

COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST (CLAT) 2027
Mock 202714: Answer Key and Solution



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

Section A: English Language

1. Correct Answer: (b) Setting influences both character experience and narrative movement.

Reference Lines: "The setting does not simply contain the action; it generates it." / "The villa's past shapes the fragile community that gathers within it."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage does not mainly describe characters as shaping the places around them. Instead, the city, villa and wilderness influence how characters feel, behave and encounter events. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The silent city generates the inhabitants' responses, the villa shapes the community living within it, and the wilderness controls the progression of the encounter with the bear. Setting therefore affects both experience and narrative development. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) The passage gives settings an active role, but it does not suggest that characters exercise an equal influence over those settings. The emphasis remains on places acting upon characters and events. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The settings do affect emotional experience, but their role is not confined to that function. The city generates action, while the wilderness conceals, tests and reveals the bear. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

2. Correct Answer: (d) Layered memory.

Reference Lines: "The Italian villa at the centre of the novel has served successively as a nunnery, a military stronghold, and a wartime hospital."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The villa has served as a place of refuge, but refuge represents only one phase of its history. Its earlier functions as a nunnery and military stronghold are equally important to its meaning. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The people living in the villa form a fragile community, but their vulnerability does not define the building's principal significance. The passage focuses on the several historical identities preserved within the structure. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The villa's damaged rooms indicate physical decline, but the damage matters because it carries traces of worship, conflict and refuge. Architectural deterioration alone does not include all these historical layers. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The villa has successively functioned as a nunnery, military stronghold and wartime hospital. These different histories remain present in its rooms and give the structure a layered identity. Hence, option (d) is correct.

3. Correct Answer: (a) It becomes a testing force that shapes the encounter.

Reference Lines: "Gradually, however, it seems to conceal, test, and finally reveal the legendary bear to the young protagonist."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The wilderness conceals the bear, tests the young protagonist and later reveals the animal. These actions allow the forest to determine how the encounter develops. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) Concealment adds to the bear's mystery, but the wilderness does not merely keep the bear hidden. It also tests the protagonist and eventually allows the encounter to occur. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The forest is not presented only as a reflection of the protagonist's uncertainty. It actively determines the sequence through which the bear is concealed and revealed. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The forest initially appears passive, but the passage later gives it an active role. The wilderness, rather than the bear, shapes the conditions under which the encounter takes place. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

4. Correct Answer: (c) The successive histories retained within the villa's structure.

Reference Lines: "Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient* develops place through accumulated memory." / "The Italian villa at the centre of the novel has served successively as a nunnery, a military stronghold, and a wartime hospital."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The passage does not state that the present residents personally remember the villa's earlier religious, military or medical uses. The memory belongs figuratively to the building and its architecture. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The damaged condition of the villa creates emotional meaning, but the phrase refers to more than the feelings produced by physical deterioration. It concerns the different histories preserved within the building. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) The villa has occupied several roles over time, and traces of each remain within its structure. These successive histories collectively constitute its accumulated memory. Hence, option (c) is correct.
- (d) The passage does not describe the villa returning to any former communal identity. Its significance arises from the continued presence of several past functions. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

5. Correct Answer: (b) Narrative catalyst.

Reference Lines: "The narrative turns upon the inhabitants' changing responses to this altered environment. The setting does not simply contain the action; it generates it."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The city affects the emotions of its inhabitants, but it is not presented mainly as a reflection of their feelings. The recurring silence produces their reactions and changes the course of the narrative. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The unexplained periods of silence cause the inhabitants to respond in changing ways and provide movement to the story. The city therefore initiates and shapes the narrative action. Hence, option (b) is correct.
- (c) The city is not described as preserving the accumulated history of the community. That function is more closely associated with the Italian villa and its successive uses. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) A social barometer would reveal conditions already existing within a community. The city does more than reveal attitudes because its silence creates the situation that produces those attitudes. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

6. Correct Answer: (c) Places may function like characters by shaping action and emotion.

Reference Lines: "In fiction, setting acquires its greatest force when it ceases to function as scenery and begins to possess a history, a temperament, and a future of its own."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The villa shows how history attached to a place can influence characters, but the city and wilderness do not depend mainly on preserved history. The passage discusses several ways in which settings exercise agency. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The villa preserves traces of past experience, but the city generates action and the wilderness shapes an encounter. Preservation is therefore only one aspect of the passage's broader theme. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) Each setting performs a role normally associated with a character. The city causes responses, the villa shapes emotional relationships, and the forest conceals, tests and reveals. Hence, option (c) is correct.
- (d) The settings do not merely reflect the psychological states of the characters. They also influence behaviour and determine how events unfold. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

7. Correct Answer: (c) Political philosophy can diagnose injustice by examining the value conflicts underlying gentrification.

Reference Lines: "But their deepest disagreements concern political morality: the ends we ought to be pursuing as a political community. It is at the level of value disagreement that political philosophy can make a distinctive contribution to the debate on gentrification."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The passage describes both benefits and harms associated with gentrification, but this contrast introduces the debate rather than stating the author's main argument. The central discussion concerns philosophy's contribution to that debate. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Defenders and critics disagree about some empirical questions, particularly displacement, but the author states that their deeper disagreement concerns political values. Unsettled evidence alone does not explain the debate. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The author argues that political philosophy can examine the values underlying the dispute and identify particular forms of injustice. This diagnostic role does not require a complete theory of a perfectly just society. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) The passage does not treat empirical outcomes as sufficient for judging gentrification. The author emphasises that factual agreement may still leave disagreement about the ends a political community should pursue. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

8. Correct Answer: (b) Particular wrongs are identified without first defining perfect justice.

Reference Lines: "Philosophers such as Elizabeth Anderson, Amartya Sen and others have argued that philosophy can play the role of diagnosing injustice." / "A political philosopher doesn't need a conception of what a perfectly just society would be in order to identify what makes the social world unjust in some respect."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The diagnostic approach does not require every grievance to be tested against a complete theory of justice. The passage presents this method as an alternative to highly idealised philosophical analysis. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Just as a doctor may identify an illness without defining perfect health, a philosopher may identify a particular injustice without defining perfect justice. This is the meaning of diagnosing injustice. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) The complaints of social movements must be heard sympathetically and critically. They may indicate an underlying injustice, but they are not treated as sufficient proof without examination. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The philosopher does not begin by comparing existing institutions with a perfectly just arrangement. The diagnostic method begins with actual complaints and specific wrongs. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

9. Correct Answer: (d) Normative.

Reference Lines: "But their deepest disagreements concern political morality: the ends we ought to be pursuing as a political community."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Empirical disagreement concerns disputed facts, such as whether gentrification produces residential displacement. The author acknowledges these disputes but identifies a deeper conflict concerning political morality. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Ideological differences may influence the two positions, but the passage identifies the disagreement more precisely as a conflict about what ought to be pursued. The word does not describe that feature as accurately as "normative." Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The distribution of benefits and burdens forms part of the dispute, but the disagreement also concerns the wider purposes of political community. It cannot be limited to distributive questions alone. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) A normative disagreement concerns values, duties and judgments about what ought to be done. The two sides disagree most deeply about the political ends that a community should pursue. Hence, option (d) is correct.

10. Correct Answer: (b) Social complaints deserve sympathetic attention and critical examination.

Reference Lines: "A political philosopher with a diagnostic orientation does need to listen, at once sympathetically and critically, to the complaints expressed by real-world social movements."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author does not require all empirical disputes to be resolved before moral judgment can begin. Factual evidence is relevant, but it cannot independently determine the political values a community should adopt. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The passage states that philosophers should listen to social movements both sympathetically and critically. Sympathy ensures that grievances are taken seriously, while critical examination helps identify the underlying injustice. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) The doctor analogy rejects the claim that injustice can be identified only through a complete ideal. Particular wrongs may be diagnosed without first defining perfect justice. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The author does not support accepting social complaints without examination. These complaints must be heard sympathetically but also assessed critically. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

11. Correct Answer: (c) Injustice cannot be diagnosed without a model of perfect justice.

Reference Lines: "A political philosopher doesn't need a conception of what a perfectly just society would be in order to identify what makes the social world unjust in some respect."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage identifies economics, sociology, political science and history as disciplines that can contribute to the study of gentrification. The author would therefore accept that different disciplines illuminate different aspects of the issue. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The author distinguishes factual disagreement from disagreement about political morality. Even if the parties agreed about the consequences of gentrification, they might still disagree about the ends a community should pursue. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The passage states that a philosopher does not need a conception of perfect justice in order to recognise a particular injustice. The author would therefore reject the statement. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) The complaints of social movements are treated as possible symptoms of deeper injustice. The author considers them important sources of information for philosophical diagnosis. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

12. Correct Answer: (a) Particular defects can be recognised without first defining complete perfection.

Reference Lines: "A doctor needn't have any particular conception of what a perfectly healthy patient would be in order to identify what's making the patient sick." / "By analogy, a political philosopher doesn't need a conception of what a perfectly just society would be in order to identify what makes the social world unjust."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) A doctor can identify a specific illness without defining perfect health, and a philosopher can identify a specific injustice without defining perfect justice. This common method forms the basis of the comparison. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) The passage does not state that a complaint becomes useful only after separate verification. Complaints may themselves provide the symptoms from which an underlying problem is identified. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The comparison is used to show that diagnosis does not depend on a complete ideal standard. Both the doctor and philosopher begin with particular symptoms or wrongs. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The passage stresses the importance of listening to patients and social movements. Professional judgment must interpret their testimony rather than replace it. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

13. Correct Answer: (a) Persistent movement continues despite resistance from the terrain.

Reference Lines: "It appeared to have a definite goal in front of it." / "All these objects lay across the snail's progress between one stalk and another to his goal."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The snail continues towards its definite goal despite loose earth, stones and the obstructing leaf. Its movement remains purposeful even when the terrain makes progress difficult. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) The snail is uncertain about how to cross the leaf, but it is not uncertain about its destination. The hesitation concerns the route rather than the goal. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The snail appears aware of the obstacles because it considers whether to go around or cross the leaf. Its behaviour is not represented as movement without awareness. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The terrain slows the snail but does not cause it to abandon or change its goal. The green insect, rather than the snail, moves in the opposite direction. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

