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

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage mentions in the first paragraph that 'Havelange's decision to ensure more slots for Asia, Africa and North America had more to do with his ambition and politics than any real desire to ensure egalitarianism in world football.' It can be understood that the intentions of Havelange were not focused on the sport rather he had an axe to grind. Hence (c).

2. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage states that the teams who had to face the worst losses were the most elite teams such as Brazil, Spain and Portugal. They are titled as the best teams because of their past performances. Hence (b).

3. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The author, while discussing the performances of the different teams, passed a comment on Brazil saying 'the Brazilian Samba magic now seems more like a marketing gimmick to peddle an essentially mediocre brand,' It is understood from the fourth paragraph, 'In contrast, barring the final, Argentina were as unappetising as Germany of the 1990s. It is not that they scored just two goals in their last four games; their game lacked creativity and flow. And sadly, the Brazilian Samba magic now seems more like a marketing gimmick to peddle an essentially mediocre brand. Hence (d).

4. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage acknowledges the performances of the different teams' goalkeepers and gives them the title of drummers in a rock band, he also states the heroics of these goalies was often the difference between failure and success for their teams. Guillermo Ochoa was one of those goalkeepers playing for Mexico. It is in the second last paragraph of the passage, 'But strangely, this tournament will be equally remembered for a bunch of goalkeepers — Germany's Manuel Neuer, Mexico's Guillermo Ochoa, Costa Rica's Keylor Navas, United States' Tim Howard to name a few — who often towered above their teammates. Normally relegated to the background, like drummers in a rock band, the heroics of these goalies was often the difference between failure and success for their teams. This World Cup also shimmered with inventiveness and a commitment to bright football.' Hence (c).

5. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage states about the performances of different teams, the best teams could not perform well. Then he later appreciates the performance of the clubs who were considered weak earlier. The author also highlights the heroic contribution of the 'goalies' by calling them the 'drummers in a rock band'. Hence (d).

6. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The author mentions that although Lionel Messi received the Global Ball, it did not positively affect his performance. He seemed to collapse under the crushing weight of expectation. It is understood from the following lines of the fourth paragraph, 'Individual reputations too were made and marred. Lionel Messi received the Golden Ball but scarcely enhanced his standing. He seemed to collapse under a crushing weight of expectations. Neymar, on the other hand, flowered under pressure. James Rodriguez of Colombia showcased his superstar potential.' Hence (d).

7. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. In the beginning of the passage, author introduces the 'creative inquiry' and further explains it as a process of exploring issues, objects or works through the collection of analysis of evidence, and then he further goes on explaining that it is a personal or pedagogical process where learners engage in reflective, critical thinking through artistic, aesthetic or creative modalities, which indicates to option (d). Hence (d).

8. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage explicitly states that the Sutra 'Nijjho gyanam' which means the knowledge that prepares. It prepares an individual to face the varied and myriad issues of life, existence and metaphysical issues is knowledge in the proper sense of the word. The very purpose of the education is to provide us with knowledge that empowers and prepares. Making the rest of the options incorrect. Hence (b).

9. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. In the passage, it is mentioned that "The very purpose of education is to provide us with knowledge that empowers and prepares. It creates an ever-inquiring mind which leads to be an ever-alive mind. Whereas option (a) is incorrect, as the Sutra appears to be incomplete, it's complete in itself. Option (b) is incorrect because Chomsky says that an inquiring mind needs a life-transforming occurrence. Option (c) is contradictory to what passage refers. Hence (d).

10. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Through the lines, "The very purpose of education is to provide us with knowledge that empowers and prepares. It creates an inquiring mind and an ever-inquiring mind is an ever-alive mind." It can be inferred that the very purpose of education is the ability of inquiring which keeps our mind alive. Hence (b).

11. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The author supports the thoughts of Chomsky and Valmiki as they both meant that the mind is not genius by birth. An inquiring mind develops and evolves with time and their life occurrences which polish them to become genius. Hence (d).

12. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The author wants us to absorb the essence of the words of Chomsky as it is the need of our times. It means that it is the need of today's generation. Hence (a).

13. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage mentions in the fourth paragraph, 'It is because of her that I became a historian, not because her stories were exciting or inspiring, but because they were confusing.' Hence (d).

14. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage is characterized by a reflective and personal writing style as the author shares intimate thoughts and experiences. The use of phrases like "I am not convinced," and "I thought of her as an alien" indicates a personal perspective. 'I cannot be the only child "While I sat there sipping flat, caffeine-free Coke', 'I could not understand how', 'I thought I could not understand', 'I would have to do this work myself', 'I was taught a particular way to go into', 'I certainly tried', 'I explored the world of colonial' This reflective and personal approach provides a deeper understanding of the author's thoughts and motivations. Hence (d).

15. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The term "lunar sea" is used metaphorically to symbolize the vast and diverse historical context surrounding the grandmother's origin. It is given in the following lines of the last paragraph of the passage, 'You could, to a certain extent, transport yourself into the past through the sheer power of your brain. I certainly tried. Through books and research, I explored the world of colonial North Africa well beyond the confines of my grandmother's apartment. From this distance, she was one small speck in a lunar sea of settlers, sex workers, saints, colonels, and amirs.' It conveys the idea that the grandmother is just one small aspect in a broad and complex historical landscape. Hence (b).

16. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. In the context of the passage, "historical imagination" refers to the ability to empathize with historical figures, slip into their perspectives, and understand their experiences. It is not about vividly imagining fictional scenarios or dispassionately analyzing events but rather about emotionally connecting with the past. It is understood from the following lines of the last paragraph, 'The rules of historians are clear: put things in context, be dispassionate, and most of all, never say 'we' when you talk about the past. We do not live alongside the

people of the past; we are different. It is this rupture, after all, that makes the very discipline of history possible. And yet, my teachers said, it is possible for the mind, through great work and knowledge, to feel this past. They called this, after Collingwood, the 'historical imagination' – a sense that allows you to slip into the head of a Carthaginian general or to smell a street in eighteenth century Edo. You could, to a certain extent, transport yourself into the past through the sheer power of your brain.' Hence (c).

17. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage implies that the author's grandmother, despite telling confusing and nonsensical stories, played a significant role in influencing the author's decision to become a historian. The confusion and alienation caused by the grandmother's narratives became a driving force for the author to explore and understand the past through historical research. It is understood from the second last paragraph, 'At some point, it became clear that if I wanted to understand her, I would have to do this work myself. It is because of her that I became a historian, not because her stories were exciting or inspiring, but because they were confusing. Over the years, I developed the most precise and luxurious telescope with which to gaze at her distant planet of origin. I read books on superstition in Reformation England and peasants in the French Revolution, and gingerly untied rusty nails from archival documents.' The rest of the options are ruled out. Hence (c).

18. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The phrase indicates that the grandmother's apartment had its own distinctive characteristics and atmosphere, suggesting a unique set of rules and conditions specific to that space. It is understood from the lines, 'My father's mother was evidence of a world before me and my parents, a world contained to her apartment. This space, in the western suburbs of Paris, had its own rules. The walls were covered with a 70s velvet wallpaper, and its colour was exactly the same as the clay courts of the tennis matches she would fervently watch on TV. My parents would drop me off, she would fix me lunch, and at the end of the afternoon, she would bribe me with money to come back more often.' Hence (b).

19. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Sentence (a) displays the use of a 'pun' wherein the word 'present' is used with two contextual meanings. Sentence (b) is an example of 'Personification', 'time' is being personified here. Sentence (d) shows the use of a metaphor. In this sentence the 'invisible bonds' are being named 'a tangle of wires and thorns'. Sentence (c) is a plain sentence describing the world. Hence (c).

20. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage suggests that the author is expressing a desire to break free from societal expectations and constraints, as evident in the decision to renounce various personal identification documents. This aligns with the theme of rejecting societal norms seeking liberation. Hence (c).

21. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It is given in the second paragraph in the following lines, 'People like me and I like them. I take my condition lightly: sickness, insomnia, nightmares, social gatherings, the idea of death, the little worm that burrows into the heart or the liver (the little worm that leaves its eggs in the brain and at night pierces the deepest sleep), the future at the expense of today – the today that never comes on time, that always loses its bets. "The phrase "the today that never comes on time" suggests that the current day never meets the author's expectations or fails to unfold as anticipated, Hence (d).

22. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. In the given statement, the figurative tool is used is a metaphor. A metaphor is a figure of speech in which a word or a phrase is applied to an object to which it is not literally applicable, in order to suggest resemblance. In this metaphor, the author is not suggesting a direct comparison between the eye of the dead fish and the void; rather, he is using the image of dead eye to evoke a sense of emptiness, lifelessness and a lack of meaning at the center of the chaotic whirlwind. Hence (b).

23. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Throughout the passage, the author expresses sentiments of frustration and longing to break free from the monotony of societal expectations. The language used suggests a deep sense of despair and a desire for liberation from established norms. Hence (b).

24. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. In the concluding paragraph, the author reflects the state of the world, describing a universe where foundations have collapsed, visible and invisible bonds are tangled, and the central sun is revealed to be nothing more than a void. The imagery and language used convey a profound sense of futility and collapse in the universe. Hence (c).

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

Sol: World Economic Forum along with Bain & Company has released a report titled- Green Hydrogen: Enabling Measures Roadmap for Adoption in India. Green hydrogen has the capacity to not solely cater to the energy needs of sectors including fertilizers, chemicals, refining, and iron production in India but also stands as a means to curtail carbon emissions when juxtaposed with traditional fossil fuels, as emphasized by the World Economic Forum.

26. Ans: b

Sol: The report titled "Green Hydrogen: Enabling Measures Roadmap for Adoption in India." underscores the imperative of reducing the production cost of Green Hydrogen to a threshold of USD 2 per kg or lower.

27. Ans: b

Sol: Green hydrogen is a type of Hydrogen that is produced through the electrolysis of water using renewable energy sources like solar or wind energy. It is a clean source and has the potential to reduce carbon emissions.

28. Ans: b

Sol: The National Hydrogen Mission was launched on August 15, 2021. The aim of the mission is to help the government in making India a green hydrogen hub and to achieve the environment and climate related targets.

29. Ans: d

Sol: Green Hydrogen Hubs: States and regions capable of supporting large scale production and/or utilization of hydrogen will be identified and developed as Green Hydrogen Hubs. Objective: Developing green hydrogen production capacity of at least 5 MMT (Million Metric Tonne) per annum, alongside adding renewable energy capacity of about 125 GW (gigawatt) in India by 2030.

30. Ans: b

Sol: Recently, the World Bank (WB) has released its Global Economic Prospects Report, which shows that the global economy may witness a poor performance by the end of 2024, the slowest half-decade of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth in 30 years.

31. Ans: b

Sol: World Bank was created in 1944, as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) along with the IMF. The IBRD later became the World Bank. The World Bank Group is a unique global partnership of five institutions working for sustainable solutions that reduce poverty and build shared prosperity in developing countries.

32. Ans: c

Sol: The World Bank Group comprises five constituent institutions: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

33. Ans: b

Sol: Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)- This is an organization that promotes foreign direct investments in developing countries. MIGA was established in 1988.

34. Ans: b

Sol: Established in 1956, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) serves as the sibling institution to the World Bank. With a predominant focus on the private sector within developing countries, IFC stands out as the largest global development organization.

35. Ans: b

Sol: A parliamentary committee examining a bill seeking to raise the age of marriage of women from the present 18 years to 21 has been given another extension to table its report.

36. Ans: c

Sol: According to the National Family Health Survey 2019-21 (NFHS-5), 23% of women between the age of 20 and 24 were married before 18 years of age. In India, the practice of child marriage was first legally prohibited in 1929 through the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929.

37. Ans: c

Sol: As per the 1929 Act, marriage of girls below the age of 14 years and boys below the age of 18 years was prohibited. This Act was amended in 1978 to increase the minimum age to 18 years for females, and 21 years for men.

38. Ans: c

Sol: According to the International Centre for Research on Women, India has the 14th highest rate of child marriage in the world. Child marriage prevalence is generally defined as the percentage of women 20-24 years old who were married or in union before age 18. India is estimated to have over 24 million child brides.

39. Ans: c

Sol: Eight States have a higher prevalence of child marriage than the national average — West Bengal, Bihar and Tripura top the list with more than 40% of women aged 20-24 years married below 18, according to NFHS data.

40. Ans: a

Sol: The WHO African Region continues to carry a disproportionately high share of the global malaria burden. In 2022 the Region was home to about 94% of all malaria cases and 95% of deaths. Children under 5 years of age accounted for about 78% of all malaria deaths in the Region.

41. Ans: a

Sol: The Republic of Cameroon, a Central African country, has become the first country in the world to incorporate a malaria vaccine into its routine national immunization program.

42. Ans: a

Sol: Cameroon uses an RTS, S/AS01 (Mosquirix) vaccine, the only vaccine that has demonstrated it can significantly reduce malaria in young children. Cameroon will offer the vaccine free of charge to infants up to six months old, requiring a total of four doses.

43. Ans: b

Sol: According to the WHO's World Malaria Report 2023, while Africa bears the highest malaria burden, accounting for 94% of cases and 95% of global malaria deaths in 2022, India in 2022, accounted for a staggering 66% of malaria cases in the WHO South-East Asia Region. India and Indonesia accounted for about 94% of all malaria deaths in the WHO South-East Asia Region.

44. Ans: b

Sol: World Malaria Day is observed every year on 25th April. It was established by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2007 to raise awareness about malaria. The theme for World Malaria Day 2023 is "Time to deliver zero malaria: invest, innovate, implement".

45. Ans: c

Sol: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) comprises three major bodies namely: The Chairperson the Judicial Members, and The Expert Members. Also, there should be a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20 fulltime Judicial as well as Expert members in the NGT.

46. Ans: c

Sol: With the establishment of the NGT, India became the third country in the world to set up a specialized environmental tribunal, only after Australia and New Zealand, and the first developing country to do so.

47. Ans: b

Sol: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) encompasses several environmental laws within its jurisdiction. These include:

- The Water Act of 1974
- The Water Cess Act of 1977
- The Forest Conservation Act of 1980
- The Air Act of 1981
- The Environment Protection Act of 1986
- The Public Liability Insurance Act of 1991
- The Biological Diversity Act of 2002

48. Ans: c

Sol: Decisions rendered by the National Green Tribunal hold binding authority. The Tribunal possesses the authority to conduct reviews of its own decisions. In the event of dissatisfaction or disagreement, the concerned party has the option to challenge the decision before the Supreme Court, and such challenges must be initiated within a stipulated period of ninety days.

49. Ans: b

Sol: The National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) is administered by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs under the Government of India to regulate the auditing standards in the country.

50. Ans: c

Sol: The Companies Act requires the NFRA to have a chairperson who will be appointed by the Central Government and a maximum of 15 members. The NFRA is composed of one Chairperson, three full-time Members and one Secretary. The chairperson shall be a person of eminence and having expertise in accountancy, auditing, finance or law to be appointed by the Central Government.

51. Ans: a

Sol: Ajay Bhushan Prasad Pandey is the current chairman of National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA).

