

# **MOCK CLAT 10003 (BASIC)**

## **ANSWER & EXPLANATIONS**

### **English Language**

1. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. "Proliferate" generally means to increase rapidly in numbers or spread quickly. While this can imply a form of growth or success, it does not capture the holistic sense of flourishing or thriving in various aspects, such as personal, academic, and environmental adaptability. It tends to emphasize quantity or spread rather than the quality of growth or success implied in "thrive."

B. "Prosper" is a direct and suitable synonym for "thrive." It conveys a sense of success, well-being, and flourishing, not just in a financial sense but also in terms of personal and academic growth. Using "prosper" in this context preserves the original meaning of the sentence, emphasizing holistic success in a complex and changing world.

C. "Transcend" implies going beyond a limit or rising above. While it does suggest a form of excellence or surpassing standard expectations, it doesn't specifically convey the comprehensive success and well-being encompassed in "thrive." Transcendence is more about surpassing boundaries rather than flourishing within a given environment.

D. "Augment" means to make something greater by adding to it; to increase. This term focuses more on the addition or enhancement of something rather than the holistic growth and success implied by "thrive." It does not fully convey the sense of flourishing or prospering in a well-rounded manner.

**Difficulty Level: M**

2. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** A: The primary aim of modern education is to prepare students solely for academic success, focusing on traditional subjects like mathematics and science.

This option is incorrect. The passage outlines a broader scope for modern education, emphasizing a holistic approach. It discusses not just academic success but also the development of a growth mindset, emotional intelligence, cross-cultural understanding, and environmental awareness. This comprehensive approach goes beyond traditional academic subjects, aiming to prepare students for a range of challenges in a complex world. Thus, stating that modern education's primary aim is solely academic success in traditional subjects is a misinterpretation of the passage.

B: Financial literacy is deemed unnecessary in modern education, as the complexities of the financial landscape are considered too challenging for students.

This statement is false according to the passage. The text specifically highlights the lack of financial literacy skills among students and the vulnerabilities it creates. It then advocates for the incorporation of financial education into the curriculum as a means to empower students to make informed decisions. The passage implies that understanding the complexities of the financial landscape is essential, not too challenging or unnecessary for students.

C: Modern education aims to develop well-rounded individuals who are academically successful, emotionally intelligent, environmentally aware, and capable of cross-cultural understanding.

This option is true and aligns with the passage's message. The passage describes the goals of modern education as extending beyond academic achievement. It includes fostering emotional intelligence, environmental awareness, and cross-cultural understanding, along with promoting financial literacy. The emphasis is on developing students who are not only academically proficient but also equipped with a diverse set of skills and mindsets necessary for success in a changing world.

D: The passage suggests that students today are generally well-equipped with financial literacy skills and are making informed financial decisions.

This statement is contrary to the passage. The text explicitly states that many students lack essential financial literacy skills, making them vulnerable to debt and poor financial decisions. It underscores the need for financial education in the curriculum to address this gap. Therefore, the suggestion that students are generally well-equipped with financial literacy skills misrepresents the passage's content.

**Difficulty Level: D**

3. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** A. Analytically Constructive: This option aptly reflects the tone of the passage. The author presents a detailed analysis of various contemporary challenges faced by students, such as adapting to technology, mental health issues, and the need for a diversified skill set. Simultaneously, the tone is constructive, emphasizing the importance of a holistic educational approach to equip students for these challenges. The passage combines a deep understanding of the issues (analytical) with a forward-looking and solution-oriented approach (constructive).

B. Resignedly Sceptical: This option does not align with the passage's tone. "Resignedly" implies a sense of defeat or acceptance without effort to change, and "sceptical" suggests doubt or disbelief. The passage, however, actively promotes proactive educational strategies and does not exhibit a tone of defeatism or scepticism.

C. Emphatically Dogmatic: This choice misrepresents the passage's tone. "Emphatically" suggests a forceful assertion, and "dogmatic" implies an unwavering adherence to principles without considering other perspectives. The passage, however, maintains a balanced view, acknowledging various challenges and advocating for adaptive educational strategies, rather than presenting a rigid, one-sided argument.

D. Visionarily Transformative: This option captures a part of the passage's essence but might slightly overstate its tone. "Visionary" suggests foresight and innovation, and "transformative" implies causing a marked change. While the passage does advocate for transformative changes in education to address future challenges, it remains grounded in practical and current concerns, making the term "visionary" a bit too far-reaching for the overall tone.

**Difficulty Level: D**

4. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A: Education's primary focus should be on developing specialized skills in advanced technologies, as they are the predominant force shaping the future.

This option incorrectly narrows the focus of education to technological proficiency alone. While the passage acknowledges the importance of adapting to rapidly advancing technology, it also emphasizes a range of other challenges like mental health, diversity, environmental issues, and financial literacy. The passage advocates for a holistic approach to education, which encompasses these varied aspects, not just a singular focus on technology. Thus, this option misses the broader scope outlined in the passage.

B: The imperative for education now extends beyond traditional academic learning to encompass a broad spectrum of competencies, including emotional, environmental, and technological literacies.

This option accurately captures the essence of the passage. It reflects the passage's emphasis on the need for an education system that goes beyond traditional academic learning. The passage mentions the importance of coping with mental health pressures, embracing diversity, and

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addressing environmental issues, in addition to adapting to technological changes and financial challenges. By highlighting a range of competencies, this option aligns well with the passage's call for a holistic educational approach that equips students to succeed in a complex, ever-changing world.

C: The primary challenge for contemporary education is to combat the rising mental health issues among students, overshadowing other educational goals.

While the passage does recognize mental health as a significant challenge, this option mistakenly elevates it as the primary or sole focus of contemporary education. The passage outlines a multifaceted set of challenges, including but not limited to mental health. By suggesting that mental health issues overshadow all other educational goals, this option overly simplifies and misrepresents the passage's comprehensive perspective on the challenges faced by students in the 21st century.

D: The current educational system is adequately equipped to handle the demands of the 21st century, requiring only minor adjustments to its traditional focus.

This option contradicts the passage's underlying message. The passage suggests that the challenges of the 21st century are significantly different and more complex than what traditional education can address. It calls for a comprehensive and holistic approach, indicating that mere minor adjustments to the existing system would be insufficient. The passage implies that the educational system needs a substantial re-evaluation and redesign to meet the diverse needs and challenges of the modern world, making this option inaccurate.

**Difficulty Level: D**

5. **Answer: D**

**Explanation:** A: This classification suggests a text primarily aimed at explaining or describing a subject matter. While the passage does involve exposition in its detailing of current educational challenges and the need for a holistic educational approach, it goes beyond mere explanation. The passage's purpose is not just to inform but also to persuade the reader about the necessity of adapting educational strategies, making the classification of expository discourse somewhat limiting.

B: An empirical dissertation typically involves presenting original research based on observed and measured phenomena and derives conclusions from the same. This passage, however, does not present original research or empirical findings. Instead, it discusses existing challenges in education and advocates for specific approaches, lacking the data-driven and research-oriented nature of an empirical dissertation.

C: Analytical critique involves a detailed examination and evaluation of a subject, often critically assessing its elements. While the passage does analyze contemporary educational challenges, it does not primarily focus on critiquing or evaluating these elements critically. Instead, it adopts a more persuasive tone, aiming to convince the reader of the need for a comprehensive educational approach, rather than solely providing a critical analysis.

D: This option aligns closely with the passage's content and intent. A treatise is a formal and systematic written discourse on a subject, typically detailed and thorough. When qualified with 'advocative', it suggests a piece aimed at advocating for a particular viewpoint or approach. The passage systematically addresses various aspects of modern education, advocating for a holistic approach to prepare students for contemporary challenges. It is detailed, structured, and aims to persuade the reader about the importance of its proposed educational strategies, fitting the characteristics of an advocative treatise.

**Difficulty Level: D**

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6. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** A. This option inaccurately assumes that students' general exposure to technology equips them to naturally navigate the complexities of the modern financial landscape. The statement, however, underscores the challenges these complexities pose, suggesting that such inherent navigability is not a given, especially in the absence of formal financial education.

B. This inference aligns closely with the statement's implications. It acknowledges the complex and multifaceted nature of today's financial environment and recognizes that as students enter adulthood, they require a comprehensive financial education to effectively manage these complexities. This option correctly interprets the statement's suggestion that the modern financial landscape is challenging and demands a specific educational response.

C. This option incorrectly narrows the scope of the statement's implications. The statement suggests that the complexities of the modern financial landscape present challenges for all students entering adulthood, not exclusively those from specific economic backgrounds. Therefore, this option misinterprets the statement by implying a limitation that is not explicitly presented.

D. This option contradicts the statement's implications. The emphasis on the complexities of the modern financial landscape suggests that traditional financial skills may not be sufficient for students in the current era. The statement implies a need for an updated or enhanced financial skill set, which this option fails to recognize.

7. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** A. This option is the most fitting. The passage is written in the first person and recounts personal experiences, emotions, and struggles related to a phase of major depression and a suicide attempt. The detailed recollection of personal thoughts, feelings, and experiences, particularly around a profound life event, aligns with the characteristics of an autobiographical memoir. This genre typically involves a reflective narration of the author's own life experiences.

B. While the passage delves into psychological aspects, it does not align with the conventions of a psychological thriller. Thrillers generally involve suspense, tension, and excitement, often with a plot centered around crime or espionage. This passage, however, lacks those elements, focusing instead on personal mental health experiences without a suspenseful or thrilling narrative structure.

C. The passage does not exhibit characteristics of science fiction, a genre typically involving imaginative and futuristic concepts such as advanced science and technology, space exploration, time travel, or parallel universes. The content here is grounded in real-life personal experiences and does not delve into speculative or futuristic themes.

D. The passage does not conform to the style or purpose of an academic dissertation. Dissertations are formal and structured pieces of writing that present research and findings on a particular academic subject. The narrative here is personal and introspective, lacking the research-focused, formal structure of academic dissertations.

**Difficulty Level:** D

8. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** A: This option misinterprets the passage. The author explicitly describes an overwhelming sense of incapacity regarding even minor decisions, such as selecting a type of tea. Far from finding solace or comfort in these small choices, these moments intensified feelings of self-loathing and emotional distress. The passage illustrates the paralyzing effect depression can have on decision-making, contrary to the implication of comfort and control suggested in this option.

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B: This option correctly reflects the author's experience as described in the passage. The author recalls attempting to engage with activities and relationships that used to bring joy, only to find that their capacity to feel these positive emotions had faded. This inability to derive pleasure from previously enjoyable activities is a hallmark of severe depression, aligning with the symptoms the author describes. The passage vividly conveys this sense of detachment and loss, making this option an accurate inference.

