

LEGALEDGE TEST SERIES
MOCK COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2024-25
MOCK CLAT 07

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(In Figures)



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test : 2 Hours (120 Minutes)

Maximum Marks : 120

1. Separate carbonised Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Response Sheet is supplied along with this Questions Booklet and the carbon copy has to be detached and taken by the candidates.
2. In case of any discrepancy in the question booklet (QB), please request the invigilator for replacement of a fresh packet of QB with OMR. Do not use the previous OMR response Sheet for a fresh booklet so obtained.
3. Candidates will not be given a second blank OMR response Sheet under any circumstance. Hence, OMR response Sheet shall be handled carefully.
4. Answer all questions. No clarification can be sought on the Questions Paper
5. Possession of electronic devices in any form is strictly prohibited in the examination Hall.
6. The use of any unfair means by any candidate shall result in the cancellation of his/her examination.
7. Impersonation is an offense and the candidate, apart from disqualification, will be liable to be prosecuted.
8. The test Paper for Five Year integrated Law Programme is for 120 marks containing 120 multiple Choice Questions.
9. There will be Negative marking for multiple choice objective type questions. 0.25 marks will be deducted for every wrong answer or where candidates have marked more than one response.
10. Use **BLACK/BLUE BALL POINT PEN** only for writing the roll No. and other details on OMR response Sheet.
11. Use **BLACK/BLUE BALL POINT PEN** for shading the circles. Indicate only the most appropriate answer by shading from the options provided. The answer circle should be shaded completely without leaving any space.
12. As the responses cannot be modified/corrected on the OMR Response Sheet, candidates have to take necessary precautions before marking the appropriate circle.
13. The candidate should retain the Admit Card duly Signed by the invigilator, as the same has to be produced at the time of Admission.
14. Handle the OMR response Sheet with care. Do not fold.
15. Ensure that invigilator puts his/her signature in the space provided on the OMR response Sheet. Candidate should sign in the space provided on the OMR response Sheet.
16. The candidate should write Question Paper booklet No., and OMR response Sheet No., and sign in the space/column provided in the attendance sheet.
17. Return the Original Page of OMR response Sheet to the invigilator after the examination.
18. The candidate shall not write anything on the OMR response Sheet other than the details required and in the spaces provided for.

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SECTION-A : ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Directions (Q.1-Q.24): Read the passages carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.1-Q.4): I cherish the years I spent at Don Bosco High School Vadodara, an all-boys Christian missionary institution. Contrary to what many might think, studying in an all-boys school had its unique advantages that only someone who's been there can truly appreciate. This school formed the backdrop of most of my childhood, shaping many memories I now hold dear. The story of my **enchanting** school memories revolves around my school from junior years.

From kindergarten to the tenth grade, I was immersed in the Don Bosco environment. Although I transitioned to Rosary High School for higher secondary education, it operated more like an informal institution for science students. Consequently, most of my vivid school memories trace back to my junior years at Don Bosco.

My typical school day began early. By a quarter to six in the morning, I would be up, freshened up, dressed in my school uniform, and with my bag packed in accordance with the day's timetable. After a quick breakfast, I would be ready for my school van by 6:45 am. The subsequent thirty minutes en route to school were always bustling with conversations about the previous day's homework or other school-related topics.

Upon reaching school around 7:30 am, we had a brief window to settle in our classes before the school bell signaled the start of the day. The mornings began with the national song and school prayer, leading up to 8 am when our regular lessons commenced. Up until our 10:30 am recess, we would engage in four continuous periods. The recess, however, was seldom about lunch. Depending on our grade level, we'd either be playing in the garden—enjoying games like basketball, football, and hide and seek—or socializing in the canteen over delicious snacks. As we matured into the secondary classes, the canteen became our primary hangout spot. Despite everything, the enthusiasm for life was manifested in the form of games which involved physical capabilities.

Post recess, the day continued with another four periods. While some might find the idea of school lectures dreary, I found solace in a few subjects. Art and craft, PT, value education, and mathematics were especially intriguing to me.

Yet, school was more than just a structured routine of classes and recess. The heart of my experience lay in the little moments: gossips with friends, the casual hangouts at the canteen, sneaking to the washroom to escape a bit of a lecture, the anxiety when homework was forgotten, the teacher's remarks in the handbook for class mischief, and the nerve-wracking journey home on result day. The blend of immature quarrels and innocent laughter made school life uniquely special. Looking back, those times seem so invaluable, perhaps because life was much simpler.

In conclusion, Don Bosco High School Vadodara was not just an educational institution for me; it was a place where I grew, learned, and built memories. The simplicity and innocence of those days stand in stark contrast to the complexities of adult life, making them all the more precious.

Source: <https://infinitylearn.com/surge/english/essay/my-school-life-essay/>

1. According to the author, which of the following best encapsulates the nuanced experiences and shifts in activities and preferences during his time at Don Bosco High School Vadodara?
 - (a) The author's school life primarily revolved around adhering to the structured routine of classes and ensuring that he completed his homework on time.
 - (b) While in primary classes, the author and his peers were more inclined towards outdoor games, but as they transitioned to secondary classes, their preference shifted to socializing in the canteen.
 - (c) The author's most cherished memories from Don Bosco High School Vadodara are solely the times he spent in the canteen with his friends, discussing various topics.
 - (d) The school van journey was the highlight of the author's day as it provided him with the most significant opportunity for interaction and discussions about the previous day's assignments.

2. Why did the author feel a distinct sense of nostalgia and attachment towards Don Bosco High School Vadodara, compared to his experiences at Rosary High School?
 - (a) Because his years at Don Bosco encompassed a wider range of transformative experiences to experiencing the little moments of joys.
 - (b) Because Don Bosco High School Vadodara had a more rigorous academic curriculum that challenged him intellectually.
 - (c) Because the school van rides to Don Bosco provided him with meaningful interactions, which he valued deeply.
 - (d) Because Don Bosco exclusively offered subjects like art and craft, PT, value education, and mathematics, which were of significant interest to him.

3. In the context of the passage, what does the term "enchanting" most likely convey about the author's school memories?
 - (a) Strictly educational experiences
 - (b) Memories filled with magical charm and delight
 - (c) Experiences related to school discipline and punishment
 - (d) Recollections of ordinary school events

4. Which of the following options captures the meaning of the sentence "The kind of activities one indulged in depended on the class he was in," best?
 - (a) Everyone in the school participated in the same activities regardless of their grade.
 - (b) The school mandated specific activities for each grade.
 - (c) Students' choice of activities was influenced by their grade level.
 - (d) Activities were chosen based on individual student preferences without any influence from the grade.

Passage (Q.5-Q.9): In the realm of academic institutional societal obligations, scholars are bequeathed with the prerogative to immerse themselves into projects of monumental significance, thereby rendering profound contributions to the societal fabric. Such community engagement endeavors are not merely pivotal from the perspective of the students, bestowing upon them the avenues to execute diverse projects that resonate with societal utility, but they also proffer a platform for these scholars to manifest their erudition and ingenuity in addressing community-centric challenges. The endeavor that my team and I embarked upon pertained to the intricate design of a water filtration apparatus, aimed at augmenting the provision of potable water to the denizens. Concurrently, our team was also engrossed in sanitation activities, ensuring the community's milieu remained salubrious.

The triumphant realization of our community engagement endeavor can be attributed to an unwavering spirit of collaboration and teamwork, further bolstered by the sagacious guidance of our mentor and the overarching administration. Our inaugural congregation was marked by an unparalleled synergy, facilitating a consensus on myriad project propositions. Despite the eclectic backgrounds of our team members, there was an inherent respect for diverse perspectives. In this initial rendezvous, I postulated that we should converge on a project type posthaste. This proposition was met with unanimous agreement, culminating in the selection of our project forthwith. Furthermore, the team engaged in a democratic process to elect a project that was deemed to have the most profound societal impact. This journey has enriched my understanding of the quintessence of teamwork within a heterogeneous group.

From the perspective of leadership and unwavering commitment, I was entrusted with responsibilities within the logistics division. Our objectives spanned a gamut of tasks, from securing venues for deliberations to orchestrating transportation logistics and procuring essential project materials. My commitment was unwavering, evident in my consistent presence and active participation in these meetings. However, it was discernible that not all members exhibited an equivalent commitment, a reflection of human nature's inherent inconsistencies.

Drawing from these observations, I am resolute in my commitment to always prioritize team objectives, ensuring my contributions are meaningful and impactful.

This endeavor also served as a crucible for honing my communication acumen. Whether in formal congregations or informal interactions, I communicated with unbridled confidence, further refining my ability to articulate ideas cogently. Tasked with transportation logistics, I was able to manifest and further refine my communication prowess.

Our journey was not devoid of challenges. Financial limitations, exacerbated by inadequate sponsorships, coupled with time constraints posed significant hurdles. However, our team's inherent flexibility and creativity enabled us to navigate these challenges with aplomb. For instance, personal contributions were made to bridge financial gaps, and our project manager's resourcefulness secured additional funding. Moreover, under our mentor's aegis, we conceptualized an innovative water filtration design. These experiences have underscored the importance of adaptability in the face of adversity.

In summation, it was the unwavering commitment and determination of the team that was the linchpin of our project's success. Despite the myriad challenges, our collective experience, commitment, and resilience ensured the realization of our objectives. This odyssey has bequeathed upon me invaluable insights into teamwork, leadership, commitment, communication, creativity, and problem-solving.

Source:<https://gradesfixer.com/free-essay-examples/self-reflection-paper-on-community-engagement-project/>

5. Which of the following statements most closely aligns with the underlined sentiment in the passage: "This odyssey has bequeathed upon me invaluable insights into teamwork, leadership, commitment, communication, creativity, and problem-solving"?
 - (a) The journey has endowed me with a profound understanding of collaboration, guidance, dedication, articulation, innovation, and addressing challenges.
 - (b) My experiences have provided me with a cursory overview of working in a team, leading initiatives, staying committed, speaking clearly, thinking out of the box, and resolving issues.
 - (c) This expedition has not rendered upon the importance of working together, taking charge, being dedicated, expressing oneself, thinking differently, and finding solutions.
 - (d) The venture has superficially introduced me to the nuances of group dynamics, leadership roles, unwavering focus, effective communication, creative thinking, and tackling problems.
6. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage?
 - (a) The author's team was solely responsible for the design and implementation of the water filtration apparatus without any external guidance.
 - (b) The author's primary role was in the logistics division and the teamwork included responsibilities such as securing venues and managing transportation logistics.
 - (c) All team members consistently exhibited the same level of commitment throughout the project.
 - (d) The team's project was solely focused on water filtration, with no attention given to other community needs.
7. Which part of speech is depicted by the underlined word from the passage:
From the perspective of leadership and unwavering commitment, I was entrusted with responsibilities within the logistics division.
 - (a) Noun.
 - (b) Verb.
 - (c) Adjective.
 - (d) Adverb.
8. Based on the content and style of the provided passage, which of the following categories best describes this piece of writing?
 - (a) Fictional Narrative
 - (b) Technical Manual
 - (c) Reflective Essay
 - (d) Historical Account

9. Which of the following assumptions underpins the author's perspective in the provided passage?
- (a) All community projects inherently lead to personal growth.
 - (b) Financial limitations are the sole challenges faced in community projects.
 - (c) Diverse perspectives within a team can lead to richer outcomes.
 - (d) Leadership roles are the most prestigious in any project.

Passage (Q.10-Q.14): Ever since the mid-1980s, the peril of wildfires has been escalating at an alarming rate, with many attributing this surge to the ramifications of climate change and the consequent elevation in global temperatures. A poignant illustration of this is the Mendocino Complex Fire of 2018, which, in reality, was a confluence of two proximate fires, setting unprecedented records in the annals of Californian history. The Ranch Fire, one of the duos, consumed an astonishing 410,203 acres. Research conducted by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) elucidates that the frequency of substantial forest fires has seen a marked increase over the past two decades. The 1990s witnessed only two years with over 50 large fires, whereas the 2000s experienced eight such years, a fourfold increase from the preceding decade.

The inception of wildfires can be attributed to myriad causes, but the predominant factor is the confluence of three essential elements, colloquially termed "The **Fire Triangle**": a heat source, combustible material, and oxygen. While the majority of these heat sources are anthropogenic in nature, such as campfires or cigarettes, natural phenomena like lightning can also be the culprits. The combustible material, or fuel, encompasses dead vegetation, trees, grass, and even human-made structures. Oxygen, an indispensable component for combustion, completes the triangle. A mere spark or malfunctioning power equipment can often be the catalyst for these devastating fires. For instance, the Carr Fire of July 2018 was instigated by a tire malfunction that produced sparks in proximity to combustible material.

The perturbing question that arises is: How does climate change exacerbate the wildfire situation? The answer lies in the desiccation of environments and the soaring temperatures. In 2018, California experienced its most torrid month in July, concurrently with vegetation and forests reaching unparalleled levels of aridity. This parched vegetation acts as tinder, leading to more frequent and intense wildfires.

One of the methodologies employed to mitigate the wildfire menace is "controlled burning." This technique, which involves the intentional ignition of fires, was initially practiced by indigenous populations in the Southeastern U.S. and subsequently adopted by European settlers. Historically, its primary purpose was to augment food sources for free-range cattle and maintain hunting habitats. However, its contemporary application is predominantly to pre-emptively eliminate potential fuel sources for wildfires.

While controlled burning is a commendable stratagem to arrest the progression of fires, it doesn't address the overarching issue of climate change. Nonetheless, it indirectly aids in climate change mitigation. Wildfires emit copious amounts of smoke, exacerbating global warming. By curbing wildfires, we inadvertently reduce their contribution to climate change.

Addressing the broader issue, the Paris Agreement, which came into effect on November 4, 2016, seeks to restrict the global temperature rise to below 2°C from pre-industrial levels. This accord galvanizes nations to bolster their efforts in combating climate change, with periodic assessments of their progress. While the Paris Agreement is more symbolic than prescriptive, it has the potential to catalyze investments in clean energy and intensify efforts to curtail emissions.

In summation, while wildfires are a pressing concern, the overarching issue of climate change needs paramount attention. Addressing climate change holistically will not only attenuate the wildfire threat but also ameliorate other deleterious effects such as droughts, tropical storms, and sea-level rise. It is imperative for global leaders to shift their focus from isolated effects of climate change to the broader issue, ensuring a sustainable future for all.

Source: <https://edubirdie.com/examples/wildfires-and-climate-change-essay/>

10. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- (a) The Paris Agreement was primarily established to combat wildfires.
 - (b) Controlled burning was introduced by European settlers as a primary method to combat climate change.
 - (c) The Mendocino Complex Fire of 2018 was a singular fire that set records in California.
 - (d) The escalation in the frequency and intensity of wildfires is correlated with the effects of climate change and environmental conditions.
11. Which of the following, used in the passage, suggests that human interventions, both historical and contemporary, have played a role in addressing the wildfire menace?
- (a) The Paris Agreement's aim to restrict global temperature rise.
 - (b) The Mendocino Complex Fire's consumption of 410,203 acres.
 - (c) The practice of controlled burning by indigenous populations and its adoption by European settlers.
 - (d) The record heat witnessed in July 2018 in California.
12. Which of the following seems to be the author's main concern in the passage?
- (a) The historical practices of indigenous populations in the Southeastern U.S.
 - (b) The specific causes and origins of individual wildfires like the Mendocino Complex Fire.
 - (c) The broader implications of climate change and its correlation with escalating wildfire threats.
 - (d) The effectiveness of international agreements like the Paris Agreement in addressing global challenges.
13. Which of the following words from the passage means "a combination or mixture of two or more things"?
- (a) Desiccation (b) Confluence (c) Augment (d) Galvanizes
14. In the context of the passage, which of the following best describes the primary purpose of the "Fire Triangle"?
- (a) To illustrate the three main causes of global warming.
 - (b) To delineate the essential elements required for combustion.
 - (c) To categorize the various types of wildfires based on their intensity.
 - (d) To highlight the three main regions most affected by wildfires.

Passage (Q.15-Q.19): In the intricate tapestry of human cognition, the juxtaposition of perception vis-à-vis reality emerges as a profoundly contemplative subject. Recollecting a particularly enlightening discourse from a TED talk, I was ensnared by the profundity of the assertion that our interpretations of the tangible world are not mere reflections of its actuality, but rather, they are shaped by our individual cognitive constructs. My father, in his sagacious manner, once elucidated this concept by positing that entities do not manifest as they inherently are; instead, they appear as we cognitively construe them to be. This sentiment resonated with my initial preconception upon viewing the aforementioned video; the speaker's Caucasian complexion and British intonation inadvertently led me to surmise his forthcoming insights as erudite and veracious. The demarcation between the subjective and the objective is nebulous at best. I postulate that the objective realm is devoid of intrinsic value, and it is our cognitive frameworks and mental paradigms that modulate our interpretations thereof.

This cerebral exploration further propelled me into ruminations about contemporary entrepreneurial paradigms. A recent discourse with my father illuminated the pitfalls of misperception in business ventures. He analogized the scenario to a physician prematurely prescribing medication based on cursory assumptions rather than a meticulous diagnosis. This allegory underscores the prevalent entrepreneurial misstep of catering to perceived market demands rather than discerning the genuine needs of the market. Our perceptions, mediated by our sensory apparatus, are inherently subjective. Consequently, individuals' perceptions of a singular entity can diverge significantly from its actual essence. My father once elucidated this concept in a business conclave, highlighting the fallacy of misconstruing the operational mechanism of an air conditioner, thereby emphasizing that reality is not an immutable construct but is malleable and varies interpersonally.

However, a lacuna in the video's discourse was its omission of the dynamic nature of perception, which undergoes metamorphosis with age, edification, voyages, triumphs, and tribulations. In the contemporary commercial landscape, it is imperative for enterprises to meticulously craft products that align seamlessly with consumers' perceptions. Such products should be devoid of any predispositions that might skew their perception, which I elegantly term as 'thought-neutral objects'. In summation, the video was a cerebral odyssey that accentuated the paramountcy of perception. It served as an intellectual repast, prompting introspection on the role of perception in discerning our locus in the world. This perhaps elucidates the differential prowess in strategic games like chess among individuals. Often, in the relentless march of life, we are bereft of the luxury of time and vigor to authenticate our perceptions, leading us to rely on assumptions rather than astute observation.

Source: <https://samplius.com/free-essay-examples/the-issue-of-perception-vs-reality/>

15. Which of the following can be inferred about the author's views on the nature of reality and perception?
- (a) Reality is an immutable construct that remains constant across individuals.
 - (b) Perception is a static entity, unaffected by personal experiences or age.
 - (c) Reality is devoid of intrinsic value and is shaped by individual cognitive constructs.
 - (d) The objective realm is rich in intrinsic value and is not influenced by personal beliefs.
16. In the context of the passage, how does the author perceive contemporary entrepreneurial paradigms?
- (a) They are always aligned with genuine market needs.
 - (b) They often cater to perceived market demands rather than discerning the genuine needs.
 - (c) They are always based on meticulous diagnosis and never on cursory assumptions.
 - (d) They are unaffected by individual perceptions and solely based on market research.
17. Which of the following best describes the author's response to the video's discourse on the dynamic nature of perception?
- (a) The author fully agrees with the video's perspective without reservations.
 - (b) The author believes the video omits the fact that perceptions change with age and experiences.
 - (c) The author finds the video's perspective outdated and irrelevant.
 - (d) The author believes the video provides a comprehensive view of perception.
18. All the following pairs of words are synonyms, except:
- (a) Immutable – Unchangeable
 - (b) Nebulous - Clear
 - (c) Allegory – Parable
 - (d) Cerebral - Intellectual
19. Which of the following most accurately describes what the underlined sentence means in the context of the passage?
- [The underlined sentence is: "Often, in the relentless march of life, we are bereft of the luxury of time and vigor to authenticate our perceptions, leading us to rely on assumptions rather than astute observation."]
- (a) Life's pace often allows individuals ample time to validate their beliefs.
 - (b) People frequently rely on careful observation over assumptions in their daily lives.
 - (c) Due to life's demands, individuals often resort to assumptions instead of thorough scrutiny.
 - (d) Assumptions and observations are equally reliable in the author's view.

Passage (Q.20-Q.24): The tradition of weaving the lau (leaves) from the hala (pandanus) tree was brought to the Aloha State when the first Polynesian settlers arrived in canoes with sails fashioned from the material, according to some historians. Those early Hawaiians realized this resource could be used to craft other essential items like clothing, mattresses and shoes.

There aren't many who have mastered the technique or the ancient style of weaving used to create the fans. Marzan, 44, who first learned the art as a teenager, is one of the few who possesses that rare expertise. "To create contemporary pieces with these ancient skills is really unique," says Kilohana Silve, an art critic. Over the past 25 years, Marzan has perfected multiple fiber-weaving techniques, including plaiting, twining, netting and cord-making.

"He's using those finely honed skills and creating something that steps forward in time," says Silve. "That's very exciting, and it's wonderful that his work is being recognized beyond Hawaii shores."

Marzan's weaving and art have taken him to the Marshall Islands, Canada, New Zealand (with their Maori) and American Samoa (Polynesian culture). In 2018, his craft led him to Paris for the Festival des Arts d'Hawaii. There, five fans he created appeared in an exhibition at Orenda Art International, a gallery known for embracing emerging artists and helping them gain international acclaim.

"This show was so important," says Silve, founder of the Hawaii festival, who lived in Paris for 30 years. "I wanted people out there, especially in important art worlds like Paris or New York or Tokyo, to be aware of the excellent artists that we have in Hawaii. The reactions were just everything that we anticipated. People were fascinated. They were just in awe, because [the weaving technique] is clearly so difficult to do."

The work was very well received by critics, but Marzan's artistry isn't just for aficionados. "It's one thing for people to go into a gallery and ooh and ahh and say, 'Oh, **c'est magnifique.**' It's another thing [for them] to, you know, bring out their checkbook and purchase a piece. I was so thrilled to see that his works were all bought," says Silve.

