is 14 years old and is alleged to have committed an offence, he is a child in conflict with law and must be dealt with by the Juvenile Justice Board's exclusive jurisdiction. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Juvenile jurisdiction does not depend on every accused being below eighteen. A child accused along with adults still retains juvenile protection, while adult accused may be dealt with separately under the ordinary criminal process. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

63. Correct Answer: (a) The Board is defective because it lacks two social workers, including one woman.

Reference Line: "The Board consists of a Principal Magistrate and two social workers, one of whom must be a woman."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly follows the reference line because the Board must consist of a Principal Magistrate and two social workers, one of whom must be a woman. Retired police officers cannot automatically substitute the statutory requirement of social workers with the prescribed composition. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Police experience may be relevant in some administrative contexts, but the reference line specifically requires two social workers. The State cannot replace the statutory composition merely by appointing persons with policing experience. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: A Principal Magistrate alone cannot constitute the Board under the quoted requirement. The legal design deliberately combines judicial authority with social welfare expertise, so the absence of social workers is a serious defect. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: The Magistrate's experience may be separately relevant, but the defect here is not limited to the Magistrate's qualification. The absence of two social workers, including one woman, directly violates the stated composition requirement. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

64. Correct Answer: (d) Rehabilitation and reform should remain central despite the seriousness of concern.

Reference Line: "It was introduced after serious national debate on juvenile crimes, especially after the Nirbhaya case, but its central focus remains rehabilitation, reform and the best interest of the child."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly makes public anger the controlling factor. The reference line recognises that the Act emerged after serious debate on juvenile crimes, but still maintains rehabilitation, reform, and the child's best interest as the central focus. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Property damage may justify legal intervention, but it does not automatically defeat rehabilitation. The juvenile framework is designed to respond to wrongdoing while still prioritising reformative and child-centred outcomes. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Deterrence may be a concern in criminal justice generally, but the reference line makes clear that juvenile justice is not controlled by punishment alone. Reform and best interest remain essential considerations. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly uses the reference line's emphasis on rehabilitation, reform and the best interest of the child. Even where misconduct causes public concern, the juvenile system must retain its child-centred and reformative character. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

65. Correct Answer: (b) The State must consider child protection and welfare while dealing with him.

Reference Line: "The Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 is based on the constitutional responsibility of the State to protect children and ensure their welfare."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats the child only as an offender and ignores the welfare-based foundation of the Juvenile Justice Act. The reference line clearly states that the Act is based on the State's constitutional responsibility to protect children and ensure their welfare. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly reflects the reference line because the case involves a child who may be both accused of an offence and exposed to labour or exploitation. The State must therefore approach the matter through protection, welfare, and juvenile justice safeguards rather than ordinary punitive treatment alone. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Work experience or street exposure does not make a child legally equivalent to an adult. The juvenile framework exists because children require protection and welfare-oriented treatment despite allegations of wrongdoing. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Repeated petty theft allegations do not erase the State's responsibility to protect children. Welfare concerns remain central, particularly where the child's circumstances suggest exploitation, neglect, or lack of care. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

66. Correct Answer: (b) Kabir can recover because his act was done at Meera's desire.

Reference Line: "For consideration to be valid, it must move at the desire of the promisor."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats friendship as automatically excluding legal consideration. If the act was performed because Meera requested it and promised payment, the surrounding relationship does not by itself destroy the legal value of Kabir's performance. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: Kabir acted after Meera specifically asked him to arrange the equipment and promised payment for that arrangement. His effort, advance payment, and securing of the equipment were not voluntary acts done independently; they were done because Meera desired them. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Consideration need not always be money paid directly to the promisor. It may consist of an act, service, abstinence, or promise that has legal value. Kabir's arrangement of the equipment can amount to consideration. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Kabir's right does not depend on the supplier making a personal demand against Meera. The relevant exchange is between Meera's promise and Kabir's requested act of arranging the equipment. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

67. Correct Answer: (c) Tara succeeds because voluntary work does not become valid consideration.

Reference Line: "An act done voluntarily or without the promisor's request does not amount to valid consideration."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that any useful work automatically becomes consideration. The legal issue is not merely whether Tara benefited, but whether Raghav acted at Tara's request or under some recognised obligation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Benefit alone does not necessarily create valid consideration for a promise to pay. Since Raghav acted without Tara's request or authority, his voluntary repair cannot be converted into consideration merely because the wall improved. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly applies the principle that voluntary acts done without the promisor's request do not constitute valid consideration. Tara did not ask Raghav to repair the wall and had her own plan for replacement. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Tara's defence does not depend on whether the wall later collapses. The defect lies at the formation stage because Raghav acted voluntarily without request, making his act insufficient as consideration. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

68. Correct Answer: (a) Anya can rely on consideration furnished by her brother for the promise.

Reference Line: "Consideration may be furnished by the promisee or by any other person, as recognised in Chinnaya v. Ramaya."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: The aunt's request was followed by payment of her medical bills by Anya's brother. The principle permits consideration to come from the promisee or from any other person, so Anya's claim does not fail merely because she personally did not pay. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option incorrectly limits consideration only to the promisee. The reference line recognises that consideration may be furnished by another person, which directly answers the aunt's objection. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Hospital payment is not irrelevant merely because the promise concerns transfer of a shop. The payment discharged the aunt's liability and had legal value, provided it was connected with the promise. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: The brother seeking a refund from the hospital is not the relevant test. The issue is whether valid consideration supported the aunt's promise, and that may be satisfied by a third person's act. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

69. Correct Answer: (c) Teacher succeeds because consideration need not be adequate if it has value.

Reference Line: "Consideration need not be adequate, but it must have some value in the eyes of law."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly suggests that courts require exact equality between the value exchanged by both parties. The law does not ordinarily examine whether the bargain was commercially equal, so long as consideration has legal value and consent is not vitiated. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: A low price may sometimes be relevant while examining fraud, coercion, misrepresentation, or lack of free consent, but inadequacy by itself does not automatically prove defective consent. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option directly reflects the principle that consideration need not be adequate, though it must have some legal value. The ₹5,000 price is consideration, and no independent vitiating factor is proved. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: The teacher's defence does not depend on the painting later being valued below ₹5,000. The question is whether some lawful value existed at the time of the bargain, not whether the price perfectly matched later valuation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