C: This option is a direct contradiction of the author's described experience. The passage does not mention any heightened clarity or improved decision-making abilities. On the contrary, the author details a debilitating state where even simple decisions became overwhelming. The description of being incapacitated by the choice of tea underscores the diminished decision-making capacity, which is a common manifestation of severe depression. Thus, this option inaccurately represents the author's experience.

D: This option does not align with the passage's depiction of the author's emotional state. The author describes a profound inability to feel positive emotions, rather than a mere overshadowing by negative thoughts. The passage communicates a deep sense of despair and emotional numbness, characteristic of major depression, where even the memory of positive emotions feels distant and inaccessible. Therefore, this option fails to accurately capture the depth and nature of the emotional struggle described by the author.

**Difficulty Level: D**

9. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. "Nebulous" typically refers to something vague or ill-defined. While it can convey a sense of confusion, it does not specifically capture the dynamic and chaotic movement implied by "swirling." "Swirling" suggests a more active and tumultuous state of emotions, whereas "nebulous" leans towards a lack of clarity or definition, making it less suitable as a replacement in this context.

B. "Whirling" is an appropriate synonym for "swirling" in this context. It conveys a sense of rapid movement or spinning, similar to "swirling." This choice effectively captures the dynamic and potentially chaotic nature of the emotions described by the author, making it a fitting replacement that retains the original sentence's meaning.

C. "Sequential" refers to a logical or ordered sequence, which is quite different from the chaotic and unstructured sense conveyed by "swirling." "Swirling" suggests emotions that are tumultuous and lacking a clear order, whereas "sequential" implies a structured and orderly progression. Therefore, "sequential" does not align well with the intended meaning in the sentence.

D. "Congruent" means in agreement or harmony, which is quite the opposite of what "swirling" implies in the sentence. "Swirling" suggests disorder and turbulence in the emotions, while "congruent" would imply that the emotions are aligned or consistent, which does not fit the context of the author's emotional state as described in the passage.

**Difficulty Level: M**

10. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A: This option inaccurately characterizes the author's experience as one leading to existential validation and self-affirmation. The passage details a struggle with debilitating emotional states, including guilt and shame, and does not suggest any journey toward self-affirmation or existential realization. Instead, it conveys a sense of being overwhelmed and incapacitated by these emotions, contrary to the notion of deriving validation or positive affirmation from the experience.

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B: This option correctly captures the essence of the author's narrative. The passage reflects the author's deep empathy and contemplation of the shared nature of emotional suffering across human history. It describes the author's realization of how widespread and profound such emotional experiences can be, indicating a sense of connection with others who might have suffered similarly. This introspective and empathetic understanding of the universality of emotional pain aligns closely with the sentiments expressed in the passage.

C: This option is not supported by the passage. The author describes a state where basic activities were overwhelming, and there's no indication that engaging in cognitively demanding tasks provided any relief. In fact, the author mentions the inability to make simple decisions and the overwhelming nature of even passive activities like watching TV, suggesting that cognitive engagement was challenging rather than solacing.

D: This option contradicts the emotional tone and content of the passage. The narrative is steeped in descriptions of guilt, shame, and a profound struggle to endure each moment. The author does not express an undercurrent of optimism or a positive outlook on future aspirations. Instead, the focus is on the difficulty of existing in the present moment and the challenge of facing time, indicative of a state far removed from optimism or resilience.

**Difficulty Level: D**

11. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** A. This title is highly appropriate for the passage. It encapsulates the central theme of struggling with major depression, as described by the author. The term "Unseen Battle" effectively conveys the internal, hidden nature of the struggle against depression, while "Navigating the Depths" suggests the profound and complex nature of the author's experience. This title captures the essence of the passage, which focuses on the introspective and challenging journey through depression.

B. This title is misleading in relation to the passage. While the author mentions suffering a concussion due to a slip, the primary focus of the passage is not on physical recovery but rather on the psychological and emotional challenges that ensued. The passage delves into the depths of depression and emotional turmoil, making a title centered on physical recovery inappropriate.

C. This title does not accurately reflect the passage's content. The narrative does not depict a story of triumph or overcoming struggles. Instead, it focuses on the ongoing and intense experience of living with depression, marked by feelings of guilt, shame, and emotional distress. The passage lacks an element of victory or resolution, making this title unsuitable.

D. This title is not representative of the passage. The narrative describes the author's inability to feel joy and the struggle with depressive emotions, rather than a journey towards rediscovering joy or emotional reawakening. The author reflects on the loss of ability to feel positive emotions, rather than a process of regaining them.

**Difficulty Level: D**

12. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. This option incorrectly interprets the author's experience. The passage vividly details the severity and overwhelming nature of the author's struggle with depression, emphasizing it as the most challenging period of their life. By suggesting that the author viewed their depression as a minor obstacle, this option fails to capture the profound distress and difficulty conveyed in the passage. The author's reflection on their struggle as a 'striver' and 'high achiever' actually highlights the contrast in the difficulty of their experience with depression, rather than diminishing it.

B: This option accurately reflects the depth of the author's narrative. The passage describes the author's battle with depression as the hardest experience they have ever faced, even more challenging than their lifelong pursuit of high achievement. The use of terms like 'unparalleled' and 'formidable' aptly conveys the intense and unique nature of the struggle with depression as compared to previous life challenges. This option captures the essence of the passage, recognizing the profound impact and severity of the author's experience with depression.

C: This option misrepresents the passage. The author's narrative does not suggest that their past achievements or nature as a 'striver' lessened the impact of their depression. Instead, the passage emphasizes the unprecedented and intense nature of the depressive episode, indicating that prior achievements did not serve as a mitigating factor. The author's description of their struggle with depression does not imply any amelioration due to past successes.

D: This option oversimplifies the author's experience. While the passage mentions an injury as a trigger for the depressive episode, it does not limit the understanding of the author's depression to this event alone. Depression is often a multifaceted condition, influenced by a range of physical, psychological, and situational factors. By attributing the depression solely to physical trauma, this option does not acknowledge the complexity typically associated with mental health conditions and diverges from the nuanced portrayal of depression in the passage.

13. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. "Congenial" signifies something pleasant or agreeable, often used to describe compatibility in terms of character. In the context of the sentence, this term is antithetical to "incongruous," as it implies a sense of harmony or agreeableness. The original sentence indicates a sense of mismatch or inconsistency between Wittgenstein's philosophical ideas and his insights on creativity, which is not captured by the word "congenial."

B. "Disparate" refers to fundamentally distinct or dissimilar elements. This choice aptly captures the essence of "incongruous" in the sentence. It conveys the idea that Wittgenstein's complex philosophical writings and his thoughts on creativity might be seen as markedly different or inconsistent with each other. Therefore, "disparate" aligns well with the intended meaning of showing a striking difference, making it a suitable synonym.

C. "Synchronistic" implies occurring at the same time or coinciding in time, often used to describe events that are meaningfully related but not causally linked. This term does not align with the meaning of "incongruous," which in the sentence suggests a surprising or unexpected lack of harmony between Wittgenstein's philosophical works and his views on creativity. "Synchronistic" fails to convey the sense of discord or mismatch implied by "incongruous."

D. "Complementary" denotes elements that combine in such a way as to enhance or emphasize the qualities of each other. This meaning is contrary to "incongruous," as "complementary" suggests a harmonious and enhancing relationship. The original sentence implies a sense of inconsistency or unexpectedness in the relationship between Wittgenstein's philosophical ideas and his commentary on creativity, which is not conveyed by the term "complementary."

**Difficulty Level: D**

14. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** A. This option is a misinterpretation of Wittgenstein's views as presented in the passage. Rather than advocating for a language system rooted solely in individual creativity and introspection, Wittgenstein challenges the notion of a private language developed entirely within

one's internal realm. He emphasizes the public and interactive aspects of language, thereby negating the idea of an exclusively introspective linguistic framework.

B. This option does not accurately reflect Wittgenstein's philosophical stance as described in the passage. While Wittgenstein delves deeply into the nature of language, the passage does not suggest that his focus is on elevating language to a plane of metaphysical contemplation. Instead, it highlights his exploration of language in the context of social interaction and public discourse.

C. This is the correct answer as the passage clearly outlines Wittgenstein's argument against the concept of a private language, emphasizing instead the role of communal discourse in understanding and developing language. It captures Wittgenstein's belief that language evolves and is comprehended through interactions among individuals, aligning with the 'Private Language Argument' and the notion of 'language games' that involve different rules in various types of social interactions.

D. This option inaccurately represents Wittgenstein's 'language game' concept. The passage indicates that Wittgenstein's idea of 'language games' involves different rules for different types of social interactions, suggesting a diverse and context-specific approach rather than a single, monolithic structure. Thus, this option contradicts Wittgenstein's perspective on the varied nature of language use across different social contexts.

**Difficulty Level: D**

15. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. This option suggests a tone of doubt and critical analysis, which is not entirely accurate for the passage. While the author does examine and question certain concepts, the overall approach is more about explaining and elaborating on ideas rather than challenging or debunking them with scepticism. The passage presents an analytical view of creativity and language, rather than a critical or sceptical one.

B. This option accurately captures the tone of the passage. The author presents a detailed exploration of the concepts of creativity and language, particularly in the context of Wittgenstein's philosophical arguments. The tone is analytical, focusing on explaining and dissecting complex ideas, and expository, as it aims to convey and clarify these concepts clearly. The passage maintains a tone that is informative and elucidative, characteristic of an analytical expository style.

C. This option does not align with the passage's tone. Sentimental nostalgia implies a longing for the past or an emotional reflection on bygone times. The passage, however, is focused on the philosophical exploration of concepts like creativity and language, without evoking nostalgia or sentimentality. The tone is more intellectual and analytical than emotional or nostalgic.

D. While the passage does assert certain philosophical viewpoints, particularly those of Wittgenstein, the overall tone is not dogmatic. The author does not present these ideas as unquestionable truths but rather as concepts open to exploration and understanding. The tone is more exploratory and explanatory than assertive or dogmatic.

**Difficulty Level: D**

16. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** A. This option closely aligns with the passage's portrayal of creativity. It correctly infers that creativity involves the novel combination or reconfiguration of existing elements, ideas, or concepts. In contrast, discovery is characterized as the process of uncovering or bringing to light something new that was previously unknown or unobserved. This option effectively captures the nuanced distinction made in the passage between the two processes.

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B. This option, while recognizing the distinct natures of creativity and discovery, incorrectly suggests that they are parallel processes. The passage delineates a clear difference between the two, indicating that creativity is not just about the origination of novel entities but involves a unique mental approach or framework, which is different from the empirical nature of discovery.