14. Correct Answer: (b) Measured composure seems to mask unease and reluctance to respond.

Reference Lines: "The younger of the two wore an expression of perhaps unnatural calm." / "He looked at the ground again and sometimes opened his lips only after a long pause and sometimes did not open them at all."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The younger man listens to his companion, but the passage does not show that he sympathises with or accepts the claims about spirits. His lowered gaze and hesitant replies indicate restraint rather than sympathy. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The description of his calm as "perhaps unnatural" suggests that his composed appearance hides a less settled response. His long pauses, lowered gaze and occasional failure to speak indicate unease and reluctance to participate. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) The younger man's behaviour does not suggest emotional detachment. His controlled expression and inhibited speech indicate that the conversation is affecting him. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Delayed replies can result from reflection, but the younger man also looks down and sometimes does not respond. These details indicate reluctance more strongly than careful consideration of the subject. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

15. Correct Answer: (c) A self-contained mental exchange absorbs him more than real dialogue.

Reference Lines: "He talked almost incessantly; he smiled to himself and again began to talk, as if the smile had been an answer."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The elder man smiles to himself, but the passage does not indicate that he wishes to provoke or amuse himself at his companion's expense. His behaviour arises from inward absorption rather than deliberate teasing. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The elder man does not treat his companion's silence as an answer. The description states that his own smile seems to function as the response within his continuing speech. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The elder man behaves as though his own smile completes a conversational exchange. His speech therefore appears to depend more on his private mental process than on genuine participation from his companion. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) The smile is not presented as a technique for making his claims more believable. It occurs privately within his uninterrupted stream of speech. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

16. Correct Answer: (b) Restless movement reveals agitation without any settled purpose.

Reference Lines: "The elder man had a curiously uneven and shaky method of walking, jerking his hand forward and throwing up his head abruptly." / "In the man these gestures were irresolute and pointless."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage does not show that the elder man is attempting to display confidence. His uncertain gestures reflect restless energy without a clear purpose rather than a failed performance. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) His jerking hand, abrupt head movements and uneven walk show agitation. The words "irresolute and pointless" indicate that these movements are not directed towards any settled intention. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) The narrator does not attribute the gestures to age, illness or physical weakness. No bodily cause is given for his manner of movement. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The passage does not connect the elder man's movements specifically with the younger man's silence. The gestures appear to be part of his general behaviour. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

17. Correct Answer: (a) Statements I and II.

Reference Lines: "It appeared to have a definite goal in front of it." / "The singular high stepping angular green insect... waited for a second with its antennae trembling as if in deliberation, and then stepped off... in the opposite direction."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Statement I is supported because the snail continues towards a definite goal despite repeated obstacles. Statement II is supported because the insect pauses and then abruptly moves in the opposite direction. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) Statement I is true, but Statement III is false because the snail remains committed to its goal while the insect changes course. The two creatures do not display equal consistency. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Statement II is true, but Statement III is false. The insect changes direction, whereas the snail continues towards a definite goal. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Statements I and II are true, but Statement III is contradicted by the difference between the creatures' behaviour. All three statements cannot be accepted together. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

18. Correct Answer: (c) Minute objects become vast while human figures pass only briefly.

Reference Lines: "Brown cliffs with deep green lakes in the hollows, flat, blade-like trees... round boulders of grey stone, vast crumpled surfaces... all these objects lay across the snail's progress." / "There came past the bed the feet of other human beings."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Human figures do not remain at the centre of the scene. The narration gives sustained attention to the snail and reduces the people to passing feet or distant figures. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The changes in scale do not make nature a background for human conduct. They enlarge ordinary elements of the flower bed and give the natural world an independent presence. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Earth, leaves and stones appear as cliffs, trees and boulders from the snail's perspective. Human beings, in contrast, pass briefly through the scene and are visually diminished. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) The natural and human worlds are not presented as separate. Human movement interrupts the snail's progress, and the narration moves between the two within the same scene. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

19. Correct Answer: (b) Alexander Pope.

Reference Lines: "Early in the period, writers associated with the Augustan age valued order, restraint and classical proportion. Alexander Pope exemplified this tendency."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) Swift belongs to the Augustan period and uses disciplined prose, but the passage associates his writing mainly with satire. It does not identify him as the principal example of order, restraint and classical proportion. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The passage expressly states that Alexander Pope exemplified the Augustan preference for order, restraint and classical proportion. His polished English couplets demonstrate elegance and formal control. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) Defoe is associated with the emerging English novel and its focus on individual experience and practical survival. His contribution differs from the elevated conventions of neoclassical poetry. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Peacock combined classical learning with folklore, Romantic landscape and regional tradition. His work does not represent a single Augustan ideal. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

20. Correct Answer: (c) Gulliver's Travels.

Reference Lines: "In Gulliver's Travels, the apparent simplicity of adventure becomes a vehicle for satire, exposing political vanity and human pretension."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) Robinson Crusoe uses an adventure narrative, but the passage links it with individual experience and practical survival. It is not described as a satire on political vanity and human pretension. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The Rime of the Ancient Mariner contains a voyage, but its main concerns are supernatural suggestion, guilt, punishment and redemption. It does not serve the satirical purpose mentioned in the question. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) The passage states that Gulliver's Travels uses the apparent simplicity of adventure to expose political vanity and human pretension. The adventure form serves Swift's satirical purpose. Hence, option (c) is correct.
- (d) Pope's translation of Homer is discussed as an example of polished form and classical control. It is not presented as an apparently simple adventure used for political satire. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

21. Correct Answer: (d) William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

Reference Lines: "William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge redirected literary attention towards emotion, imagination, ordinary lives and the natural world."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) Wordsworth participated in the Romantic redirection, but Pope represents the Augustan tradition against which Romanticism partly reacted. The pair does not jointly represent the change described. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) Coleridge redirected poetry towards imagination and the supernatural, but Austen is associated with domestic relationships, irony and social conduct. She is not identified as part of the poetic collaboration mentioned in the passage. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) Wordsworth contributed to the shift towards nature and ordinary life, while Scott developed the historical novel and regional voices. The passage does not identify them as the pair responsible for the stated redirection. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) Wordsworth and Coleridge redirected literary attention towards emotion, imagination, ordinary lives and nature through their collaborative work. The passage expressly names both writers in this context. Hence, option (d) is correct.

22. Correct Answer: (a) Robinson Crusoe.

Reference Lines: "Daniel Defoe... helped advance the emerging English novel through Robinson Crusoe, whose attention to individual experience and practical survival differed sharply from the elevated conventions of neoclassical poetry."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) The passage associates Robinson Crusoe with an individual's experience and the practical demands of survival. These features distinguish Defoe's novel from elevated neoclassical poetry. Hence, option (a) is correct.
- (b) Gulliver's Travels follows an individual traveller, but the passage emphasises its use of adventure for political and social satire. Practical survival is not presented as its central concern. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) The Ancient Mariner experiences danger during his voyage, but the passage associates the poem with guilt, punishment, redemption and supernatural unease. Practical survival does not define its literary significance here. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) Lyrical Ballads focuses on ordinary lives, emotion and inward experience, but it is not identified with an individual's practical struggle for survival. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

23. Correct Answer: (c) The Rime of the Ancient Mariner.

Reference Lines: "Coleridge was drawn to supernatural suggestion, guilt and psychological unease. The Rime of the Ancient Mariner... displays a hypnotic strangeness."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) Gulliver's Travels contains unusual places and events, but the passage presents them as part of Swift's satire. Guilt and psychological unease are not identified as its main concerns. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) Robinson Crusoe includes isolation and danger, but the passage connects it with individual experience and practical survival. It is not associated with supernatural suggestion or guilt. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) The Rime of the Ancient Mariner combines supernatural events with crime, guilt, punishment and redemption. Its hypnotic strangeness reflects Coleridge's interest in psychological unease. Hence, option (c) is correct.
- (d) Lyrical Ballads is the larger collection containing Coleridge's poem, but the stated qualities are attributed specifically to The Rime of the Ancient Mariner. They do not describe every work in the collection. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

24. Correct Answer: (b) A movement towards emotional depth, historical awareness and formal variety

Reference Lines: "Taken together, these authors reveal a period in which English literature moved from neoclassical discipline towards emotional intensity, historical consciousness and formal experimentation."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The period developed a stronger interest in history, particularly through Walter Scott, but historical expression was only one part of the transformation. The passage also discusses emotional intensity and formal experimentation. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The conclusion describes growing emotional intensity, historical consciousness and experimentation in literary form. These developments appear across poetry and fiction and collectively define the literary transition discussed in the passage. Hence, option (b) is correct.
- (c) Classical learning and regional identity coexist in Peacock's work and appear in Scott's treatment of Scotland. The passage, however, describes changes extending beyond this combination to emotion, history and experimentation across several writers. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) Ordinary lives and neglected voices became more important during Romanticism, but the period also included historical spectacle, supernatural poetry and continued classical influence. The development cannot be limited to ordinary human experience. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

Section B: Current Affairs including General Knowledge

25. Correct Answer: (c) Permanent Settlement

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's Anandamath is situated against the background of the Sannyasi rebellion and the political turmoil of eighteenth-century Bengal. In 1793, Lord Cornwallis introduced the Permanent Settlement of land revenue in Bengal. Under this arrangement, the revenue payable by zamindars to the East India Company was permanently fixed, while zamindars were recognised as landowners. Ryotwari and Mahalwari arrangements developed in other regions and under different administrators. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

26. Correct Answer: (a) Pandit Bishan Narayan Dhar

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Jana Gana Mana was first sung publicly on 27 December 1911 at the Calcutta Session of the Indian National Congress. That session was presided over by Pandit Bishan Narayan Dhar. The first stanza of Rabindranath Tagore's larger Bengali composition, Bharoto Bhagyo Bidhata, was later adopted as India's National Anthem. The other leaders listed in the options presided over different Congress sessions. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

27. Correct Answer: (b) Imprisonment extending to three years, a fine, or both

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The substituted Section 3 proposed by the 2026 Bill covers intentional prevention of the National Anthem or National Song and disturbance of an assembly engaged in their singing. The prescribed punishment may extend to three years' imprisonment, a fine, or both. A minimum imprisonment of one year applies under Section 3A only to second and subsequent convictions. It is therefore not the mandatory punishment for a first offence. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

