

MOCK CLAT 10013 (BASIC)

ANSWER & EXPLANATIONS

English Language

1. **Answer: C**

Reference Line: "Historically, India has been a laggard in the manufacturing landscape of the solar industry, relying heavily on imports and expertise from foreign markets."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option incorrectly suggests a lack of governmental support for the solar sector, whereas the passage clearly mentions government initiatives like "Make in India" aimed at promoting renewable energy sectors, including solar manufacturing. These initiatives demonstrate a governmental commitment to renewable energy, contradicting the claim of this option. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This statement is a misconception because the passage underscores the solar manufacturing sector's potential to generate employment opportunities. It highlights how the growth of the solar industry could lead to job creation, not just within the sector itself but also in related industries, thereby significantly impacting the country's employment rates. This potential for employment growth contradicts the assertion of this option. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This statement directly aligns with the passage's discussion, which highlights the challenges posed by India's dependency on imports and foreign expertise in the solar manufacturing sector. This reliance has been a barrier to the sector's growth, suggesting that reducing dependency and fostering domestic capabilities are essential steps forward. The passage explicitly identifies this issue as a significant hindrance, making this option the correct answer. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) This option inaccurately portrays the situation in India's solar manufacturing sector. The passage points out the scarcity of skilled manpower as a key challenge facing the sector, indicating that the availability of skilled personnel is not as straightforward as suggested. This shortage of skilled workers is presented as a hurdle to becoming a leading country in solar manufacturing, contradicting the assertion made in this option. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

2. **Answer: B**

Reference Line: "As India aligns itself with global competitors in both scale and technology, the solar manufacturing sector is positioned to be a major contributor to employment, economic growth, and sustainability."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option misrepresents the passage's content by implying a lack of government support, whereas the passage outlines several initiatives and support mechanisms provided by the government to boost the solar sector. These efforts indicate a strong governmental backing, contradicting the notion that insufficient government support has been a significant hindrance. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option encapsulates the passage's overarching message that the Indian solar manufacturing sector is on the brink of a significant transformation. With increased government and industry efforts to address challenges such as import dependency and skill shortages, the sector is poised to make a substantial impact on employment, economic growth, and sustainability. This summary captures the optimistic outlook presented in the passage. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) While the passage acknowledges skill shortages as a significant challenge, it also highlights other issues such as import dependency and the need for technological advancement. Suggesting that skill shortages alone are slowing growth oversimplifies the challenges faced by the sector. The passage presents a more nuanced view, indicating that overcoming these challenges requires a multifaceted approach. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option presents a partial truth; while the passage acknowledges the past reliance on foreign imports, its focus is on transitioning towards enhancing domestic manufacturing capabilities and reducing dependency on imports. It suggests that the future of India's solar sector lies in building its indigenous capabilities rather than continuing to rely heavily on foreign imports. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

3. **Answer:** A

Reference Line: "The spillover effect of manufacturing is particularly noteworthy, creating employment not only within the industry but also generating a ripple effect across related sectors."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) Economic benefits impacting related industries and employment. This choice is directly supported by the passage, which highlights the broader economic and employment benefits emanating from the solar sector. The term "spillover effect" is described as creating employment not only within the solar industry but also stimulating growth across related sectors. This indicates a positive, wide-reaching impact on the economy, aligning perfectly with the passage's depiction of the spillover effect as beneficial for related industries and employment opportunities. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) Release of harmful chemicals during solar panel production. This option introduces an unrelated concept to the discussion of economic and employment benefits. The passage focuses on the positive economic impacts, particularly in terms of job creation and growth in related sectors, rather than environmental or production-related concerns. There is no mention of harmful chemicals or environmental impacts in the context of the spillover effect, making this choice misleading and irrelevant to the passage's focus. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Market overflow reducing solar product prices and profits. This choice suggests a negative consequence of market saturation, which is contrary to the passage's positive outlook on the solar manufacturing sector. The term "spillover effect" in the passage refers to beneficial economic impacts, not the potential downsides of market competition or price reductions. There's no indication that the passage discusses market overflow or its impact on prices and profits within the context of spillover effects. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Spread of solar technology to developing countries without pay. While the spread of technology to developing countries is a relevant topic in discussions about solar energy, the passage specifically addresses the economic and employment impacts within the industry and related sectors. This option shifts focus to the geographical spread of technology and misses the core aspect of the spillover effect as described in the passage: economic benefits and job creation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

4. **Answer:** B

Reference Line: To address this, cross-industry resources must be mobilised to fill existing gaps.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) By continuing to rely on foreign imports and expertise without focusing on domestic capabilities. This option contradicts the passage's emphasis on reducing dependency on imports and fostering indigenous capabilities. The passage clearly advocates for a shift towards self-reliance and the development of domestic skills and technology. Relying on foreign imports and expertise would perpetuate existing challenges rather than overcoming them. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Through the mobilization of cross-industry resources to address skill and technology gaps. This is the correct interpretation, as the passage explicitly mentions the need for mobilizing cross-industry resources. It underscores a strategic approach to skill development and technological advancements, indicating that collaboration across various industries can bridge existing gaps and propel the sector forward. This aligns with the passage's strategy for sector growth and addresses the direct call for an integrated, multifaceted approach to overcoming challenges. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Solely by increasing government funding without industry participation or strategic planning. While government funding is crucial, the passage emphasizes a broader strategy that includes industry participation, skill development, and strategic planning. It suggests that overcoming challenges in the solar manufacturing sector requires more than just financial investment; it necessitates a holistic approach that encompasses both public and private sector engagement. This option is misleading because it oversimplifies the solution, ignoring the complexity of the challenges and the multifaceted response outlined in the passage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) By limiting the expansion of the solar sector to avoid the complexities of global competition. This option suggests a retreat from competition, which contradicts the passage's advocacy for growth and global engagement. The passage positions the solar manufacturing sector as capable of transformation and growth, aiming to compete on a global scale rather than withdrawing from it. Limiting expansion would counteract the strategic intent to enhance capabilities and market presence. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

5. **Answer:** C

Reference Line: Initiatives like "Make in India" and incentives for the solar industry are expected to foster a conducive environment for skill development within the nation.

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) India has always been a leader in solar manufacturing, setting global standards.

This statement is incorrect based on the passage, which suggests that India has faced challenges in solar manufacturing and has not historically been a leader in this domain. The passage indicates a shift towards improvement and growth in the sector, spurred by recent initiatives and policies, rather than a longstanding leadership position. The claim of setting global standards is unsubstantiated by the passage, which instead points to efforts to enhance India's capabilities and competitiveness in the solar manufacturing sector. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) The Indian government has shown no interest in the solar manufacturing sector.

This statement is directly contradicted by the information provided in the passage, which highlights the government's active involvement and interest in promoting solar manufacturing through initiatives like "Make in India" and other incentives. These efforts are aimed at encouraging the growth of the solar sector, indicating a clear interest and investment by the government to support and develop this industry. Therefore, the assertion of no interest is unfounded and false according to the passage. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) "Make in India" and other incentives are fostering a conducive environment for solar manufacturing.

This statement is factual and supported by the passage, which mentions initiatives such as "Make in India" among others designed to stimulate the solar manufacturing sector. These initiatives are part of a broader strategy to create a supportive and encouraging environment for the development of solar technology and manufacturing within India. The passage underlines these efforts as pivotal in enhancing the country's manufacturing capabilities and fostering skill development. This aligns with the statement, making it the correct answer. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) The global demand for solar products is declining, affecting India's growth prospects.

The passage suggests the opposite of this statement, indicating an increasing global demand for solar products. This growing demand presents opportunities for India's solar manufacturing sector to expand and thrive. The assertion that declining demand is affecting India's growth prospects is misleading and contradicts the passage's indication of positive growth trends and opportunities in the global market for solar products. The increasing interest in renewable energy worldwide, including solar power, supports the notion of a rising, not declining, demand. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

6. **Answer:** B

Reference Line: In conclusion, India's solar manufacturing sector is undergoing a transformative phase, marked by a shift from dependency on imports to fostering indigenous capabilities.

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) Declining Trends in Solar Manufacturing

This title misrepresents the content and tone of the passage, which emphasizes positive developments and the growth potential within India's solar manufacturing sector. Rather than highlighting decline, the passage outlines initiatives and policy shifts aimed at overcoming previous challenges and enhancing manufacturing capabilities. The focus is on progression and improvement, moving towards greater self-reliance and reduced dependency on imports. This title contradicts the optimistic outlook presented, suggesting a downturn that the passage does not support. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) From Dependency to Self-Reliance in Solar

This title accurately captures the essence of the passage, which describes India's journey in the solar manufacturing sector from reliance on imported solar products towards building its indigenous manufacturing capabilities. The passage discusses various initiatives and policy measures that are facilitating this transition, aiming to strengthen the domestic solar industry and reduce external dependencies. This shift is pivotal for India's energy security and economic growth, making the title a succinct summary of the passage's main theme. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) India's Solar Sector's Global Leadership

While the passage mentions progress and potential within India's solar manufacturing sector, it does not claim that India has already achieved global leadership in this domain. The title overstates the current status, as the passage focuses on the transformative phase and the efforts underway to enhance

capabilities and competitiveness. It speaks to potential and future prospects rather than an established position of dominance on the global stage. The emphasis is on growth and development within the sector, making this title misleading in the context of the passage. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Solar Energy's Diminishing Significance

This title is inconsistent with the passage's content, which underscores the growing significance and potential of solar energy, particularly within India. The passage outlines the importance of the solar sector for India's energy future and the global shift towards renewable energy sources, including solar power. It highlights positive trends and the increasing relevance of solar energy, contrary to the implication of diminishing significance. The passage projects an optimistic outlook for the sector, making this title irrelevant and misleading. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

7. **Answer: C**

Reference Line: The research uncovered a compelling correlation between the intensity of locust infestations and various meteorological and environmental factors.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Analysis of historical locust outbreaks and their impact on ancient civilizations.

This option misleads by implying a historical analysis approach, which the passage does not mention. Studies of ancient civilizations can provide insights into the impacts of locust outbreaks over millennia but would not directly correlate these events with current climate change phenomena. This historical perspective, while valuable, does not align with the scientific methods typically used to establish such correlations in contemporary research. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Examination of locust genetics to understand their adaptation to changing climates.

Although examining locust genetics could offer insights into how these insects adapt to various environmental conditions, the passage specifically highlights the study's focus on environmental and meteorological factors rather than genetic adaptation. Genetic studies are crucial for understanding long-term evolutionary responses but are not mentioned as a method used in this particular research to link locust outbreaks with climate change. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Correlation between locust infestations and meteorological/environmental factors.

This is the correct answer as the passage clearly states that the study found significant correlations between the intensity of locust infestations and various meteorological and environmental factors such as temperature, precipitation, and wind dynamics. This approach is directly relevant to understanding how climate change can exacerbate locust outbreaks by creating conditions more favourable for their breeding and dispersal. This option accurately reflects the scientific methods used to establish the link between locust outbreaks and climate change. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) Predictive modelling based on future global economic trends and locust feeding patterns.

While predictive modelling is a valuable tool in assessing future risks, including those related to locust outbreaks, the passage does not make a connection between economic trends and locust feeding patterns. Predictive modelling for locust outbreaks typically focuses on climatic and environmental variables rather than economic factors. This option introduces an unrelated aspect to the study's methodology as described in the passage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

8. **Answer: D**

Reference Line: According to the study, climate change will make extreme weather events more frequent and severe, creating more opportunities for locusts to multiply and disperse.

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) Locust outbreaks are unaffected by human activities.

This option is incorrect because it contradicts the passage's indication that human-caused climate change is a significant factor increasing the risk of locust outbreaks. The passage implies that activities contributing to climate change, such as greenhouse gas emissions, are indeed influencing the frequency and severity of these events. Human activities are not only affecting the climate but also altering ecosystems in ways that can exacerbate locust outbreaks. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Locust outbreaks will decrease by century's end.

This option is misleading as it contradicts the passage's suggestion that the frequency and severity of locust outbreaks are expected to increase due to the effects of climate change. Predictions of decreasing outbreaks would require evidence of significant and effective global actions against climate change, which

the passage does not imply. Instead, it warns of the likely increase in such outbreaks due to worsening climate conditions. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Rainfall and winds barely affect locust patterns.

This statement is false according to the passage, which explicitly mentions heavy rainfall and strong winds as significant contributors to locust breeding and migration. These meteorological factors are critical in creating the conditions that allow locust populations to explode, leading to outbreaks. The passage stresses the impact of these factors, directly contradicting the claim made in this option. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Climate change increases the risk of locust outbreaks.

This is the correct answer as it aligns with the passage's information that climate change, by making extreme weather events more frequent and severe, creates conditions conducive to locust multiplication and dispersion. The link between climate change and increased locust activity is a central theme of the study, highlighting the need for understanding and mitigating these impacts. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

9. **Answer: B**

Reference Line: The study also suggested that adaptation measures, such as crop diversification, irrigation management, and pest-resistant varieties, could help reduce the vulnerability of farmers to locust attacks.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) With global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, locust outbreaks will become a problem of the past.

