

COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST (CLAT) 2027
Mock 202719: Answer Key and Solution



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

Section A: English Language

1. Correct Answer: (b) Family obligations and domestic space continually reshape one another.

Reference Lines: "The never-ending story of the making of Victoria's house was intimately intertwined with another story... the gradual and constantly reconfigured settlement of her children's families." / "Such intertwining of materiality and relatedness becomes especially clear..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage places Victoria's experience within a broader history of informal housing, but it does not explain such housing mainly through failures of formal urban provision. The author's sustained concern is the relationship between changing family arrangements and changing domestic space. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Rooms are rearranged or added as generations enter, leave, and return, while the possibilities offered by the house influence how these relationships are managed. The passage therefore treats material space and family relatedness as mutually shaping processes. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) Economic limitation forms part of the background, but the passage does not identify affordability as the principal reason for multigenerational residence. Moral expectations of welcome, return, and family membership are equally central. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The parental home remains open to returning children, but family members can and do establish separate residences. The passage concerns reversible separation, not the prevention of household separation altogether. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

2. Correct Answer: (a) Residential departure need not terminate one's claim to familial belonging.

Reference Lines: "...she had moved to a small, rented house... in order to make space for her own grandchildren." / "If my husband tells me to leave, I come back here. You know that your parents will always open the door to you."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The daughter has physically left the household but continues to understand her mother's home as a place to which she can return without losing her standing within the family. The passage therefore separates residential departure from the ending of familial membership. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) Her move does not mark a steady decline in dependence because the possibility of returning remains central to her understanding of home. The author emphasises reversibility rather than progressive detachment. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The daughter moves partly to create space for her own grandchildren, showing that obligations towards younger generations remain active. Family responsibility is therefore not simply transferred back to the parents. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Her connection to Victoria's home remains materially significant because it includes an expectation of shelter during personal difficulty. Separate residence therefore does not end practical dependence. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

3. Correct Answer: (b) Familial refuge may also constrain those who remain within it.

Reference Lines: "'crowded together'... 'you cannot fight for your life, fight for yourself.'" / "It can crowd and exhaust as readily as it can shelter..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage acknowledges the burden created by accommodating several generations, but it does not suggest that hospitality itself eventually becomes impossible. The moral obligation to keep the home open remains strong. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The house offers security because children know they can return, yet the same openness creates crowding and can restrict those already living there. The sentence captures protection and constraint operating together. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) Residence is portrayed as fluid and reversible, with people leaving, returning, and rearranging domestic space. The passage does not suggest that household expansion makes dependence permanent. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The restriction described concerns those living within the crowded home. The passage does not connect familial openness with a weakening of neighbourhood or community relations. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

4. Correct Answer: (c) spatial changes may still ease tensions created by continuing family obligations.

Reference Lines: "...because it is never finished, it holds the conflict open, as something that might yet be eased by a room added at the back, a wall moved, a life rearranged."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Completion is not presented as an eventual reward awaiting a more stable family structure. The value of the house lies precisely in its continuing capacity to change when family circumstances change. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The tensions arise from the coexistence of family obligations and individual needs, not merely from economic dependence. The passage gives no basis for assuming that greater independence would eliminate such tensions. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Because the obligation to receive family members remains powerful, the conflict cannot simply be removed. An additional room or changed wall may, however, make that conflict more manageable, which is the possibility the unfinished house preserves. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) Home-leaving is described as reversible, but the "wager" concerns the possibility of easing tensions through future rearrangement. It is not primarily about postponing separation. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

5. Correct Answer: (a) To locate household arrangements within a wider history of urban self-building.

Reference Lines: "Victoria's story is part of a broader reality among poor urban populations across Latin America..." / "...their houses, streets and public spaces still bearing the marks of that history, as do the family configurations and forms of local sociability..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The final paragraph expands Victoria's experience into a larger urban history in which houses, family arrangements, neighbourhood relations, and civic participation developed together. Her household is thus situated within a broader social and material pattern. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) The author does not separate private family life from settlement formation. Instead, family configurations and forms of sociability are explicitly said to bear the marks of how these neighbourhoods developed. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Although some settlements were later regularised, the passage stresses that they still bear traces of their earlier development. Regularisation therefore did not erase the effects of their informal origins. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The passage identifies informal housing as historically significant, but it does not claim that it was the chief or universal pattern of Latin American urban growth. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

6. Correct Answer: (c) Self-building remained an achievement despite the sacrifices it imposed.

Reference Lines: "Victoria, who took such pleasure in recounting how it was built, spoke of those years in another register too..." / "She still dreamed of the terrace, the small garden, the raised kitchen floor she never had room to finish."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The house certainly supported several generations, but Victoria's pleasure in building it is not explained mainly by its role in preserving family continuity. The passage also stresses her personal investment in its making and her unrealised aspirations. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Victoria's unfinished plans do show that household demands limited what she could complete. However, this captures only the sacrifice involved and not the simultaneous pride with which she remembers constructing the house. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Victoria remembers the process with pleasure while also recalling crowding and the parts of the house she could never finish. Her account therefore combines accomplishment with the personal costs of sustaining an adaptable family home. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) The passage does not suggest that incompleteness reduced Victoria's emotional attachment to the house. Her pleasure in recounting its construction remains evident despite the frustrations associated with it. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

7. Correct Answer: (b) Features intended for psychological well-being could also support crew productivity.

Reference Lines: "Loewy gave input to NASA with psychological well-being in mind." / "While they were initially skeptical of Loewy's focus on details, Karafantis writes that his 'design choices had a significant impact on the productiveness of the crew.'"

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Loewy's transport-design experience prepared him for working with confined interiors, but the astronauts' later experience does not establish that such prior experience was necessary for habitat design. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Loewy introduced colour variety, privacy and windows with psychological well-being in mind, and the crew later found his choices valuable for productivity. The passage therefore links psychological design with effective performance. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) The passage mentions engineering difficulties surrounding some features, but it does not state that these difficulties caused the astronauts' initial scepticism. Their precise reason for doubting Loewy's emphasis is not specified. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) The passage connects good living conditions with productivity rather than setting comfort against scientific work. Psychological well-being is presented as supporting effective functioning within the station. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

8. Correct Answer: (b) Cameras were meant chiefly for later comparison with astronaut behaviour.

Reference Lines: "The aquanauts took psychological questionnaires, which the researchers hoped to compare with similar ones taken by Antarctic explorers." / "Psychologists hoped the controlled environment of the habitat would enable more detailed behavior studies."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage explicitly states that researchers hoped to compare the aquanauts' questionnaires with similar questionnaires completed by Antarctic explorers. This makes the statement consistent with the passage. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The cameras formed part of detailed behavioural observation within Sealab, but the passage does not say their chief purpose was comparison with astronauts. The stated comparison was with Antarctic explorers and concerned questionnaires. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) Psychologists believed that Sealab's controlled setting would allow them to observe behaviour in greater detail. This accurately reflects the research value attributed to the habitat. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Sealab was primarily a Navy project testing prolonged underwater habitation, but it also became a valuable site for psychological research. Its research significance therefore went beyond its immediate operational aim. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

9. Correct Answer: (d) Impetus.

Reference Lines: "Then NASA used the momentum from Apollo to create their own station, building Skylab within a Saturn V fuel tank."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) "Legacy" refers to something inherited from an earlier achievement, which partly fits Apollo's relationship with Skylab. However, it lacks the sense of active forward drive conveyed by "momentum." Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) "Continuity" suggests that Skylab was simply an uninterrupted continuation of Apollo. The sentence instead indicates that Apollo provided energy or support enabling NASA to move towards a new project. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Apollo's prestige may have benefited NASA, but the passage does not limit "momentum" to public reputation or status. The word includes the broader forward force generated by Apollo's success and resources. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) "Impetus" refers to a force or stimulus that drives further action. Apollo supplied precisely such forward movement for NASA's development of Skylab. Hence, option (d) is correct.

10. Correct Answer: (a) Psychological comfort formed part of making confinement workable.

Reference Lines: "Loewy gave input to NASA with psychological well-being in mind." / "He paid close attention to color schemes, emphasizing variety to stave off boredom. He pushed for private spaces and windows..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Loewy treated colour, privacy and windows as relevant to psychological well-being, showing that successful habitation required more than technical survival. The living environment itself had to support people psychologically during confinement. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) Privacy was one important design consideration, but the passage never places it above scientific performance. The later reference to productivity actually connects psychological design with effective work. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Colour variety was intended to stave off boredom, but the passage does not identify social isolation as the specific problem behind that choice. This adds a narrower explanation than the text provides. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Loewy advocated psychologically useful features despite engineering difficulties, but this does not mean aesthetic concerns were given priority over technical constraints. His choices were functional rather than merely aesthetic. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

11. Correct Answer: (c) A historical narrative showing how extreme habitats became psychological laboratories.

Reference Lines: "Psychologists quickly became involved, studying how people coped with extreme living situations." / "Historian Layne Karafantis argues that the Sealab II and Skylab projects enabled unique methods of psychological research..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Cold War competition explains why space and the deep sea mattered strategically, but military history is not the passage's main organizing concern. Much of the discussion instead examines psychological research and habitat design. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The passage mentions questionnaires, observations, and psychological inventories, but it does not present actual comparative data or scientific findings from the two projects. It therefore cannot accurately be called a scientific comparison. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The passage historically traces how Sealab and Skylab created controlled environments in which psychologists could study people living under extreme conditions. It also shows how these concerns influenced the design of habitable space. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) The passage does not claim that Skylab was designed to correct specific failures found in Sealab. The projects are linked through psychological research, but no simple design progression from one to the other is established. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

12. Correct Answer: (b) Both raised related questions about sustained human performance under stress.

Reference Lines: "Space and the deep sea had become Cold War battlegrounds, and it was important to know how people might operate in these environments." / "Psychologists quickly became involved, studying how people coped with extreme living situations."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Space and the deep sea both had Cold War significance, but the passage does not treat them as strategically equivalent. Their missions differed even though both created difficult environments for human beings. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The passage connects Sealab and Skylab through the shared problem of how people function when living and working for extended periods in extreme, confined conditions. This common concern explains the psychological interest in both projects. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) Sealab had independent Navy objectives, including possible espionage and weapons recovery missions. The passage does not present it mainly as a prototype for space-station research. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Psychological research became important in both settings, but it supplemented rather than replaced their military, scientific, and exploratory purposes. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

13. Correct Answer: (d) Its severe simplicity contrasts with his normally elaborate visual systems.

Reference Lines: "The image was startling to me because it was so different from the other images of Fludd's that we are used to — elaborate, ornate, hyper-complex diagrams..." / "Looking at it out of context, I find Fludd's image indelibly modern, in both its simplicity and its austerity."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage states that Fludd's other diagrams concern both planets and the mind, but their subject matter is not the principal contrast with the black square. The striking difference lies in visual complexity versus extreme simplicity. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The author finds the image surprisingly modern, but does not claim that Fludd abandoned Renaissance symbolism or his cosmological framework. The square remains embedded within his own system of thought. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The black square is geometrically simple, but merely lacking planetary structures does not explain why it startled the author. Its austerity stands against Fludd's broader habit of elaborate visual representation. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Fludd was known for ornate and highly complex diagrams, whereas this image is reduced to a simple black square. The author repeatedly identifies this contrast in simplicity and austerity as remarkable. Hence, option (d) is correct.