70. Correct Answer: (d) Producer succeeds because the promised reward was uncertain and illusory.

Reference Line: "Consideration must also be real, genuine and not illusory."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that every promotional act automatically creates an enforceable obligation. The alleged exchange must still be supported by real and legally ascertainable consideration, not an uncertain expression of future generosity. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Vague praise or an undefined "suitable reward" does not necessarily create a measurable legal obligation. Without any objective standard, amount, or timing, the promise may remain too uncertain to be treated as genuine consideration. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Uncertainty can affect whether consideration is real and genuine. If the supposed promise is only illusory or incapable of meaningful enforcement, it cannot safely support a binding agreement. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option directly applies the requirement that consideration must be real, genuine and not illusory. The producer's words lacked a definite amount, standard, or enforceable method of assessment, making the promise legally weak. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

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

Reference Line: "Further, consideration must be lawful. Under Section 24, if the consideration or object is unlawful, opposed to public policy, immoral or prohibited by law, the agreement becomes void."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Assertion (A) is true because the reference line clearly states that an agreement becomes void if its consideration or object is unlawful, immoral, opposed to public policy, or prohibited by law. However, Reason (R) is false because free consent and exchange of value cannot validate an agreement whose consideration or object is legally unlawful. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true. The assertion accurately reflects Section 24, but the reason contradicts it by suggesting that consent and value can save an agreement despite unlawful consideration or object. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: Assertion (A) is correct because unlawfulness of consideration or object makes the agreement void. Reason (R) is false because legality is an independent requirement; even genuine consent and valuable exchange cannot make an unlawful or immoral agreement enforceable. 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 an agreement cannot be enforced merely on the basis of consent and value when its consideration or object is prohibited by law or public policy. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

72. Correct Answer: (a) Younger brother may succeed because written affection-based promises between close relatives can be valid.

Explanation: The passage states that agreements without consideration are generally void, but recognised exceptions exist. One such exception applies to promises made in writing out of natural love and affection between close relatives. Since the two brothers are close relatives, and the document was written and signed after a family reconciliation, the younger brother may rely on this exception as per the passage. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

73. Correct Answer: (d) The department may own it if the circumstances bring the work within an exception.

Reference Line: "As a general rule, the author is the first owner of copyright, but ownership may vest in an employer, commissioning party, or government depending on the nature and circumstances of creation."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option treats creative direction as the only factor for ownership. While the filmmaker may have contributed creative skill, the legal position may change where the work was created for a government department or under commissioning circumstances. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Government or commissioning-party ownership does not require every official to personally create scenes. Ownership may arise from the legal and factual setting in which the work was made, not from direct creative participation by each official. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Institutional funding alone may not always decide ownership, but it is wrong to say it never matters. Here, the department supplied the project structure, budget, official material, and purpose, making the circumstances legally relevant. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option correctly reflects that the author is generally the first owner, but recognised exceptions may shift ownership depending on employment, commissioning, or government-related circumstances. The department's claim must therefore be assessed through those circumstances. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

74. Correct Answer: (b) The company may own them because ownership may differ from authorship in employment.

Reference Line: "Ownership is distinct from authorship. While the author is generally the creator of the work, the copyright owner may be different in cases such as works created under employment, commissioned works, or government works."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that personal creativity always decides ownership. Naina may be the author in the sense that she created the diagrams, but copyright ownership can depend on the circumstances of creation, including employment arrangements and assigned work. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option correctly captures the distinction between the person who creates the work and the person legally entitled to exercise copyright rights over it. Since the diagrams were created during employment, under company instructions, and for company publications, ownership may vest differently from authorship. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option ignores the legal distinction between authorship and ownership. The actual creator is generally important, but the owner may be someone else in recognised situations such as employment, commissioned work, or government-created work. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Ownership does not depend on removing the creator's name from the books. Attribution concerns may relate to moral rights, but economic ownership is determined by the legal circumstances of creation and assignment. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

75. Correct Answer: (a) The owner can control commercial use of the work through economic rights.

Reference Line: "Section 14 of the Copyright Act, 1957 recognises economic rights and allows the owner to control how the work is used in the market."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option correctly applies the owner's economic control over market exploitation. Buying a physical copy of a play does not automatically permit commercial copying, paid performance, recording, uploading, or distribution of additional copies. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly equates purchase of one copy with transfer of copyright. Ownership of a physical copy and ownership of copyright are different; the group may own the book, but not the economic rights in the work. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Sale of one physical copy does not destroy the copyright owner's control over market uses of the work. The owner may still control reproduction, public communication, performance, adaptation, translation, assignment, and licensing. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Increasing popularity does not by itself authorise commercial exploitation. Copyright law protects the owner's market rights even where unauthorised use incidentally promotes the work. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

76. Correct Answer: (c) The publisher may object because unauthorised duplication affects reproduction rights.

Reference Line: "The right of reproduction is the most fundamental right, as it prevents unauthorised copying, printing, photocopying, recording, electronic storage, or digital duplication of the work."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly assumes that infringement requires alteration of the work. Reproduction rights may be affected by unauthorised copying or duplication even when the copied text remains unchanged. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Buying one lawful copy does not permit unlimited reproduction for students. The institute may possess one authorised copy, but making multiple digital and printed copies without permission interferes with the owner's reproduction right. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option accurately applies the reproduction right. Uploading the file to a shared drive, emailing copies, and printing multiple classroom versions are acts of copying, electronic storage, and digital duplication without permission. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: The owner need not prove sale outside the campus to object to unauthorised reproduction. Internal classroom distribution may still involve copying or duplication beyond the licensed use. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

77. Correct Answer: (b) The poet may object because moral rights can remain with the author.

Reference Line: "Moral rights are recognised under Section 57 and generally remain with the author even after economic rights are assigned."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats assignment of economic rights as ending every authorial protection. Moral rights protect the author's personal and reputational connection with the work and may remain even after commercial rights are assigned. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly applies the principle that moral rights generally remain with the author after assignment of economic rights. The poet's objection concerns reputational harm and false attribution through damaging alterations, not merely lost commercial revenue. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Reputation is not irrelevant in copyright law. Moral rights specifically protect the author's honour, attribution, and integrity of the work, especially where distortion or modification harms reputation. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: The poet need not first buy back economic rights to assert moral rights. The passage recognises that moral rights may continue with the author despite assignment of economic rights. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

78. Correct Answer: (d) Professor may rely on fair dealing because limited educational criticism is permitted.

Reference Line: “However, these rights are not absolute, as fair dealing permits use for private study, research, criticism, review, reporting of current events, and education.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats copyright as absolute in every classroom setting. The reference line recognises that rights are not absolute and that fair dealing may permit certain limited uses for education, criticism, research, and related purposes. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option directly contradicts the recognised fair dealing purposes. Criticism and education may justify limited use if the facts support fairness, attribution, and non-excessive copying. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Requiring every student to buy the entire book is not the stated test for fair dealing. The issue is whether the specific use is limited and falls within permitted purposes such as education or criticism. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately applies the limitation on copyright rights. The professor used short attributed extracts for teaching and critical discussion in a closed educational setting, which may fall within fair dealing depending on the facts. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

