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Section A-English**1. Ans: b**

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage states this in the first paragraph using the example of the year 2021-2022, against the projection of an Rs 450 crore surplus, there was actually a deficit of Rs 197.72 crore, which means that there is a cause for concern when there is an actual deficit as against the organisation's projection of a surplus. Hence (b).

2. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage explains the report, as reported in this paper, the Central Board of Trustees of the EPFO have been instructed not to declare the interest rate beginning from the ongoing financial year without the consent of the finance ministry, and to also examine the high interest rates announced by the organisation. Although option (b) explains the report but, does not include the deduction of the report, option (c) is incorrect as it cannot be deduced by the passage. Option (d) is incorrect because it is not stated with the context of the report of finance ministry. Hence (a).

3. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage states in the second paragraph that the shift in portfolio allocation would involve a change in the risk-reward profile of investments, and thus requires serious consideration. 'As a sizeable share of the funds with the organisation are allocated towards government/debt securities, paying its contributing members a higher rate-the 10-year G Sec yield is currently hovering around 7.1 per cent - would entail investing in higher interest yielding bonds or increasing the allocation towards equities. This shift in portfolio allocation would involve a change in the risk-reward profile of investments, and thus requires serious consideration. The EPFO's past investments in higher yielding securities of companies such as IL & FS, Dewan Housing Finance Corporation and Reliance Capital only highlight the risk this poses, and the need for carefully accessing such options'. This statement point to word the option (a). Hence (a).

4. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage concludes in the last paragraph with remarks given by the author to the EPFO regarding their yearly interest rates, it states, 'it must carefully assess the risk-reward matrix of its investment portfolio, taking care to minimise the risks as it pursues greater returns, while also aligning the interest rate with the broader market realities. Hence (d).

5. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage clearly states that, as a sizeable share of the funds with the organisation are allocated towards government/debt securities, paying its contributing members a higher rate-the 10-year G Sec yield is currently hovering around 7.1 per cent - would entail investing in higher interest yielding bonds or increasing the allocation towards equities. Hence (c).

6. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage states that South Asians have been among the communities that have benefited from affirmative action, the push for diversity and America's larger reckoning with ideas of social justice. This statement reflects the sense of relief from the discrimination that South Asians are feeling after the amendment in the law. Hence (b)

7. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The introduction of the passage mentions the amendment of the caste-discrimination law stating, the California legislature passed SB-403, which amends extant disability legislation to make "ancestry" and caste-based discrimination illegal. It is the first US state to do so. While no form of discrimination-especially one as complex as caste-can be legislated away, the law is certainly a step forward. Hence (c).

8. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage mentions that, many Indian-Americans carry their culture, religion and beliefs with them. Most may even want to discard the burden of caste in "the land of the free". This means that the

people, who do not want to be counted in a religion or a caste are free to live with the same respect in the US. Hence (d).

9. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage states in the second half of the last paragraph about the religious traditions in India, Hinduism being the dominant religion stating, like every religious tradition, Hinduism has its warts-the treatment of the so-called "lower castes" has been chief among them. In India, attempts have been made to address them through reservation, broader conversations and stringent anti-discrimination laws. Including the SC/ST Atrocities Act. Option (d) is not a part of these attempts. Hence (d).

10. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The term is used to convey the idea of recognising or being aware of caste discrimination. The passage mentions that universities, the Democratic Party and now, California legislature have taken 'cognisance of caste' indicates that they have become aware of and have recognised the issue leading to legislative actions against caste leased discrimination. The actual meaning of the word "cognisance" is detailed knowledge or understanding of something. Hence (b)

11. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage mentions the different developed economies fighting against the inflation. It also states that with inflation still above their target, central banks have left open the possibility of further hikes when they meet next in September. However, there are indications that the interest rate hike cycle is nearing its end. Hence (b).

12. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The European economy is said to be rather slow, although the growth forecast has been positive for France, Italy and Spain, it is still slow in some regions. ECB president Christine Lagarde has said that the bank's governing council has "an open mind" on the decision in September. But, with inflation still way above the targets of central banks, it does suggest that interest rates are likely to stay higher for longer. Hence (d).

13. Ans: c

Sol: Option(c) is correct. In the last paragraph, the passage talks about inflation in India, that that there are indications that the hardening of food prices, vegetables in particular, will have pushed up headline inflation significantly in July. The RBI's own forecasts expect inflation to edge upwards in the second quarter. This indicates option (c). Hence (c).

14. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. As the conclusion of the passage describes the condition of India during inflation, the author is concerned about the upcoming quarter wherein the inflation is expected to rise. 'The RBI's own forecasts expect inflation to edge upwards in the second quarter. In this uncertain environment, the MPC, which is slated to meet in the second week of August, should continue to focus on price stability.' The author has shown concern and also suggested that the MPC should continue to focus on price stability. Hence (c).

15. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. As the passage concludes with stating that the hardening of food prices, vegetables in particular, will have pushed up headline inflation significantly in July. The RBI's own forecasts expect inflation to edge upwards in the second quarter. In this uncertain environment, the MPC, which is slated to meet in the second week of August, should continue to focus on price stability. Hence (d).

16. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. As it is stated in the first paragraph of the passage that Singh had justified the ban as a policing tool to counter the spread of "fake news". But by all accounts, the measure had the opposite effect - it checked the flow of accurate information and sharpened polarisation amongst Manipur's warring communities, Kukis and Meiteis. This points to option (d). Hence (d).

17. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage states in the latter half of the first paragraph that the committee of three retired high court judges suggested that the government publish a list of the dead so that their next of kin can be identified, and "if no one comes forward, dispose of the bodies in a respectable manner". This could help bring a modicum of closure to many grieving families. Hence (b).

18. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It is understood from the last few lines of the passage. The author constantly addresses that Manipur desperately needs a healing touch and a government sensitive to reconciling differences. Singh's hardline on the insider-outside divide is inimical to rebuilding trust in the border state. The Centre, which has been seen as soft on the Manipur CM's serial abdications, must push him to accept the SC panel's advice. It must not accede to Singh's proposal to close borders. By this statement, we can infer that the author wants SC to pressurize CM to agree to the advice of SC panel and stop the obstinacy to close borders of the state. Hence (d)

19. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. As the statement given above is the view of author and the contradiction of what CM is looking forward to. He cited porous borders as one of the reasons for "illegal migration and drug trafficking"- two things he has repeatedly blamed for the conflict. Manipur desperately needs a healing touch and a government sensitive to reconciling differences. It is understood that the author is trying to address the issue with the current government with what is desperately required for the state. The rest of the options are established in the passage. Hence (a).

20. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The conclusion of the passage indicates towards the author's concern that the centre must refuse the request made by the CM to close the border. The Centre, which has been seen as soft on the Manipur CM's serial abdications, must push him to accept the SC panel's advice. It must not accede to Singh's proposal to close borders. It implies to the option (b). Hence (b).

21. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The author argues that modern Stoicism has become commercialized and primarily focuses on individual well-being, presenting it as a collection of life hacks for overcoming personal challenges. In contrast, ancient Stoicism had a broader philosophical context, emphasizing our interconnectedness and the potential for contributing to the common good. The author highlights the shift from the original Stoic emphasis on being at "at home in the world" to a more self-focused perspective in contemporary Stoicism, particularly in the self-help industry. It is understood from the first paragraph, 'In some ways, Stoicism is well suited to a program of self-improvement. It has always been a sort of athletic training for the soul. Founded in the third century B.C.E. by the Greek philosopher Zeno of Citium and mainly associated today with Roman practitioners like the emperor Marcus Aurelius and the statesman Seneca, Stoicism stresses ethics, virtue and the attainment of that elusive good life.

But today, Stoicism is not so much a philosophy as a collection of life hacks for overcoming anxiety, meditations for curbing anger, exercises for finding stillness and calm — not through "oms" or silent retreats but through discourse that chastens a mind: "The pain isn't due to the thing itself," says Marcus Aurelius, "but to your estimate of it." In this mind-set, the impact of the outer world can fade away as the inner self becomes a sanctuary. The focus narrows to that self — me, isolated from the social structures that support me or bring me down. Hence (a).

22. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The author suggests that while modern Stoicism has become an industry emphasizing self-help, the ancient Stoics, such as Marcus Aurelius, focused on our interconnectedness and the potential to contribute to the common good. The central thesis is that Stoicism should not be reduced to self-interest, as the tools that help individuals find equanimity can also contribute to building a better community. It is understood from the last few lines of the first paragraph and the first two lines of the second paragraph. Hence (d)

23. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Throughout the passage, the author emphasizes that Stoicism, as originally conceived by the ancient Stoics, is not just about self-centered hacks but involves a broader perspective that emphasizes the interconnectedness of individuals and the potential for contributing to the common good. The author highlights the misunderstanding of Stoicism as mere self-help and contrasts it with deeper philosophical aspects that involve a sense of commitment to the well-being of the community. Hence (b)

24. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage emphasizes the idea that Stoicism, when presented as self-help, often focuses on creating a buffer between the outer world and personal reactions, fostering a sense of detachment or indifference. In the context of the passage, the importance for “indifference” would be a term that implies a connection or concern for others, which is captured by the word “empathy”. Unlike indifference, “empathy” involves an active understanding and sharing of the feelings of others. Hence (b)

Section B-Current Affairs with GK**25. Ans: b**

Sol: Article 161 provides that the Governor of a State shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence against any law relating to a matter to which the executive power of the State extends.

26. Ans: c

Sol: There is no statutory written procedure for dealing with mercy petitions, but in practice, after extinguishing all the reliefs in the court of law, either the convict in person or his relative on his behalf may submit a written petition to the President. The petitions are received by the President’s secretariat on behalf of the President, which is then forwarded to the Ministry of Home Affairs for their comments and recommendations.

27. Ans: b

Sol: Commute: To reduce the type of punishment into a less harsh one. For example, Rigorous imprisonment to simple imprisonment. Remission: To reduce the punishment without changing the nature of the punishment. For example, 20 years rigorous imprisonment to 10 years rigorous imprisonment.

28. Ans: a

Sol: Under Section 432 of the CrPC, state governments do have the power to suspend or remit a sentence. But the court noted that Section 7(b) of the law clearly states that the appropriate government is the one in whose jurisdiction the offender is sentenced.

29. Ans: c

Sol: Jail manuals contain rules that allow certain days of remission in every month for good behaviour of convicts. However, convicts serving life sentences are entitled to seek remission only after serving a minimum of 14 years.

30. Ans: b

Sol: The MV Vasily Golovnin, an expedition vessel chartered by India, embarked on its journey to Antarctica for the 43rd ISEA Voyage.

31. Ans: c

Sol: NCPOR is the nodal agency for planning, promotion, coordination and execution of the entire gamut of polar and Southern Ocean scientific research in the country as well as for the associated logistics activities. It was established in 1998.

32. Ans: d

Sol: Indian Antarctic Program (1981)- Under it, research base stations Dakshin Gangotri (1983), Maitri (1988) and Bharati (2012) have been established.

33. Ans: c

Sol: Maitri is India's second permanent research station in Antarctica. It was built and finished in 1989. Maitri is situated on the rocky mountainous region called Schirmacher Oasis. India also built a freshwater lake around Maitri known as Lake Priyadarshini.

34. Ans: c

Sol: Dakshin Gangotri is the first facility of India in Antarctica

35. Ans: c

Sol: Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Union Cabinet has given its approval to the comprehensive scheme named "PRITHvi Vlgyan (PRITHVI)" initiated by the Ministry of Earth Sciences. This scheme is slated for implementation over the period from 2021 to 2026, with an overall budgetary allocation of Rs. 4,797 crores.

36. Ans: a

Sol: PRITHvi Vlgyan (PRITHVI)" encompasses five ongoing sub-schemes namely "Atmosphere & Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems & Services (ACROSS)", "Ocean Services, Modelling Application, Resources and Technology (O-SMART)", "Polar Science and Cryosphere Research (PACER)", "Seismology and Geosciences (SAGE)" and "Research, Education, Training and Outreach (REACHOUT)".

37. Ans: c

Sol: PRITHVI scheme comprehensively addresses the five components of Earth System Sciences: atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere, cryosphere, and biosphere.

38. Ans: c

Sol: SAGE: Seismology and Geosciences: The scheme includes six activities, including seismological monitoring and micro zonation. SAGE aims to strengthen earthquake monitoring and research on the Earth's solid components.

39. Ans: b

Sol: REACHOUT is an umbrella scheme of the following six sub-schemes. Research and Development in Earth System Science (RDESS). Outreach and awareness. Knowledge Resources Center Network (KRCNet). BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate (BCWC). International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOcean). Program for development of skilled workforce in Earth system sciences (DESK).

40. Ans: b

Sol: The International Rhino Foundation (IRF) published the report, State of the Rhino, 2023 which documents current population estimates and trends for the five surviving rhino species in Africa and Asia.

41. Ans: b

Sol: The third Asian Rhino Countries Meeting concluded with the adoption of the Chitwan Declaration for Asian Rhino Conservation, 2023. Decision to increase the population of greater one-horned Rhinos by three per cent annually was taken at the 3rd Asian Rhino Range Countries Meeting held at Chitwan (Nepal).

42. Ans: a

Sol: Five Rhino Range Countries countries - India, Bhutan, Indonesia, Malaysia and Nepal - signed the Chitwan Declaration for Asian Rhinos Conservation (2023) and agreed on managing the population of the greater one-horned Rhinos, Javan and Sumatran Rhinos with the intention of achieving at least 3 per cent annual growth rate in their population.

43. Ans: b

Sol: The Indian rhinoceros also called greater one-horned rhinoceros or great Indian rhinoceros is a rhinoceros species native to the Indian subcontinent. It is the only large mammal species in Asia to be down-listed from endangered to vulnerable in the International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN Red list in 2008.

44. Ans: c

Sol: The Valmiki Tiger Reserve has been selected as a potential site under the National Rhino Conservation Scheme, where rhino from other reserves across the country may be brought in. A committee was set up about two years back to assess the habitat and security conditions in VTR and to suggest measures for the reintroduction of rhinos.