52. Ans: a

Sol: NFRA was constituted in 2018 by the Government of India under section 132 (1) of the Companies Act, 2013. It is an audit regulator. Where professional or other misconduct is proved, it has the power to make order for imposing penalty of— not less than one lakh rupees, but which may extend to five times of the fees received, in case of individuals; and not less than ten lakh rupees, but which may extend to ten times of the fees received, in case of firms.

Section C-Legal Reasoning**53. Ans: (a)**

Sol: The passage states that the new government regulations prohibit games that involve **wagering or betting with real money**. Vidhi's game, "Gamer's Paradise," does not involve such wagering or real-money betting. Their coins are obtained through winning free entry level games. Furthermore, these coins have no actual link to the bank account. All this shows that the coins are only for the purpose of games and does not involve any real life money. Hence, Option (a) is correct. Option (b) is incorrect. From the question, it is clear that coins are only used within the game and do not have any link to bank account. Thus it cannot be said that the games involved real money. Option (c) & (d) are both incorrect. Even if it is assumed that playing cards fall in the definition of wagering. The passage prohibits such wagering when done with real money. Since, no real money is involved in the instant case, the game is not invalid under the new rules.

54. Ans: (b)

Sol: According to Rajeev Chandrasekhar's statement, any online game that involves betting on the outcomes of cricket matches, such as the Indian Premier League (IPL), would violate the rules. In the instant case, the game is based on predicting the ranks of the teams in the IPL. Such ranking is to be formed on the basis of predicting the number of wins and losses. This prediction on win and losses is in essence betting on the outcome of the matches. This is further solidified by the fact that a cash prize is awarded to the individual predicting the ranks. Therefore, "GamingEthics" cannot approve the game "CricketChallenge" as it allows users to bet on cricket outcomes. Option (b) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect as the argument is factually incorrect. The question clearly states that a cash prize is awarded to the person accurately predicting the ranking. This shows involvement of real money. Option (c) is incorrect. As per the passage, the framework is to be posted by SROs and not the gaming companies. Besides, the passage does not state that a game dealing with betting on IPL matches will be allowed just because a framework on financial loss is posted. Option (d) is incorrect as the reasoning used is not appropriate. The option says that they should not approve such a game if they want to avoid getting denotified. This cannot be appropriate reason to refuse approval of a game. The appropriate reasoning is that the game involves betting on the outcome of IPL matches. That's why it cannot be approved because such an approval is not allowed. This reasoning is provided under Option (b). That's why it is the correct option.

55. Ans: (d)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, IT minister Chandrasekhar explained that **acceptable online games** are those **that do not involve wagering or content** that causes user harm or **addiction in children**. In the present question, the game does not deal with betting on real money. No real money is involved at all. However, as per expert bodies, the game has shown negative impact on children. The children playing these games are showing addictive tendencies. This has been substantiated by evidence. Therefore, as per the rules, the game is not acceptable as it causes addiction amongst children. Option (d) is correct. Option (a) & (c) cannot be selected as correct options because the facts mentioned in the question do not deal with the issue of betting or gambling. Option (b) is incorrect. The question clearly states that virtual coins are automatically credited after 24 hours. There is no reference to purchasing the coins through real money.

56. Ans: (d)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, a difference exists between a game of skills and game of chance. Game of Skills, can be identified by their **reliance on the knowledge of the player**, experiences, expertise, abilities and skill. In stark contrast, "Game of Chance" focuses on randomness and luck, sidelining the skills of the player, knowledge, or experience. As per the Karnataka High Court, a game of chance whether played with stakes is gambling and a **game of skill whether played with stakes or without stakes is not gambling**. In the present question, the game is based on the knowledge of the player. Therefore it is treated as a game of skill. Here the fact that tournaments with case prizes are available will not make it a gambling/betting game. Therefore, option (d) is correct. Since, the fact that case prize are available will not make it gambling-the entire game is valid. It would be incorrect to say that it is only partially valid. Option (a) & Option (b) are accordingly incorrect.

57. Ans: (c)

Sol: The passage mentions that SROs for online gaming in India are composed of industry, gamers, and other stakeholders, rather than the government, and they are responsible for regulating online gaming independently. Option (c) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect since it states that SROs are government appointed bodies responsible for creating and implementing rules. The passage does not state that SROs are responsible for creating online gaming rules. Option (b) is incorrect. SROs are not responsible for banning all forms of gaming. Only the games that involve betting or are harmful to children are not like to be approved. Option (d) is incorrect as gambling and betting should not be promoted.

58. Ans: (c)

Sol: The passage states that one of the objectives of the regulations is to post a framework on SROs' websites to protect users against gambling addiction, financial loss, and fraud, indicating a focus on user protection. Option (c) is correct. All other options are incorrect as they are talking about promotion of gambling and betting. This is in direct contravention of the passage- the passage is talking about not approving games that promote betting/addiction.

59. Ans: (b)

Sol: The court has held that the authorized signatory of a company is not the "drawer" of the cheque under Section 143A of the Negotiable Instruments Act. From the facts, it is clear that certain officers have been **empowered to sign cheques** and enter into financial transactions on XYZ Limited's behalf. Vidhi is authorised to enter into transaction and sign cheques in Indore. This means that Vidhi is only an authorised signatory. The drawer is XYZ Limited as the cheques are issued on their behalf. Therefore, as per the principles laid down in the passage, only company is liable to pay interim compensation. Option (b) is correct.

60. Ans: (a)

Sol: Section 143A of the Negotiable Instruments Act allows for the drawer (maker) of a dishonoured cheque to be held liable for interim compensation. Where cheque is issued by a company, the authorised signatory is not liable for interim compensation. In this case, Vidhan issued and signed the cheque dealing with his own account. This can be inferred from the fact that cheque was dishonoured due to insufficient funds in Vidhan's account. Therefore he is not just an authorised signatory, he is a drawer and hence will be liable for such compensation under the Act. Hence, Option (a) is correct. Options (b) and (c) must be rejected as the statements cannot be stated under the passage. Option (d) is incorrect as in the instant case, Vidhan is not just a signatory. He is also the maker (drawer) of the Cheque. Therefore, he will be liable for interim compensation.

61. Ans: (a)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, a case falls under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 if (i) Cheque was issued for payment of a debt or liability; and (ii) Such cheque has been dishonoured due to insufficient funds/exceeds arrangement with the bank. Post Dated cheque are covered in this once their due date has arrived. For example, if a cheque dated 01st January, 2024 is issued on 27th December, 2023, then such cheque cannot be presented before the bank before 01st January, 2024. In this case, the provisions of Section 138 will be applicable on or after 01st January, 2024.

In the present question, a post-dated cheque has been issued for payment of liability. Liability is inferred from the fact that Vidur enters into transaction on **credit basis**. He issues a cheque as security. All this fulfils the condition of debt or liability. Now, the cheque has been presented after its due date. Thus, if this cheque is dishonoured **or not cleared** due to insufficient funds, Section 138 will be applicable. In the instant case, cheques has been dishonoured due to insufficient funds (not cleared). Therefore, Vidya can hold Vidur liable under Section 138. Option (a) is correct.

62. Ans: (c)

Sol: As per the Supreme Court's ruling mentioned in the passage, in proceedings initiated for bounced cheques (under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act), **the defence that there exists sufficient balance in other accounts is not maintainable**. Therefore, his claim that money available in other account was more than enough (sufficient) is not maintainable and will not have any effect on the grounds to impose liability on him. Option (c) is the correct answer.

63. Ans: (d)

Sol: Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act holds the drawer of a dishonoured cheque liable. In this case, XYZ Corporation issued the cheque in their name, making them the "drawer" for the purposes of this section. The fact that the cheque was issued in their name can be inferred from the fact- cheque was dishonoured due to insufficient funds in their account. Thus, they can be held liable under Section 138, regardless of their subsidiary status. Hence, option (d) is the correct option. All other options are incorrect as they are based on the link between parent and subsidiary company. As per the passage, no such link is relevant. The liability is imposed on drawer of the cheque in case the cheque is dishonoured.