This option is misleading because it overly simplifies the relationship between greenhouse gas emissions reduction and the immediate impact on locust outbreaks. While reducing emissions is crucial for mitigating climate change, the passage suggests that the effects of already occurring climate change will continue to influence locust outbreaks in the foreseeable future. The impact of climate change on locust outbreaks is complex and involves more immediate factors like weather patterns and habitat conditions. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) The increase in locust outbreaks will likely necessitate a shift in global agricultural practices to more resilient crops.

This is the correct inference as the passage implies that adaptation measures, including changing agricultural practices, are necessary to mitigate the impact of future locust outbreaks. It suggests a proactive approach to agriculture, incorporating strategies such as crop diversification, irrigation management, and the development of pest-resistant crop varieties to reduce vulnerability. This reflects a direct response to the anticipated increase in locust outbreaks due to climate change. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Locust outbreaks will become less of a concern as modern technology enables precise control over their populations.

This option oversimplifies the challenge by suggesting that technological solutions alone can address the complex issue of locust outbreaks. While technology plays a critical role in monitoring and managing locust populations, the passage emphasizes the need for a broader approach that includes understanding ecological and climatic factors. Relying solely on technology without considering these broader factors does not align with the passage's call for comprehensive strategies. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The frequency of locust outbreaks will remain constant, unaffected by changes in climate or human intervention.

This option contradicts the passage's message that climate change is likely to increase the frequency and severity of locust outbreaks. It ignores the dynamic nature of climate change and its profound impact on ecological systems that influence locust populations. The passage clearly indicates that locust outbreaks are sensitive to climatic conditions, which are being altered by human activities. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

10. **Answer: D**

Reference Line: Locust outbreaks are a complex and dynamic phenomenon that requires a holistic and integrated approach to address.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Focusing exclusively on the use of pesticides to eliminate locusts.

This option misrepresents the term "holistic" by suggesting a singular approach to managing locust outbreaks. A holistic approach, as implied in the passage, involves integrating multiple strategies and considering a wide range of factors, including but not limited to the use of pesticides. Relying solely on chemical controls does not take into account the environmental, agricultural, and socio-economic aspects necessary for a comprehensive management plan. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Considering only the climatic factors that lead to locust breeding.

While climatic factors are crucial in understanding and predicting locust outbreaks, focusing solely on them does not constitute a holistic approach. The passage suggests that addressing locust outbreaks effectively requires taking into account a broader set of considerations, including the impacts on agriculture, the environment, and communities. A holistic approach is about integrating various dimensions of the problem to devise comprehensive solutions. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Implementing solutions that are solely technology-driven without considering natural ecosystems.

This option fails to capture the essence of a holistic approach as outlined in the passage. While technology is an important tool in monitoring and managing locust outbreaks, a holistic strategy encompasses more than just technological solutions. It involves understanding and integrating ecological, agricultural, and socio-economic factors to address the root causes and broader impacts of locust outbreaks. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Taking into account all aspects, including environmental, agricultural, and socio-economic factors.

This is the correct answer because it aligns with the passage's description of a holistic approach to locust outbreak management. By considering all relevant factors, such an approach aims to address the issue comprehensively, incorporating strategies that range from direct intervention to mitigate outbreaks to longer-term measures aimed at reducing vulnerability and enhancing resilience. This reflects an understanding that locust outbreaks are a multi-dimensional challenge requiring integrated solutions. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

11. **Answer:** B

Reference Line: For example, heavy rainfall can increase soil moisture and vegetation growth, which provide food and shelter for locusts.

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) It leads to a decrease in locust populations due to flooding of their habitats.

This option is incorrect as it contradicts the passage's information that heavy rainfall actually creates favourable conditions for locust outbreaks. While flooding can impact certain habitats, the overall effect of increased rainfall is to enhance soil moisture and vegetation growth, providing ideal conditions for locust breeding and survival. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) It increases soil moisture and vegetation growth, aiding locust survival and breeding.

This is the correct answer because it directly reflects the passage's explanation of how heavy rainfall contributes to locust outbreaks. By increasing soil moisture and vegetation, heavy rainfall provides the necessary resources for locusts to thrive and multiply, leading to increased risk of outbreaks. This highlights the link between climatic conditions and locust population dynamics. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) It has no significant impact on locust behaviour or population dynamics.

This option is misleading as it disregards the significant impact that heavy rainfall has on creating conducive conditions for locust outbreaks. The passage clearly states the importance of rainfall in influencing locust breeding and migration patterns, emphasizing its role in facilitating outbreaks. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) It causes locusts to migrate to drier areas, reducing the risk of outbreaks.

This option presents a misconception by suggesting that heavy rainfall would drive locusts to migrate away from breeding grounds, thereby reducing outbreak risks. In reality, the passage indicates that heavy rainfall promotes breeding conditions, increasing the likelihood of outbreaks rather than diminishing it. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

12. **Answer:** C

Reference Line: The study called for better regional and continental cooperation among countries and control organizations to prevent and control locust outbreaks.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) "Biting off more than you can chew."

This idiom suggests taking on a task that is too difficult to manage, which does not accurately reflect the passage's call for cooperation in preventing and controlling locust outbreaks. The passage emphasizes the necessity of collective effort rather than the challenges of undertaking too ambitious tasks. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) "Jumping on the bandwagon."

"Jumping on the bandwagon" implies following a trend because it is popular or successful, not actively collaborating to solve a problem. This idiom does not capture the essence of the passage's call for regional and continental cooperation to address the complex challenge of locust outbreaks. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) "Many hands make light work."

This idiom is the correct representation of the passage's message, emphasizing that cooperation and collective effort can significantly ease the burden of preventing and controlling locust outbreaks. It highlights the importance of working together to achieve a common goal, aligning with the passage's call for better cooperation among countries and control organizations. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) "Beating around the bush."

"Beating around the bush" suggests avoiding the main topic or problem, which is unrelated to the direct and proactive call for cooperation and action outlined in the passage. The passage explicitly calls for concerted efforts, making this idiom inappropriate for describing the advocated approach. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

13. **Answer:** B

Reference Line: But one thing which modern man has completely forgotten has to be remembered, that religion is also a science.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Both religion and science are based on unyielding beliefs to decipher life's mysteries.

This interpretation misunderstands the core message of the passage. The author emphasizes the experimental and experiential aspects of religion, akin to science's methodology, rather than suggesting both are rigidly anchored in unalterable beliefs. Religion, as portrayed here, invites personal exploration beyond mere belief, aligning more closely with science's empirical and open-ended inquiry. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Science and religion parallel in requiring observation and personal trials, such as meditation.

This choice accurately captures the essence of the author's message. By stating that religion is also a science, the author underscores the common ground between the two in terms of methodological inquiry: both demand a form of observation and personal experimentation (e.g., meditation in the context of religion). This perspective celebrates the investigative spirit of both fields, highlighting their shared commitment to understanding through direct experience. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Religion, diverging from science, bases its claims on the untestable aspects of the supernatural.

This option misinterprets the passage's argument. The author challenges the notion that religion solely dwells in the realm of the untestable and supernatural, instead presenting it as a domain of personal experimentation and discovery, similar to how science operates through testable hypotheses and empirical evidence. The focus is on the experiential and investigational aspects of religion, not its divergence into the supernatural. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Completely distinct, science and religion pursue their inquiries with no shared methodologies.

This option contradicts the passage's central thesis. By likening religion to science, the author argues against the idea of their complete separation, instead suggesting a shared foundational approach to inquiry and understanding through personal experience and experimentation. The claim here is not of an absolute distinction but of a nuanced similarity in their pursuit of knowledge. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

14. **Answer:** C

Reference Line: But when you are moving into meditation, except for you nobody else will be there to witness it.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Meditation, observable and measurable by others, parallels the collective nature of science.

This option incorrectly describes the nature of meditation as outlined in the passage. Meditation is portrayed as a deeply personal, subjective experience that eludes external observation and measurement, in contrast to the collective and verifiable processes of scientific inquiry. The passage emphasizes the solitary journey of meditation, which cannot be shared or quantified in the same manner as scientific experiments. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Meditation's outward effects provide clear, visible proof of change, unlike science's outcomes.

This misrepresents the passage's delineation of meditation. While meditation may lead to transformative effects, these are primarily internal and subjective, not readily visible or externally provable as this option suggests. The passage clarifies that meditation's outcomes are distinct from the tangible, observable results often produced by scientific inquiry, which can be systematically documented and evaluated. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Meditation is a personal journey, unseen and unmeasured by others, diverging from science.

This option aligns with the passage's depiction of meditation as an intrinsically personal experience, inaccessible to outside observation and measurement. This distinction underscores the unique nature of meditation, contrasting with the external, observable nature of scientific experiments. The passage highlights the solitude and introspection inherent in meditation, setting it apart from the collaborative and empirical framework of science. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) Both meditation and science yield instant, visible proofs of their effects to the practitioner.

This option inaccurately reflects the passage's insights on meditation and scientific inquiry. The passage indicates that meditation's effects are internal and subjective, not immediately visible or provable to the practitioner in the same way scientific results might be. The transformative journey of meditation unfolds over time and is deeply personal, diverging from the instant, visible outcomes associated with scientific experiments. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

15. **Answer:** B

Reference Line: They are true about people who have been conditioned as Christians and Hindus, who have never explored on their own what exactly it is, who have simply believed as a formality.

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) Modern thinkers err in viewing religion as mere superstition and dogma.

This option correctly encapsulates the author's critique of a common misperception among modern thinkers. The passage argues against the reduction of religion to simple superstition or blind adherence to dogma, advocating instead for an appreciation of religion's depth and the experiential exploration it entails. The author seeks to elevate the understanding of religion beyond narrow stereotypes, aligning with this option. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer because it is supported by the passage.

b) Religiousness mandates strict ritual and social event participation.

This statement is not supported by the passage, which instead criticizes the superficial engagement with religion through mere ritual or social participation without genuine personal exploration or understanding. The author distinguishes true religiousness from formal adherence to practices or events, emphasizing the importance of individual inquiry and experience. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) True religion involves deep personal exploration, not just belief.

This option is in harmony with the passage's core message. The author champions the view of religion as a journey of deep personal exploration rather than a system of imposed beliefs. This perspective is presented as a counterpoint to misconceptions of religion as merely dogmatic or ritualistic, underscoring the value of personal experience and discovery in understanding religious truths. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer because it is supported by the passage.

d) Religion offers clarity and insight, much like sunrise brings light.

This poetic comparison is reflective of the passage's portrayal of religion as a means of achieving clarity and insight into the nature of existence. By likening the revelatory power of religion to the dawn of light, the author suggests that true religious exploration can illuminate understanding in a manner akin to the natural

revelation brought by sunrise. This metaphor underscores the transformative potential of genuine religious inquiry. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer because it is supported by the passage.

16. **Answer:** A

Reference Lines: Religion is not superstition; it is not belief. It is not at all a dogma in which you can believe; it is something to be experienced. Just as science works through experimentation, religion works through experimentation.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Philosophical

The author's treatment of the subject is deeply philosophical, engaging with the fundamental nature of religion and its comparative analysis to science through a lens of conceptual exploration and existential inquiry. This approach is not confined to empirical evidence but rather delves into the realms of belief, experience, and personal experimentation. The passage invites readers to reconsider preconceived notions of religion, promoting a contemplative and introspective examination of its essence and methodologies. This philosophical stance aims to broaden the discourse, encouraging a more nuanced and profound understanding of religion in relation to science. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) Skeptical

A skeptical approach would imply a questioning or doubting attitude towards the established understanding of religion's relationship with science. While the passage does challenge certain misconceptions, its aim is not to undermine the credibility or validity of religious experience or its parallels with scientific inquiry. Instead, it affirms the significance of personal experimentation within religion, akin to scientific methodology. The author's perspective fosters a reevaluation of religion's experiential basis rather than casting doubt on its legitimacy or comparing it unfavorably to science. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Analytical

Although the passage does engage in an examination of religion and science, its approach transcends mere analytical scrutiny. The focus is more on philosophical exploration and the experiential aspects of religion, rather than a detached, empirical analysis. The author seeks to elucidate the shared methodologies and the intrinsic value of personal exploration in both domains, rather than offering a purely analytical comparison based on objective criteria. The analysis provided serves the broader purpose of fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of religion's experiential dimension. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Cynical

Cynicism would entail a dismissive or mocking attitude towards the subject matter, which is not evident in the passage. The author's tone is one of seriousness and respect, aiming to elevate the conversation around the nature of religion and its comparison to science. The passage advocates for an appreciation of religion's depth and the validity of personal experimentation, distancing itself from cynicism by promoting a positive re-evaluation of religion's role and methodology. The intent is to enrich the reader's understanding, not to belittle or undermine the value of religious or scientific inquiry. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

17. **Answer:** B

Reference Line: But when you are moving into meditation, except for you nobody else will be there to witness it.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Religion requires no external validation, as its truths are known experientially to the practitioner.

This statement aligns with the passage's emphasis on the personal and experiential nature of religious inquiry. The author posits that true understanding and the validation of religious experiences come from within, through personal exploration and meditation, rather than requiring external proof or validation. This perspective highlights the intrinsic, subjective value of religious experiences, understood and appreciated through individual journey and insight. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer because the author would likely agree with it.

b) The practice of religion, much like scientific inquiry, can be externally observed and quantified.