28. Correct Answer: (a) It inserted Section 3A prescribing minimum imprisonment for second and subsequent convictions

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: The 2003 amendment inserted Section 3A into the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971. It applies where a person previously convicted under Section 2 or Section 3 is convicted of another offence under either provision. For a second and every subsequent conviction, the imprisonment imposed cannot be less than one year. Protection concerning the National Anthem already existed under Section 3 of the original 1971 legislation. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

29. Correct Answer: (b) Bhikhaiji Cama

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Madam Bhikhaiji Cama unfurled an early version of the Indian nationalist flag at the International Socialist Conference held in Stuttgart in 1907. The flag contained the words Vande Mataram in its central band. Her act was intended to draw international attention to India's struggle against British colonial rule. Annie Besant was later associated with the Home Rule flag, while Sarojini Naidu and Nellie Sengupta were not responsible for the Stuttgart event. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

30. Correct Answer: (a) Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: In Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala, three students belonging to the Jehovah's Witnesses faith declined to sing the National Anthem but stood respectfully during its rendition. The Supreme Court held that their expulsion from school violated Articles 19(1)(a) and 25(1). It observed that no law compelled a person to sing the anthem when the person neither prevented its singing nor caused any disturbance. Respectful silence was therefore not treated as an insult to the anthem. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

31. Correct Answer: (b) Communist Party of India

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The Communist Party of India openly supported the naval ratings and called for a general strike in Bombay. Workers, students and sections of the city's population participated in demonstrations supporting the revolt. The Congress and the Muslim League did not officially endorse the uprising and urged the ratings to surrender. British parliamentary records also referred to Communist efforts to mobilise public sympathy. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

32. Correct Answer: (b) Red Fort

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The first major INA trial was conducted at the Red Fort in Delhi between November and December 1945. Shah Nawaz Khan, Prem Kumar Sahgal and Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon were the principal accused. The trial generated widespread nationalist support across religious and political divisions. Its influence extended to Indian personnel serving in the colonial armed forces. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

33. Correct Answer: (a) John Henry Godfrey

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Admiral John Henry Godfrey served as the Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy during the uprising. He had held the position from 1943 and was responsible for the overall naval command in India. His handling of the revolt was subsequently criticised, and he was replaced in March 1946. Geoffrey Audley Miles succeeded him after the uprising. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

34. Correct Answer: (b) Operation U-Go

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Operation U-Go was the Japanese offensive launched from Burma towards north-eastern India in March 1944. Its major objectives included the capture of Imphal and Kohima and the disruption of Allied supply routes. Units of the INA participated alongside Japanese forces during this campaign. The offensive eventually failed after the Japanese and INA forces suffered severe logistical difficulties and casualties. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

35. Correct Answer: (b) Taipei

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Taihoku was the Japanese-era name used for Taipei during Japan's colonial administration of Taiwan. The reported plane carrying Subhas Chandra Bose crashed after taking off from Taihoku on 18 August 1945. After the end of Japanese rule, the city and surrounding administrative region came to be known as Taipei. Taipei later developed into Taiwan's principal political and administrative centre. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

36. Correct Answer: (a) Ram Dass Katari

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Admiral Ram Dass Katari became the first Indian Chief of the Naval Staff on 22 April 1958. He held the position until 4 June 1962 and played an important role in shaping the traditions and organisational foundations of the post-colonial Indian Navy. Before becoming naval chief, he had also been the first Indian flag officer to command the Indian Fleet. The other officers listed succeeded him in later years. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

37. Correct Answer: (a) To preserve incentives for population-control measures

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The redistribution of Lok Sabha seats was frozen to ensure that States successfully controlling population growth were not penalised through reduced parliamentary representation. The freeze was introduced through the Forty-Second Constitutional Amendment in 1976. The population figures of the 1971 Census continued to determine the allocation of seats among States. The measure was connected with India's population-stabilisation policy. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

38. Correct Answer: (c) Article 329(a)

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Article 329(a) bars judicial challenges to the validity of laws relating to the delimitation of constituencies or the allotment of seats. It applies to laws made or purportedly made under Articles 327 and 328. Article 329(b) separately provides that elections may be challenged only through election petitions. The provision is intended to prevent electoral processes from being repeatedly interrupted. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

39. Correct Answer: (d) The Eighty-Seventh Amendment redistributed Lok Sabha seats among the States

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: The Eighty-Seventh Constitutional Amendment changed the population basis for redrawing constituencies from the 1991 Census to the 2001 Census. It did not alter the number of Lok Sabha seats allocated to individual States. The inter-State allocation of seats remained frozen under the Eighty-Fourth Amendment. Only constituency boundaries and reserved-seat distribution could be readjusted using updated figures. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

40. Correct Answer: (a) Representation of the People Act, 1950

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: The Election Commission conducted the 2023 Assam delimitation under Section 8A of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. The exercise used the population figures of the 2001 Census. Assam retained fourteen Lok Sabha constituencies and 126 Assembly constituencies. This procedure differed from a nationwide exercise undertaken by a separately constituted Delimitation Commission. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

41. Correct Answer: (b) Justice Kuldeep Singh

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The Delimitation Commission constituted in 2002 was headed by retired Supreme Court judge Justice Kuldeep Singh. The Commission was responsible for redrawing Parliamentary and Assembly constituency boundaries across most of India. An Election Commissioner and the State Election Commissioner of the concerned State served as its other members. Its orders were ultimately implemented in 2008. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

42. Correct Answer: (b) The freeze was extended through the Eighty-Fourth Amendment

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The Constitution (Eighty-Fourth Amendment) Act, 2001 extended the freeze on the allocation of seats among States. The restriction continues until the relevant figures of the first census taken after 2026 are published. However, the amendment permitted the readjustment of constituency boundaries within States. It was intended to continue supporting population-stabilisation efforts. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

43. Correct Answer: (b) Swimming

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: At the inaugural British Empire Games held in Hamilton in 1930, women participated only in swimming events. Women's athletics was introduced at the next edition in London in 1934, though only selected events were permitted. The limited programme reflected the restrictive sporting conventions of that period. Women's participation subsequently expanded across nearly every Commonwealth Games sport. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

44. Correct Answer: (a) London 1934

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: India made its Commonwealth Games debut at the second edition held in London in 1934. India was among the countries that joined the eleven participating teams from the inaugural Hamilton Games. The London programme included athletics, boxing, cycling, lawn bowls, swimming, diving and wrestling. Hamilton 1930 did not include an Indian contingent. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

45. Correct Answer: (c) Saurav Ghosal

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Saurav Ghosal became the first Indian male squash player to enter the top ten of the senior PSA world rankings in April 2019. He remained within the top ten for approximately six months. Ghosal was also the first Indian to achieve the junior world-number-one ranking. His career included multiple Asian Games medals and eleven PSA Tour titles. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

46. Correct Answer: (b) Kuala Lumpur 1998

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: Team sports were introduced at the 1998 Commonwealth Games held in Kuala Lumpur. Cricket, hockey, netball and rugby sevens were among the team sports included in the programme. Earlier editions had primarily featured individual sporting disciplines. The Kuala Lumpur edition also attracted a record number of participating countries for that period. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

47. Correct Answer: (c) National Investigation Agency Act, 2008

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Section 21 of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 contains a comparable appellate arrangement. An appeal is ordinarily required to be filed within thirty days, with delayed filing being permitted subject to sufficient cause. The provision also prescribes an outer period of ninety days. Courts have expressed

differing views on whether such an outer restriction must be applied absolutely. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

48. Correct Answer: (d) Article 235

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Article 235 vests control over district courts and courts subordinate to them in the concerned High Court. This control includes matters such as posting, promotion and grant of leave to members of the State judicial service below the rank of district judge. Article 233 concerns the appointment of district judges, while Article 234 deals with recruitment to the judicial service below that level. Article 235 therefore provides the relevant constitutional framework for control over the subordinate judiciary. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

49. Correct Answer: (b) K. Kasturirangan

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The Committee for the Draft National Education Policy was constituted under the chairmanship of Dr K. Kasturirangan in June 2017. It examined earlier reports, public suggestions and inputs from educational stakeholders. The committee submitted the Draft National Education Policy to the government in May 2019. The final National Education Policy was approved by the Union Cabinet in July 2020. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

50. Correct Answer: (c) Entry 66

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Entry 66 of the Union List covers the coordination and determination of standards in institutions for higher education or research and in scientific and technical institutions. Entries 63 and 64 concern specified universities and institutions of national importance, while Entry 65 deals with Union agencies and institutions engaged in specialised training, research and technical assistance. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

51. Correct Answer: (a) *Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala*

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: In *Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala*, three students belonging to the Jehovah's Witnesses faith declined to sing the National Anthem but stood respectfully during its rendition. The Supreme Court held that their expulsion from school violated Articles 19(1)(a) and 25(1). It observed that no law compelled a person to sing the anthem when the person neither prevented its singing nor caused any disturbance. Respectful silence was therefore not treated as an insult to the anthem. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

52. Correct Answer: (d) It makes such reservation applicable to minority institutions protected under Article 30(1).

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: The One Hundred and Third Constitutional Amendment inserted Articles 15(6) and 16(6). Article 15(6) enables special provisions, including reservation of up to ten per cent, for economically weaker sections in educational institutions. Such reservation may extend to private educational institutions, whether aided or unaided. Minority educational institutions protected under Article 30(1), however, are excluded from its operation. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

Section C: Legal Reasoning

53. Correct Answer: (b) To restrain future misconduct through detention without prior criminal adjudication.

Reference Line: "Punitive detention ordinarily follows adjudication of past conduct, whereas preventive detention seeks to prevent anticipated prejudicial conduct without a criminal trial."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation:

(a) The prospective focus is relevant, but preventive detention is precautionary detention rather than punishment for unadjudicated conduct. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Preventive detention restrains a person to avert anticipated prejudicial conduct without first determining criminal liability through adjudication. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Detention concerning past misconduct pending adjudication resembles custody connected with ordinary criminal proceedings, not the preventive object described. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Punishment following adjudication corresponds to punitive detention because it responds to past conduct after criminal liability has been determined. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

54. Correct Answer: (c) Enemy aliens and persons held under preventive detention laws.

Reference Line: "Article 22(3) makes clauses (1) and (2) inapplicable to an enemy alien and to a person arrested or detained under a law providing for preventive detention."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) Preventive detainees fall within the exclusion, but the passage refers specifically to enemy aliens, not foreign nationals generally. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Enemy aliens are excluded, but persons arrested under ordinary criminal laws receive the safeguards contained in clauses (1) and (2). Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Article 22(3) excludes enemy aliens and persons held under preventive-detention laws from the ordinary safeguards under clauses (1) and (2). Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) Foreign nationality does not correspond to the stated category of enemy aliens, while ordinary arrestees remain protected by clauses (1) and (2). Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

55. Correct Answer: (a) To report within three months whether adequate grounds justify continued detention.

Reference Lines: "Under the operative text of Article 22(4), no preventive-detention law may authorise detention beyond three months unless an Advisory Board reports before that period expires that sufficient cause exists for such detention, or the detention accords with a parliamentary law made under Article 22(7)(a) and (b)."