79. Correct Answer: (a) The children may seek information and contest a will affected by pressure.

Reference Line: “Legal heirs have the right to inherit property, receive their lawful share, contest a will affected by fraud or coercion, and access estate-related information.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly reflects the recognised rights of legal heirs. The children are not automatically silenced merely because a will is produced; they may access estate-related information and contest the will if fraud, coercion, or similar defects are alleged. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats any document labelled as a will as conclusive. Legal heirs may challenge a will where its validity is doubtful because of pressure, fraud, coercion, or other legally relevant defects. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: The neighbour cannot deny all estate information merely by producing a disputed will. Legal heirs have recognised rights to access estate-related information and protect their lawful share where the document is challenged. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: The children need not wait for the neighbour to admit falsity or coercion. A challenge can be raised through legal proceedings and evidence where circumstances suggest that the will may be affected by improper conduct. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

80. Correct Answer: (d) Remote heir categories must be considered before escheat.

Reference Line: “If no Class I or Class II heirs exist, agnates inherit first, followed by cognates, and finally the property goes to the Government by escheat.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly allows immediate Government takeover merely because close family members are absent. The statutory order continues beyond immediate heirs, and remote categories must be examined before escheat. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Remote relatives may have succession relevance where closer categories are absent. The Government does not take the property until the recognised categories of agnates and cognates are exhausted. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: This option reverses the stated order. The rule provides that agnates inherit first, followed by cognates, before the estate finally goes to the Government by escheat. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately applies the succession order. Since Nandan has no immediate or next-category heirs, the claims of agnates and cognates must be examined before the Government can claim by escheat. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

81. Correct Answer: (c) The father and sister inherit before wider remote relatives.

Reference Line: "If there are no Class I heirs, the property passes to Class II heirs such as father, siblings, grandparents, uncles and aunts."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: Continuing the family surname does not create priority over legally recognised heirs. Succession is determined by the statutory order, not by symbolic family continuity or surname-based claims. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Ritual assistance may show social involvement, but it does not override the recognised succession order. A distant cousin cannot claim priority merely because he helped with ceremonies or family observances. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Correct: This option applies the principle that where the first category of heirs is absent, the property passes to the next category, including father and siblings. Since Suresh's father and sister are alive, the distant cousin cannot take ahead of them. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: The absence of a widow does not send the property directly to the Government. The estate passes through successive heir categories before escheat becomes relevant. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

82. Correct Answer: (a) Widow, son, daughter, and mother inherit first and equally.

Reference Line: "In the case of a Hindu male dying intestate, Class I heirs such as widow, sons, daughters, mother, and children of predeceased sons or daughters inherit first and equally."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Correct: This option directly applies the rule that the widow, sons, daughters, and mother inherit first and equally when a Hindu male dies intestate. Mahesh's brother cannot displace these heirs merely by claiming senior male status in the wider family. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: This option wrongly gives the brother priority over closer heirs. The stated rule gives first priority to the widow, sons, daughters, and mother, and does not prefer male relatives over daughters in this situation. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: All blood relatives do not inherit simultaneously. Succession follows a structured order, and wider relatives like siblings come later when the first category of heirs is absent. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: This option wrongly excludes the daughter and mother. The rule expressly includes daughters and the mother in the first category along with widow and sons. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

83. Correct Answer: (d) The estate must be distributed by statutory rules because no valid will exists.

Reference Line: "Legal heirship becomes especially important when a person dies intestate, meaning without leaving a valid will. In such cases, the property is distributed strictly according to statutory rules of succession, and the deceased has no control over distribution after death."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly gives controlling effect to informal oral appreciation. Casual statements of gratitude do not by themselves amount to a valid will or legal transfer of inheritance rights after death. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Incorrect: Even if relatives confirm that Leela expressed affection for the nephew, that does not automatically convert the statements into a valid testamentary arrangement. Succession must be governed by law when no valid will exists. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Intestacy does not mean no one has legal entitlement. It means the deceased left no valid will, so legally recognised heirs receive the property according to the statutory succession scheme. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Correct: This option accurately applies the principle of intestacy. Since Leela died without a valid will, her property must be distributed according to statutory rules rather than unexecuted personal preferences. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

84. Correct Answer: (b) The statutory heirs inherit because entitlement depends on applicable succession law.

Reference Line: "A legal heir is a person who is lawfully entitled to inherit the movable and immovable property of a deceased person under the applicable succession law."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

Option (a) Incorrect: This option wrongly treats affection as a substitute for legal entitlement. A friend may have been emotionally close to the deceased, but heirship is not created merely by trust, affection, or casual statements unless recognised by law or a valid testamentary instrument. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) Correct: This option directly reflects the governing rule that a legal heir is someone lawfully entitled under the applicable succession law. Since Arjun left property and the claim is about inheritance, the widow, daughter, and mother must be assessed according to the relevant succession framework rather than informal personal messages. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) Incorrect: Trust during lifetime may explain a personal relationship, but it does not itself create heirship. Unless Sameer can rely on a valid will or a recognised legal category, emotional closeness cannot defeat lawful succession rights. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) Incorrect: Movable property such as bank deposits or jewellery is also subject to succession law. The mere fact that property is movable does not allow informal friendship preference to override lawful heirs. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Section D: Logical Reasoning

85. Correct Answer: (c) Wealth matters because it enlarges the range of purposes people may pursue.
 Reference Line: "What in ordinary language is misleadingly called the 'economic motive' means merely the desire for general opportunity, the desire for power to achieve unspecified ends."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option wrongly treats wealth as something that necessarily damages higher pursuits. The author does not argue that wealth corrupts citizens or distracts them from moral and intellectual life. Instead, he suggests that economic resources often enable people to pursue many kinds of ends. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option incorrectly makes wealth the principal standard of social progress. The author's point is not that wealth is the highest measure of advancement, but that wealth provides practical opportunity. He rejects the idea that economic activity is an ultimate end in itself. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option correctly captures the author's implied view of wealth. The passage presents wealth as a means through which people acquire general opportunity and power to pursue unspecified ends. The emphasis is on the enabling role of economic resources in human life. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option introduces an idea about public distribution that is not central to the passage. The author is not discussing whether wealth becomes valuable only when distributed by institutions. His focus is on the connection between economic power and human freedom. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