This statement contradicts the passage's portrayal of religious practice, particularly meditation, as inherently personal and subjective, eluding external observation and quantification. The author underscores the distinction between the internal, experiential nature of religious practices and the external, measurable framework characteristic of scientific inquiry. This divergence highlights the unique, introspective journey of religious exploration, which cannot be captured or evaluated through conventional scientific methods. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer because the author would most likely disagree with it.

c) True religiousness is a matter of personal journey and discovery, not just adherence to rituals.

This option reflects the author's view that genuine religious engagement transcends formal ritualistic practices or mere adherence to prescribed ceremonies. The passage advocates for a deeper, more personal exploration of religiousness, emphasizing the significance of individual experience and discovery in understanding and embodying religious principles. This perspective champions an intimate, introspective approach to religion, valuing personal journey and insight over external observance and ritual conformity. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer because the author would likely agree with it.

d) Religion and science both serve as means to explore and understand the world around us.

While this statement is true and reflects a part of the passage's message, the author's main contention lies in the methods and nature of exploration and understanding within each domain. The passage suggests a complementarity between religion and science in their quest for knowledge and insight, yet emphasizes the unique, experiential, and subjective path offered by religion, distinct from the empirical and observable methods of science. However, the author would agree with the general sentiment that both domains contribute to our comprehension of existence, albeit through different approaches. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer because the author would likely agree with it, albeit with nuanced considerations.

18. **Answer: C**

Reference Line: But one thing which modern man has completely forgotten has to be remembered, that religion is also a science.

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Religion adheres to unchangeable dogmas, paralleling science's fixed laws.

This interpretation misreads the passage's intention. The author seeks to distance religion from the notion of rigid dogmas and instead presents it as a field open to personal exploration and experimentation, akin to the empirical and evolving nature of scientific inquiry. The emphasis is on the dynamic, experiential aspect of religion, which contrasts with the fixed, immutable laws characteristic of scientific disciplines. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer because it misrepresents the passage's portrayal of religion.

b) Like science, religion demands empirical evidence for its comprehension.

This option misunderstands the passage's comparison between religion and science. While acknowledging similarities in their investigative spirit, the author highlights that religion's comprehension arises from personal experimentation and introspective journey, rather than the empirical evidence and objective validation central to science. The passage champions an experiential understanding of religious truths, distinct from the empirical rigor associated with scientific methodology. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer because it inaccurately reflects the passage's nuances.

c) Religion and science share inquiry methods, though their paths diverge.

This option captures the essence of the author's argument. By stating that religion is also a science, the passage underscores a shared foundation in inquiry and experimentation, albeit with divergent focuses and methodologies. The author acknowledges the investigative approach common to both, while also highlighting the unique, personal, and experiential journey facilitated by religion, distinct from the external, empirical path of science. This nuanced comparison respects the integrity and value of both fields, acknowledging their contributions to understanding through different means. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer because it accurately represents the passage's implication.

d) Religion and science stand in opposition: one faith-based, the other proof-reliant.

This option fails to capture the passage's nuanced view of the relationship between religion and science. The author does not posit these domains as oppositional but rather suggests a complex interplay where both can contribute to the pursuit of knowledge and understanding, each through its unique approach. The passage challenges the dichotomy of faith versus proof, instead proposing a model where experiential and empirical inquiries complement rather than contradict each other. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer because it oversimplifies and misinterprets the passage's message.

19. **Answer:** C

Reference Line: "India says they are a victim of overfishing by subsidised large foreign vessels — e.g., China — fishing in and around their waters."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) India aims to leverage its negotiating position to secure favourable outcomes in unrelated trade agreements. This choice suggests a strategic manoeuvre by India across different negotiation platforms, implying a broader diplomatic or trade strategy rather than focusing on the specific issue of overfishing. The passage, however, pinpoints the concern with overfishing by large, subsidized foreign fleets, especially highlighting the detrimental effects on India's marine ecosystems and local fisheries. This option diverts from the core issue presented, making it an inaccurate representation of the passage's content. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) India perceives the agreement as favouring larger, developed nations over smaller, developing ones. While this option might resonate with common concerns among developing countries in global agreements, the passage directly addresses overfishing by foreign vessels in Indian waters as the primary issue. It doesn't elaborate on a perceived bias in the agreement's structure towards developed nations. By not addressing the specific contention India has with the agreement, this choice fails to capture the essence of the passage's argument against the draft agreement. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) India argues the agreement fails to adequately tackle overfishing by large foreign fleets in its waters. This option aligns perfectly with the passage's assertion. India's opposition stems from the agreement's perceived inadequacy in addressing the specific issue of overfishing by heavily subsidized foreign fleets, which significantly impacts India's marine biodiversity and the livelihoods of its local fishing communities. The passage specifies India's victimization by such practices, directly linking its opposition to the need for protective measures against overfishing, which the agreement fails to address adequately. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) India seeks an extended transition period to better prepare its local fishing communities for the agreement's impacts. This option misrepresents the passage's focus, suggesting that India's main concern is the timeline for implementing the agreement's provisions. While transition periods and preparation for local communities are legitimate concerns in international agreements, the passage specifically highlights overfishing by foreign vessels as the crux of India's opposition. It does not mention India's demand for more time as a primary contention point. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

20. **Answer:** A

Reference Line: "All of our research shows that transparency will be essential to achieve effective implementation of this agreement."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The agreement's effectiveness is largely dependent on the transparent sharing of data on overfished stocks. This option captures the essence of the passage, emphasizing the critical role of transparency and data sharing in the successful implementation of the fisheries subsidy agreement. The passage suggests that without an open exchange of information regarding which fish stocks are overfished, it would be challenging to assess the agreement's impact accurately and enforce its provisions effectively. Transparency is portrayed as a foundational element for the agreement's success, underlining its importance in achieving sustainable fishing practices globally. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) The strict adherence of major economies to the agreement is seen as a critical factor for its success. While adherence by major economies is undeniably important for the success of international agreements, this option simplifies the passage's message by implying that adherence alone is the key to success. It overlooks the passage's emphasis on transparency and the complex, multi-faceted approach needed for the agreement to be effective. The passage suggests that beyond adherence, the mechanisms of implementation, including data sharing and monitoring, are vital. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Immediate effectiveness of the agreement is anticipated upon signing, without further need for implementation. This option contradicts the passage, which implies that the signing of the agreement is just the beginning. Effective implementation, including the establishment of transparent reporting mechanisms and adherence to the agreement's provisions, is crucial for its success. The passage clearly

indicates that ongoing efforts post-signing are necessary to address overfishing and ensure the sustainability of fish stocks. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Exemptions for developing countries are believed to enhance the agreement's effectiveness through gradual compliance. This option misinterprets the passage's focus. While exemptions for developing countries can be a component of international agreements to allow for differential implementation timelines, the passage does not suggest that these exemptions are a key to enhancing the agreement's effectiveness. Instead, it highlights the need for transparency and comprehensive participation as central to the agreement's success. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

21. **Answer: A**

Reference Line: "India says they are a victim of overfishing by subsidised large foreign vessels."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) Noun. The passage uses "overfishing" as a noun to describe the detrimental activity affecting fish stocks in Indian waters, perpetrated by subsidized large foreign vessels. This usage aligns with the common grammatical role of "overfishing" as a concept or condition, where it represents excessive fishing activities that lead to the depletion of fish populations. The passage's context, focusing on the environmental and economic impacts of such practices, further confirms this grammatical categorization. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) Verb. This choice misinterprets the grammatical function of "overfishing" within the passage. Although derived from the verb "to fish," when used in the context provided, "overfishing" acts as a noun, denoting a situation rather than an action being directly performed at the moment of mention. The passage discusses the effects and concerns related to overfishing rather than describing the act of fishing excessively in real-time. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Adjective. This option incorrectly identifies "overfishing" as an adjective. In the passage, "overfishing" is not used to modify or describe a noun; instead, it stands as the subject of concern, indicating the process of fishing to an unsustainable level. The grammatical structure and the context of the passage do not support the interpretation of "overfishing" as an adjective. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Adverbs. The interpretation of "overfishing" as an adverb is incorrect because "overfishing" does not modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs, which is the primary function of an adverb. The passage uses "overfishing" to denote a specific environmental and economic issue, squarely placing it in the noun category within the discussed context. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

22. **Answer: B**

Reference Line: "A new global agreement on tackling fisheries subsidies that lead to overcapacity and overfishing could be sealed."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) India's economic policies' global trade impact. This option broadens the scope of the passage too much, suggesting a general analysis of India's economic policies and their global implications. While India's stance on fisheries subsidies is indeed a part of its broader economic and trade policies, the passage specifically focuses on the negotiations surrounding a new fisheries subsidy agreement. The central theme is more narrowly defined around the efforts to address overfishing through international cooperation, making this option too broad. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Negotiating a new WTO fisheries subsidy agreement. This option precisely identifies the passage's focus, which is the negotiation and potential impact of a new World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement on fisheries subsidies. The passage delves into the specific issues at stake in these negotiations, such as the need to tackle overfishing and ensure the sustainability of marine resources, framing these negotiations as a critical juncture for global fisheries management. This choice accurately captures the essence of the discussed content. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) India's leverage strategies in global trade talks. While the passage does touch upon India's position and concerns within the broader context of trade negotiations, framing the central theme as India's leverage strategies oversimplifies and narrows the focus too much. The core subject is the broader effort to negotiate a fisheries subsidy agreement, not solely India's negotiation tactics or strategies. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Major economies' influence on environmental policies. This option generalizes the passage's content, suggesting a focus on how major economies shape environmental policies. Although the influence of major economies is an underlying theme, the passage is specifically centered on the negotiation of a fisheries subsidy agreement, making this option too broad and not directly reflective of the passage's main focus. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

23. **Answer:** C

Reference Line: "India — which is often described as an obstructionist element in trade talks."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) India supports and advances international trade agreements. The term "obstructionist" inherently contradicts the notion of support and advancement. It implies resistance or hindrance to progress, which is opposite to the positive connotation of supporting and advancing agreements. The passage describes India as being perceived as an obstructionist in trade talks, indicating a tendency to oppose or complicate the negotiation process rather than facilitating it. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) India adopts a cooperative stance in negotiations. Labeling India as "obstructionist" directly conflicts with the idea of cooperation. An obstructionist stance implies actions or attitudes that block or delay progress, which is the antithesis of cooperation. The passage uses this term to suggest that India's approach to trade talks often involves resistance or opposition, not collaborative efforts towards consensus. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) India opposes and delays trade talks progress. This option correctly interprets the term "obstructionist" as used in the passage. It encapsulates the notion that India's actions or negotiation tactics are seen as hindering the advancement of trade talks, specifically by opposing or complicating discussions and decisions. This portrayal aligns with the passage's depiction of India's role in trade negotiations, indicating a stance that is more about opposition and delay than facilitation. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) India remains neutral in trade policy formulation. The characterization of India as "obstructionist" is incompatible with the idea of neutrality. Neutrality implies a lack of strong positions or actions that significantly sway the course of negotiations in one direction or another. In contrast, an obstructionist stance is actively impactful, aimed at opposing or stalling progress. The passage suggests that India takes a pronounced stance in trade talks, which is far from neutral. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

24. **Answer:** B

Reference Line: "Signing the agreement is one thing, but the real success or failure of it will depend on implementation."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The agreement will be universally acclaimed for its comprehensive approach to solving overfishing. This option is overly optimistic and not grounded in the passage's cautious tone regarding the agreement's potential outcomes. While the goal of the agreement is to address overfishing comprehensively, the passage highlights the complexities and challenges involved in its implementation. The anticipation of universal acclaim overlooks these nuances and the conditional nature of the agreement's success. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Its success is contingent upon the inclusion of stringent transparency measures and widespread adherence. This option accurately reflects the passage's emphasis on the critical importance of transparency and adherence for the agreement's effectiveness. It recognizes that the agreement's potential to positively impact overfishing and fisheries sustainability hinges on the robustness of its implementation measures and the commitment of all parties involved. This nuanced understanding aligns with the passage's message. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) It will immediately resolve all issues related to overfishing and fisheries subsidies upon adoption. This option presents an unrealistic expectation of the agreement's impact, contradicting the passage's implication that success depends on ongoing efforts beyond mere adoption. The passage underscores the necessity of effective implementation, monitoring, and cooperation among signatories, suggesting that immediate resolution of all issues is overly simplistic and unlikely. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Developing countries' exemptions will inherently enhance the agreement's overall effectiveness. While exemptions for developing countries are a common feature in international agreements to address disparities in capacity and resources, the passage does not imply that such exemptions will automatically enhance the agreement's effectiveness. Instead, it stresses the importance of implementation and adherence to the agreed measures. This option overlooks the complex dynamics and challenges outlined in the passage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Current Affairs and General Knowledge

25. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Option B is the correct answer.

112. Annual financial statement

(1) The President shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for that year, in this Part referred to as the "annual financial statement".

(2) The estimates of expenditure embodied in the annual financial statement shall show separately--

(a) the sums required to meet expenditure described by this Constitution as expenditure charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India; and

(b) the sums required to meet other expenditure proposed to be made from the Consolidated Fund of India, and shall distinguish expenditure on revenue account from other expenditure.