C. This option misinterprets the passage's depiction of creativity. The passage does not describe creativity as mere replication of ideas in a new context; rather, it suggests a more active and synthesizing role in creating something new, albeit from existing elements. Additionally, the passage does not restrict discovery to the innovation of entirely new concepts but describes it as the process of uncovering unknown truths or artifacts.

**Difficulty Level: D**

17. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. This option contradicts the essence of the passage. The passage delineates a perspective where creativity is deeply integrated within societal and linguistic structures, not operating independently of them. It emphasizes that creativity evolves in tandem with these structures, making the notion of creativity as an autonomous paradigm misaligned with the passage's implications.

B. This is the correct inference. The passage suggests that creativity is not an isolated phenomenon but is interwoven with the social fabric of language games and cultural traditions. It infers that creativity and sociolinguistic structures co-evolve, each influencing and being influenced by the other. This option captures the passage's portrayal of creativity as dynamically interconnected with societal and linguistic contexts.

C. This option inaccurately represents the relationship between creativity and language games. The passage implies a more integrated and interdependent relationship, where creativity and language games influence each other within the social milieu. The notion of them as parallel but unrelated entities does not align with the passage's emphasis on their interconnected nature.

D. This option misinterprets the passage's content. While the passage acknowledges the role of sociolinguistic frameworks in shaping creativity, it does not depict them as restrictive or confining. Instead, it suggests that these frameworks provide a context within which creativity is developed and understood, rather than imposing limiting boundaries on creative expression.

**Difficulty Level: D**

18. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. This option is inaccurate. The excerpt does not suggest a convergence of creativity and discovery into synonymous expressions. Instead, it distinguishes between the two, highlighting that while discovery is about finding something previously unknown, creativity involves a broader cognitive process. The passage implies that the concept of creativity, particularly in the human context, gained distinct recognition in the seventeenth century but did not merge with the idea of discovery.

B. This is the correct inference. The passage differentiates creativity from discovery by defining it as a broader cognitive framework. It suggests that creativity is not limited to the act of discovering or creating new entities but includes a more complex process of mental synthesis and innovation. This understanding aligns with the passage's indication that creativity, as a human attribute, encompasses more than the mere act of unearthing new things.

C. This option misrepresents the concepts as portrayed in the passage. The excerpt does not suggest that discovery and creativity have been historically viewed as parallel and uniform in

representing new phenomena. Instead, it emphasizes the distinct nature of creativity as a frame of mind, separate from the more straightforward act of discovery.

D. This option inaccurately interprets the historical context of 'creativity' presented in the passage. The passage does mention a shift in the understanding of creativity from a divine realm to a human one but does not equate this evolution with a transformation to being synonymous with empirical discovery. The passage maintains a clear distinction between creativity and the act of discovering new entities.

19. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** A. This option is incorrect. The passage contrasts the protagonist of *Grimnismál* with Dickens' Ebenezer Scrooge, specifically noting the lack of second chances for the *Grimnismál* character. Unlike Scrooge, who experiences transformation and redemption, the *Grimnismál* protagonist does not receive such an opportunity, as indicated in the passage.

B. This option is not supported by the passage. The narrative implies that Icelandic Yuletide traditions, particularly regarding feasts, are rooted in historical practices and the resilience of its people. It does not suggest modesty or simplicity in feast preparations; rather, it highlights the importance of ensuring guests are well-fed and the presence of traditional dishes like *hangikjöt*.

C. This is the correct interpretation. The passage specifically mentions that *hangikjöt*, a traditional Icelandic dish of smoked lamb, originated in the ninth century. It details the method of preservation, which involves hanging and smoking the meat over birch wood, aligning with the historical practices of Norse explorers who settled the land.

D. This option contradicts the passage's content. The passage emphasizes that the feast, especially during Yuletide, is central to Icelandic traditions, as illustrated by the medieval sagas. It suggests that the stakes for Yuletide celebrations, including the feast, are high, contrasting this statement's claim of little emphasis on feasting.

**Difficulty Level: D**

20. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. This option misinterprets the story's outcome. While hospitality and generosity are important themes in Norse mythology, in this particular story, King Geirroð's inhospitality and mistreatment of his guest (Óðinn in disguise) lead to his downfall. The narrative does not depict the king's kind treatment but rather his cruel actions, making this inference incorrect.

B. This is the correct interpretation. The story of *Grimnismál*, as narrated in the passage, illustrates the consequences of King Geirroð's inhospitality and pride. His actions towards the disguised Óðinn, driven by suspicion and lack of generosity, ultimately lead to his own demise. The tale serves as a cautionary lesson about the dangers of these negative traits.

C. While the story involves Óðinn using disguise, the primary focus is not on magic or deception per se. The passage centers more on the moral implications of Geirroð's actions and the repercussions of inhospitality and pride. Thus, while magic and deception are elements of the story, they are not the main thematic lesson inferred from the narrative.

D. This option inaccurately represents the story's thematic focus. While Óðinn does make a prophecy about Geirroð's son and the king's end, the narrative does not primarily revolve around the theme of fate or the inevitability of prophecies. Instead, it highlights the consequences of Geirroð's own actions, suggesting a moral lesson rather than a commentary on fate.

**Difficulty Level: M**

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21. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. "Inconsequential" means not important or significant. While this word might suggest a lack of relevance similar to "impertinent," it doesn't convey the disrespectful or irreverent tone implied by "impertinent." The passage indicates that the king's questions were not just irrelevant but also disrespectful, making "inconsequential" a less precise synonym in this context.

B. "Insolent" refers to showing a rude and arrogant lack of respect, closely aligning with the tone and meaning of "impertinent" in the passage. The king's questions, described as "impertinent," were not only inappropriate but also carried an undertone of disrespect or irreverence, which is effectively captured by the term "insolent."

C. "Affable" means friendly, good-natured, or easy to talk to, which is quite the opposite of "impertinent." The passage describes the king's questions as inappropriate and disrespectful, a meaning that "affable" fails to convey. Therefore, this option does not accurately replace "impertinent" in the given context.

D. "Nonchalant" describes a manner that is calm and relaxed, often in a way that suggests a lack of concern or interest. This does not align with the disrespectful or irreverent nature of the king's questions as implied by "impertinent." The term "nonchalant" misses the aspect of disrespect or irreverence that is central to the meaning of "impertinent" in the passage.

**Difficulty Level: D**

22. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. While this option touches on an aspect of the passage, namely the Icelandic food traditions, it does not encompass the full breadth of the content. The passage delves into more than just gastronomic practices; it explores the themes of hospitality, Norse mythology, and moral lessons from sagas. Therefore, this title, though relevant, is somewhat narrow in scope compared to the passage's broader thematic range.

B. This title aptly captures the primary themes of the passage. It encompasses the elements of Norse mythology (through references to Óðinn and Grimnismál), the cultural importance of hospitality, and the cautionary tales embedded within these sagas. The title effectively reflects the intertwining of mythology and cultural practices as described in the passage.

C. Similar to option A, this title focuses specifically on the culinary aspect, particularly mentioning the Viking Age. While it accurately represents the part of the passage discussing Icelandic food traditions, it does not fully capture the broader themes of mythology, hospitality, and moral lessons present in the narrative.

**Difficulty Level: D**

23. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** A. While the presence of Óðinn in the Grimnismál indicates divine involvement, the passage does not explicitly indicate that the primary focus of these texts is to celebrate divine omniscience or omnipotence. The narrative goes beyond showcasing the gods' powers and delves into the interactions and consequences of actions in the mortal realm.

B. The passage doesn't provide sufficient evidence to conclude that the central theme of these texts is the immutable nature of fate. While Norse mythology often features elements of fate and prophecy, the passage discusses more the consequences of actions and moral behaviours, rather than focusing solely on fate.

C. This option captures a more nuanced interpretation of the passage. The narrative of Grimnismál, particularly with Óðinn's involvement and the consequences for King Geirroð, suggests a complex

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interaction between the gods and humans. It reflects a thematic exploration of how divine intervention interacts with human actions and decisions, indicative of the moral and ethical dimensions in Norse culture.

D. This is the correct inference. The passage, through its description of the Grimnismál's story and its inclusion in the same manuscript as Hávamál, suggests that these texts serve as a medium for codifying and conveying social and ethical norms. The emphasis on the consequences of hospitality violations and moral transgressions aligns with this thematic focus, indicating that these texts were instrumental in reflecting and reinforcing cultural values.

**Difficulty Level: M**

24. **Answer: D**

**Explanation:** A. This option contradicts the given statement. The passage indicates that Germanic hospitality, especially in winter, involved welcoming visitors with generosity and kindness. This implies a focus on social interaction and communal support rather than solitude and self-reflection, making this inference inaccurate.

B. While the statement mentions the unpredictability of guests' arrival, it does not explicitly link the hospitality tradition to superstitions about the guests' identity or power. The passage suggests a broader cultural value of generosity, rather than a practice driven by superstitious beliefs, making this inference less aligned with the given statement.

C. This option, although plausible, does not fully capture the essence of the statement. While harsh winter conditions might have influenced the need for hospitality, the passage emphasizes that the tradition of welcoming visitors was also a manifestation of cultural values like generosity and kindness, not merely a practical response to climatic challenges.

D. This is the correct inference. The statement indicates that part of Germanic hospitality was the practice of extending generosity and kindness to any visitor during winter. This reflects a cultural norm and value emphasizing hospitality and communal support, particularly in the challenging winter season. It suggests a deep-seated cultural ethos of caring for and supporting others in the community.

**Current Affairs and General Knowledge**

25. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** India secured the **7th position** in the **CCPI 2024**, exhibiting a stride forward from **8th spot in CCPI 2023**. Interestingly, due to the **absence of countries in the first three spots**, India effectively stands 4th in global climate performance.

26. **Answer: D**

**Explanation: G-20-performance:** With **India (7th), Germany (14th), and the EU (16th)**, only three G20 countries/regions are among the high performers in CCPI 2024. The G20 members account for **more than 75% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions**.

**Developed Countries:** Notably, many developed countries including the **United Kingdom, the United States, Italy**, and others showcased poorer performances compared to the CCPI 2023, reflecting a lack of substantial progress in countering climate change.

India secured the **7th position** in the **CCPI 2024**, exhibiting a stride forward from **8th spot in CCPI 2023**. Interestingly, due to the **absence of countries in the first three spots**, India effectively stands 4th in global climate performance. Thus, A and B options are incorrect.

27. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** India has been aggressively pushing towards a more sustainable future by investing heavily in renewable energy sources, with solar energy at the forefront of its efforts. The Government of India has set the target to expand India's renewable energy installed capacity to 500 GW by 2030. India has promised to source nearly half its energy from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030 and, in the shorter term, source at least 60% of its renewable energy from solar power.