14. Correct Answer: (c) Paradox.

Reference Lines: "And so we get a 'colour' that is not really a colour..." / "And we get a square that is not really a square, a box meant to indicate boundlessness."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) Antithesis places contrasting ideas in balanced opposition, but these statements do more than juxtapose opposites. Each formulation appears self-contradictory while expressing the deeper function of the image. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Metonymy substitutes something associated with an idea for the idea itself. Although the square represents something beyond itself, the quoted wording is built around apparent contradiction rather than associative substitution. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The expressions affirm and deny the same visible quality: the colour is treated as beyond ordinary colour, and the bounded square as suggesting boundlessness. Their apparent contradiction conveys a coherent conceptual point, making them paradoxes. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) Synecdoche uses a part to represent a whole or the whole to represent a part. That relationship does not explain the self-negating structure of these two formulations. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

15. Correct Answer: (d) Graphic simplicity : effortless interpretation.

Reference Lines: "The viewer must understand the square as formlessness and the black inside as neither a fullness nor an emptiness." / "This simple little image requires a lot of work on the part of the viewer, perhaps as much work as in Fludd's other, more complex diagrams."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The square has visible edges, but Fludd marks those edges with "Et sic in infinitum," requiring the viewer to treat the bounded shape as pointing beyond its own limits. The pairing therefore captures the tension between what is seen and what must be understood. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) A square is a definite geometrical form, yet the passage states that the viewer must understand it as "formlessness." This opposition is central to the self-negating representational strategy described by the author. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The black interior appears visually substantial, but the author specifically says it should be understood as "neither a fullness nor an emptiness." The pairing therefore reflects the image's refusal of ordinary visual categories. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Although the image is graphically simple, the author stresses that it demands substantial interpretive effort, perhaps as much as Fludd's elaborate diagrams. Simplicity of appearance therefore does not produce effortless understanding. Hence, option (d) is correct.

16. Correct Answer: (b) Syncretic.

Reference Lines: "...an ambitious, multi-volume, syncretic theory-of-everything..." / "For a synthetic, systematic thinker like Fludd..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) "Systematic" indicates an organised and methodical structure, but it does not specifically suggest the combination of different intellectual traditions or systems. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) "Syncretic" specifically conveys the joining or reconciliation of different systems of belief or thought. In context, it best captures the wide-ranging intellectual synthesis attempted by Fludd's work. Hence, option (b) is correct.

(c) "Totalising" describes the ambition to account for everything within one comprehensive framework. It indicates scope rather than the blending of distinct traditions. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) "Synthetic" suggests bringing elements together into a whole and is therefore related, but in this passage "syncretic" more precisely conveys the combination of differing systems of thought. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

17. Correct Answer: (a) Visible boundaries are meant to suggest extension beyond themselves.

Reference Lines: "Fludd also seemed aware of the limits of representation, noting on each edge of the black square, Et sic in infinitum, 'And so on to infinity. . .'" / "...a square that is not really a square, a box meant to indicate boundlessness."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The inscription on every edge prevents the viewer from treating the square as a genuinely closed space. Its physical boundaries must instead be understood as pointing towards an infinity that the image itself cannot literally contain. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(b) The words suggest continuation beyond the drawn limits, but the passage does not imply that identical black squares should be imagined repeating endlessly. The infinity concerns what the square represents, not multiplication of the image. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Fludd uses the square to evoke the nothingness preceding creation, but the passage does not assign an underlying structure to that nothingness. Doing so would give definite organisation to what is meant to resist ordinary representation. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Nothing in the passage suggests that the square is merely a fragment of a larger geometric diagram. Its representational difficulty arises because this single bounded form is being made to signify something fundamentally boundless. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

18. Correct Answer: (d) It highlights how unexpectedly modern Fludd's radically simple image appears.

Reference Lines: "The black square was also startling because it immediately brought to mind examples from modern art, the most noteworthy being Kazimir Malevich's Black Square on a White Ground from 1915." / "Looking at it out of context, I find Fludd's image indelibly modern..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The passage identifies a visual association between the two works, but supplies no evidence that Malevich knew of or borrowed from Fludd. The comparison belongs to the author's response, not to a claim of historical influence. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The author notices a resemblance to modern abstraction but does not argue that modern abstract art revived occult Renaissance methods. That would turn a visual comparison into an unsupported historical claim. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) Fludd's black square differs from his usual elaborate diagrams, but the passage does not state that he subsequently rejected complexity or changed his general visual method. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

(d) Malevich provides a familiar modern-art reference against which Fludd's much earlier image appears unexpectedly austere and contemporary. The comparison therefore sharpens the author's sense of the square's "indelibly modern" character. Hence, option (d) is correct.

19. Correct Answer: (c) To illustrate the melancholy later identified with translated Hungarian fiction.

Reference Lines: "A lone visitor looks for a garden outside an empty monastery... A retired general living alone on a crumbling estate waits 40 years..." / "Melancholy... suffuses the Hungarian fiction translated for foreign audiences..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The examples establish a recurring mood, but the author does not claim that solitude characterises all modern Hungarian fiction. The passage specifically concerns works translated for foreign audiences and a broader melancholic tendency within them. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) Political and historical causes enter later in the passage, but the opening scenes are not presented as a contrast with those causes. They first give concrete literary examples of the mood the author wishes to describe. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) The three scenes share loneliness, withdrawal, decay, and delayed confrontation. They prepare the reader for the author's description of melancholy as a defining mood in internationally circulated Hungarian fiction. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) The passage later notes strong foreign interest, but it does not say that readers are attracted specifically because the protagonists are isolated. The scenes illustrate melancholy rather than explain its international popularity. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

20. Correct Answer: (d) Engaging with Hungarian culture means encountering a history marked by suffering.

Reference Lines: "...from a culture besieged by centuries of invasion, is to embrace melancholy, a seductive 'capacity for despair'" / "...unique spiritual insights that come from centuries of rootlessness, alienation and strife."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The complexity and isolation of Hungarian contribute to Földényi's example, but the passage links melancholy more deeply with centuries of invasion, rootlessness, alienation, and strife. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) Pilinszky does not say that outsiders benefit from being detached from Hungarian history. Their insight comes from entering, through literature, a sensibility shaped by that history. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) Pilinszky specifically speaks of outsiders reading Hungarian literature, but the passage does not state that learning Hungarian is a necessary condition for gaining the insight he describes. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) Both writers connect Hungarian cultural experience with historically accumulated suffering. Learning the language or reading the literature is therefore presented as an encounter with a particular inheritance of melancholy. Hence, option (d) is correct.

21. Correct Answer: (a) Both draw on Hungarian ties without being written in Hungarian.

Reference Lines: "Szalay moved to Hungary for a decade to explore his father's birthplace, while Biedermann modeled his novel's genealogical mythology after his ancestors' Hungarian family history – neither author writes in Hungarian."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) Both writers have meaningful personal links to Hungary, one through his father and residence, the other through ancestry. Yet neither writes in Hungarian, which explains the author's description of their melancholy as being "relayed by outsiders." Hence, option (a) is correct.
- (b) The passage does not accuse either author of imitation or cultural detachment. In fact, it emphasises the personal and familial connections through which both writers approached Hungary. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.
- (c) Their works achieved international success, but the passage does not say they altered Hungarian history primarily to satisfy foreign markets. That motive is unsupported. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) Their international reach is noted, but the author never claims that outsider authors make Hungarian melancholy easier to understand than writers from Hungary itself. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

22. Correct Answer: (b) The forces shaping it also restrict Hungarian writers abroad.

Reference Lines: "Yet in Hungary itself, the same forces that have fuelled the melancholia of the literature enjoyed by foreigners – autocratic rule and isolation – have prevented more writers from gaining broader readership."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The passage mentions Szalay and Biedermann because both have personal or ancestral links with Hungary, but it never suggests that foreign audiences generally prefer writers of Hungarian ancestry. Their success illustrates international interest in Hungarian melancholy rather than a preference based on descent. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.
- (b) The passage identifies autocratic rule and isolation as forces that have contributed to the melancholy associated with Hungarian literature. At the same time, these conditions have weakened foreign trust in Hungarian institutions and reduced opportunities for Hungarian writers to publish abroad. Hence, option (b) is correct.
- (c) There is no indication that Hungarian writers are abandoning melancholy or choosing different literary themes. The difficulty described concerns their ability to reach international publishers and readers, not a change in the subjects or moods of their writing. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
- (d) Outsider writers such as Szalay and Biedermann have achieved international success, but the passage does not attribute that success to stronger institutional backing. The institutional discussion concerns the difficulties faced by Hungarian writers because foreign partners have lost trust in Hungarian state institutions. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

23. Correct Answer: (c) To illustrate renewed international attention to Hungarian-associated melancholy.

Reference Lines: "Over the past year, international interest in Hungarian melancholy has surged again." / "...Krasznahorkai won the Nobel prize..." / "Péter Nádas... was elected a member of Germany's Pour le Mérite..." / "Lázár... has been translated into at least 25 languages, while... Flesh... won 2025's Booker prize."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

- (a) The examples demonstrate international recognition, but the passage does not claim that melancholy itself now determines Hungary's cultural prestige abroad. The option turns evidence of attention into a broader claim about cultural status. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.
- (b) The group includes Hungarian writers such as Krasznahorkai and Nádas alongside outsider writers such as Biedermann and Szalay. The examples therefore do not establish that outsiders are replacing Hungarian-language authors. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The author introduces these examples immediately after stating that international interest in Hungarian melancholy has recently increased. Awards, honours and translations provide concrete evidence of that renewed global attention across different writers. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) Awards and translations demonstrate international visibility, but the passage does not argue that they have generally made Hungarian literature more accessible. Their function is evidentiary rather than causal. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

24. Correct Answer: (c) even strong writers may lose foreign opportunities for institutional reasons.

Reference Lines: "...many excellent Hungarian authors have lost the opportunity to publish abroad ... as foreign partners have lost trust in Hungarian state institutions."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) The statement concerns lost opportunities abroad because foreign partners distrust Hungarian institutions. It does not say writers have consequently become dependent on state publishing within Hungary. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

(b) The passage does not state that foreign publishers are specifically rejecting politically critical books. The problem described is broader distrust of institutions, not censorship by foreign publishers. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

(c) By calling the affected writers "excellent," the statement separates literary merit from the reasons for their reduced international access. Authors may therefore suffer because of institutional distrust even when their work remains strong. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(d) Foreign partners are said to have lost trust in Hungarian state institutions, not in the quality of Hungarian literature or its writers. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

Section B: Current Affairs including General Knowledge

25. Correct Answer: (b) Organized Crime Control Act, 1970

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: The RICO provisions were enacted as Title IX of the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970. They are presently codified principally in Sections 1961–1968 of Title 18 of the United States Code. RICO was designed to combat organised criminal enterprises by targeting patterns of specified racketeering activity. Its provisions may apply to enterprises affecting interstate or foreign commerce. The Comprehensive Crime Control Act, 1984 was enacted considerably later and is not the parent statute of RICO.