(3) The following expenditure shall be expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India-

(a) the emoluments and allowances of the President and other expenditure relating to his office;

(b) the salaries and allowances of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Council of States and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the House of the People;

(c) debt charges for which the Government of India is liable including interest, sinking fund charges and redemption charges, and other expenditure relating to the raising of loans and the service and redemption of debt;

(d)

(i) the salaries, allowances and pensions payable to or in respect of Judges of the Supreme Court,

(ii) the pensions payable to or in respect of Judges of the Federal Court,

(iii) the pensions payable to or in respect of Judges of any High Court which exercises jurisdiction in relation to any area included in the territory of India or which at any time before the commencement of this Constitution exercises jurisdiction in relation to any area included in a Governor's Province of the Dominion of India;

(e) the salary, allowances and pension payable to or in respect of the Comptroller and Auditor- General of India;

(f) any sums required to satisfy any judgment, decree or award of any court or arbitral tribunal;

(g) any other expenditure declared by this Constitution or by Parliament by law to be so charged.

26. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Viability gap funding for wind energy

It will help in harnessing offshore wind energy potential, aiming for an initial capacity of 1 gigawatt.

Establishment of coal gasification and liquefaction capacity of 100 million tonnes by 2030.

Phased mandatory blending of CNG, PNG and compressed biogas

Financial assistance for procurement of biomass aggregation machinery

Rooftop solarization: 1 crore households will be enabled to obtain up to 300 units of free electricity per month

Strengthening e-vehicle ecosystem by supporting manufacturing and charging

New scheme of biomanufacturing and bio-foundry to be launched to support environment friendly alternatives

27. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Government plans to subsidize the construction of 30 million affordable houses in rural areas.

Housing for Middle Class scheme to be launched to promote middle class to buy/built their own houses.

28. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh today said the Interim Budget 2024-25 reflects the emphasis on Innovation and Startups to achieve the goal of a Viksit Bharat @2047.

The Minister referred to the Interim Budget proposing a corpus of Rs One Lakh Crore to boost private investment in sunrise technologies. As the Union Finance Minister said, "This will mark a golden era for our

tech savvy youth,” he said, adding, it will encourage programmes that combine the powers of our youth and technology.

29. **Answer: A**

Explanation: Dr. Jitendra Singh had announced India’s first indigenously developed vaccine, “CERVAVAC” for the prevention of cervical cancer, developed by DBT and the Serum Institute of India, Pune, in September, 2022. CERVAVAC® is indicated in girls and women 9 through 26 years of age for the prevention of the following diseases caused by Human Papillomavirus (HPV) types, included in the vaccine:

Cervical, vulvar, vaginal, and anal cancer caused by HPV types 16 and 18.

Genital warts (condyloma acuminata) caused by HPV types 6 and 11.

CERVAVAC® is indicated in boys and men 9 through 26 years of age for the prevention of the following diseases caused by HPV types included in the vaccine:

Anal cancer caused by HPV types 16 and 18.

Genital warts (condyloma acuminata) caused by HPV types 6 and 11.

30. **Answer: D**

Explanation: Healthcare Sector: Encouraging Cervical Cancer Vaccination for girls (9-14 years).

U-WIN platform for immunization efforts of Mission Indradhanush to be rolled out.

Expanding the Ayushman Bharat scheme to include all ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers, and helpers.

Railways: Three major economic railway corridor programmes will be implemented- energy, mineral & cement corridors, port connectivity corridors, and high traffic density corridors.

Forty thousand normal rail bogies will be converted to Vande Bharat standards for enhanced safety, convenience, and passenger comfort.

Aviation: Expansion of existing airports and comprehensive development of new airports under the UDAN scheme.

Urban Transport: Promotion of urban transformation via Metro rail and NaMo Bharat.

31. **Answer: A**

Explanation: Agricultural Sector: Encouraging the use of 'Nano DAP' for various crops across all agro-climatic zones.

Formulating policies to support dairy farmers and combat Foot and Mouth Disease.

Strategizing for AtmaNirbharta (self-reliance) in oilseeds, covering research, procurement, value addition, and crop insurance.

Nano-DAP (Di-ammonium Phosphate) is a nanotechnology-based agri-input developed by the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO). It helps in correcting the Nitrogen & Phosphorus deficiencies in standing crops.

32. **Answer: B**

Explanation: The continuation of the fifty-year interest-free loan scheme for capital expenditure to states was announced.

A total outlay of Rs. 1.3 lakh crore, with a provision of Rs. 75,000 crore for fifty-year interest-free loans to support state-led reforms.

Special attention will be paid to the eastern region to make it a powerful driver of India's growth.

33. **Answer: C**

Explanation: Fishery Sector: Establishing a new department, 'Matsya Sampada,' to address the needs of fishermen.

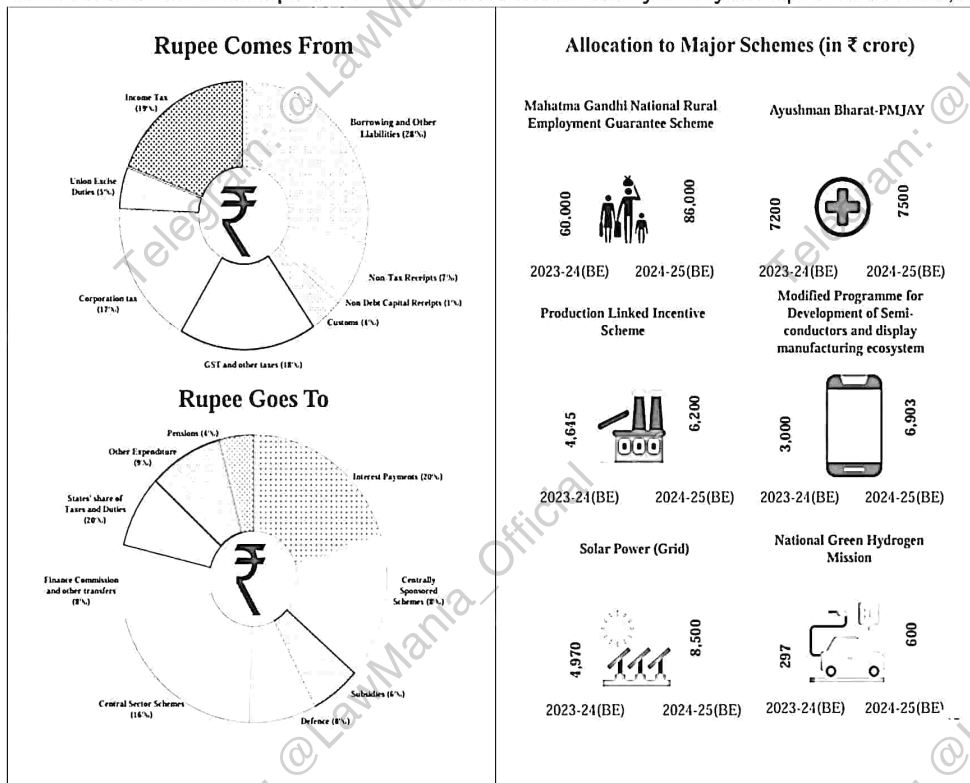
34. **Answer: B**

Explanation: The Interim Budget maintains the existing rates for direct and indirect taxes, including import duties.

For Corporate Taxes: 22% for existing domestic companies, 15% for certain new manufacturing companies.

No tax liability for taxpayers with income up to ₹7 lakh under the new tax regime.

Certain tax benefits for Start-Ups and investments extended by one year up to March 31, 2025



35. **Answer: B**

Explanation: The allocation for the Chabahar Port remains at Rs 100 crore, showcasing India's commitment to connectivity projects with Iran.

36. **Answer: A**

Explanation: The concept of the Neighbourhood First Policy came into being in 2008. It was conceived to bolster relations with certain priority countries such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

37. **Answer: D**

Explanation: In line with India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy, the largest share of the aid portfolio has been granted to Bhutan with an allocation of Rs 2,068 crore against Rs 2,400 crore in 2023-24.

Bhutan emerges as the frontrunner, receiving a substantial share of the aid portfolio. Bhutan serves as a buffer state between India and China, two Asian giants with complex relations. Bhutan's strategic location provides India with an additional layer of security against potential threats from the north.

In 2017, during the Doklam standoff between India and China, Bhutan played a crucial role in allowing Indian troops to enter its territory to resist Chinese incursions.

India's full support for the socio-economic development of Bhutan is based on its priorities to boost cross-border connectivity and expand ties in trade, infrastructure and energy.

The Government of India has committed Rs. 45 billion to Bhutan's 12th Five Year Plan (2018-2023), which includes Rs. 28 billion for Project Tied Assistance (PTA). The ongoing cooperation between India and Bhutan in the hydro-power sector is covered under the 2006 bilateral agreement for cooperation and its Protocol signed in 2009.

Four hydroelectric projects (HEPs) totalling 2136 MW are already operational in Bhutan and are supplying electricity to India.

The 720 MW Mangdechhu was commissioned in August 2019 and handed over to Bhutan in December 2022.

Two HEPs namely, 1200 MW Punatsangchhu-I, and 1020 MW Punatsangchhu-II in Inter-Governmental mode are under various stages of implementation.

The two countries commissioned the first-ever joint venture project the 600 MW Kholongchhu hydropower project. The project is aimed at generating surplus hydroelectricity for Bhutan which will be exported to India aiding Bhutan's revenue as well as employment generation.

38. **Answer: B**

Explanation: The development assistance to the Maldives has been kept at Rs 600 crore as against last year's Rs 770 crore, according to budget papers.

39. **Answer: B**

Explanation: The development assistance to the Maldives has been kept at Rs 600 crore as against last year's Rs 770 crore, according to budget papers.

In continuation with India's special relationship with the people of Afghanistan, a budgetary aid of Rs 200 crore has been set aside for the country.

An amount of Rs 120 crore will be provided to Bangladesh under development aid while Nepal would be provided Rs 700 crore.

Sri Lanka will get development aid worth Rs 75 crore, Mauritius to receive Rs 370 crore while the amount for Myanmar has been pegged at Rs 250 crore.

A separate amount of Rs 200 crore has been set aside for African countries.

The total development assistance to various countries and regions such as Latin America and Eurasia has been pegged at Rs 4,883 crore.

The allocation for Chabahar Port has also been maintained at Rs 100 crore, underlining India's focus on connectivity projects with Iran.

40. **Answer: D**

Explanation: Karpoori Thakur was an Indian politician who served two terms as the 11th Chief Minister of Bihar, first from December 1970 to June 1971, and then from June 1977 to April 1979. He was popularly known as Jan Nayak. Karpoori Thakur (24 January 1924 – 17 February 1988) was an Indian politician who served two terms as the 11th Chief Minister of Bihar, first from December 1970 to June 1971, and then from June 1977 to April 1979. He was popularly known as Jan Nayak (transl. people's hero). On 26 January 2024, he was posthumously awarded India's highest civilian honour, the Bharat Ratna, by the Government of India. This was announced by the President of India Draupadi Murmu on 23 January 2024. On 9th February 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that former prime ministers PV Narasimha Rao and Chaudhary Charan Singh and agricultural scientist MS Swaminathan will be conferred Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award.

41. **Answer: C**

Explanation: Recently, the government has announced that Veteran leader, Shri Lal Krishna Advani will be conferred with Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian award of the nation.

He served as the 7th Deputy Prime Minister of India from 2002 to 2004. He also served as a Home Minister and Information and Broadcasting Minister as well.

Born in Karachi (present-day Pakistan) on 8th November 1927, he joined the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh in 1942 and relocated to Delhi from Sindh in 1947 during Partition.

42. **Answer: D**

Explanation: Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of the Republic of India.

Instituted in 1954, the award is conferred in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the highest order, without distinction of race, occupation, position, or sex.

The award was originally limited to achievements in the arts, literature, science, and public services.

But in December 2011, the government expanded the criteria to include any field of human endeavour.

43. **Answer: D**

Explanation: It is not mandatory that Bharat Ratna be awarded every year.

There is no written provision that Bharat Ratna should be awarded to Indian citizens only.

The award has been awarded to a naturalized Indian citizen, Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, better known as Mother Teresa (1980) and to two non-Indians - Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Nelson Mandela (1990).

Recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister of India to the President. The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year. On conferment of the award, the recipient receives a Sanad (certificate) signed by the President and a medallion.

44. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Most recently, in 2019, it was awarded to Nanaji Deshmukh, Bhupen Hajarika and Pranab Mukherjee. A maximum of 3 people can be awarded the Bharat Ratna. In 2019, this award was given to three eminent personalities namely: Nanaji Deshmukh, Pranab Mukherjee, and Bhupen Hajarika.

45. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Under the Venus Orbiter Mission, ISRO plans to launch Shukrayaan-1, a spacecraft destined to orbit Venus for five years.

It aims to study the atmosphere of Venus, marking India's first foray into exploring the mysteries of the second planet from the Sun. LVM3 rocket - The well proven and reliable heavy lift launcher of ISRO, is identified as the launch vehicle for Gaganyaan mission. It consists of solid stage, liquid stage and cryogenic stage. All systems in LVM3 launch vehicle are re-configured to meet human rating requirements and christened Human Rated LVM3. HLVM3 will be capable of launching the Orbital Module to an intended Low Earth Orbit of 400 km.

HLVM3 consists of Crew Escape System (CES) powered by a set of quick acting, high burn rate solid motors which ensures that Crew Module along with crew is taken to a safe distance in case of any emergency either at launch pad or during ascent phase.

46. **Answer:** A

Explanation: India's woman robot astronaut Vyommitra will fly into space ahead of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) ambitious Gaganyaan mission, the country's first manned space flight carrying Indian astronauts.