45. Ans: a

Sol: The construction of the Ram Mandir is being supervised by the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust. The trust was set up in 2020 after the Supreme Court's verdict in the Ayodhya land dispute case. It is composed of 15 trustees. Chairperson: Mahant Nriyagopal Das is the chairman of the trust.

46. Ans: b

Sol: The Architectural style of the temple is Nagara style with Sanctum Sanctorum (garbhagriha), Mandaps (halls), and Mandirs. At each corner of the compound will be dedicated to Surya, Bhagwati, Ganesh, Shiv. On the northern and southern arms, temples to Annapurna and Hanuman will be built respectively.

47. Ans: c

Sol: Ayodhya Ram Mandir, a three-story marvel, epitomizes the Nagara style of Hindu temple architecture. It is fusion of modern and traditional Techniques: It incorporates 360 pillars and is made entirely of stone. IIT Chennai has been advising on the construction of the temple.

48. Ans: c

Sol: There are five mandaps (halls) in the Ayodhya temple are Nriyta Mandap, Rang Mandap, Sabha Mandap, Prathana Mandap, and Kirtan Mandap.

49. Ans: b

Sol: The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Raising Day is observed every year on January 19 across India, marking the establishment of this exceptional force. The NDRF operates nationwide under the Ministry of Home Affairs, and the day serves as a commemoration of its distinctive contributions in disaster response and management.

50. Ans: b

Sol: Head of NDRF is designated as Director General (DG). Usually, an IPS Officer is the head of NDRF. Shri Atul Karwal is an IPS officer of 1988 batch, borne on Gujarat cadre is current DG of NDRF.

51. Ans: c

Sol: The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has decided to observe 2024 as the year of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) preparedness and response and will undertake training and exercises to attain better capability to deal with.

52. Ans: c

Sol: National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) It is defined in Section 46 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. It is a fund managed by the Central Government to meet the expenses for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation due to any threatening disaster situation or disaster. It is placed in the "Public Account" of GOI under "reserve funds not bearing interest".

Section C-Legal Reasoning**53. Ans: d**

Sol: In Deccan Paper Mills v. Regency Mahavir Properties, therein this court after referring to all the relevant precedents and the case laws has held that whether it is a suit for cancellation of a deed or **a declaration of rights rising from the deed, it would only be an action in personam and not in rem and hence it is arbitrable**. In the present case, Vidhan has initiated arbitration proceedings for securing (declaring) his rights under the property deed. This is totally arbitrable as per the Deccan Paper Mills judgement. The subject matter for which arbitration is initiated is not involved in matrimonial dispute and hence it is not prohibited under Booz Allen

Hamilton Case. Hence, Option (d) is the correct option and Option (b) is incorrect. Option (a) is incorrect as it is vague. The option does not provide any reason for property/ownership dispute being non-arbitrable. Option (c) is incorrect on two counts. First the divorce petition is filed by both the parties on mutual consent. Thus, technically it cannot be granted in favour of one party. Secondly, the issue of arbitrability is separate from issue of divorce. The arbitration proceedings have been initiated for declaration of rights under the deed. That is perfectly valid as the subject matter is arbitrable. It is not dependent upon the decision by the Court in divorce proceedings.

54. Ans: c

Sol: In Deccan Paper Mills v. Regency Mahavir Properties, therein this court after referring to all the relevant precedents and the case laws has held that whether it is a suit for **cancellation of a deed** or a declaration of rights rising from the deed, **it would only be an action in personam and not in rem and hence it is arbitrable**. In the present case, Vidhan has initiated arbitration proceedings for cancellation of the property deed. This is totally arbitrable as per the Deccan Paper Mills judgement. The subject matter for which arbitration is initiated is not involved in matrimonial dispute and hence it is not prohibited under Booz Allen Hamilton Case. Hence, Option (c) is correct. Option (b) is incorrect as the proceedings does not deal with matrimonial dispute. Option (a) is incorrect as it is vague. The option does not provide any reason for property/ownership dispute being non-arbitrable. Option (d) is incorrect as the present dispute is for cancellation of deed and not for declaration of rights.

55. Ans: b

Sol: It is specifically mentioned in the passage that consumer disputes are not arbitrable and are governed by Consumer Protection Act, 2019. In the instant case, as per the lawyer's advice it is clear that Vidur falls within the definition of a consumer and therefore he has to approach a consumer forum. Dipkart argument that Vidur should go with arbitration as per the arbitration clause is not valid. Option (b) is the correct option.

56. Ans: d

Sol: As per the passage, rights in rem are not arbitrable. Rights in personam are arbitrable. Rights in rem are rights that relate to a specific property and can be enforced against anyone who interferes with that property. On the other hand, rights in personam are rights that relate to a specific person and can only be enforced against that person.

In the present question, the disputes as mentioned in the founders' agreement deals with ownership of company. As per the facts, the ownership of the company vests in two individuals- Vidhit and Vidushi. Therefore, any disputes on ownership will be between these two only. In simple words, the rights relate to a specific person (Vidushi) and can only be enforced against Vidushi. Therefore, the nature of the dispute/right is right in personam and hence perfectly arbitrable. Option (d) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect. As it is beyond the scope of the passage. The passage does not talk about wide/narrow arbitration clauses. Also the argument is factually incorrect. The arbitration agreement only deals with disputes pertaining to ownership of the property. Thus, it is not wide in scope. Option (b) & (c) are incorrect because the dispute in question do not deal with Intellectual property rights. Vidhit and Vidushi have opened the company to protect intellectual property rights. However, the founders' agreement is not saying that disputes pertaining to IPR shall be decided through arbitration. Therefore, the reasoning laid down under Option (b) & (c) is irrelevant.

57. Ans: c

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, Supreme Court laid down a condition which must be satisfied before the Court can refuse to refer the matter to the Arbitrator, a forum consciously decided by parties in an agreement. The condition is that the allegation of fraud **does not touch upon the internal affairs** of the parties inter se and thus **having an implication in the public domain**. The allegations must have some implication in public domain to oust the jurisdiction of an Arbitrator, if an **allegation of fraud exists strictly between the parties concerned**, the same will not be termed to be as a serious nature of fraud and hence **would not be barred for arbitration**. The crux of the matter is if fraud is between the parties only, then arbitration can be initiated for such allegations of fraud. In the instant case, the dispute is between Vidhi and Vidhata only. No third party is involved. Therefore, she can initiate arbitration as provided under arbitration agreement. Option (c) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect. A dispute is not arbitrable merely because it involves fraud. It must have a public implication for it to be barred from arbitration. Option (b) & (d) **are** incorrect as the reasoning is not based on legal principles laid down in the passage.

58. Ans: a

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, if the allegations of fraud have some implication in public domain, it will oust the jurisdiction of an Arbitrator. If an **allegation of fraud exists strictly between the parties concerned**, the same will not be termed to be as a serious nature of fraud and hence **would not be barred for arbitration**. In the present case, the allegation have implication in the public domain as lot of fresh graduates are affected. The allegation are not strictly between Vidhi and Vidhata. Therefore, in light of this additional fact, Vidhi cannot initiate arbitration in the previous case. Thus, the maintenance of the arbitration proceedings is weakened. Option (a) is correct.