26. Correct Answer: (d) International Criminal Police Organization

Explanation: INTERPOL stands for the International Criminal Police Organization. It facilitates cooperation among national police authorities in combating transnational crime. Its General Secretariat is headquartered in Lyon, France. INTERPOL itself does not conduct arrests; arrests are carried out by the competent authorities of member countries.

27. Correct Answer: (b) Attorney General and Secretary of Homeland Security

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Executive Order 14159 directed the Attorney General and the Secretary of Homeland Security to jointly establish Homeland Security Task Forces across the United States. These task forces coordinate action against transnational criminal organisations, gangs, cartels and smuggling networks. Operation Hard Ball was undertaken within this broader HSTF framework. Other federal agencies may participate, but the FBI Director was not one of the two officials assigned joint responsibility for establishing the task forces.

28. Correct Answer: (d) Central Bureau of Investigation

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation: BHARATPOL was developed by the Central Bureau of Investigation and launched on 7 January 2025. It connects the CBI, acting as India's National Central Bureau for INTERPOL, with law-enforcement agencies across the country. The portal facilitates requests for INTERPOL Notices, international investigative assistance and information received from foreign law-enforcement agencies. It is designed to shorten communication channels in cases involving transnational organised crime, narcotics trafficking, arms, cybercrime and terrorism.

29. Correct Answer: (c) Amsterdam

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: India was admitted as a full member of the Financial Action Task Force at the FATF Plenary held in Amsterdam from 23 to 25 June 2010. India had participated as an observer before attaining full membership. FATF develops international standards for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing. India's admission followed assessment of its domestic legal and institutional framework against FATF standards. Paris is the location of the FATF Secretariat, but it was not the venue of the 2010 Plenary at which India became a member.

30. Correct Answer: (c) 2005

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: The Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty in criminal matters between India and the United States entered into force on 3 October 2005. Such treaties provide formal mechanisms for obtaining evidence, executing requests and facilitating cooperation in criminal investigations. The treaty had been signed earlier, but became legally operative only after the required ratification procedures were completed. The year 1999 is instead associated with the entry into force of the current India–United States Extradition Treaty. Hence, 2005 is the correct answer.

31. Correct Answer: (b) UNICEF

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation: UNICEF is the custodian agency for SDG Indicator 16.9.1, which concerns birth registration among children under five years of age. SDG Target 16.9 aims to provide legal identity for all, including birth registration, by 2030. Custodian agencies help develop internationally accepted methodologies and compile comparable data for their assigned indicators. UNICEF has a major institutional role in child protection and children's legal identity. UNESCO, UNFPA and UNDP have distinct mandates and are not the designated custodian agency for this indicator.

32. Correct Answer: (c) 270th Report

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: The 270th Report of the Law Commission of India, submitted in 2017, was titled Compulsory Registration of Marriages. It recommended amendment of the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 to facilitate compulsory

registration of marriages through the existing administrative machinery. The proposal was intended to create reliable documentary evidence of marital status. Registration was also viewed as important for protecting parties in matrimonial disputes. The 211th Report dealt with related questions of marriage and divorce registration but is not the report asked for here.

33. Correct Answer: (d) Entry 30

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Entry 30 of List III, the Concurrent List, covers vital statistics, including registration of births and deaths. Both Parliament and State Legislatures may therefore legislate on the subject, subject to constitutional rules applicable to Concurrent List matters. Census, despite its close demographic connection, is separately included in the Union List. This creates distinct constitutional foundations for Census administration and civil registration. The wording of Entry 30 expressly includes registration of births and deaths within the field of vital statistics.

34. Correct Answer: (b) Seema v. Ashwani Kumar

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation: In Seema v. Ashwani Kumar, the Supreme Court issued important directions regarding compulsory registration of marriages. The Court emphasised the need for States and Union Territories to establish appropriate registration procedures irrespective of the religion of the parties. Registration provides reliable evidence of marital status and can assist in disputes affecting women and children. The judgment later influenced discussions concerning a more comprehensive statutory framework for marriage registration. Sarla Mudgal and Lily Thomas principally dealt with conversion and bigamy-related issues.

35. Correct Answer: (c) Article 24(2)

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation: Article 24(2) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights provides that every child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have a name. Article 24 contains special protections available to children by reason of their status as minors. Article 24(3) separately recognises the right of every child to acquire a nationality. Birth registration therefore has an important connection with identity, nationality and prevention of statelessness. Similar protection is also contained in the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

36. Correct Answer: (b) 1881

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The 1881 Census is regarded as the first complete population Census conducted throughout India on a broadly uniform basis. Earlier enumeration exercises had taken place in different regions but were neither fully synchronous nor uniformly organised. From 1881, the decennial Census became an established feature of population administration in India. Successive censuses generated increasingly systematic demographic and socio-economic data. The legal framework for census-taking in independent India was subsequently provided by the Census Act, 1948.

37. Correct Answer: (c) Mineral oil and related hydrocarbon resources

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: The Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 regulates mineral operations in India's offshore areas. However, its statutory framework excludes mineral oil and hydrocarbon resources related to it from the relevant meaning of minerals. Petroleum and natural gas activities are therefore dealt with under the separate petroleum-sector regulatory framework. This legal distinction prevents ordinary offshore mineral concessions from automatically governing oil and gas operations. It is particularly relevant when distinguishing seabed mining from offshore hydrocarbon exploration.

38. Correct Answer: (d) Kingston, Jamaica

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The International Seabed Authority is headquartered in Kingston, Jamaica. It was established under UNCLOS to organise and regulate mineral-related activities in the international seabed beyond national jurisdiction. This seabed region is legally referred to as "the Area". The ISA functions through organs including the Assembly, Council and Secretariat. Its jurisdiction is distinct from the sovereign resource rights exercised by coastal States within maritime zones under their jurisdiction.

39. Correct Answer: (b) 21

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: The Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf is established under Annex II of UNCLOS. It consists of 21 experts possessing expertise in geology, geophysics or hydrography. They are elected by States Parties

but serve in their personal capacities rather than as governmental representatives. The Commission assesses scientific and technical submissions relating to continental shelves extending beyond 200 nautical miles. It makes recommendations concerning outer limits but does not adjudicate maritime boundary disputes between States.

40. Correct Answer: (a) Krishna-Godavari Basin

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: National Gas Hydrate Programme Expedition-02 was undertaken to assess potentially producible gas-hydrate deposits in Indian offshore regions. The expedition identified important gas-hydrate-bearing sand reservoir systems in the Krishna-Godavari Basin. Sand-hosted deposits are especially significant because they may offer more favourable conditions for eventual extraction than many other forms of gas-hydrate occurrence. The expedition represented an important stage in India's research into unconventional offshore energy resources. The basin is therefore significant for both conventional and unconventional hydrocarbon exploration.

41. Correct Answer: (c) Article 77

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: Article 77 of UNCLOS recognises the sovereign rights of a coastal State over its continental shelf for the purpose of exploring and exploiting its natural resources. These rights are exclusive, meaning that another State cannot undertake such activities without the coastal State's consent. They do not depend upon occupation or an express proclamation. Article 76 primarily deals with the definition and outer limits of the continental shelf. Article 81, by contrast, specifically concerns the coastal State's exclusive right to authorise and regulate drilling on the continental shelf.

42. Correct Answer: (d) Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation: The BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate is located in Noida, Uttar Pradesh. It functions at the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting.

The Centre facilitates regional cooperation in weather forecasting, climate modelling and related scientific research. Its institutional development was connected with decisions taken at the Third BIMSTEC Summit in 2014. Its work is particularly relevant because the Bay of Bengal region is frequently affected by cyclones and extreme weather events.

43. Correct Answer: (a) UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

Difficulty Level: Moderate–Difficult

Explanation: The Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System functions under UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission. Its development followed the catastrophic Indian Ocean tsunami of December 2004. A regional coordination structure was subsequently developed to improve tsunami detection and preparedness. The system incorporates seismic monitoring, sea-level observations, information exchange and warning dissemination. National authorities nevertheless retain responsibility for issuing official warnings within their territories.

44. Correct Answer: (b) Hamburg, Germany

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) has its seat in Hamburg, Germany. It was established under Annex VI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Tribunal consists of 21 independent members with recognised competence in the law of the sea. It adjudicates disputes concerning the interpretation and application of UNCLOS in prescribed circumstances. The Hague hosts several other international judicial institutions, but ITLOS itself is located in Hamburg.

45. Correct Answer: (b) ADB

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) supported the preparation of the BIMSTEC Master Plan for Transport Connectivity. The plan provides a strategic framework for improving physical connectivity among BIMSTEC member states. Its scope includes roads, railways, maritime transport, inland waterways, civil aviation and multimodal transport. The Master Plan was formally adopted at the Fifth BIMSTEC Summit in 2022. Improved connectivity is important for expanding regional trade and linking South Asia more closely with Southeast Asia.

46. Correct Answer: (a) MCGS Barracuda

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation: MCGS Barracuda was commissioned into the Mauritian National Coast Guard during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Mauritius in March 2015. The India-built offshore patrol vessel became an important symbol of India–Mauritius maritime cooperation.

The visit was also associated with the articulation of India's SAGAR vision for the Indian Ocean Region. SAGAR emphasises maritime security, regional cooperation, capacity-building and sustainable development. The commissioning therefore represented both defence cooperation and India's broader maritime outreach.

47. Correct Answer: (c) 2015

Explanation: The first National Handloom Day was observed on 7 August 2015. The inaugural national celebration was held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The date was selected to commemorate the Swadeshi Movement of 1905. The observance seeks to honour weavers and promote India's handloom heritage. Consequently, the 2026 observance was the 12th National Handloom Day.