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Jitendra Singh said the uncrewed Vyommitra Mission is scheduled for the third quarter of this year, while the manned mission Gaganyaan is scheduled to be launched in 2025.

Vyommitra is a name derived from two Sanskrit words - vyoma, meaning space, and mitra, meaning friend.

47. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Before the run-up to the launch of Gaganyaan, the first test vehicle flight TV D1 was accomplished on October 21, 2023. This was meant to qualify the crew escape system and parachute system. The human rating of the launch vehicle is complete; all the propulsion stages are qualified, and all the preparations are in place. Test Vehicle Abort Mission-1 (TV-D1) was a high altitude abort test performed as part of the Gaganyaan program, initially set to be held on 21 October 2023 at around 02:30 UTC (08:00 IST). Liftoff was delayed to 03:15 UTC due to weather issues, and five seconds before launch it was put on hold by the on-board computer due to an engine anomaly, as reported in ISRO's mission livestream. The launch occurred at 04:30 UTC, and the crew module successfully separated from the launch vehicle. The crew module was successfully recovered by the Indian Navy. India is the fourth country, after Russia, the United States, and China, to successfully test this technology

48. **Answer:** C

Explanation: The Gaganyaan project aims to demonstrate human space capabilities, launching astronauts into a 400-kilometer orbit and safely bringing them back to Earth, landing in India's sea waters. Gaganyaan project envisages demonstration of human spaceflight capability by launching crew of 3 members to an orbit of 400 km for a 3 days mission and bring them back safely to earth, by landing in Indian sea waters.

The project is accomplished through an optimal strategy by considering inhouse expertise, experience of Indian industry, intellectual capabilities of Indian academia & research institutions along with cutting edge technologies available with international agencies. The pre-requisites for Gaganyaan mission include development of many critical technologies including human rated launch vehicle for carrying crew safely to

space, Life Support System to provide an earth like environment to crew in space, crew emergency escape provision and evolving crew management aspects for training, recovery and rehabilitation of crew. Various precursor missions are planned for demonstrating the Technology Preparedness Levels before carrying out the actual Human Space Flight mission. These demonstrator missions include Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT), Pad Abort Test (PAT) and Test Vehicle (TV) flights. Safety and reliability of all systems will be proven in unmanned missions preceding manned mission.

49. **Answer: C**

Explanation: Fifth-generation (5G) fighters are aircraft capable of operating in heavily contested combat zones, characterized by the presence of the most advanced air and ground threats, both current and anticipated.

5G fighter jets have stealth capabilities and can cruise at supersonic speeds without engaging afterburners.

It stands out from fourth-generation (4G) peers due to its multi-spectral low-observable design, self-protection, radar jamming capabilities, and integrated avionics.

5G jets are possessed by Russia (Sukhoi Su-57), China (Chengdu J-20), and the US (F-35).

50. **Answer: B**

Explanation: The Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) programme was started by the Government of India in 1984 when they established the ADA to manage the LCA programme.

It replaced the ageing Mig 21 fighter planes.

51. **Answer: C**

Explanation: The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approved a Rs 15,000 crore project to design and develop India's fifth-generation fighter multirole jet, the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA). The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) this week cleared a Rs 15,000 crore project to design and develop the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), India's fifth-generation fighter multirole fighter jet.

In a related incident, a Court of Inquiry has been initiated to investigate the cause of an Indian Air Force Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas crash during an operational training sortie in Rajasthan.

52. **Answer: C**

Explanation: The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) under the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will be the nodal agency for executing the programme and designing the aircraft.

Manufactured By: State-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Features:

Stealth: The 25-tonne twin-engine aircraft is set to surpass current Indian Air Force fighters in size, and will feature advanced stealth to outmatch global 5G stealth fighters. **Fuel and Weapon:** The aircraft will have a large, concealed internal fuel tank of 6.5-tonne capacity, and an internal weapons bay for a range of weapons, including indigenous weapons.

Engine: The AMCA Mk1 will feature the US-built GE414 engine (90 kilo Newton class), while the more advanced AMCA Mk2 will use a more powerful 110 kN engine developed by DRDO's Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) in collaboration with a foreign defence major.

Timeline: The ADA aims for the aircraft's first flight in 4-5 years, with full development expected to take around 10 years; five prototypes will precede HAL's manufacturing, involving the private industry.

Legal Reasoning

53. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Option B is correct since Article 15 of the Indian Constitution clearly forbids discrimination based on religion, ethnicity, caste, sex, or place of birth. This provision aims to alleviate the difficulties experienced by historically marginalized castes and ensure equal rights for everyone. Option A is incorrect as Article 19 talks about freedom of speech and expression and does not address the issue at hand. Option C is incorrect as Article 21 guarantees the entitlement to life and individual freedom, covering more comprehensive concepts but not expressly addressing caste-based discrimination. Option D is incorrect since Article 14 ensures equality before the law; it does not explicitly address discrimination based on caste. It provides a broader guarantee of equality.

54. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Option D is correct as in the event that Ravi is subjected to unlawful imprisonment in the workplace without being subjected to appropriate legal proceedings, this constitutes a violation of the right to personal liberty, which is safeguarded by Article 21 of the Constitution of India. In addition to ensuring protection against unlawful custody or apprehension, this article protects the right to a fair trial and the appropriate legal redress. Option A is incorrect as Right to life and Right to personal liberty, both being a part of Article 21, are different from each other. Here the violation is of right of personal liberty and not life. Option B is incorrect as a violation of the rule of law is a violation of the right to personal liberty under Article 21. Although the rule of law is a more general notion, it is more correct to describe the violation as the right to personal liberty in this context. Option C is incorrect because the scenario does not pertain to freedom to settle in any place.

55. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Option B is correct as Supriya's right to organize a public event is protected under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution, which states that individuals have the right to freedom of speech and expression. It is possible to dispute any unjustifiable restriction placed on her ability to organize the event on the grounds that it violates this constitutional provision with regard to challenges. Option A is incorrect as the question primarily concerns with the right to organize an event, not the right to trade. Option C is incorrect as Supriya's circumstance does not directly involve equality, despite the fact that it is a fundamental right. However, the violation of the right to equality is a violation of rights. Option D is incorrect as the question does not concern any privacy rights.

56. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Option C is correct as concerns have been raised over the right to equality as outlined in Article 14 of the Indian Constitution as a result of Arjun's refusal to receive access to the communal gymnasium without providing any explanation. It is guaranteed that everyone will be treated equally under the law because Article 14 makes it illegal to discriminate on the basis of religion, race, caste, gender, or place of birth. Option A is incorrect as the provision explained therein comes under the purview of Article 15 and not Article 14. Option B is incorrect because there is no question of special provisions for women and children in this scenario. Option D is incorrect as the question does not concern itself with rights given to socially and educationally backward classes, which also falls under the purview of Article 15.

57. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Option A is correct because the activists who are contesting the restriction on their peaceful demonstration may argue that it violates their right to assemble and engage in peaceful protest, which is safeguarded by Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. Option B is incorrect as the scenario focuses more on the right to peaceful assembly rather than the right to life and personal liberty. Option C is incorrect simply because it will be more advisable to take up the matter at a local state level first rather than approaching any international forum right away. Option D is incorrect as the situation requires immediate action and choosing to stay silent would not be appropriate.

58. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Option A is correct as the journalist facing a sedition charge for criticizing the government's decision may be asserting a violation of their right to freedom of speech and expression, protected under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. Option B is incorrect as the case does not involve education rights; the focus is on freedom of speech. Option C is incorrect as the situation does not deal with equality concerns and Option D is incorrect as the situation does not shed any light on right to life and liberty.

59. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Option B is correct since the government's decision to restrict the independent internet platform could potentially infringe upon the citizens' constitutional right to freedom of speech and expression, as outlined in Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. Option A is incorrect as the act of the government is to actively dumb down the voices of the citizens. Option C is incorrect as the focus of the question is not on privacy rights of the citizens. Option D is incorrect as the duty of the citizens is to actively report any violations in the country against their fundamental rights instead of keeping shut.

60. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Option B is correct as the government's decision to prohibit public gatherings as there are reasonable chances of terrorist attacks and security of people. The political leader can challenge this restriction by invoking the constitutional provision that safeguards the citizens' fundamental right to assemble peacefully. Option A talks about equality and Option C is incorrect because although equality is important, the focus of the challenge is on the right to association and peaceful assembly. Option D is incorrect as the scenario does not involve religious rights.

61. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Option A is correct since Ramesh's act of marrying Priya without legally dissolving his existing marriage potentially violates Section 494 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, which defines the offence of bigamy. Priya can invoke this legal provision to challenge the validity of Ramesh's second marriage. Option C is incorrect because Section 13(2) provides grounds for divorce, it is not directly applicable to the scenario of bigamy. Option B is incorrect as this section pertains to the voluntary union for life of one man with one woman; it does not address the situation of an existing marriage. Option D is incorrect as Section 10 deals with judicial separation, which is not directly relevant to the scenario of bigamy.

62. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Option C is correct as Rohit's act of secretly marrying Aisha while still being married to Maya potentially violates Section 494 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, which defines the offence of bigamy. Maya can invoke this legal provision to challenge the validity of Rohit's second marriage and explore grounds for seeking divorce. Option A is incorrect as the fundamental rights are important, the specific violation in this scenario is related to bigamy, covered under criminal law. Option B is incorrect as Section 10 deals with judicial separation, which is not directly relevant to the scenario of bigamy. Option D is incorrect because the Section 13 (2) provides grounds for divorce, it is not directly applicable to the scenario of bigamy.

63. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Option C is correct since Arjun's act of succumbing to societal pressure and marrying Meera while already being married to Radha potentially violates Section 494 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, which defines the offense of bigamy and it is also a ground for divorce. Radha can invoke this legal provision to challenge the validity of Arjun's second marriage. Option A is correct as Section 13 (2) provides grounds for divorce; it is not directly applicable to the scenario of bigamy. Option B is also correct as Bigamy is a punishable offence and can be punished in case of marriages solemnized before 1955. Hence Option C is the correct answer.

64. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Option B is correct as Section 13 (2) of the Act provides for grounds of divorce when the petition is filed by the wife to dissolve the marriage solemnized before the commencement of this Act, that the husband had married again before such commencement. Option A only talks about fundamental rights

and Option C is incorrect as the Act has not commenced yet. Option D is incorrect as the section pertains to the voluntary union for life of one man with one woman; it does not address the situation of an existing marriage.

65. **Answer: A**

Explanation: Option A is the correct answer. The passage defines assault as requiring an intention to cause harm, and Sarah's expression of intent without physical contact, even in a crowded and frustrating setting, aligns with the definition of assault. Option B is incorrect. Battery, as per the passage, involves the actual physical act of causing harm. Sarah's threatening statements without direct physical contact fall more accurately under assault. Option C is incorrect, as the passage explicitly mentions that assault can be committed without physically touching someone. The intention to cause harm alone is sufficient for assault. Option D is incorrect, as the passage emphasizes that assault does not require actual physical harm, and an intention to cause harm is enough for an act to be considered assault.

66. **Answer: A**

Explanation: Option A is the correct answer. John's intentional, unlawful threat, made in a crowded restaurant, creates a reasonable apprehension of bodily harm in Mark, aligning with the definition of assault provided in the passage. Option B is incorrect, as the passage emphasizes that physically injuring the victim is not a requirement for assault. The threatening statement, especially in a public place, is sufficient to constitute assault. Option C is incorrect, as the absence of bodily harm does not preclude legal action for assault, especially when a threatening statement is made, creating a reasonable apprehension of harm. Option D is incorrect, as passage does not require the victim to prevent the threatened bodily harm. The focus is on the intentional and unlawful threat.

67. **Answer: B**

Explanation: Sarah's action aligns with the definition of battery provided in the passage, involving intentional physical contact without consent, even though she later apologized. Therefore, option B is the correct answer. Option A is incorrect, as the passage emphasizes that intentional physical contact without consent qualifies as battery, regardless of the context. Apologizing afterward does not negate the initial act. Option C is incorrect, as the passage does not require visible injuries for an act to be considered battery. Option D is incorrect, as the passage already states that making a threatening gesture or statement is enough to constitute battery.

68. **Answer: B**

Explanation: Option B is the correct answer. While the punch did not connect with Chris, the actual physical act of throwing a punch caused fear and distress not only in Chris but also among onlookers in the crowded bar. This aligns with the definition of battery provided in the passage. Option A is incorrect, as the scenario involves Jake's attempt to harm Chris, creating fear and distress in a public setting. According to the passage, this aligns with the definition of assault. Option C is incorrect, as the passage emphasizes that the connection of the punch is not the sole determinant for liability in assault or battery. The intent to cause harm, combined with the fear and distress caused, is sufficient. Option D is incorrect, as the scenario involves an attempted punch in the context of a heated argument, and the passage highlights that intent to cause harm is crucial, even if not explicitly stated in the scenario. The fear and distress caused in a public setting contribute to the evaluation of assault and battery.