In addition to their intricate beauty, Marzan's creations may draw customers because many of his pieces are also functional, like the dresses he made out of pig intestines for the Maoli Arts Movement Wearable Art Show, an annual one-night event in Honolulu that gives native Hawaiian designers a platform to showcase their wearable-art creations.

Just as he draws on the traditional Hawaiian practice of using lau hala to make baskets and shoes, Marzan is inspired by ancient Japanese artisans. Long ago, they created fabric from paper. It was placed under garments to wick away moisture.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from, This Hawaiian Artist Weaves Contemporary Style With Ancient Tradition, <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/hawaiian-artist-weaves-contemporary-style-ancient-tradition-180982332/>]

20. In the passage, Marzan's artistry has led him to showcase his work internationally. Which of the following locations is NOT listed as a place where his art has been recognized or exhibited?
- (a) The Marshall Islands, known for its appreciation of Pacific Islander artistry.
 - (b) Japan, where ancient fabric-making techniques have influenced his work.
 - (c) New Zealand, a country with a strong indigenous Maori culture.
 - (d) American Samoa, part of the Samoan Islands where Polynesian culture is prevalent.

21. What can be inferred about the use of the phrase "c'est magnifique" in the passage?
- (a) It reflects the international acclaim and appreciation of Marzan's work, particularly during the exhibition in Paris.
 - (b) It is used sarcastically to undermine the value of Marzan's work and the reaction of the audience.
 - (c) It indicates a superficial level of appreciation for Marzan's work, contrasting with the genuine interest shown through purchases.
 - (d) It is used to highlight the complexity of Marzan's weaving technique and the awe it inspires in an artistic context.
22. What does the tone of Kilohana Silve's comments throughout the passage suggest about her perspective on Marzan's work?
- (a) She expresses admiration for Marzan's unique ability to blend ancient weaving techniques with contemporary art but maintains a critical perspective on the broader impact of his work.
 - (b) She is overwhelmingly positive and supportive, highlighting Marzan's unique skills, the excitement of his work gaining international recognition, and the successful sale of his pieces.
 - (c) She maintains a neutral stance, providing factual commentary on Marzan's work and its reception without expressing personal admiration or critique.
 - (d) She is cautiously optimistic about Marzan's work, recognizing his skills but expressing doubt about the long-term impact and sustainability of his art in international circles.
23. Based on the passage, which of the following statements most accurately describes the international reception of Marzan's artistry?
- (a) Marzan's artistry is well-regarded for its technical prowess and has started to capture interest from niche art communities outside of Hawaii.
 - (b) Marzan's fusion of traditional and modern techniques has brought him acclaim, primarily from art critics and historians who value cultural heritage.
 - (c) Marzan's artistry resonates strongly on an international level, leading to his participation in global exhibitions and successful sales of his work.
 - (d) While Marzan's artistry is rooted in tradition, its contemporary relevance has yet to be fully acknowledged by the international art community.
24. Which of the following statements, if true, would most strengthen the argument about Marzan's unique skill in blending ancient weaving techniques with contemporary art?
- (a) Marzan has received numerous awards in Hawaii for his innovative approach to traditional weaving techniques.
 - (b) Many other artists in Hawaii also use ancient weaving techniques, but none have achieved the same level of international recognition as Marzan.
 - (c) Marzan has dedicated a significant portion of his life to studying and preserving ancient Hawaiian weaving techniques.
 - (d) Art critics from various parts of the world have praised Marzan for his ability to maintain the authenticity of ancient Hawaiian weaving while infusing contemporary elements.

SECTION -B : CURRENT AFFAIRS, INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Directions (Q.25-Q.52): Read the information carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.25-Q.30): On 1st December, WHO, together with communities and partners will commemorate World AIDS Day 2023, under the theme “[1]”

Communities living with, and affected by, HIV, networks of people from key populations and youth leaders have been, and continue to be, essential for progress in the HIV response. They provide essential prevention, testing and treatment support services, build trust, generate innovative solutions, promote health, monitor the implementation of policies and programmes, and hold providers accountable.

The world can end AIDS with communities leading the way. That is why the theme for World AIDS Day this year is ‘Let communities lead’, and much more than a celebration of the achievements of communities, it is a call to action to enable and support communities in their leadership roles.

On World AIDS Day 2023, WHO celebrates and recognizes the invaluable contributions of communities in leading the response to HIV.

On World AIDS Day, WHO will launch the 2nd edition of the Digital adaptation kit (DAK) for HIV: Operational requirements for implementing WHO recommendations within digital systems. DAKs are part of the WHO SMART guidelines initiative and are designed to ensure WHO’s recommended health and data content are accurately reflected in the digital systems that countries adopt. A global webinar to present an overview of this second edition will take place on 7 December.

On World AIDS Day 2023, WHO Regional Office for Africa will be joining Winnie Byanyima, UNAIDS Executive Director, in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, as well as government officials and leaders of the HIV response in Zimbabwe to commemorate the many lives lost to AIDS. In the afternoon, they will pay a visit to a community led initiative enabling key populations to access services.

Activities for World AIDS Day in Zimbabwe will be followed by ICASA, the 22nd edition of the largest HIV conference in Africa, from 4 – 9 December in Harare. WHO will have a leading role in the conference, including the participation in the opening ceremony, convening 10 satellite sessions and engaging with communities and people living with or affected by HIV attending the conference.

Ref- <https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2023/12/01/default-calendar/world-aids-day-2023-events-in-geneva-and-around-the-world>

25. What has been redacted by [1] in this passage?
(a) shared responsibility (b) Let communities lead
(c) Global solidarity (d) End inequalities, End AIDS
26. Who is the current WHO Regional Director for Europe?
(a) Dr. Mónica García (b) Christine Stegling
(c) Dr. Hans Kluge (d) Dr. William Clerk
27. What is the theme of the commemorative act hosted by the European Parliament on 1st December 2023?
(a) Achieving Global Health Equity
(b) Ending AIDS in Europe
(c) Political Action for Human Rights
(d) HIV and Human Rights: Political action to achieve zero stigma
28. Where is the headquarters of World Health Organization located?
(a) London (b) Geneva (c) Singapore (d) Paris

29. Which of the following is described in the passage?
(a) WHO's achievements in HIV response
(b) Digital systems in healthcare
(c) World AIDS Day 2023 and community leadership
(d) HIV prevention strategies
30. Which country has hosted ICASA, the 22nd edition of the largest HIV conference in Africa?
(a) South Africa (b) Zimbabwe (c) Nigeria (d) Kenya

Passage (Q.31-Q.36): Former Union minister and a former recipient of the award, M Veerappa Moily, who was the chief guest at the event, hailed Sivasankari as a national icon.

“Sivasankari ji has taken it as a mission in life to push the vision of India and these volumes reflect the literary heritage of various languages. She possesses unique character and scholarship, and she is the icon of India. We are proud of her. Women had the greatest role to play in the legendary literary history of India and Sivasankari ji represents that kind of a legend. I compliment justice Sikri and members of the jury for having selected a right and legendary person who truly represents the legacy of Tamil Nadu and India,” Moily said.

The Saraswati Samman, instituted by the KK Birla Foundation, carries a plaque, a citation, and a cash prize of ₹15 lakh. Sivasankari is the [1] recipient of the award, joining a pantheon of writers over the years. The selection follows a rigorous three-tier process leading up to a final decision by Chayan Parishad currently headed by former Supreme Court judge, justice Arjan Kumar Sikri.

Sivasankari told the audience how her passion to write was a way of giving back to the society.

“For me writing is a lifetime process... I’m so happy that my book has been so well received not only by my readers but also by my critics. I will be very, very honest, my book is a very transparent work and I have not lied anywhere or exaggerated any incident or character or word in it and its a transparent honest narration. Some critics even said that what we all do in seven lives, Sivasankari has done in one life,” the author said.

HT Media board member Priyavrat Bhartia, speaking on behalf of HT Media chairperson and editorial director Shobhana Bhartia, who could not be present at the ceremony, congratulated Sivasankari and noted how the writer was an inspiration for generations. “The winner of this year’s award, Sivasankari ji joins a pantheon of Saraswati Samman recipients over the years that includes stalwarts across the Indian literature landscape... As all Saraswati Samman recipients are, Sivasankari ji is an inspiration for a generation of writers,” he said.

Ref- <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/sivasankari-honoured-with32nd-saraswati-samman-101697138057979.html>

31. What has been redacted by [1] in this passage?
(a) 22nd (b) 32nd (c) 34th (d) 30th
32. Who is the current director of KK Birla Foundation?
(a) Dr. Arvind Kumar (b) Dr. Suresh Rituparna
(c) Dr. Prakash Kumar singh (d) Dr. Anil singhania
33. What does the Saraswati Samman carry as part of the award?
(a) Trophy and a certificate (b) Plaque, citation, and a cash prize
(c) Gold medal (d) Educational scholarship

34. Choose the correct one among the following.
- (a) Marathi writer Sharankumar Limbale won Saraswati Samman in 2018 for his book Sanatan.
 - (b) Apart from the Saraswati Samman, the KK Birla Foundation has also established four other literary awards.
 - (c) Saraswati Samman award is one of the most esteemed recognitions in Indian literature, and comes with a cash prize of Rs 50 lakh, a plaque, and a citation.
 - (d) Tamil writer Sivasankari has the recipient of the prestigious Saraswati Samman award for the year 2022.
35. The Saraswati Samman, ____ in the last 10 years, is among the highest recognitions in the field of Indian literature.
- (a) given annually for outstanding literary works in 10 Indian languages
 - (b) given Quarterly for outstanding literary works in 22 Indian languages
 - (c) given once in two year for outstanding literary works in 20 Indian languages
 - (d) given annually for outstanding literary works in 22 Indian languages
36. The Vyas Samman started in which of the following year?
- (a) 2003
 - (b) 1991
 - (c) 1999
 - (d) 1996

Passage (Q.37-Q.42): With increased mobility and connectivity, opportunities in large metro cities and urban conglomerates have been attracting talent including women and seeking employment and entrepreneurial ventures. To enable equal opportunities for participation and development for women, a requirement has been necessitated for ensuring adequate safety for women in such cities. Towards this objective, using technology to aid smart policing and safety management, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) approved [x] for Safe City projects implementation in phase I in eight cities – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai. These projects involve active participation and close coordination between various departments of the State, not limiting to the Police.

The Safe City projects involves supplementing existing assets and meet citizen demands for safe eco-system for women in these cities. Important elements included by different cities, based on their requirements , in the Safe City projects include Identification of Crime Hot-spots in the city; Saturating such Hot-spots with increased CCTV surveillance etc linked to a command and control centre; Setting up women police out-posts for facilitating ease of access by any aggrieved woman to report incidence or seek assistance; Patrols by Women police in vulnerable areas; Setting up Women Help Desks in Police stations with facility for trained Counsellors; Augmentation of existing women support centres like Bharosa centres etc.

‘Police’ and ‘Public Order’ are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including crime against women are with the respective State Governments. However, as part of several initiatives for safety of women by the Government of India, Safe City Projects have been approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs with centrally sponsored funding in eight cities namely Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow, and Mumbai. The projects involve identification of hotspots for crime against women and deployment of various components including infrastructure, technology adoption, and capacity building in community through awareness programmes which will enable safety for women.

Ref- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1945047>

37. What has been redacted by [x] in this passage?
- (a) Rs.3120.16
 - (b) Rs.3080.16
 - (c) Rs.3208.16
 - (d) Rs.3480.10
38. Who out of the following is the current Minister of State for Home Affairs?
- (a) Arun kumar singh
 - (b) Ajay Kumar Mishra
 - (c) Sandeep Saxena
 - (d) Nirendra rai singh

39. The cost of the projects is shared between the Central Government and the concerned States in_____.
- (a) 70:30 ratio (b) 60:40 ratio
(c) 50:50 ratio (d) 20:80 ratio
40. As of 2023, _____, a city in India, holds the title of cleanest city of India by maintaining high standards of cleanliness and sanitation, as confirmed by the annual Swachh Survekshan research.
- (a) Jaipur (b) Raipur (c) Bangalore (d) Indore
41. In the context of the Safe City Project, what does "CCTV" stand for?
- (a) Centralized Camera Technology Vision (b) Closed-Circuit Television
(c) City Crime Tracking and Vigilance (d) Central Command for Traffic Vehicles
42. According to the latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report which city is the safest city of India with least crime rates?
- (a) Chennai (b) Raipur (c) Bangalore (d) Kolkata

Passage (Q.43-Q.48): The tribes of Nagaland celebrate their festivals with gusto and fervor. More than 60% of the population of Nagaland depends on agriculture and therefore most of their festivals revolve round agriculture. They consider their festivals sacred and so participation in these festivals is compulsory. Nagaland is known as the land of festivals as each tribe celebrates its own festival with dedication and passion. Some of the important festivals celebrated are: Tsukhenyie by the Chakhesangs in January, Mimkut by the Kukis in January, Bushu by the Kacharis in January, Sekrenyi by the Angamis in February, Aoling by the Konyaks in April, Moatsu by the Aos in May, Tuluni by the Sumis in July, Nyaknylum by the Changs in July, Tokhu Emong by the Lothas in November and Yemshe by the Pochurys in October.

To encourage inter-tribal interaction and to promote cultural heritage of Nagaland, the Government of Nagaland organizes the Hornbill Festival every year in the first week of December. It is also called the 'Festival of Festivals'.

Organized by the [1], Hornbill Festival showcases a mélange of cultural displays under one roof. This festival usually takes place between the 1st and the 10th of December every year in Kohima. The much popular Music festival is held alongside. Hornbill Festival is held at Naga Heritage Village, Kisama which is about 12 km from Kohima. All the tribes of Nagaland take part in this festival. The aim of the festival is to revive and protect the rich culture of Nagaland and display its extravaganza and traditions. For visitors it means a closer understanding of the people and culture of Nagaland. It must be included in your itinerary, if you are visiting Nagaland during that time to enjoy the food, songs, dances and customs of Nagaland.

Ref- <https://www.hornbillfestival.com/>

43. What has been redacted by [1] in this passage?
- (a) State minority Affairs & Home Affairs
(b) Union minister of Minority Affairs
(c) State Tourism and Art & Culture Departments
(d) Union minister of Home Affairs
44. Who is the current Governor of Nagaland?
- (a) Jagdish Mukhi (b) La Ganesan (c) N. Biren Singh (d) C. V. Ananda Bose

45. The festival that began in _____ is named after the hornbill, a culturally significant bird that symbolises fidelity, beauty and grace in Naga folklore and ritual.
(a) 2002 (b) 2004 (c) 2000 (d) 2005
46. Hornbill Festival held at the heritage village of _____.
(a) Buang (b) Vangtlang (c) Tlangpuite (d) Kisama
47. Who is the current union Tourism & Culture minister of India?
(a) Arjun Ram Meghwal (b) Kailash Chandra Meghwal
(c) Gangapuram Kishan Reddy (d) Dushyant Singh
48. Which tribe celebrates the festival Mimkut in January?
(a) Kacharis (b) Konyaks (c) Kukis (d) Angamis

Passage (Q.49-Q.54): The Ministry of [X] has approved a path breaking "Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023 to enable and empower the Central Bureau of Communication which is the advertising wing of the Government of India to undertake campaigns in the Digital Media Space. This policy marks a pivotal moment in CBC's mission to disseminate information and create awareness regarding various schemes, programs, and policies of the Government of India in response to the evolving media landscape and the increased digitalization of media consumption.

The huge subscriber base in the Digital Universe, coupled with technology enabled messaging options through Digital advertisements will facilitate effective delivery of citizen centric message in a targeted manner, resulting in cost efficiencies in public oriented campaigns. In recent years, the way audiences consume media has witnessed a significant shift towards the digital space. The Government of India's Digital India program has led to a huge growth in the number of people in the country who are now connected to the internet, social and digital media platforms. As per TRAI's Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators January–March 2023, the internet penetration in India as of March 2023, is over 880 million, and the number of telecom subscribers as of March 2023 is over 1172 million.

The Policy will enable CBC to empanel agencies and organisations in the OTT and Video on Demand Space. CBC will also be able to leverage the growing number of listeners to Podcasts and Digital Audio platforms through empanelment of Digital Audio platforms. Apart from rationalising its process of empanelling Internet Websites, CBC now for the first time will be able to channelize its public service campaign messages through Mobile Applications too. With Social Media Platforms becoming one of the popular channels of public conversations, the policy further streamlines the process through which CBC can place advertisements for government clients on these platforms. The policy also empowers CBC to empanel Digital Media Agencies to enhance its outreach through the various platforms.

The Policy also recognizes the dynamic nature of the digital landscape and empowers CBC to on board New and Innovative Communication Platforms in the Digital Space with the approval of a duly constituted committee. The CBC's Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023, introduces competitive bidding for rate discovery, ensuring transparency and efficiency. Rates discovered through this process will remain valid for three years and will be applicable to all eligible agencies.

Ref- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1976071>

49. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) Finance (b) Home
(c) Information and Broadcasting (d) Commerce and Industry

50. What is the main objective of the Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023?
- (a) To promote traditional advertising
 - (b) To empower private advertising agencies
 - (c) To enable and empower the Central Bureau of Communication in the digital space
 - (d) To restrict digital media consumption
51. According to TRAI's Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators, what is the internet penetration in India as of March 2023? (Approximately)
- (a) 500 million
 - (b) 750 million
 - (c) 880 million
 - (d) 1000 million
52. What is the duration for which rates discovered through the competitive bidding process will remain valid?
- (a) One year
 - (b) Two years
 - (c) Three years
 - (d) Five years
53. Who is the current Director General of Central Bureau of Communication (CBC)?
- (a) Dharmender Tiwari
 - (b) Yogender Soni
 - (c) Manish Desai
 - (d) Poonam Bajaj
54. When did the Central Bureau of Communication founded?
- (a) 2011
 - (b) 2016
 - (c) 2015
 - (d) 2017

SECTION – C: LEGAL REASONING

Directions (Q.55-Q.): Read the comprehension carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.55 – Q.59): Capacity to enter into a contract, decides whether a person is eligible to enter into a contract or not. Not everyone has the legal capacity to enter into contracts, and the law recognizes certain categories of people who are incapable of entering into contracts.

Under Indian Contract Act, Section 11 reads as, “Every person is competent to contract who is of the age of majority according to the law to which he is subject, and who is of sound mind and is not disqualified from contracting by any law to which he is subject.” The section clearly identifies three categories of people who are not able to enter into a contract which are:

Minors: A person who has not attained the age of majority (18 years old) is considered a minor and is generally not considered capable of entering into contracts. Minors lack the legal capacity to contract because they are deemed to be immature and unable to fully comprehend the consequences of their actions.

Persons of unsound mind: A person who is of unsound mind, either temporarily or permanently, is considered incapable of entering into contracts. Such persons are not capable of understanding the terms and implications of a contract, and therefore, cannot be held legally responsible for their actions. The law also includes a person who is intoxicated within the meaning of a person of unsound mind.

Persons disqualified by law: Certain categories of people are disqualified by law from entering into contracts. For example, a person who has been declared bankrupt, a company that has been dissolved, or a person who has been convicted of a crime are generally considered to lack the capacity to contract.

It is important to note that capacity to contract is not an absolute bar to entering into a contract. In certain situations, even persons who lack capacity may still be bound by a contract. For example, a minor may be bound by a contract for necessities (such as food, clothing, and shelter) if the contract is entered into for their benefit. Though in situations where the contract is with someone who is not capable of entering into a contract, the burden of proof is on the party asserting it.

55. A mortgaged his mother’s jewels to B a moneylender, to obtain a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs. B was aware of the fact that A was a minor but still went on with the contract. A only returned Rs 50,000 to B. B decided to go to the court for enforce the contract. Decide the validity of the contract:
- (a) The contract between A and B is valid as B has suffered a loss and someone has to repay it.
 - (b) The contract between A and B is void as A was not competent to enter into a contract due to his age.
 - (c) The contract between A and B is valid as the same had a lawful consideration.
 - (d) The contract between A and B is not valid as a minor cannot mortgage his mother’s jewels.
56. On the eve of X’s eighteenth birthday, X went to a motorbike showroom to purchase his dream bike. X entered into a contract to purchase one such bike which would be delivered on the day of his birthday. Is the contract to buy the bike valid. Decide
- (a) The contract is not valid as at the time of entering into the contract, X was a minor.
 - (b) The contract is valid, as the contract was entered into only one day prior to the day of X becoming a major, so the limitation shall be relaxed as his capacity to enter into a contract will not change overnight.
 - (c) The contract is valid, as the same will come effect on the day which the bike is delivered, which is the day X will turn a major.
 - (d) The contract is valid, as the age of eighteen is merely a representative number but in reality, the mental age is assessed.

57. A was minor who had started his own bakery. He used to take small orders and then bake them and deliver it himself. One day B wanted a cake urgently so while he came in to give instructions for the cake, he also paid the whole amount upfront. When the cake was delivered to B the same was completely spoilt. B decided to sue A for non-performance of contract. Decide:
- (a) B can sue A for non-fulfilment of the contractual obligations as he had already paid the amount in full.
 - (b) B can sue A as it is his right to sue in case of non-performance of a contract.
 - (c) B cannot sue A as A is a minor and he could not have entered into a valid contract.
 - (d) B cannot sue A as B should have known that accidents happen when there is a hurry.
58. N and K were siblings but did not get along well. At the time of their father's death, he transferred all his property in the name of K by a will. Angered by the fact that N did not get his share he decided to obtain the same by any means necessary. One day, N took out K for drinks and ensured that K drink to its heart's desire, and when K was inebriated, N talked K into transferring all the property in his name. Is the transaction valid, if K transfers all the property?
- (a) The transaction is a valid transaction as K transferred the property by its own volition.
 - (b) The transaction is not valid as no consideration was given for the same.
 - (c) The transaction is valid as K transferred the share of the property which was rightfully N's.
 - (d) The transaction was not valid as the same was done in a state of intoxication by K.
59. X and Y were a couple in love with each other. There was a lot of pressure from Y to get married soon, but X did not want to rush into a marriage. Frustrated by the same, Y one day gave X a glass of juice, which was spiked and rendered X unconscious. During that time Y arranged for the nikah ceremony to take place, and despite being unconscious, X was prompted to provide consent and did so. Decide:
- (a) The marriage is legal as X and Y consented to the same.
 - (b) The marriage is not legal as X was not of sound mind when the consent was given.
 - (c) The marriage is not legal as X had earlier communicated that X was not ready to get married at that time.
 - (d) The marriage is legal as both X and Y liked each other and would have eventually married.