"It decides whether sufficient cause exists for detention; it does not determine criminal guilt."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) Where Advisory Board review applies, the Board must report before three months expire on whether sufficient justification exists for continued detention. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The timing is accurate, but the Board assesses justification for detention rather than proof sufficient to establish criminal guilt. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The determination concerns continued detention, but the Board's report must precede the expiry of three months rather than follow it. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) This option misstates both elements: the report follows the prescribed period, and the Board is presented as determining criminal guilt. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

56. Correct Answer: (d) Grounds must enable representation; supporting facts may be withheld for public interest.

Reference Lines: "The communicated grounds and material relied upon must enable an effective representation. Article 22(6) does not require disclosure of facts which the authority considers against the public interest to disclose; the exception does not erase the duty to communicate grounds."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Public interest permits withholding particular facts, not the grounds necessary for making an effective representation. This option reverses the applicable distinction. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Grounds must facilitate an effective representation, but institutional confidentiality by itself is not the stated constitutional basis for withholding supporting facts. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) Institutional confidentiality does not replace the public-interest standard, and essential grounds cannot be replaced merely by disclosing supporting facts. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Grounds must enable an effective representation, although particular facts may be withheld when the authority considers their disclosure contrary to public interest. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

57. Correct Answer: (b) On day fourteen, extraordinary conditions; delay reasons entered in official records.

Reference Line: "Under section 8 of the National Security Act, 1980, grounds must ordinarily be communicated within five days; an exceptional extension up to fifteen days requires recorded reasons."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Recording the grounds supporting detention differs from recording why their communication was delayed. The exceptional extension requires the latter. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Day fourteen falls within the fifteen-day ceiling, extraordinary conditions correspond to exceptional circumstances, and the reasons for delayed communication have been recorded. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.
- (c) Recorded reasons and compliance with the fifteen-day ceiling do not cure the absence of exceptional circumstances justifying departure from the five-day rule. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Approval of delayed communication does not substitute for recording the reasons that justified using the exceptional extension. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

58. Correct Answer: (c) To examine vitiating defects without reassessing the material's sufficiency.

Reference Lines: "A court cannot reassess the sufficiency of the material or substitute its view for a lawfully formed subjective satisfaction merely because another conclusion is possible. It may intervene for mala fides, non-application of mind, reliance on irrelevant considerations that vitiates the satisfaction, or strict non-compliance with constitutional or statutory procedure."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Refraining from replacing the authority's conclusion does not permit the court to reassess whether the available material was sufficient. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Vitiating defects remain reviewable, but the court cannot identify them by independently reassessing the sufficiency of the detention material. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) The court may examine mala fides, irrelevant considerations, non-application of mind and procedural non-compliance without reassessing evidentiary sufficiency. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.
- (d) Mere disagreement with the authority's preventive conclusion is insufficient; judicial intervention must rest upon a recognised vitiating defect. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

59. Correct Answer: (c) Distinct electronic-content offences, their exceptions and intermediary-liability rules under Indian law.

Reference Line: The answer is derived from the passage as a whole.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Constitutional and judicial standards provide the passage's background, but they do not encompass its detailed treatment of Sections 67, 67A, 67B, statutory exceptions and intermediary protection. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Punishments and distinctions involving adult and child-related material constitute only part of the discussion. The passage also explains offence ingredients, covered conduct, exceptions and intermediary liability. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option comprehensively covers the passage's discussion of electronic obscenity offences, sexually explicit material, child-related content, statutory exceptions and intermediary protection. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The distinction between vulgarity and obscenity is an introductory judicial principle. It does not capture the passage's broader statutory framework. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

60. Correct Answer: (d) Section 67 targets obscenity generally; Section 67A targets material involving sexually explicit conduct.

Reference Lines: "Section 67 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 applies to whoever publishes or transmits, or causes to be published or transmitted, in electronic form, material which is lascivious, appeals to the prurient interest, or whose effect tends to deprave and corrupt persons likely, having regard to all relevant circumstances, to read, see or hear it."

"Section 67A applies where electronic material contains a sexually explicit act or conduct; involvement of a child is not an ingredient."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The option reverses the provisions. Section 67 concerns material affecting susceptible audiences through lasciviousness, prurient appeal or corrupting effect, while Section 67A concerns sexually explicit conduct. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Child-related electronic material is specifically addressed by Section 67B. Moreover, Section 67A does not state that adult involvement is an essential ingredient. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Vulgarity does not itself satisfy Section 67, and repeated circulation is not an ingredient of Section 67A. Repetition instead affects subsequent-conviction punishment. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Section 67 applies the statutory obscenity threshold, whereas Section 67A addresses electronic material involving sexually explicit acts or conduct. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

61. Correct Answer: (b) Liability includes direct electronic dissemination and conduct causing another's electronic dissemination.

Reference Line: "Section 67 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 applies to whoever publishes or transmits, or causes to be published or transmitted, in electronic form, material which is lascivious, appeals to the prurient interest, or whose effect tends to deprave and corrupt persons likely, having regard to all relevant circumstances, to read, see or hear it."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Section 67 is not confined to the original creator or first uploader. It also reaches a person whose conduct causes publication or transmission by another. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The provision covers both direct publication or transmission and conduct bringing about publication or transmission through another person. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Section 67 does not make possession combined with foreseeable future circulation a stated mode of committing the offence. Actual publication, transmission or causation is required. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Mere viewing does not amount to publishing, transmitting or causing transmission under Section 67. The passage separately addresses browsing under Section 67B. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

62. Correct Answer: (a) Deliberately seeking, browsing or downloading prohibited child-related electronic material without further circulation.

Reference Lines: “It also covers creating text or digital images depicting children in an obscene, indecent or sexually explicit manner, and collecting, seeking, browsing, downloading, advertising, promoting, exchanging or distributing such material.”

“Publication is therefore unnecessary where one of these independent acts is proved.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Seeking, browsing and downloading are independently covered acts under Section 67B. Liability does not depend on proving subsequent publication or transmission. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.
- (b) Mere retention following unsolicited receipt does not establish collecting, seeking, browsing, downloading or another independent act identified in the passage. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) The option incorrectly makes another person’s later circulation necessary. Seeking the specified material is itself independently covered. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) An unperformed agreement does not establish accessing, collecting, seeking, advertising, promoting, exchanging or distributing the specified material under the passage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

63. Correct Answer: (b) By requiring proof that publication serves public good through art or specified interests.

Reference Line: “The proviso to Sections 67, 67A and 67B excludes any electronic book, pamphlet, paper, writing, drawing, painting, representation or figure whose publication is proved justified for the public good because it is in the interest of science, literature, art, learning or another object of general concern.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The maker’s asserted purpose does not establish the exception. The public-good justification for publishing the material must be proved. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) The exception requires proof that publication is justified for the public good through art, science, literature, learning or another object of general concern. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.
- (c) Artistic character does not independently satisfy the exception. The required connection between publication and the public good must also be established. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Neither official approval nor governmental certification is required. The controlling requirement is proof of the publication’s public-good justification. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

64. Correct Answer: (c) Protection requires either limited-access functionality or neutrality, together with prescribed due-diligence standards.

Reference Line: “Section 79 protects intermediaries for third-party information if they observe due diligence and either provide only communication-system access or neither initiate transmission, select receivers, nor select or modify information.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The operational alternatives are correctly identified, but internal platform standards cannot replace the due diligence prescribed under the statutory framework. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Limited-access functionality and transmission neutrality are alternative operational conditions. The passage does not require every intermediary to satisfy both conditions together. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) The intermediary must observe prescribed due diligence and satisfy either the limited-access condition or the complete transmission-neutrality condition. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.
- (d) Non-initiation is only one component of neutrality. The intermediary must also refrain from selecting receivers and selecting or modifying transmitted information. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

65. Correct Answer: (d) Loss of protection follows inducement or delayed compliance with prescribed directions.

Reference Line: “Protection is lost where an intermediary conspires, abets, aids or induces unlawful acts or fails expeditiously to remove or disable access after a court order or notification by the appropriate Government or its agency.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Expeditious removal may satisfy a subsequent removal direction, but it does not cure the independent disqualification arising from the intermediary's earlier inducement. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) A private complaint is not one of the legally sufficient directions identified in the passage. No separate participation in the unlawful act is established. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) Inducement and delayed compliance are alternative grounds for losing protection. The passage does not require both grounds to exist together. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Protection may be lost through participation in the unlawful act or failure to comply expeditiously with a court order or appropriate-government notification. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

66. Correct Answer: (b) Zorami submits a written declaration sworn before an authorised officer as evidence during the pending Council inquiry.

Reference Lines: "These powers may be exercised only for performing the Council's functions or holding an inquiry under the Act."

"It may receive evidence on affidavits."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Noren's account is written and verified but remains unsworn. Verification without an oath or affirmation does not convert the account into affidavit evidence. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Zorami provides a written declaration sworn before an authorised officer for use in a pending Council inquiry. It possesses the defining features of affidavit evidence. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.
- (c) Tvesa gives oral evidence on oath. Signing its subsequently prepared transcript does not convert the original oral testimony into evidence received on affidavit. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Noren's statement is unsworn, while Tvesa provides oral testimony rather than a sworn written declaration. Therefore, all three situations are not covered. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

67. Correct Answer: (c) Azeem, newsroom administrator, prepares a retrospective compliance register for inspection although no such document existed in the office.