48. Correct Answer: (d) Sant Kabir Handloom Award

Explanation: The Sant Kabir Handloom Award recognises outstanding handloom weavers who have made exceptional contributions to the sector. It is named after Sant Kabir, the medieval poet traditionally associated with the weaving community. Awardees are recognised for craftsmanship, innovation and preservation of traditional techniques. Sant Kabir and National Handloom Awards were presented during the 2026 celebration. The Shilp Guru Award is principally associated with master craftspersons in the handicrafts sector.

49. Correct Answer: (d) Chennai

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The Geographical Indications Registry of India is located in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Importantly, it exercises all-India jurisdiction, rather than jurisdiction confined to Tamil Nadu. The Registry administers registration-related functions under India's geographical indication protection framework. It operates under the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks within the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Therefore, Chennai is the correct answer.

50. Correct Answer: (a) Telangana

Explanation: Pochampally Ikat is principally associated with Bhoodan Pochampally in Telangana. It uses the ikat technique, in which yarns are resist-dyed before weaving. The designs are known for their geometric patterns and distinctive colour combinations. Pochampally Ikat is protected as a Geographical Indication. Odisha and Gujarat also possess important ikat traditions, but Pochampally specifically belongs to Telangana.

51. Correct Answer: (b) Central Silk Board Act, 1948

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The Central Silk Board is a statutory organisation functioning under the Ministry of Textiles. It was established in 1948 through an Act of Parliament to support the development of India's silk and sericulture sector. Official Central Silk Board documents identify the governing legislation as the Central Silk Board Act, 1948. The organisation contributes to research, development and strengthening of the country's silk-production ecosystem. Accordingly, option (b) is the correct answer.

52. Correct Answer: (c) Gopal Krishna Gokhale

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: The 1905 session of the Indian National Congress was held at Benares and was presided over by Gopal Krishna Gokhale. It occurred during intense opposition to the Partition of Bengal and witnessed important debates over Swadeshi and the boycott of foreign goods. The Congress's own historical record identifies Gokhale as president of its 21st session at Benares. Dadabhai Naoroji later presided over the important Calcutta session of 1906. Therefore, option (c) is correct.

Section C: Legal Reasoning

53. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Lines: "The Supreme Court set aside both orders, restored the Section 7 application and directed the NCLT to decide it afresh without expressing any opinion on its merits."

"The Supreme Court held that a decision is no decision in the eyes of law if even an iota of such material enters the decision-making process, whether its influence is direct or indirect."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: The possible existence of an independent factual basis does not preserve an order whose reasoning was contaminated by fabricated authorities. The Supreme Court adopted zero tolerance irrespective of whether the material directly or indirectly affected the result.

Option (b) is incorrect: Independent research does not permit a tribunal to use non-existent precedents. Judicial responsibility includes verifying that authorities are genuine before relying upon them.

Option (c) is correct: Both the original and appellate orders are affected because the NCLT relied on fabricated authorities and the NCLAT affirmed the decision without detecting them. The proper course is to set aside the orders and restore the application for a fresh lawful determination.

Option (d) is incorrect: Use of fake precedents invalidates the adjudicatory process, but it does not establish that the underlying debt or default is absent. Those matters must be decided afresh on their merits.

54. Correct Answer: (a)

Reference Lines: "The Supreme Court declared zero tolerance for producing, citing or using unverified AI-generated precedents."

"An advocate who cites such material without verification commits misconduct."

"Human verification and accountability must remain present at every stage."

Explanation:

Option (a) is correct: Identifying AI as the research tool does not authenticate the authority it produced. The advocate remained responsible for checking the reported judgment and committed misconduct by presenting an unverified fabricated authority.

Option (b) is incorrect: Courts may ordinarily expect advocates to present accurate legal authorities. Disclosure of technological assistance does not transfer the advocate's verification responsibility to the court.

Option (c) is incorrect: Misconduct arises from citing the fabricated judgment without verification. It does not depend upon whether the court ultimately relies on it or detects the error in time.

Option (d) is incorrect: The Supreme Court did not confine misconduct to deliberate invention. Failure to verify AI-generated precedent before citing it is itself sufficient under the stated rule.

55. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Lines: "Even a genuine case becomes unreliable when attached to a wrong citation or quoted for a paragraph it does not contain."

"Anyone relying on precedent should verify its cause title, citation, bench, date, authoritative text and the precise proposition for which it is cited."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: Article 141 binds through the law actually declared by the Supreme Court. The existence of a genuine judgment does not give binding force to words or propositions absent from it.

Option (b) is incorrect: General consistency or plausibility cannot transform invented text into precedent. The precise proposition must be traceable to the authentic judicial decision.

Option (c) is incorrect: Disclosure that a paragraph may have been produced by AI does not make that paragraph part of the judgment. It should be withdrawn rather than placed before the court as authority.

Option (d) is correct: A genuine cause title and citation are insufficient where the attributed paragraph does not exist. Precedential authority arises from the authentic judgment and its actual ratio.

56. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Lines: "Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 permits a financial creditor to seek initiation of corporate insolvency resolution upon the occurrence of default."

"The adjudicating authority must determine the application from the statutory requirements, authentic records and existing law."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: An objection regarding restructuring or liability must be considered, but its existence does not automatically require rejection. The adjudicating authority must decide its effect from the documents and applicable law.

Option (b) is correct: The NCLT may examine the loan documents, guarantee, restructuring instruments and records of default. It may then decide the statutory requirements by applying authentic law without resorting to fabricated precedent.

Option (c) is incorrect: A creditor's allegation alone does not determine a Section 7 application. The adjudicating authority must establish the relevant statutory requirements from the material placed before it.

Option (d) is incorrect: The passage does not require every dispute concerning a guarantee to be decided first in a separate civil suit. The NCLT must examine matters relevant to the Section 7 application within its statutory jurisdiction.

57. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Lines: "Article 141 gives binding force to law declared by the Supreme Court."

"A fabricated decision cannot declare law because it has no authentic judicial determination or ratio decidendi."

"Judicial responsibility is independent of counsel's responsibility."

"The Supreme Court set aside both orders, restored the Section 7 application and directed the NCLT to decide it afresh without expressing any opinion on its merits."

"Human verification and accountability must remain present at every stage."

Explanation: Statement i is incorrect: A fabricated judgment has no legal existence and cannot declare law under Article 141, even if the proposition attributed to it happens to be legally correct.

Statement ii is correct: A judge must ensure that judicial reasoning rests upon authentic material. This responsibility exists separately from the professional duties imposed upon advocates.

Statement iii is incorrect: The Supreme Court did not decide the enforceability of the guarantee. It restored the Section 7 application and expressly left the merits for the NCLT to determine afresh.

Statement iv is correct: The judgment permits legitimate technological assistance but requires human verification, control and accountability throughout the process.

Accordingly, statements ii and iv are correct.

58. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Lines: "The Bank stated that its counsel had not cited them; they appeared to result from the NCLT's own research."

"Judicial responsibility is independent of counsel's responsibility."

"Reliance by a judge on fake or hallucinated material is a serious lapse."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: Professional responsibility must be connected to the advocate's own conduct. A party's benefit from an order does not prove that its counsel supplied or relied upon the fabricated authorities.

Option (b) is incorrect: A tribunal's power to conduct independent research does not authorise reliance on unverified or non-existent material. Judicial research must still be based upon authentic law.

Option (c) is incorrect: Appellate affirmance cannot give legal existence to a fabricated authority. The NCLAT's failure to detect the defect extended the contamination into the appellate process.

Option (d) is correct: The affidavit may exclude responsibility of the Bank's counsel for supplying the authorities on these facts. Nevertheless, the NCLT's reliance and the NCLAT's failure to detect the fabricated material independently vitiate their orders.

59. Correct Answer: (a)

Reference Lines: "The Supreme Court declared zero tolerance for producing, citing or using unverified AI-generated precedents."

"The Supreme Court held that a decision is no decision in the eyes of law if even an iota of such material enters the decision-making process, whether its influence is direct or indirect."

Explanation: Assertion (A) is true: The Supreme Court held that a decision must be set aside when fake or hallucinated material enters its reasoning, irrespective of whether the material directly determines the result.

Reason (R) is true: Judicial reasoning must be founded upon real and verifiable legal material. The Court consequently adopted a zero-tolerance standard for fake AI-generated precedents.

R correctly explains A: Because fabricated material has no legal existence and undermines the integrity of adjudication, any reliance upon it, whether direct or indirect, requires the affected decision to be set aside.

Accordingly, both A and R are true, and R correctly explains A

60. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Lines: "The doctrine generally requires that the accident be of a kind that ordinarily does not happen without negligence; that the thing or process causing the harm was under the defendant's management or control at the relevant time; and that the circumstances reasonably connect the probable negligence with the defendant."

"Application of the maxim enables the plaintiff to establish a prima facie case through circumstantial evidence."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: The purpose of res ipsa loquitur is to assist where the plaintiff cannot identify the precise negligent act or responsible employee. Dev may rely upon the circumstances if they sufficiently connect the probable negligence with warehouse management.

Option (b) is incorrect: The unexplained fall does not automatically create strict liability. It may instead support a rebuttable inference that those managing the containers failed to exercise reasonable care.

Option (c) is correct: Containers do not ordinarily fall from a properly managed warehouse onto a public pavement. Because the container and loading process were managed by the warehouse staff, the circumstances may establish a prima facie inference of negligence.

Option (d) is incorrect: A previous similar incident is not essential. The unusual nature of the present occurrence, together with the defendant's management of the instrumentality, may itself support the inference.

61. Correct Answer: (a)

Reference Lines: "The inquiry is whether responsibility for the instrumentality or process was sufficiently attributable to the defendant and whether another equally probable non-negligent cause is disclosed by the evidence."

"If the evidence shows that the accident is equally consistent with the plaintiff's own act, an independent third-party act or a non-negligent cause, the inference may not arise."

Explanation: Option (a) is correct: Expert evidence identifies improper storage by the retailer as a cause equally probable to a manufacturing defect. The circumstances therefore do not sufficiently connect the explosion with negligence by Nova alone.

Option (b) is incorrect: Nova's control during manufacture is relevant but not conclusive. Subsequent mishandling by the retailer creates an equally probable intervening explanation for the explosion.

Option (c) is incorrect: Tara's proper handling excludes her own contribution but does not eliminate the retailer's conduct. Moreover, the doctrine produces a rebuttable inference rather than conclusive liability.

Option (d) is incorrect: Failure to identify the precise defect does not automatically defeat a negligence claim. The difficulty is that the available evidence does not make Nova's negligence more probable than the retailer's mishandling.

62. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Lines: "An unsuccessful treatment, unexpected complication or death does not, without more, establish negligence."