Passage (Q.60 – Q.64): Section 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 (PCA Act, 1960) makes it an offence to beat or torture animals. All kinds of cruelties towards pet animals by their owners are an offence under this section. Even organising animal fights as a sport/entertainment is an offence that will be punished with a fine ranging from Rs.50 to Rs.100 or imprisonment for three months or both. The PCA Act deals with animal cruelty and Section 428 and 429 of the IPC 1860 criminalise killing or maiming any animals for commercial purposes. Using animals for entertainment and commercial purposes also comes under cruelty and is restricted in animals' interest. Section 26 of PCA Act 1960 punishes the Act of exhibiting or training any animals, and they will be fined up to Rs.500. But there is an exemption for this restriction in Section 27. Training or exhibiting animals for bonafide purposes like military training, educational purposes or such genuine purposes will be exempted from the hands of Section 26. Wildlife Protection Act defines hunting as not just an act of killing or poisoning wild animals. It also includes those acts that disturb wild animals' lives, such as destroying the egg of animals or reptiles or disturbing their nest. Thus, under Section 9 of the Wildlife Protection Act, hunting is punished with a fine of Rs.25,000 or imprisonment for up to 3 years or both. Again this Act allows hunting for special purposes like scientific or educational purposes.

60. Rita would often beat her pet poodle when she brought it in order to train her to become a more docile and well behaved dog. Judge whether she can be held liable under section 11 of PCA Act.
- (a) No, she cannot be held liable as she was training her dog.
 - (b) No, she cannot be held liable as she is the owner of the dog.
 - (c) Yes, she will be held liable if the dog misbehaves even after the training.
 - (d) Yes, she will be held liable for cruelty and torturing her pet.

61. Rini and Aki had a 2 year old daughter, who would often throw her toys at their pet husky. She would pull its ears and climb on it even though it would be in pain. She would cruelly pull its tail. Judge whether the family as owners will be liable for cruelty?
- (a) Yes, they will be held liable as it amounts to torturing their pet.
 - (b) Yes, they will be held liable as they did not tell their daughter to stop.
 - (c) No, they will not be held liable as their daughter is just a baby.
 - (d) No, they will not be held liable as they are the owners of the pet.
62. Kareem bought a pet tiger for his 25th birthday bash. The tiger was stationed in the middle of the stage in a cage and the guests were given water balloon to throw at the animal for entertainment purposes. Decide whether this act by Kareem amounts to cruelty.
- (a) No, this act does not amount to cruelty as Kareem was the legal owner of the animal.
 - (b) No, this act does not amount to cruelty as water does not harm the animal.
 - (c) Yes, this act amounts to cruelty as the animal was caged.
 - (d) Yes, this act amounts to cruelty as he was using the animal for entertainment purposes.
63. Mira bought a pet monkey legally and she loved her dearly. She would train her to high five by giving the monkey treats. One day she showed her beloved pet to her friends and also showed how she can high five her. Her friends sued her for animal cruelty stating that she was using the monkey for entertainment purpose. Judge accordingly.
- (a) The suit will be unsuccessful as she was not beating the monkey.
 - (b) The suit will be successful as she was using the monkey to entertain herself.
 - (c) The suit will be unsuccessful as she was not torturing or beating her pet, neither was she using her for entertainment purposes.
 - (d) The suit will be successful as she was charging money to show her pet.
64. Sira was suffering from depression and anxiety. To help with her situation her psychiatrist asked her to adopt a dog who is a certified emotional support animal. She adopts Ben and passes her days with him teaching him various tricks around the house. She also taught him how to get her medication from her room when she suffers from an anxiety attack. When one of her friend saw this she reported her for cruelty. Judge accordingly.
- (a) She will not be held liable as the pet is adopted for bonafide cause.
 - (b) She will not be held liable as she adopted the dog and did not buy it.
 - (c) She will be held liable as she was training the dog for entertainment purpose.
 - (d) She will not be held liable as she was not torturing the dog.

Passage (Q.65 – Q.69): There is no specific legal definition of ‘hate speech’. Provisions in law criminalise speeches, writings, actions, signs and representations that foment violence and spread disharmony between communities and groups and these are understood to refer to ‘hate speech’. The Law Commission of India, in its 267th Report, says: “Hate speech generally is a deliberated incitement to hatred primarily against a group of persons defined in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief and the like. Thus, hate speech is any word written or spoken, signs, visible representations within the hearing or sight of a person with the intention to cause fear or alarm, or incitement to violence.” Under Section 153A, ‘promotion of enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc., and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony’, is an offence punishable with three years’ imprisonment. It attracts a five-year term if committed in a place of worship, or an assembly engaged in religious worship or religious ceremonies.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/explained-what-is-hate-speech-and-how-is-it-treated-in-indian-law/article38089872.ece>

65. Harish was a prominent political writer. He wrote an article deliberately criticising the “X” community in India and blaming them for causing the number of covid cases to rise. The article created wide spread enmity and led to violent crimes against the “X” communities’ all over the country. Judge whether Harish can be held liable for hate speech.
- (a) No, Harish cannot be held liable for hate speech as the article was stating facts.
 - (b) No, Harish cannot be held liable for hate speech as he had no intention of inciting violence against the “X” community.
 - (c) Yes, Harish can be held liable for hate speech as the article targeted a particular community.
 - (d) Yes, Harish can be held liable for hate speech as he did not intend to incite violence against the “X” community.
66. Perna a prominent party leader of ‘Janta Party’, in a recent rally campaigned about how same sex relationships are against traditional morals and ethics and should not be encouraged. This led to wide spread animosity against the LGBTQ+I community. The LGBTQ+I community feared that they will be targeted by the ‘Janta Party’. Judge whether such campaigning will be considered ‘hate speech’
- (a) Yes as this is considered as inciting violence against a particular group of people.
 - (b) No as there was no harm done to the LGBTQ+I community.
 - (c) Yes as this led to violence against the community.
 - (d) No as she was just making the statement and the fear is irrational.
67. Radha and Shyam were always fighting. One day Radha decided in order to teach Shyam a lesson she is going to spread certain rumours about her. The rumours spread all over the school and cause Shyam to lose all her friends and be isolated. Shyam sues Radha for hate speech, decide whether the suit will be successful or not.
- (a) The suit will be successful as Radha’s words incited hate against Shyam.
 - (b) The suit will be successful as Radha’s words led to damage of Shyama’s reputation.
 - (c) The suit will be unsuccessful as Radha’s word did not incite violence against Shyam.
 - (d) The suit will be unsuccessful as the rumours targeted a particular person and not a particular group of people.
68. Rimi wrote in her journal how she hated her best friend Rini as she always bullied her. Parth, one of Rimi’s friend found Rini’s journal and in order to teach Rini a lesson, clicked pictures of it and uploaded it onto the school portal. Rini was highly criticised for her actions and some students also threw water on her to show their hatred towards her. Rini sued Parth for hate speech. Decide whether Part will be liable.
- (a) No, Parth will not be held liable as he was not the one who wrote in the journal.
 - (b) No, Parth will not be held liable as his post did not target a particular group of people.
 - (c) Yes, Parth will be held liable as his post incited violence.
 - (d) Yes, Parth will be held liable as his post created hatred towards Rini.
69. According to the passage the Law Commission of India in its 276th report defined ‘Hate Speech’. Which of the following option can be said to be ‘hate speech’ according to the definition?
- (a) Article written to incite violence against LGBTQ+I community.
 - (b) Article written against a Muslim cricketer criticising him for his poor performance.
 - (c) Article criticising the government that incited violence.
 - (d) Article written against a professor criticising him for his poor teaching skills.

Passage (Q.70 – Q.74): The Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Act, 2021 alters the MTPA 1971 to raise the upper limit for abortion from 20 to 24 weeks for certain types of women. The Amendment raises the upper gestation limit from 20 to 24 weeks for particular groups of women, which would be described in the MTPA 2021 and would include rape survivors, incest victims, and other vulnerable women (such as differently-abled women, minors), among others. If an abortion is performed within 12 weeks of conception, one doctor's opinion is required; if the abortion is performed between 12 and 20 weeks, two doctors' opinions are required. The bill enables abortion on the recommendations of one doctor up to 20 weeks, and two doctors between 20 and 24 weeks for specific categories of women. Only where the pregnancy's continuation will endanger the pregnant woman's life, cause grave harm to her mental or physical health (including rape and refusal to utilize birth control), or result in foetal abnormalities is it permissible to terminate the pregnancy. Termination is also permitted at any time during the pregnancy if it is necessary to save the life of the woman concerned.

Further, the Court directed that if the baby is born alive, and the parents of the child are not willing to or not in a position to assume the responsibility of the child, then the State and its agencies will have to assume full responsibility of the child and medical support and other facilities as may be reasonably feasible, adhering always to the principle of best interests of such child as well as the statutory provisions in the Juvenile Justice Act.

70. In the light of the passage choose the option that briefly and accurately summarises the passage clearly.
- That the state will punish the parents if they give birth to the child and do not take care of the child.
 - That the medical termination of pregnancy will be allowed on the ground of health of the mother.
 - That the medical termination of pregnancy will only be allowed on to the minor girls.
 - That medical termination of pregnancy will not be allowed for the baby's health.
71. Amritesh and Nishka were a happily married couple. They wanted to have children and so they had a planned parenthood as well. Then as per their plan, Nishka gets pregnant and they were quite happy about the same. However, at twenty six weeks, both of them had a bad fight and they decided to separate from each other. Consequentially, Nishka decided that she would not give birth to the child and so, she would terminate the pregnancy. She went to a hospital and then terminated the baby. Later on, she was held liable and she said that she was depressed and so she needed to terminate the pregnancy. Will the court agree?
- No, because depression is not a viable criterion to terminate the pregnancy by her.
 - Termination of pregnancy can only be done on grounds of foetal abnormalities. So she will be held liable.
 - Because she was not fit to be a mother, as she was depressed the court will allow this termination of pregnancy.
 - The grounds used by her are not fit under the medical termination of pregnancy act and so, she will be held liable.
72. Suppose in the previous scenario, after she terminated the pregnancy, she got to know that the foetus would have abnormalities and would have had down syndrome had he been born. Will now your answer change from the previous question?
- No, because she would not still be held liable, as she terminated it on wrong grounds.
 - Yes, because she would not be held liable because now, she had legal reasons to do so.
 - No, she would still be held responsible because at the time of termination, she was not aware of the abnormalities.
 - Yes, she would not be held responsible because the child had abnormalities.
73. Choose the option from the following options where the court will allow the pregnancy.
- Where the woman had a sexual intercourse with her own sibling.
 - The married status of the mother would be important.
 - The baby is of abnormal status but the doctor refused the termination.
 - The societal pressure on the woman to keep the baby because she is the only one who can take the generation further.

74. In case where the mother, Anita is an eighteen- year-old woman and the father, Mukesh is a thirty five year old man. But Mukesh is having an extra marital affair with Rita. Mukesh is putting pressure on Anita to have an abortion. She reluctantly decides to terminate the pregnancy. She becomes mentally insane because of the betrayal. However, the case is brought to court because the doctor refuses to perform the surgery. Despite knowing that abortion on grounds of extramarital pregnancy is illegal, the Supreme Court allows it. Was the Court's decision correct in light of the passage?
- (a) Yes, because she was not fit to be a mother anymore as she became mentally insane.
 - (b) Yes, because the court knows the best for any citizen.
 - (c) The court was not correct because extramarital affair is not a ground to allow termination of pregnancy.
 - (d) The court was not correct because the mother did not want to terminate the pregnancy and so, her choice needed to be respected.

Passage (Q.75 – Q.79): Section 9 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, which deals with restitution of conjugal rights, reads: “When either the husband or the wife has, without reasonable excuse, withdrawn from the society of the other, the aggrieved party may apply, by petition to the district court, for restitution of conjugal rights and the court, on being satisfied of the truth of the statements made in such petition and that there is no legal ground why the application should not be granted, may decree restitution of conjugal rights accordingly”. Conjugal rights are rights created by marriage, i.e. right of the husband or the wife to the society of the other spouse. The law recognises these rights— both in personal laws dealing with marriage, divorce etc, and in criminal law requiring payment of maintenance and alimony to a spouse.

Section 9 of the Hindu Marriage Act recognises one aspect of conjugal rights — the right to consortium and protects it by allowing a spouse to move court to enforce the right. The concept of restitution of conjugal rights is codified in Hindu personal law now, but has colonial origins and has genesis in ecclesiastical law. Similar provisions exist in Muslim personal law as well as the Divorce Act, 1869, which governs Christian family law. Incidentally, in 1970, the United Kingdom repealed the law on restitution of conjugal rights.

Normally, when a spouse files for divorce unilaterally, the other spouse files for restitution of conjugal rights if he or she is not in agreement with the divorce. The provision is seen to be an intervention through legislation to strike a conciliatory note between sparring spouses. Although the law is ex-facie (‘on the face if it’) gender-neutral since it allows both wife and husband to seek restitution of conjugal rights, the provision disproportionately affects women. Women are often called back to marital homes under the provision, and given that marital rape is not a crime, leaves them susceptible to such coerced cohabitation.

75. ‘A’ and ‘B’ are two friends who happen to fall in love during their college days and started living together. They also had a baby who is now 2 years old. Since past six months, ‘B’ has withdrawn herself from the company of ‘A’ and rather chooses to live with her mother. ‘A’ being aggrieved by the decision of ‘B’ approaches the court for Restitution of Conjugal Rights. Choose among the following options.
- (a) ‘A’ would succeed in his petition if he could prove that the other spouse has, without reasonable excuse, withdrawn from his society.
 - (b) ‘A’ will not succeed in his petition as only a spouse can approach the court for Restitution of Conjugal Rights
 - (c) ‘B’ and ‘A’ have a baby together and hence should not have withdrawn from ‘A’s company without any just cause.
 - (d) The petition is maintainable as the essential of Restitution of Conjugal Rights is not complete.

76. Rueza and Suezi are husband and wife, married under Hindu Customary rites and ceremonies. The husband Rueza wanted to live forever with Suezi but he was very short tempered and got consistently engaged in physical fight with his wife Suezi. As a result, Suezi left the company of her husband after two years of marriage and started living with her mother. Rueza approached the district court with an application for Restitution of Conjugal rights. Choose among the options.
- Husband has no right to put forth the application of Restitution of Conjugal Rights.
 - Husband was practicing cruelty and the court may disallow the petition for restitution of conjugal rights to him.
 - The wife should approach the district court for restitution of her conjugal rights as it was the husband who engaged in fight with her.
 - The court will order the wife to go back to the husband and resort to other conciliatory measures instead of abandoning the company of the husband.
77. 'Z' and 'Y' are husband and wife respectively, who were living in England. 'Y' has withdrawn from the company of 'Z' since past six months. As a result of which 'Z' has applied for restitution of conjugal rights. Choose among the following options.
- 'Z' will succeed in his application as Restitution of Conjugal is an international right available to both husband and the wife.
 - 'Z' will not succeed as the right of restitution of conjugal rights no more exists in the country of England.
 - 'Z' can only seek the restitution of conjugal rights when 'Y' applies for divorce and not before that.
 - None of the above
78. Ramu and Reemu were husband and wife and had mutually separated last year. Reemu had no means of earning her livelihood as she was dependent on her husband Ramu for all the maintenance and amenities. After they got mutually separated, Ramu stopped paying the maintenance sum to Reemu. The wife filed an application for 'Restitution of Conjugal Rights' before the district law. Will she succeed?
- Yes, she will succeed as it is the law in India that husband should also maintain his ex-wife if she has no means of livelihood.
 - Yes, she will succeed as the Restitution of Conjugal Rights is also available after the marriage.
 - No, she will not succeed as Maintenance given after Separation is not covered as per Restitution of Conjugal Rights.
 - No, she will not succeed as it her right to live with dignity and ex-husband should take care of that.
79. The passage mentions that the restitution of conjugal rights though being gender neutral is highly critiqued by the women of the society. Which among the following reasoning can be ascertained from the information in the passage?
- Women are not treated at par with men in the society.
 - Women are subjected to unlawful cohabitation against her will amounting to harassment.
 - Women do not need the law to safeguard them.
 - The legislative intent is to save the marriage but usually women in a marriage are found not ready to keep the marriage.

Passage (Q.80– Q.84): The Preamble to the Constitution of India declares that India is a sovereign Democratic Republic. Sovereignty has an internal as well as an external aspect. As regards external sovereignty, it has been said that "in consequence of its external independence, a State can, unless restricted by treaty, manage its international affairs according to its discretion; in particular, it can enter into alliances and conclude other treaties, send and receive diplomatic envoys, acquire and cede territory, make war and peace". It is thus evident that treaty-making power is an aspect of external sovereignty. Article 253 of the Constitution of India runs thus:

"Legislation for giving effect to international agreements.—Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this Chapter, Parliament has power to make any law for the whole or any part of the territory of India for implementing treaty, agreement, or convention with any other country or countries or any decision made at any international conference, association or other body." There is no temporary nature accorded to such law-making power.

The wordings of Article 253 and Entries 13 to 14 of Union List (List-I) of the Seventh Schedule may be read together:

"13. Participation in international conferences, associations and other bodies and implementing of decisions made thereat.

14. Entering into treaties and agreements with foreign countries and implementing of treaties, agreements and conventions with foreign countries."

Article 253 is in conformity with the object of "fostering respect for international law, and treaty obligations in the dealings of organised people with one another".

The words "notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Chapter" (not this Constitution) Article 253 empowers the Union Parliament to invade List II (being in the same Chapter) insofar as that may be necessary for the purpose of implementing the treaty obligations of India. But the Union Government by a Legislation under Article 253, cannot override Fundamental Rights included in Part III.

[Source: <https://www.ebc-india.com/lawyer/articles/71v2a5.htm>]

80. Among the following, which of these cannot be surpassed by the legislation by Parliament under Article 253?
- Any provisions in List II of the seventh Schedule.
 - Any provisions in List I of the seventh Schedule.
 - Any provisions in the List III of the Seventh Schedule.
 - Any provisions in Part III of the Constitution.
81. India, recognizing the importance of fostering a society free from discrimination, ratified "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination" (ICERD), thereby committing to take effective measures to eliminate racial discrimination in all its forms. The treaty outlines various obligations, including legislative and policy changes at the national level, to ensure the realization of its objectives. In response to the ratification of ICERD, the state legislature of Badri Pradesh has taken concrete steps to give effect to the treaty's provisions at the regional level. The state legislature, acknowledging the significance of local implementation, has passed a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that aligns with the principles outlined in ICERD according to Article 253 using List I. Is the law valid in light of the passage?
- Yes, because the law has been made to give effect to an international convention.
 - No, because the law has been made in contravention of the eighth schedule of the Constitution.
 - Yes, because the law under Article 253 must be for whole of territory of India.
 - No, because only the Parliament is competent to enact such a law under Article 253.

82. The Parliament of India passed a legislation to give effect to an international treaty focusing on an issue traditionally falling under the jurisdiction of state governments. This development marks a significant collaboration between the central and state authorities to address a pressing global concern. The international treaty in question is the "Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" (CRPD), which emphasizes the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities. Recognizing the importance of ensuring uniform protection and rights for persons with disabilities across all states, the Parliament has enacted a comprehensive law to implement the provisions of the CRPD at the national level. What can be the objection to this law in light of the passage?
- (a) That the provisions of the law formed part of the List II of the Seventh Schedule.
 - (b) That the provisions of the law formed part of the List III of the Seventh Schedule.
 - (c) That the provisions of the law were infringing on the sovereignty of the country under the constitution.
 - (d) That the provisions of the law are in contravention with fundamental rights.
83. The Parliament of India has passed a comprehensive law to implement the provisions of a bilateral treaty signed with Fireland, addressing a subject traditionally within the purview of the states. This legislative initiative demonstrates the commitment of the central government to honor international agreements while navigating the complexities of federalism in India. The bilateral treaty in question pertains to water resource management and sharing between India and its neighboring country, Fireland. Recognizing the cross-border nature of water resources and the need for cooperative management, the Parliament has enacted a law to ensure the effective implementation of the treaty at the national and state levels. States bordering Fireland object to the making on laws on their legislative domain. Is their objection to the law valid in accordance with the passage, specifically under Article 253?
- (a) Yes, because there cannot be any law made to give effect to a treaty with a single country.
 - (b) No, because the Parliament is competent under the seventh schedule to enact a law on List II.
 - (c) Yes, because there is no power given to Parliament to surpass the legislative power of the state.
 - (d) No, because there is overriding power given to the Parliament for List II of the Seventh Schedule.
84. Which of these cannot be inferred from the passage?
- (a) Treaty-making power of any nation restricts its external sovereignty.
 - (b) The power given to Parliament to make laws on state list is not permanent in nature.
 - (c) There can be acquisition of territory under the power of dealing with external sovereignty.
 - (d) There is no overarching power given to the Parliament under Article 253 for overriding whole of the Constitution.

SECTION D: LOGICAL REASONING

Directions (Q.85-Q.108): Read the passages carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.85 – Q.90): The decision by 12 of Europe’s biggest football clubs to unveil a plan to launch The Super League, a multi-billion-dollar tournament to be played largely among a closed group of 20 teams has thrown the European game into turmoil. Manchester United, Manchester City, Liverpool, Arsenal, Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur from England, Real Madrid, Barcelona and Atletico Madrid from Spain, and Juventus, Internazionale and AC Milan from Italy have come together for an initiative “to put the game on a sustainable footing”. But the principal aim seems to be to upend the Champions League, the crown jewel among all competitions managed by European football’s governing body UEFA. That the announcement came just a day prior to UEFA announcing a reformatted Champions League starting from 2024 is no coincidence. Currently, league positions decide who qualifies for the Champions League, whereas in the proposed competition, the permanent members are under no risk of missing out, and are guaranteed a steady stream of revenue. According to one report, each founding member is assured of a whopping \$400 million in exchange for a mere commitment to establish a “sustainable financial foundation”. This certainly appeals to clubs struggling to balance their books in the wake of COVID-19.