Reference Lines: "It may require the discovery and inspection of documents."

"It may requisition any public record, or copies thereof, from any court or office."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The corrections register already exists and may be required for discovery and inspection. Its private editorial character does not exclude it from the stated power. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) The Council may requisition a public record, or its copy, from a court or office. Nawang furnishes precisely such a record. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) The direction requires Azeem to create a retrospective register that did not exist. Discovery and inspection concern documents, not the creation of fresh records. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.
- (d) Koyel's and Nawang's directions fall within the stated powers, but Azeem's direction requires the preparation of a new document. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

68. Correct Answer: (d) Both Meren's and Gulrez's compelled disclosures fall within the source protection recognised by Section 15 during Council inquiries.

Reference Line: "A newspaper, news agency, editor or journalist cannot be compelled under those powers to disclose the source of news or information published by that newspaper or received or reported by that news agency, editor or journalist."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Meren cannot be compelled to reveal the source of information forming the basis of her published report. However, this option does not identify Gulrez's protected source. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) The passage protects sources of information received by a journalist or news agency; publication is not required. However, this option omits Meren's protected source. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) Pritha may submit the report after names and contextual details capable of revealing its source are redacted. The direction does not compel disclosure. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Meren's source relates to published news, while Gulrez's source relates to information received but not published. Both categories receive statutory protection. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

69. Correct Answer: (d) All three propositions accurately state the legal position resulting from the statutory deeming rule and the IPC's repeal.

Reference Lines: "Under Section 15(3), every inquiry held by the Council is deemed to be a judicial proceeding within the meaning of Sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860."

"Sections 193 and 228 concerned punishment for false evidence and intentional insult or interruption to a public servant sitting in a judicial proceeding."

"Following the IPC's repeal, Section 8 of the General Clauses Act, 1897 requires references to repealed and re-enacted provisions, unless a different intention appears, to be construed as references to corresponding provisions. Sections 229 and 267 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 now address those respective matters."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The deeming rule permits false evidence during a Council inquiry to attract consequences applicable to false evidence in judicial proceedings. However, this states only one consequence. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Intentional insult or interruption during the inquiry may attract the corresponding consequences applicable within judicial proceedings. However, this does not address false evidence or re-enactment. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) Section 8 requires the former IPC references to be construed as their corresponding BNS provisions unless a different intention appears. However, this states only the re-enactment position. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Options (a), (b) and (c) collectively state the consequences of the deeming rule and the treatment of the IPC references after repeal. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

70. Correct Answer: (b) Council may address Directorate conduct in its report when it considers the observations necessary for performing its statutory functions.

Reference Line: "Section 15(4) permits the Council, when necessary for carrying out its objects or performing its functions, to make such observations as it thinks fit in any decision or report respecting the conduct of any authority, including the Government."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The passage does not require the Council to establish that the authority breached an independently enforceable duty. Statutory necessity for its objects or functions is sufficient. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) The Directorate is a government authority, and the Council may address its conduct in a decision or report when it considers such observations necessary for its functions. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.
- (c) Section 14 concerns the separate power to censure newspapers, news agencies, editors or journalists. That procedure is not a condition for observations concerning an authority. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Option (b) correctly connects the Council's observations with a decision or report, statutory necessity and the conduct of a government authority. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

71. Correct Answer: (a) Because equivalence is confined to listed procedural matters and does not confer ordinary civil jurisdiction, remedies or court status.

Reference Lines: “These specified powers do not transform the Council into a civil court for every purpose. The statutory equivalence is confined to the listed matters and the statutory purposes. It does not confer the jurisdiction, remedies or status of a civil court upon the Council.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The passage confines the equivalence to specified procedural matters. Possessing those powers does not give the Council ordinary civil jurisdiction, civil remedies or civil-court status. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.
- (b) “Throughout India” describes the territorial operation of the specified powers. It does not confine their exercise to nationally circulated newspapers or interstate authorities. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) The comparison with a civil court trying a suit identifies the nature of the listed procedural powers. It does not confer remedies based on factual resemblance. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Options (b) and (c) incorrectly derive subject-matter restrictions and remedial authority from phrases governing territorial reach and procedural equivalence. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

72. Correct Answer: (b) The employer may retain the facial template and discard liveness frames because that processing corresponds with Ritika’s specifically described authentication choice.

Reference Line: “Consent must be free, specific, informed, unconditional and unambiguous.”

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation:

- (a) A voiceprint constitutes an additional biometric identifier. Its security utility does not place its retention within consent specifically given for the facial template and transient liveness frames. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Retaining the facial template and discarding the liveness frames follows the processing specifically described to Ritika when she selected facial authentication. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.
- (c) Functional similarity between facial and iris recognition does not expand consent from the identified facial template to an additional persistent biometric identifier. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Selecting biometric access does not amount to undifferentiated consent for substitution among biometric identifiers, even where the substitute presents comparable intrusion. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

73. Correct Answer: (c) The employer may continue attendance processing but needs another lawful basis before using Farhan’s linked timestamps for workplace promotion-readiness profiling.

Reference Line: “Consent for entry authentication does not automatically permit unrelated profiling.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Human review may affect how the score influences promotion, but it does not change the separate profiling purpose for which the identifiable attendance information is processed. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Removing the facial template does not make the timestamps anonymous because Farhan remains identifiable through his employee number. The later purpose also remains unchanged. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) Processing for attendance remains within the original consent. Using identifiable timestamps to create a promotion-readiness profile requires a separate lawful basis. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.
- (d) Promotion assessment may arise within employment, but foreseeability within the same relationship does not bring that processing within consent obtained for attendance administration. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

74. Correct Answer: (a) The exemption may cover the operator’s disclosure and police comparison, while reasonable-security duties continue during transfer and investigative use.

Reference Lines:

“Government or law-enforcement processing must fall within the passage’s stated exemption.”

“Reasonable security safeguards apply to stored biometric templates.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) The access power arises independently under criminal-procedure law, while the subsequent offence-related processing may receive the passage's investigative exemption. Security duties nevertheless continue. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.
- (b) The operator's original authentication purpose does not prevent its subsequent disclosure from falling within the exemption where that disclosure serves an authorised offence investigation. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) This option conflates the offence-related exemption with the broader exemption concerning notified State instrumentalities. The two exemptions operate upon different legal conditions. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Encryption is a relevant safeguard but does not transfer the operator's statutory responsibility for securing its own processing and handling of the template. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

75. Correct Answer: (d) Record I remains personal data, Record II falls outside regulation, and Record III remains personal data.

Reference Lines:

"Identifiable biometric records constitute personal data."

"Irreversibly anonymised information falls outside personal-data regulation."

"Re-identifiable biometric templates remain personal data."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) Record I remains re-identifiable through the employer's decryption key, while Record II falls outside regulation because re-identification has been irreversibly prevented. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Record II does not remain personal data merely because it originated from biometric information; its irreversible aggregation removes individual identifiability. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.
- (c) Record III remains personal data because the processor's mapping table permits the pseudonymised voice template to be connected with the concerned individual. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) Records I and III remain re-identifiable through retained keys or mappings, whereas Record II has been irreversibly anonymised. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

76. Correct Answer: (b) Processing involving Tashi, because statutory authority, a defined suspect and prompt deletion make the restricted comparison proportionate to investigative policing needs.

Reference Lines:

"A broad surveillance objective does not automatically justify every item of biometric data."

"Constitutional privacy and proportionality may be supplied as a passage-based limitation."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The first measure indiscriminately collects several biometric identifiers, links unrelated travel records and retains non-matches for a prolonged period despite the absence of a defined suspect. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) Tashi's case involves a defined suspect, limited locations, brief deployment, prompt deletion and human verification. These safeguards closely tailor the intrusion to the investigative purpose. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.
- (c) Statutory authority and security objectives do not make both measures proportionate. The breadth and duration of Zunaira's surveillance materially distinguish the first measure. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.
- (d) The passage does not prescribe prior judicial assessment as a distinct proportionality condition. A targeted measure supported by operational safeguards may satisfy the stated limitation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

77. Correct Answer: (a) The company may retain the preserved records but decline model training, then erase them when the preservation direction later expires.

Reference Lines:

“Notice must identify the data and the purpose of processing.”

“Retention must remain connected with the lawful purpose.”

“Correction or erasure may be claimed subject to lawful retention requirements.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) The legal direction supports restricted retention for eighteen months but does not authorise unrelated model training. Erasure should follow when no lawful retention basis remains. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The ordinary ninety-day period does not displace the subsequent legal preservation direction. Koyel’s erasure request remains subject to that lawful retention requirement. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The direction covers the access logs and corresponding biometric templates. An erasure request does not give the template priority over the applicable preservation requirement. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Preservation for investigating the theft does not enlarge the stated purpose to commercial fraud-model training unrelated to the incident and unsupported by another lawful basis. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

78. Correct Answer: (a) The land and business are partitionable; the apartment remains Tvesa’s despite family occupation and minor repairs.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Exact Reference Lines:

“Coparcenary property does not include every asset held by a member.”

“It includes ancestral property retaining its coparcenary character, acquisitions supported by a sufficient joint-family nucleus, and a coparcener’s separate property deliberately thrown into the common stock with a clear intention to abandon exclusive ownership.”

“The existence of a joint family does not presume that property standing in a member’s name is joint.”

Explanation:

Option (a): The land retained its coparcenary character, and the business was funded from its income. Tvesa’s apartment remained independently financed without clear blending. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b): Family occupation and payment for minor repairs do not establish Tvesa’s clear intention to abandon exclusive ownership. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c): Ritam’s licence does not overcome audited evidence that joint-family income funded the business. The apartment’s independent source supports its separate character. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d): Property acquired using coparcenary funds need not first be blended. Blending applies where separate property is subsequently placed in the common stock. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

79. Correct Answer: (b) It remains separate because property allotted through Section 8 gives Tvesa no interest therein merely by birth.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Exact Reference Lines:

“Separate property is the wider category and includes self-acquired property and property taken individually by gift, will, or succession under Section 8.”