Related Initiatives-

- **Solar Park Scheme:** The Solar Park Scheme plans to build a number of solar parks, each with a capacity of nearly 500 MW, across several states.
- **Rooftop Solar Scheme:** The Rooftop Solar Scheme aims to harness solar power by installing solar panels on the roof of houses.
- **National Solar Mission:** It is a major initiative of the Government of India and State Governments to promote ecologically sustainable growth while addressing India's energy security challenge.
- **SRISTI Scheme:** Sustainable rooftop implementation of Solar transfiguration of India (SRISTI) scheme to promote rooftop solar power projects in India.
- **International Solar Alliance:** International Solar Alliance is an action-oriented, member-driven, collaborative platform for increased deployment of solar energy technologies.
- **Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM):** The PM-KUSUM scheme was launched by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) to support installation of off-grid solar pumps in rural areas and reduce dependence on grid, in grid-connected areas.

28. **Answer: A**

**Explanation: CCPI 2024:** No country performed well enough in all index categories to achieve an overall very high rating. The **first three overall positions therefore remain empty**. **Denmark** claimed the 4th spot, **Estonia** followed in 5th place, and the **Philippines** secured the 6th position among the top ranks.

29. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The CCPI assesses each country's performance in four categories: GHG Emissions (40% of the overall ranking), Renewable Energy (20%), Energy Use (20%) and Climate Policy (20%). It also answers the question of the extent to which each country is taking appropriate action in the areas of Emissions, Renewable energy and Energy use in order to achieve the climate goals set in Paris.

30. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** Digital Bharat Nidhi: The Universal Service Obligation Fund has been established under the 1885 Act to provide for telecom services in underserved areas.

The Bill retains this provision, renames the fund as Digital Bharat Nidhi, and also allows its use for research and development.

Protection of Users: The central government may provide for measures to protect users which include: prior consent to receive specified messages such as advertising messages, creation of Do Not Disturb registers, and a mechanism to allow users to report malware or specified messages.

Biometric Authentication is mandatory for telecom customers to combat spam calls and messages.

Entities providing telecom services must establish an online mechanism for registration and redressal of grievances.

Powers of Interception and Search: Messages or a class of messages between two or more persons may be intercepted, monitored, or blocked on certain grounds.

Such actions must be necessary or expedient in the interest of public safety or public emergency, and must be in the interest of specified grounds which include: security of the state, prevention of incitement of offenses, or public order.

Telecom services may be suspended on similar grounds. The government may take temporary possession of any telecom infrastructure, network, or services on occurrence of any public emergency or public safety.

An officer authorized by the government may search premises or vehicles for possession of unauthorized telecom networks or equipment.

Powers to Specify Standards: The central government may prescribe standards and assessments for telecom equipment, infrastructure, networks, and services.

Appointments to TRAI: The Bill amends the TRAI Act to also allow individuals with: at least 30 years of professional experience to serve as the chairperson, and at least 25 years of professional experience to serve as members.

Authorisation for Telecom-related Activities: Prior authorisation from the central government will be required to provide telecommunication services, establish, operate, maintain, or expand telecommunications networks, or possess radio equipment.

Existing licenses will continue to be valid for the period of their grant, or for five years, where the period is not specified.

Assignment of Spectrum: Spectrum will be assigned by auction, except for specified uses, where it will be allocated on an administrative basis. These include purposes such as national security and defense, disaster management, weather forecasting, transport, satellite services such as DTH and satellite telephony, and BSNL, MTNL, and public broadcasting services.

The central government may re-purpose or re-assign any frequency range. The central government may also permit sharing, trading, leasing, and surrender of spectrum.

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Satellite Internet Allotments: The Bill introduces provisions for allocating spectrum to satellite Internet providers like OneWeb (supported by Bharti) and U.S.-based companies such as SpaceX's Starlink.

31. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** Right of Way: Facility providers may seek a right of way over public or private property to establish telecom infrastructure.

Right of way must be provided on a non-discriminatory and non-exclusive basis to the extent possible.

Regulation of OTT Apps: It has removed over-the-top (OTT) services and apps from the definition of telecommunication services, in a big relief to communication service providers such as WhatsApp and Telegram.

The Ministry of Electronics and IT will handle the regulation of OTT apps under the potential Digital India Act, not included in the Telecom Bill.

Offenses and Penalties: The Bill specifies various criminal and civil offenses. Providing telecom services without authorisation, or gaining unauthorized access to a telecom network or data, are punishable with imprisonment up to three years, a fine up to two crore rupees, or both.

Breaching terms and conditions of authorisation is punishable with a civil penalty up to five crore rupees.

Possessing unauthorized equipment, or using unauthorized network or service, is punishable with a penalty of up to ten lakh rupees.

32. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Option B is the correct answer.

Adjudication Process: The central government will appoint an adjudicating officer to conduct inquiries and pass orders against civil offenses under the Bill.

The officer must be of the rank of joint secretary and above.

Orders of the adjudicating officer may be appealed before the Designated Appeals Committee within 30 days.

Appeals against the orders of the Committee, in connection to breach of terms and conditions, may be filed with Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) within 30 days.

33. **Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved Rs 1.39 lakh crore for the Modernization of the BharatNet project.

National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) was launched in October 2011 and was renamed as Bharat Net Project in 2015.

It is the world's largest rural broadband connectivity programme using Optical Fiber. And also a flagship mission implemented by Bharat Broadband Network Ltd. (BBNL).

BBNL is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set up by the Government of India under the Companies Act, 1956.

It is being implemented by the Department of Telecommunication under the Ministry of Communications.

This project involves altering the execution strategy and employing Village Level Entrepreneurs (Udyamis) to provide fiber connections to the last mile, thereby accelerating the connectivity process over the next 2.5 years.

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34. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** The 14 sectors are mobile manufacturing, manufacturing of medical devices, automobiles and auto components, pharmaceuticals, drugs, specialty steel, telecom & networking products, electronic products, white goods (ACs and LEDs), food products, textile products, solar PV modules, advanced chemistry cell (ACC) battery, and drones and drone components.

The PLI scheme was conceived to scale up domestic manufacturing capability, accompanied by higher import substitution and employment generation.

Launched in March 2020, the scheme initially targeted three industries:

- Mobile and allied Component Manufacturing
- Electrical Component Manufacturing and
- Medical Devices.

Later, it was extended to 14 sectors.

35. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Malaria is transmitted to humans by female mosquitoes of the genus Anopheles. Female mosquitoes take blood meals for egg production, and these blood meals are the link between the human and the mosquito hosts in the parasite life cycle.

Anopheles is a genus of mosquito first described by J. W. Meigen in 1818. Its members are sometimes called nail mosquitoes or marsh mosquitoes. Many are vectors of the Plasmodium parasite of malaria in birds, reptiles, and mammals including humans.

36. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Dr. Alphonse Laveran, a military doctor in France's Service de Santé des Armées (Health Service of the Armed Forces). The military hospital in Constantine (Algeria), where Laveran discovered the malaria parasite in 1880.

The discovery that malaria parasites developed in the liver before entering the blood stream was made by Henry Shortt and Cyril Garnham in 1948.

37. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** GAVI, officially Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (previously the GAVI Alliance, and before that the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization) is a public–private global health partnership with the goal of increasing access to immunization in poor countries. In 2016, Gavi channeled more than half of total donor assistance for health, and most donor assistance for immunization, by monetary measure.

Gavi supports the immunization of almost half the world's children. Gavi has helped immunize over 760 million children, preventing over 13 million deaths worldwide, helping increase diphtheria vaccine coverage in supported countries from 59% in 2000 to 81% in 2019, contributing to reducing child mortality by half. It also seeks to improve the economics of vaccines, negotiating bulk prices, supporting price discrimination, and reducing the commercial risks that manufacturers face when selling vaccines to the poor and developing vaccines. It also provides funding to strengthen health systems and train health workers across the developing world, though the effectiveness of its health-system-strengthening programs is disputed.

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38. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** The R21 vaccine is the second malaria vaccine prequalified by WHO, following the RTS, S/AS01 vaccine which obtained prequalification status in July 2022. Both vaccines are shown to be safe and effective in clinical trials, for preventing malaria in children. When implemented broadly, along with other recommended malaria control interventions, they are expected to have a high public health impact. Malaria, a mosquito-borne disease, places a particularly high burden on children in the African Region, where nearly half a million children die from the disease each year. Globally, in 2022, there were an estimated 249 million malaria cases and 608 000 malaria deaths across 85 countries

39. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** In a significant development in the global fight against malaria, the World Health Organization (WHO) has recently added the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine to its list of prequalified vaccines. Developed by Oxford University and manufactured by the Serum Institute of India, this vaccine holds promise in preventing malaria in children.

Serum Institute of India (SII) is an Indian biotechnology and biopharmaceuticals company, based in Pune. It is the world's largest manufacturer of vaccines. It was founded by Cyrus Poonawalla in 1966 and is a part of Cyrus Poonawalla Group.

40. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** Instead of Neutral Administrative region it should be special administrative region.

Key Highlights of the Gelephu Smart City Project-

- The project is expected to be an “economic corridor connecting South Asia with Southeast Asia via India’s northeastern States”.
- The city is expected to follow environmental standards and sustainability as a goal, and will aim to attract “quality investment” from “specially screened” international companies.
- The project is expected to include “zero emission” industries, a “mindfulness city” that plays to Bhutan’s strength in tourism and wellness, as well as infrastructure companies.
- The project is expected to be a “Special Administrative Region” that would be run under different laws to facilitate more international investment.
- The project is expected to be a “point of inflection” and “transformation” for Bhutan and South Asia.
- The Government of India agrees to construct the first India-Bhutan railway line to Gelephu.
- The railway will also connect with roadways and border trading points into Assam and West Bengal, eventually providing Bhutan access to Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, and Singapore.

41. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** India and Bhutan took a major step forward for the construction of the 600 MW Kholongchhu project, their first hydropower joint venture project in Bhutan’s less developed eastern region of Trashiyangtse. The project’s “Concession agreement,” which was signed in the presence via video-conference of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in Delhi, and Bhutan’s Foreign Minister Tandi Dorji and Economic Affairs Minister Loknath Sharma in Thimphu, marks a shift as it is the first time an India-Bhutan hydropower project will be constructed as a 50:50 joint venture, not as a government-to-government agreement.

Speaking at the ceremony, both Foreign Ministers called the agreement a “milestone” in the India-Bhutan partnership, under which four hydropower projects have been built in the last 30 years

totalling a capacity of 2,100 MW, and another two are under construction. The Kholongchhu project is one of four additional projects agreed to in 2008, as a part of India's commitment to help Bhutan create a total 10,000 MW of installed capacity by 2020.

42. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Bhutan plans to build a massive "international city" in an area of over 1,000 sq. km. on its border with Assam, Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck announced to applause from a packed audience of 30,000 at the Changlimathang stadium in Thimpu on December 17, pitching the project as an "economic corridor connecting South Asia with Southeast Asia via India's northeastern States.

43. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** "It is a period of awakening and economic transformation in South Asia, a period of growth and immense opportunities," Bhutan's fifth king said, adding, "There is a road and a gateway that leads to new opportunities, to markets, capital, new ideas and technology... towards our future, towards our destiny." The crowd roared its approval.

The King's announcement is the first official confirmation of what is known as the 'Gelephu Smartcity Project'. It is expected to follow environmental standards and sustainability as a goal, and will aim to attract "quality investment" from "specially screened" international companies, the 42-year-old sovereign said.

44. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Around two billion people live in South Asia," King Jigme Wangchuck said, thanking Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Government of India for agreeing to build the first India-Bhutan railway line to Gelephu, which would also connect with roadways and border trading and crossing points into Assam and West Bengal, and over time, he said, give Bhutan access to Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, and Singapore.

45. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (Second) (BNS2) replaces the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and introduces significant alterations including:

**Retention and Incorporation of Offences:** The BNS2 maintains existing IPC provisions on murder, assault, and causing hurt, while incorporating new offenses like organized crime, terrorism, and group-related grievous hurt or murder. It also adds community service as a form of punishment.

**Terrorism:** Defined as acts threatening the nation's integrity or causing terror among the populace. Penalties range from death or life imprisonment to imprisonment with fines.

**Organized Crime:** Includes offenses like kidnapping, extortion, financial scams, cybercrime, and more. Punishments vary from life imprisonment to death, with fines for those committing or attempting organized crime.

**Mob Lynching:** BNS2 identifies murder or severe injury by five or more individuals on specific grounds (race, caste, etc.) as a punishable offence, carrying life imprisonment or death penalty.

**Sexual Offences Against Women:** Retaining IPC sections on rape, voyeurism, and other violations, BNS2 raises the age threshold for gangrape victims from 16 to 18 years. Additionally, it criminalizes deceptive sexual acts or false promises.

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46. **Answer:** A  
**Explanation:** Retention of IPC Provisions on Rape and Sexual Harassment: The BNS2 retains the provisions of the IPC on rape and sexual harassment. It does not consider recommendations of the Justice Verma Committee (2013) such as making the offence of rape gender neutral and including marital rape as an offence.
47. **Answer:** D  
**Explanation:** The CrPC organizes India's criminal courts hierarchically, from Magistrate's Courts to the Supreme Court. It previously allowed cities with over a million people to have Metropolitan Magistrates, but the BNS2 eliminates this distinction and the role of Metropolitan Magistrates
48. **Answer:** D  
**Explanation:** The BNS2 introduces strict timelines: medical reports for rape victims within 7 days, judgments within 30 days (extendable to 45), victim progress updates within 90 days, and charge framing within 60 days from the first hearing. The CrPC organizes India's criminal courts hierarchically, from Magistrate's Courts to the Supreme Court. It previously allowed cities with over a million people to have Metropolitan Magistrates, but the BNS2 eliminates this distinction and the role of Metropolitan Magistrates.  
The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha (Second) Sanhita, 2023 (BNS2) replaces the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 (CrPC) and introduces significant alterations including:  
Detention Conditions: The BNS2 alters rules for undertrials, restricting release on personal bond for those accused in severe offenses, including life imprisonment cases and individuals facing multiple charges.  
Medical Examination: It broadens the scope of medical examinations, allowing any police officer (not just a sub-inspector) to request one, making the process more accessible.  
Forensic Investigation: Mandates forensic investigation for crimes punishable by at least seven years' imprisonment.  
It requires forensic experts to collect evidence at crime scenes, recording the process electronically. States lacking forensic facilities should utilize those in other states.  
Sample Collection: Extends the power to collect finger impressions and voice samples, even from individuals not under arrest, expanding beyond the CrPC's specimen signatures or handwriting orders.  
Timelines: The BNS2 introduces strict timelines: medical reports for rape victims within 7 days, judgments within 30 days (extendable to 45), victim progress updates within 90 days, and charge framing within 60 days from the first hearing.  
Court Hierarchy: The CrPC organizes India's criminal courts hierarchically, from Magistrate's Courts to the Supreme Court. It previously allowed cities with over a million people to have Metropolitan Magistrates, but the BNS2 eliminates this distinction and the role of Metropolitan Magistrates.
49. **Answer:** B  
**Explanation:** The cost of unit assistance is shared between Central and State Governments in the ratio of 60:40 in plain areas and 90:10 for North Eastern and hilly states.
50. **Answer:** D  
**Explanation:** The unit cost for PMAY-G houses in PVTGs has been increased to Rs 2 lakh, compared to Rs 1.2 lakh in plain areas and Rs 1.30 lakh in hilly areas.
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PMAY-G beneficiaries can avail additional financial assistance of Rs 12,500 for toilet construction and 90 days of work under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), taking the total benefit to Rs 2.39 lakh.

51. **Answer:** D

**Explanation:** PM JANMAN, led by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, seeks to integrate tribal communities into the mainstream through a comprehensive scheme. In collaboration with states and PVTG communities, the initiative focuses on 11 key interventions across sectors, including housing, healthcare, education, and livelihood opportunities.

The scheme will be overseen by 9 line Ministries, ensuring the implementation of existing schemes in villages inhabited by PVTGs.

This initiative was announced by the Prime Minister on Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2023 (15th November).

52. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** The Centre has initiated a comprehensive survey and registration process to identify eligible beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) among 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) across 18 states and Union Territories. The Ministry of Rural Development utilizes the Aawas+ app, its dedicated online application, to identify beneficiaries for the rural housing scheme.

A total of 4.9 lakh houses are planned to be built for PVTGs under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN).

**Legal Reasoning**

53. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Filing for a provisional patent application would provide the company with a one-year window to file a complete patent application while protecting its invention from competitors. This would allow the company to negotiate licensing agreements with interested companies while keeping its invention protected. So, option A is correct. Option B is incorrect since keeping the invention as a trade secret may not be practical in this scenario as it may be difficult to keep the technology secret from competitors. Option C is incorrect since filing for an international patent application only would be incomplete, and option D is incorrect since keeping the invention open source may not be the best option for a company looking to maximize profits.

54. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** Option B is the correct answer since even though Samantha transferred the copyright to the client, she still has the right to file a lawsuit against the client for copyright infringement if the client is using her design without permission on a product unrelated to the original project. Option A and C are incorrect since transferring the copyright does not necessarily mean that Samantha has relinquished all rights to her work. She may still have moral rights or other legal grounds to protect her work from unauthorized use. Samantha can take legal action to enforce her rights and seek remedies such as injunctions and damages.

55. **Answer:** D

**Explanation:** Option D is the correct answer since the given information does not provide sufficient details to make a conclusive determination regarding the claim of copyright infringement. While the presence of similarities between the plaintiff's work and the web series may raise suspicions of infringement, additional evidence is necessary to establish a case of copyright infringement. Option A and B are incorrect since the associate of defendant has not stated anything in the question and no presumption on the given facts can be made.

56. **Answer:** C

**Explanation:** Option C is the correct answer since the use of a trademark in a video title or review can potentially be considered fair use if it is used in a descriptive or informative manner, without falsely disparaging the product or causing confusion among consumers. In this case, if Navya's review of Parachute coconut oil was objective and did not falsely disparage the product, her use of the trademarked name in the video title would likely be considered a fair use and would not violate the exclusive trademark rights of Marico Ltd. Option A and B are incorrect since it is important to consider the specific content of the video and whether it meets the criteria of fair use before making a final determination.

57. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** Option B is the correct answer since registration with the copyright Office is not a requirement for obtaining copyright protection. As the creator of his songs, John already has copyright protection for his works, even without registering them. Option A is incorrect since John has the automatic privilege of copyright protection. Option C is incorrect since the passage does not state about immediate registration and the same is automatic in nature.

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58. **Answer:** C

**Explanation:** Option C is the correct answer since the Indian government has the authority to expel Ali from the country if they have reasonable grounds to believe that he may be involved in activities that are detrimental to the security of India. National security concerns can be a valid basis for a government to take action, such as deportation or expulsion of a foreign national. In this case, the government's suspicion of Ali's contacts with individuals linked to a terrorist organization raises concerns about his potential involvement in activities that threaten national security. Option A and B are incorrect since it is important to note that governments have the responsibility to protect their country's security, and in such cases, they can take appropriate actions, including the expulsion of individuals, based on the available evidence and intelligence. So, option D is also incorrect.

59. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Option A is the correct answer. In this case, Ravi's work visa has expired, and his application for a long-term visa to stay with his spouse has been rejected. Without a valid visa, Ravi does not have the legal right to stay in India. Option B is incorrect since marriage to an Indian citizen does not automatically grant Ravi the right to stay in the country if he does not have the appropriate visa or legal status. To legally stay in India, Ravi would need to follow the proper procedures and obtain a valid visa that allows him to stay based on his marital relationship. So, options C and D are incorrect.

60. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Option A is the most suitable choice for Rahul. An Employment Visa is designed for individuals who have a job offer from an Indian company and intend to work in the country. Since Rahul has a job offer from a reputable company in India, applying for an Employment Visa aligns with his situation and career prospects. This visa category is specifically tailored for skilled professionals who want to immigrate to India for employment purposes. Option B is incorrect since Rahul has a job offer and not a business one. Option C is incorrect since he wants an employment visa to better his career aspects and not go for a tour in another country. Option D is incorrect since it is not the most suitable option for Rahul, as he already has a job offer.

61. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** India has immigration laws that prioritize national security, economic interests, and social harmony. These laws are in place to regulate the entry, stay, and employment of foreign nationals within the country. Option B is the correct answer and A is incorrect. They aim to strike a balance between facilitating legitimate immigration for various purposes, such as work, study, or family reunification, while also safeguarding national interests and maintaining social order. D is incorrect since violation of immigration laws in India can lead to legal consequences, including deportation, fines, or other restrictions, depending on the severity of the violation.

62. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** Foreign nationals residing in India on a dependent visa do not have the automatic right to work in the country or operate bank accounts in their name. A dependent visa is typically granted to spouses or dependents of Indian citizens or foreign nationals working in India on employment visas. While Riya has the right to reside in India as a dependent of an Indian citizen, she would need to obtain the appropriate work visa or permit to pursue a career and work legally in India. Option B is the correct answer. Similarly, operating a bank account in her name may require

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additional documentation or meeting specific banking requirements, as per the policies of the respective bank. The same has not been discussed in the passage. So, options A, C and D are incorrect.

63. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Option A is the correct answer since both the provisions being independent of each other will exclude the other while seeking for a recourse. Option B is incorrect since the passage only discusses about the remedies under the domestic violence act and criminal law. Option C is incorrect since it is contrary to what has been mentioned in the passage. The act and criminal law do not overlap and are independent of each other.

64. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** The Domestic Violence Act in India or the PWDVA provides comprehensive legal protection and remedies for victims of domestic violence. The act recognizes that domestic violence extends beyond physical abuse and includes various forms of abuse, such as emotional, economic, and sexual abuse. It aims to provide a wide range of remedies to ensure the safety, well-being, and access to justice for victims of domestic violence. So, option A is correct and options B and D are incorrect. The act acknowledges the various dimensions of domestic violence and seeks to address them holistically. It is important to note that the PWDVA is gender-neutral, meaning it can provide protection to both men and women who are victims of domestic violence. C is incorrect since it can extend protection to individuals in live-in relationships also as given in the last paragraph of the passage.

65. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Option A is the correct answer since the court has to take cognizance of the complaint since the complaint was filed within a prescribed period of 1 year and cognizance of the same can be taken after the prescribed period, as discussed in the second paragraph of the passage. Option B is incorrect since even though limitation period as stated to be 1 year, the court still can take cognizance of the matter beyond the limitation period. Option C is incorrect since the limitation period as stated is 1 year. Option D is incorrect since the Act is not silent on the aspect of limitation and the passage explicitly states about the limitation period.

66. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Option A is the correct answer. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 recognizes the rights and protection of women in live-in relationships. Riya, as a victim of domestic violence in a live-in relationship, has the right to seek legal protection and remedies under the Act. Riya can file a complaint under the above Act and seek assistance and protection. Option B is incorrect since as per the passage the first recourse is to file a complaint rather than to approaching family court. Option C is incorrect since the passage emphasizes on legal remedies and not alternative measures such as mediation.

67. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** In cases where false allegations of domestic violence are made, it is essential for the court to thoroughly examine the evidence presented by both parties. In this scenario, since there is no substantial evidence to support Rahul's false allegations and Priya maintains her innocence, it is likely that the court will dismiss the case of domestic violence against Priya. Courts are expected to

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consider the evidence and evaluate the credibility of the parties involved. So, option A is incorrect and option B is the correct answer. Availability of evidence is already given in the question and hence, C is incorrect.

68. **Answer:** D

**Explanation:** Option D is the most appropriate choice as it prioritizes addressing the underlying issues within their relationship and seeking professional guidance to rebuild trust. Unauthorized access to someone's personal belongings and online accounts (Option A) violates their privacy rights and may even be illegal. It is not an ethical or legal solution to seek evidence. Openly discussing concerns and requesting voluntary cooperation (Option B) is a respectful approach, but it still requires Daniel's willingness to share the evidence. Hiring a private investigator (Option C) may seem like a discreet way to gather evidence, but it involves invasion of privacy and unethical surveillance. Seeking professional guidance from a therapist (Option D) allows both Rebecca and Daniel to work through their trust issues, communicate openly, and explore healthier ways to rebuild trust and address their concerns.

69. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** Option B is the most appropriate response as it acknowledges the importance of open communication and mutual understanding within the relationship. By having an open and honest conversation, they can work together to address trust issues and find a resolution. Option A suggests that the wife should have unrestricted access to the husband's personal belongings and electronic devices, disregarding his right to privacy. Option C suggests hiring a private investigator without the husband's knowledge or consent, which again disregards his right to privacy. Option D suggests relying solely on intuition and allegations without seeking any evidence, which may not provide a fair and thorough assessment of the situation.

70. **Answer:** C

**Explanation:** Option C reflects the rationale that the court recognized the wife's reasonable apprehension of her husband's adultery. In such cases, the court may grant the spouse the right to seek evidence in accordance with the law. This allows the spouse to gather evidence to support their claims and present them in court. Option A is not the correct answer because it suggests that the court determined the wife's right to seek evidence as irrelevant, which contradicts the rationale given in the question. Option B is not the correct answer because it is an extreme position and does not reflect the usual balance between privacy rights and the need for evidence in cases of adultery. Option D is not the correct answer because it is an extreme and incorrect statement, as courts consider evidence and balance the rights and interests of both parties in making their decisions.

71. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** The manner in which the evidence was obtained, even if it was gathered by a private investigator, does not automatically render it inadmissible. The court's main concern is to establish the truth and protect the rights of the affected party. A wife can seek production of evidence or documents to prove the charge of adultery levelled by her against the husband. Option B is incorrect since a wife has a right to do so and that privacy is not an absolute right. Option C is incorrect since privacy cannot be considered on adulterous acts of the husband in such a case.

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72. **Answer:** C

**Explanation:** Option C is correct since this option states that adultery laws do not apply to Sita and Rina because they are in a same-sex relationship since India's adultery laws traditionally apply to heterosexual relationships. The other options are refuted since all in all, adultery law is only applicable to heterosexual couples and not same sex couples, thereby excluding them from the ambit of any recourse. The passage clearly talks about a 'husband' and a 'wife' explicitly and hence, the above can be inferred.

73. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Despite the prevalent usage of verbal contracts, these contracts are not made anymore. One reason for the same could be that they are difficult to prove in court. So, option A is correct. Options B and C are incorrect as such contracts are valid under Section 10 of the Indian Contract Act as given in the second paragraph of the passage. Option D is incorrect as memory cannot be the sole criterion to enter a contract.

74. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** Oral contracts are enforceable by law, provided that they fulfil the conditions of a valid contract under section 10 of the Indian Contract Act, 1872. In the present case, the neighbour had communicated to Narendra that he wants him to refurbish his house. Option A is incorrect as they are valid under the Indian Contract Act. Option C is incorrect as they are legitimate and valid contracts. Option D is incorrect as free consent is not exclusive to oral contracts but in the case of all types of contracts.

75. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** Express contracts are made expressly, either verbally or through written form. In the present case, the willingness to buy the house and its acceptance by Rahul at the same price constitutes a contract. Option A is incorrect as oral contracts are formed by oral communication whereas express contracts can be formed in both oral and written form. Option C is incorrect as contracts other than written ones are also legally recognised. Option D is incorrect as the terms were duly accepted by both parties.

76. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** Such types of contracts pose a challenge as they do not have the terms and conditions explicitly mentioned. In such cases, it is difficult to ascertain the meeting of minds in a contract. So, option B is the correct answer. Option A is incorrect as it is not mentioned in the passage that these contracts are taken casually by the people. Option C is incorrect as such contracts are recognised under the Indian Contract Act. Option D is incorrect as a lack of written record does not invalidate a contract.

77. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** A contract gets frustrated when each party is discharged from future obligations under the contract and neither party can sue for breach. This happens without any fault of either of the parties, which renders the contract either impossible to perform or deprives it of its commercial purpose. So, option A is the correct answer. Option B is incorrect as there is no compensation for a discharged contract. Option C is incorrect as it takes place not just because of one party but

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because of both. Option D is incorrect as such contracts are deprived of their commercial purpose if frustrated.

78. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Frustration of a contract happens when the performance of a contract becomes physically impossible because of the disappearance of the subject-matter. In the present case, the destruction of the music hall led to the removal of the subject-matter of the contract and thus its frustration. So, option B is the correct answer. Option A is incorrect liability is conditional on the possibility of performance of the contract. Option C is incorrect as the obligation ceases on the destruction of the music hall. Option D is incorrect as the terms of the contract have not been changed.

79. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** The performance of the contract becomes physically impossible because of the disappearance of the subject-matter. In this case, the non-happening of the coronation ceremony means that the subject matter is no longer in existence. This means that the contract gets frustrated. So, option A is the correct answer. Option B is incorrect as the contract was entered after seeing the advertisement of the window. Option C is incorrect as it was decided in the contract that the payment will be made afterwards. Option D is incorrect as it is an uncertain event.

80. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The impossibility of a contract happens when the performance of the contract becomes either impossible or impracticable from the point of view of the object and purpose that the parties had in view. In the case of option C, the relative of the truck driver falling sick does not totally upset the foundation upon which the parties rested their bargain. Options A, B, and D, are incorrect as the contract in these cases becomes impossible to perform.

81. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** According to Section 37 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, every person is bound to assist a magistrate or a police officer in some situations. One of them is preventing an injury attempted at any railway/canal/telegraph or public property. In this case, Dinesh can restrain the man as he was damaging railways. So, option C is the correct answer. Option A is incorrect as a private person can make an arrest in certain situations. Option B is incorrect as authorisation is not needed. Option D is incorrect as it is a vague reason.

82. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** Section 43 of the Code of Criminal Procedure provides for arrest by a private person and the procedure of such arrest. According to this section, any person is to be arrested who commits a cognizable and non-bailable offence in his presence. This includes a proclaimed offender. In the present case, Rishi is a proclaimed offender and thus can be arrested by a private person if suspected of committing a cognizable offence. Option A is incorrect as this is not indicated anywhere in the question. Option B is incorrect as any person can make the arrest in some circumstances. Option D is incorrect as arrest by a magistrate is made when offence is committed in his presence and within his local jurisdiction.

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83. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** If the police officer has no reason to believe that an offence has been committed by the person, he shall release that person. Option A is incorrect as the police officer has the authority to release the arrested person if he believes that no offence has been committed. Option C is incorrect as there is no need to give prior intimation to the Magistrate before releasing the person. Option D is incorrect as the person shall only be kept in custody if there is reason to believe that he has committed a non-cognizable offence.

84. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** If a person has been arrested for committing a non-cognizable offence, and he either refuses to give his name and residence to the police officer or gives a name or residence which the officer believes to be false, section 42 shall be made applicable to him and he will be arrested. In the present case, Girish is not disclosing his address to the officer correctly. So, option A is the correct answer. Option B is incorrect as an arrest cannot be made on this ground. Option C is incorrect as FIR has not been mentioned in the passage. Option D is incorrect as the police officer claims that he has witnessed it himself.

**Logical Reasoning**85. **Answer: D****Explanation:** A. "India-Russia Diplomatic Efforts: A Quest for Enhanced Bilateral Relations"

This title suggests a general focus on diplomatic efforts between India and Russia. While the passage does discuss efforts to enhance bilateral relations, the title lacks specificity regarding the context and implications of Jaishankar's visit, which is a central aspect of the passage. It's a bit too broad and doesn't capture the nuances of the visit's significance, particularly in the geopolitical context.