This use of a football club as mere for-profit business is the crux. Traditionally, clubs considered themselves to be public-spirited entities. Meaningful competition among them was seen as a meritocratic exercise. But with leagues increasingly awash with hedge fund money and handouts from oligarchies, outfits are answerable more to investors and shareholders than actual supporters. In such a scenario, unpredictability can be anathema and the Super League seeks to eliminate that. Understandably, fans are displeased. Jurgen Klopp, Liverpool manager, even claimed to have been kept in the dark. UEFA, desperate to protect its turf, has threatened to bar Super League players from its flagship events like Euros. FIFA bemoaned a “closed league”, but stopped short of announcing sanctions. The Premier League, Spain’s La Liga and Italy’s Serie A are open to expelling teams, while British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has issued a stern warning. However, this is no endorsement of UEFA’s new Champions League format, in which the number of games has nearly doubled and the additional revenue is sure to skew the domestic leagues further in favour of a few teams. Juventus has won the Serie A nine times in a row; Bayern Munich (Germany) and Paris Saint-Germain (France), both of whom have not signed up for the Super League, have been equally dominant. None of this feels like competitive sport. European football needs a rethink.

(Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/a-league-of-their-own-on-europes-biggest-football-clubs/article34370458.ece>)

85. The author’s primary purpose in the passage is to
- (a) To express displeasure at use of football clubs as mere for-profit business by large investors.
 - (b) To present his reservations against European football clubs ignoring fans and choosing profits over sporting merit.
 - (c) To explain how Super Clubs are conspiring to upend the UEFA’s crown jewel the Champions League.
 - (d) To carefully analyze the how a decision by influential football clubs can upend world football order.
86. The proposed Super League replicates which of the following models?
- (a) The Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC), as it is owned and operated by Endeavor Group Holdings along with other big investors.
 - (b) Miami Dolphins, an NFL team, as it is owned by several renowned personalities, including those from sports domain.
 - (c) The National Basketball Association (NBA) in the US, as the teams are the stakeholders.
 - (d) The Canterbury City F.C., as it is a football club formed as a community interest company where membership "is open to all" and includes the right to vote in the election of "key members of the board."

87. The author is likely to agree with all of the following except that
- (a) The super league will affect domestic leagues in countries from which the clubs are planning to be a part of the league.
 - (b) The new format of UEFA's Champions League is likely to benefit the clubs playing in the domestic leagues.
 - (c) The football clubs, accountable only to investors, are more worried about their profits as they sacrifice the spirit of the game and ignore fans.
 - (d) Teams having a fantastic domestic season may not get to play in the proposed Super League.
88. Which of the following can be logically concluded from the passage?
- (a) The main aim of the Super League is to upend the UEFA's crown jewel The Champions League.
 - (b) Some teams will always remain in the Super League no matter whether they have a good season or a bad season in their respective domestic leagues
 - (c) Investors and oligarchies do not invest in projects in which there is uncertainties.
 - (d) The Super League will replace the Champions League as their favourite league because the fans will get to see their teams no matter what.
89. The author's attitude toward Super League which will largely be played among a closed group of 20 teams might best be described as which of the following?
- (a) Positively appreciative.
 - (b) Emphatically disdainful.
 - (c) Apathetically objective.
 - (d) Cautiously optimistic.

Passage (Q.80 – Q.93): A Swaminarayan temple in New Jersey, US, was raided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security, and the US Department of Labour to investigate allegations of forced labour against Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sansthan (BAPS), reported The New York Times.

In a lawsuit filed Tuesday in US District Court of Newark, six workers alleged that the organisation brought them to the United States from India to work on an extension of the temple situated in Robbinsville, New Jersey. However, they were paid \$1 per hour for their work when the minimum wage in New Jersey is \$12 per hour, and forced to live in grueling conditions. Their passports were allegedly impounded and they were confined to a fenced, guarded area. A majority of the workers were Dalits, said the report.

According to the complaint, the workers were allegedly brought to the US on R-1 Visas that are applicable for clergy and religious workers like missionaries. The labourers were presented to the US government like volunteers.

The complaint further said the workers were made to sign several documents, often in English, and tell US embassy staffers that they were skilled workers or decorative painters. However, the lawyers for the workers say the men were forced to do manual labour on the site and made to work for more than 13 hours a day. **They were given \$450 a month; \$50 in hand and \$400 deposited to their bank accounts in India.**

The organisation has, however, denied all allegations, and in a statement said they are “thoroughly reviewing the issues raised”.

BAPS has been behind scores of temples built around the world. The foundation has close ties with the Bharatiya Janata Party, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi has hailed the spiritual head of the organisation — Pramukh Swami Maharaj — as his “mentor”. The PM gave a eulogy at his funeral. The organisation has also donated the equivalent of about \$290,000 to the construction of the temple in Ayodhya, the NYT report said.

Earlier, the organisation had come under the radar of US federal agencies after a 17-year-old boy died in 2017 following a fall at the construction site. A case was filed against BAPS by the family, which was settled for an undisclosed amount, according to the NYT report.

One of the lawyers in the wage claim suit has said this could be the first forced labour case in the US since 1995.

Representatives of BAPS denied these allegations in interviews to the New York Times. They also issued a statement saying, “We were first made aware of the accusations this morning; we are taking them very seriously and are thoroughly reviewing the issues raised.”

90. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- (a) The case filed by workers on BAPS is the first case of bonded labour in the US in two decades.
 - (b) It is against law to pay a person below minimum hourly wage rate in New Jersey.
 - (c) The BAPS organization was found guilty of failure to eliminate dangerous working conditions when a 17 year old boy died on the construction site.
 - (d) BAPS authority confiscated the passports of workers because they all were from backward classes.
91. Each of the following can be concluded from the passage except that
- (a) The US has a system of issuing purpose based visas.
 - (b) India and the US have different hourly wage system.
 - (c) BAPS has been accused of maintaining unethical working conditions for labourers.
 - (d) The US has had forced-labour cases in the past.
92. Which of the following is an assumption behind the actions by one of the parties mentioned in the passage?
- (a) The law in the US doesn't permit visas issued for one purpose to be used for another.
 - (b) The workers removed by the federal agencies were being under paid for the construction work.
 - (c) This is not for the first time that the BAPS has been accused of ignoring working conditions for the labourers.
 - (d) BAPS is a famous organization which has scores of temples around the world, and it is politically connected.
93. Which of the following can be an appropriate source for the passage?
- (a) An editorial published in the magazine.
 - (b) An excerpt from a formal explanation sought from an accused.
 - (c) An article published in a tabloid.
 - (d) An opinion published in a fortnightly journal.

Passage (Q.94 – Q.99): In a thriving democracy, the Opposition and the press are vital components of a structure controlled by a ruling establishment that requires accountability for it to be effective. That over a dozen Opposition leaders and journalists received email alerts from Apple that their devices were targeted by “state-sponsored attackers” suggests that this could be a repeat of what these members of the first and fourth estate went through in the Pegasus episode recently. In early 2022, an article in The New York Times detailed how Pegasus, a spyware developed by the Israel-based NSO Group, was used as a tool to advance Israeli interests, as Tel Aviv offered it to other countries which used it against Opposition leaders, journalists and dissidents. In July 2021, a reporters’ consortium, the Pegasus Project, found that at least 40 journalists, cabinet Ministers and other officials in India were possibly subject to surveillance using Pegasus software. A Supreme Court of India panel, however, found no conclusive evidence of the spyware on the 29 phones that it had examined; but the apex court also noted, tellingly, that the Union government was not cooperating with the panel. Unlike the Indian government’s lackadaisical and dismissive approach towards the NSO group and its products — which The NYT reported as allegedly bought by the Indian government from Israel as part of a \$2 billion package including sophisticated weapons and intelligence gear in 2017 — other governments in the West implemented stringent steps following the disclosures on spyware use.

Apple's iPhones are used by nearly 20% of smartphone users worldwide, and by nearly 7% of such users in India, largely for their diverse facilities and robust security provisions. Researchers had found that spyware software such as Pegasus had targeted iPhones and the operating system iOS as early as 2016, and Apple had come up with updates to fix Pegasus exploits, besides going on to sue NSO. The company clarified that the alerts sent now did not accuse a "specific state actor"; it also said that it would not be able to disclose how the targets were discovered, but reiterated that the alerts had to be taken seriously. Yet, with the specific targets being Opposition leaders and journalists, the question whether it is the ruling establishment that is subjecting them to surveillance is important. This can only be verified by an independent and empowered investigation, involving the apex court again, which should, this time around, compel the Union government to cooperate. More immediately, the government must come clean on its dealings with NSO and its use of software provided by such agencies and also emulate steps taken by other governments in proscribing such entities.

94. Which of the following is primary argument of the author?
- (a) Apple's warning about state-sponsored attacks on iPhone users should be taken seriously and requires investigation.
 - (b) Despite no conclusive evidence from the Supreme Court, there is a possibility that the Indian government was involved in snooping.
 - (c) The repeated allegations of spyware use require a thorough, independent investigation.
 - (d) With second incident of surveillance on the opposition and press, India's democratic institutions are under threat of collapse.
95. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- (a) Only the Supreme court has the power to compel the Union Government to cooperate in the investigations.
 - (b) The government in other countries accepted that they bought Pegasus from Israel to snoop on opposition members.
 - (c) The Pegasus software was completely ineffective against the iPhone users as Apple had come up with updates to fix Pegasus exploits.
 - (d) The government of India has not implemented any stringent measures in response to allegations levelled by Apple.
96. Which of the following strengthens the author's argument?
- (a) In the past too, Apple had raised its concerns, but they were eventually disproved.
 - (b) Devices of no persons other than those criticizing the government were targeted for surveillance.
 - (c) Surveillance sometimes becomes necessary to avert any potential threat that can harm the country.
 - (d) The government of India, in a press release, said that they were investigating the allegations made by Apple.
97. The statement "it also said that it would not be able to disclose how the targets were discovered, but reiterated that the alerts had to be taken seriously" is based on the assumption that
- I. Despite issuing warnings of threat, some people don't take the warnings seriously.
 - II. Reiteration of warnings compel people to pay attention to the warnings issued.
- (a) Only I (b) Only II (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II
98. Which of the following is likely to be true in light of Apple's statement that it would not be able to disclose how the targets were discovered?
- (a) Apple is playing the agenda of levelling the false accusations to defame India's image in the world.
 - (b) Apple owns a sophisticated mechanism that, if revealed, will be replicated very easily by other companies.
 - (c) Sharing such information will have no impact in particular on people who are being targeted by the state-sponsored attackers.
 - (d) Apple fears that that sharing such information could potentially assist attackers in adapting to their tactics to avoid future detection.

99. Which of the following is the author likely to agree with?
- (a) Threats issued by Apple doesn't accuse any specific state actor because it doesn't know which that sector is.
 - (b) The allegations by Apple that the devices of opposition members and press may be targeted need to be investigated.
 - (c) The government should not have targeted the opposition members as they play more important role than Press.
 - (d) The role of Supreme court was diminished as it was not able to conclusively identify if spyware was used by the government.

Passage (Q.100 – Q.104): Latest data, including the official Index of Eight Core Industries for September and S&P Global's Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for the manufacturing sector for October, point to a palpable softening in economic momentum. The government's provisional figures for output across the key infrastructure industries, from cement and coal to steel and electricity, show the average year-on-year growth in production eased appreciably to a four-month low of 8.1% in September, from the 12.5% pace posted in August. The pace of expansion flagged across all but one of the eight sectors, with only fertilizers registering a quickening in growth from the preceding month as farmers stocked up on the key agricultural input ahead of the rabi season. Heavy rains in the final month of the southwest monsoon season, which resulted in 13% surplus precipitation for September, also likely contributed to dampening demand and output for cement, electricity and steel, all of which saw significant slowing in growth from double-digit paces in August. Sequentially, production in fact contracted across all the eight sectors, with the overall index declining 4.8% from August's level. Coal offered the silver lining: the year-on-year growth in output of the fuel eased only slightly to a still robust 16.1% pace, from August's 17.9%, and posted just a 1.5% sequential contraction.

Independently, the more up-to-date survey-based manufacturing PMI data for October buttresses concerns that broader economic momentum may yet again be sliding for want of traction. The seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Manufacturing PMI signalled sectoral growth slid to an eight-month low last month, amid a weakening in demand, particularly for consumer goods. Factories saw new orders rise at the slowest pace in a year, with even international sales losing vigour. More worrying is the fact that less than 4% of the about 400 companies surveyed said they were adding staff, thus depressing job creation in manufacturing to the slowest level since April. Input cost inflation also accelerated. But factory gate inflation was considerably slower indicating that with demand uncertain, producers were forced to temper the pass-through of higher costs. With business confidence ebbing to a five-month low, the panellists cited rising inflation expectations as the key factor expected to dent demand and production growth over the next 12 months. And the advance estimates for lower kharif output, disconcertingly flag the fact that the farm sector may be able to offer little succour as rural incomes get hit. Policymakers have their task cut out to surmount the twin challenges of slowing growth and persistent inflation.

100. Which of the following courses of action is the author most likely to agree with?
- (a) The government should ask the companies to add more staff to stimulate job creation.
 - (b) More data points should be collected as the existing data points reveal incorrect picture.
 - (c) Focus should be completely shifted to those areas where the demand did not fall substantially.
 - (d) The government should increase spending to stimulate demand in the various sectors in the economy
101. Which of the following most strengthens the argument "with business confidence ebbing to a five-month low, the panellists cited rising inflation expectations as the key factor expected to dent demand and production growth over the next 12 months"?
- (a) The wages of most employees during the annual increment increase in proportion of rising inflation.
 - (b) During inflation, the spending ability of people decline leading to decreased demand of goods and services.
 - (c) During inflation and slowing production, the actions that the government resorts to have positive impact on the economy.

- (d) The current inflation is cyclical in nature therefore the government will follow adopt more short-term rather than long-term measures.
102. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) Latest data points suggest that despite fall in economic activity, the economy is resilient but it may take some time to recover.
 - (b) Authorities have tasks cut out as persistent inflation alongside moderate growth remains a challenge.
 - (c) There no hope that economic activity will see rising growth this year as even agriculture sector is ebbing.
 - (d) Indian economy is buoyant despite persistent inflation alongside moderating economic growth.
103. Which of the following is likely to be true on the basis of information in the passage?
- (a) The government of India tracks data of the only eight core industries every quarter.
 - (b) Production of coal, unlike other commodities, didn't rise as much owing to slowing economic activities.
 - (c) Good monsoon season generally negatively affects the demand in Steel, Cement and Electricity sector.
 - (d) 96% of the 400 companies surveyed are reducing their workforce owing to slack in Indian economy.
104. The statement "More worrying is the fact that less than 4% of the about 400 companies surveyed said they were adding staff, thus depressing job creation in manufacturing to the slowest level since April" is based on the assumption that
- (a) If companies don't reduce staff, the job creation in manufacturing will rise from current levels.
 - (b) Addition of more staff by the companies is sign of depressing job creation.
 - (c) Job creation in manufacturing happens with addition of staff by companies.
 - (d) Remaining of 96% companies negatively affected the job creation by reducing employees.

Passage (Q.105 – Q.108): India has explained its decision to abstain at last week's vote at the UN General Assembly (UNGA) for a ceasefire in the Israel-Palestine conflict as its way of protesting the omission of any "explicit condemnation" of the heinous October 7 terror attack by Hamas militants on Israel. India's principled stand on terrorism, which the Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN articulated, cannot be questioned. However, the death toll is rising and the need for global solidarity to stop the violence is imperative, a task that New Delhi, with its traditionally balanced position on the issue, and its recent G-20 role in bridging global divides, would have been well suited to play. Every other country in the neighbourhood, in the extended BRICS grouping and much of the developing world, was part of the 120 countries that voted for the UNGA resolution on Friday. Regardless of its reasoning, New Delhi had other options which it overlooked or ignored. The resolution at the emergency special session entitled "Protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations" does include a paragraph "condemning all acts of violence aimed at Palestinian and Israeli civilians, including all acts of terrorism and indiscriminate attacks". India could have played a prominent diplomatic role with countries proposing the resolution to ensure clearer mention of the October 7 attacks, including during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent conversation with Jordan's King Abdullah bin Al Hussein about the conflict. India's leadership of such an amendment may have fared better than the Canadian proposal that failed to secure two-thirds of the UNGA membership present. Alternatively, India could have voted for the motion, while recording in its Explanation of Vote (EoV) that it regretted the omissions of the specific references to the October 7 attacks, which is what France did. In its EoV, India did not itself name Hamas for the terror attacks, nor has it so far designated Hamas as a terror group, leaving some doubt about the explicit mentions that New Delhi had wanted. On the other hand, if India wanted to convey a strong line on fighting terrorism, it could have voted against the resolution, along with the U.S., the U.K. and Israel.

India's abstention indicates a shift in the Modi government's stand, seeking a 'safe' position, rather than taking a stand on the violence in Israel and Palestine. This is a departure from India's UNGA vote in 2018 that called for Israel to cease "excessive force" in retaliatory strikes on Gaza at the time, and is more in line with its decision to abstain on votes at the UN in 2021 on resolutions critical of Russia's war in Ukraine. The government lost an opportunity to make India's voice heard in the growing geopolitical conflict. Abstaining on a matter of global

importance without making efforts to forge a consensus is out of sync with a desire to be the voice of the Global South, or for a seat at the global high table.

105. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- (a) The UN General Assembly meeting for a ceasefire in the Israel-Palestine conflict didn't criticize the terrorist attack on Israel.
 - (b) Unlike India, France was not concerned about no explicit mention of terrorist attack by Hamas on Palestine.
 - (c) Countries may be required to explain their votes in Explanation of Vote after voting on issues at the UNGA.
 - (d) India's opinion on Israel-Palestine conflict is different from 120 countries that voted on the conflict at UNGA meeting.
106. Each of the following is not incorrect as per the arguments provided in the passage except that
- (a) India wasted a chance to criticize terrorism by abstaining from a vote on terrorist attack on Israel.
 - (b) As India, France also wanted explicit criticism of terrorist attacks by Hamas militants on Israel.
 - (c) No clear condemnation of terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel is India's reason for abstention from the vote on Israel-Palestine conflict
 - (d) To get the clearer criticism of the terrorist attacks by Hamas militants, India had other options than the one that it chose.
107. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) India should have gone the France's way on the UNGA vote criticizing the terrorist attacks by Israel on Hamas.
 - (b) India shouldn't have abstained from a UNGA vote on ceasefire in the Israel-Palestine conflict as it had other means to raise its concerns.
 - (c) India should have voted on the conflict between Hamas and Israel, which has taken thousands of innocent lives on both sides.
 - (d) The approach adopted by France on the UNGA vote on Israel and Palestine was better than that of India.
108. The author is likely to agree with which of the following?
- I. France's approach towards the vote at UNGA for a ceasefire in the Israel-Palestine conflict was more mature.
 - II. The real reason behind India's abstention from the vote at the UNGA meeting was the lack of explicit criticism of the terrorist attack by Hamas militants.
- (a) Only I (b) Only II (c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II

SECTION - E : QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Direction(Q.109-Q.114): Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below. Suresh sells five different types of books: Hindi, English, Math, Science, and Arts. The total number of books Suresh has is 2500. 26% of the total books are Hindi books, $\frac{1}{5}$ of the total books are English books, and 12% of the total books are Math books. The rest of the books are either Science or Arts. The number of Arts books is 50 more than the number of Science books.

109. What is the ratio of the number of Art books to the number of Math books?
(a) 6:5 (b) 11:6 (c) 4:7 (d) 7:4
110. What is the total number of Hindi books sold by Suresh?
(a) 600 (b) 635 (c) 625 (d) 650
111. What is the total number of Science books sold by Suresh?
(a) 600 (b) 635 (c) 500 (d) 550
112. What is the sum of total number of Hindi and Art books sold by Suresh?
(a) 1000 (b) 1035 (c) 1200 (d) 1050
113. What is the average of total number of Hindi, Math and Art books sold by Suresh?
(a) 500 (b) 635 (c) 600 (d) 550
114. Find the difference between the number of Science books and the number of Art books in Suresh's collection?
(a) 50 (b) 150 (c) 100 (d) 75

Direction(Q.115-Q.120): Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below. In a school on sports day, 300 players participated in various sports like: Football, Basketball, Tennis and Hockey. The ratio of male and female among the players is 3 : 2. 25% female players play football. 15% of female players play basketball. Rest of the female players play tennis and hockey in the ratio 5 : 4 respectively. The ratio of male players playing football and male players participating in other sports is 4:11 respectively. 25% of the male players who do not play football play hockey. Remaining male players play Basketball and Tennis in the ratio 7 : 4 respectively.

115. What is the number of male and female players who play football and tennis together?
(a) 140 (b) 154 (c) 162 (d) 148
116. What is the number of female players who play football?
(a) 30 (b) 44 (c) 62 (d) 50
117. What is the sum of number of female players who play hockey and number of female players who play Tennis?
(a) 70 (b) 74 (c) 72 (d) 50
118. What is the average of number of female players who play football and tennis and number of male players who play football and tennis?
(a) 78 (b) 76 (c) 72 (d) 77

119. What is the difference between number of male players who play basketball and number of female players who play tennis?
(a) 23 (b) 26 (c) 22 (d) 25
120. How much percent more is the number of males who play tennis than the number of females who play hockey?
(a) 15% (b) 8.75% (c) 10% (d) 12.5%

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MOCK CLAT 07

ANSWER KEY & EXPLANATIONS

SECTION-A : ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1. (b) While in primary classes, the author and his peers were more inclined towards outdoor games, but as they transitioned to secondary classes, their preference shifted to socializing in the canteen.