"Where the medical issue lies beyond ordinary experience, expert evidence may still be necessary."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: Medical supervision and temporal sequence do not establish that the complication probably resulted from negligence. Some infections can occur despite the exercise of reasonable care.

Option (b) is incorrect: The patient's unconsciousness may explain the absence of direct evidence, but it does not independently establish that the particular complication ordinarily results from negligence.

Option (c) is incorrect: An unexpected medical outcome does not automatically require the hospital to disprove negligence. The initial circumstances must first support a reasonable inference of negligent treatment.

Option (d) is correct: The infection is a recognised complication that may occur without negligence. Without an unusual occurrence or expert evidence connecting it to deficient care, the conditions for applying the doctrine are not satisfied.

63. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Lines: "Application of the maxim enables the plaintiff to establish a prima facie case through circumstantial evidence."

"The ultimate legal burden of proving the claim remains with the plaintiff, while the evidential burden shifts to the defendant to provide an explanation consistent with reasonable care or to show that the occurrence probably resulted from some other cause."

"'Exclusive control' is not applied mechanically."

Explanation: Statement i is correct: The doctrine allows the circumstances surrounding an accident to provide prima facie evidence of negligence where direct evidence is unavailable.

Statement ii is incorrect: Only the evidential burden of providing an explanation shifts to the defendant. The ultimate legal burden of proving negligence remains with the plaintiff.

Statement iii is incorrect: Control is assessed functionally rather than mechanically. The relevant question is whether responsibility for the instrumentality or process was sufficiently attributable to the defendant.

Statement iv is correct: The inference is rebuttable. The defendant may produce evidence of proper care or demonstrate that another cause probably produced the accident.

Accordingly, statements i and iv are correct.

64. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Lines: "Contributory negligence is not invariably a complete bar; when negligence of both sides is proved, it may instead affect the assessment of damages."

"Conduct of the plaintiff and third parties remains relevant."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: Plaintiff carelessness does not invariably prevent an inference concerning the defendant's negligence. The defendant's responsibility for the occurrence and the plaintiff's contribution must be examined separately.

Option (b) is incorrect: A warning does not transfer ownership or the duty of maintaining the structure to Rohan. The Corporation remained responsible for inspecting and repairing the clock tower.

Option (c) is correct: The unexplained collapse of a visibly deteriorating structure under municipal control may justify an inference of negligent maintenance. Rohan's decision to ignore the barrier may nevertheless constitute contributory negligence affecting the damages recoverable.

Option (d) is incorrect: The collapse may support an inference against the Corporation, but it does not eliminate the legal relevance of Rohan's exposure to a known and specifically warned-against danger.

65. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Lines: "It permits, but does not compel, a finding of negligence."

"The ultimate legal burden of proving the claim remains with the plaintiff, while the evidential burden shifts to the defendant to provide an explanation consistent with reasonable care or to show that the occurrence probably resulted from some other cause."

"The defendant may rebut the inference, and the court must ultimately decide liability from the whole evidence."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: The unexplained collapse initially supports the visitor's case and requires an explanation from the company. It does not permanently transfer the ultimate burden of establishing negligence or make the preliminary inference conclusive.

Option (b) is incorrect: Inspection records do not automatically defeat the inference. Their adequacy and the expert's latent-defect explanation must be assessed for credibility and whether they genuinely demonstrate the exercise of reasonable care.

Option (c) is correct: The circumstances initially permit negligence to be inferred because a properly maintained panel would not ordinarily fall. The company's evidence may rebut that inference if it credibly establishes an undetectable defect despite reasonable inspection. Final liability therefore depends upon the whole evidence.

Option (d) is incorrect: The doctrine assists precisely where the claimant cannot identify the particular negligent act. Suggesting an alternative cause does not revive an absolute requirement that the visitor prove the exact maintenance omission; the court must instead evaluate the probability of the competing explanations.

66. Correct Answer: (b)

Difficulty: Difficult

Aarav, Bharat and Charu reached a concluded agreement to manufacture and sell counterfeit government certificates. The agreed acts were themselves criminal offences. They also allocated particular responsibilities, confirming their shared criminal design.

Under Rule 2, an agreement specifically directed towards committing an offence constitutes criminal conspiracy without any additional act in pursuance. Police intervention before equipment was obtained or certificates were manufactured does not erase the completed agreement.

Option (a) wrongly requires performance of the agreed offence. Option (c) incorrectly treats prevention by the police as eliminating the conspiracy. Option (d) ignores that conspirators may perform different roles.

67. Correct Answer: (d)

Difficulty: Difficult

Diya knew about the proposed offences and remained present while the others discussed them. However, she expressly rejected the invitation to participate and performed no act suggesting acceptance of the plan.

Rule 4 requires an intentional agreement. Knowledge, presence and continued silence do not independently make a person a conspirator. Diya's later report supports her rejection but is not the sole reason she avoided liability.

Options (a) and (b) incorrectly equate presence or knowledge with agreement. Option (c) wrongly suggests that Diya became a conspirator and escaped liability only by reporting the discussion.

68. Correct Answer: (a)

Difficulty: Difficult

Eshan and Farah agreed to pursue a lawful business objective through a method that furnished a civil cause of action and was therefore legally impermissible. Because the illegal means did not themselves constitute a criminal offence, their agreement alone was insufficient under Rule 3.

Eshan subsequently obtained and uploaded the confidential database. That conduct was an overt act performed in pursuance of their agreement. The additional requirement was therefore satisfied.

Option (b) incorrectly excludes lawful objectives pursued through illegal means. Option (c) dispenses with the requirement of agreement. Option (d) wrongly requires completion of the ultimate business objective rather than an act in pursuance.

69. Correct Answer: (c)

Difficulty: Difficult

The six residents initially assembled for the lawful purpose of submitting a peaceful petition. Their assembly changed character when they collectively decided to obstruct execution of the sealing order through a physical barrier and force. Rule 6 permits a lawful assembly to become unlawful when its members subsequently adopt an unlawful common object. Their decision to forcibly prevent the officer from executing a lawful order satisfied Rule 5.

Option (a) incorrectly treats the assembly's original purpose as permanently controlling. Option (b) wrongly permits obstruction through force. Option (d) incorrectly requires every member to commit a separate assault.

70. Correct Answer: (b)

Difficulty: Moderate

Kabir remained across the road, merely observed the disturbance and continued walking. He neither joined the residents nor assisted, encouraged or communicated with them.

Under Rule 7, physical presence near an unlawful assembly is insufficient without intentional membership and knowledge of the relevant unlawful object. Kabir was therefore not a member.

Option (a) treats proximity as conclusive participation. Option (c) invents a general duty requiring every witness to disperse. Option (d) applies an incorrect numerical threshold because an unlawful assembly requires five or more persons, not ten.

71. Correct Answer: (d)

Difficulty: Difficult

The six men shared the object of taking possession of the warehouse by forcibly removing its occupants. They carried sticks and knew that resistance from the security guards was probable.

Gautam struck the guard to overcome that resistance and facilitate the group's possession of the warehouse. The assault directly furthered the common object and was also a consequence the members knew was likely.

Option (a) incorrectly confines liability to the person delivering the blow. Option (b) artificially separates the assault from the intended forcible possession. Option (c) wrongly requires every member to perform the same physical act.

72. Correct Answer: (a)

Difficulty: Difficult

The unlawful assembly had ended, and all six men had left the warehouse. Gautam returned several hours later to damage the motorcycle because of a separate personal grievance.

The later offence neither furthered the earlier common object nor constituted a consequence the other members knew was likely. Rule 9 therefore excludes their collective liability.

Options (b) and (c) incorrectly make collective liability permanent after an assembly ends. Option (d) treats Gautam's former membership as sufficient despite the private and unrelated character of his later conduct.

73. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Lines: "Article 300 of the Constitution provides that the Union of India and a State may sue or be sued in their respective names."

"Article 300 does not itself define sovereign functions, create absolute immunity or state every condition governing governmental liability."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: Article 300 itself recognises the capacity of the Union and the States to sue and be sued. The absence of comprehensive legislation does not make every action against the government procedurally unavailable.

Option (b) is correct: Article 300 permits the action to be instituted in the name of the State but does not determine the substantive outcome. Liability must be assessed under the applicable law, including the character of the governmental activity and the ordinary requirements of negligence.

Option (c) is incorrect: Article 300 does not abolish every distinction between sovereign and non-sovereign functions or impose automatic liability whenever the government is sued.

Option (d) is incorrect: Governmental ownership is not conclusive. The court must examine the nature of the workshop activity and whether it resembles an activity that private persons may also undertake.

74. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Lines: “In State of Rajasthan v. Vidyawati, the State was held vicariously liable when a government jeep, driven negligently while returning from repairs, killed a pedestrian.”

“The activity was not sufficiently connected with an exercise of sovereign power.”

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: Official ownership does not transform every use of a vehicle into an exercise of sovereign authority. The nature of the employee’s activity, rather than the vehicle’s title, determines the relevance of immunity.

Option (b) is incorrect: A State may be vicariously liable for a tort committed by its employee during a non-sovereign activity. Governmental employers are not categorically excluded from ordinary principles of vicarious liability.

Option (c) is correct: Returning a vehicle from routine servicing is an activity that does not require any special governmental power. It resembles ordinary vehicle management and therefore may attract State liability.

Option (d) is incorrect: An injury caused by negligent driving may support an ordinary private-law claim. A constitutional petition is not the exclusive remedy merely because the vehicle belongs to the government.

75. Correct Answer: (d)

Reference Lines: “In Kasturi Lal Ralia Ram Jain v. State of Uttar Pradesh, immunity was accepted where property seized by police was misappropriated by a constable, because seizure and custody were treated as connected with sovereign powers.”

“In Nilabati Behera v. State of Orissa, the Supreme Court held that sovereign immunity is no defence to compensation under Articles 32 and 226 for an established infringement of fundamental rights.”

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: The two decisions concern different forms of relief. Police involvement may have supported immunity in the private-law claim considered in Kasturi Lal, but it cannot prevent constitutional compensation for an established fundamental-rights violation.

Option (b) is incorrect: Nilabati Behera distinguished constitutional compensation from ordinary tort damages. It did not declare that every form of immunity had ceased to be relevant in all private-law proceedings.

Option (c) is incorrect: Employment by the State is not independently sufficient to determine liability. The nature of the function and the legal basis of the remedy remain material.

Option (d) is correct: Kasturi Lal concerned immunity within an ordinary tort action, whereas Nilabati Behera held that the defence is unavailable against public-law compensation for an established infringement of fundamental rights.

76. Correct Answer: (a)

Reference Lines: “In State of Andhra Pradesh v. Challa Ramakrishna Reddy, the Court rejected immunity where prison authorities failed to protect a prisoner despite a known threat.”