86. Correct Answer: (d) Central direction requires final authority insulated from ordinary democratic checks.
 Reference Line: "Ultimate responsibility and power must rest in the hands of a commander-in-chief whose actions must not be fettered by democratic procedure."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option concerns the motives of people who support planning. Even if democratic debate could supervise major planned decisions, supporters of planning may still be guided by moral or social ideals. The hypothetical situation does not negate the author's concession that planning can attract noble minds. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option concerns the author's broader view of human motivation. The fact that democratic debate may supervise planning does not affect the claim that people use material resources to pursue wider goals. The institutional feasibility of planning and the purpose of wealth are separate issues in the passage. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option relates to the way economic matters are perceived. A society may still mistakenly regard economic questions as less important than moral or intellectual matters even if democratic debate supervises planning. The hypothetical does not make this perception impossible. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is the correct answer because it is inconsistent with the given hypothetical. The passage claims that planned economic control requires final authority that is not restrained by democratic procedure. If democratic debate could effectively supervise every major planned decision, the alleged need for such insulated authority would fail. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

87. Correct Answer: (b) It acknowledges the moral appeal of planning before challenging its consequences.
 Reference Line: "The arguments used appeal to our best instincts and often attract the finest minds."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option misidentifies the function of the statement. The author does not provide numerical, historical, or statistical evidence about economic coordination in this line. The statement concerns the emotional and moral attractiveness of the case for planning. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option correctly explains the role of the statement. The author first admits that arguments for planning may arise from noble instincts and intelligent reflection. This concession makes the later criticism more careful, because the author attacks the consequences of planning rather than merely insulting its supporters. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option incorrectly treats noble intention as a guarantee of liberty. The author's position is almost the opposite, since he suggests that even attractive and idealistic arguments may lead to dangerous institutional results. Good intentions are acknowledged, but not accepted as sufficient protection against loss of freedom. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option contradicts the language of the passage. The author says that planning often attracts the finest minds, which means he is not portraying its supporters as emotionally immature. His criticism is aimed at the assumptions behind their argument, not at their intelligence or sincerity. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

88. Correct Answer: (c) Economic boards made plans, but elected bodies could revise them freely.

Reference Line: "Political democracy can remain if it confines itself to all but economic matters."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option shows disagreement among technical experts, but it does not protect democratic authority over economic matters. Expert disagreement may make planning harder, yet it does not show that political institutions retain meaningful control. The author's objection concerns the separation of economic power from political accountability. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option points to a problem within market-based societies. It may suggest that private wealth can affect politics, but it does not weaken the author's criticism of planned economic control being removed from democratic supervision. It shifts attention from public planning to private influence. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is the correct answer because it challenges the author's concern about separating economic and political authority. If elected bodies could freely revise economic plans, then economic boards would not possess independent controlling power. This would make it more plausible that political democracy could remain meaningful despite economic planning. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option deals with public attitudes toward taxation and welfare. Citizens may dislike taxation while still supporting welfare, but that does not address whether economic plans are subject to democratic revision. The author's argument is about institutional control, not ordinary disagreement about public finance. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

89. Correct Answer: (d) They treat economic control as limited to lesser matters, leaving higher freedoms intact.

Reference Line: "On this ground people who abhor the idea of a political dictatorship often clamor for a dictator in the economic field."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option offers a temporary emergency-based explanation, but the passage is not about brief disruptions. The author discusses a planned society and the broader acceptance of economic dictatorship as a governing arrangement. Since the option narrows the issue to short periods of disruption, it does not explain the paradox in the passage. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option introduces a conflict between condemning private wealth and wanting national production. The paradox in the passage is not about attitudes toward wealth or output, but about rejecting dictatorship in politics while accepting it in economics. The proposed explanation therefore does not bridge the relevant contradiction. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option focuses on voting only when citizens agree on economic priorities. The passage does not suggest that people condition democratic participation on consensus. The paradox arises because people oppose one form of dictatorship while accepting another form that the author considers equally dangerous. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option correctly resolves the paradox. People can reject political dictatorship while supporting economic dictatorship if they believe economic control concerns only secondary matters. That belief allows them to think that higher freedoms will remain safe even after economic freedom is surrendered. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

90. Correct Answer: (b) People may value equal material security as an independent social objective.

Reference Line: "There is no such thing. The ultimate ends of the activities of reasonable beings are never economic."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option concerns political strategy rather than the nature of economic ends. Leaders may use economic promises to win support, but that does not show whether economic conditions can be ultimate human objectives. The author's claim is philosophical, not merely electoral. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is the correct answer because it challenges the author's claim that ultimate ends are never economic. If people value equal material security as an independent social objective, then an economic condition may itself be treated as an ultimate aim. This would weaken the author's sharp separation between economic means and final human purposes. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is too limited because the author has already accounted for the miser as an exceptional case. A person who accumulates money without any larger purpose does not significantly disturb the author's claim about reasonable beings generally. The passage treats such behaviour as abnormal rather than representative. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option shows that basic needs may become urgent under scarcity. However, prioritising food, shelter, and safety still may serve broader aims such as survival, dignity, health, or security. It does not prove that economic ends are final rather than instruments for sustaining human life. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

91. Correct Answer: (c) Coordinated positions among participating bodies carry weight in the committee process. Reference Line: "The ABL and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) are the umbrella organisations of various civil society bodies in the Leh and Kargil regions, respectively. They are also part of the High-Powered Committee (HPC)...."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option wrongly treats the resignation dispute as if it determines the entire committee agenda. The passage indicates that the committee is examining wider demands raised by representatives, not merely one internal organisational matter. A resignation-related disagreement may affect unity, but it is not presented as the central subject of the committee's work. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option assumes that civil society proposals are automatically accepted by the administration. The passage instead presents the situation as one involving talk, demands, and negotiations, where acceptance is uncertain. The author's reasoning concerns bargaining strength, not guaranteed approval of proposals. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option supplies the necessary link in the reasoning. If coordinated positions among participating bodies have no importance in the committee process, then internal divisions would not meaningfully affect the talks. The concern about organisational cracks matters only because collective representation is assumed to have practical value. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option introduces a condition that the argument does not require. The ABL and KDA may participate in the same committee process even if their internal procedures differ. The reasoning depends on the value of coordination in representation, not identical organisational structures. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

92. Correct Answer: (b) Similar arrangements in remote regions reduced local hiring and shifted tariff control away locally.