69. **Answer: C**

Explanation: Option B and D are incorrect since defence of opinion or fair comment cannot be taken by Meera. Meera had made an expose and the same will be a set of facts written or presented rather than opinions. For a valid suit of defamation, the statement should be defamatory; the statement should refer to the plaintiff; and the statement should be published. Here, Meera has published defamatory statements about Rohan declaring that Rohan is involved in illegal activities. So, the second and third requirement of defamation is fulfilled in this question. Now, the statements are defamatory as well since someone being involved in a web of illegal activities would lower their respect and fame in the society among the general public. Hence, all elements of defamation are fulfilled. However, the question is not clear whether these statements about Rohan are true or not, so that Meera could have taken the defense of truth. So,

according to the question and the options, we cannot be completely clear if the lawsuit is justified. However, the lawsuit will be justified in case the plaintiff can prove that the statements were false. Hence, C is correct and A is wrong.

70. **Answer:** A

Explanation: According to the passage, one of the essentials of defamation is that the statement must be factually untrue. Here, the facts of the question do not give any information about truth in Riya's statement. Hence, the statement is false. It is also defamatory since Patel has been accused of an offence in public. So, option A is correct. Option B is incorrect, as the classification of the statement as slander (spoken) or libel (written) is not the primary determinant of liability in defamation cases. The crucial factor is whether the statement is defamatory and, in this case, factually true or not. Option C is incorrect, as the passage does not mention that financial losses are a prerequisite for justifying a defamation claim. The primary consideration is the accuracy of the defamatory statement and its impact on the individual's reputation. Option D is also incorrect. While the context of a press conference may be considered, it does not absolve Riya of her liability if her statement is both defamatory and factually untrue. Public interest does not negate the need for accuracy in the statement, as emphasized in the passage.

71. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Fair comment is a defence that protects individuals expressing opinions, as long as the expression is honest, without malice, and relates to a matter of public interest. In this context, Ashish's criticism of the local politician for corruption is a fair comment in the form of an opinion post rather than an assertion of facts. Therefore, option A is correct. Option B is incorrect, as absolute privilege is a defence applicable in specific situations such as parliamentary proceedings or judicial contexts. It is not available for a blogger's post criticizing a politician for corruption. Option C is incorrect, as the justification of truth is a valid defence, but it requires the statement to be factually accurate. Further, the blog is a criticism/opinion rather than a statement of facts. Option D is incorrect, as the blog post is a fair comment and criticism. Hence, Ashish would not be held liable for defamation.

72. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Option C is the correct answer. Libel involves written or published defamatory statements, while slander pertains to spoken defamatory statements. Since the accusations occurred in different mediums (blog post and radio show segment), Tina can potentially pursue claims for both libel and slander. Option A is incorrect, as libel pertains to written or published defamatory statements. In this case, the accusations in the blog post would be relevant to libel, not slander. Option B is incorrect, as slander relates to spoken defamatory statements. The accusations in the radio show segment are relevant to slander, not libel. Option D is incorrect, as libel pertains to written or published defamatory statements, so the accusations in the radio show segment would be relevant to slander, not libel.

73. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Option D is correct. Since Riya's assistance was voluntary and not done at the request or desire of her neighbor, it does not meet the criteria of valid consideration under the Indian Contract Act, 1872. As a result, Riya's request for payment is not legally enforceable. Option A is incorrect because Riya's voluntary assistance, without being asked by her neighbor, does not fulfill the requirement of valid consideration. Option B is incorrect. The passage clearly states that consideration must be done at the desire of the promisor for it to be valid. In this case, Riya's assistance was voluntary and not requested by her neighbor, making it insufficient as consideration for a contract. Option C is incorrect because while the service provided by Riya may be valuable, it does not meet the specific requirement of consideration being at the desire of the promisor as outlined in the passage. Therefore, it cannot be considered valid consideration for a contract.

74. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Option A is correct according to the passage as it states that consideration can be transferred to a third party with the promisor's consent, which Emma provided by agreeing to have Max mow her lawn and receive payment on behalf of Alex. Option B is incorrect because the passage mentions that the doctrine of privity of consideration is not applicable in India, allowing for such transfers. Option C is

incorrect as the validity of the arrangement is based on consideration transferability, not Max's profession. Option D is also incorrect as it contradicts the concept of consideration transferability discussed in the passage.

75. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Option D is correct because, according to the Indian Contract Act, 1872, the court does not intervene or concern itself with the adequacy of consideration in contracts. Therefore, neither Lily nor Max can be held liable based solely on the adequacy of consideration. Option A is incorrect because Lily's agreement to sell the vintage car for Rs. 1000 does not make her liable. Option B is incorrect because Max voluntarily entered into the contract, knowing the agreed-upon price, which does not make him liable. Option C is incorrect because while parties should mutually agree on terms, the adequacy of consideration is not a factor for liability in contract law.

76. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Option B is the correct choice because, under the Indian Contract Act, 1872, consideration involving illegal activities or actions against the law is not valid. Amit's promise to pay Ritu for helping him hack into the company's database is unlawful, making the contract void. Option A is incorrect because Ritu's agreement to assist in illegal activity does not validate the consideration. Option C is incorrect because fulfilling one's part of an illegal agreement does not make the consideration valid. Option D is incorrect because the validity of consideration is not determined by whether the promisee receives a benefit, but rather by whether the consideration itself is lawful.

77. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Option A correctly analyses the legality of Rakesh's arrest, stating that oral communication at the time of arrest is sufficient, and the written grounds were provided within 24 hours, aligning with the Supreme Court's recent clarification. Option B incorrectly deems the arrest illegal, suggesting a requirement for written grounds at the time of arrest, which is not in line with the Supreme Court's recent clarification. The passage clearly mentions that the accused must be informed of the grounds of arrest, both orally at the time of arrest and in writing within 24 hours. Option C incorrectly asserts that there is no need to furnish grounds for arrest, which contradicts the legal principle discussed in the passage, thus incorrect.

Option D introduces a different requirement, stating that simultaneous oral and written communication is mandated, which is not supported by the information in the passage.

78. **Answer:** B

Explanation: This option accurately reflects the essence of the Pankaj Bansal case, emphasizing that written grounds must be furnished at the time of arrest, and any delay beyond that renders the arrest illegal. Option A incorrectly interprets the Pankaj Bansal case and states vice-versa. Option C is incorrect, as it assumes that the Pankaj Bansal case did not address the timeframe for providing written grounds. The case explicitly highlights the necessity of providing grounds at the time of arrest. Option D introduces vague elements which are not true according to the passage and hence, incorrect.

79. **Answer:** B

Explanation: This is the correct answer. The recent Supreme Court judgment emphasized that written grounds may be provided later, within 24 hours of arrest. However, oral grounds must be provided at the time of arrest for it to be considered legal. Option A is incorrect. According to the recent Supreme Court judgment, the bench clarified that oral grounds should be provided at the time of arrest, and written grounds must be given within 24 hours. This option is incorrect as it overlooks the requirement of oral grounds at the time of arrest. Option C is incorrect, as the recent judgment explicitly requires the provision of oral grounds at the time of arrest. Failure to do so would render the arrest illegal. Option D is incorrect. While the judgment does require both oral and written grounds, this option is not the best choice because it doesn't acknowledge the possibility of providing written grounds within 24 hours. Option B provides a more precise interpretation.

80. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Option A is correct as it aligns with the legal principles discussed in the passage, emphasizing the need for both oral and written communication of arrest grounds within the specified timeframe. Option B is incorrect, as it misinterprets the court's decision, which mentions that the requirement for written grounds within 24 hours applies irrespective of the arrest date. Option C is incorrect as it disregards the specific requirement mentioned in the passage regarding the provision of written grounds within 24 hours. Option D is incorrect as it introduces an irrelevant comparison to Pankaj Bansal's case, and the court's decision explicitly states that Pankaj Bansal is not retrospective.

81. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Option D is the correct answer. It correctly points out the absence of any direct and reasonable evidence regarding damage or loss caused by Anupama's communal gardening activities, aligning with the criteria stated in the passage. Option A is incorrect as the facts lack specific evidence of substantial interference or tangible harm suffered by Kavya. The passage emphasizes that inconvenience must be substantial or material in nature for a nuisance claim. Option B is incorrect as it does not provide any legal backing to the answer. Also, the notion of a positive and lawful use of land, negates the grounds for a nuisance claim. Option C is also incorrect as the passage does not provide information suggesting any unlawful conduct on Anupama's part.

82. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Option B correctly acknowledges that the sounds from the workshop are a result of a lawful and customary activity and do not amount to a legal disturbance. Refer first line of paragraph 3, it mentions that the inconvenience caused must be substantial and mere personal discomfort cannot amount to claim a case under Nuisance. Option A incorrectly suggests that the sounds from the 3D printing workshop interfere significantly with her right to enjoy her property, causing annoyance. The facts lack specific evidence of substantial interference or tangible harm suffered by Mrs. Reynolds. Instead, it mentions that the noise was occasional. Option C is introducing an element not explicitly stated in the passage. The passage does not provide information suggesting any 'unlawful conduct' and its impact on case. Thus, is incorrect. Option D also introduces 'right to profession' which is nowhere stated in the passage to be considered as a criterion to decide the claim. Hence, incorrect.

83. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Option A correctly strengthens the residents' argument by presenting evidence that the all the essential ingredients to prove the case for nuisance is fulfilled. Option B weakens the residents' argument against the late-night events. It introduces economic benefits which is a good thing for any community. Option C also weakens the residents' argument by acknowledging the business owner's right to host events on their property as a lawful use. It conflicts with the residents' concerns about potential disturbances. Option D does not strengthen the residents' argument. It suggests that the events comply with local noise regulations, which may not address the residents' concerns about disruptions to their peaceful nights.

84. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Option A is not the most effective in weakening the residents' argument. Testimonials from residents in nearby neighbourhoods expressing satisfaction with living near similar amusement parks undermine the claim that the proposed amusement park would significantly disrupt the tranquillity of the neighbourhood. Option B is correct, it strengthens the argument in favour of the amusement park by demonstrating compliance with local zoning and noise regulations. And the question asks for the option that weakens the residents' argument. Option C introduces information about property values, which may not directly address the residents' concerns about disruptions to their tranquillity. It does not provide evidence that weakens their specific claim. Therefore, it is not correct. Option D while possibly valid in a broader context, does not directly weaken the residents' argument against the amusement park. It introduces a different aspect (economic benefits) that is not directly related to the nuisance claim.

Logical Reasoning85. **Answer:** A

Explanation: This option captures the main idea of the passage, which discusses India's shift from anti-Western to non-Western foreign policy under the Modi government, leading to deeper ties with the US and Europe.

Reference Line: the Narendra Modi government has transcended this paradigm by engaging the US with greater self-assurance and building a strategic partnership with Washington that is deeper and broader than ever before.

Incorrect Options:

B) Incorrect. While Blinken's remarks are mentioned in the passage, they are not the main focus.

C) Incorrect. While Jaishankar's remarks are mentioned in the passage, they are not the main focus.

D) Incorrect. While the Munich Security Conference panel discussion is mentioned in the passage, it is not the main focus.

86. **Answer:** B

Explanation: This option is supported by the passage, which mentions that the decline of the left and weakening of the Congress party removed much of the traditional resistance to India's engagement with the US and Europe, and as more engagement with these nations is mentioned as policy shift, this can be inferred.

Reference Line: The decline of the left in India and the weakening of the Congress removed much of the traditional resistance to India's productive engagement with the US and Europe

Incorrect Options:

A) Incorrect. The passage mentions residual anti-Western sentiment among conservative nationalists, indicating that not all political factions support the Modi government's foreign policy shift. (Reference: "However, there is residual anti-western sentiment among the rising conservative nationalists.")

C) Incorrect. The passage mentions wide-ranging international collaboration between India and the US, including in the Quadrilateral Security Forum, indicating that the Modi government's foreign policy shift has not led to a decrease in international collaboration. (Reference: "He also highlighted the wide-ranging international collaboration between Delhi and Washington, including in the Quadrilateral Security Forum, along with Canberra and Tokyo.")

D) Incorrect. While the passage mentions that framing India as "non-West" but not "anti-West" consolidates the support of the Hindu right, it does not suggest that the Hindu right's support is the primary driver of the Modi government's foreign policy shift.

87. **Answer:** D

Explanation: This option accurately reflects the author's implicit recommendation based on the analysis presented in the passage. It aligns with the emphasis on maintaining India's distinct identity while actively pursuing productive and flexible partnerships with Western nations.

Reference Line: In framing India as "non-West" but not "anti-West", the Modi government consolidates the support of the Hindu right for its foreign policy while leaving much room open for closer ties with the US and Europe.

Incorrect Options:

A. This option is inaccurate because the passage doesn't advocate for abandoning historical ties. While engaging with the West, the author emphasizes preserving India's distinct "non-West" identity. Remember, maintaining historical connections doesn't necessarily contradict building new partnerships.

B. This option is also inaccurate. The passage highlights the importance of both BRICS membership and Western partnerships. The author criticizes rigid alliances, suggesting India should pursue a flexible and adaptable approach, engaging with various actors like the US and Europe.

C. This option partially reflects the author's views but oversimplifies. While acknowledging India's unique identity, the passage doesn't advocate for cautious engagement or maintaining distance. Instead, it emphasizes potential for "extremely strong relations" with the West, suggesting a balanced approach that embraces both identity and cooperation.

88. **Answer:** D

Explanation: This option best aligns with the information provided. Declining opposition and "residual anti-western sentiment" suggest evolving public perception with diverse views on closer Western engagement.