“A prisoner retains fundamental rights, and performance of a governmental function does not authorise their violation.”

Explanation: Option (a) is correct: The authorities had knowledge of a specific danger and an opportunity to protect the prisoner. Their failure resulted in a violation of Article 21 for which sovereign immunity cannot defeat constitutional compensation.

Option (b) is incorrect: Prison administration may be governmental in character, but that character does not authorise the State to disregard a prisoner’s right to life.

Option (c) is incorrect: Public-law compensation does not depend upon an express legislative acceptance of liability. Constitutional courts may award relief for an established violation of fundamental rights.

Option (d) is incorrect: Comparison with private activity is relevant principally to the sovereign-function distinction in ordinary tort law. It is not a condition for relief against an established violation of Article 21.

77. Correct Answer: (b)

Reference Lines: “Article 300 does not itself define sovereign functions, create absolute immunity or state every condition governing governmental liability.”

“The State cannot avoid ordinary tort liability merely because its employee acted under statutory authority or in a welfare activity.”

“This constitutional remedy is distinct from a private-law action for damages and may coexist with other remedies.”

Explanation: Statement i is incorrect: Article 300 establishes the framework through which the Union and States may sue or be sued. It does not enumerate an exhaustive list of sovereign or immune functions.

Statement ii is correct: An officer’s exercise of statutory authority does not automatically establish immunity. The character of the function and the circumstances of the wrongdoing must still be considered.

Statement iii is incorrect: Constitutional compensation is a public-law remedy for infringement of fundamental rights. It is legally distinct from an ordinary private-law action for tortious damages.
 Statement iv is correct: Once a fundamental-rights violation is established, the State cannot defeat constitutional compensation by characterising the underlying activity as sovereign.
 Accordingly, statements ii and iv are correct.

78. Correct Answer: (c)

Reference Lines: "This constitutional remedy is distinct from a private-law action for damages and may coexist with other remedies."

"In *N. Nagendra Rao & Co. v. State of Andhra Pradesh*, the Supreme Court emphasised that immunity should be confined to limited, inalienable governmental functions."

"The State cannot avoid ordinary tort liability merely because its employee acted under statutory authority or in a welfare activity."

Explanation: Option (a) is incorrect: Statutory seizure and resulting commercial loss do not automatically establish a fundamental-rights violation. Constitutional compensation requires proof of the particular infringement alleged.

Option (b) is incorrect: Public-law and private-law remedies are distinct. Failure to establish a constitutional violation does not necessarily determine whether the State committed an actionable tort.

Option (c) is correct: Although constitutional compensation is unavailable on the court's finding, the ordinary negligence claim may continue. In that proceeding, immunity must be assessed narrowly by considering the nature of the function, the duty to preserve the machinery and the conduct causing its deterioration.

Option (d) is incorrect: The power to seize may be uniquely governmental, but negligent preservation after seizure does not automatically receive the same character. Treating every act following a statutory seizure as immune would disregard the narrowed approach described in the passage.

79. Correct Answer: (a)

Difficulty Level: Difficult

(a) Correct. Meera voluntarily performed an act for Arjun by recovering and safeguarding his confidential records. Arjun subsequently promised to compensate her for that act. Under Section 25(2), such a promise is enforceable even though the earlier voluntary act was not performed at the promisor's request and no fresh consideration was given.

(b) Incorrect. A moral obligation does not automatically become legally enforceable merely because it is recorded in writing. The promise must satisfy one of the legally recognised exceptions to the requirement of consideration. Here, enforceability arises from the voluntary service rendered to Arjun, not from a general rule about moral duties.

(c) Incorrect. This option contradicts the specific exception applicable to voluntary acts. Section 25(2) permits the enforcement of a subsequent promise made to compensate a person who has already voluntarily done something for the promisor. Therefore, a prior express request is not necessary in this situation.

(d) Incorrect. The law does not require the voluntary act to arise from an existing commercial or contractual relationship. Meera and Arjun need not have had any previous business dealings for the promise to be enforceable. What matters is that Meera voluntarily acted for Arjun and Arjun later promised compensation.

80. Correct Answer: (c)

Difficulty Level: Difficult

(a) Incorrect. A mere acknowledgment of an old debt does not automatically make every time-barred claim enforceable. After the limitation period has expired, there must be a clear promise to pay the debt, wholly or partly, and that promise must be in writing and signed. Rohan's liability arises from his written promise, not merely from admitting that the original debt existed.

(b) Incorrect. Merely admitting that some amount remains unpaid is not sufficient to create an enforceable obligation under Section 25(3). The debtor must make a written and signed promise to pay the time-barred debt or a specified part of it. This option omits these essential formal requirements.

(c) Correct. Section 25(3) recognises a written and signed promise to pay wholly or partly a debt that has become unenforceable because of limitation. Rohan signed a promise to repay ₹50,000 out of the original ₹80,000 debt. The promise is therefore enforceable even though Kavya gave no fresh consideration.

(d) Incorrect. A partial payment before making the written promise is not a condition under Section 25(3). The written and signed promise itself creates an enforceable contract for the amount promised. Consequently, Kavya can enforce the promise even though Rohan made no payment before signing it.

81. Correct Answer: (d)

Difficulty Level: Difficult

- (a) Incorrect. A promise between relatives does not become enforceable merely because it creates a continuing financial obligation. The statutory exception requires a written and registered agreement founded on natural love and affection between parties standing in a near relationship. This option fails to mention those essential safeguards.
- (b) Incorrect. Near relationship and affection alone do not make an oral gratuitous promise enforceable. Section 25(1) expressly requires the agreement to be both written and registered. Therefore, an oral promise between close relatives would ordinarily remain void for lack of consideration.
- (c) Incorrect. Registration by itself cannot validate every promise made without consideration. The agreement must also be in writing, made because of natural love and affection, and entered into between near relatives. A registered promise lacking these additional elements would not fall within Section 25(1).
- (d) Correct. Naina and Tara are sisters and therefore stand in a near relationship. Their agreement was written and registered, and the court found that it was genuinely based on reconciliation and natural affection. All the requirements of Section 25(1) are satisfied, so the absence of consideration does not make the agreement void.

82. Correct Answer: (d)

Difficulty: Difficult

Asha's suit directly and specifically concerned ownership and possession of the house. Bharat transferred that same property while the proceeding remained pending.

Option (d) correctly derives the effect of such a transfer. The sale is not automatically void between Bharat and Charan, but Charan takes the property subject to the rights ultimately declared in the pending proceeding. His payment of consideration and absence of actual notice do not enable him to defeat Asha's decree.

Option (a) incorrectly treats every transfer as void from its inception. Option (b) gives good faith priority over the court's eventual determination. Option (c) is too broad because the rule does not prohibit every document or transaction concerning property.

83. Correct Answer: (a)

Difficulty: Difficult

Asha's suit concerned only recovery of an unsecured loan. No right to the farmhouse was directly or specifically in question. The mere possibility that the farmhouse or its sale proceeds could satisfy a future decree did not convert it into the subject matter of the litigation.

Option (a) correctly limits the doctrine to property whose rights are directly disputed in the pending proceeding.

Options (b) and (d) wrongly place all assets of every defendant under an automatic restriction. Option (c) applies the doctrine merely because an asset might later assist enforcement of a monetary decree.

84. Correct Answer: (c)

Difficulty: Difficult

The court heard the affected party before permitting the sale. It protected the disputed rights by requiring the full consideration to be deposited and directing that the parties' claims attach to that amount.

Option (c) correctly derives that the restriction on dealings with disputed property is subject to the court's authority. The court may permit a transfer on terms designed to preserve the parties' competing rights.

Option (a) incorrectly denies the court's express authority. Option (b) treats a market-value sale as independently sufficient without judicial permission. Option (d) wrongly suggests that depositing the proceeds automatically determines the underlying ownership dispute.

Section D: Logical Reasoning

85. Correct Answer: (a) Diya

Explanation: Farah reviews Nerve, and Nerve must occur immediately after Kite and immediately before Loom. Therefore, Farah occupies the middle position of the consecutive Kite–Nerve–Loom sequence. Since Diya reviews Opal and Opal must occur before Kite, Diya must be scheduled before Farah. Chet works after Farah and exactly two days after Arin, while Bela must be after Chet. Testing the possible position of Farah shows that Farah cannot be later than Wednesday without creating a conflict between the Prism–Mint pair, Emon’s assignment and the person-order conditions. Thus, Farah is on Wednesday, forcing Arin to Tuesday, Chet to Thursday, Diya to Monday, Emon to Friday and Bela to Saturday. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

86. Correct Answer: (b) Kite

Explanation: Farah is scheduled on Wednesday and reviews Nerve. Since Nerve is reviewed immediately after Kite, Kite must be reviewed on Tuesday. Arin is the specialist scheduled on Tuesday. Therefore, Arin reviews Kite. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

87. Correct Answer: (c) Thursday

Explanation: Farah reviews Nerve on Wednesday. Loom is reviewed immediately after Nerve and must therefore be reviewed on Thursday. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

88. Correct Answer: (d) Emon

Explanation: The dossier sequence from Tuesday onward is Kite on Tuesday, Nerve on Wednesday and Loom on Thursday. Emon reviews Prism, while Prism is immediately before Mint. Since the remaining consecutive slots after Loom are Friday and Saturday, Prism must be on Friday and Mint on Saturday. Emon is therefore the specialist reviewing the dossier immediately after Loom and immediately before Mint. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

89. Correct Answer: (a) Nerve, Loom, Prism, Mint

Explanation: The complete dossier order is Opal on Monday, Kite on Tuesday, Nerve on Wednesday, Loom on Thursday, Prism on Friday and Mint on Saturday. Therefore, from Wednesday through Saturday, the dossiers are Nerve, Loom, Prism and Mint. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

90. Correct Answer: (b) Farah and Emon

Explanation: Chet is scheduled on Thursday. Farah is scheduled immediately before him on Wednesday, while Emon is scheduled immediately after him on Friday. Therefore, the required specialists are Farah and Emon. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

91. Correct Answer: (c) P, R, S and V

Explanation: Since exactly one of P and Q is enabled, consider the possibility that Q is enabled. Then P is disabled, T is enabled because it has the opposite status to P, and U is enabled because it has the same status as Q. The condition $Q \rightarrow W$ forces W to be disabled. Since S is enabled if and only if W is disabled, S is enabled; R must then also be enabled, and V is enabled because exactly one of V and W is enabled. This would produce six enabled modules—Q, R, S, T, U and V—contradicting the requirement that exactly four are enabled. Therefore, P must be enabled and Q disabled. This gives T and U disabled. The remaining conditions then force R, S and V enabled and W disabled. Hence, the four enabled modules are P, R, S and V. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

92. Correct Answer: (d) Three

Explanation: Remove only the requirement that exactly four modules be enabled. If P is enabled, then Q, T and U are disabled. If W is disabled, R, S and V are enabled, giving the configuration with four enabled modules P, R, S and V. If W is enabled instead, then R, S and V are disabled, giving only P and W enabled.