Reference Line: "They have held that if the proposal to form a joint venture between the LPDD (49% share) and the Rural Electrification Corporation (51% share), is implemented, it will 'worsen' the unemployment problem in the Union Territory, lead to increase in power tariff, and 'compromise national and strategic security interests'"

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option focuses on technical efficiency rather than the concerns raised in the passage. Improved metering may reduce technical losses, but it does not address employment, tariffs, or control over the sector. It may even suggest an administrative benefit from reform, which does not strengthen the objection. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option gives comparative support to the concern expressed in the passage. If similar arrangements in remote regions have reduced local hiring and weakened local tariff control, then the fears about unemployment and tariff increases become more credible. It strengthens the reasoning by showing that the feared consequences are not merely speculative. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option deals mainly with official terminology. Whether the proposal is called restructuring or something else does not establish that it will avoid harmful consequences. The concern in the passage is about likely effects on employment, tariffs, and local interests, not merely the label attached to the arrangement. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option describes the experience of the proposed partner in rural electrification. Prior involvement in difficult terrain may suggest operational capacity, but it does not support the claim that the arrangement will harm local interests. It leaves the core concerns of unemployment, tariffs, and strategic implications unresolved. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

93. Correct Answer: (d) The organisation had already taken a final decision when the resignation was first submitted. Reference Line: "His resignation was earlier neither accepted nor rejected by the ABL leadership, which finally decided to accept it early this month."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

- (a) This option is consistent with the passage because the resignation was not accepted or rejected earlier. It remained pending until the leadership finally accepted it at a later stage. Since the passage supports the idea of an unresolved interim period, this statement cannot be necessarily false. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) This option accurately reflects the sequence described in the passage. The leadership eventually accepted the resignation, which means the earlier pending status was changed. A statement supported by the passage cannot be chosen as the one that must be false. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) This option follows from the passage's account of the delay. Since the resignation was earlier neither accepted nor rejected, the later formal acceptance came after a period without a final decision. This makes the statement compatible with the information given. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) This option contradicts the passage's timeline. The passage clearly states that the resignation was earlier neither accepted nor rejected, meaning no final decision had been taken at the time it was first submitted. Therefore, the claim that a final decision had already been taken must be false. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

94. Correct Answer: (c) A dispute over organisational scope became linked to confidence in a member's institutional role.

Reference Line: "He was saying that LPDD is not our issue and we should not raise it but all others thought its important to safeguard the interests of Ladakh."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

- (a) This option incorrectly turns civil society opposition into a binding legal result. The passage says that the issue was opposed and that concerns were raised, but it does not say the proposal became legally invalid. Political disagreement and legal cancellation are different matters. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) This option reverses the implication of the passage. The LPDD issue did not cease to matter once separated from broader constitutional demands. Rather, other members considered it important for safeguarding Ladakh's interests, which made it a serious point of disagreement. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) This option best captures the implied outcome of the disagreement. The dispute began with whether LPDD fell within the organisation's concerns, but it developed into a question of whether a member's stance aligned with the body's perceived role. Thus, a debate about organisational scope affected confidence in institutional participation. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.
- (d) This option adds an outcome not found in the passage. The passage mentions an upcoming committee meeting and internal differences, but it does not state that the meeting was cancelled. A disagreement may affect the atmosphere of talks without necessarily stopping the scheduled process. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

95. Correct Answer: (d) It assumes that a person's role in establishing an institution prevents later action by that institution.

Reference Line: "Chhewang has questioned his removal from the ABL, asking how he could be ousted when he was the founding chairman of the body."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

- (a) This option focuses on the delay in processing the resignation, but that is not the reasoning being tested. The argument is not that delay proves resignation was impossible. Instead, the person questions removal by relying on his status as founding chairman. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) This option shifts the issue to policy disagreement, which is not the structure of the argument in the question. The reasoning does not claim that one policy dispute explains every internal conflict. It specifically relies on founding status as a reason against being ousted. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) This option concerns the meaning of participation in negotiations. The argument being examined does not discuss whether taking part in talks means accepting future proposals. Since it addresses a different reasoning pattern, it fails to identify the flaw in the stated argument. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) This option identifies the unsupported assumption in the reasoning. The argument moves from being a founding chairman to the conclusion that removal should not occur. However, creating or founding an institution does not by itself prevent that institution from taking later decisions about membership or leadership. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

96. Correct Answer: (d) Continuing talks while rejecting inadequate offers is not a practically available middle course.

Reference Line: "The people are left with two options – either to intensify the agitation for their demands or enter negotiations and accept whatever proposals the government may eventually be willing to offer."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option overstates what the framing requires. The statement presents agitation as one possible course, but it does not need to assume that agitation will certainly succeed. A strategy may be available even when its outcome is uncertain. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option narrows the wider dispute too much. The passage describes the power-sector issue as a flashpoint, but the talks involve broader demands raised by Ladakh representatives. The two-choice framing is not dependent on treating the LPDD issue as the only cause of difficulty. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is inconsistent with the setting of unresolved talks. If the committee had already converted all demands into final decisions, the dilemma between agitation and accepting proposals would not arise in the same way. The passage suggests that the demands remain under consideration rather than settled. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option identifies the hidden condition behind the two-choice framing. The statement presents only agitation or acceptance through negotiation as available paths. For that conclusion to hold, it must assume that negotiating while refusing inadequate offers is not a realistic alternative. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

97. Correct Answer: (c) Administrative restraint conclusively established deliberate official concealment.

Reference Line: "Online, the response is anything but controlled. Speculation fills the vacuum of official silence."

"The footage shows a delivery worker frozen in place for close to two hours. His eyes appear vacant, his body indifferent to the honking around him."

"Speculation fills the vacuum of official silence."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option can be inferred because the author presents public uncertainty as growing in the absence of clear official communication. The expression "vacuum of official silence" suggests that limited institutional information created room for speculation. The option remains within the passage because it speaks only of uncertainty and not of proven wrongdoing. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is supported by the author's concern that people interpreted visible bodily behaviour as if it were reliable medical evidence. The passage shows that viewers attached the "zombie drug" label despite the absence of disclosed toxicological findings. It captures the movement from visual impression to clinical speculation, which the author questions. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option cannot be inferred because the passage never states or implies that official restraint proves intentional concealment. The author criticizes the effect of silence, but does not convert that silence into evidence of deliberate suppression. The option makes a much stronger allegation than the passage permits. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option follows from the passage because the factual record remains incomplete while rumours spread widely online. The lack of a public toxicology report and limited official clarity made informal explanations more attractive. The option does not claim that the rumours were true, only that they gained force in uncertainty. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