64. Ans: (c)

Sol: As is evident from plain reading of Section 143A (1)(a), it is **only where the accused "pleads not guilty"** of the accusation made in the complaint that interim compensation under Section 143A (1) can be granted. In the present question, the essence of the matter is that Vidushi had filed an appeal against the order of the Trial Court. This appeal is filed before the Supreme Court. The Trial Court has issued a summons to Vidushi asking her to plead guilty or not guilty. However, along with such summons, the Court has already issued a direction for interim compensation. This is not in consonance with Section 143A, as the Trial Court should have waited for Vidushi's response. Only if she **pleads not guilty**, the Trial Court can direct interim compensation. Option (c) is the most appropriate and correct answer.

65. Ans: (c)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, against the ex-parte decree, a defendant has three remedies available to him. First, is by way of filing an application under Order IX Rule 13 CPC seeking for setting aside ex-parte decree; the second, is by way of filing an appeal against the ex-parte decree under Section 96(2) of the CPC and the third, is by way of review before the same court against the ex-parte decree. Also, Section 115 specifically mentions that revision petition cannot be allowed if appeal as a remedy is available. Thus, revision petition before the High Court is not maintainable. In the instant case, an ex-parte decree has been passed against Vidur. To challenge such decree, he has filed a revision petition before the High Court. This is incorrect as revision petition cannot be filed against an ex-parte decree. Thus, Option (c) is correct.

66. Ans: (b)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, High Courts' power of revision can be exercised if a subordinate (lower) court has failed to exercise a jurisdiction vested by law. In the present question, the Lower Court, Indore, failed to exercise jurisdiction even though it was authorised by law. This shows that jurisdiction was not exercised and hence revision petition can be filed. Option (b) is the correct option. Option (d) is incorrect as lower court has not exercised the jurisdiction at all.

67. Ans: (b)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, High Courts' power of revision can be exercised if a subordinate (lower) court has **exercised a jurisdiction not vested by law**. In the present question, the new law has specifically excluded the jurisdiction of the district courts when it comes to dealing with instances of traffic violations. Therefore, the district courts do not have the jurisdiction to hear such disputes. Now, the traffic authorities have apprehended Vidushi and have filed a case in the **District Court**. Instead of refusing to hear such case, the District Court decided to hear the case and imposed fine. This is invalid as it did not possess jurisdiction. Therefore, revision petition can be filed against the decision of the lower court. Hence, Option (b) is correct and most appropriate. Option (a) is incorrect. The appeal is provided when case is heard by an Independent authority. In the instant case, the case was decided by district court. Therefore, revision petition will not be barred in such a case. Option (c) & (d) are incorrect as the reasoning used is beyond the scope of the question as well as the passage.

68. Ans: (a)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, revision is not allowed when the CPC or any other statute allows filing of appeal. In the instant case, the law establishing special court allows for appeal if the party is aggrieved with the fine amount. Thus, revision petition cannot be filed. Option (a) is correct. Option (b) is incorrect. The independent court is not subordinate to High Court. The law clearly states that **status and jurisdiction** of these special courts is **similar** as that of a High Court. Thus, they are not subordinate to the High Courts. Option (c) is incorrect as the

reasoning used is not correct. The correct reasoning is given in Option (a). Option (d) is incorrect. The Revision petition is not allowed at all because appeal is available. Therefore, it would be incorrect to impose a condition of material irregularity. This condition is applicable where revision petition is allowed.

69. Ans. (a)

Sol: In the previous question, two facts prohibited filling of revision petition. First was availability of appeal as a remedy. Second was the fact the special court was not subordinate to the High Court. As mentioned, in the passage, Section 115 vests the power of revision with the High Court. The Court can review the decision of the **subordinate court**. Now even if the presence of appeal is omitted, the revision petition will not be maintainable as the special court is not subordinate. This can be seen from the fact that the status and jurisdiction of the Special Court is similar to that of High Court. Thus, the omission of facts will not have any effect on the maintainability of the revision petition. Option (a) is the correct option.

70. Ans (b)

Sol: The essence of the ruling laid down by the Supreme Court is that an arbitration agreement will not become void merely because proper stamp duty is not paid. The effect of such non-payment is that the agreement becomes inadmissible as evidence. It is nonetheless enforceable and the defect pertaining to stamp duty can be cured as per the Stamp Act. Hence, Option (b) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect. The Supreme Court ruling does not say that parties need not pay stamp duty. The judgement deals with the effect of non-payment on validity of the arbitration agreement. Option (c) is incorrect as the judgement specifically provides that agreement is not void. Option (d) is incorrect as arbitration agreement not properly stamped is **inadmissible** under Section 35 of the Stamp Act.

71. Ans. (c)

Sol: As per the recent Supreme Court's decision, Section 5 limits the courts from dealing with **substantive objections pertaining** to the existence and **validity of arbitration agreements at the referral stage**. A referral court at Section 8 stage can only enter into a prima facie determination pertaining to existence of a valid arbitration agreement. In the present question, the Court has refused to refer the dispute to arbitration, despite the existence of an arbitration agreement, on the ground that such agreement is invalid. This refusal by the Court is invalid as at this stage, Court should not have gone into the validity of the agreement. This is to be left to the consideration of the arbitral tribunal. Hence, Option (c) is correct.

72. Ans. (a)

Sol: As per Section 8 of the 1996 Act, a judicial authority shall, on the basis of the arbitration agreement between the parties, direct the parties to go for arbitration. This section is used when the party to an arbitration agreement brings an action in the Court against the other party. The Supreme Court has held that under Section 8, court should not limit the power of the arbitral tribunal to rule on its own jurisdiction under Section 16. As per Section 16, the tribunal has the power to rule on its own jurisdiction, including ruling on any **objections** with respect to the existence or **validity of arbitration agreement**.

In the present question, Vidur has approached court for resolution of disputes. Vidhisha has challenged the validity of such arbitration agreement on the grounds that it deals with subject matter not arbitrable in India. The Court has refused to discuss such challenges and referred the matter to arbitration. The Court has also directed Vidhisha to raise her challenge before the arbitral tribunal only. Both these decisions are correct. Thus, Statement I and Statement III are correct statements. Option (a) is the correct option.

73. Ans. (d)

Sol: Section 35 of the Stamp Act creates a limitation on admission of an instrument (which is not properly stamped). However, the proviso to Section 35 states that this limitation is not applicable in case of admission of any instrument in evidence in proceeding in a **Criminal Court**.

Now in the present question, only two things can be adequately determined- (i) Instrument is not properly stamped; and (ii) Such instrument is presented as evidence in a **legal proceeding**. In order to decide the validity of the courts' decision, nature of the legal proceeding is required. If the proceeding is of a criminal nature, the limitation under Section 35 would not apply. If the proceedings are not of a criminal nature, then the limitation will apply. Since, from the information given such nature cannot be ascertained, the validity of the courts' decision cannot be determined. Option (d) is the correct option.

74. Ans: (c)

Sol: In the previous question, the nature of the proceeding was not clear. The additional fact clearly mentions that the proceedings were criminal proceedings. In light of this additional fact, the decision by Court is incorrect since, limitation under Section 35 is not applicable in case of admission of any instrument in evidence in proceeding in a **Criminal Court**. Therefore, the validity of the act is weakened. Option (c) is correct.