B. "The Changing Dynamics of Global Politics: India's Balancing Act with the US and China"

This title shifts the focus towards India's relationships with the US and China, which is only a secondary aspect of the passage. The primary focus of the passage is the India-Russia relationship, particularly in the context of Jaishankar's visit. Thus, while relevant, this title does not accurately encapsulate the central theme of the passage.

C. "India's Defence and Energy Diplomacy: Navigating the Russo-Ukrainian Conflict"

This title, while capturing elements of the passage related to defence and energy, narrows the scope to India's navigation of the Russo-Ukrainian conflict. The passage is more broadly focused on the overall India-Russia relationship and its strategic significance, not just the aspects related to the conflict. Therefore, this title does not fully represent the passage's main content.

D. "Rekindling India-Russia Ties: The Strategic Significance of Jaishankar's Visit"

This title accurately reflects the central theme of the passage. It highlights the key aspect of 'rekindling' the India-Russia relationship and emphasizes the strategic significance of Jaishankar's visit, which is the main focus of the passage. It covers the nuances of the visit, its context, and the implications for bilateral relations, making it the most suitable title.

**Difficulty Level: M**86. **Answer: C****Explanation:** A. While an increase in trade volume between India and Russia could be seen as a positive outcome of diplomatic efforts, the passage focuses more on the strategic and geopolitical implications of Mr. Jaishankar's visit. Trade in sectors unrelated to defense and energy does not directly address the specific concerns mentioned in the passage, such as the rupee-rouble payment mechanism or the S-400 deal.

B. A statement of interest from the U.S. State Department might indicate international recognition of the visit's importance but does not directly strengthen the author's argument about the specific outcomes and impacts of the visit on India-Russia relations. The passage emphasizes the direct results of the visit, such as the payment mechanism and the S-400 deal, rather than external perceptions.

C. This option directly addresses key points mentioned in the passage. The successful implementation of the rupee-rouble payment mechanism and the expedited delivery of the S-400 air system units would be concrete results of the visit, directly strengthening the author's argument about the visit's significance and its positive impact on India-Russia relations.

D. While diplomatic engagements between China and India are significant in the broader context of international relations, they do not directly strengthen the author's argument regarding Mr. Jaishankar's visit to Russia. The passage is focused on the India-Russia dynamic, not on the India-China relationship.

**Difficulty Level: M**

87. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** A. This option suggests that Prime Minister Modi's absence was a deliberate strategic move in response to the Ukraine conflict. However, the statement does not provide enough context to infer that the absence was a strategic recalibration of foreign policy. It focuses more on the impact of the absence on perceptions of the bilateral relationship rather than the motivations behind it.

B. While the statement does imply that there has been a longstanding and robust partnership between India and Russia, as evidenced by the unbroken tradition of the summit, it does not explicitly state that recent absences are a notable deviation in terms of policy or strategy. This option does not directly address the significance of the warmth during Mr. Jaishankar's visit in relation to these absences.

C. This is the correct inference. The statement highlights the significance of the warmth during Mr. Jaishankar's visit, particularly in the context of Prime Minister Modi's recent absences from the annual summit. It suggests that this warmth was an effort to address and possibly mitigate any concerns or speculations about the health of the India-Russia relationship following these absences.

D. The statement does not provide enough evidence to support the inference that Prime Minister Modi's absence is indicative of a diminishing interest in maintaining strong ties with Russia. It focuses on the speculations caused by the absence and the subsequent warmth during Mr. Jaishankar's visit, rather than suggesting a decline in the relationship's importance to India.

**Difficulty Level: M**

88. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** A. This is the correct interpretation. The passage concentrates on the rejuvenation of India-Russia relations, particularly through the lens of Mr. Jaishankar's visit. It discusses the significance of this visit in the context of recent challenges, such as the absence of Prime Minister Modi from the annual summit and the broader geopolitical landscape, emphasizing the efforts to strengthen and reaffirm the bilateral relationship.

B. This option, although capturing the essence of strategic recalibration, diverts the central theme from the specific focus on India-Russia relations to a more generalized view of diplomatic endeavours. The passage primarily revolves around the specifics of the India-Russia relationship, particularly in the context of Mr. Jaishankar's visit.

C. While the passage does touch upon India's diplomatic relationships with the US, China, and Russia, this option overly broadens the focus and does not pinpoint the primary subject of Mr. Jaishankar's visit to Russia and its implications for India-Russia relations. The emphasis is more specific to the India-Russia dynamic rather than a generalized discussion of India's foreign policy.

D. The passage does mention economic agreements, including the Eurasian Economic Union-India free trade agreement, but these are discussed as part of the broader context of India-Russia relations rather than as the central focus. The main theme is the diplomatic and strategic aspects of the relationship, not solely the economic orders or global trade dynamics.

**Difficulty Level: M**

89. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** A. This option aligns closely with the underlying assumption of the statement. The characterization of the India-Russia relationship as the 'only constant' implies a contrast with the rest of the world politics, which, by inference, must have been marked by instability and changing

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alliances. This option captures the idea that the consistent nature of the India-Russia relationship stands out against a backdrop of general geopolitical volatility.

B. While this option does recognize the contrast between the India-Russia relationship and other international relationships, it suggests that other relationships are transient, which might be an overgeneralization. The statement does not necessarily imply that all other international relations are fleeting; rather, it highlights the exceptional steadiness of the India-Russia relationship.

C. This option introduces the notion that world politics requires a stable bilateral relationship for global equilibrium. This is a broader and more theoretical interpretation that is not directly supported by the specific statement about the India-Russia relationship. The statement does not necessarily assume a need for stability in world politics for global balance.

D. This option narrows the focus to the mutual geopolitical interests of India and Russia as the sole reason for the constancy of their relationship. While mutual interests are likely a factor, the statement about the 'only constant' is more about the overall character of the relationship in the context of global politics, rather than attributing it solely to shared interests.

**Difficulty Level: M**

90. **Answer: D**

**Explanation:** A: The extended duration of the visit is mentioned as unusual but not necessarily indicative of a significant shift in relations. Hence this is not the correct conclusion of the passage.

B: The absence of Prime Minister Modi at the annual summit is attributed to a break in tradition, not necessarily indicating a strained relationship. This makes the option incomplete.

C: Mr. Jaishankar's announcement on the rise in imports of Russian hydrocarbons is presented as a sign of strong ties, contrary to a weakening relationship. Thus, an incorrect conclusion.

D: The passage emphasizes the agreements on nuclear power projects, connectivity, trade, and military production, suggesting a positive trajectory in India-Russia relations. Hence, the conclusion of the passage.

91. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. This option contradicts the information provided in the passage. The passage clearly states that women are increasingly occupying managerial positions, particularly in rural areas where their representation is higher than in urban areas. Therefore, this inference is incorrect.

B. This is the correct inference. The passage provides data showing that women in villages occupy a higher percentage of managerial positions compared to women in urban areas. This challenges the conventional belief that rural areas would lag behind urban areas in terms of women's empowerment and participation in leadership roles.

C. This option is also incorrect as per the passage. It states that the trend is only in urban areas, but the passage explicitly mentions that women in villages hold more managerial positions than their urban counterparts, which goes against this option.

D. The passage does mention the growth of female-led start-ups in both small towns and big cities. However, it does not indicate that this growth is concentrated only in big cities or that there is a significant disparity between urban and rural areas in this regard. The passage's focus is more on the surprising trend of higher women's representation in managerial roles in rural areas, making this option a less accurate inference.

**Difficulty Level: M**

92. **Answer:** D

**Explanation:** A. While the passage does mention the passing of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, this legislative act is not the sole focus. The broader theme encompasses various aspects of women's empowerment and representation beyond just the political sphere. Thus, this option narrows down the scope of the passage too much.

B. Digital technology's role in empowering women is indeed a part of the narrative, but it is not the central theme. The passage covers a wider range of topics related to women's empowerment, including political representation, entrepreneurship, and societal changes, making this option too specific.

D. This is the correct interpretation. The passage broadly discusses the advancements in women's empowerment in India, touching upon political representation with the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, the increasing presence of women in managerial roles in both urban and rural areas, the growth of female-led start-ups, and the role of digital platforms in empowering women. This option encapsulates the varied aspects of the societal shift towards greater gender equality covered in the passage.

**Difficulty Level:** M

93. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** A. This option directly supports the author's argument that Nirmala Sitharaman serves as an inspiration for young women, particularly in the field of economics and finance. An increase in young women pursuing these fields, inspired by Sitharaman, would strongly reinforce the idea that her role as Finance Minister has a positive and inspiring impact on the aspirations of young women in India.

B. While the adoption of Sitharaman's budgetary practices by other countries might indicate international recognition of their effectiveness, it does not directly strengthen the argument about her impact within India, especially concerning her role as an inspirational figure for young women.

C. An increase in foreign investments as a result of priorities set in Sitharaman's budgets could be seen as a testament to the effectiveness of her economic policies. However, this option is more about the economic impact of her policies and less about her role as an inspirational figure, which is the focus of the author's argument.

D. This option discusses the economic growth of neighbouring countries and their populist policies, which is not directly relevant to strengthening the argument about Sitharaman's inspirational impact on young women in India or her contribution to India's economic progress. The comparison with other countries does not specifically reinforce the author's argument about Sitharaman's role.

**Difficulty Level:** M

94. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** A. Yes, because it highlights the law's potential to usher in a new era of inclusive governance: While the passage mentions the potential for inclusive governance, it does not explore potential counterarguments or challenges.

B. The passage emphasizes the positive aspects of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam but does not delve into potential challenges or opposition it might face. Option B is correct because it identifies the assumption that the implementation of the law will proceed without significant obstacles. The passage assumes the law's effectiveness but does not discuss potential hurdles.

C. Maybe, as it briefly mentions reservations but doesn't delve into the specifics of how it will impact women's participation: The passage does mention reservations but doesn't explore doubts or concerns about its impact.

D. Yes, since it was passed after a wait of nearly three decades, indicating a thorough consideration of its implications: The passage mentions the wait but doesn't necessarily indicate a thorough consideration of potential challenges.

**Difficulty Level: M**

95. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** A. India's GDP is expected to grow by 7 per cent in 2026-27, according to a report by S&P Global Ratings: This statement supports the argument by providing a positive economic projection.

B. The Periodic Labour Force Survey data reveals a significant urban-rural divide in female representation in managerial roles: This statement adds information about gender representation but doesn't directly weaken the economic growth argument.

C. The passage discusses India's economic growth, but option C introduces doubt by highlighting that the report's projections are expected but not guaranteed. This weakens the argument as it introduces an element of uncertainty about the economic projections.

D. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is the first woman to present five consecutive budgets: This statement provides positive information about the Finance Minister's achievements but doesn't impact the economic growth argument.