98. Correct Answer: (b) The public record lacked disclosed laboratory confirmation of any consumed substance.

Reference Line: "Residents call the police, who take him into custody and send him for a medical examination. No toxicology report is made public."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option is not necessarily true because the passage does not say that the person's condition was medically traced to xylazine or any veterinary sedative. It only reports that commentators connected the scene to xylazine. A speculative online connection cannot be treated as a confirmed medical finding. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option must necessarily be true because the passage clearly states that no toxicology report was made public. The wording is careful because it does not say that no test existed or that no substance was consumed. It only states that the public record lacked disclosed laboratory confirmation. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option is not necessarily true because the passage does not reveal the outcome of the medical examination. Since no toxicology report was made public, the reader cannot know whether intoxication, overdose, or any other condition was ruled out. The option assumes a conclusion that the passage deliberately leaves uncertain. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option is incorrect because police action did not remove the uncertainty surrounding the incident. The passage says the person was taken into custody and sent for examination, but the relevant toxicological result was

not disclosed. Official action and public clarity are not treated as the same thing in the passage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

99. Correct Answer: (b) To demonstrate that the individuals shown in the circulated videos consumed the same opioid.

Reference Line: "A 2018 national survey by the AIIMS National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre, whose findings were published in 2019, estimated that more than 2.3 crore Indians use opioids, with the Punjab–Haryana belt among the most affected regions."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This is a likely purpose because the AIIMS survey gives background to the anxiety described in the passage. The author uses broad opioid-use data to show that the concern does not arise in a socially neutral setting. The survey helps explain why the public may be sensitive to drug-related interpretations of the videos. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This is least likely to be the author's purpose because the survey gives general population-level data, not case-specific evidence about the individuals in the videos. It cannot establish what any particular person consumed in Chandigarh, Ludhiana, or elsewhere. The option wrongly treats statistical background as individual toxicological proof. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This is a plausible purpose because the author connects the region's substance-abuse background with the believability of disturbing drug-related imagery. A region already associated with narcotics may be more vulnerable to accepting such interpretations. The option stays within the author's broader social reasoning. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This is also a reasonable purpose because the author does not portray the panic as entirely imaginary. The AIIMS survey establishes that opioid use is a serious existing problem. The author's point is that a real drug problem may coexist with an unsupported explanation of particular videos. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

100. Correct Answer: (c) Several images of students fainting are labelled as signs of a foreign virus; however, no tests confirm the virus, and doctors identify heat exhaustion as a more plausible cause.

Reference Line: "But the imported label of 'zombie drug', with imagery from American streets, transforms these local scenes into signs of an invading epidemic."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option does not parallel the author's reasoning because the alarming public suspicion is later confirmed by laboratory testing. In the passage, the author's concern is that the imported label remains unsupported by verified evidence. The structure here validates the initial public claim, while the passage questions such a claim. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option does not match the passage because the reasoning process begins with clinical examination rather than premature public labelling. The passage focuses on how viral interpretation attaches a dramatic external explanation before verification. Here, diagnosis follows proper medical procedure and therefore lacks the flawed movement criticized by the author. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option follows the same logical structure as the author's reasoning. A visible local incident receives an alarming external label, the label lacks test-based confirmation, and a more ordinary explanation is available. This mirrors the passage's movement from viral imagery to unsupported epidemic framing, followed by expert caution. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option does not parallel the passage because the suspicion arises from a medically relevant circumstance, namely travel history. The passage questions the use of imported imagery without confirmed local evidence. In this option, testing for a foreign virus has a contextual basis beyond mere visual speculation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

101. Correct Answer: (d) Treat the viral description as a public signal requiring careful verification rather than immediate confirmation.

Reference Line: "Speculation fills the vacuum of official silence. Commentators link the scene to xylazine..." / "Punjab, already burdened by decades of substance abuse, finds itself cast in a cinematic nightmare."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option is inconsistent with the author's reasoning because the passage indicates that silence can allow speculation to grow. Avoiding acknowledgement may leave the public dependent on informal explanations and viral

captions. The author's concern is not with communication itself, but with unsupported and sensational interpretation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option would reinforce the sensational framing that the author treats with caution. Eyewitness language may describe public perception, but it does not amount to verified medical evidence. Official adoption of such terminology could make an uncertain explanation appear more authoritative than it is. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option overextends the regional context provided in the passage. The author mentions a serious background of substance abuse, but does not transform that background into a blame-based conclusion. A regional context may explain why anxiety spreads, but it cannot by itself establish responsibility for the incidents. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option best matches the author's approach because it balances public concern with evidentiary caution. The passage shows that viral descriptions should not be ignored, since they generate unease and demand clarification. At the same time, such descriptions should not be treated as confirmation of a specific drug without verification. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

102. Correct Answer: (c) Public understanding should follow clinical verification rather than dramatic viral naming. Reference Line: "According to experts, clinical literature, including studies in *The Lancet Psychiatry*, shows that such states are more often the result of poly-substance use than any single drug."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option is too broad because the passage does not claim that every public episode of immobility is caused by mixed substance use. It says that such states are more often linked to poly-substance use than a single drug, which is a probabilistic claim. The option converts a cautious expert tendency into an overgeneralised rule. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is too absolute and cannot be drawn from the passage. The author does not say that a foreign drug pattern can never emerge in India. The argument is limited to the present lack of confirmed evidence for the xylazine claim. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This is the strongest conclusion because it captures the author's central contrast between evidence and sensational labelling. The passage repeatedly distinguishes viral appearance from verified medical or forensic explanation. It also relies on expert literature to suggest that complex states should not be reduced to one dramatic label. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option misrepresents the author's position because the passage does not treat viral videos as worthless. Such videos may justify inquiry, public concern, and official clarification. The author only rejects treating them as conclusive proof of a specific medical or drug-related cause. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

103. Correct Answer: (c) Climate risks require Tamil Nadu to convert prior institutional preparation into deeper governance action.

Reference Line: "The urgency to embed climate action into governance has never been clearer."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option focuses mainly on coastal exposure and international loans, while the passage presents a wider climate governance argument. The author mentions external funding only as one supporting element within a larger policy framework. The passage does not suggest that loans must precede local implementation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option overstates the economic angle of the passage. The author does mention that climate action can create industrial opportunities, but the core concern is climate vulnerability and governance. The passage includes adaptation, water security, coastal resilience and institutional action, not merely business incentives. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option best captures the author's central reasoning. The passage argues that climate risks are present and serious, and that Tamil Nadu's existing missions, institutions and funds should be used to deepen climate governance. It connects vulnerability with the need for stronger implementation. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option misreads the role of urban expansion in the passage. Urbanization is mentioned as a factor that worsens vulnerability, not as a reason to shift responsibility away from State institutions. The author repeatedly highlights State-level missions, councils, funds and companies. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