59. Ans: d

Sol: As per the recent Supreme Court's judgement, vesting of securities in favour of the nominee contemplated under S. 109A(3) of the Companies Act 1956 (pari materia S. 72(3) of Companies Act, 2013) & Bye-Law 9.11.1 of Depositories Act, 1996 is for a limited purpose i.e., to ensure that there exists no confusion pertaining to legal formalities that are to be undertaken upon the death of the holder and by extension, to protect the subject matter of nomination. It is specifically mentioned that nominee would not get an **absolute title to the subject matter of nomination**. It is also mentioned that the nomination process therefore does not override the succession laws. In the present question, Vidhan has drafted a will in favour of his wife and his two sons. He has divided the shares equally among these three parties (wife and two sons). He has made Vidur nominee only for ensuring that his family does not face any trouble. Therefore, from this it cannot be inferred that Vidur has been given exclusive rights. The vesting of shares is only for the purpose of safekeeping (to protect the subject matter of nomination-shares). Therefore, the argument by Vidur is incorrect. Option (d) is the correct option. Option (a) is incorrect. On the face of it looks like Section 72(3) allows nominee to hold shares to the exclusion of all others. However, as per the Supreme Court's judgement, this vesting of securities is only to ensure that there exists no confusion pertaining to legal formalities. No absolute title is granted to the nominee. Option (b) is incorrect. This option states that Vidhan's family is on an equal footing with Vidur. This is incorrect as only the family members have been declared as heir. Vidur is only a nominee. He has no ownership rights. Therefore, it would be incorrect to say that Vidur is an equal owner along with the family members. Option (c) is incorrect as it is in direct contravention of principles laid down in the passage. The passage clearly states that nomination under companies law do not prevail over succession laws.

60. Ans: a

Sol: It is mentioned in the passage that provisions of Section 109A(3) of the Companies Act, 2013 are pari materia to Section 72(3) of the Companies Act, 2013. Pari materia means dealing with the same subject matter. Therefore, both these section deals with same subject matter. Therefore, nomination under either of these section would have no effect on the succession laws, making Vidur's argument invalid in both the cases. Thus, the substituted fact does not have any effect on the validity of the argument in the previous case (question). The argument is invalid in both the question.

61. Ans: b

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, Section 72 states that **every holder** of securities of a company may, at any time, nominate, any person to whom his securities shall vest in the event of his death. In case the securities are **held by more than one person jointly**, the joint holders may **together** nominate any person. In the present case, both Vidhit and Vidushi decided to jointly make their first investment. However, it is specifically mentioned in the question, that **Vidhit holds** the securities in his demat account **only**. Logically, this would make Vidhit the holder of the securities for the purpose of Section 72. Therefore, he (being the sole holder) can nominate any person. He need not consult Vidushi. Option (b) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect. The securities are not held jointly. Only Vidhit holds the securities. Both the parties decided to make the investment together. However, they do not hold the securities together. Therefore, Vidushi's involvement is not required in the instant case. Accordingly, Option (c) is also incorrect. Option (d) is incorrect. Section 72 does require approval/involvement from other joint holders, if the securities are held jointly. In the present question, securities are not held jointly.

62. Ans: c

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, the Companies Act, 1956 as iterated above is concerned with regulating the affairs of corporates **and is not concerned with laws of succession**. Nomination process therefore does not override the succession laws. Also the provisions related to minority under Section 72 stated that (i) minor can be appointed as a nominee; (ii) in case a nominee dies while they are a minor, then a person other than nominee is entitled to the securities of the company. Thus, a minor is perfectly eligible to be appointed as nominee.

In the present case, Vidhi has been made as a legal heir to Vidhata's holding in securities market as per his will. Thus, this will has to be governed by succession laws. She has also been nominated under Section 72. Now the question asks, what would happen to her right over the securities. Her rights will be governed by succession and she will continue to be a nominee. No prohibition exists on her continuation as a minor once her father dies. Option (c) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect. Section 72 does not prohibit transfer of shares. It states that minor can be appointed as a nominee. However, if minor dies during minority, the securities shall vest in any person other than nominee. Option (b) is incorrect as Section 72 does not provide for any such suspension. Option (d) is incorrect as passages clearly states that nomination under companies act does not prevail over succession act.

63. Ans: c

Sol: As per the interpretation provided by the Supreme Court, vesting of securities in favour of the nominee is for a **limited purpose** i.e., **to ensure that there exists no confusion pertaining to legal formalities** that are to be undertaken upon the death of the holder and by extension, **to protect the subject matter** of nomination from any protracted litigation **until the legal heirs of the deceased holders have settled the affairs of the testator** and are ready to register the transmission of shares, by due process of succession law. In simple words, the idea behind appointing a nominee is to ensure that a person is present for safekeeping of securities till the time legal heirs are ready.

The fact situation in the present question is apt for the application of above interpretation. Since, the children are facing difficulties in ascertaining their share, the securities will continue to vest in the nominee (Vidya) till the time legal heirs are ready. Once the children's case is decided by the Court under succession laws, it will prevail over nomination under company law and then the issue will be properly resolved. Hence, Option (c) contains the most appropriate statement and hence it is the correct answer. **Option (a) is accordingly incorrect. This option says that Vidya will continue to be the exclusive owner-even after the children have ascertained the affairs. This is in direct contravention of the rule laid down by the Supreme Court. The nomination under Company law is for a limited purpose-to protect the subject matter. Thus once the affairs are settled the nominee as appointed under Company law does not have any right with regards to the securities.**

64. Ans: a

Sol: Assertion claims that nominee is entitled to all rights in securities to the exclusion of all other persons unless there is an intention to the contrary. Reason states that under Section 72(3), nominees are entitled to all the rights in the securities to the exclusion of all other persons, **unless the nomination is varied or cancelled in the prescribed manner**. Reason is correct as it is a direct reproduction of Section 72(3) mentioned in the passage. Now, by referring to the last line of the reason (**unless the nomination is varied or cancelled in the prescribed manner**), we can infer that nominee's right can be varied or cancelled. They are not absolute and subject to such variation or cancellation. An extension of this would be to say **in absence of any intention to the contrary**, the nominee gets exclusive rights (**for the purpose of safeguarding the subject matter**). This is correct because if a contrary intention (in the forms of variation or cancellation) exists, the nominee would not get exclusive rights. Thus, Assertion is also correct. The correct answer is Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation for A's truthfulness. Option (a) is correct.

65. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. As per Section 441 of IPC, whoever enters into or upon property in the possession of another with intent to commit an offence or to intimidate, insult or annoy any person in possession of such property, is said to commit "criminal trespass" therefore, intention to commit crime is necessary to make a person guilty for criminal trespass. Also, Karnataka High Court quashed a case alleging house trespass and criminal intimidation initiated by a woman against her ex-husband for attempting to visit their eight-year-old daughter by posing as a guard of a garbage van on the ground that the husband had valid visitation right. In the present case, Vidhan had a valid visitation right to visit his daughter on the said day. Also, there was absence of any criminal

intention. Therefore he cannot be held guilty for committing the offense of criminal trespass. Option (a) and (b) are therefore incorrect as Vidhan had valid visitation right and didn't had any intention to annoy Vidhi. Option (d) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived based on the information given in the passage.

66. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. As per Section 441 of IPC, Whoever enters into or upon property in the possession of another with intent to commit an offence or to intimidate, insult or annoy any person in possession of such property, is said to commit "criminal trespass." The facts of the present case reveals that Vidhan had the intention to intimidate Vidhi, by threatening him with a gun. Hence, he can be held guilty for criminal trespass. Therefore, Option (c) is incorrect. Option (a) is incorrect as Vidhan had the valid visitation right to visit the house on the said day. Option (d) is incorrect as even entering the house with the intention to intimidate is enough to make a person liable for criminal trespass.

67. Ans: d

Sol: All the four factors are relevant to determine the custody of the child. The passage mentions that Supreme Court and other courts in India have repeatedly mentioned that for the custody of a minor, the only consideration is the welfare of the minor. In most of the cases fathers get the custody of the older boys and mother of the older girls. Therefore, the age and gender of child are relevant. The passage provides that if any condition emerges which suggests that the well-being of the child could be affected, that factor becomes crucial in determining the custody of the child. Statement (iii) states that the father is addicted to drinking. From this it could be concluded that he will not be able to ensure the welfare of the child. Therefore, this factor is also relevant. Statement (iv) is also a relevant factor to determine the welfare of child as the financial condition of parents who are seeking custody of the child will have the bearing upon his/her upbringing.

68. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Section 38 of Special Marriage Act 1954 regulates the custody of the child in case both the parents belong to different religions or have undertaken a court marriage. In the present case, since the couple has done a court marriage, their custody rights will be governed under the Section 38 of the Special Marriage Act. Accordingly, muslim law will not be applicable. Option (a) is incorrect. Option (c) is incorrect. The passage mentions that If mother has a weaker financial condition as compared to the father, **the mother cannot be discarded as the guardian only because she earns less than the father**. Therefore, it would be incorrect to say that Court will give custody to Virar solely due to poor financial condition of Vartika. Option (d) is incorrect. The passage does not provide anything with regards to custody being given to a third person.

69. Ans: a

Sol: Both A and R are correct. The passage provides that if mother has a weaker financial condition as compared to the father the mother cannot be discarded as the guardian only because she earns less than the father. In such case, the father of the child has to provide for the child's maintenance. Therefore A is correct. The passage also provides that Child's interest is the main criteria while determining the custody of a child. Also R is the correct explanation of A's truthfulness as the reason why financial condition cannot be considered as the sole determinant of custody is because the interest of the child are paramount.

70. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage provides that child's interest is the main criteria to determine the custody and the choice of the child above the age of nine is paramount factor considered by the court. Therefore, considering the welfare and the choice of the child, the custody must go father. Option (a) is incorrect. The passage mentions that under Muslim law, only the mother has the right to seek his/her child custody until she is not found guilty of any misconduct. Option (b) is incorrect as though income is a relevant factor to be considered while determining the custody, it is not the sole criteria. The passage provides that if mother has a weaker financial condition as compared to the father the mother cannot be discarded as the guardian only because she earns less than the father. In such case the father of the child has to provide for the child's maintenance. Option (d) is incorrect as Father being unsound mind will not be able to ensure the welfare of the child, which is the paramount necessity.

71. Ans: c

Sol: Statement (i) can be concluded. The Hon'ble Supreme Court and other courts in India have repeatedly mentioned that for the custody of a minor, the only consideration is the welfare of the minor, irrespective of the claims of the parties to the custody of children. Statement (ii) cannot be concluded. The passage mentions that if mother has a weaker financial condition as compared to the father, the mother cannot be discarded as the guardian only because she earns less than the father. In such case the father of the child has to provide for the child's maintenance. From this, it cannot be concluded that the financial condition of mother is not at all relevant. Statement (iii) can be concluded as the passage mentions that child's interest is the main criteria and the choice of the child above the age of nine is paramount factor considered by the court.

72. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. As per the passage, every offence under the Act is a cognizable offense and no anticipatory bail is allowed, for a person accused of an offence punishable under the Act. Also **no bail is allowed if noticed by the court that on the Date of arrest under this Act, Accused was on bail for an offence punishable under this Act, or under any other law.** In the present case, Vidhan was charged for the offense of theft, and was subsequently released on bail. While on bail, he was **arrested** under MCOCA. Therefore, Vidhan cannot be granted default bail. Therefore, option (d) is incorrect. Option (a) is incorrect. It assumes a fact not mentioned in the question. Vidhan has not been convicted under MCOCA. As per the question, he is only arrested. Option (c) is incorrect. The passage does not provide any such exception that a person will be granted bail if he has been falsely charged under MCOCA. The condition in the passage is that if on the date of arrest under MCOCA, person was already on bail-then he will not be allowed bail.

73. Ans: b

Sol: As per the passage, **no bail is allowed if noticed by the court that on the Date of arrest under this Act, Accused was on bail for an offence punishable under this Act, or under any other law.** Therefore if a person is charged for any offense and subsequently released on bail, and while being on bail, was accused of under MCOCA, he cannot be granted bail. Hence, the fact that he was convicted for Murder instead of Theft will not have any impact on the bail application of Vidhan. Therefore Option (b) is correct.

74. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage provides that every offence under the Act is a cognizable offense and no anticipatory bail is allowed, for a person accused of an offence punishable under the Act. Therefore, Vishal cannot be granted an anticipatory bail. Option (a) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived based on the information given in the passage. Option (b) is incorrect as it is vague. A person cannot be denied anticipatory bail merely because he runs a crime cartel, unless he has been charged under MCOCA. Option (c) is incorrect as it assumes that if the chargesheet is not filed against a person accused for an offense under MCOCA, he can be granted anticipatory bail.

75. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Section 21 of MCOCA has seriously prejudiced accused under the Act by extending period of filing charge sheet from 90 to 180 days. Therefore, the period to file chargesheet against an accused charged under MCOCA has not been over yet. Therefore, he cannot be released on bail. Option (a) is therefore incorrect. Option (B) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived based on the information mentioned in the passage. Option (d) is incorrect as it assumes a fact which is not mentioned in the question.

76. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Section 14 empowers a police officer not below the rank of the Superintendent of Police supervising the investigation of an organised crime under the aforesaid Act to submit an application in writing to the competent authority for an order authorizing or approving the interception of wire, electronic or oral communication by the investigating officer, when such interception may provide or has provided evidence of any offence involving an organised crime. In the instant case, Vidhyut, is asking for the permission to intercept the bank account of Vidhi's associates, which is not permissible under section 14. This section only allows interception of communication. Option (a) and (b) are therefore incorrect. Option (d) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived from the information given in the passage.

77. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. Assertion is false. The passage does not provide that all offenses under MCOCA are non-bailable. The passage only provides that every offence under the Act is a cognizable offence and no anticipatory bail is allowed, for a person accused of an offence punishable under the Act. Also no bail is allowed if noticed by the court that on the Date of offence under this Act, Accused was on bail for an offence punishable under this Act, or under any other law. Therefore, Reason is correct.

78. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. Section 167(2) of the CrPC provides that when an accused is arrested and detained in custody, the investigation must be completed within a specified time frame, failing which the accused shall be released on bail. Time period prescribed under Section 167(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure is-ninety days, where the investigation relates to an offence punishable with death, imprisonment for life or imprisonment for a term of not less than ten years; sixty days, where the investigation relates to any other offence. Therefore, both statement (i) and (ii) can be concluded. Statement (iii) cannot be concluded as the passage is silent on extension of investigation period.

79. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. Article 131 entrusts exclusive jurisdiction to the SC to hear and determine a dispute originating between States, or between States and the Union. Therefore, all other options can be eliminated.

80. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. Article 131 entrusts exclusive jurisdiction to the SC to hear and determine a dispute originating between States, or between States and the Union. Option (b) is incorrect as the passage does not talk about Article 133, it majorly deals with the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court under Article 131 and Article 32. Option (c) is incorrect. Jurisdiction under Article 131 does not extend to dispute arising out of any treaty, only when the treaty specifically excludes the jurisdiction of Supreme Court. In the present case, the treaty does not exclude the jurisdiction. This is clear from the clause in treaty, which states that in case of disputes, parties can exercise remedies as available to them under the Constitution. This means States (parties) can exercise remedies available to them under the Constitution (Article 131). In simple words, the treaty is allowing the party to approach the Supreme Court. Option (d) is incorrect as only people are allowed to move to SC in cases of violation of Fundamental Rights under Article 32.

81. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage provides that the discretionary apportionment of funds to constituent states by the central authority underscores the absence of an inherent entitlement for states to assert rights over specific financial allocations, with such distribution being contingent upon multifaceted factors. This means that the states do not have an inherent right to claim allocation of funds from the central authority, as it is at their discretion. Therefore, there is no violation of any legal right even if State R is getting lesser funds from Centre. Option (b) is incorrect as it cannot be derived based on the information given in the passage. Option (c) is incorrect. **The passage is not stating anything with regards to Advisory jurisdiction.** Option (d) is incorrect as violation of a legal right is a pre-condition to approach Supreme Court under Article 131. The passage provides that a State can invoke Article 131 to approach the Supreme Court in case it feels that its legal rights are under threat or have been violated by another State or the Central government.

82. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage provides that the inclusion of the phrase “subject to the provisions of this Constitution” implies that the exclusive original jurisdiction of the SC is not applicable to cases where another body has jurisdiction under other provisions. Article 262 of India’s Constitution provides for barring the Supreme Court’s jurisdiction over interstate river water disputes. Since the jurisdiction of Supreme Court has been exclusively barred in inter-state river water disputes, State P cannot approach it under Article 131. Therefore option (a) is incorrect. Option (b) is incorrect as there is no mention of Inter-state river water tribunal for adjudicating disputes between states in the passage. Option (c) is incorrect as only people are allowed to move to SC in cases of their violation of Fundamental Rights under Article 32.

83. Ans: b

Sol: Both A and R are correct. The passage provides that a citizen can approach the High Court or the Supreme Court under Article 226 and Article 32, respectively, in case there is a violation of fundamental rights. But R is not the correct explanation of A's truthfulness. Both A and R talks about the various options that a citizen has in case of violation of their fundamental rights.

84. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. According to the passage the framers of the Constitution envisioned differences between the Centre and States owing to this quasi-federal structure and dual polity. And so they added the original and exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for the resolution of such issues, which would lead India in direction of co-operative federalism.

Section D-Logical Reasoning 85. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage mentions about the Bilkis Bano case was being shifted to Maharashtra because it was not being held rightly in Gujarat. Option (a) is incorrect as it supports the author's argument. Option (b) is incorrect as it states what the author's main concern is. (Given in the first few lines) Option (c) is a contradiction to the author's argument. Option (d) also states the main point made in the argument regarding the premature release of the accused men. Hence (c).

86. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage mentions in the last paragraph that, 'it should be fair and reasonable and based on a set of relevant parameters such as whether the crime involved affected society at large, whether the convict retained the potential for committing similar offences or is capable of reform. The release of life convicts, who are generally expected to spend the entirety of their lives in prison, unless remission is granted after a prison term that should not be less than 14 years, ought to be individually considered and not part of any omnibus gesture without regard to the impact of their freedom on the victims, survivors and society.' Hence (c).

87. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The author will not agree to the statement as it goes against his point of view. It is given in the last few lines of the first paragraph, "It has noted that the Gujarat government - which took the correct stand during earlier proceedings that only the government of Maharashtra, where the trial and sentencing took place, was the appropriate government to consider remission - had failed to seek review of a two-Bench judgment's order in May 2022, even though it was wrongly decided based on suppression of material facts. In citing the Court direction as the reason for it to pass orders in favour of the convicts, the State government was guilty of usurpation of power, the Bench said." Option (a) is established in the first lines of the first and the second paragraphs. 'The Supreme Court of India verdict quashing the orders releasing 11 men convicted for the heinous gang-rape and murder of several members of a family during the Gujarat pogrom in 2002 is an unequivocal indictment of the State government.' And 'The ruling represents a blow for the rule of law and the restoration of faith in the judiciary at a time when there are doubts about the institution's capacity to hold power to account.' Options (c) and (d) also strengthen the author's opinion regarding parameters of remission as stated in the last paragraph, 'The release of life convicts, who are generally expected to spend the entirety of their lives in prison, unless remission is granted after a prison term that should not be less than 14 years, ought to be individually considered and not part of any omnibus gesture without regard to the impact of their freedom on the victims, survivors and society.' Hence (b).

88. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage explains the restoration of faith in the judiciary, 'The ruling represents a blow for the rule of law and the restoration of faith in the judiciary at a time when there are doubts about the institution's capacity to hold power to account. On merits, it is a timely reiteration of the core principles that animate exercise of the power to grant remission.' Option (b) contradicts the author's point and is thus eliminated. Option (c) is a right statement but not the representation of the said context in the passage. Option (d) also is in agreement of the point established in the passage as it is one of the parameters to be considered for the remission to be provided. But the question asked is about the option that will best represent the restoration of faith in the judiciary'. Hence (a).

89. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage mentions that 'A disgraceful story that began with the Bharatiya Janata Party government facilitating their premature release and the freed men being garlanded by their supporters has now ended with the Court directing them to return to prison within two weeks' which implies that the government was indirectly involved in the release of the accused. Option (b) is an incorrect data, hence not an assumption. Options (c) and (d) are irrelevant to the argument. Hence (a).

90. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The author mentioned in the passage that the decision has its pros and cons and there is a need to observe and get feedback for the decision about extended trading hours. Option (d) perfectly reflects the idea of the author. The last paragraph and the last line of the first paragraph justify (d) as the answer. Hence (d).

91. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage states that, 'While it is technically feasible for Indian traders to utilise the GIFT, it involves strict trading limits. The remittance rules also come into play for individuals. This makes it difficult to adequately hedge large rupee-denominated positions since the GIFT has dollar-denominated contracts.' Option (a) is incorrect as it does not show the inability of the traders. Option (b) is incorrect as it states the benefits of the longer trading hours and hence the opportunities, but it does not say anything about the technical feasibility. Option (d) is incorrect as it also doesn't state about the technical feasibility although it is a correct sentence. It is stated in the second paragraph, 'So this time extension would be aligned to global practices. Price sensitive events can occur at any hour and keeping the exchanges open for longer periods can substantially increase trading opportunities and, arguably, reduce volatility and jerkiness.' Hence (c).

92. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The author suggests in the last few lines of the first paragraph that 'Keeping the exchanges open for longer sessions would make it possible for traders to immediately act upon breaking news and, thus, either limit losses or generate profits by taking appropriate positions.' Option (c) perfectly reflects the suggestion of the author. Hence (c).

93. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The author explains about the GIFT market stating, 'While it is technically feasible for Indian traders to utilise the GIFT, it involves strict trading limits. The remittance rules also come into play for individuals. This makes it difficult to adequately hedge large rupee-denominated positions since the GIFT has dollar-denominated contracts.' Option (c) hints at the statement given above. Hence (d).

94. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage covers all the aspects of extending the trading market time and suggests to secure the market and organize the ruling before the implementation. Option (a) is incorrect as the passage does not say the market is not ready. Option (b) is incorrect because the author does not mention the market flourishing, and option (c) is incorrect as it lacks evidence in the passage. Hence (d).

95. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. In the first paragraph it is stated that, 'Lack of surgical care access, preventable disease burden due to surgery, and the economic toll of surgery on society are still not considered to be a part of public health in the mainstream. Option (a) is incorrect because the author would agree to this point. It is stated in the second paragraph, 'India currently has no NSOAP. The lack of investments in data for monitoring and evaluation of surgical care indicators has also been a major roadblock. So, using existing data, integrating surgical care data in existing surveys and systems, and building new dedicated data collection mechanisms are the ways forward. Option (b) is incorrect as it gives the solution and steps taken, so the author would agree to this. Option (c) is incorrect as the passage states that India is struggling like any other middle or low income countries. So if some improvement is brought about in this area in India, it would then set an example for the other developing countries. Option (d) is correct as it shows the upcoming possibilities of the country but it is contradictory to what is given in the passage. Hence (d).

96. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage clearly mentions that gaps in surgical care India's current surgical system gets by on civilian initiatives and subnational programmes - including countless surgeon-led small private establishments and government teaching and public district hospitals - that plug systemic gaps in surgical care. Option (a) is just a statement that does not pose a challenge on the initiatives taken by the people to identify and mitigate the problem concerning availability of the surgical care in the rural areas. Options (c) and (d) are in support of the author's statement and hence not the answer. Hence (b).

97. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage mentions that one of the reasons for the lack of timely access to surgical care in India is the difficulty people face in reaching the hospitals, particularly in the rural and hilly areas, where there may be a lack of facilities, poor road networks and a shortage of vehicles, including ambulances. Hence (d).

98. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It can be understood from the first paragraph. 'The main issue is a lack of problem recognition. Lack of surgical care access, preventable disease burden due to surgery, and the economic toll of surgery on society are still not considered to be a part of public health in the mainstream. This neglect persists in health policymaking and planning.' The passage focuses on the lack of surgical care in the rural or hilly areas. Option (a) is incorrect as the fund not being provided is a statement, a fact, it cannot be an assumption taken in the argument. Option (c) is incorrect is again a fact, hence incorrect. Option (d) is incorrect as the argument of the author is based on the lack of surgical care in the rural areas not in the urban areas. Hence (b).

99. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage emphasizes that education should not just focus on individual success or knowledge acquisition, but rather on nurturing abilities that contribute positively to society. This is evident where it discusses the balance between individual well-being and societal good, asserting that there's no opposition between these ends. Option (a) is misleading, as it focuses only on personal growth and cultural understanding, which the passage suggests are not the sole aims of education. Option (b), emphasizing moral and societal advancement, is close but doesn't capture the essence of contributing to society as the primary focus. Option (c), focusing on economic self-sufficiency, is a common misconception but is too narrow according to the passage's broader perspective on education's role in social contribution. The passage explicitly talks about education transcending individualistic goals like earning a living or personal culture, aligning perfectly with the rationale behind option (d). Hence (d).

100. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage delineates a clear distinction between popular and theoretical views on education: popular views are generally interpreted in terms of acquiring knowledge or skills for making a living, whereas theoretical views are more inclined towards the development of individual abilities and personal growth. This is evident in the discussion of how theorists are more likely to define education's purpose in terms of individual abilities, growth, culture, or morality. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage doesn't specifically associate popular views with practical skills or theoretical views with cultural understanding alone. Option (c) is misleading; while theoretical views do consider societal betterment, the passage does not explicitly contrast this with a popular focus on personal gain. Option (d) is misleading because it oversimplifies the theoretical perspective to moral guidance and popular views to economic success, which the passage does not strictly assert. The emphasis on individual growth and development in theoretical views aligns with the essence of option (b), making it the best answer. Hence (b).

101. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage contrasts the concept of 'social efficiency' with earlier individualistic educational goals by highlighting that social efficiency emphasizes the individual's contribution to society, whereas earlier goals focused more on self-reliance and survival. This can be inferred from the discussion on how education in a tribal society was about self-protection and physical needs, akin to individualistic goals, while modern education (social efficiency) is more aligned with societal betterment. Option (b) is incorrect, as it misleadingly implies individualistic goals are about cultural knowledge, which the passage does not specifically state. Option (c),

though close, is incorrect because it broadly categorizes individualistic goals as centred on personal success without the specific context of self-reliance and survival. Option (d) is incorrect as it overemphasizes moral development and economic contributions, which are not the central themes in the passage's comparison. The reference made is to the transition from survival and self-protection in tribal societies to a more society-oriented modern education aligns with the rationale behind option (a). Hence (a).

102. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage suggests that individual and societal benefits of education are intertwined, specifically stating that "it is only through participation in social life that the highest individual development is possible." This implies that individual growth is not separate from, but rather is enhanced by, contributing to and engaging with society. Option (a) is eliminated, as it could be inferred but isn't directly stated in the passage. Option (b), while appealing, is misleading because the passage doesn't emphasize tailoring education to individual interests; instead, it talks about the role of societal participation in individual development. Option (d) is incorrect as it contradicts the viewpoint given in the passage; it suggests individual development occurs independently of society, while the passage argues for their interdependence. The discussion of the relationship between individual development and societal participation aligns with the reasoning behind option (c). Hence (c).

103. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage explicitly states that the highest individual development is possible through the nurturing of abilities that are valuable to society, and by participating in social life. This aligns with the concept of individual abilities contributing to societal welfare. Option (a) is ruled out, as it implies a balance but doesn't specifically mention nurturing abilities for societal welfare, which is a key aspect in the passage. Option (b), though appealing, is incorrect because the passage does not specifically suggest that personal goals need to align with societal advancement for the highest development. Option (d) is misleading because it suggests a path of independent growth, which contradicts the emphasis made on social participation and contribution. The focus of the passage on the development of abilities beneficial to society and the importance of social participation justifies option (c). Hence (c).

104. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. Thorough preparation is essential for maintaining student interest and enhancing lesson effectiveness. This is directly supported by the passage, which emphasizes that teachers must be interested in their work and continually find new materials or methods to keep the lessons engaging. The passage explicitly states that repetition of the same lesson can make it dull for both the teacher and pupils, highlighting the necessity of preparation for each lesson to maintain its effectiveness. Option (b) is incorrect because, while innovative methods are important, the passage emphasizes preparation as the key to effectiveness, not just innovation. Option (c) is slightly misleading; while it acknowledges that experienced teachers might manage with less preparation, the passage suggests that their best work still requires careful planning, making this option not as strong as option (a). Option (d) is incorrect, it contradicts the passage's point that even successful lessons should not be repeated in the exact same way, as this diminishes their effectiveness. Hence (a).

105. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. This is aligned with the emphasis on the need for varying the approach due to the different experiences and backgrounds of children. The passage argues that no two groups of children have the same experiences, implying that the teacher must adapt their lessons to these varying backgrounds and interests. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage actually argues against a standardized approach, advocating for adaptability instead. Option (b) is incorrect, though it seems reasonable but is contrary to the emphasis laid on adapting to diverse experiences rather than maintaining content consistency. Option (d), while partially true in that current events can influence subject matter, is not the primary focus of the passage regarding lesson planning and is, therefore, not as comprehensive an answer as (c). The passage stresses the overall need for adaptability in teaching methods due to varying student experiences, which makes (c) the most accurate choice. Hence (c).

106. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. This aligns with the passage's assertion that the subject matter, including geography, is constantly growing and changing, particularly due to recent events in various countries. The passage emphasizes the necessity of updating the curriculum to include these new developments, making geography an ever-evolving subject. Option (a) is incorrect because it directly contradicts the passage, which states that geography is a subject that changes due to external events. Option (c) is misleading as it suggests a negative impact of external events on geography, whereas the passage implies that these events make the subject more relevant and dynamic. Option (d) is misleading because it suggests that geography should remain constant, while the passage clearly states that the content needs to be updated to reflect recent events, making (b) the most suitable answer. Hence (b).

107. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. This is supported by the passage, which notes that young and inexperienced teachers often show greater success due to the zest with which they approach new problems. This suggests that their lack of experience is compensated for by their enthusiasm and willingness to adapt. Option (a) is misleading. The passage does mention that experienced teachers can keep a class in order with minimal preparation, it does not imply that they require less preparation overall. Option (c) is incorrect because the passage clearly differentiates between the levels of enthusiasm of experienced and inexperienced teachers, favouring the latter. Option (d) is misleading; it suggests experienced teachers are more enthusiastic, which contradicts the assertion that inexperienced teachers often show more enthusiasm, especially in the face of new challenges. Hence (b).

108. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. This aligns with the assertion that there is no substitute for a thorough understanding of the subject matter when it comes to teaching. The passage emphasizes that this knowledge is foundational for developing an effective lesson plan that resonates with the students. Option (a) is incorrect because, while classroom discipline is important, the passage specifically highlights the importance of subject knowledge in lesson planning, not discipline. Option (c) is incorrect; innovative methods are significant, but the passage places more emphasis on the importance of subject knowledge. Option (d) is misleading as it suggests that subject knowledge is only important for certain subjects, whereas the passage implies its importance across all subjects, making option (b) the most comprehensive and accurate answer. Hence (b).

Section E-Quantitative Techniques

109. Ans: a

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,

	Officers	Clerks	Total
Account	2x	2y	3600
Sales	y	3x	3400
Marketing	2200		
Total			

Now,

$$2x + 2y = 3600 \dots(i)$$

$$y + 3x = 3400 \dots(ii)$$

After solving these equations, we get

$$x = 800, y = 1000,$$

Therefore,

	Officers	Clerks	Total
Account	1600	2000	3600
Sales	1000	2400	3400
Marketing	2200	7200 - 2000 - 2400 = 2800	
Total	4800	2400*3 = 7200	

Now ATQ,

$$\text{Required \%} = (1000 - 2800)/2800 = 1800/2800 = 9/14 = 64.28\%$$

Hence, option (a) is correct.

110. Ans: b

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Ratio = $2200+1000:2000+2400 = 3200:4400 = 8:11$
Hence, option (b) is correct.

111. Ans: b

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Average = $4800/3 = 1600$
Hence, option (b) is correct.

112. Ans: d

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
The total number of employees in finance department = $3600 * 11/9 = 4400$
The total number of officers in finance department = $1000 + 380 = 1380$
Therefore,
The total number of clerks in finance department = $4400 - 1380 = 3020$
Hence, option (d) is correct.

113. Ans: a

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,

	Tip on Saturdays	Tip on Sundays	Total
Vidhi	y	y + 80	
Vidhan	$5x * 3 = 15x$	20x	
Vidyut	$7x * 3 = 21x$	$20x * 120\% = 24x$	
	2000		

Now,
 $15x = (y + y + 80)/2 \Rightarrow 30x = 2y + 80$
Also,
 $y + 15x + 21x = 2000 \Rightarrow 36x + y = 2000$
After solving it, we get
 $x = 40, y = 560$,
Therefore,

	Tip on Saturdays	Tip on Sundays	Total
Vidhi	560	640	1200
Vidhan	600	800	1400
Vidyut	840	960	1800
	2000	2400	

Now ATQ,
Required % = $(2400 - 2000)/2000 = 400/2000 = 1/5 = 20\%$
Hence, option (a) is correct.

114. Ans: d

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Difference = $2400/3 - 1200/2 = 800 - 600 = 200$
Hence, option (d) is correct.

115. Ans: b

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Difference = $2000 - 1800 = 200$
Hence, option (b) is correct.

116. Ans: c

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Percentage increase for Vidhi = $(640 - 560)/560 = 80/560 = 1/7$
Percentage increase for Vidyut = $(960 - 840)/840 = 120/840 = 1/7$
Difference = $1/7 - 1/7 = 0\%$
Hence, option (c) is correct.

117. Ans: c

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,

Vidhi		Vidhan	
Red	Blue	Black	White
$200 \times 4/5 = 160$	200	450	$450 - 150 = 300$

Now ATQ,
For Red shirt,
SP = 250, P% = 25%
CP = $250 \times 4/5 = \text{Rs.}200$
Total costing for Red shirt = $160 \times 200 = \text{Rs.}32000$
Hence, option (c) is correct.

118. Ans: a

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
For White shirts,
CP = 150, MP = $150 \times 4/3 = 200$, D = 25, SP = $200 - 25 = \text{Rs.}175$
Total selling price = $175 \times 300 = \text{Rs.}52500$
Hence, option (a) is correct.

119. Ans: b

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Required % difference = $(300 - 160)/160 = 140/160 = 7/8 = 87.5\%$
Hence, option (b) is correct.

120. Ans: d

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Ratio = $360:750 = 12:25$
Hence, option (d) is correct.

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The concepts discussed in class as well as mocks, really helped with strengthening my fundamentals. I was in constant touch with my mentors, who helped me a lot with my strategy & gave mocks earnestly.