“Property devolving under Section 8 is held individually and does not become coparcenary property merely because the heir has children.”

Explanation:

Option (a): Property distributed under Section 8 is held individually despite having previously belonged to the recipient’s father. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b): Ujaan received the warehouse individually under Section 8. Tvesa does not acquire a birth interest in that separate property. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c): Membership in the same coparcenary does not convert every property received from an ancestor into coparcenary property. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d): Ujaan's death would cause his separate property to devolve by succession; it would not become coparcenary property among his heirs. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

80. Correct Answer: (c) It recognised daughters born before and after the Amendment as coparceners, with rights from 9 September 2005 irrespective of their father's survival.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Exact Reference Lines:

"Section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, substituted with effect from 9 September 2005 by the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005, makes a coparcener's daughter a coparcener by birth in her own right in the same manner as a son."

"In Vineeta Sharma v. Rakesh Sharma, the Supreme Court held that daughters born before or after the Amendment may claim from that date, whether or not their father was then alive."

Explanation:

Option (a): The father was not required to be alive when the Amendment commenced for an earlier-born daughter to claim from that date. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b): Coparcenary status is not confined to daughters born after commencement, nor are earlier-born daughters restricted to a partition-time benefit. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c): Daughters born before or after the Amendment may exercise coparcenary rights from 9 September 2005, regardless of their father's survival. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d): The passage does not condition a daughter's status upon her father's succession remaining unopened when the Amendment commenced. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

81. Correct Answer: (d) The notices severed Devika's joint status upon communication, while physical division and allotment of family property remained incomplete between coparceners.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Exact Reference Lines:

"Partition may signify severance of joint status or division and allotment."

"A definite and unequivocal intention communicated to affected coparceners may sever status but does not itself complete division by metes and bounds."

Explanation:

Option (a): Communication may sever joint status, but it does not complete an actual partition involving identification and allotment of specific property. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b): A registered deed or decree is unnecessary for severance produced by a definite and communicated intention. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c): Continued joint cultivation indicates the absence of physical division but does not prevent severance of status through the notices. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d): Devika's communicated intention severed her joint status, while the absence of survey and allotment left physical partition incomplete. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

82. Correct Answer: (a) The alleged oral partition may exceptionally be recognised if public documents finally evidence it with decree-like conclusiveness; testimony alone would remain insufficient.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Exact Reference Lines:

"For Section 6(5), a pre-20 December 2004 partition ordinarily requires a partition deed duly registered under the Registration Act, 1908, or a court decree."

"Vineeta Sharma permits oral partition exceptionally when supported by public documents and finally evinced as if effected by a court decree; oral evidence alone is insufficient."

Explanation:

Option (a): The contemporaneous public records may collectively satisfy the exceptional evidentiary standard. The relatives' affidavits would not be sufficient by themselves. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b): A registered deed or decree is ordinarily required, but the passage recognises a narrow exception for conclusively documented oral partitions. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c): Separate possession and family testimony cannot compensate for inconclusive public records because oral evidence alone is insufficient. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d): Mutation orders and assessments may support the alleged partition, but they do not acquire the legal character of a registered partition deed. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

83. Correct Answer: (b) No; her joint-family membership and managerial role do not make her a coparcener entitled to demand its partition independently.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Exact Reference Lines:

"A Joint Hindu family is broader than a coparcenary and may exist without property."

"A Mitakshara coparcenary is the narrower body within it, comprising persons who acquire an interest in coparcenary property."

"Every coparcener is a family member, but every member is not a coparcener."

Explanation:

Option (a): Managing coparcenary assets may establish practical involvement, but it does not confer the proprietary status of a coparcener. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b): Sucharita belongs to the broader joint Hindu family, but membership and management do not place her within the narrower coparcenary. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c): This option incorrectly denies Sucharita's acknowledged joint-family membership. The relevant issue is her lack of coparcenary status. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d): The passage links coparcenary status to acquisition of an interest in coparcenary property, not marriage or management of a particular branch. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

84. Correct Answer: (c) It should assume a partition immediately before Nirjhar's death, quantify his resulting share, and devolve that share among heirs through intestate succession.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Exact Reference Lines:

"A notional partition is a statutory fiction assumed immediately before a coparcener's death to determine the share that would have fallen to the deceased."

"It neither physically divides the property nor disrupts the coparcenary."

"Under Section 6(3), the interest devolves by testamentary or intestate succession, not by survivorship; in calculating it, a daughter receives the same share as a son."

Explanation:

Option (a): Notional partition operates immediately before death and does not require physical division when the proceedings are instituted. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b): Nirjhar's interest must be calculated immediately before death, but it devolves by succession rather than survivorship. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c): The court must notionally quantify Nirjhar's share immediately before death. That share then devolves among his heirs through intestate succession. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option (d): Nirjhar's death does not dissolve the coparcenary or bring Prachet's interest into Nirjhar's estate. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Section D: Logical Reasoning

85. Correct Answer: (b) Widening access to recorded expression

Reference Lines: "Mass literacy is a phenomenon of the past few centuries, and one that has reached the majority of the world's adult population only within the past 75 years."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) The passage mentions the emergence of writing, but it does not examine the origins of written language in detail. Its main concern is how access to literacy expanded beyond a small group of elites. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The passage traces the movement from literacy being restricted to monarchs, priests and nobles to its availability among most of the world's adult population. This expansion of access connects the different stages discussed in the passage. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) Elite control over literacy is presented as a historical condition that was gradually transformed by mass literacy. The passage does not argue that such control remained its defining feature. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The final sentence refers to another rapidly developing transformation, but most of the passage concerns the historical spread of literacy. The acceleration of communication systems is not its central theme. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

86. Correct Answer: (a) Unrecorded human expression

Reference Lines: "The vast bulk of that story is silence. Indeed, darkness and silence are the defining norms of human history."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) Human beings possessed language long before writing developed, but most of their speech and experiences left no permanent evidence. "Darkness and silence" refer to this absence of a surviving record. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) The passage later discusses elite control over literacy, but the phrase refers more broadly to the vast period from which no written record survives. It is not limited to the deliberate restriction of speech. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The passage states that human beings had already developed language capable of communicating the world and their inner lives. The silence arises from the absence of preservation, not from the absence of thought or language. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Elite written communication produced records that survived across time. It belongs to recorded history rather than to the darkness and silence described by the author. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

87. Correct Answer: (c) Writing gave elite voices greater permanence in the historical record.

Reference Lines: "Reading and writing remained among the most elite human activities: the province of monarchs, priests and nobles who reserved for themselves the privilege of lasting words."

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Writing may have assisted communication within governing institutions, but the passage does not discuss administrative coordination. Its emphasis is on which groups possessed the ability to preserve their words. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Monarchs and priests had access to writing, but the passage does not claim that writing gained authority specifically through religious or administrative use. The relevant advantage was the permanence that writing gave to elite voices. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Monarchs, priests and nobles could place their words in a form that survived beyond their immediate lives. Groups without access to literacy were less visible in the surviving historical record. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) Writing remained restricted to politically, socially and religiously powerful groups for most of recorded history. Broader participation developed much later through mass literacy. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

88. Correct Answer: (d) Literacy expanded substantially despite population growth.

Reference Lines: "In 1950, UNESCO estimated that 44 per cent of the people in the world aged 15 and over were illiterate; by 2012, that proportion had reduced to just 16 per cent..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The word "despite" presents population growth as a circumstance that makes the fall in illiteracy more significant. It does not establish that population growth caused literacy to expand. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The percentage of illiterate adults declined, but the passage does not provide enough information to determine the precise change in their absolute number. A smaller percentage of a much larger population may still represent a substantial number. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) If literacy had increased only at the same rate as the population, the proportion of illiterate adults would not have fallen from 44 per cent to 16 per cent. The figures show progress beyond demographic expansion. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The illiteracy rate fell substantially even though the global population became three times larger. This indicates that literacy expanded on a scale sufficient to overcome rapid population growth. Hence, option (d) is correct.

89. Correct Answer: (b) Public education reached broad sections of society mainly in modern times.

Reference Lines: "Mass literacy is a phenomenon of the past few centuries..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate-Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Ancient written records show that writing existed long ago, but they may have been produced by a limited class of officials and scribes. Their existence does not show that literacy was widespread. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The modern expansion of public education would explain why reading and writing remained restricted for most of history and became widely accessible only recently. This supports both the timing and scale of the revolution. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) Oral traditions demonstrate that communities could preserve knowledge without widespread reading and writing. They do not establish that mass literacy developed only in recent centuries. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Changes in the definition of literacy may influence modern statistics, but they do not show that access to literacy expanded across broad sections of society. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

90. Correct Answer: (a) A subsequent communication transformation is advancing at a faster pace.

Reference Lines: "However, while the full effects of this revolution continue to unfold, we find ourselves in the throes of another whose statistics are still more accelerated."

Difficulty Level: Moderate-Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author moves from the expansion of mass literacy to another ongoing transformation whose measurable growth is even faster. The surrounding discussion indicates that this newer development concerns communication and expression. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) The passage states that the effects of mass literacy "continue to unfold." It does not suggest that its consequences are approaching completion. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Population growth is used to emphasise the achievement of literacy expansion. The passage does not indicate that population is beginning to reverse or exceed those gains. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The historical movement described is from restricted literacy towards wider access. Nothing in the final sentence indicates a return to specialised control over written expression. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

91. Correct Answer: (d) AI regulation should prevent harm without unnecessarily restricting technological innovation.

Reference Lines: "Countries around the world are attempting to strike a balance between encouraging innovation in artificial intelligence and regulating it adequately to prevent harm."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) The passage states that some risks associated with generative AI are not immediately visible. Waiting until every harm has been clearly demonstrated would leave emerging risks outside regulatory attention. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The passage explains that existing laws were not designed with artificial intelligence in mind and must be extended to address new disputes. It does not recommend relying upon them until courts formally declare them inadequate. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Courts are addressing current disputes because a dedicated legal framework is absent. The passage does not present courts as the preferred primary regulators of artificial intelligence. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The author describes the regulatory challenge as balancing technological innovation with adequate protection against harm. Regulation should therefore provide safeguards without unnecessarily obstructing innovation. Hence, option (d) is correct.