Reference Line: The decline of the left in India and the weakening of the Congress removed much of the traditional resistance to India's productive engagement with the US and Europe. However, there is residual anti-western sentiment among the rising conservative nationalists.

Incorrect Options:

A. This option goes beyond the evidence presented. The passage mentions declining opposition but doesn't directly comment on public support. There could be diverse opinions on Western ties, and assuming overwhelming support would be inaccurate.

B. Similar to option (A), this goes beyond the evidence. While acknowledging "residual anti-western sentiment," the passage doesn't suggest unanimous opposition. A more nuanced understanding is necessary.

C. The passage mentions a shift from the traditional "anti-Western" stance, not necessarily a clear consensus on maintaining non-alignment. The evolving foreign policy and public perception require a more flexible interpretation.

89. **Answer:** D

Explanation: This option is accurate. All other options are incorrect and cannot be inferred from the passage.

Reference Line: The decline of the left in India and the weakening of the Congress removed much of the traditional resistance to India's productive engagement with the US and Europe. However, there is residual anti-western sentiment among the rising conservative nationalists.

Incorrect Options:

A. While the passage mentions India's economic growth, it doesn't explicitly connect it to increased strategic cooperation with the US. Other factors like shared concerns about China might play a more significant role.

B. While the decline of left-wing parties is mentioned, the passage doesn't connect it to weakening of congress, rather both decline of left-wing parties and weakening of congress are mentioned together as cause of India's change in relation. The correct option would have been "Decline of left in India and to weakening of congress leading to increased participation of India with US and EU".

C. The passage contradicts this option by highlighting India's ability to engage with both the US and BRICS simultaneously. Strengthening ties with one doesn't necessitate distancing itself from the other. So this is not a cause and effect relation provided in passage.

90. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Correct. While other factors play a role, the author presents the shifting domestic political landscape, particularly the decline of traditional opposition, as the foundational element enabling India's more open approach towards engaging with the West. This sets the stage for the subsequent discussion of strategic convergence and evolving partnerships.

Reference Line: The decline of the left in India and the weakening of the Congress removed much of the traditional resistance to India's productive engagement with the US and Europe.

Incorrect Options -

(A) While BRICS membership is mentioned, the author doesn't present it as an anti-Western stance for India. In fact, the passage emphasizes the possibility of "extremely strong relations" with Western countries while being "non-West."

(C) Shared concerns about China's influence are indeed highlighted as a significant driver of closer India-US ties. However, this factor alone doesn't encompass the entire basis for the author's argument and is not emphasised.

(D) The passage emphasizes India's distinct identity ("non-West"), but it doesn't claim this makes engagement impossible rather it says it was once perceived as so. Cooperation is presented as a key aspect of the evolving foreign policy.

91. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Correct. They argue that India can overcome this by investing in research and developing its own drugs. The answer choice that best identifies a flaw focuses on a possible oversimplification in the author's reasoning. While India's rise in manufacturing suggests potential, it doesn't guarantee success in original drug discovery, which requires a different level of R&D expertise and infrastructure.

Reference Line: The paradigm that drug development will always be expensive and confined to the West need not be permanent, as was seen in the development of several novel technology approaches to developing vaccines in India during the COVID-19 pandemic

Incorrect Options:

A) This option erroneously suggests that the passage overlooks potential economic drawbacks of data exclusivity, while the passage actually focuses on the potential economic harm to India's drug industry due to data exclusivity.

B) This option incorrectly assumes that the passage presents data exclusivity as essential for safeguarding intellectual property rights without considering alternatives. However, the passage highlights India's rejection of data exclusivity due to concerns about hindering the country's drug industry, indicating that there are differing perspectives on its necessity.

D) This option introduces a new consideration regarding strained diplomatic relations between India and EFTA countries but does not directly relate to a flaw in the argument presented in the passage. While strained relations could be a potential consequence of India's rejection of data exclusivity, the passage primarily focuses on the implications for India's drug industry rather than diplomatic relations.

92. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Correct. The concern expressed by the author about the impact of data exclusivity on India's drug industry implies an assumption that India has the agency to negotiate such terms in trade agreements, including whether or not data exclusivity will be included.

Reference Line: The principle of data exclusivity is present among European countries as well as in agreements involving many developing countries. Were it to take effect in India, it could significantly hinder India's drug industry which is also a major exporter of affordable drugs.

Incorrect Options:

B. This statement is supported by the passage, highlighting India's position as a major exporter of affordable drugs. This is not assumption rather an inference and not the unstated part of argument.

C. This statement is extreme author suggests Fundamental research considering India's special needs currently. Terming that it is "essential for any nation" makes it extreme and not the correct assumption.

D. While the passage mentions the pandemic and the development of vaccines, it doesn't explicitly connect it to generic drugs or make this assumption.

93. **Answer:** A

Explanation: This statement provides evidence that strengthens the author's argument by illustrating the potential negative impact of data exclusivity on India's pharmaceutical industry. It suggests that if data exclusivity provisions were to take effect in India under the EFTA agreement, it could result in other countries ceasing to buy Indian generic drugs, thereby harming India's pharmaceutical exports and industry.

Reference Line: The principle of data exclusivity is present among European countries as well as in agreements involving many developing countries. Were it to take effect in India, it could significantly hinder India's drug industry which is also a major exporter of affordable drugs.

Incorrect Options:

B. While addressing a potential concern about India's research capabilities, this option doesn't directly strengthen the argument against data exclusivity or its impact on the existing industry.

C. This option presents a counterargument for data exclusivity, potentially weakening the author's position by acknowledging a possible benefit.

D. This option highlights a broader context but doesn't directly strengthen the argument about the specific impact of the agreement or data exclusivity on India's industry.

94. **Answer:** A

Explanation: This statement acknowledges the potential challenges but suggests a solution and positive outcome, aligning with the author's mention of alternative approaches like India's vaccine development success. Therefore, the best answer is (A) as it captures the potential for a positive outcome with a balanced approach, considering the concerns raised in the passage.

Reference Line: The paradigm that drug development will always be expensive and confined to the West need not be permanent, as was seen in the development of several novel technology approaches to developing vaccines in India during the COVID-19 pandemic

Incorrect Options:

B. This statement is supported by the passage but not necessarily the main takeaway. It reflects a recommendation rather than the overall conclusion about the agreement itself.

C. This statement summarizes a key point presented in the passage but doesn't capture the entirety of the discussion or potential outcomes of the agreement.

D. This statement introduces a negative prediction not necessarily supported by the information provided. The conclusion should focus on the overall message, not speculation about outcomes.

95. **Answer:** B

Reasoning of passage: The passage discusses a disagreement in a free trade agreement between India and EFTA regarding data exclusivity for pharmaceutical companies. This exclusivity hinders the production of affordable generic drugs by Indian companies, which are a major export. (Short-term hindrance) However, the passage argues that India should focus on developing original drugs and invest in fundamental research to achieve this. (Long term focus)

This option (b) involves a company's dependence on external resources (open-source software libraries), which limits its ability to develop proprietary features and compete in the long term. The solution lies in investing in its own research and development to ensure long-term success, mirroring the reasoning in the stem where short-term hindrance (data exclusivity) is addressed by investing in long-term research for original drug development. Therefore it mirrors the reasoning.

Incorrect Options:

A) Such an extreme approach of preventing tourism altogether is not advocated for in the passage therefore this doesn't parallel.

C) This option focuses on maximizing the long-term benefits of existing resources through investment in processing facilities, but it does not give any short-term hindrance making it necessary.

D) Although this option involves a trade-off between teaching and research, it does not directly address short-term hindrance followed by long-term investment in research and development, as seen in the stem's discussion of data exclusivity and original drug development.

96. **Answer:** C

Explanation: This option accurately reflects the author's perspective. They express worries about how data exclusivity could hinder India's industry and its role in affordable medication. However, they also acknowledge potential economic benefits for both regions and mention India's need to invest in research and development for long-term sustainability. This suggests advocating for a solution that minimizes negative impacts while exploring mutually beneficial aspects of the agreement.

Reference Line: Were it to take effect in India, it could significantly hinder India's drug industry which is also a major exporter of affordable drugs...However, India's rise up the drug manufacturing chain in the last few decades means that it must invest in an ecosystem that can conduct ethical drug trials and make new molecules and therapeutics from scratch.

Incorrect Options:

A) This option aligns neither with the author's concerns about data exclusivity's potential harm to India's generic drug industry (a major source of affordable medication) nor their acknowledgement of broader economic benefits from the agreement. The author appears to advocate for a more nuanced approach that considers both sides.

B) While the author critiques data exclusivity, they don't entirely dismiss the agreement itself. They acknowledge potential economic benefits and mention India's need for research investment, suggesting a more strategic solution than outright rejection.

D) This option portrays an overly pessimistic view. The author doesn't predict the agreement's failure and even mentions India's advancements in vaccine development, suggesting potential for overcoming challenges. While the impasse is acknowledged, the author doesn't advocate for abandoning the agreement entirely.

97. **Answer: B**

Explanation: This option accurately captures the author's central argument. They acknowledge the scheme's intended goal of transparency but critique its failure to address key issues like anonymity and lack of public access to information about donors. This reflects the passage's main line of criticism.

Reference Line: The government's insistence on ensuring the anonymity of the donors and keeping the citizens in the dark struck at the heart of the scheme, whose avowed main objective was transparency.

Incorrect Options:

A) While the verdict supports transparency, it's not the sole focus. The author goes beyond simply celebrating the annulment and instead criticizes the inherent flaws of the scheme itself, highlighting its failure to deliver on its promised transparency

C) While the BJP's dominant access is mentioned as a concern, it's not the central focus of the argument. The author criticizes the scheme's broader issues of opacity and potential for misuse by any party, not just the BJP specifically.

D) The ECI's role is relevant but doesn't encompass the entire critique of the scheme. The author criticizes the scheme's design and lack of transparency, going beyond just the ECI's specific actions.

98. **Answer: D**

Explanation: If it's true that the government has indeed disclosed the details of donors who contributed through electoral bonds to the ECI upon its request, it would weaken the argument because it would show that the government is not entirely keeping the citizens in the dark as claimed. It would indicate some level of transparency in the process, which contradicts the assertion that the scheme's main objective of transparency is being compromised.

Reference Line: The government's insistence on ensuring the anonymity of the donors and keeping the citizens in the dark struck at the heart of the scheme, whose avowed main objective was transparency.

Incorrect Options:

A. If anonymous donations, under certain conditions, can increase participation without compromising transparency, it doesn't weaken the author's critique of the scheme's inherent flaws of lack of transparency. Author has not doubted whether it will increase public funding or not.

B. While the author doesn't deny potential drawbacks of complete transparency, their main focus is on the lack of transparency within the specific scheme. Accepting some limitations doesn't negate the author's critique of the scheme's failure to achieve even a basic level of transparency.

C. This weakens the author's criticism if the scheme achieved this positive outcome, even if transparency concerns remained. It suggests the scheme might have had some benefits despite its flaws.

99. **Answer: D**

Explanation: The passage revolves around the concept of transparency in political funding. The author highlights a contradiction between what the Electoral Bond Scheme was supposed to achieve and what it actually did. The stated goal of the scheme, as mentioned in the passage, is to increase public trust and accountability in political financing. This implies greater transparency regarding the sources of political party funding. Option (D), the anonymity provided to donors, directly contradicts this goal. If the public doesn't know who is funding political parties, it's difficult to hold them accountable or to ensure that special interests aren't influencing political decisions.

Relevant Line: The government's insistence on ensuring the anonymity of the donors and keeping the citizens in the dark struck at the heart of the scheme, whose avowed main objective was transparency.

Incorrect Options:

(A) This is nowhere mentioned in the passage. Therefore this can be eliminated.

(B) Although mentioned in passage, this does not address the paradox presented in the passage.

(C) While the role of SBI might be relevant to the overall scheme, the paradox doesn't center on the specific intermediary. The key point is that even though SBI might have the donor details, the public remains in the dark.

100. **Answer:** C

Explanation: It is a plausible and likely implication of the ruling, highlighting the potential deterrent effect on future similar schemes. It aligns with the author's emphasis on transparency and accountability. Therefore, option (C) is the most likely conclusion as it directly aligns with the critique of the scheme, its negative impact, and the potential warning it sends to future attempts at opaque political funding mechanisms.

Incorrect Options:

A. While the author critiques the anonymity provision, it's not explicitly presented as the main takeaway or conclusion. The passage delves deeper into the broader implications for transparency and the scheme's shortcomings.

B. This option goes beyond the direct implications of the scheme's failure and suggests a future solution, which isn't necessarily the passage's main conclusion.

D. Public disclosure is mentioned as a desired outcome, but it's not presented as the definitive conclusion within the passage. The author primarily criticizes the scheme and its implications, leaving the discussion of specific solutions, like public disclosure, for later consideration.

101. **Answer:** B

Explanation: This is a logical implication given the scheme's importance and the Supreme Court's ruling. Author hopes that the veil of secrecy will be finally lifted in the backdrop of the recent SC ruling therefore, option (B) is the most logical derivation of it.

Relevant Line: It is hoped that the poll panel and the SBI will finally lift the dubious veil of secrecy and make the details public.

Incorrect Options:

A. This statement goes beyond the scope of the information provided. While the lack of transparency raises concerns, the passage doesn't offer evidence to directly link it to increased foreign funding.