Explanation

In the recounted memories of the author's school days at Don Bosco High School Vadodara, there's a distinct evolution in the nature of activities and preferences that encapsulates the transition from childhood to adolescence. This evolution mirrors the progression of students from primary to secondary classes and is beautifully illustrated in the author's narration.

During the author's primary school years, the zest for life was predominantly manifested in the form of physical games.

However, as the author and his peers transitioned into the secondary classes, there was a noticeable shift in their recreational preferences. The physical exertion in the garden gradually gave way to more mature, laid-back interactions in the canteen.

In essence, option b captures this transformative journey of the author and his peers at Don Bosco High School Vadodara. From the uninhibited playfulness of primary school to the introspective conversations of secondary school, it paints a vivid picture of the changing landscape of school life, as seen through the author's eyes.

Additional information:

Option A:

- The passage does talk about the author adhering to a structured routine of classes and discussing homework during the school van ride.
- However, the passage also delves into other significant experiences, such as recess activities, favourite subjects, and various candid moments.
- Thus, this statement does not capture the entirety of the author's experiences at Don Bosco High School Vadodara.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- This statement aligns closely with the author's description of his school days.
- He mentions that during the primary years, they played various games in the school garden.
- However, as they moved to secondary classes, they began to hang out more in the canteen.
- This option encapsulates a nuanced shift in the author's school experiences over the years.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option C:

- While the canteen memories are indeed a part of the author's cherished experiences, the passage reveals a more comprehensive range of memories.
- The author not only reminisces about the canteen but also about playing games, attending classes, and other school activities.
- Thus, this option is too narrow in scope.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- The author does mention the school van journey as a time for discussions about the previous day's homework.
- However, it's not presented as the singular highlight of his day.
- The passage offers a richer tapestry of experiences throughout the school day, making this option an incomplete representation of the author's feelings.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

2. (a) Because his years at Don Bosco encompassed a wider range of transformative experiences to experiencing the little moments of joys. Explanation: The sense of nostalgia often arises from experiences that shape and transform us. For the author, Don Bosco High School Vadodara was not merely an educational institution; it was a journey of personal evolution. Starting from the innocence of primary school, where the garden games symbolized freedom and joy, to the introspection and deeper social interactions of secondary school years in the canteen, the school played a pivotal role in his formative years. This transformative journey, marked by evolving preferences and relationships, deeply resonates with the author, making it a cherished chapter of his life. In contrast, his experience at Rosary High School did not provide the same breadth of experiences and memories. This stark difference in the nature and depth of experiences at the two schools underpins the author's pronounced nostalgia for Don Bosco High School Vadodara.

Additional information:

Option A:

- The author vividly describes his journey from primary to secondary classes at Don Bosco, highlighting the shift from playful activities in the garden to deeper interactions in the canteen.
- These transformative experiences which are absent from his brief mention of Rosary High School seem to be at the heart of his strong nostalgic feelings.
- This option captures the essence of the author's emotional connection to Don Bosco.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option B:

- The passage doesn't emphasize the academic rigor of Don Bosco High School Vadodara as a distinguishing feature.
- While the author does reflect on his experiences and memories at the school, the academic challenge is not highlighted as the primary reason for his nostalgic attachment.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option C:

- While the school van rides are mentioned as a time for interaction and discussion about homework, they are not portrayed as the primary

or sole reason for the author's deep attachment to Don Bosco.

- The van rides were part of his daily routine but not the defining experience of his school years.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- There's no indication in the passage that these subjects were exclusively offered at Don Bosco or that they were the primary reason for his nostalgic feelings towards the school.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

3. (b) Memories filled with magical charm and delight
 The term "enchancing" carries with it an inherent sense of wonder, charm, and captivation. Deriving from the verb "enchant," it describes something that has the power to captivate the mind and heart, often evoking feelings of delight and fascination. Within the context of the passage, when the author refers to his school memories as "enchancing," he is emphasizing the profound impact and the deep emotional resonance these memories hold for him. These aren't mere recollections of everyday events; instead, they are memories imbued with a certain magic, memories that stand out in the author's mind as being particularly delightful and heartwarming. By choosing the word "enchancing," the author effectively conveys the depth of his nostalgia and the cherished nature of his school days. The memories, as described, are filled with moments of joy, camaraderie, mischief, and learning, all of which together create a tapestry of experiences that the author looks back on with fondness and reverence.

In essence, the use of the term "enchancing" gives readers a glimpse into the author's emotional landscape, revealing how these memories are not just past events but cherished moments that continue to bring joy and warmth to the author's heart. It underscores the idea that certain periods in our lives, like our school days, can hold a special kind of magic that remains with us long after those days have passed.

Additional information:

Option A:

- The term "enchancing" implies something that is captivating or delightful.
- While the passage does touch upon educational experiences, it encompasses much more, including personal feelings, activities, and interactions.
- The word "enchancing" would not be used to describe strictly educational experiences.
- Hence this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- The word "enchancing" is derived from the verb "enchant," which means to captivate or charm.
- Within the context of the passage, the author uses "enchancing" to describe his school memories, suggesting that these memories are filled with a

sense of wonder, charm, and delight, making this the correct choice.

- Hence this option is correct.

Option C:

- While the author does mention moments of mischief and the fear of punishment, the overall sentiment of the passage is positive and nostalgic.
- The term "enchancing" would not be aptly used to describe discipline and punishment.
- Hence this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- "Enchancing" suggests something beyond the ordinary, something that captivates or fills one with delight.
- The context in which the author uses the term indicates memories that are particularly charming and delightful, not just ordinary recollections.
- Hence this option is incorrect.

4. (c) Students' choice of activities was influenced by their grade level.

The original sentence from the passage, "The kind of activities one indulged in depended on the class he was in," encapsulates a nuanced understanding of how students' activities were influenced by their respective grade levels. The term "depended" in this context emphasizes a correlation or influence, suggesting that the grade a student was in played a pivotal role in shaping the nature of activities they were likely to engage in.

Option c, "Students' choice of activities was influenced by their grade level," aptly captures this sentiment. By using the term "influenced," this option conveys the idea that while there wasn't a strict mandate or directive dictating specific activities for each grade, there was a noticeable trend or tendency among students to choose activities based on their grade. Furthermore, this option underscores the organic nature of this influence. Rather than a top-down imposition from the school's administration, it's a reflection of the students' evolving preferences, interests, and social dynamics as they progress through different grades. In essence, option c aligns closely with the author's intent in the original sentence, emphasizing the interplay between grade level and students' choice of activities.

Additional information:

Option A:

- Everyone in the school participated in the same activities regardless of their grade: This option suggests uniformity in activities across all grades, which contradicts the original sentence.
- The original statement clearly mentions a dependency between activities and class, indicating variation based on grade level.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- The school mandated specific activities for each grade: While this option might seem closer to the sentiment of the original sentence, it implies a stricter regulation by the school regarding activities for each grade.
- The original sentence emphasizes the students' indulgence or choice being influenced by their grade, not necessarily a mandate.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option C:

- Students' choice of activities was influenced by their grade level: This option aligns well with the original statement.
- It encapsulates the idea that the grade a student was in played a role in determining the activities they would indulge in or choose.
- It does not suggest strict mandates but rather an influence or tendency.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option D:

- Activities were chosen based on individual student preferences without any influence from the grade: This option goes against the essence of the original sentence.
 - The original statement specifically ties the choice of activities to the grade level, whereas this option suggests a complete independence of choice from grade.
 - Hence, this option is incorrect.
5. (a) The journey has endowed me with a profound understanding of collaboration, guidance, dedication, articulation, innovation, and addressing challenges.

Explanation:

The correct answer, option a, states: "The journey has endowed me with a profound understanding of collaboration, guidance, dedication, articulation, innovation, and addressing challenges." This option is a reflection of the underlined sentiment in the passage, which emphasizes the invaluable insights the author gained from their odyssey. To begin with, both "odyssey" and "journey" are synonymous terms that depict a long, eventful, and transformative experience. In the context of the passage, the author's journey was filled with challenges, learnings, and personal growth, making the term "journey" an apt representation of their experience. The verb "endowed" in the option is akin to "bequeathed" from the original sentence. Both verbs convey the idea of bestowing or granting something valuable. In this context, the valuable insights and lessons are what the journey has granted the author. Furthermore, the terms used in option a to describe the insights align closely with the concepts mentioned in the underlined sentiment: 1. Collaboration mirrors "teamwork." Both terms refer to the act of working together with others to achieve a common goal. In the passage, the author

frequently mentions the importance of teamwork and how the collective efforts of the team were crucial to the project's success.

2. Guidance is synonymous with "leadership." Both terms emphasize the role of leading or directing a group. The passage highlights the role of the mentor and the overarching administration in guiding the team.

3. Dedication and "commitment" are interchangeable in this context. Both terms denote a strong devotion or loyalty to a cause or task. The author's unwavering commitment to the project and their responsibilities is a recurring theme in the passage.

4. Articulation corresponds to "communication." Articulation refers to the clear and effective expression of ideas, which is a subset of communication. The author mentions refining their ability to articulate ideas cogently, emphasizing the importance of clear communication.

5. Innovation is akin to "creativity." Both terms refer to the act of introducing new ideas or methods. The innovative water filtration design mentioned in the passage is a testament to the team's creativity.

6. Addressing challenges aligns with "problem-solving." Both phrases emphasize the act of finding solutions to problems or obstacles. The passage recounts various challenges the team faced and how they adeptly navigated them.

In conclusion, option a encapsulates the essence of the underlined sentiment by using terms that closely align with the concepts mentioned in the original sentence. It effectively conveys the depth and value of the insights the author gained from their journey, making it the most fitting choice among the given options.

Additional information:

Option a:

- This option mirrors the underlined sentiment by using synonyms or near-synonyms for the concepts mentioned.
- "Odyssey" and "journey" are synonymous, both referring to a long and eventful journey or experience.
- "Bequeathed" and "endowed" both mean to give or pass on.
- The rest of the terms in the option (collaboration, guidance, dedication, articulation, innovation, and addressing challenges) closely align with the concepts of teamwork, leadership, commitment, communication, creativity, and problem-solving respectively.
- Hence, this option is the closest to the underlined sentiment.
- Hence this option is correct.

Option b:

- This option diminishes the depth of the insights gained by using the term " cursory overview", which means a brief or superficial review.

- The original sentence emphasizes the invaluable and deep insights gained from the journey, making this option less aligned with the underlined sentiment.
 - Hence this option is incorrect.
- Option c:
- This option contradicts the author's sentiments and the depth of the insights by using the term "not rendered upon", suggesting that the insights were not experienced.
 - This is in contrast to the original sentence which emphasizes the depth and value of the insights gained.
 - Hence, this option is incorrect.
- Option d:
- The use of the term "superficially introduced" suggests a lack of depth or thoroughness in the insights gained.
 - This is in stark contrast to the original sentence which emphasizes the invaluable nature of the insights.
 - Additionally, while some of the terms used (group dynamics, leadership roles, unwavering focus, effective communication, creative thinking, tackling problems) are similar to the concepts in the original sentence, the overall sentiment of the option does not align closely with the underlined sentiment due to its superficial nature.
 - Hence, this option is incorrect.

6. (b) The author's primary role was in the logistics division, and the teamwork included responsibilities such as securing venues and managing transportation logistics. The passage provides a comprehensive overview of the author's involvement in a community engagement project. Within this context, the author delineates their specific role and responsibilities, emphasizing their position within the logistics division of the project. The logistics division, as inferred from the passage, is pivotal in ensuring the smooth execution of the project by addressing various logistical challenges and requirements.

The author states, "From the perspective of leadership and unwavering commitment, I was entrusted with responsibilities within the logistics division." This statement underscores the author's integral role within this division, highlighting the trust and responsibility bestowed upon them by the team. The logistics division's purview is further elaborated as the passage progresses. The author mentions that their objectives "spanned a gamut of tasks, from securing venues for deliberations to orchestrating transportation logistics and procuring essential project materials." This provides a clear and detailed insight into the multifaceted nature of the author's responsibilities. Securing venues indicates the need for a suitable space for team meetings and deliberations, which is crucial for

effective communication and planning. Orchestrating transportation logistics implies ensuring that team members and materials can be efficiently transported to relevant locations, ensuring timely execution of project tasks. Lastly, procuring essential project materials is a testament to the author's role in ensuring that the team has all the necessary resources at their disposal for the successful completion of the project.

Furthermore, the author's emphasis on their "unwavering commitment" and "consistent presence and active participation in these meetings" accentuates their dedication and proactive approach within the logistics division. This not only showcases the author's personal commitment but also highlights the importance of the logistics division in the overall success of the project.

Additional information:

Option A:

- The passage mentions the "sagacious guidance of our mentor and the overarching administration."
- This indicates that while the team played a significant role in the project, they were not working in isolation and received guidance from external sources.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- The passage states, "From the perspective of leadership and unwavering commitment, I was entrusted with responsibilities within the logistics division."

- Our objectives spanned a gamut of tasks, from securing venues for deliberations to orchestrating transportation logistics and procuring essential project materials.
- This clearly outlines the author's role and responsibilities within the project.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option C:

- The passage mentions, "However, it was discernible that not all members exhibited an equivalent commitment, a reflection of human nature's inherent inconsistencies."

- This indicates that there were variations in the commitment levels among team members.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- While the water filtration apparatus was a significant part of the project, the passage also mentions that the team was "engrossed in sanitation activities, ensuring the community's milieu remained salubrious."
- This indicates that the team's efforts were not limited to water filtration alone.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

7. (a) Option A is the correct answer because a noun is a word that names a person, place, concept, emotion,

attitude or object. In this sentence, the word "perspective" is an attitude which can be described as an abstract noun. Option B is incorrect because verbs are words that describe specific actions, like running, winning, and being amazing. Perspective is not an action; it is an attitude towards or way of regarding something. Option C is incorrect because adjectives are the words that describe nouns. Here, "perspective" is not describing anything related to a noun; it is itself a noun. Option D is incorrect because an adverb is a word that describes an adjective, a verb, or another adverb. Here, the word "perspective" is not describing some adjective or a verb or another adverb. It is describing an attitude which can be categorized as a noun.

8. (c) Reflective Essay

A reflective essay is characterized by its introspective nature, where the writer delves into their personal experiences, analyzing and drawing insights from them. Such essays often explore the deeper emotions, challenges, and growth associated with those experiences. The given passage fits this description aptly. The author not only recounts their involvement in a community engagement project but also delves deep into the emotions, challenges, and personal growth associated with it. Phrases like "This journey has enriched my understanding," "This endeavor also served as a crucible for honing my communication acumen," and "These experiences have underscored the importance of adaptability in the face of adversity" are indicative of the reflective nature of the passage. The author is not merely recounting events but is analyzing them, drawing insights, and reflecting on personal growth and learnings. Furthermore, the passage is rich in personal reflections, detailing the author's roles, challenges faced, the dynamics of teamwork, and the transformative nature of the experience. All these elements combined make the passage a quintessential example of a reflective essay.

Additional information:

Option A:

- A fictional narrative is a story that is created from the imagination, rather than based on facts.
- It often involves characters, a plot, and a setting.
- While the passage does tell a story of the author's experience, it is rooted in real-life events and personal reflections rather than imaginative constructs.
- Therefore, it does not fit the criteria of a fictional narrative.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- A technical manual provides detailed instructions or information about a specific

topic, often related to machinery, software, or processes.

- It is typically devoid of personal reflections or emotions.
- The passage, while detailing a project, is rich in personal reflections and does not provide step-by-step instructions or technical details.
- Thus, it is not a technical manual.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option C:

- A reflective essay is a piece of writing in which the author examines their experiences in life, exploring how they have shaped their life, thoughts, and growth.
- The passage in question delves deep into the author's experiences, challenges, learnings, and personal growth during a community project.
- It is introspective and focuses on the author's personal journey, making it a reflective essay.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option D:

- A historical account provides a detailed report or chronicle of past events, often written in an objective manner without personal reflections.
- The passage, while recounting events, is centered on the author's personal experiences and reflections rather than providing an objective chronicle of past events.
- Hence, it is not a historical account.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

9. (c) Diverse perspectives within a team can lead to richer outcomes.

The essence of a team's strength often lies in its diversity. Diverse teams bring together a myriad of perspectives, experiences, and skills, which can lead to richer outcomes and innovative solutions. The passage subtly but consistently emphasizes this viewpoint. The author's reflections on the team's "eclectic backgrounds" and the "inherent respect for diverse perspectives" underscore the value they place on diversity within the team. The mention of "unparalleled synergy" during their inaugural congregation further highlights the positive outcomes that can arise from diverse perspectives coming together.

The author's appreciation for the team's diversity and the positive outcomes it led to is evident throughout the passage. This underlying assumption—that diverse perspectives within a team can lead to richer, more effective outcomes—is a central theme that underpins the author's perspective on their community engagement endeavor.

Additional information:

Option A:

- While the passage does highlight the personal growth and insights the author gained from this particular community project, it does not make

a blanket statement or assumption that all community projects lead to personal growth.

- The author's reflections are specific to their experience and not generalized for all community projects.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- The passage does mention financial limitations as one of the challenges faced, but it does not imply that it's the only challenge.
- The author also discusses other challenges, such as time constraints and commitment levels of team members.
- Therefore, this option does not capture the underlying assumption of the passage.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option C:

- The passage emphasizes the value of diverse perspectives multiple times.
- Phrases like "Despite the eclectic backgrounds of our team members, there was an inherent respect for diverse perspectives" and "our inaugural congregation was marked by an unparalleled synergy" suggest that the author believes that diversity within a team can lead to positive outcomes.
- This assumption is evident in the way the author appreciates the diverse backgrounds and perspectives of the team members.
- Hence, this option is correct.

- Hence, this option is correct.

Option D:

- While the author does discuss their leadership role within the logistics division and its significance, there is no indication in the passage that leadership roles are considered the most prestigious.

- The author acknowledges the contributions and roles of other team members and external guidance, suggesting a collaborative rather than hierarchical view of the project.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

10. (d) The escalation in the frequency and intensity of wildfires is correlated with the effects of climate change and environmental conditions.

The escalation in the frequency and intensity of wildfires being correlated with the effects of climate change and environmental conditions is a central theme that resonates throughout the passage. This correlation is not merely coincidental but is rooted in tangible environmental changes that have been observed and documented over the years.

Climate change, as the passage elucidates, has multifaceted effects on the environment. One of the most pronounced effects is the rise in global temperatures. As temperatures rise, environments, especially those prone to wildfires like certain regions in California, become increasingly arid.

Furthermore, the passage underscores the significance of certain events, like the Mendocino Complex Fire of 2018, which was a confluence of two fires. Such events serve as stark reminders of the escalating threat of wildfires. These fires, in their frequency and intensity, stand as testament to the changing environmental conditions, conditions that are being altered due to the overarching effects of climate change.

In conclusion, the correlation between the escalation of wildfires and the effects of climate change is evident. The changing environmental conditions, marked by rising temperatures and increasing aridity, create the perfect storm for more frequent and intense wildfires. The passage provides ample evidence to support this correlation, making it an inferable and central theme.

Additional information:

Option A:

- The Paris Agreement, as mentioned in the passage, was established to "restrict the global temperature rise to below 2°C from pre-industrial levels."

- While the agreement does address the broader issue of climate change, which indirectly affects wildfires, its primary objective is not solely to combat wildfires.

- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- The passage states that controlled burning was practiced by indigenous populations in the Southeastern U.S. and was later adopted by European settlers.

- Its initial purpose was "to augment food sources for free-range cattle and maintain hunting habitats."

- While it has contemporary applications in preemptively eliminating potential wildfire fuel sources, it was not introduced as a primary method to combat climate change.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option C:

- The passage clearly mentions that the Mendocino Complex Fire was a "confluence of two proximate fires."
- Therefore, it was not a singular fire.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- This statement is accurate and can be inferred from the passage.
- The text highlights that wildfires have intensified, and this surge is largely attributed to climate change and rising global temperatures.

- Additionally, the passage mentions that as environments become drier and temperatures soar, regions like California in 2018 witnessed record heat in July, with vegetation reaching

unprecedented dryness levels, serving as potent fuel for fiercer wildfires.

- Hence, this option is correct.
11. (c) The practice of controlled burning by indigenous populations and its adoption by European settlers. The practice of controlled burning, as highlighted in the passage, stands as a testament to human ingenuity and adaptability in the face of environmental challenges. This technique, rooted in ancient wisdom, has been employed by indigenous populations in the Southeastern U.S. for purposes that transcend mere wildfire control. Historically, controlled burning was utilized to enhance food sources for free-range cattle and to preserve hunting habitats. Such practices underscore the symbiotic relationship that indigenous communities maintained with their environment, understanding and harnessing the natural elements to serve communal needs.

However, the significance of controlled burning is not confined to its historical roots. Its adoption and adaptation by European settlers further amplify its importance. While the settlers might have had different motivations and applications for this practice, its essence remained the same: the deliberate ignition of fires under controlled conditions to achieve specific objectives. In the contemporary context, one of the primary objectives of controlled burning is to preemptively eliminate potential fuel sources for wildfires. By doing so, the technique aims to reduce the intensity and spread of wildfires, making them more manageable and less destructive.

The passage's emphasis on controlled burning, both by indigenous populations and European settlers, highlights a continuum of human intervention. It showcases a proactive approach to environmental management, where humans, informed by past experiences and knowledge, take deliberate actions to mitigate potential threats.

Additional information:

Option A:

- While the Paris Agreement is indeed a human intervention aimed at addressing the broader issue of climate change, it doesn't directly suggest an approach to addressing the wildfire menace.

- The agreement's primary objective is to mitigate the effects of climate change by limiting the global temperature rise, which, although indirectly beneficial in the context of wildfires, is not a direct measure against them.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- This statement highlights the severity and scale of a particular wildfire event.

- While it underscores the magnitude of the problem, it doesn't suggest any human

intervention aimed at addressing or mitigating the wildfire threat.