104. Correct Answer: (b) Existing climate mechanisms retain enough value to merit refinement rather than replacement.

Reference Line: “The new regime should not only look to sustain current initiatives to shape better outcomes but also be innovative in putting together forward-looking policies.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option introduces a comparative claim that the passage does not require. The author mentions external funding, but the recommendation to continue existing initiatives does not depend on Tamil Nadu being favored over comparable State proposals. The argument can still stand even if external financiers treat all States equally. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option captures the necessary hidden assumption behind the author’s recommendation. The author advises continuation along with innovation, which assumes that existing climate mechanisms still have practical value. If those mechanisms were worthless or ineffective, refinement would not be a logical course. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option wrongly assumes that coastal projects can influence several different climate risks through spillover effects. The passage treats coastal vulnerability, heat, water stress and urbanization as connected but distinct challenges. The author’s recommendation does not depend on coastal projects easing all these problems. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option contradicts the author’s emphasis on inclusive decision-making. The passage supports participation as part of an enabling environment, not the exclusion of public consultation from implementation. Since this option opposes the author’s stated view, it cannot be the implied assumption. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

105. Correct Answer: (d) To indicate that climate policy was connected with prior studies and implementation design.

Reference Line: “The role of the State Planning Commission cannot be ignored here for it was instrumental in conceiving many targeted studies across a spectrum of priority areas, which fed into both policy and implementation processes.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option creates a ranking between finance and expert assessment that the passage does not establish. The author separately values planning studies, State funds and external funding. The State Planning Commission is used as evidence of informed policy design, not as proof that finance is less important. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option wrongly suggests separation between district projects and State-level planning. The passage states that targeted studies fed into policy and implementation processes. This implies coordination between planning and action rather than isolation of district-level projects. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option is inconsistent with the passage’s repeated emphasis on specialised institutions. The author mentions bodies such as the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company and the Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation. The State Planning Commission is presented as an additional planning contributor, not a substitute for climate institutions. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option correctly explains the role of the evidence. The author refers to the State Planning Commission to show that climate action was shaped by targeted studies and planning inputs. This strengthens the claim that Tamil Nadu’s climate response has an institutional and research-based foundation. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

106. Correct Answer: (a) Investors avoid climate platforms where revenue models remain uncertain despite strong public objectives.

Reference Line: “Furthermore, institutions such as the TNGCC can be leveraged to attract private capital to achieve climate action goals.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option weakens the author’s optimism about private capital mobilisation. The author assumes that institutions such as the TNGCC can attract investment for climate goals. If investors avoid such platforms due to uncertain revenue models, that expectation becomes doubtful. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option concerns administrative capacity at the district level. Training officials may improve monitoring and implementation, but it does not challenge the claim about attracting private capital. It may even support the wider climate governance framework by improving local execution. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option relates to technical support for coastal restoration. Such support could make climate programmes more credible and better designed. It does not weaken the author’s claim that climate institutions may attract private capital. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option concerns community participation in low-cost greening practices. While relevant to climate action generally, it does not affect the author's claim about institutional ability to mobilise investment. It neither challenges revenue concerns nor investor willingness. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

107. Correct Answer: (b) Link affected groups, experts, finance channels and agencies through participatory mechanisms.

Reference Line: "It must also ensure inclusive decision making in order to create an enabling environment."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation

(a) This option narrows the climate agenda to short-term and easily measurable outcomes. The passage stresses sustained climate governance, institutional continuity and policy innovation, not merely visible results. Long-term risks such as sea-level rise, water stress and heatwaves may require measures whose effects are not immediately measurable. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option best follows from the author's emphasis on inclusive decision-making. The passage also refers to experts, financial mechanisms, institutions and implementation processes, making coordination among these actors important. A participatory mechanism would support both inclusion and practical climate governance. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) This option conflicts with the author's recommendation to sustain current initiatives while developing new policies. The passage does not support replacing existing missions with a single technology-focused body. It also risks narrowing the climate response by underplaying adaptation, community participation and institutional diversity. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option mistakes inclusion for complete transfer of responsibility. The author supports inclusive decision-making, but the passage also highlights State-level missions, funds, councils and institutions. Local participation may be necessary, but the passage does not support removing State-level coordination structures. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

108. Correct Answer: (c) A is true, but R is not supported by the passage.

Reference Line: "Tamil Nadu pioneered the launch of the first State-owned Green Climate Fund with a corpus of ₹1,000 crore to support clean energy transition, mobility and water security."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) This option is incorrect because the Reason is not supported by the passage. The Assertion is valid since the author presents climate finance as a material support system for climate action. However, the passage calls the fund State-owned, not privately created. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option incorrectly treats both statements as true. While the Assertion is supported by the passage, the Reason is inconsistent with the reference line. The fund is described as State-owned, and the passage does not say it was created entirely through private-sector contributions. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option correctly evaluates both statements. The Assertion is supported because a dedicated fund with a stated corpus is evidence of material support for climate goals. The Reason is not supported because the passage identifies the fund as State-owned rather than privately created. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) This option reverses the correct evaluation. The Assertion is supported by the passage's discussion of the Green Climate Fund and its climate-related purposes. The Reason is not true according to the passage because it denies State ownership of the fund. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Section E: Quantitative Aptitude

109. Correct: (d) 124.55

Step 1: Compute total runs scored by the five batsmen Aman = 540; Bharat = $52 \times 10 = 520$; Chirag = $38 \times 12 = 456$; Devraj = $60 \times 8 = 480$; Eshaan = 495. Total runs = $540 + 520 + 456 + 480 + 495 = 2,491$. Step 2: Compute total deliveries faced $450 + 400 + 380 + 320 + 450 = 2,000$. Step 3: Apply strike-rate formula = total runs \div total deliveries $\times 100$. Step 4: $2,491 \div 2,000 = 1.2455$. Step 5: Multiply by 100 $\rightarrow 124.55$. The combined strike rate is exactly 124.55.

110. Correct: (b) 28.5

Step 1: Compute Performance Index from boundaries scored for each batsman Aman: $3 \times 1 + 1 \times 3 = 6$; Bharat: $4 \times 1 + 0 \times 3 = 4$; Chirag: $2 \times 1 + 1 \times 3 = 5$; Devraj: $1 \times 1 + 2 \times 3 = 7$; Eshaan: $4 \times 1 + 0 \times 3 = 4$. Step 2: Determine match-bonus eligibility (matches in excess of 10): Aman = 2; Bharat = 0; Chirag = 2; Devraj = 0; Eshaan = 1. Step 3: Compute bonuses at 0.5 each Aman = 1.0; Chirag = 1.0; Eshaan = 0.5; others = 0. Step 4: Add bonus to base Index for each Aman = 7.0; Bharat = 4.0; Chirag = 6.0; Devraj = 7.0; Eshaan = 4.5. Step 5: Sum all five totals $\rightarrow 7.0 + 4.0 + 6.0 + 7.0 + 4.5 = 28.5$.