Alternatively, if Q is enabled, then P is disabled, while T and U are enabled. The condition $Q \rightarrow W$ forces W to be disabled, which in turn makes R, S and V enabled. This produces six enabled modules: Q, R, S, T, U and V. Thus, three configurations satisfy all the remaining logical rules. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

93. Correct Answer: (a) T and V

Explanation: In the original configuration, P, R, S and V are enabled, while Q, T, U and W are disabled. Therefore, R and S have the same status, Q and U have the same status, and S and V have the same status. T is disabled whereas V is enabled. Thus, only T and V have opposite statuses among the given pairs. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

94. Correct Answer: (b) P and W

Explanation: For six modules to be enabled, Q must be enabled and P disabled. Since T has the opposite status to P, T is enabled; U is also enabled because it has the same status as Q. Q being enabled forces W to be disabled. Therefore, S and R are enabled, and V must be enabled because exactly one of V and W is enabled. The six enabled modules are Q, R, S, T, U and V, leaving only P and W disabled. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

95. Correct Answer: (c) 2

Explanation: Originally, P, R, S and V are enabled. Reversing only R and S changes both from enabled to disabled, while P and V remain enabled and all other modules remain disabled. Therefore, exactly two modules remain enabled. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

96. Correct Answer: (d) Two

Explanation: With the final $Q \rightarrow W$ restriction removed, one valid four-enabled configuration remains P, R, S and V. A second configuration becomes possible with Q, T, U and W enabled. In that second case, W is enabled, so S and R are disabled, while V is disabled because exactly one of V and W may be enabled. Both configurations contain exactly four enabled modules. Hence, two configurations are possible. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

97. Correct Answer: (b) An initial fertilisation benefit may coexist with accumulating climatic stresses that later outweigh gains in forest growth.

Reference Line: "At first, the forest flourished thanks to the elevated carbon dioxide. But that growth spurt didn't last. The canopy then quickly lost around 60 percent of its leaf coverage..." / "But too much heat and its consequences, like extreme weather events and an increase in pathogens, can also stress and kill plants."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) The passage records changes in forest composition after deterioration, but it does not make preservation of the original species community a condition for continued carbon-related growth. Species replacement is part of the ecological change described rather than the factor determining whether the early growth benefit persists. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Elevated carbon dioxide initially encouraged growth, while heat, extreme weather and pathogens created pressures capable of undermining that advantage. The later canopy collapse shows that short-term gains can occur even while conditions are developing that eventually weaken the forest. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) The passage describes the sequence from initial flourishing to later decline, but it provides no relationship between the speed of the early growth response and the eventual severity of canopy loss. The latter is associated with broader climatic stresses rather than the pace of initial vegetation growth. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Reduced carbon storage and increased sediment movement are described as consequences accompanying the altered forest and landscape. The passage does not establish them as necessary conditions that must occur before canopy decline can persist. The option therefore reverses the relationship among the events described. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

98. Correct Answer: (a) Track forest health using both short-term growth and accumulating climatic stress indicators.

Reference Line: "Predicting the effects of the planet-warming greenhouse gas on vegetation is complicated."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) The passage shows that enhanced carbon dioxide can initially stimulate vegetation while heat, extreme weather and pathogens create pressures that may later reduce forest health. An assessment based on both growth and developing climatic stresses would therefore capture the competing processes described. This approach best reflects the complexity emphasised by the author. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) PETM recovery demonstrates that ecological disturbance can persist for a very long period, but the passage does not present that duration as a timetable for modern forests. Present ecosystems exist under different climatic and ecological conditions. Fixed restoration targets based on the ancient recovery period would therefore exceed what the comparison supports. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Photosynthesis explains why elevated carbon dioxide may initially benefit plants, but the passage shows that this benefit may be overwhelmed by other climatic pressures. Maintaining photosynthetic capacity alone would not address the broader stresses affecting forest survival. The proposed response is therefore narrower than the ecological problem identified. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The historical evidence is used to warn that early greening can precede substantial forest deterioration. Waiting for several decades of visible decline would overlook information that may indicate risk before prolonged damage

becomes established. The reasoning of the passage supports anticipating interacting stresses rather than postponing action until deterioration persists. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

99. Correct Answer: (d) Comparable ancient forests elsewhere showed the same growth-then-decline pattern under rapid warming.

Reference Line: “The PETM gives us our best window into how Earth’s climate and ecosystems respond to a massive carbon injection before humans began reshaping the planet.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) Extensive agricultural and urban expansion would provide another possible explanation for modern vegetation decline apart from climatic stress. If present deterioration were concentrated in such regions, the comparison with the PETM would become harder to isolate. The finding would therefore not strengthen the claimed historical warning about rapid warming. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Shared evolutionary lineages could establish some biological continuity between ancient and modern vegetation, but common ancestry does not ensure similar ecosystem responses. Forest behaviour also depends on temperature, rainfall, soils and ecological interactions. The finding would therefore add background similarity without substantially reinforcing the central argument. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The passage already recognises that additional carbon dioxide can promote photosynthesis and initially enhance plant growth. Demonstrating that effect under controlled temperatures would confirm an accepted part of the reasoning rather than the later forest decline under warming. It would add little support to the claim that the PETM warns about current forest vulnerability. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Evidence of the same growth-then-decline pattern in comparable PETM forests elsewhere would show that the Wyoming observations were not confined to one locality. A recurring pattern across separate ancient ecosystems would provide stronger grounds for treating the PETM response as a broader climatic phenomenon. This would make its relevance to present forest risks more persuasive. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

100. Correct Answer: (b) It treats faster carbon release as greater ecological risk without establishing how release rate affects forest response.

Reference Line: “This should be a concern because the rate of carbon release has never been higher than now.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) The passage reports reduced carbon storage after forest disruption, but the quoted reasoning does not depend on calculating the amount subsequently released into the atmosphere. Its concern rests on the unprecedented speed of present carbon addition. The absence of a later carbon calculation therefore does not expose the central gap in this particular claim. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The passage establishes that the present rate of carbon release is unprecedented and then uses that fact as a reason for heightened concern. However, it does not establish within the relevant reasoning that a faster release rate produces more severe forest effects than a slower release of comparable magnitude. The connection between speed and ecological severity therefore requires further support. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Ancient and current recovery conditions may differ, which could limit predictions about how long modern forests would take to recover. However, the stated claim concerns the ecological significance of the present emission rate rather than the duration of future recovery. Differences in recovery conditions therefore do not address the reasoning under examination. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Other environmental factors may have contributed to the initial PETM growth phase, but this issue concerns the explanation for early vegetation expansion. The relevant argument instead moves from the unprecedented speed of present emissions to increased concern about forest damage. Questioning the cause of initial growth does not resolve that inferential gap. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

101. Correct Answer: (d) It supplies an observable link between fossil leaf morphology and past light exposure from which canopy density can be reconstructed.

Reference Line: “The specimens preserve the shapes of the leaves’ outermost cells, which can reveal how much sunlight the leaf received as it grew.” / “Leaves that grow in the shade have longer cells... while those exposed to the sun are shorter and rounder.” / “The information helped the team calculate the density of the forest canopy...”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) Cell shape helps researchers infer the amount of light received by individual leaves, but the passage does not claim that this evidence alone identifies chronological stages of forest decline. The timing of canopy changes comes from tracking reconstructed canopy density across the PETM. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The distinction explains how light conditions are inferred from fossil leaves, but it does not eliminate alternative climatic causes of forest change. The passage itself recognises interacting pressures such as heat, extreme weather and pathogens. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Longer and shorter cells are associated with shade and sunlight rather than being presented as physiological signatures of warming. Their evidentiary value lies in revealing past light conditions, which can then assist in reconstructing canopy structure. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Because shaded and sun-exposed leaves develop distinguishable cell shapes, fossil morphology provides evidence about the amount of light leaves received. Researchers can then use that intermediate information to estimate how open or dense the ancient canopy was. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

102. Correct Answer: (c) Reduced carbon storage in plants and soils occurred alongside greater sediment transport as the altered forest reshaped the landscape.

Reference Line: "This change affected the surrounding environment too. Ferns replaced the broad-leafed relatives of elms, walnuts and avocado trees. Plants and soils stored less carbon, and rivers carried more sediments. The changing climate changed the forest, and the forest changed the landscape."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) Ferns did replace several broad-leafed relatives, but the passage states that plants and soils stored less carbon during the altered forest conditions. Nothing indicates that fern expansion restored the forest's carbon-retention capacity while the canopy remained depleted. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) A thinner canopy may permit more light to reach lower vegetation, but the passage does not connect this with higher productivity or improved soil stability. Instead, the altered forest coincided with greater sediment movement through rivers, indicating wider landscape disruption. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Following the major canopy change, the passage records reduced carbon storage in vegetation and soils together with increased river sediment. These effects show that forest deterioration extended beyond canopy structure and altered wider ecological and landscape processes. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The passage reports replacement of broad-leafed relatives by ferns rather than the rapid emergence of heat-adapted broad-leafed trees. It also emphasises that extremely dense leaf coverage did not return for a prolonged period, which conflicts with accelerated recovery. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

103. Correct Answer: (a) CERD's intervention depends on domestic accountability mechanisms first exhausting the available remedies for the alleged discrimination.

Reference Line: "...the lack of suitably disaggregated data on disenfranchised communities... [is] actively impeding independent checks of India's claims..." / "CERD is effectively stepping into a vacuum." / "...the task continues to fall to civil society to exert influence in multilateral fora and sustain political, legal, and administrative resistance..."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) The passage describes CERD as responding to weaknesses in domestic oversight, but it nowhere makes international scrutiny conditional upon every available domestic remedy first being exhausted. That procedural requirement is introduced by the option rather than inferred from the author's reasoning. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) The author states that India continues implementing special measures using 2011 Census data while warning that outdated information could conceal regression. This supports the inference that programmes may continue formally even when inadequate data make their present effects difficult to assess. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Concerns about the NHRC's independence, investigative roles, electoral transparency, official data and enforcement show that the passage examines institutional conditions as well as particular allegations of abuse. Accountability is therefore treated as a structural issue rather than only a collection of isolated incidents. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The final argument assigns civil society a continuing role because the government is portrayed as resisting CERD's scrutiny and attempting to keep caste-related issues within the domestic sphere. Legal, political, administrative and multilateral pressure therefore becomes more important within the author's reasoning. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

104. Correct Answer: (d) Violations are frequently undetected and sanctions are inconsistently imposed, leaving the practical cost of non-compliance low despite the statutory ban.