- Hence, this option is incorrect.
- Option C:
 - This option directly points to a human intervention technique – controlled burning – that has been used historically by indigenous populations and later by European settlers.
 - The practice, as the passage mentions, was employed for various reasons, including augmenting food sources and maintaining hunting habits.
 - Its contemporary application is to preemptively eliminate potential wildfire fuel sources, making it a direct measure against wildfires.
 - Hence, this option is correct.
- Option D:
 - This statement emphasizes the environmental conditions that exacerbate the wildfire problem.
 - While it provides context to the escalating threat of wildfires due to changing environmental conditions, it doesn't suggest any human intervention or strategy aimed at addressing the issue.
 - Hence, this option is incorrect.

12. (e) The broader implications of climate change and its correlation with escalating wildfire threats.

The nexus between climate change and the intensifying threat of wildfires emerges as the predominant concern in the passage. This correlation is not merely presented as a fleeting observation but is meticulously woven into the fabric of the narrative, underscoring its significance in the broader discourse on environmental challenges.

The author begins by setting the stage with empirical evidence, highlighting events like the Mendocino Complex Fire of 2018, which serve as poignant reminders of the escalating wildfire menace. However, rather than treating such events in isolation, the narrative delves deeper, probing the underlying causes. The rise in global temperatures, the increasing aridity of environments, and the record heatwaves, such as the one witnessed in California in 2018, are all presented as manifestations of a changing climate. These changes, in turn, create conditions conducive to more frequent and intense wildfires.

But the author's concern is not limited to merely establishing this correlation. The narrative delves into the ramifications of this link. The desiccated vegetation, resulting from rising temperatures, acts as potent fuel, leading to fiercer wildfires. This cyclical relationship, where climate change exacerbates conditions favorable for wildfires, which in turn contribute to global warming through the emission of vast amounts of smoke, is a central theme of the passage.

Additional information:

Option A:

- While the passage does touch upon the historical practices of indigenous populations, especially in the context of controlled burning, it serves more as a supporting detail rather than the central concern of the author.
- The practices are mentioned to highlight human interventions in addressing wildfires but are not the primary focus of the passage.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- The passage does delve into specific events like the Mendocino Complex Fire to provide context and illustrate the severity of the wildfire problem.
- However, these specific instances are used as examples to support the broader theme and are not the main concern of the author.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option C:

- The passage consistently emphasizes the correlation between climate change and the increasing threat of wildfires.
- From mentioning the rise in global temperatures to the record heat in California, the author underscores the environmental changes that are exacerbating wildfire risks.
- The central theme revolves around understanding this correlation and its implications, making this the main concern of the author.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option D:

- The Paris Agreement is mentioned in the passage as a measure to address the broader issue of climate change.
- However, its inclusion serves to highlight global efforts in combating climate change rather than being the central concern of the author.
- The passage does not delve deeply into the effectiveness or intricacies of such agreements.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

13. (b) Confluence

The term "confluence" is imbued with a sense of unity, a merging of distinct entities into a singular whole. Derived from the Latin word "confluere," which means "to flow together," "confluence" has historically been used to describe the meeting point of two rivers. However, its application is not limited to geographical contexts; it has been embraced in various disciplines to depict the coming together of ideas, events, or circumstances.

In the passage, the word "confluence" is employed to describe the Mendocino Complex Fire of 2018. Rather than being a singular fire, this event was a combination of two proximate fires. The choice of the word "confluence" here is deliberate and

evocative. It not only conveys the factual merging of two fires but also underscores the magnitude and complexity of the event. When two fires merge, the resulting blaze is often more extensive and challenging to control, amplifying the threat and consequences.

Additional information:

Option A:

- The term "desiccation" refers to the process of drying up or the state of being dried up.
- In the context of the passage, it is used to describe the drying out of environments, leading to conditions conducive for wildfires.
- It does not mean a combination or mixture of two or more things.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- "Confluence" denotes the coming together or merging of two or more entities.
- In the passage, it is used to describe the Mendocino Complex Fire of 2018 as a combination of two proximate fires.
- This aligns with the definition of the word as a combination or mixture of two or more things, making it the correct answer.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option C:

- To "augment" means to make something greater by adding to it or to increase.
- In the passage, it is used in the context of enhancing food sources for free-range cattle through controlled burning.
- It does not imply a mixture or combination.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- The term "galvanizes" means to shock or excite someone into taking action.
- In the context of the passage, it refers to the Paris Agreement's effect on nations, urging them to intensify their efforts against climate change.
- It does not denote a combination or mixture.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

14. (b) To delineate the essential elements required for combustion.

The concept of the "Fire Triangle" is fundamental to understanding the dynamics of combustion, especially in the context of wildfires. This triangle, as elucidated in the passage, represents the triad of elements that are indispensable for a fire to ignite, sustain, and propagate. These elements are a heat source, fuel, and oxygen. Each component of this triangle plays a pivotal role, and the absence of any one of them can impede the process of combustion. The heat source, as the name suggests, provides the necessary energy to initiate the combustion process. In the realm of wildfires, this heat can emanate from various sources, both anthropogenic, like campfires

or cigarettes, and natural, such as lightning. The heat source serves as the catalyst, setting the stage for the other elements to come into play.

Fuel, the second component of the triangle, is the material that undergoes combustion. In the context of wildfires, this fuel predominantly comprises organic materials like dead vegetation, trees, grass, and, at times, even human-made structures. The nature and condition of the fuel, especially its moisture content, play a significant role in determining the intensity and spread of the fire. Oxygen, the third and final component, is vital for sustaining the combustion process. It supports the chemical reactions that occur during combustion, allowing the fire to continue burning. In the absence of adequate oxygen, the fire can be smothered and extinguished.

The "Fire Triangle" serves as a lens through which the complexities of wildfires can be better understood. By delineating the essential elements required for combustion, it provides insights into the conditions under which wildfires can ignite and the factors that can exacerbate or mitigate their spread. In the passage, the introduction of this concept is instrumental in offering a foundational understanding of wildfires, grounding the discussion in scientific principles and shedding light on the intricacies of this natural phenomenon.

Additional information:

Option A:

- While the passage does discuss the implications of global warming, especially in the context of escalating wildfire threats, the "Fire Triangle" is not used to illustrate the causes of global warming.
- Instead, it focuses on the elements necessary for a fire to occur.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- The "Fire Triangle" is introduced in the passage as a representation of the three fundamental elements required for a fire to ignite and sustain: a heat source, fuel, and oxygen.
- This triangle serves as a foundational concept in understanding the inception of wildfires, making this option the correct answer.
- Hence this option is correct.

Option C:

- The passage does not use the "Fire Triangle" as a categorization tool for different types of wildfires.
- The triangle's purpose is to explain the basic requirements for combustion, not to classify wildfires.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- The "Fire Triangle" is not a geographical representation or a tool to pinpoint regions affected by wildfires.

- Its focus is on the elements required for combustion, not on specific regions or areas.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

15. (c) Reality is devoid of intrinsic value and is shaped by individual cognitive constructs.

The concept of reality being "devoid of intrinsic value" is a profound philosophical assertion. When we say something is "devoid of intrinsic value," we are suggesting that, in its purest form, it doesn't possess inherent worth or significance. Instead, its value or meaning is not self-contained but is derived from external factors. In the context of the passage, the author posits that reality, as an entity, doesn't inherently hold a specific meaning or value. It is not a fixed, objective truth that stands alone with a clear, universal definition.

The latter part of the statement, "shaped by individual cognitive constructs," delves into the realm of perception and cognition. Every individual possesses a unique cognitive framework, which is a product of their experiences, beliefs, cultural background, education, and numerous other factors. This cognitive framework acts as a lens through which they perceive and interpret the world around them. In essence, reality is not just what is out there, but it is also how we interpret and understand what is out there. Our mental models, beliefs, and perceptions play a pivotal role in giving shape, meaning, and value to this reality.

Thus, the author emphasizes a symbiotic relationship between reality and perception. While reality exists in its form, its true essence, value, and meaning are intricately tied to how individuals perceive and interpret it through their unique cognitive constructs. This perspective challenges the traditional notion of a singular, objective reality and underscores the importance of understanding the subjective nature of human experience and interpretation.

Additional information:

Option A:

- The term "immutable" means unchanging over time or unable to be changed.
- This option suggests that reality is a fixed entity, consistent and unvarying for everyone.
- However, the author's passage emphasizes the opposite, suggesting that reality is not fixed but varies based on individual perceptions.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- The term "static" implies something that is stationary or unchanging.
- This option posits that perception remains constant and is not influenced by one's life experiences or the process of aging.
- Contrary to this, the author mentions that perception undergoes changes, especially with factors like age, education, and personal experiences.

- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option C:

- The phrase "devoid of intrinsic value" means lacking inherent worth or significance.
- This option suggests that reality, in its raw form, doesn't hold any inherent meaning.
- Instead, its value or meaning is derived from the way individuals perceive and interpret it through their cognitive frameworks.
- This aligns with the author's perspective, as he postulates that our mental paradigms shape our interpretations of reality.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option D:

- This option presents the idea that the objective world (or reality) is full of inherent worth and significance.
- Furthermore, it suggests that this objective reality remains unchanged and is not affected by individual beliefs or perceptions.
- This is in contrast to the author's viewpoint, which emphasizes that reality is influenced by our cognitive constructs and lacks intrinsic value on its own.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

16. (b) They often cater to perceived market demands rather than discerning the genuine needs.

In the intricate landscape of modern entrepreneurship, the author underscores a prevalent and concerning trend: the propensity of entrepreneurs to base their strategies and offerings on their personal perceptions or assumptions about market demands, rather than on a thorough understanding of the genuine needs of the market. This observation is not made in isolation but is contextualized with a poignant analogy. The author draws a parallel between entrepreneurs and a hypothetical physician. Just as a physician, in this analogy, might prematurely prescribe medication based on cursory assumptions rather than a meticulous diagnosis, entrepreneurs, too, might introduce products or services to the market based on what they perceive the market wants. This approach, as the author suggests, can lead to significant mis-judgments.

Additional information:

Option A:

- This option suggests that modern entrepreneurial approaches are consistently in sync with the actual needs of the market.
- However, the passage indicates that there are instances where entrepreneurs misjudge the market, basing their strategies on perceived demands rather than genuine needs.
- The author uses the analogy of a physician prematurely prescribing medication based on assumptions to highlight this pitfall.

- Therefore, this option does not align with the author's perspective as presented in the passage.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- This option encapsulates the author's primary concern about contemporary entrepreneurial approaches.
- The author believes that many entrepreneurs, instead of understanding and catering to the actual needs of the market, end up offering products or services based on their perceptions or assumptions of what the market wants.
- This is further emphasized by the analogy of the physician and the medication, suggesting that without proper diagnosis (or market research), the solution provided might not address the actual problem.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option C:

- This option presents an ideal scenario where entrepreneurs always conduct thorough research and never rely on superficial assumptions.
- However, the passage suggests the opposite.
- The author's analogy of the physician who prescribes medication without a proper diagnosis indicates that there are entrepreneurs who act without thorough market research, leading to potential business pitfalls.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- This option suggests that entrepreneurial strategies are always rooted in objective market research and are not influenced by individual biases or perceptions.
- While this might be the ideal approach, the passage indicates that this is not always the case.
- The author emphasizes the role of perception in shaping entrepreneurial decisions and highlights the potential dangers of relying too heavily on personal beliefs or assumptions without grounding them in actual market needs.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

17. (b) The author believes the video omits the fact that perceptions change with age and experiences.

Refer to the lines, "However, a lacuna in the video's discourse was its omission of the dynamic nature of perception, which undergoes metamorphosis with age, edification, voyages, triumphs, and tribulations." The author's engagement with the video's discourse on perception is characterized by a sense of appreciation intertwined with critical introspection. While the video serves as a catalyst for the author's ruminations on the nature of perception and reality, it also presents an opportunity for the author to identify gaps in the presented narrative.

One of the most salient critiques the author offers pertains to the video's treatment of perception as a static entity. The author underscores the omission of a crucial aspect of perception: its dynamic and evolving nature. Perceptions, as the author elucidates, are not stagnant constructs. They undergo metamorphosis, shaped and molded by a myriad of factors that encompass the passage of time, the accrual of knowledge, and the myriad experiences that punctuate human existence. Age, with its accompanying wisdom and vicissitudes, plays a pivotal role in reshaping and refining one's perceptions. Similarly, diverse experiences, be they rooted in education, travel, successes, or failures, contribute to the ever-evolving tapestry of perception.

In highlighting this omission, the author is not merely pointing out a flaw but is emphasizing the richness and complexity of human cognition. The dynamic nature of perception is integral to understanding human behavior, decision-making, and interactions with the world. By not addressing this aspect, the video, in the author's view, offers an incomplete exploration of a deeply intricate and multifaceted subject.

Additional information:

Option A:

- This option suggests that the author is in complete agreement with the video's content and has no criticisms or additional insights to offer.
- However, within the passage, the author does express certain reservations about the video's discourse, particularly its omission of the dynamic nature of perception.
- Thus, this option does not accurately capture the author's nuanced response to the video.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- This option is in line with the author's critique of the video.
- The author specifically mentions that the video did not address how perceptions evolve over time due to various factors such as age, education, travel experiences, successes, and failures.
- This omission is highlighted as a "lacuna" in the video's discourse, making this option the most accurate representation of the author's viewpoint.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option C:

- This option suggests a strong negative reaction from the author towards the video, implying that the content is no longer relevant or applicable in the current context.
- However, the passage does not indicate that the author finds the video's perspective to be outdated.

- Instead, the author's critique is more specific, focusing on the omission of certain aspects of perception.
- Thus, this option exaggerates the author's response.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- This option implies that the author believes the video offers a complete and thorough exploration of the topic of perception.
- However, the passage clearly indicates that the author found certain aspects of perception, particularly its dynamic nature, to be missing from the video's discourse.
- As a result, this option does not align with the author's expressed views on the video's content.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

18. (b) Nebulous - Clear

The terms "nebulous" and "clear" stand in stark contrast to each other, representing opposite ends of the clarity spectrum.

The word "nebulous" has its etymological roots in the Latin word "nebula," which translates to "mist" or "cloud." In the English lexicon, "nebulous" is employed to describe entities, ideas, or concepts that are characterized by vagueness, ambiguity, or a lack of clear definition. For instance, a nebulous plan is one that hasn't been fully formed or detailed. It's akin to trying to discern shapes in a dense fog; the outlines are blurry and indistinct.

On the other hand, the term "clear" epitomizes lucidity and transparency. When something is described as "clear," it is easily perceptible, devoid of ambiguity and can be understood without difficulty. A clear sky, for example, is free from obstructions like clouds or haze, offering an unobstructed view of the vast expanse above.

Given their inherently divergent meanings, "nebulous" and "clear" function as antonyms in the English language. While "nebulous" encapsulates uncertainty and a lack of clarity, "clear" embodies the very essence of comprehensibility and precision. In the context of the question, this pair stands out as the only duo that doesn't consist of synonyms, making it the correct answer.

Additional information:

Option A:

- Immutabile: This term originates from the Latin word "immobilis," which means "not changeable."
- In English, "immutable" describes something that is unchanging over time or unable to be changed.
- Unchangeable: As the term suggests, "unchangeable" refers to something that cannot be altered or modified.
- It is synonymous with "immutable" in the context of something that remains constant and steadfast.

- The two words, in essence, convey the same meaning, emphasizing the inability of something to undergo

- change.
- Therefore, they are synonyms.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- Nebulous: Derived from the Latin word "nebula," meaning "mist" or "cloud," "nebulous" in English describes something that is vague, hazy, or ill-defined.
- It can refer to concepts, ideas, or even physical entities that lack clarity or precision.
- Clear: This term denotes something that is easy to perceive, understand, or recognize.
- It is the antithesis of "nebulous" because it emphasizes transparency, lucidity, and absence of ambiguity.

- Given their contrasting meanings, "nebulous" and "clear" are antonyms, not synonyms.
- Hence this option is correct.

Option C:

- Allegory: An allegory is a narrative or representation in which characters, events, or settings symbolize, or stand for, larger concepts or broader truths.
- Allegories convey deeper meanings than the literal story, often imparting moral, philosophical, or political lessons.
- Parable: A Parable is a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson.
- They can be used interchangeably, making them synonymous.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option D:

- Cerebral: The term "cerebral" has its roots in the Latin word "cerebrum," which refers to the brain.
- In a broader sense, "cerebral" describes activities related to the mind or intellect.
- It can denote intellectual pursuits or tasks that require deep thinking.
- Intellectual: This term pertains to the intellect or the capacity for thinking and reasoning.
- It can describe activities, pursuits, or individuals that engage in deep thought, study, or reflection.
- Both "cerebral" and "intellectual" emphasize the realm of the mind, thought processes, and intellectual endeavors.
- They are synonymous in contexts that highlight mental or intellectual activities.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

19. (c) Due to life's demands, individuals often resort to assumptions instead of thorough scrutiny. The complexities and incessant demands of life often place individuals in situations where they are compelled to make swift decisions and judgments. The phrase "relentless march of life" paints a vivid

picture of life's unyielding and continuous progression, akin to a march that doesn't pause or wait. In this ever-moving journey, individuals frequently find themselves grappling with numerous challenges, responsibilities, and decisions that need to be addressed promptly.

Given these constraints, individuals are not always afforded the luxury of time or the mental vigor to meticulously authenticate every perception or belief they hold. Authenticating perceptions would ideally require a methodical and comprehensive examination, a process that demands both time and mental energy. However, the rapid pace of life, coupled with its multifarious demands, often deprives individuals of this luxury.

As a result, to navigate through life's myriad situations, individuals often find themselves leaning on assumptions. These assumptions, while expedient, are not always rooted in detailed observation or scrutiny. They are, more often than not, heuristic shortcuts that individuals employ to make sense of the world around them, especially when pressed for time or resources.

In essence, while thorough scrutiny is undoubtedly the more reliable approach to understanding and interpreting the world, the practicalities of life's relentless march often lead individuals to rely on assumptions as a pragmatic alternative.

Additional information:

Option A:

- This option posits a scenario where life's rhythm and progression afford individuals sufficient time to critically examine and validate their beliefs.
- However, this interpretation is antithetical to the underlined sentence, which emphasizes the lack of time and energy in life to thoroughly validate perceptions.
- The essence of the underlined sentence suggests that life's rapid pace often deprives individuals of the opportunity to critically assess their beliefs, leading them to make assumptions.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option B:

- This option suggests that individuals predominantly depend on meticulous observation and scrutiny rather than making hasty assumptions in their day-to-day existence.
- Contrarily, the underlined sentence conveys that due to the exigencies of life, individuals often find themselves resorting to assumptions because they lack the time or energy for detailed observation.

- Thus, this option is in discord with the sentiment expressed in the underlined sentence.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

Option C:

- This option encapsulates the core message of the underlined sentence.

- It underscores the idea that the incessant demands and challenges of life frequently compel individuals to lean on assumptions, as they are often bereft of the time, energy, or resources to engage in comprehensive scrutiny or observation.
- The phrase "relentless march of life" in the underlined sentence evokes the image of life's unyielding progression, which often leaves individuals with limited opportunities to pause and reflect.
- Hence, this option is correct.

Option D:

- This option posits that, in the author's perspective, assumptions hold the same degree of reliability as detailed observations.
- However, the underlined sentence does not make such a claim.
- Instead, it highlights the tendency of individuals to rely on assumptions due to constraints, without suggesting that assumptions are as reliable as observations.
- The sentence implies a preference for "astute observation" over assumptions, but acknowledges the practical challenges that often lead individuals to make assumptions.
- Hence, this option is incorrect.

20. (b) Japan, where ancient fabric-making techniques have influenced his work.

Reference Lines: "Marzan's weaving and art have taken him to the Marshall Islands, Canada, New Zealand and American Samoa."

Explanation:

a) The Marshall Islands are directly mentioned in the passage as one of the places where Marzan has taken his art, which means that this location is not an exception. The reference to Pacific Islander artistry aligns with Marzan's weaving, as it shares the same geographical and cultural heritage, making this option incorrect as the exception. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Although Japan is mentioned in the passage as an influence on Marzan's work, it is not listed as a destination where his art has been recognized or exhibited. The distinction here lies in the influence of technique versus the recognition of artwork, which makes Japan the correct exception. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) New Zealand is specifically cited as a place where Marzan has showcased his art. The mention of the strong indigenous Maori culture serves to highlight the cultural connections and potential appreciation for Marzan's work, which is rooted in a similar indigenous tradition. This means New Zealand cannot be the correct exception in this context. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) American Samoa is also mentioned in the passage as a place where Marzan's art has been taken. The reference to Polynesian culture is pertinent because

it underscores the significance of Marzan's work within a broader cultural context that values traditional crafts. This reinforces why American Samoa is not the exception. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

21. (a) It reflects the international acclaim and appreciation of Marzan's work, particularly during the exhibition in Paris.

Reference Lines: "It's one thing for people to go into a gallery and ooh and ahh and say, 'Oh, c'est magnifique.' It's another thing [for them] to, you know, bring out their checkbook and purchase a piece."

Explanation:

a) The French phrase "c'est magnifique" is a positive exclamation that translates to "it's magnificent" in English. The context in which it's used in the passage suggests that Marzan's work elicited such a reaction from an audience that likely includes French speakers, given the reference to Paris. This indicates that the work was well-received and admired, supporting the international acclaim. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) There is no indication in the passage of sarcasm or negativity in the use of "c'est magnifique". The tone of the passage is one of success and positive reception. Suggesting sarcasm would imply a critical or undermining tone that is not supported by the text. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) The phrase "c'est magnifique" captures a moment of admiration; however, the passage does not suggest that this admiration is superficial. Instead, it highlights a contrast between verbal appreciation and the act of purchasing, which is a stronger form of support. The passage does not present the verbal reaction as insincere. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The option is misleading. "C'est magnifique" is an expression of general admiration and does not specifically refer to the complexity of the technique. The passage does not explicitly link this phrase to a discussion of technique, and while the technique may be inferred to be part of the reason for admiration, the phrase itself is used more broadly to reflect overall acclaim. Also, the expression is particular to the French language, as suggested in option (a), making it a better answer. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

22. (b) She is overwhelmingly positive and supportive, highlighting Marzan's unique skills, the excitement of his work gaining international recognition, and the successful sale of his pieces.