92. Correct Answer: (a) Countries with dedicated AI frameworks resolve copyright disputes consistently while continuing to attract substantial AI investment.

Reference Lines: “India currently does not have a dedicated law governing artificial intelligence.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The evidence would show that a dedicated framework can improve consistency in resolving disputes while allowing technological investment to continue. It supports both legal clarity and the balance between regulation and innovation. Hence, option (a) is correct.
- (b) Consistent outcomes without a dedicated framework would indicate that existing intellectual-property principles can address AI disputes. This would reduce the force of the argument for specialised regulation. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) Successful application of traditional copyright law to earlier technologies would suggest that established principles may also be adapted to generative AI. This would weaken rather than strengthen the need for a dedicated framework. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) A reduction in objections caused by commercial exposure would not resolve questions of consent, compensation, authorship or legal liability. It does not establish that a clearer regulatory framework is required. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

93. Correct Answer: (b) Judicial adaptation of existing law may be necessary but cannot eliminate the underlying regulatory gap.

Reference Lines: “Some of these cases expose the gaps in existing legal frameworks and force courts to rely on laws that were never designed with AI in mind and stretch them to include AI.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The passage recognises that AI-related disputes have already reached courts and require resolution. It does not state that courts should postpone such cases until legislation is enacted. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) Courts may need to extend existing legal principles to decide immediate disputes, but the need to stretch those laws demonstrates that they do not fully address AI-related issues. Judicial adaptation cannot remove the wider gap. Hence, option (b) is correct.
- (c) The passage describes courts applying laws to artificial intelligence even though those laws did not originally contemplate the technology. It does not require an express reference to AI before a law can be applied. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) The passage treats the extension of existing laws as evidence of regulatory inadequacy. It does not suggest that judicial interpretation can resolve most of the identified gaps without legislative assistance. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

94. Correct Answer: (c) Generative AI may create legal concerns during both model training and content generation.

Reference Lines: “The legal issues surrounding generative AI arise both from the way these models are developed and from the outputs they generate.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The presence of copyrighted material in a training dataset may raise legal questions, but the passage does not establish that every such use creates liability. The legal position remains disputed. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) One view described in the passage treats training as a technical learning process and places copyright liability at the output stage. Output-stage liability therefore does not depend upon proving infringement during training. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) The passage expressly identifies development-stage concerns involving training data and output-stage concerns involving generated content. Legal issues may therefore arise at both stages. Hence, option (c) is correct.
- (d) The passage states that existing laws were not designed for AI and must be extended to address emerging disputes. It does not identify a single complete framework governing both stages. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

95. Correct Answer: (d) Excluding training practices from scrutiny and examining only publicly generated outputs.

Reference Lines: “On the development side, questions emerge around the data used to train these systems, often involving copyrighted works, personal data, or scraped online content.”

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Statutory standards would clarify when copyrighted or personal material may be lawfully used during model development. This would address one of the principal uncertainties identified in the passage. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

- (b) A standard for substantial reproduction would help courts and parties determine when generated outputs infringe protected expression. This would strengthen legal clarity. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) Interim judicial principles could provide guidance for current disputes while specialised legislation is developed. They would improve legal responsiveness even if they did not provide a complete solution. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) The passage identifies concerns arising from both training practices and generated outputs. Excluding training from scrutiny would leave questions involving copyrighted works, personal data and scraped content unaddressed. Hence, option (d) is correct.

96. Correct Answer: (a) Training alone does not establish copyright infringement.

Reference Lines: "Another view holds that training is merely a technical learning process and that copyright is implicated only at the output stage..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) If copyright is implicated only when a substantially similar and competing output is generated, the training process cannot independently establish infringement. This assumption is necessary for the stated position. Hence, option (a) is correct.
- (b) The passage does not distinguish between training copies that are retained and those that are removed. The position described treats training generally as a technical process rather than making liability depend on retention. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) Giving copyright owners control over any learning process influenced by their works would make training legally significant in itself. This conflicts with the view that copyright becomes relevant only at the output stage. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) The passage refers to substantial similarity and market competition, not merely word-for-word reproduction. Avoiding verbatim copying is not sufficient to determine originality or infringement. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

97. Correct Answer: (b) The incorrect classification of disturbed deposits as intact

Reference Lines: "Most fieldworkers are trained in artefact classification, but few have expertise in geoarchaeology, resulting in some disturbed deposits being recorded as intact layers."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) Recovering charcoal from different trenches is not inherently unreliable. Charcoal obtained from sealed hearths produces dates that correspond with the ceramic sequence, showing that the security of the context is the relevant factor. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) Recording a disturbed deposit as intact may falsely associate materials belonging to different periods. This can create an inaccurate occupation sequence and directly reduce chronological reliability. Hence, option (b) is correct.
- (c) Medieval disturbance creates an interpretive difficulty, but identifying it allows archaeologists to account for its effects. The principal error is failing to recognise that a deposit has been disturbed. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) Comparing ceramic evidence with radiocarbon dates helps reveal inconsistencies and test the proposed chronology. It is a method of verification rather than a cause of declining reliability. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

98. Correct Answer: (c) Its calibration may not correspond with the site's soil conditions.

Reference Lines: "The survey recently introduced ground-penetrating radar calibrated mainly for dry, compact soil, although the site contains saline and seasonally waterlogged deposits."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) The timing of the radar's introduction does not explain why its readings may be unreliable. The problem concerns the conditions for which the equipment was calibrated. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The neighbouring survey's success shows that similar technology can work when used under suitable conditions and with specialist support. It does not explain the present survey's difficulties. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) Equipment calibrated for dry, compact soil may produce less reliable readings in saline and seasonally waterlogged deposits. The mismatch between calibration and site conditions may affect the interpretation of buried features. Hence, option (c) is correct.
- (d) Comparing radar findings with ceramic and radiocarbon evidence can help detect inconsistencies. Such comparison is not itself a source of methodological error. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

99. Correct Answer: (d) The neighbouring project combines suitable terrain with specialist analysis.

Reference Lines: "A neighbouring survey uses similar radar technology on dry upland terrain and employs sediment specialists, producing a consistent sequence of occupation."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) The passage does not state that the neighbouring project uses radar mainly to confirm features that have already been excavated. Its exact operational use of the equipment is not described. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The neighbouring survey employs sediment specialists, but the passage does not state that it dates only material from sealed contexts. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) No information is provided about the relative detail of the ceramic sequences maintained by the two surveys. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) The neighbouring project operates on dry upland terrain suited to the radar's calibration and employs sediment specialists. These factors distinguish it from the present survey and help explain its consistent chronology. Hence, option (d) is correct.

100. Correct Answer: (a) It may combine materials from different periods into a false sequence.

Reference Lines: "Several excavated trenches contain layers disturbed by medieval well-digging and later agricultural activity."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) Disturbance may move pottery, charcoal and other materials away from their original layers. Treating the deposit as intact may therefore place material from different periods into an artificial chronological sequence. Hence, option (a) is correct.
- (b) Disturbed deposits may contain earlier or later material, but they do not cause every radiocarbon result to move towards the medieval period. The direction of the error depends on the displaced sample. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) The error described involves disturbed deposits being classified as intact. It does not involve secure ceramic groups being incorrectly classified as disturbed. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) A laboratory may measure a sample accurately even when its archaeological context is unreliable. The problem concerns the historical meaning of the date rather than the technical precision of the measurement. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

101. Correct Answer: (b) Use specialist review and prioritise sealed contexts for dating.

Reference Lines: "Radiocarbon dates from charcoal recovered in disturbed trenches conflict with the ceramic sequence, while dates from sealed hearths in undisturbed trenches correspond with it."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) Collecting more samples from insecure contexts would repeat the existing methodological problem. A larger number of unreliable samples would not produce a reliable chronology. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) Specialists can distinguish intact layers from mixed deposits, while sealed contexts reduce the risk that samples have been displaced. The agreement between sealed-hearth dates and ceramic evidence supports this approach. Hence, option (b) is correct.
- (c) Local recalibration may improve radar performance, but radar findings cannot independently establish the complete occupation sequence. They must be interpreted alongside secure excavated evidence. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) The integrity of the deposits must be established before ceramics are placed into a chronological sequence. Reconstructing the sequence first would preserve the contextual uncertainty. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

102. Correct Answer: (c) It may misrepresent the settlement's history and damage the project's credibility.

Reference Lines: "The project aims to reconstruct the sequence in which the site was occupied, but its recent findings have produced inconsistent dates and uncertain conclusions."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) Publication could influence attitudes towards radar, but this is not the most immediate consequence of presenting an unreliable occupation sequence. The direct problem concerns the interpretation of the settlement. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The passage shows that ceramic evidence agrees with dates from secure contexts. Publishing an inconsistent chronology would not necessarily cause ceramics to be dismissed altogether. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) An inaccurate sequence may assign structures, artefacts or phases of occupation to the wrong periods. Publishing such conclusions may misrepresent the settlement and reduce confidence in the survey's methods. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) The conflict results from samples recovered from disturbed contexts, not from an inherent defect in radiocarbon dating. It would not establish disturbance as evidence against the dating method itself. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

103. Correct Answer: (c) Inequalities affecting access and participation

Reference Lines: "This approach conflates logistical efficiency with social equity."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) Improved platform security may reduce unauthorised access and manipulation of examination records. These are technological and operational problems that redesign may address. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Centralised databases and improved record management may help identify duplicate entries across fragmented systems. This is primarily an administrative problem. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Inequalities in access and participation arise from wider social, economic and institutional conditions. Redesigning software does not by itself remove these structural disadvantages. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) Better coordination and centralised data management may reduce processing delays caused by poorly connected administrative systems. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

104. Correct Answer: (b) It provides vulnerable candidates with fair access through reliable verification.

Reference Lines: "It is a manifestation of a deep, chronic flaw in the ruling establishment's imagination that socio-political crises can be engineered away through top-down, technocratic management."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The author distinguishes logistical efficiency from social equity. A technological system may improve administration while failing to address the unequal conditions affecting candidates. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The Aadhaar example shows that verification systems may reject genuine beneficiaries because of biometric or connectivity failures. The author therefore does not accept that reliable-looking verification guarantees fair access to vulnerable candidates. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) The passage criticises the government for approaching institutional failures as problems that can be corrected through software, databases and technical redesign. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The author argues that technocratic reform fails to address the social and political dimensions underlying examination-related crises. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

105. Correct Answer: (a) Independent audits found many rejected claimants were eligible and reinstated after human review.