75. Ans: (b)

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage mentions the decision of the Calcutta High Court, where the court has clearly held that if a man tells his live-in partner that he will marry her after obtaining divorce from his wife but fails to do so later, he cannot be booked for the offence of cheating under Section 417 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Option (a) is incorrect as it wrongly assumes that the permission of the wife can make a man liable to be held for cheating under Section 417 of IPC, if he promises his live-in partner that he would marry her after obtaining divorce and later fails to do so. Option (c) is incorrect. The period of Live-in relation is inconsequential to determine culpability under Section 417 of IPC. Option (d) is incorrect as it wrongly assumes that if the live in partner suffered any financial loss, the man can be held liable for cheating.

76. Ans: (b)

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Section 417 of IPC reads that “Whoever, by deceiving any person, fraudulently or dishonestly induces the person so deceived to do or omit to do anything which he would not do or omit if he were not so deceived, and which act or omission causes or is likely to cause damage or harm to that person in body, mind, reputation or property, is said to “cheat”. In the present case, there was no promise to marry in the first place and hence, there was no deception on part of Vidhan. Option (a) is incorrect as Vishal never pretended to love Vidhushi. Option (c) is incorrect as it wrongly assumes that just because Vidhushi feels defrauded, Vidhan can be held liable for cheating. Option (d) is incorrect as it wrongly assumes that a person can be held liable for cheating just because he is married.

77. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. Section 417 of IPC reads that “Whoever, by deceiving any person, fraudulently or dishonestly induces the person so deceived to do or omit to do anything which he would not do or omit if he were not so deceived, and which act or omission causes or is likely to cause damage or harm to that person in body, mind, reputation or property, is said to “cheat”. In the present case, Vidhan concealed the fact of his marriage and fraudulently induced Vidhushi to have sexual intercourse with her, on the pretext of promise to marry her. Therefore, he can be held liable. Option (b) is incorrect. The recent judgment of Calcutta high Court only protects men in cases when they promise their live-in partner that they will marry them after their divorce. In the present case, Vidhan concealed about her marriage from Vidhushi with an intention to induce her to have sexual intercourse with him. Therefore, the recent judgment will not be applicable in his case. Option (c) is incorrect as it vaguely assumes that Vidhan can be held liable as he met Vidhushi multiple times. Option (d) is incorrect. The facts in the question does not disclose that Vidhan had any actual desire of marrying her. In fact, he concealed the fact about his marriage only to induce her to have sexual intercourse with him.

78. Ans: (b)

Sol: Both A and R are correct. The passage mentions that whenever the accused gives promise to the victim to marry her, without any intention to marry, the consent given by the victim for sexual intercourse will be considered as consent obtained on the misconception of the fact as per Section 90 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 and it will also be considered that he had committed rape on her as per the Section 375 of Indian Penal Code. The passage also distinguishes between rape and consensual sex. If the consent for sex is obtained by a false promise of marriage, it will qualify as rape. But R is not a correct explanation of A's truthfulness. Both statements point out towards the same point.

79. Ans: (b)

Sol: Statement (i) can be concluded from the passage. The Calcutta High Court recently held that if a man tells his live-in partner that he will marry her after obtaining divorce from his wife but fails to do so later, he cannot be booked for the offence of cheating under Section 417 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Statement (iii) can be concluded as the passage mentions that there is a clear distinction between rape and consensual sex and in a case

like false promise to marry, the court must very carefully examine whether the accused had actually wanted to marry the victim, or had mala fide motives, and had made a false promise to this effect only to satisfy his lust, as the latter falls within the ambit of cheating or deception. Statement (iv) can be concluded from the passage. The passage clearly states that whenever the accused gives promise to the victim to marry her, **without any intention to marry**, the consent given by the victim for sexual intercourse will be considered as consent obtained on the misconception of the fact as per Section 90 of Indian Penal Code, 1860. Therefore, only Statement (ii) cannot be concluded. As per the passage, if an accused promises to marry without having any intention to do so- then consent for sex will be treated as one given on the basis of misconception of fact. This will amount to rape. Statement (ii) is stating the exact opposite. – It is saying the accused will not be liable for rape.

80. Ans: (a)

Sol: Under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, a person accused of an offence can raise a claim of juvenility at any stage, even if they have already been sentenced by the trial court. The court is legally bound to order an inquiry to determine the accused's age, and if the claim of juvenility is proved, the sentence passed by the trial court is deemed to have no effect. This ensures that individuals who were minors at the time of the offence are treated in accordance with the provisions of the Act, regardless of the stage of the proceedings. In the present question, only the date of the commission of the offence is given. Therefore, in order to determine Vidhi's claim, an inquiry is required. Therefore, Option (a) is correct. Option (b) is incorrect as the passage specifically states that claim for juvenility can be made at any stage. Option (c) is incorrect. The passage states that if the claim of juvenility is proved, **the sentence passed by the trial court is deemed to have no effect**. Option (d) is incorrect. The passage does not provide that consent of juvenile justice board is necessary to order inquiry.

81. Ans: (c)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, Under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, a person accused of an offence can raise a claim of **juvenility at any stage**, even if they have already been sentenced by the trial court. The court is legally bound to order an inquiry to determine the accused's age, and if the claim of juvenility is proved, the **sentence passed by the trial court is deemed to have no effect**. Once, the claim of juvenility is proved, the **accused is to be forwarded** to the Juvenile Justice Board for appropriate orders. As per the JJ Act, a person is juvenile if he is below 18 years of age. The claim of juvenility will be successful if the person was juvenile at the time of commission of crime. In the present case, the date of birth is 01st May, 1999 and the date of commission of crime is June 2016 (a year prior to the date of conviction). At the time of commission of crime, Vidhan was around 17 years old. Hence, he was a juvenile (person who has not completed 18 years of age). Accordingly, the sentence imposed by Trial Court will have no effect and he will have to be forwarded to the JJ Board for appropriate orders. Option (c) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect. From the passage, it can be clearly inferred that age of the accused is relevant for his sentence. If the accused was juvenile at the time of commission of crime, the sentence by Trial Court will have no effect. Option (b) is incorrect. As per the Supreme Court's judgement in Karan v. the State Of Madhya Pradesh, the Supreme Court has noted that **trial and conviction is not vitiated** even though subsequently the person tried has been held to be a child - **It is only the question of sentence** for which the provisions of the 2015 Act would be attracted. Therefore, it would be incorrect to say that both conviction and sentence will be set aside. Option (d) is incorrect as according to the passage, the claim of juvenility can be raised at any stage. Therefore, it does not matter if the claim was raised for the first time during the appeal.

82. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c) is correct. As per the Supreme Court's ruling in Jitendra Singh, when a juvenile is found guilty of an offence, the punishment must be left to the Juvenile Justice Board. Therefore, the correct course of action is for the court to refer the case to the Juvenile Justice Board, which is responsible for determining an appropriate punishment based on the circumstances of the case and the age of the juvenile offender. Option (a) is incorrect. It states that **"juvenile must go unpunished"**. This is incorrect because the Supreme Court ruling clearly states that when a juvenile is found guilty of the offence alleged to have been committed by him, **he simply cannot go unpunished**. Options (b) and (d) must be rejected as the reasoning is not based on principles laid down in the passage.

83. Ans: (a)

Sol: As per the Supreme Court's judgement in *Karan v. the State Of Madhya Pradesh*, a trial conducted and conviction recorded by the Sessions Court would not be held to be vitiated in law even though subsequently the person tried has been held to be a child - It is only the question of sentence for which the provisions of the 2015 Act would be attracted and any sentence in excess of what is permissible under the 2015 Act will have to be accordingly amended as per the provisions of the 2015 Act. In light of this ruling, the assertion is correct because it says that if a claim of juvenility is proved, only the sentence imposed on accused will be modified. Reasoning is also correct as it is a direct reproduction of Supreme Court's ruling. Option (a) is correct as both Assertion and Reasoning are true. Furthermore R is the correct explanation for A's truthfulness.