Reference Lines: Various lines throughout the passage, including "To create contemporary pieces with these ancient skills is really unique," and "That's very exciting, and it's wonderful that his work is being recognized beyond Hawaii shores."

Explanation:

a) The tone of Silve's comments does not suggest any critical perspective. Instead, she is quoted praising the uniqueness and contemporary relevance of Marzan's work. There is no textual evidence to indicate she holds any reservations about the broader impact of his work. The passage presents her as an advocate for Marzan's art rather than a critic. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Silve's comments are unequivocally positive and supportive. She uses language that conveys excitement and admiration for Marzan's skills and the recognition his work has received. Her comments about the sale of his pieces further underscore the success and impact of his artistry. The tone of her comments is indicative of full support and enthusiasm for Marzan's achievements, making this the correct answer. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Silve's tone goes beyond merely providing factual commentary. Her language conveys a personal and enthusiastic endorsement of Marzan's work. She speaks with admiration and excitement, which moves her perspective from neutral to actively positive. The passage reflects her personal investment in the success of Marzan's work. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) There is no indication in the passage of cautious optimism or any expressed doubt about Marzan's work. Silve's comments do not reflect any uncertainty; instead, they are filled with certainty and positive affirmation of the impact and appreciation of Marzan's artistry. The suggestion of doubt or caution is not supported by any part of the passage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

23. (c) Marzan's artistry resonates strongly on an international level, leading to his participation in global exhibitions and successful sales of his work.

Reference Lines: "Marzan's weaving and art have taken him to the Marshall Islands, Canada, New Zealand and American Samoa. In 2018, his craft led him to Paris for the Festival des Arts d'Hawaii... People were fascinated... his works were all bought."

Explanation:

a) The assertion that Marzan's artistry is just beginning to pique the interest of niche art communities diminishes the broader impact implied in the passage. Marzan's work was not only displayed but also sold out in Paris, indicating a reception that transcends niche communities. The passage supports the idea that his influence is established rather than nascent. By limiting the acknowledgment to "niche art communities," this option fails to encapsulate the widespread admiration and success Marzan has achieved. The international recognition he has received, including his participation in significant events like the Festival des Arts d'Hawaii, goes beyond the initial

stages of capturing interest. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This choice restricts Marzan's acclaim to a particular audience, suggesting it is confined to those with a vested interest in cultural heritage. The passage, however, speaks to a broader appeal, including the commercial viability of his work, which extends beyond the specialized circles of critics and historians. The fact that Marzan's pieces were purchased by attendees of the exhibition in Paris indicates a reception that goes beyond academic or critical acclaim and into the realm of public and commercial success. Thus, while his work is undoubtedly appreciated by those who value cultural heritage, the passage suggests that his acclaim is not limited to this group alone. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This option aligns with the details presented in the passage, which speaks to Marzan's international presence and the tangible success of his work in the form of global exhibitions and sales. The fact that his work was bought by attendees at a Paris exhibition indicates a strong resonance with an international audience, not just a limited or emerging interest. The passage provides clear evidence of Marzan's international engagement and success, thus making this statement the most accurate reflection of how his artistry is received on a global scale. The description of his participation in global exhibitions and the commercial success of his work encapsulates the breadth and depth of his international impact. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) By suggesting that Marzan's contemporary relevance has not been fully recognized, this option contradicts the evidence provided in the passage. The success of Marzan's exhibitions and the commercial sale of his works demonstrate that his contemporary relevance is not only acknowledged but also celebrated internationally. The passage describes a scenario where the contemporary aspects of Marzan's work are indeed recognized and valued, as evidenced by the reaction of the audience and buyers at the Paris exhibition. It does not support a narrative of incomplete acknowledgment but rather one of successful integration and recognition of Marzan's contemporary contributions to the art form. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

24. (d) Art critics from various parts of the world have praised Marzan for his ability to maintain the authenticity of ancient Hawaiian weaving while infusing contemporary elements.

Reference Lines: "To create contemporary pieces with these ancient skills is really unique," says Kihohana Silve, an art critic.

Explanation:

a) Receiving awards in Hawaii for his weaving techniques indeed suggests a recognition of Marzan's skill and innovation. However, the passage

focuses on Marzan's international appeal and the uniqueness of his art. While local awards would support his credibility, the argument is about his international standing and the blending of old and new. Awards within Hawaii do not provide the same level of endorsement as international critical acclaim would; thus, making this option supportive but not the most strengthening. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) The fact that other Hawaiian artists also utilize ancient weaving techniques but have not reached Marzan's level of recognition implies that there is something distinct about Marzan's art. This option suggests a comparative distinction but does not directly support the argument concerning his blending of techniques. It points to a difference in outcome rather than skill. Without specific information on how Marzan's blending of techniques compares to others', this option does not offer the strongest support for the argument about the uniqueness of his skill. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Marzan's dedication to studying and preserving weaving techniques demonstrates a commitment to the craft and an understanding of its historical aspects. However, the argument is about Marzan's ability to innovate by combining these ancient techniques with contemporary styles. Commitment and study show respect for tradition but do not inherently validate the innovative fusion with contemporary art. Therefore, while this option is indicative of a deep respect for the craft, it does not directly strengthen the argument about the unique blending of ancient and modern. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Global critical acclaim specifically for the ability to authentically blend traditional and contemporary art forms directly supports the argument presented in the passage. When art critics from around the world, who likely have varied tastes and standards, unite in their praise for Marzan's skill in this fusion, it reinforces the claim of uniqueness and international relevance. This external, diverse validation is precisely what the argument centers on, making this statement the most potent in strengthening the claim about Marzan's unique blending of ancient and modern techniques. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

SECTION - B : CURRENT AFFAIRS, INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

25. (b) The theme of World AIDS Day 2023 is 'Let communities lead,' highlighting the fact that programs and initiatives perform better when driven by the most impacted communities.
26. (c) On 1st December, the European Parliament, under the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the

- European Union is hosting a commemorative act on Ending AIDS in Europe, with the theme "HIV and Human Rights: political action to achieve zero stigma". Dr Hans Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe will join Dr Mónica García, Minister of Health of Spain, Christine Steglitz, UNAIDS Deputy Executive Director and other global leaders, to speak about the power of community-led responses and to advance on the agenda to eliminate all forms of stigma and discrimination associated to HIV in order to eliminate AIDS as a public health problem by 2030.
27. (d) On 1st December, the European Parliament, under the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the European Union is hosting a commemorative act on Ending AIDS in Europe, with the theme "HIV and Human Rights: political action to achieve zero stigma". Dr Hans Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe will join Dr Mónica García, Minister of Health of Spain, Christine Steglitz, UNAIDS Deputy Executive Director and other global leaders, to speak about the power of community-led responses and to advance on the agenda to eliminate all forms of stigma and discrimination associated to HIV in order to eliminate AIDS as a public health problem by 2030.
 28. (b) Geneva is a city in Switzerland that lies at the southern tip of expansive Lac Léman (Lake Geneva). Surrounded by the Alps and Jura mountains, the city has views of dramatic Mont Blanc Headquarters of Europe's United Nations and the Red Cross, it's a global hub for diplomacy and banking. French influence is widespread, from the language to gastronomy and bohemian districts like Carouge.
 29. (c) On the occasion of World AIDS Day 2023, themed "Let communities lead," it is imperative to reflect on India's journey in combating the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Since its first recorded HIV case in 1986, India has seen a substantial decrease in new infections, a testament to its robust public health strategies.
 30. (b) The 22nd edition of the International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa (ICASA 2023) in Harare, Zimbabwe in December 2023 represents a tremendous opportunity to highlight the diverse nature of the African region's HIV epidemic and the unique response to it.
 31. (b) Sivasankari is the 32nd recipient of the award, joining a pantheon of writers over the years. The selection follows a rigorous three-tier process leading up to a final decision by Chayan Prakash currently headed by former Supreme Court judge, Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri.
 32. (b) The director of the KK Birla Foundation, Dr Suresh Rituparna, shared a vote of thanks while concluding the event. The K.K. Birla Foundation was established in 1991 by Krishna Kumar Birla in Delhi. Its mission is to

- promote literature (especially Hindi literature) and the arts, as well as education and social work. Saraswati Samman a literary recognition given annually by the KK Birla Foundation. Saraswati Samman carries a cash award of 15 lakh rupees, a citation and a plaque. Besides the Saraswati Samman, two other awards have been instituted by the KK Birla Foundation.
33. (b) Plaque, citation, and a cash prize of ₹15 lakh The Saraswati Samman, instituted by the KK Birla Foundation, carries a plaque, a citation, and a cash prize of ₹15 lakh. Sivasankari is the 32nd recipient of the award, joining a pantheon of writers over the years.
 34. (d) Marathi writer Sharankumar Limbale won Saraswati Samman in 2020 for his book Sanatan. Apart from the Saraswati Samman, the KK Birla Foundation has also established two other literary awards: the Bihari Puraskar and the Vyas Samman. Saraswati Samman award is one of the most esteemed recognitions in Indian literature, and comes with a cash prize of Rs 15 lakh, a plaque, and a citation.
 35. (d) The Saraswati Samman, given annually for outstanding literary works in 22 Indian languages in the last 10 years, is among the highest recognitions in the field of Indian literature. Besides the Saraswati Samman, the Vyas Samman and the Bihari Puraskar are other literary awards instituted by the foundation.
 36. (b) The KK Birla Foundation founded the annual Vyas Samman in 1991, which is awarded to a superb piece of Hindi literature authored by an Indian citizen and published within the previous ten years.
 37. (b) Towards this objective, using technology to aid smart policing and safety management, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) approved Rs. 3080.16 for Safe City projects implementation in phase I in eight cities – Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai.
 38. (b) Ajay Mishra Teni is a politician and a Member of Parliament in the 17th Lok Sabha. He is the current Minister of State in Ministry of Home affairs, Government of India. He represents the Kheri constituency of Uttar Pradesh and is a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party political party.
 39. (b) The cost of the projects is shared between the Central Government and the concerned States in 60:40 ratio. The Safe City Project in Delhi is fully funded by the Central Government. The criteria for selection of next batch of cities for the project have not been decided. This was stated by the Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Hansraj Gangaram Abir in a written reply to question in the Lok Sabha today.
 40. (d) As of 2023, Indore, a city in India, holds the title of cleanest city of India by maintaining high standards of cleanliness and sanitation, as confirmed by the annual Swachh Survekshan research.

41. (b) There has been extensive research on the value of closed-circuit television (CCTV) for preventing crime, but little on its value as an investigative tool. Recently, the Uttar Pradesh government launched the Safe City Project, instructing 17 municipal corporations and 2,500 schools in Gautam Buddha Nagar to install CCTV cameras. Of these, CCTVs are being installed in 1,692 schools, with ongoing efforts for the remaining schools.
42. (d) Kolkata emerged as the safest city in India for the third consecutive year, recording the least number of cognisable offences per lakh population among metropolises, a report published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) said. The eastern metropolis, which reported 86.5 cases of cognisable offences per lakh people in 2022, was followed by Pune (280.7) and Hyderabad (299.2), the NCRB data stated.
43. (c) It is also called the 'Festival of Festivals'. Organized by the State Tourism and Art & Culture Departments, Hornbill Festival showcases a mélange of cultural displays under one roof. This festival usually takes place between the 1st and the 10th of December every year in Kohima.
44. (b) Shri. La Ganesan is the 31st Governor of Nagaland on February 20th 2023. Mr. Ganesan succeeded Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, the Governor of Assam, who was holding additional charge of Nagaland from September 2021 to February 14 2023.
45. (c) The festival that began in 2000 is named after the hornbill, a culturally significant bird that symbolises fidelity, beauty and grace in Naga folklore and ritual. The event includes an exhibition of crafts and handloom products, and a food festival featuring Naga cuisine.
46. (d) Tucked away in India's North-East lies Nagaland, the stage for a thrilling 10-day festival high up in the mountains. In the first week of December the State's 16 major tribes come together to celebrate their culture, heritage, and traditions in a vibrant tapestry of colourful costumes, pulsating rhythm, and musical stories at the Hornbill Festival held at the heritage village of Kisama, 12 kilometres from the capital, Kohima.
47. (c) Gangapuram Kishan Reddy is an Indian politician who is currently serving as Minister of Tourism, Culture and Development of North Eastern Region of India. He is a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party since 1980. He is an MP representing Sundernabad since 2019.
48. (c) Mimkutis the harvest festival of the Kukis. Kukis of Nagaland celebrate this festival on the 17th Kuki month of Tolbol (January) every year. The celebration lasts one week. Besides Mimkut, Kukis celebrate Chapphou Kut and Chavang Kut as well as other smaller festivals.
49. (c) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has approved a path breaking "Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023 to enable and empower the Central

Bureau of Communication which is the advertising wing of the Government of India to undertake campaigns in the Digital Media Space.

50. (c) Recently, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has approved the Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023 to enable and empower the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) to undertake campaigns in the Digital Media space.
51. (c) According to TRAI's Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators January-March 2023, the internet penetration in India was more than 880 million, and the number of telecom subscribers was over 1.172 million.
52. (c) The CBC's Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023, introduces competitive bidding for rate discovery, ensuring transparency and efficiency. Rates discovered through this process will remain valid for three years and will be applicable to all eligible agencies.
53. (c) Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) was set up on 8th December, 2017 by integration of erstwhile Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), Directorate of Field Publicity (DFP) and Song & Drama Division (S&DD). Manish Desai is the current Director General of Central Bureau of Communication (CBC).
54. (d) Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) is a unit of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, that has the mandate of providing 360 degree communication solutions to Ministries, Departments, Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), and autonomous bodies. It was set up on 8th December 2017 by the integration of the erstwhile Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), Directorate of Field Publicity (DFP), and Song & Drama Division (S&DD). With 23 Regional Offices (ROs) and 148 Field Offices (FOs), CBC is engaged in the process of educating people, both rural and urban, about the Government's policies and programmes to evoke their participation in developmental activities.

SECTION - C: LEGAL REASONING

55. (b) Option (b) is correct, as A was a minor when he entered into the contract, thus was not competent to enter into the contract in the first place thus the contract cannot be enforced on him. Option (a) is incorrect, as the reasoning provided is faulty because there cannot be a question of damages before establishing that there was a contract in the first place. Option (c) is incorrect, as apart from having a lawful consideration it is also imperative to note if the parties to the contract have the capacity to actually enter into the contract or not. Here, A was not capable of entering into a contract in the first place the contract cannot be valid. Option (d) is incorrect, as the question is not whether a minor can

- enter into this type of a contract but the question is that whether a contract entered into by a minor is valid or not. Thus the option completely ignores the question asked.
56. (a) Option (a) is correct, as when the contract was entered into X was a minor. The principle laid down in the passage above clearly identifies that a minor cannot enter into a contract thus the contract is not valid. Option (b) is incorrect, as it is immaterial how close the date of attaining majority is, what is essential is what was the age while entering into the contract. Here at the time of entering into the contract X was a minor thus in no capacity to enter into a contract. Option (c) is incorrect, as the statement is a generic statement made without considering the facts of the case. The contract comes into effect from the date it is entered into unless otherwise held in the contract. Here the said date is when X had not attained majority, which makes the contract void. Option (d) is incorrect, as attaining of majority is calculated from biological age. The idea that mental age is to be checked is not based on any legal reasoning.
57. (c) Option (c) is correct, as a minor cannot enter into a contract and thus, no contractual obligation arise in the first place. Option (a) and (b) are incorrect, as in order for there to be contractual obligations first there needs to be a valid contract. The same is not present in the current scenario as the contract was made with a minor and is void. Option (d) is incorrect, as the reasoning is merely a generic statement which is not based on the legal principles stated in the passage above.
58. (d) Option (d) is correct, as a person who is intoxicated is deemed to be a person of unsound mind, thus the same is not in a capacity to enter into an agreement. This makes an agreement which came into being void. Option (a) is incorrect, as when the transaction was made K was not of sound mind and thus the transaction made would not be valid. Option (b) is incorrect, as the question of consideration comes when it is established that there existed a contract in the first place. Here, because K was of unsound mind when the transaction was made the contract itself is void. Option (c) is incorrect, as the option is ignorant of the principles set out in the passage above and only makes a generic statement which is not relevant to the question.
59. (b) Option (b) is correct, as at the time of giving consent for marriage X was not of sound mind as she was unconscious. Thus, a contract formed in such a state would be void.
Option (a) is incorrect, as when the consent was obtained X was not of sound mind thus the consent given her would not be valid rendering the whole contract to be void. Option (c) and (d) are incorrect, as the reasonings stated are mere generic statements that have no correlation with the question or the principles set above.

60. (d) Option (a) is incorrect as her beating her dog is an offence under Section 11 no matter why she was doing it, option (b) is incorrect as even if she is the owner she is torturing her dog and hence will be held liable, option (c) is incorrect as it does not matter whether the dog misbehaves after that or not, she has committed cruelty towards her pet. Hence option (d) is the only correct option as under section 11 a pet owner will be held liable for beating or torturing their pet.
61. (a) Option (b) is incorrect as they never stopped to child from beating and torturing the pet even if they did they did not take proper measure to insure the safety of the pet, option (c) is incorrect as even if the child was young they as parents were silent to the whole ordeal and hence will be equally liable for cruelty, option (d) is incorrect as under section 11 an owner will be held liable for torturing their pet. Hence option (a) is the only correct option as everything done by the child amounts to cruelty towards the pet and as parents they will be held liable for these actions.
62. (d) Option (a) is incorrect as the owner can be held liable for cruelty towards its pet if he uses the animal for entertainment purposes, option (b) is incorrect as using the animal as means to entertain guest itself amounts to cruelty, option (c) is partially correct the poor animal was not only caged but was used a prop to entertain people and hence this amounts to cruelty. Hence option (d) is the only correct option as per the provisions laid by the government use of any animals for entertainment purpose amounts to cruelty.
63. (c) Option (a) is incorrect as it is not stated in the facts whether or not she was exhibiting such behaviour towards her pet, option (b) is incorrect as training a pet in a way that is acceptable and teaching them some habits does not amount to using them for entertainment purpose, option (d) is incorrect as it cannot be inferred from the facts given whether she was using her pet for commercial purpose or not. Hence option (c) is the only correct option as she was owner who took good care of her pet not torturing her or beating her hence it cannot be said that she is liable for cruelty.
64. (a) Option (b) is incorrect as the owner of the pet can be said to be in both situation whether they have bought the dog or adopted the dog, option (c) is incorrect as she was training the dog to help her out, it is the duty of a pet who has been brought to provide emotional support, option (d) is incorrect as it cannot be inferred from the facts. Hence option (a) is the correct option as she had adopted and was training the dog for bonafide cause which are exempted from the ambit of cruelty.
65. (c) Option (a) is incorrect as no matter whether the article stated facts or were fabricated it led to marginalisation of one particular community and put them in danger, option (b) is incorrect as whether the

- intention was there or not cannot be inferred from the facts but the article did spread hate against the "X" community, option (d) is incorrect as it is contradictory. Hence option (c) is the only correct answer as the article by Harish spread hate and disharmony among the communities in India and incited violence.
66. (a) Option (b) is incorrect as the statements made by Prerna may lead to marginalisation of the community as it incited hatred, option (c) is incorrect as it cannot be inferred from the facts stated above, option (d) is incorrect as the statement is made to incite hatred against the community and the fear cannot be said to be irrational. Hence option (a) is the only correct option as the statement made by Prerna causes hatred towards a particular group of people and may lead to violent actions against them.
67. (d) Option (a) is incorrect as the rumours even though incited hate against Shyam, hate speech cannot be made against a particular person but against a particular group of people, option (b) is incorrect as whether the rumours incited violence or not cannot be inferred from the facts, option (c) is incorrect as even though the rumours failed to incite violence against Shyam, hate speech is made against a particular group of people and not a particular person. Hence option (d) is correct as the rumours targeted one single person it cannot be categorised as hate speech, as according to the passage "*Hate speech generally is an incitement to hatred primarily against a group of persons defined in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief and the like. Thus, hate speech is any word written or spoken, signs, visible representations within the hearing or sight of a person with the intention to cause fear or alarm, or incitement to violence.*"
68. (b) Option (a) is incorrect as even though Parth was not the one who wrote the journal he was the one who posted it on the portal, though this will not be categorised as hate speech as it did not target a particular group of people, option (c) is incorrect as though the post incited violence it was not against a particular group of people but one person, option (d) is incorrect as the post cannot be categorised as hate speech as it incited hatred towards Rini only and not a particular group of people. Hence option (b) is the only correct answer as hate speech according to the passage is any written or spoken word that incited violence and created hatred towards a particular group of people defined in terms of religious belief, sexual orientation etc.
69. (a) Option (b) is incorrect as the article is written targeting a particular person, option (c) is incorrect as articles written against government is not categorised as hate speech, option (d) is incorrect as article written against a professor cannot be said to be hate speech. Hence option (a) is the only correct

- answer as the articles incites and creates violence against a particular group of people defined in terms of sexual orientation.
70. (b) The correct answer option is B because the passage says that Only where the pregnancy's continuation will endanger the pregnant woman's life, cause grave harm to her mental or physical health (including rape and refusal to utilize birth control), or result in foetal abnormalities it is permissible to terminate the pregnancy and so, this is the correct answer.
Option A is not correct because the state does not charge the parents with anything they rather take care of the born child and give them the feasible facilities.
Option C is not correct because that is certainly not correct, the passage gives several other categories for which termination of pregnancy is allowed.
Option D is not correct because that is also allowed as the passage mentions or result in foetal abnormalities it is permissible to terminate the pregnancy.
71. (d) The correct answer option is D because the grounds used by her are not fit under the medical termination of pregnancy act and so, she will be held liable, and so she would not be left to go.
Option A is not correct because depression is not a viable criterion to terminate pregnancy.
Option B is not correct because that is not the only ground on which termination of pregnancy can be done, there are other grounds too.
Option C is not the correct answer because depression is not a ground that is said to be a fit ground to terminate the pregnancy the passage says would include rape survivors, incest victims, and other vulnerable women (such as differently-abled women, minors), among others. Only where the pregnancy's continuation will endanger the pregnant woman's life, cause grave harm to her mental or physical health (including rape and refusal to utilize birth control), or result in foetal abnormalities it is permissible to terminate the pregnancy. Termination is also permitted at any time during the pregnancy if it is necessary to save the life of the woman concerned.
72. (c) The correct answer option is C because when she did terminate the pregnancy she was not aware that there were foetal abnormalities and so, this would still be an illegal termination.
Option A is not correct because she would still be held liable and the question asks us whether our answer would change.
Option B is not correct because when she did terminate the pregnancy she was not aware that there were foetal abnormalities and so, she did not have legal reasons.
Option D is not correct because again she did not know the child had abnormalities when she terminated the pregnancy.