Reference Line: “The Committee’s concerns also span the practice of manual cleaning of sewers despite a law banning it...”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) Divided administrative responsibility may complicate implementation, but multiple authorities can still enforce a prohibition effectively. Unless the division actually produces failures in detection or sanction, it does not explain why prohibited conduct continues in practice. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Compensation and safety directions may govern what happens after prohibited sewer work causes harm, but they do not explain why the underlying conduct persists despite the statutory ban. Remedial protections and continued illegality can exist together without resolving the paradox. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Uneven mechanisation may explain why manual methods remain practically useful or available in some places, but it does not by itself explain why actors continue using a method that is legally prohibited. A reason for demand is not yet a reason why the prohibition fails to prevent the conduct. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) A statutory prohibition can coexist with continuing violations when detection is weak and penalties are applied inconsistently. If non-compliance carries a low practical risk of sanction, the law may remain formally valid while failing to eliminate the prohibited practice. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

105. Correct Answer: (d) Other independent domestic bodies regularly investigate and remedy comparable rights violations effectively.

Reference Line: “Together with the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions recommending the downgrade of the NHRC last year, following the government appointing police officers to investigative roles and a lack of pluralism, CERD is effectively stepping into a vacuum.”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) CERD’s dependence on national authorities may limit how easily its recommendations can be implemented, but it does not establish that domestic accountability mechanisms are functioning effectively. The author’s claim concerns an inadequacy within the domestic oversight structure. Limitations on CERD’s enforcement capacity therefore leave the alleged institutional gap largely intact. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The NHRC may continue receiving complaints while concerns remain regarding the independence and credibility of its investigative arrangements. Merely performing an institutional function does not establish that the function is being exercised with sufficient effectiveness or autonomy. The concerns supporting the author’s claim could therefore remain despite continued complaint handling. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Civil-society organisations using both international advocacy and domestic litigation indicate that several avenues of engagement remain available. However, availability of a legal avenue does not establish that domestic institutions consistently provide effective investigation or remedies. Civil society may resort to multiple forums precisely because existing mechanisms are viewed as inadequate. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author’s description of a “vacuum” depends on the idea that important domestic accountability functions are not being performed adequately. If other independent institutions regularly investigate and remedy comparable violations effectively, substantial domestic oversight would still exist despite problems within the NHRC. CERD would then appear to supplement functioning mechanisms rather than fill a major institutional gap. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

106. Correct Answer: (b) Reliable scrutiny requires current, disaggregated data showing meaningful changes across affected communities.

Reference Line: “...the lack of suitably disaggregated data on disenfranchised communities, including due to a much-delayed Census and the slow release of NCRB data, has transcended the bounds of administrative lethargy to actively impeding independent checks of India’s claims about fighting caste- and faith-based discrimination.” / “India has been implementing ‘special measures’ based on 2011 Census data, which could mask a regression...”

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) The author treats disaggregated information as necessary for a fuller assessment, but does not suggest that aggregate data must therefore be rejected altogether. Such data may still offer some value even if they cannot reveal differences across communities. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The claim that missing disaggregated data hinder scrutiny assumes that meaningful evaluation requires sufficiently recent information showing how different communities are actually faring. Without such information, improvement or regression may remain concealed. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) The passage states that outdated data may conceal socioeconomic regression, but regression would not by itself prove that special measures were intentionally designed to discriminate. The argument concerns assessing outcomes, not establishing discriminatory design. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The concern arises because delayed official data leave present conditions harder to assess, not because government sources are treated as inherently superior to civil-society evidence. The argument does not depend on ranking one source of evidence above another. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

107. Correct Answer: (c) Inherited-status discrimination must reasonably fall within the Convention without equating caste with race.

Reference Line: "While the government has told CERD that caste bias falls outside Article 1 of the convention because caste is not synonymous with race, CERD has allowed all forms of discrimination based on inherited status."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) The author does not need caste and race to have developed from similar historical circumstances for the criticism to succeed. The passage acknowledges that the concepts need not be identical while relying on inherited status as the relevant basis for CERD's broader interpretation. Historical similarity is therefore not required for the author's position. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) Previous classification by Indian courts could provide additional support for bringing caste discrimination within a broader anti-discrimination framework. However, the author's criticism is based on CERD's interpretation of inherited status rather than on prior domestic judicial classification. The reasoning can therefore stand even if Indian courts have not adopted that particular terminology. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The criticism of India's position depends on there being a reasonable route through which caste-based discrimination can fall within the Convention despite caste and race being distinct concepts. CERD's inclusion of inherited-status discrimination provides that necessary logical basis. Without such a basis, India's distinction would carry greater substantive weight and could not readily be dismissed as a technicality. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The author relies on CERD's interpretation but does not require that its interpretation override Indian legal understandings whenever disagreement arises. The argument needs a defensible basis for international scrutiny, not universal interpretive supremacy for CERD. A disagreement can therefore exist while the author still considers CERD's broader reading relevant. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

108. Correct Answer: (b) Accountability may require domestic reform reinforced by civic pressure through legal and multilateral channels.

Reference Line: "But if the government's attempted use of a technicality to keep the issues of 200 million Dalits a 'domestic matter' and avoid international accountability, and its dismissal of CERD's concerns as politically motivated, is any guide, the task continues to fall to civil society to exert influence in multilateral fora and sustain political, legal, and administrative resistance to government choices that normalise India's sadly widespread culture of discrimination of all sorts."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation

(a) The passage recognises the importance of international scrutiny when domestic mechanisms appear weakened, but it does not establish that international institutions generally provide stronger remedies. The author also calls for restoration and improvement of domestic accountability institutions. The preferred approach therefore involves multiple forms of scrutiny rather than a general ranking between them. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The author calls for institutional reforms within India while also assigning civil society a continuing role through multilateral, political, legal, and administrative channels. This indicates that stronger accountability may depend on domestic improvement supported by sustained civic and external scrutiny. The conclusion reflects the combined approach developed in the final part of the passage. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) Civil society's role in the passage arises from concerns about government resistance and shortcomings in accountability, not because international criticism creates its legitimacy. Civil-society organisations can participate in legal and political accountability even without prior criticism from an international institution. The passage therefore does not make one dependent upon the other. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The author treats disagreement over caste and the Convention as one concern among several but still proposes reforms involving the NHRC, data, hate speech, electoral transparency, and enforcement. These measures retain significance even if disagreement with CERD continues. The passage therefore supports institutional improvement rather than suggesting that its value depends on resolving the treaty dispute first. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

Section E: Quantitative Techniques

109. Correct Answer: (c) 792 students

Explanation: The four streams had 1,260, 1,080, 720 and 540 students respectively. The corresponding numbers of successful students were 1,008, 810, 612 and 378, giving a total of 2,808 successful students. Therefore, the number who did not complete their courses was $3,600 - 2,808 = 792$ students. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

110. Correct Answer: (b) 630 students

Explanation: Distinction certificates were awarded to 25% of 1,008 successful Quantitative Aptitude students, 20% of 810 successful Analytical Reasoning students, 25% of 612 successful English students, and one-sixth of 378 successful General Awareness students. These numbers are 252, 162, 153 and 63 respectively. Therefore, the total number receiving distinctions was $252 + 162 + 153 + 63 = 630$ students. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

111. Correct Answer: (b) 22.44%

Explanation: The total number of successful students was 2,808, while 630 of them received distinction certificates. Therefore, the required percentage was $630/2,808 \times 100 =$ approximately 22.44%. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

112. Correct Answer: (c) 4,059 students

Explanation: The 2025 enrolments in Quantitative Aptitude, Analytical Reasoning, English and General Awareness were 1,260, 1,080, 720 and 540 respectively. Their revised 2026 enrolments were 1,512, 1,188, 684 and 675. Therefore, the total enrolment in 2026 was $1,512 + 1,188 + 684 + 675 = 4,059$ students. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

113. Correct Answer: (c) 12.75%

Explanation: The total enrolment increased from 3,600 students in 2025 to 4,059 students in 2026. The increase was 459 students. Therefore, the percentage increase was $459/3,600 \times 100 = 12.75\%$. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

114. Correct Answer: (c) 53.88%

Explanation: The 2026 enrolment in Quantitative Aptitude was 1,512, while General Awareness had 675 students. Their combined enrolment was 2,187 students. Therefore, their share of the total 4,059 students was $2,187/4,059 \times 100 =$ approximately 53.88%. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

115. Correct Answer: (c) 71.67%

Explanation: Team A's daily output was $12 \times 300 = 3,600$ pages, so it digitised 18,000 pages during the first five days. Team B's daily output was $8 \times 250 = 2,000$ pages. During the next six days, the two teams together digitised $6 \times 5,600 = 33,600$ pages. Thus, 51,600 of the 72,000 pages had been completed, which is approximately 71.67%. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

116. Correct Answer: (c) 5,100 pages

Explanation: After three operators leave, Team A has nine operators and produces $9 \times 300 = 2,700$ pages per day. Team B's original output of 2,000 pages per day increases by 20% to 2,400 pages. Their revised combined daily output is therefore $2,700 + 2,400 = 5,100$ pages. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

117. Correct Answer: (c) 8.93%

Explanation: Before the changes, Teams A and B produced $3,600 + 2,000 = 5,600$ pages per day. Their revised combined output was 5,100 pages, representing a decrease of 500 pages per day. Therefore, the percentage decrease was $500/5,600 \times 100 =$ approximately 8.93%. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

118. Correct Answer: (c) 21,600 pages

Explanation: Team B digitised 2,000 pages per day during the six-day joint-working period, producing 12,000 pages. By the end of that period, 20,400 pages remained. The revised combined output was 5,100 pages per day, so the remaining work took four days. During those four days, Team B produced $2,400 \times 4 = 9,600$ pages. Its total contribution was therefore $12,000 + 9,600 = 21,600$ pages. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

119. Correct Answer: (b) 3 days

Explanation: Team A digitised 3,600 pages per day during the initial five-day period, producing 18,000 pages. The quality-control team had to audit one-eighth of these pages, or $18,000 \times 1/8 = 2,250$ pages. At 750 pages per day, the audit required $2,250 \div 750 = 3$ days. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

120. Correct Answer: (c) 18 days

Explanation: Team A worked alone for five days, both teams worked together at their original rates for six days, and the remaining digitisation took four days at the revised rate. Thus, the digitisation work required 15 days. The quality-control audit then required another three days, making the total project duration $15 + 3 = 18$ days. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.