Reference Lines: "Welfare systems are vulnerable to two types of errors: inclusion errors... and exclusion errors..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The finding demonstrates that the automated process rejected people who were actually eligible and that the rejection was corrected through human review. This independently confirms the occurrence of exclusion errors. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) The removal of duplicate claimants concerns inclusion errors because it involves preventing ineligible or repeated claims. It does not show that genuine beneficiaries were being excluded. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The admission of ineligible claimants through manual processes also concerns inclusion errors. It does not support the author's argument about eligible people being wrongly denied benefits. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Faster processing under stable connectivity shows an administrative benefit of biometric systems. It does not establish that genuine claimants are excluded when verification fails. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

106. Correct Answer: (d) Lower disbursement figures that may include genuine beneficiaries denied after failed authentication.

Reference Lines: "In the government's dashboard, these were recorded as 'savings' or 'elimination of ghost beneficiaries.'"

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) The author argues that some people recorded as removed duplicates or ghost beneficiaries were genuine claimants who had experienced authentication failure. The reported savings were not limited to verified duplicates. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The passage does not state that each rejected claim was independently examined before the reduction in expenditure was recorded as a saving. The criticism arises precisely because valid claims may have been denied. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) The official description concerns the reduction in welfare disbursement, not a limited improvement in administrative efficiency. This does not capture what was recorded as savings. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) The lower expenditure recorded as savings may include benefits denied to eligible citizens because a biometric device or digital system failed. The official figures may therefore conceal wrongful exclusion. Hence, option (d) is correct.

107. Correct Answer: (c) They must establish their legitimacy when the technological process rejects them.

Reference Lines: "Technocratic solutions shift the burden of proof onto the vulnerable."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) The passage does not state that alternative verification becomes available only after repeated failures. The relevant burden is the requirement to challenge the rejection and establish eligibility. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The examples show that benefits may be denied when authentication fails. Vulnerable citizens do not necessarily continue receiving support while the digital record is examined. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) When the technological system rejects a genuine claimant, the claimant must demonstrate eligibility and seek correction of the system's decision. The burden consequently shifts from the institution to the vulnerable citizen. Hence, option (c) is correct.
- (d) Administrative assistance may be needed, but the burden described is not merely the difficulty of locating an error. It is the obligation to prove legitimacy after the system has treated the claimant as ineligible. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

108. Correct Answer: (b) Providing manual review after digital verification fails

Reference Lines: "Elderly citizens, manual labourers with worn fingertips, or rural households in connectivity blindspots were denied basic rations and pensions because an Electronic Point of Sale machine failed to authenticate their identity."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

- (a) Treating authentication failure as proof of ineligibility may deny benefits to genuine claimants. It creates an exclusion risk and undermines equitable governance. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) Manual review provides an alternative means of establishing eligibility when a digital system fails. It reduces the risk of wrongful exclusion rather than creating an additional challenge. Hence, option (b) is correct.
- (c) Evaluating success mainly through reduced disbursement may reward the denial of valid claims and record those denials as savings. This undermines fairness. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) Dependence on connectivity and biometric matching disadvantages rural households, manual labourers and others for whom authentication may fail. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

Section E: Quantitative Techniques

109. Correct Answer: (a) 12 : 12 : 10 : 5

Explanation:

Arjun's capital-months are $\text{₹}6,00,000 \times 12 = \text{₹}72,00,000$. Bilal invested $\text{₹}4,00,000$ for six months and $\text{₹}8,00,000$ for six months, giving $\text{₹}24,00,000 + \text{₹}48,00,000 = \text{₹}72,00,000$ capital-months. Chitra's capital-months are $\text{₹}5,00,000 \times 12 = \text{₹}60,00,000$, while Deepak's are $\text{₹}10,00,000 \times 3 = \text{₹}30,00,000$. The ratio 72 : 72 : 60 : 30 simplifies to 12 : 12 : 10 : 5. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

110. Correct Answer: (b) ₹1,95,000

Explanation:

Arjun's interest is $\text{₹}6,00,000 \times 10\% = \text{₹}60,000$. Bilal earns $\text{₹}4,00,000 \times 10\% \times 6/12$ plus $\text{₹}8,00,000 \times 10\% \times 6/12$, giving $\text{₹}20,000 + \text{₹}40,000 = \text{₹}60,000$. Chitra receives $\text{₹}5,00,000 \times 10\% = \text{₹}50,000$, while Deepak receives $\text{₹}10,00,000 \times 10\% \times 3/12 = \text{₹}25,000$. The total interest is $\text{₹}60,000 + \text{₹}60,000 + \text{₹}50,000 + \text{₹}25,000 = \text{₹}1,95,000$. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

111. Correct Answer: (c) ₹19,50,000

Explanation:

The general reserve is 5% of $\text{₹}26,00,000$, which equals $\text{₹}1,30,000$. Total interest on capital is $\text{₹}1,95,000$, Arjun's annual salary is $\text{₹}25,000 \times 12 = \text{₹}3,00,000$ and Chitra's bonus is $\text{₹}25,000$. Therefore, the remaining profit is $\text{₹}26,00,000 - \text{₹}1,30,000 - \text{₹}1,95,000 - \text{₹}3,00,000 - \text{₹}25,000 = \text{₹}19,50,000$. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

112. Correct Answer: (d) ₹60,000

Explanation:

The remaining profit of $\text{₹}19,50,000$ is divided in the ratio 12 : 12 : 10 : 5, whose total is 39. Deepak's share is $\text{₹}19,50,000 \times 5/39 = \text{₹}2,50,000$. He also receives $\text{₹}25,000$ as interest on capital, making his normal total receipt $\text{₹}2,75,000$. Since he is guaranteed $\text{₹}3,35,000$, the deficiency is $\text{₹}3,35,000 - \text{₹}2,75,000 = \text{₹}60,000$. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

113. Correct Answer: (b) ₹5,35,000

Explanation:

Chitra's normal share of the remaining profit is $\text{₹}19,50,000 \times 10/39 = \text{₹}5,00,000$. She also receives $\text{₹}50,000$ as interest and a bonus of $\text{₹}25,000$, giving a normal total receipt of $\text{₹}5,75,000$. Deepak's deficiency of $\text{₹}60,000$ is borne by Bilal and Chitra in the ratio 1 : 2. Chitra therefore bears $\text{₹}40,000$, and her final receipt is $\text{₹}5,75,000 - \text{₹}40,000 = \text{₹}5,35,000$. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

114. Correct Answer: (c) 38.87%

Explanation:

Arjun receives $\text{₹}60,000$ as interest on capital, $\text{₹}3,00,000$ as management salary and $\text{₹}6,00,000$ as his share of the remaining profit. His final total receipt is therefore $\text{₹}9,60,000$. The profit distributed among the partners, excluding the reserve, is $\text{₹}26,00,000 - \text{₹}1,30,000 = \text{₹}24,70,000$. Arjun's percentage share is $\text{₹}9,60,000 \div \text{₹}24,70,000 \times 100$, which is approximately 38.87%. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

115. Correct Answer: (b) 6 : 6 : 5 : 3

Explanation:

Eshan's capital-months are $\text{₹}6,00,000 \times 12 = \text{₹}72,00,000$. Farah's capital-months are $\text{₹}4,00,000 \times 6 + \text{₹}8,00,000 \times 6 = \text{₹}72,00,000$. Gaurav's capital-months are $\text{₹}3,00,000 \times 4 + \text{₹}6,00,000 \times 8 = \text{₹}60,00,000$. Hina's capital-months are $\text{₹}6,00,000 \times 6 = \text{₹}36,00,000$. The ratio 72 : 72 : 60 : 36 simplifies to 6 : 6 : 5 : 3. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

116. Correct Answer: (c) ₹18,000

Explanation:

Farah advanced a loan of ₹2,00,000 on 1 April, and it remained with the firm for nine months, from April to December. The interest is calculated at 12% per annum. Therefore, loan interest equals $₹2,00,000 \times 12\% \times 9/12 = ₹18,000$. The loan is separate from Farah's capital and does not affect the profit-sharing ratio. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

117. Correct Answer: (a) ₹2,70,000

Explanation:

Profit after deducting Farah's loan interest is $₹30,18,000 - ₹18,000 = ₹30,00,000$. The general reserve is 10% of ₹30,00,000, which equals ₹3,00,000. The amount remaining after deducting the loan interest and reserve is therefore ₹27,00,000. Hina's commission is 10% of this amount, giving ₹2,70,000. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

118. Correct Answer: (d) ₹20,70,000

Explanation:

Profit after loan interest is ₹30,00,000. From this, ₹3,00,000 is transferred to reserve. Eshan's annual salary is $₹30,000 \times 12 = ₹3,60,000$, while Hina's commission is ₹2,70,000. The remaining profit is $₹30,00,000 - ₹3,00,000 - ₹3,60,000 - ₹2,70,000 = ₹20,70,000$. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

119. Correct Answer: (b) ₹9,45,300

Explanation:

Eshan's share of the remaining profit is $₹20,70,000 \times 6/20 = ₹6,21,000$. Including his salary of ₹3,60,000, his normal total receipt is ₹9,81,000. Hina normally receives ₹3,10,500 as her residual share and ₹2,70,000 as commission, totalling ₹5,80,500. Her deficiency is ₹59,500, of which Eshan bears $3/5$, or ₹35,700. Eshan's final receipt is therefore $₹9,81,000 - ₹35,700 = ₹9,45,300$. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

120. Correct Answer: (c) 10.25%

Explanation:

Hina's normal share of the remaining profit is $₹20,70,000 \times 3/20 = ₹3,10,500$. After including her commission of ₹2,70,000, her normal total profit receipt is ₹5,80,500. The guarantee increases her receipt to ₹6,40,000, an increase of ₹59,500. The percentage increase is $₹59,500 \div ₹5,80,500 \times 100$, which is approximately 10.25%. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.