84. Ans: (d)

Sol: As per the passage, the Court shall order an inquiry to see if the accused was a juvenile at the date of commission of crime. If he is a juvenile, then the Court must forward the accused to Juvenile Justice Board for appropriate punishment. The Juvenile Justice Board can impose a punishment upto 3 years. A person will be a juvenile if he is below 18 years of age.

In the instant question, the date of birth is 10th January, 2003. However, the date of commission of offence is not provided. Only the year of trial is provided. Therefore, from the information given, it cannot be determined whether Vidhata was a juvenile/child at the date of commission of offence. Since, the issue of juvenility cannot be determined, the validity of court's decision as well as Juvenile Justice board's decision cannot be determined. Therefore, Option (d) is the correct option.

Section D-Logical Reasoning 85. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It is understood from the latter half of the first paragraph. It states, 'The policy affirmed the pivotal role of the teachers in driving reforms and recommended measures to upskill educators in a rapidly changing world, where students are exposed to increasing and diverse sources of information outside formal learning avenues- YouTube videos, for instance. NEP came into effect last year. A year is too short a period to assess any policy. Yet, the day after another Teacher's Day, educational administrators must pause and reflect: Have they appreciated the policy's vision in adequate measure? Have the recent curriculum changes in school and college curricula been true to the NEP's aim of "developing critical minds"? Or does the institutional autonomy promised by it still appear distant?' Option (a) is eliminated as the policy does not need time to show results as per this sentence, rather it is that we should not expect that the desired results will be reflected in the one year of the implementation of the policy. Option (c) is incorrect as it states an illogical statement about the educators taking a break. Option (d), though confusing, is not the correct answer because it speaks of only the education department criticizing or not criticizing it, based on the policy being a short term or a long term one. Hence (b).

86. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Options (a) and (b) are understood from the first few lines of the first paragraph, 'About two years ago, when schools and colleges began to reopen after the Covid-enforced shutdown, reports and surveys underlined that the country was staring at a learning crisis. It was evident that digital teaching had been a poor substitute for the physical classroom. Educationists and teachers pointed out that addressing learning gaps-an area of concern even before the pandemic -would require a radical re-imagination of the classroom. Option (d) is understood from the following lines of the passage, 'The policy affirmed the pivotal role of the teachers in driving reforms and recommended measures to upskill educators in a rapidly changing world, where students are exposed to increasing and diverse sources of information outside formal learning avenues- Option (c) cannot be an assumption as it can be a conclusion, an idea or an opinion of the author. It is understood from the last few lines of the last paragraph, 'Mindsets must be changed if top-down approaches to teaching have to give way to engaged and non-hierarchical learning relationships. In today's social media age, insulating classrooms from prejudices and insecurities is not always an easy task. Yet, the critical role of these spaces in shaping the future means that the brutish behaviour displayed by teachers recently in Muzaffamagar and Kathua *call for introspection*. Another Teacher's Day should not go by with these questions remaining unanswered.' Hence (c).

87. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It can be inferred from the following lines of the passage, 'A first or second-generation learner- possibly from a Dalit or minority community should have no reason for trepidation in the country's classrooms, campuses, laboratories, dormitories, and playgrounds. But a variety of disquieting incidents are proof

that institutions-and those who run them-have not given adequate importance to this imperative. More than 120 suicide deaths in India's higher education institutions between 2014 and 2021-including 68 students from reserved categories-speak of the unbearable stresses of the educational system.' Option (a) is contradicted in the lines of the second paragraph, 'Today, more than ever before, diverse sections of people see education as a means to social mobility. This is attested by the increase in enrolment figures across educational levels in the past 10 years. This welcome development places responsibilities on agents across the educational spectrum- the policymaker, the administrator, the pedagogue.' Option (b) is a contradiction and option (c) has no supporting premise in the passage. Hence (d).

88. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It is understood from the following lines, 'Today, more than ever before, diverse sections of people see education as a means to social mobility. This is attested by the increase in enrolment figures across educational levels in the past 10 years. This welcome development places responsibilities on agents across the educational spectrum- the policymaker, the administrator, the pedagogue. A first or second-generation learner- possibly from a Dalit or minority community should have no reason for trepidation in the country's classrooms, campuses, laboratories, dormitories, and playgrounds. But a variety of disquieting incidents are proof that institutions-and those who run them-have not given adequate importance to this imperative.' Hence (c).

89. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The second paragraph states, 'A first or second-generation learner- possibly from a Dalit or minority community should have no reason for trepidation in the country's classrooms, campuses, laboratories, dormitories, and playgrounds. But a variety of disquieting incidents are proof that institutions-and those who run them-have not given adequate importance to this imperative. More than 120 suicide deaths in India's higher education institutions between 2014 and 2021-including 68 students from reserved categories-speak of the unbearable stresses of the educational system. And these figures do not include those who take their lives unable to take the pressures of the coaching institutes that train students for engineering and medical courses-including at Kota in Rajasthan where suicide deaths this year are at an eight-year high.' This displays the policy's failure that can become the target point of criticism directed towards it. The rest of the options are the positives of the policy, the optimistic aspects of it. Hence (b).

90. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It can be understood from the second paragraph, 'A first or second-generation learner- possibly from a Dalit or minority community should have no reason for trepidation in the country's classrooms, campuses, laboratories, dormitories, and playgrounds. But a variety of disquieting incidents are proof that institutions-and those who run them-have not given adequate importance to this imperative. More than 120 suicide deaths in India's higher education institutions between 2014 and 2021-including 68 students from reserved categories-speak of the unbearable stresses of the educational system. Option (a) is incorrect as it is stated that they should be insulated and that is not an easy task. Options (b) and (d) are contradicted in the second paragraph of the passage. Hence (c).

91. Ans. b

Sol. Option (b) is correct. It is inferred from the third paragraph of the passage where it mentions that the shipping companies starting to take longer journeys around the Cape of Good Hope, which implies a shift in trade routes due to the attacks. This shift is significant because the Red Sea is a major trade route, accounting for a substantial portion of the world's container traffic and trade. Option (a) is a plausible consequence of the conflict but is not directly mentioned or inferred in the passage. The impact on insurance costs, while relevant to the situation, is not specifically addressed in the passage. Option (c) is too extreme as the passage does not suggest a complete halt of maritime activities in the Red Sea; it only mentions increased risks and changes in shipping routes. Option (d) underestimates the impact described in the passage. While there is a temporary disruption, the implication of rerouting via the Cape of Good Hope suggests more significant and potentially longer-term impacts on global trade. Hence (b).

92. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It is directly supported by the passage, which states that the Red Sea connects the Mediterranean with the Indian Ocean and accounts for a significant percentage of the world's ship container traffic, trade, and seaborne petroleum commerce. This highlights its critical role in global maritime commerce. Option (a), while factually correct about the Red Sea being a route for oil shipments, does not encompass its broader strategic significance in global trade as mentioned in the passage. Option (c) is incorrect as the Red Sea is not the sole waterway for transporting goods between Asia and Africa; there are other routes like the Suez Canal. Option (d) introduces a new idea not supported by the passage; the main focus of the passage is on commercial, not military, significance of the Red Sea. Hence (b).

93. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It is supported in the third paragraph of the passage which mentions that many shipping companies have started taking the longer journey around the Cape of Good Hope due to the conflict. This reflects an immediate change in shipping routes to avoid the risks associated with traveling through the Red Sea. Option (a), the complete halt of oil exports from West Asia, is an overstatement and not directly indicated in the passage. While the conflict affects oil prices, it does not suggest a total cessation of exports. Option (c), the permanent closure of the Suez Canal, is not mentioned in the passage and is an extreme scenario not supported by the provided information. Option (d), increased military presence in the Red Sea region, while plausible, is not described as an immediate consequence for global trade in the passage; it is more related to security measures than to trade adjustments. Hence (b).

94. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It is directly supported by the passage, which states that the United States launched a multi-national naval force, Operation Prosperity Guardian, to guard against attacks by the rebels. This implies a protective and deterrent role focused on securing maritime trade routes from the threats posed by the Houthi rebels. Option (a), is misleading as the passage does not indicate that the US involvement through Operation Prosperity Guardian is intended for peace negotiations between the Houthi rebels and the Yemeni government. Option (b), while a plausible role for a US operation in a conflict zone, is not mentioned in the passage as a purpose of Operation Prosperity Guardian. Option (d), suggests a more aggressive military role which is not supported by the passage. The passage focuses on the operation's role in protecting shipping routes rather than engaging in direct combat. Hence (c)

95. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It is inferred from the passage which notes that Egypt and Saudi Arabia, despite potential losses and interests in the region, haven't condemned the Houthis nor openly supported the US-led force. It is stated in the last paragraph, 'Egypt, which stands to be one of the heaviest losers from the decline in Suez Canal commerce, hasn't condemned the Houthis. Saudi Arabia, which has been negotiating peace with the Yemeni group in recent months, too, hasn't come out in support of the US-led force. It's clear that peace in the straits will depend on resolution of the Israel-Hamas conflict. This suggests a stance of neutrality, possibly because both countries are engaged in their own dealings or negotiations with the Houthi rebels, which might be more significant to them than participating in the US-led operation. Option (a) is misleading as the passage does not mention any explicit support from these countries for the US-led force. While Option (c) might seem plausible, the passage does not provide evidence of active opposition; it simply notes a lack of support. Option (d)'s suggestion of indifference due to domestic economic concerns is not supported by the passage, which implies their stance is more likely related to their specific regional interests and negotiations, rather than a focus solely on domestic matters. Hence (b).

96. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It is inferred from the passage which mentions that many shipping companies are taking longer journeys around the Cape of Good Hope due to the conflict. This longer journey likely leads to increased transportation costs, contributing to the rise in crude oil prices. The connection is between the conflict, the change in shipping routes to avoid the Red Sea, and the resultant increase in costs. Option (a), while plausible in a general context, is not specifically tied to the conflict in the passage as the primary cause of the surge in oil prices. Option (b) is a misleading statement because, although the passage mentions attacks on ships, it does not directly link

these attacks to the primary cause of the increase in oil prices. Option (d), suggesting a reduction in oil production, is not mentioned or implied in the passage as a factor in the price increase; the focus is on the impact on shipping routes, not on production. Hence (c).

97. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. This inference is supported by the final lines of the passage, which suggest that Sunak's snub to the Greek prime minister could be seen by other nations as an indication that the UK has not returned to seriousness in foreign affairs, implying a reduced influence. Option (a) is misleading because the passage does not explicitly state that the UK has become more isolationist; it suggests a reduction in influence rather than complete avoidance. Option (b) is a misleading statement; while the UK's stance may be assertive in some cases, the passage does not broadly suggest that the UK has become more assertive as a result of leaving the EU. Option (d), focusing on bilateral agreements, is not directly supported by the passage in relation to the effects of EU departure. The passage implies that the UK's diplomatic actions post-EU departure, such as the incident with the Greek prime minister, might be diminishing its global influence, making (c), the most accurate option. Hence (c)

98. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. Sunak aimed to prioritize repairing strained UK-EU relations, beginning with Northern Ireland. This inference is drawn from the passage's mention that one of Sunak's first steps was to settle a dispute over post-Brexit trading rules with Northern Ireland, indicating a proactive approach to mending EU relations. Option (b) is incorrect because the passage explicitly states Sunak's early focus on EU relations, particularly with Northern Ireland, suggesting that EU relations were not a secondary concern. Option (c) is misleading as the passage indicates that Sunak actively sought to resolve issues (the Northern Ireland dispute), which is more than maintaining the status quo. Option (d) is misleading; while the passage discusses more aggressive actions later in Sunak's term, his initial actions, specifically with the EU and Northern Ireland, do not signal aggressive tactics but rather a conciliatory and reparative approach. Hence (a).

99. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Sunak viewed the comments as a breach of diplomatic protocol. This inference is drawn from the passage's indication that Downing Street claimed the Greek leader broke an agreement not to talk publicly about the sculptures while in the UK, implying a perceived breach of protocol led to the cancellation. Option (a) is misleading. While disagreement over the sculptures is a central issue, the passage doesn't directly link this to the meeting's cancellation as the primary reason. Option (c) is incorrect; it suggests avoidance, but the passage does not provide sufficient evidence that Sunak's intention was to avoid discussing the sculptures. Option (d), focusing on UK domestic issues, is not supported by the passage in the context of the meeting's cancellation and serves as a distractor. The passage focuses on the diplomatic aspect of the sculptures' discussion and its impact on the UK-Greek meeting, making (b) the most accurate inference. Hence (b).

100. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Handling of the issue could portray the UK as insensitive to cultural restitution claims. This inference is drawn from the passage's implication that actions such as cancelling meetings over the sculptures' discussion could be seen as diminishing Britain in the eyes of its European partners, indicating a potential perception of insensitivity to cultural issues. Option (a) is misleading. While the passage mentions cultural heritage, it does not suggest that the UK's handling of the sculptures highlights a commitment to international cooperation. Option (b) is misleading as it suggests a positive image which the passage does not support regarding the sculptures' handling. Option (d), about cultural exchanges, is not directly supported by the passage in the context of the sculptures; the focus is more on diplomatic sensitivity rather than engagement in cultural exchanges. The passage suggests that the UK's handling of the Parthenon sculptures issue could be seen negatively, particularly in terms of sensitivity to cultural claims, making (c) the most accurate inference. Hence (c).

101. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Sunak's reaction could indicate a reluctance to engage with potential future leaders. This inference is drawn from the passage's context where Mitsotakis' meeting with Starmer, a potential future UK leader, is mentioned, and Sunak's subsequent reaction (cancelling a meeting) could be interpreted as an unwillingness to engage with figures who may soon hold significant power. Option (a) is misleading. While it

mentions political alliances, the passage does not suggest that Sunak's reaction was about reinforcing internal UK alliances. Option (c), emphasizing an independent foreign policy, is not directly supported by the passage in the context of this specific incident. Option (d), maintaining traditional diplomatic protocols, could be misleading as the passage does not specifically attribute Sunak's reaction to a preference for traditional protocols. The passage implies that Sunak's reaction to the Greek prime minister's meeting with an opposition leader could reflect a hesitation to interact with those who might soon play a pivotal role in UK politics, making (b) the most suitable inference. Hence (b).

102. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. This inference comes from the mention of Osborne, in the fifth paragraph, advocating a "partnership" agreement for parts of the frieze to be loaned to Athens, indicating a solution that involves temporary exchange without changing the sculptures' ownership, which is a middle ground compared to the British and Greek governments' positions. Option (a) is incorrect as Osborne's proposal does not fully align with the British government's stance, which is about legal ownership and not temporary exchange. Option (c) is misleading because the Greek government demands a complete return, which is different from Osborne's idea of temporary loans. Option (d) is incorrect. The passage does not suggest that Osborne's proposal requires new legal frameworks, but rather it works within existing laws. The passage indicates that Osborne's proposal offers a compromise between the British government's insistence on legal ownership and the Greek government's call for the sculptures' return, making (b) the most accurate option. Hence (b).

103. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It is directly supported by the passage, in the first paragraph, where it mentions that Leader of the Opposition termed the suspension of MPs as "predetermined and premeditated" by the government. This suggests a belief that the suspensions were not impromptu decisions but rather part of a planned strategy, calling into question their legitimacy. Option (a) is incorrect as the passage does not frame the suspensions as necessary for maintaining order, but rather criticizes them. Option (c) is incorrect as it suggests a positive intention behind the suspensions which the passage does not support. Option (d), while plausible, is contradicted by the passage that indicates the suspensions were criticized for their predetermined nature, not for facilitating smooth conduct. The key to understanding the correct answer lies in recognizing the criticism of the suspensions' legitimacy, viewed as a strategic move by the government rather than a response to parliamentary disorder. Hence (b).

104. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. It is supported by the passage's indication that the government passed laws "without a meaningful parliamentary debate that took on board conflicting views." This suggests a prioritization of speed over inclusive debate. Option (b) is incorrect because the passage criticizes the lack of "meaningful parliamentary debate." Option (c) is misleading as the passage mentions an "unprecedented increase in the power of the executive," but this does not directly reflect the government's approach to passing laws. Option (d), is misleading; while the Opposition's suspensions are mentioned, there is no direct implication that new laws were a response to this. The imperative lies in understanding that the passage criticizes the government's approach for being unilateral and hurried, focusing more on the manner of law passing rather than the content of the laws themselves. Hence (a).

105. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It is directly supported, in the second paragraph, by the mention of laws being passed "without a meaningful parliamentary debate" and in the context of the large number of Opposition members being suspended. This implies that the suspension led to less scrutiny and debate from the Opposition. Option (a) is incorrect because, while the decision-making might have been more efficient, the passage criticizes this efficiency as it lacked meaningful debate. Option (b) is misleading, as the suspension of Opposition members would more likely create a less cooperative environment, contrary to what the passage suggests. Option (d) is also incorrect as there is no indication in the passage that the government reconsidered its strategy due to the suspensions. It is required to understand the impact of the suspensions on the nature of parliamentary debates, which became more unilateral due to the reduced presence of the Opposition. Hence (c).

106. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It is inferred from the passage's critique of the Speaker and the Chairman's roles, where their attempts "lacked the requisite imprimatur of impartiality." This suggests that their actions were perceived as partial, which could undermine the democratic process by favoring one side over the other. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage implies the opposite, criticizing the lack of inclusive debates. Option (c) is misleading and therefore ruled out. While it mentions neutrality, the passage criticizes their lack of impartiality, which is different from being merely ineffective. Option (d) is also incorrect as the passage does not depict their leadership as pivotal in maintaining order; rather, it questions their impartiality. The subtlety in understanding the correct answer lies in recognizing the implication of the lack of impartiality on the overall democratic process in Parliament, as suggested by the passage. Hence (b).

107. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It aligns with the sentiment where the author criticizes the government's obstinacy, implying that having a numerical majority doesn't equate to being logically or morally infallible. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage actually criticizes this notion, rather than supporting it. Option (b) is misleading and therefore ruled out, it presents a viewpoint that the passage actually opposes; the government's majority is not shown as a justification for its actions. Option (d), while appearing tempting, is incorrect because the passage does not imply that numerical majority is irrelevant, but rather criticizes the misinterpretation of its significance. The key to understanding the correct answer lies in recognizing the author's critical stance on the government's attitude of equating numerical majority with infallibility, as highlighted in the passage. Hence (c).

108. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It is supported by the passage, where the incident of alleged mimicry is described as a "distraction that was convenient for the ruling party." This suggests that the ruling party used the incident to divert attention away from more critical issues. Option (a) is misleading and is incorrect because there is no mention in the passage of the ruling party using the incident to impose stricter rules. Option (c) is misleading; it misinterprets the nature of the incident, which the passage suggests was used for diversion, not to create a humorous atmosphere. Option (d) while plausible, is not supported by the passage; there is no indication that the incident was used to emphasize security concerns. The key to identifying the correct answer is understanding the implication that the ruling party used the mimicry incident strategically to shift focus from important matters. Hence (b).

Section E-Quantitative Techniques

109. Ans: c

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,

	Male users	Female users	Total
UPI-1	$800 \times 100 / 125 = 640$	$640 \times 100 / 160 = 400$	$640 + 400 = 1040$
UPI-2	580		
UPI-3	$1520 - 720 = 800$	720	1520
UPI-4	$900 \times 7 / 15 = 420$	$900 - 420 = 480$	900
Total			

Now ATQ,

Average = $(400 + 480) / 2 = 880 / 2 = 440$

Hence, option (c) is correct.

110. Ans: a

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

Ratio = $1520 : 580 = 152 : 58 = 76 : 29$

Hence, option (a) is correct.

111. Ans: d

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

Required % difference = $(1040 - 420) / 420 = 620 / 420 = 150\%$ (approx...)

Hence, option (d) is correct.

112. Ans: d

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
As we don't know the age wise, male and female bifurcation, we can't determine the answer.
Hence, option (d) is correct.

113. Ans: b

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,
Let the cost price of B = Rs. X
And the cost price of A = Rs. (X + 200)
Therefore,
Selling price of A = (X+200)*80%
Selling price of B = X*120%
Now,
 $(X + 200) * 80\% + X * 120\% = 560 \Rightarrow 0.8X + 160 + 1.2X = 560 \Rightarrow 2X = 400 \Rightarrow X = 200$
Similarly,
Let the cost price of D = Rs. Y
And the cost price of C = Rs. (Y + 500)
Therefore,
Selling price of C = (Y+500)*75%
Selling price of D = Y*125%
Now,
 $(Y + 500) * 75\% + Y * 125\% = 1375 \Rightarrow 0.75Y + 375 + 1.25Y = 1375 \Rightarrow 2Y = 1000 \Rightarrow Y = 500$
So,

	CP	SP	P/L
A	400	$400 - 80 = 320$	$400 * 20\% = - 80$
B	200	$200 + 40 = 240$	$200 * 20\% = + 40$
C	1000	$1000 - 250 = 750$	$1000 * 25\% = - 250$
D	500	$500 + 125 = 625$	$500 * 25\% = + 125$

Now ATQ,
CP of A = Rs.400
Hence, option (b) is correct.

114. Ans: c

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Required % difference = $40/125 = 8/25 = 32\%$
Hence, option (c) is correct.

115. Ans: a

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Difference = $750 - 320 = 430$
Hence, option (a) is correct.

116. Ans: d

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Average = $(400 + 200 + 1000 + 500)/4 = 2100/4 = 525$
Hence, option (d) is correct.

117. Ans: a

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,
Let the total work = 600 units (LCM of 20, 60, 40, 25, 15, and 60)
Therefore,
Efficiency of Vidhi, Vidhan and Vidya is 30 units/min, 10 units/min, and 15 units/min respectively.
Similarly,

Efficiency of Vidyut, Vidushi and Vidhit is 24 units/min, 40 units/min, and 10 units/min respectively.

Now ATQ,

Time required = $600 / (30 + 10 + 15) = 600/55 = 11$ min (approx....)

Hence, option (a) is correct.

118. Ans: d

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

Time required = $600 / (24 + 40 + 10) = 600/74 = 8$ min (approx....)

Hence, option (d) is correct.

119. Ans: c

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

Required % difference = $(30 + 24) / (15 + 40) = 54/55 = 100\%$ (approx....)

Hence, option (c) is correct.

120. Ans: b

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

Efficiency of Vidhan and Vidyut together = $10 + 24 = 34$

Efficiency of Vidhi and Vidyut together = $30 + 24 = 54$

Efficiency of Vidya and Vidhit together = $15 + 10 = 25$

Efficiency of Vidushi and Vidhan together = $40 + 10 = 50$

Hence, option (b) 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.