111. Correct: (a) 40.00

Step 1: Compute each batsman's strike rate (runs \div balls $\times 100$). Step 2: Aman = $540 \div 450 \times 100 = 120.00$. Step 3: Bharat = $520 \div 400 \times 100 = 130.00$. Step 4: Chirag = $456 \div 380 \times 100 = 120.00$. Step 5: Devraj = $480 \div 320 \times 100 = 150.00$. Step 6: Eshaan = $495 \div 450 \times 100 = 110.00$. Step 7: Highest = Devraj 150.00; Lowest = Eshaan 110.00. Step 8: Difference = $150.00 - 110.00 = 40.00$.

112. Correct: (c) 47.47

Step 1: Compute individual averages Aman = $540 \div 12 = 45$; Bharat = 52; Chirag = 38; Devraj = 60; Eshaan = $495 \div 11 = 45$. Step 2: Multiply each average by the corresponding deliveries $45 \times 450 = 20,250$; $52 \times 400 = 20,800$; $38 \times 380 = 14,440$; $60 \times 320 = 19,200$; $45 \times 450 = 20,250$. Step 3: Sum the products $\rightarrow 94,940$. Step 4: Sum the deliveries (the weights) $\rightarrow 2,000$. Step 5: Weighted average = $94,940 \div 2,000 = 47.47$.

113. Correct: (d) 42.60

Step 1: Identify the three batsmen who played 11 or 12 matches: Aman (12), Chirag (12), Eshaan (11). Step 2: Compute their total runs Aman 540 + Chirag 456 + Eshaan 495 = 1,491. Step 3: Compute their total innings $12 + 12 + 11 = 35$. Step 4: Apply combined-average formula = total runs \div total innings. Step 5: $1,491 \div 35 = 42.60$ exactly.

114. Correct: (b) 26.50

Step 1: Compute Bharat's season totals runs = $520 + 320 = 840$; matches = $10 + 4 = 14$; average = $840 \div 14 = 60.00$. Step 2: Compute Devraj's season totals runs = $480 + 360 = 840$; matches = $8 + 4 = 12$; average = $840 \div 12 = 70.00$. Step 3: Compute Chirag's season totals runs = $456 + 240 = 696$; matches = $12 + 4 = 16$; average = $696 \div 16 = 43.50$. Step 4: Identify highest = Devraj 70.00 and lowest = Chirag 43.50 among the three. Step 5: Difference = $70.00 - 43.50 = 26.50$.

115. Correct: (c) 48

Step 1: First, determine the escalator's own speed using Anand's data. Anand takes 40 steps at 4 steps/sec, so his time on the escalator = $40 \div 4 = 10$ sec. In those 10 secs, the escalator must have carried him over the remaining $60 - 40 = 20$ stationary steps. Therefore, the escalator's speed = $20 \div 10 = 2$ steps/sec. Step 2: Cross-check with Bhairav's data: 45 steps at 6 steps/sec $\rightarrow 7.5$ sec; escalator covers $60 - 45 = 15$ steps in 7.5 sec $\rightarrow 15 \div 7.5 = 2$ steps/sec. Step 3: Let Daksh take d steps at 8 steps/sec. Time on escalator = $d \div 8$ sec. Step 4: In that time the escalator covers $2 \times (d/8) = d/4$ steps. Step 5: Set up the conservation equation: $d + d/4 = 60 \rightarrow 5d/4 = 60$. Step 6: Solve: $d = 60 \times 4/5 = 48$ steps.

116. Correct: (b) 2.0

Step 1: Determine escalator speed from Anand: Anand takes 40 steps at 4 steps/sec \rightarrow time = 10 sec. The escalator carries the remaining $60 - 40 = 20$ steps \rightarrow escalator speed = $20 \div 10 = 2$ steps/sec. Step 2: Cross-check with Bhairav: 45 steps at 6 steps/sec \rightarrow 7.5 sec; escalator covers $60 - 45 = 15$ steps in 7.5 sec = 2 steps/sec. Step 3: Esha takes 30 steps in some time t , while the escalator covers $2t$ steps. Step 4: Total visible steps covered: $30 + 2t = 60 \rightarrow 2t = 30 \rightarrow t = 15$ sec. Step 5: Esha's walking speed = number of steps taken \div time = $30 \div 15 = 2$ steps/sec.

117. Correct: (d) 10

Step 1: From earlier work, escalator speed = 2 steps/sec. Step 2: Anand's time on the escalator = $40 \div 4 = 10$ sec. Bhairav's time on the escalator = $45 \div 6 = 7.5$ sec. Step 3: Both step on at the same instant; thus when Bhairav reaches the top, only 7.5 sec have elapsed. Step 4: In those 7.5 sec, Anand has taken $4 \times 7.5 = 30$ steps. Step 5: Anand needs 40 steps in total to reach the top, so the steps still remaining for him = $40 - 30 = 10$ steps.

118. Correct: (a) 120

Step 1: From earlier, escalator speed = 2 steps/sec (moving upward). Step 2: Anand walks downward at 4 steps/sec relative to the escalator surface. Step 3: Net downward velocity (relative to the fixed frame of the staircase) = $4 - 2 = 2$ steps/sec. Step 4: Total fixed steps to traverse = 60. Step 5: Time required to cover 60 fixed steps downward = $60 \div 2 = 30$ sec. Step 6: Total steps taken by Anand = his walking pace \times time = $4 \times 30 = 120$ steps.

119. Correct: (b) 10

Step 1: Escalator speed = 2 steps/sec (established from Anand and verified with Bhairav). Step 2: Let Farhan's walking speed be v steps/sec and let t denote his time on the escalator. Step 3: Number of steps Farhan takes = $v \times t = 50$, so $t = 50/v$. Step 4: In time t , the escalator covers $2t$ steps. The total visible steps must equal 60: $50 + 2t = 60$, giving $2t = 10$, so $t = 5$ sec. Step 5: From Step 3, $v = 50 \div t = 50 \div 5 = 10$ steps/sec.

120. Correct: (d) 15 sec

Step 1: Escalator speed = 2 steps/sec (upward). Step 2: When walking downward against the escalator, Anand's net downward velocity relative to the staircase = $4 - 2 = 2$ steps/sec. Step 3: Anand's time to descend 60 fixed steps = $60 \div 2 = 30$ sec. Step 4: Bhairav's net downward velocity = $6 - 2 = 4$ steps/sec. Step 5: Bhairav's time to descend = $60 \div 4 = 15$ sec. Step 6: Time difference (Anand - Bhairav) = $30 - 15 = 15$ sec; thus Bhairav reaches the bottom 15 seconds before Anand.