C. This statement lacks supporting evidence within the passage. The author doesn't analyze party funding sources or connect party strength to specific benefits from anonymity.

D. This contradicts the author's critique of anonymity and lack of transparency. The passage expresses concerns about these issues, not public support for them.

102. **Answer:** D

Explanation: While the judgment is mentioned, it isn't used as evidence itself but rather as a background/context in the first paragraph. The author then goes on to focus on the scheme's design and inherent issues and gives option A to C as premise to support it. Further it is the consequence of the scheme's flaws rather than the evidence to support their existence.

Relevant Line: The government's insistence on ensuring the anonymity of the donors and keeping the citizens in the dark struck at the heart of the scheme, whose avowed main objective was transparency.

Incorrect Options:

A. This directly supports the author's claim about the scheme's inherent contradiction of advocating transparency while maintaining hidden information accessible to the government itself.

B. This points towards the potential misuse of the scheme and its lack of fairness, aligning with the main argument about its flaws.

C. This highlights the regulatory failures that enabled the scheme's opacity and lack of accountability, supporting the author's critique.

103. **Answer:** C

Explanation: The author argues that the richness and diversity of India's cultural heritage contribute to the vast number of art forms, using tribal and folk paintings as an example. The passage connects the "rich, diverse and vibrant" cultural heritage to the "largest number of art forms." It implies that a diverse cultural landscape provides fertile ground for artistic expression to take root and evolve in various forms like tribal and folk paintings. If the author didn't believe artistic expression thrives in diverse environments, the connection between cultural richness and numerous art forms wouldn't hold.

Relevant Line: The living traditions of any country are its cultural heritage, which constantly evolves, adapts and reinvents itself. India has the largest number of art forms anywhere in the world, mainly because its cultural heritage is rich, diverse and vibrant.

Incorrect Options:

A) This option assumes that art is limited to professional training, which is not supported by the passage. The passage emphasizes the creativity and expression of art, not its professional nature. The negation of this assumption would be that art can be created by anyone, regardless of professional training, which aligns with the passage's focus on art as an expression of human creativity.

B) This option assumes that tribal and folk art forms are exclusive to India, which is not supported by the passage. The passage mentions that many other countries also have tribal and folk art as part of their living heritage. The negation of this assumption would be that tribal and folk art forms are not exclusive to India, which aligns with the passage's mention of other countries having similar art forms.

D) This option assumes that modern art forms have overshadowed tribal and folk art forms, which is not supported by the passage. The passage mentions that tribal and folk art forms are a collective expression of rural Indian people driven by a desire to fulfill their social and emotional needs, which suggests that these art forms are still relevant and valued. The negation of this assumption would be that modern art forms have not overshadowed tribal and folk art forms, which aligns with the passage's focus on the ongoing tradition and importance of these art forms.

104. **Answer: D**

Explanation: Correct. The passage relies on the detailed description of tribal practices and their art forms as evidence of how art serves as a medium for expressing cultural identity and emotions, which is central to the argument that art is an essential expression of human creativity.

Relevant Line: Tribal people live in less accessible parts of the country, not on the open plains or along the great rivers. They are bonded to each other by rituals, their special ways of celebrating ceremonies at the time of birth, marriage, and also the first haircut or the piercing of the earlobes and so on.

Incorrect Options:

A) While Henry Moore's definition supports the value of folk art, it is not the primary evidence for the overarching argument about art as a medium of human expression.

B) Prehistoric examples illustrate art's long history but are not the main evidence for the argument concerning the ongoing tradition and importance of tribal and folk art.

C) The diversity of India's cultural heritage underpins the argument but is not cited as direct evidence of art's role in expressing human creativity and cultural identity.

105. **Answer: B**

Explanation: This title directly aligns with the passage's emphasis on tribal and folk art as vital components of India's living traditions. The passage elaborates on how these art forms serve as mediums for expressing community identity, rituals, and social-emotional needs, thus playing a crucial role in cultural preservation. This title captures the essence of the passage, highlighting the significance of tribal and folk art beyond mere artistic expression to include their contribution to maintaining cultural continuity and identity.

Incorrect Options:

A) This title suggests a broad historical overview of Indian art forms, from prehistoric times to the present. While the passage touches upon the historical aspect, specifically mentioning the continuity from prehistoric times, its primary focus is not on the evolution per se but on the specific role of tribal and folk art in maintaining cultural heritage. Therefore, this title, though partially relevant, does not encapsulate the main focus accurately.

C) This title misleads by suggesting a focus on the interaction between modern and traditional art forms, potentially exploring how contemporary movements influence or transform tribal and folk art. However, the passage does not delve into this dynamic; instead, it celebrates the enduring nature and cultural significance of traditional art forms without discussing their relationship with modern art. Thus, this title fails to reflect the passage's content and focus.

D) This title is entirely unrelated to the passage's content. It suggests a political analysis that is not addressed or hinted at in the text. The passage's focus on art and cultural heritage does not intersect with political party dynamics or foreign policy issues, making this title inappropriate and misleading.

106. **Answer: C**

Explanation: This option directly reflects the passage's central theme. It accurately captures the author's argument that tribal and folk art are not merely artistic endeavors but are crucial for maintaining and expressing the cultural identity and heritage of communities. Through descriptions of rituals, ceremonies, and daily life representations, the passage emphasizes how these art forms serve as living traditions that link the past with the present, thus preserving cultural identity in a changing world.

Incorrect Options:

A) This choice although very tempting is incorrect,

B) While the passage does highlight the rich diversity and vibrancy of Indian tribal and folk art, it does not claim these art forms to be exclusive to India. The acknowledgment that many countries have living heritage practices similar to India's tribal and folk art suggests a broader perspective on cultural expression. Therefore, this option narrows the scope of the discussion unnecessarily and misrepresents the passage's inclusive viewpoint.

D) This choice suggests a narrative of loss and reduction, which contradicts the passage's message. Instead of highlighting a decline, the passage celebrates the vitality and continued relevance of tribal and folk art within their communities and as part of India's broader cultural heritage. Therefore, this option does not align with the passage's optimistic and affirming perspective on the endurance and significance of traditional art forms

107. **Answer: C**

Explanation: This is the most accurate option. The statements stand alone, observing the scope of participants (single tribe vs. diverse) and time frame (not specific vs. not bound by period) for each art form. Neither statement directly causes or explains the other. They function as independent observations about distinct characteristics of tribal and folk art.

Relevant Line: Tribal art is restricted to a single tribe whereas folk art may be practised by various people belonging to a large cross-section of society. (1) The folk art of India does not belong to a particular period. (2)

Incorrect Options:

A) The passage doesn't suggest any evolutionary connection between the two statements. They describe independent characteristics.

B) Statement 2 doesn't support or explain why tribal art is single-tribe based on limited history. They focus on different aspects.

D) While the statements highlight differences, they don't necessarily contradict each other. They simply describe separate characteristics.

108. **Answer: C**

Explanation: The question stem asks for most probable challenge, although the passage doesn't explicitly mentioned any challenge out of 4 options, we have to infer which one most probable based on the info given in passage.

The statement about tribal art being restricted to single tribes implies a limited audience base compared to folk art's broader social reach. This suggests potential economic challenges due to a smaller customer pool within individual tribes. Therefore, based on the understanding that a limited audience within individual tribes can restrict economic viability, option (C) presents the most reasonable inference regarding challenges faced by tribal art in India.

Relevant Line: Tribal people live in less accessible parts of the country, not on the open plains or along the great rivers... Tribal art is restricted to a single tribe whereas folk art may be practised by various people belonging to a large cross-section of society

Incorrect Options:

(A) The passage doesn't mention any comparison with Western art or its influence on tribal art's popularity. Therefore, inferring its decline based on this limited information isn't justified.

(B) While the passage doesn't explicitly mention formal education, the focus on "living traditions" and the cultural heritage passed down within tribes suggests traditional means of knowledge transmission might exist. We cannot infer a lack of development solely based on the absence of formal education information.

(D): The passage discusses folk art, mentioning its diverse nature and rural connection, but it doesn't mention commercialization or its impact on tribal art specifically. Inferring a threat based on this limited information isn't supported by the passage.

Quantitative Techniques

109. **Answer:** C

Explanation: $2x + \frac{3x}{2} + 4 = 18$

$$x = 4$$

let the total number of car in showroom L be N.

So probability of drawing Ertiga Car = $\frac{2}{15}$

According to Question—

$$\frac{12}{N} = \frac{2}{15}$$

$$N = 90$$

∴ Total car in showroom L is 90.

Common Explanation (Q109 to Q112):

Showroom	Dzire	Baleno	Ciaz	Ertige
J	$3x = 12$	—	$2x = 8$	—
K	—	$Y - 3 = 3$	—	$Y = 6$
L	$\frac{3}{2}x = 6$	—	—	$3x = 12$
M	—	$\frac{3}{2}x + 4 = 10$	$\frac{3}{2}x = 6$	—
N	—	—	—	3

110. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Average of Dzire car in showroom J, K, L = 9,

$$\Rightarrow \frac{12+x+6}{3} = 9$$

$$x = 9$$

Dzire car in showroom K = 9

Average of all 4 types car showroom K = 6

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(9+3+C+6)}{4} = 6$$

$$C = 6$$

Ciaz cars in showroom K = 6

$$\text{Probability that drawing of Ciaz cars in showroom K} = \frac{6}{24} = \frac{1}{4}$$

111. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Let total car in showroom J be P, and showroom M be Q

$$\text{Probability of drawing Ciaz car in showroom J} = \frac{8}{P}$$

$$\text{Probability of drawing Baleno car in showroom M} = \frac{10}{Q}$$

According to Question—

$$\frac{8}{P} = 2 \times \frac{10}{Q}$$

$$P : Q = 2 : 5$$

112. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Probability of drawing Dzire in showroom L = $\frac{2}{20} = \frac{6}{n}$

$$n = 60$$

Total Car = 60

Number of (Baleno + Ciaz) = $60 - 6 - 12 = 42$,

Ratio of Baleno : Ciaz = 4 : 3

$$\text{Baleno} = \frac{4}{7} \times 42 = 24$$

$$\text{Probability of drawing Baleno car} = \frac{24}{60} = \frac{2}{5}$$

113. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Number of Female Students from Karnataka = 350
Number of Female Students from Kerala = 875

$$\text{Required Ratio} = \frac{350}{875} = \frac{14}{35} = \frac{2}{5}$$

Common Explanation (Q5 to Q9):

State	Total	Male	Female
Assam	1440	985	455
Orissa	960	225	735
Madhya Pradesh	1120	665	455
Kerala	1200	325	875
Maharashtra	2240	1610	630
Karnataka	1040	690	350
Total	8000	4500	3500

114. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Total Number of Male Students from Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh Together is = 1610
+ 665 = 2275

115. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Number of Male Students from Assam is = 985
Number of Male Students from Madhya Pradesh = 665

$$\text{Required ratio} = \frac{985}{665} = \frac{197}{133}$$

116. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Number of Female Students from Karnataka = 350
Number of Male Students from Karnataka = 690

$$\text{Required Ratio} = \frac{350}{690} = \frac{35}{69}$$

117. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Number of Female Students from Assam = 455
Number of Male Students from Assam = 985

$$\text{Required \%} = \frac{455}{985} \times 100\% = 46\%$$

118. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Given:

$$(2000 + 2x + 3y) = 1400 + (800 + x + 3y)$$

Solve, x = Rs.200

Now ratio of profit share — A : B : C is

$$800 \times 3 + x \times 3 + 3y \times 3 + 2x \times 3 : 1600 \times 3 + 4x \times 3 + 2y \times 3 + 8x \times 3 : 2000 \times 3 + 2x \times 3 + 3y \times 3 + 4x \times 3$$

3 gets cancelled, gives

$$(800 + 3x + 3y) : (1600 + 12x + 2y) : (2000 + 6x + 3y)$$

Put x = 200 gives

$$1400 + 3y : 4000 + 2y : 3200 + 3y$$

Now given

$$(4000 + 2y) / (1400 + 3y + 4000 + 2y + 3200 + 3y) = 66/153$$

$$(2000 + y) / (4300 + 4y) = 22/51$$

Solve, y = Rs.200

So now the total investment is — $(800 + 3x + 3y) + (1600 + 12x + 2y) + (2000 + 6x + 3y) = (4400 + 21x + 8y)$

Put x = 200, y = 200, total investment = Rs.10,200

119. **Answer:** D

Explanation: 800, 1600, 2000 as it is for 3 months, and then for next 9 months x, 4x and 2x

So ratio of profit share – A : B : C is

$$800 \times 3 + 200 \times 9 : 1600 \times 3 + 800 \times 9 : 2000 \times 3 + 400 \times 9$$

$$7 : 20 : 16$$

$$\text{So profit share of A} = \frac{7}{43} \times 19350 = \text{Rs.}3150$$

120. **Answer:** A

Explanation: New investments – 3z, 2z, and 2z

Investment of A = (800+3x+2z), B = (1600+12x+4z) and C = (2000+6x+1z)

Put x = 200

$$A = 1400+2z, B = 4000+4z, C = 3200+1z$$

$$\text{Now given } (1400+2z + 4000+4z + 3200+1z)/3 = 3100$$

Solve, z = Rs.100

$$\text{So total investment for quarter 3} = 2z+4z+z = 7z = \text{Rs.}700$$