73. (a) The correct answer option is A because that counts as incest and the passage mentions that The Amendment raises the upper gestation limit from 20 to 24 weeks for particular groups of women, which would be described in the MTPA 2021 and would include rape survivors, incest victims, and other vulnerable women (such as differently-abled women, minors), among others.
- Option B is not correct because the married status of a woman is not important to terminate pregnancy, even unmarried women as well as married women can get their pregnancy terminated.
- Option C is not correct because if the doctor refuses to terminate the pregnancy, then the court cannot take the option to allow it.
- Option D is not correct because the societal pressure on the woman to keep the baby because she is the only one who can take the generation further is not important.
74. (a) The correct answer is option A because mentally insane is a ground to allow the termination of pregnancy.
- Option B is not correct because saying that the court knows the best for every citizen is vague and inappropriate.
- Option C is not correct because though extramarital affair is not a ground to allow termination of pregnancy, that is not the ground here, she had become insane and so, that is a ground suitable.
- Option D is not correct because though her choice would be respected, still she was insane and not fit to take care of the baby, so the termination is allowed.
75. (b) Option B is correct. The passage clearly mentions that for the application of restitution of conjugal rights, it is important that the persons involved in the petition are married. It is a remedy in law available only to the married couples. The situation makes no mention if they were married or not even if they had a baby, it is no guarantee that the baby was born out of legal wedlock. Hence, Options C is not correct.
- Option A provides a statement with a condition that A will succeed if he prove that the other spouse has, without reasonable excuse, withdrawn from his society, but the passage does not talk about it.
- Option D is incorrect as it is contradictory.
76. (b) Option B is correct as it is mentioned in the passage that the court will consider all situations where it can be established that why the other person should not be ordered to get back into the company of his or her house and if no such legal or valid ground exist, will order for restitution of conjugal rights. In the present instance it has been mentioned that husband and wife were not having cordial terms and as a consequence physical fights were common between them, hence the wife left his company. Therefore option A is incorrect as the right of restitution of conjugal right is available to both husband and wife. Option C is incorrect as it is the husband who wants

- his wife to come back and hence he will apply for such a right, as per the information given in the passage. Option D is incorrect as it is against the principle mentioned in the first two paragraphs of the passage.
77. (b) Option B is correct as it is mentioned in the passage that the law was repealed in England and hence the right of restitution of conjugal rights is not available to anyone in that country. Option A is incorrect as it is out of context and it is not an international right as per the passage. Option C and D are incorrect as it is nowhere mentioned in the passage that any spouse can approach the court for this right only when the application for divorce has been filed but instead it has been mentioned that the applications of this right are usual practice when the other spouse applies for divorce, though it can be requested before the court in a lot many circumstances.
78. (c) Option C is correct as it can be reasonable ascertained from the passage that Restitution of Conjugal Right only during the period when the marriage persists. After the marriage is dissolved, in the present case it has been mutual, the wife could have applied for seeking maintenance but as the marriage is no more there, the restitution of conjugal rights cannot be granted by the law or the court.
- Option A is incorrect partly with reference to the situation. Indian law requires the divorced husband to maintain his ex-wife till a certain period of time but it is not covered under Restitution of Conjugal Rights. Option B is incorrect as already explained above. Option D is incorrect as it is mere suggestion and not relevant as per the passage.
79. (b) Option B is correct as it is mentioned in the last part of the passage that marital rape is not an offence in India and hence this right comes down heavily upon them. Option A is out of context. Option C is incorrect and also out of context. Indian Constitution has a special provision which mandates the legislature to make special laws for women. Option D is also out of context and cannot be justified based on the information given in the passage.
80. (d) Option D is the correct answer because the passage states that to implement any international agreement, there can be surpassing of List II of the Seventh Schedule by the Parliament as per Article 253 of the Constitution. But it also states that the Parliament cannot override the fundamental rights stated in part III of the Constitution of India. Therefore, Option D is the correct answer. Option A is incorrect because List II has been specifically stated in Article 253 to be overriding the other provisions of the chapter which contain List II. Option B is incorrect because Union List or List I is within the legislative power of the Union Parliament. Therefore, it can make laws using or surpassing any such subject in List I. Option C is incorrect because List III has not been mentioned in

- the passage despite it being part of concurrent list of the Constitution.
81. (d) Option D is the correct answer because as per the passage, under Article 253, Parliament has power to make any law for the whole or any part of the territory of India for implementing treaty, agreement, or convention with any other country or countries or any decision made at any international conference, association or other body. It can make laws on List I and II of the seventh schedule. In this factual situation, the law was made by the state legislature on the Union list subject which makes it unconstitutional according to Article 253. Option A is incorrect because such a law needs to be made by Parliament under Article 253, not the state legislature. Option B is incorrect because the passage states about the seventh schedule, not eighth schedule. Option C is incorrect because the law under Article 253 can be for part of territory of India or whole of India.
82. (d) Option D is the correct answer because the passage states that "the Union Government by Legislation under Article 253 cannot override Fundamental Rights included in Part III." In this factual situation, there can be an objection in the form of the law being overriding or contravening any fundamental right (of equality or other wise). Option A is incorrect because Article 253 gives the power to Parliament to override the state's power to exclusively make laws under List II in the seventh schedule. Option B is incorrect because the passage does not mention about List III of the Constitution; it being the concurrent list. Option C is incorrect because Article 253 gives express permission to Parliament to implement international treaties and conventions without it being considered an infringement on the sovereignty.
83. (d) Option D is the correct answer because as per the passage, under Article 253, Parliament has power to make any law for the whole or any part of the territory of India for implementing treaty, agreement, or convention with any other country or countries or any decision made at any international conference, association or other body. It can make laws on List I and II of the seventh schedule. In this factual situation, the law was made on a state subject and there is overriding power given to the Parliament under Article 253 to surpass the power of the state for exclusively making laws under List II. Option A is incorrect because the Article mentions that laws can be made to give effect to any treaty with any other country or countries. The mention of the country in singular makes a bilateral treaty to be within its ambit. Option B is incorrect because the power to enact a law under List II comes from Article 253, not under the seventh schedule. The seventh schedule gives specific power to the state to enact law on any subject under List II. Option C is incorrect because Article 253 gives such

SECTION D: LOGICAL REASONING

84. (b) Option B is the correct answer because the passage mentions that the law-making power given to the Parliament under Article 253 is not temporary in nature. This indicates its permanent nature. Hence, its non-permanency cannot be inferred from the passage. Option A is incorrect because the passage mentions that treaty-making is an aspect of external sovereignty and therefore, if there is treaty made with other nation(s), then external sovereignty is restricted as India must follow certain rules stated in the treaty. Option C is not correct because the passage mentions acquiring of territory to be an aspect of external sovereignty. Therefore, any territory acquired would be included in the power given under external sovereignty. Option D is incorrect because the "notwithstanding" clause is given to override the part in which various lists are contained along with Article 253; the power does not extend to overriding the whole of the Constitution, only the specific part in which Article 253 is contained.
85. (b) In the first few lines, the author states that the steps by some clubs have put European football in turmoil. The author also criticizes clubs for ignoring fans. Option (a) is incomplete idea. Option (c) is simply an opinion stated by the author. Option (d) is unrelated to the purpose of the author. Hence, option (b) is correct.
86. (c) Option (c) is correct because the Super League's stake holders will be the club that play in the league. Other options show business models that are not relevant to Super League. Hence, option (c) is correct.
87. (b) Option (b) is the answer as it contradicts the position stated in the passage. Option (a) can be inferred as Super leagues will allow some teams to play no matter what, undermining the importance of domestic leagues. Option (d) can be inferred from the explanation of option (a). Option (c) can be inferred from the second paragraph. Hence, option (b) is correct.
88. (b) This is the main argument of the author that the Super League is going to sacrifice the sporting merit of the game. Option (a) is incorrect. We cannot infer this as this is simply an opinion by the author. Option (c) is opposite to what can be inferred from the passage. Option (d) is going against the idea stated in the passage. Hence, option (b) is correct.
89. (b) The author is against the idea stated in the passage. Hence, we can eliminate appreciative, objective, and optimistic. Hence, option (b) is correct.
90. (b) We can say that allegations of being under paid are admissible only if it is unlawful to under pay someone. Options (a) & (b) are stated as possibilities in the passage; we can't be sure about them. Option (d) is out of scope. Hence, option (b) is correct.

91. (b) We cannot infer that India has a wage rate system as is inferred in the passage. Remaining options can be inferred from the passage. Hence option (b).
92. (a) One of the charges against BAPS authorities were that they misused R-1 visas. This can be called unethical if info in option (a) is true. Hence, option (a).
93. (c) A tabloid is a kind of a newspaper. The article above is a news report not an editorial because the author does not present his views. We can eliminate options (a), (b), and (c). Hence, option (c).
94. (c) C is the right answer. The author begins his argument by referring to warning emails sent by Apple to the leaders of opposition in India and likens this incident with a similar past event where the government used spyware to keep a check on opposition leaders and members from press. The author then states that these repeated allegations need independent examination. A is incorrect because it is generalized in nature. Not all iPhone users are being attacked using a spyware. B is incorrect because the author doesn't claim that Indian government was involved. Instead, he/she simply claims that there should be some independent investigation. D is incorrect because it is too extreme. With attacks on members from press and opposition leaders using a spyware, there may be attacks on democratic institutions, but they are not at the verge of a collapse. Hence, option C.
95. (d) D is the right answer. It is clearly given at the end of the first paragraph "Unlike the Indian government's lackadaisical and dismissive approach towards the NSO group and its products, other governments in the West implemented stringent steps following the disclosures on spyware use." A is incorrect because this cannot be inferred from the passage. Just because the Supreme Court conducted an enquiry against the government, it cannot be said that only the Supreme Court had the power to compel the Union Government. B is incorrect as just because these government implemented strict measures, it doesn't mean they accepted that they bought Pegasus. C is incorrect because it is too extreme. If the software were ineffective, Apple would not release its fix. So, D is the right answer.
96. (b) B is the right answer. The argument of the author – the allegations that spyware was used to target members of the opposition and press should be thoroughly investigated – get strengthened if it were known that only those people were targeted criticized the government. This proves that apple's warning was right. A is incorrect as it weakens the argument. C is incorrect because this tries to justify the surveillance, thereby weakening the author's argument. D is incorrect because investigation by the government doesn't mean the allegations are correct. The allegation may prove incorrect after investigation. Hence, option B.
97. (c) C is the right answer. If the speaker knew that reiteration would have no impact on listener, he/she would not reiterate. So, II is true. I is also an assumption because when author is reiterating, he/she assumes that people have not taken the warning seriously. So, C is the right answer.
98. (d) D is the right answer. Although Apple has not mentioned any specific reason, it can be understood it wants to protect its strategy. Unveiling the mechanism might let attackers get away easily. A is incorrect because this is completely out of scope. B is incorrect because replication of the mechanism by other companies might not be an issue. C is incorrect because if attackers were not impacted, then apple would reveal its strategy. Hence, option D.
99. (b) B is the right answer. A is incorrect because we don't know why Apple didn't accuse any specific sector; was it due to lack of information or some other reason. B is the right answer because this is closely aligned with his/her argument. C is incorrect because nothing is mentioned in the passage about importance of opposition and press members. D is incorrect as it cannot be said that the role of the Supreme Court will be diminished as it could not conclusively identify about the use of spyware. Hence, option B.
100. (d) Option D is the right answer. The primary idea is mentioned towards the end of the passage where it is stated that policymakers have their task cut out to surmount the twin challenges of slowing growth and persistent inflation. A is incorrect because asking companies directly to add staff is not a viable solution because there is no demand in the market and this might hurt their finances. B is incorrect because this option is partially not correct. There is no problem with collecting more data points but nowhere the author says that existing data points reveal incorrect picture. C is incorrect because this is not the suggestion of author as the author emphasizes taking corrective measures to stimulate demand. Hence, D.
101. (b) B is the right answer. The argument is that inflation expectations led to decrease in demand. B strengthens the argument by saying that the spending ability falls during the inflation. A is incorrect because this weakens the argument by saying that demand will rise during inflation because wages rise in proportion to inflation. C is incorrect because this again weakens the argument by saying that inflation is good for the economy. D is incorrect because this is not related to the argument.
102. (b) B is the right answer. This argument can be seen towards the end of the passage. A is incorrect because the author nowhere claims that the economy is resilient. In fact the author shows concern and suggests that the government take some measures. C is incorrect because this is extreme. D is incorrect because of the same reason as option A. Hence, B.

103. (c) C is the right answer. This can be inferred from the lines "Heavy rains in the final month of the southwest monsoon season, which resulted in 13% surplus precipitation for September, also likely contributed to dampening demand and output for cement, electricity and steel, all of which saw significant slowing in growth from double-digit paces in August." A is incorrect because this is other data points as well, but the index is made up of key points, and other data points are not discussed as much as these key data points. B is incorrect because its opposite is given. D is incorrect because it may be possible that the remaining companies are either not adding i.e. keeping the workforce constant or reducing the workforce. So, nothing can be surely said about it.
104. (c) C is the right answer. When author say that only 4% of the companies are adding workforce, this means the author has assumed that job creation happens when companies add staff. A is incorrect because this weakens the argument. B is incorrect because otherwise. D is incorrect because we are not sure if the remaining 96% companies reduced their workforce of kept it stagnant. Hence, C.
105. (c) Option C is the right answer. India did not vote, but it still recorded its reason for it while France voted and also recorded its reason in explanation of vote. This shows that countries every country has to record its explanation of vote. This can be inferred from the lines "Alternatively, India could have voted for the motion, while recording in its Explanation of Vote (EoV) that it regretted the omissions of the specific references to the October 7 attacks, which is what France did." Option A is incorrect because it is clearly mentioned in the lines "The resolution at the emergency special session entitled "Protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations" does include a paragraph "condemning all acts of violence aimed at Palestinian and Israeli civilians, including all acts of terrorism and indiscriminate attacks". B is incorrect because France was also concerned about no clear mention of Hamas, but it voted and explained its position in it EoV. The author also suggested that India could have gone the France's way for highlighting its concern. D is incorrect because it is given that 120 countries voted, but nothing is mentioned on which side these countries were. Hence, C.
106. (a) A is the right answer as it is not correct as per the passage. India abstained from a vote on a ceasefire in the Israel-Palestine conflict, not the terrorist attack on Israel. B is incorrect as it is true as per the passage. The has author suggested that India should have gone the France's way this shows that even France was worried about no clear mention about the mention of Hamas terrorist attacks on Israel. C is incorrect as it is true as per the passage. This is the reason India has stated for its abstention from vote. D is incorrect as it is true as per the passage. The author's suggestion clearly shows that India had other options at its disposal. Hence, A.
107. (b) B is the right answer. The author clearly seems to be against India's abstention as he suggests that India could have dealt with the matter the way France did. This clearly proves option B. A is incorrect because this option says that Israel made terrorist attacks on Hamas. So, this option is in fact incorrect. C is incorrect because of the two reasons. Firstly, this option is incomplete and secondly, this option is absurd. The UNGA vote was not about conflict between Hamas and Israel, but about ceasefire in Israel-Palestine conflict. D is incorrect because the argument isn't about whose approach was better, but that India shouldn't have abstained from the vote. So, B is the right answer.
108. (a) Option A is the right answer. Since the author suggests that India should have dealt with the matter as France did, this shows that the author considers France approach better than India's, so, the author is going to agree with I. The author criticizes India's approach saying that "India's abstention indicates a shift in the Modi government's stand, seeking a 'safe' position, rather than taking a stand on the violence in Israel and Palestine. This is a departure from India's UNGA vote in 2018 that called for Israel to cease "excessive force" in retaliatory strikes on Gaza at the time, and is more in line with its decision to abstain on votes at the UN in 2021 on resolutions critical of Russia's war in Ukraine." So, the real reason cannot be what is stated in the II. Hence, A is the right answer.

SECTION - E: QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

109. (b) No. of Hindi books = $2500 \times 26/100 = 650$
No. of English books = $2500 \times 1/5 = 500$
No. of Math books = $2500 \times 12/100 = 300$
Remaining books = $2500 - (650 + 500 + 300) = 1050$
Science + 50 = Art
Science books, $2 \times$ Science + 50 = 1050
 \therefore No. of Science books = $1000/2 = 500$
And, No. of Art books = $500 + 50 = 550$
Ratio = $550 : 300 = 11 : 6$
110. (d) No. of Hindi books = $2500 \times 26/100 = 650$
111. (c) No. of Hindi books = $2500 \times 26/100 = 650$
No. of English books = $2500 \times 1/5 = 500$
No. of Math books = $2500 \times 12/100 = 300$
Remaining books = $2500 - (650 + 500 + 300) = 1050$
Science + 50 = Art
Science books, $2 \times$ Science + 50 = 1050
 \therefore No. of Science books = $1000/2 = 500$
112. (e) No. of Hindi books = $2500 \times 26/100 = 650$
No. of English books = $2500 \times 1/5 = 500$
No. of Math books = $2500 \times 12/100 = 300$

Remaining books = $2500 - (650 + 500 + 300) = 1050$

Science + 50 = Art

Science books, $2 \times \text{Science} + 50 = 1050$

\therefore No. of Science books = $1000/2 = 500$

And, No. of Art books = $500 + 50 = 550$

\therefore Required sum = $650 + 550 = 1200$

113. (a) No. of Hindi books = $2500 \times 26/100 = 650$

No. of English books = $2500 \times 1/5 = 500$

No. of Math books = $2500 \times 12/100 = 300$

Remaining books = $2500 - (650 + 500 + 300) = 1050$

Science + 50 = Art

Science books, $2 \times \text{Science} + 50 = 1050$

\therefore No. of Science books = $1000/2 = 500$

And, No. of Art books = $500 + 50 = 550$

\therefore Average = $(650 + 300 + 550)/3 = 1500/3 = 500$

114. (a) No. of Hindi books = $2500 \times 26/100 = 650$

No. of English books = $2500 \times 1/5 = 500$

No. of Math books = $2500 \times 12/100 = 300$

Remaining books = $2500 - (650 + 500 + 300) = 1050$

Science + 50 = Art

Science books, $2 \times \text{Science} + 50 = 1050$

\therefore No. of Science books = $1000/2 = 500$

And, No. of Art books = $500 + 50 = 550$

\therefore Required difference = $550 - 500 = 50$

115. (b) Male players = $300 \times 3/5 = 180$

Female players = $300 \times 2/5 = 120$

Sports	Male	Female
Football	$4/15 \times 180 = 48$	$25/100 \times 120 = 30$
Basketball	$7/11 \times 99 = 63$	$15/100 \times 120 = 18$
Tennis	$4/11 \times 99 = 36$	$5/9 \times 72 = 40$
Hockey	$25/100 \times 132 = 33$	$4/9 \times 72 = 32$

Number of male and female players who play football and tennis together = $48 + 36 + 30 + 40 = 154$

116. (a) Male players = $300 \times 3/5 = 180$

Female players = $300 \times 2/5 = 120$

Number of female players who play football = $120 \times 25/100 = 30$

117. (c) Male players = $300 \times 3/5 = 180$
Female players = $300 \times 2/5 = 120$

Sports	Male	Female
Football	$4/15 \times 180 = 48$	$25/100 \times 120 = 30$
Basketball	$7/11 \times 99 = 63$	$15/100 \times 120 = 18$
Tennis	$4/11 \times 99 = 36$	$5/9 \times 72 = 40$
Hockey	$25/100 \times 132 = 33$	$4/9 \times 72 = 32$

Sum of number of female players who play hockey and number of female players who play tennis = $5/9 \times 72 + 4/9 \times 72 = 40 + 32 = 72$

118. (d) Male players = $300 \times 3/5 = 180$
Female players = $300 \times 2/5 = 120$

Sports	Male	Female
Football	$4/15 \times 180 = 48$	$25/100 \times 120 = 30$
Basketball	$7/11 \times 99 = 63$	$15/100 \times 120 = 18$
Tennis	$4/11 \times 99 = 36$	$5/9 \times 72 = 40$
Hockey	$25/100 \times 132 = 33$	$4/9 \times 72 = 32$

Number of female players who play football and tennis = $30 + 40 = 70$

Number of male players who play football and tennis = $48 + 36 = 84$

Average = $(70 + 84)/2 = 154/2 = 77$

119. (a) Male players = $300 \times 3/5 = 180$
Female players = $300 \times 2/5 = 120$

Sports	Male	Female
Football	$4/15 \times 180 = 48$	$25/100 \times 120 = 30$
Basketball	$7/11 \times 99 = 63$	$15/100 \times 120 = 18$
Tennis	$4/11 \times 99 = 36$	$5/9 \times 72 = 40$
Hockey	$25/100 \times 132 = 33$	$4/9 \times 72 = 32$

Difference = $63 - 40 = 23$

120. (d) Male players = $300 \times 3/5 = 180$
Female players = $300 \times 2/5 = 120$

Sports	Male	Female
Football	$4/15 \times 180 = 48$	$25/100 \times 120 = 30$
Basketball	$7/11 \times 99 = 63$	$15/100 \times 120 = 18$
Tennis	$4/11 \times 99 = 36$	$5/9 \times 72 = 40$
Hockey	$25/100 \times 132 = 33$	$4/9 \times 72 = 32$

Required percentage = $(36 - 32)/32 \times 100 = 12.5\%$