**Difficulty Level: M**

96. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** A. This option aligns with the author's perspective as it suggests a proactive measure to empower women in small towns. Mentorship programs offer practical support and guidance, fostering an environment conducive to the growth of female entrepreneurs. It resonates with the passage's emphasis on providing role models and opportunities for women to pursue their dreams.

B. Advocating for stricter societal norms to ensure women conform to traditional roles and expectations: This option contradicts the passage's emphasis on empowering women and breaking traditional roles. Advocating for stricter norms would hinder women's progress.

C. Encouraging legislation that imposes penalties on women who prioritize careers over marriage and family responsibilities: This option goes against the spirit of gender equality and contradicts the passage's focus on women's empowerment. Imposing penalties for career choices is not a supportive or empowering approach.

D. Ignoring the urban-rural divide and focusing solely on initiatives for women's empowerment in metropolitan areas: This option neglects the passage's acknowledgment of the growing role of women in managerial positions in villages. Ignoring the urban-rural divide contradicts the passage's emphasis on inclusivity and empowerment in all settings.

97. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** A. This option misrepresents the passage's focus. While environmental factors are acknowledged, the passage primarily discusses the concept of temperament as an innate disposition in infants. It does not specifically challenge the notion of innate dispositions but rather elaborates on how they manifest and are categorized.

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B. The passage does discuss the categorization of infant temperament by Thomas and Chess, but it doesn't primarily focus on the complexities or limitations of their model. Instead, it provides an overview of the model as a significant contribution to understanding infant temperament, which doesn't fully align with this option.

C. This is the correct interpretation. The passage outlines the concept of temperament as an innate characteristic evident from early infancy. It describes the research by Thomas and Chess, who identified various dimensions of temperament and categorized infants into different temperamental types. The passage also touches upon how these temperaments could potentially influence long-term development, making this the central theme.

D. The passage does not explicitly argue for a re-evaluation of the understanding of infant temperament or propose the need for more contemporary research. It focuses more on presenting the existing model by Thomas and Chess and its findings, rather than advocating for a new approach or highlighting the need for updated research.

**Difficulty Level: M**

98. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** A. This is the correct inference. The statement points to the innate nature of temperament, as evident from the diverse temperamental traits observed in infants from a very early age. This diversity suggests that temperament is an inherent part of individual babies, varying from one infant to another.

B. While the statement does suggest that temperament is observable from an early age, it does not imply that temperament is unchangeable or fixed throughout infancy. The diversity in temperaments mentioned in the statement indicates variability, not a fixed set of characteristics.

C. This option incorrectly attributes the development of infant temperament primarily to external environmental factors. The statement clearly indicates that babies demonstrate their inborn temperament from the first few days of life, implying that these traits are innate rather than primarily shaped by the environment during this early stage.

D. The statement does not specifically discuss the role of parents' perceptions or interactions in shaping a baby's temperament. Instead, it focuses on the inherent temperamental traits displayed by infants, indicating that these traits are present from birth and not primarily formed by parental interaction in the first few days.

**Difficulty Level: M**

99. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. While this option challenges the idea that temperament is entirely innate, it doesn't directly weaken the specific argument about the classification system of Thomas and Chess. Their model is based on the premise that temperament is observable and classifiable in infancy, regardless of whether it's innate or shaped by early environmental factors.

B. This option directly undermines the validity of the Thomas and Chess classification system. If most infants display a mix of traits that do not align with the three defined categories, it suggests that the classification system is too simplistic or rigid to accurately capture the complexity of infant temperament. This finding would significantly weaken the author's argument regarding the effectiveness of this classification system.

C. This option provides information about the long-term outcomes for 'difficult' infants but does not directly weaken the classification system itself. It might suggest that the 'difficult' category isn't

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predictive of long-term issues, but it doesn't challenge the validity of the categorization of infant temperament per se.

D. The discovery of a new dimension of temperament adds to the model but doesn't necessarily weaken the argument about the existing dimensions and categories. It suggests that the model could be expanded or updated, but it doesn't directly challenge the validity of the existing classification system as described by the author.

**Difficulty Level: M**

100. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** A. "The Dynamics of Parental Influence on Child Development"

While the passage mentions interactions between parents and their children, it primarily focuses on the concept of temperament as an innate characteristic of infants, rather than on the broader dynamics of parental influence. Thus, this title does not capture the main essence of the passage.

B. "Temperament in Infancy: Understanding Innate Dispositions"

This title accurately reflects the central theme of the passage. It covers the key aspects discussed: the manifestation of temperament in infants, its categorization by Thomas and Chess, and the notion that these temperamental traits are inborn. The title aptly summarizes the passage's focus on understanding the innate dispositions of infants.

C. "The Role of Environment in Shaping Infant Behaviour"

The passage does not primarily focus on the role of the environment in shaping infant behaviour. Instead, it discusses the concept of innate temperament in infants. While the environment may play a role, this is not the central theme of the passage, making this title less suitable.

D. "Advancements in Developmental Psychology: Beyond Thomas and Chess"

This title implies a focus on the progression of developmental psychology beyond the work of Thomas and Chess. However, the passage is centered on the foundational work of Thomas and Chess regarding infant temperament and does not extensively discuss developments beyond their research. Therefore, this title does not accurately represent the content of the passage.

**Difficulty Level: M**

101. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Option (A) provides external validation by stating that the New York Longitudinal Study's findings align with those of other international studies. This consistency across diverse settings strengthens the argument that temperament has a universal and crucial role in long-term development outcomes.

(B) This option introduces information about academic achievements, which may not necessarily be directly related to the overall long-term development outcomes considered in the argument.

(C) While focusing on middle-class families is relevant for controlling certain factors, it doesn't directly speak to the impact of temperament on long-term development outcomes. It addresses potential confounding variables rather than supporting the crucial role of temperament.

D) In-depth interviews revealing the persistence of temperament traits and their influence on decision-making is interesting but doesn't necessarily strengthen the argument about the crucial role of temperament in long-term development outcomes. It provides qualitative insights but may not be representative of the entire study population.

**Difficulty Level: M**

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102. **Answer:** C

**Explanation:** A. While a representative sample is important for generalizability, this option doesn't address the assumption that the identified temperamental traits persist and influence decision-making in adulthood.

B. The accuracy of participants' recall is essential for the reliability of interview data, but it doesn't directly connect to the assumption that temperamental traits persist and impact decision-making in adulthood.

C. This assumption is crucial for the conclusion that infants' temperamental traits persist and influence decision-making in adulthood. It suggests a stable and enduring link between early temperamental characteristics and later decision-making processes.

D. This option introduces the idea of external factors but focuses on those unrelated to temperament. It doesn't directly address the assumption about the stability and lasting impact of temperamental traits on decision-making.

103. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** A. This is the correct interpretation. The passage critically examines the approach to counter-insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly highlighting the ineffectiveness of the current methods and the serious consequences, such as human rights violations and increased militancy. It discusses the impact of these actions on public perception and the legitimacy of state force.

B. The passage does provide some context about the militancy in different regions of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly the Pir Panjal region. However, this is not the central theme. The primary focus is on the broader implications and effectiveness of the counter-insurgency approach, rather than a comparative analysis of militancy levels.

C. While the passage does mention counter-insurgency operations in the Pir Panjal Valley, the focus is not primarily on the tactical aspects or specific strategies of these operations. Instead, the passage critiques the overall approach to counter-insurgency and its consequences, making this option too narrow in scope.

D. The passage does not advocate for enhanced military operations or a more rigorous approach to combating terrorism. In fact, it critiques the current security-centric approach and its repercussions, including rights violations. This option misrepresents the passage's stance, which is critical rather than supportive of the existing counter-insurgency methods.

**Difficulty Level:** M

104. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** (a) This option is incorrect because it suggests a uniform success of counter-insurgency efforts across Jammu and Kashmir, which contradicts the passage. The statement specifically refers to a setback in an area that was previously more peaceful, indicating that success has not been uniform.

B. This is the correct inference. The statement indicates that the area, which had been relatively more peaceful compared to the Kashmir Valley, has experienced a setback in counter-insurgency efforts. This suggests that recent incidents have disrupted the peace and stability that previously characterized this region.

C. The statement does not imply that the Kashmir Valley has been historically more peaceful. On the contrary, it suggests that the area in question (not the Kashmir Valley) has been more peaceful in comparison, making this option inaccurate.

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D. This option incorrectly infers an overall increase in peace and tranquility in Jammu and Kashmir, including the Kashmir Valley. The statement specifically points to a deterioration in the situation in a particular area, indicating a challenge to peace and stability, rather than an overall improvement.

**Difficulty Level: M**

105. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** A. This option does not align with the underlying assumption of the statement. The statement suggests that the militants' strategy involves provoking security forces into actions that lead to civilian grievances, not direct combat engagement as the primary method.

B. While ideological propagation may be a part of militants' strategies, the statement specifically refers to a tactic of provoking security forces into committing rights violations to gain support. This option does not address that aspect, focusing instead on ideological propagation alone.

C. This is the correct inference. The statement implies that in asymmetric warfare, militants aim to provoke security forces into overreacting or committing violations against civilians, which in turn can create grievances and indignation among the civilian population. This response is then exploited by the militants to increase their support base, suggesting a strategic use of the consequences of security forces' actions.

D. The statement suggests that the support for militants is, at least in part, a reaction to the conduct of security forces and not solely based on cultural or political affiliations. This option, therefore, does not closely align with the assumption in the statement, which emphasizes the impact of security forces' actions on civilian support for militants.

**Difficulty Level: M**

106. **Answer: C**

**Explanation:** A. While the actions taken by the J&K police and the Army might be seen as steps towards accountability, the passage primarily focuses on the broader implications of the state's use of force on its legitimacy. This option does not fully capture the essence of the passage, which is more about the impact of such actions on the perception of legitimacy, rather than the intention behind these actions.

B. The passage does not suggest a systemic shift towards non-violent conflict resolution by the state. While it mentions specific actions taken in response to the incidents, it does not indicate a broader strategic change in conflict resolution approaches.

C. This is the correct inference. The passage implies that the state's actions, particularly when involving the use of force against civilians, significantly affect its perceived legitimacy. The mention of indiscriminate or unjust actions leading to questioning of this legitimacy aligns with this inference. It highlights the importance of the state's response in maintaining or undermining its legitimacy in the eyes of the people.

D. The passage discusses the implications of the state's actions on its perceived legitimacy and does not necessarily suggest that these actions are mere formalities. This option presents a cynical view that is not directly supported by the passage. The focus is on the impact of the state's actions on its legitimacy, rather than on the sincerity or outcome of these actions.

**Difficulty Level: M**

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107. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** A. "The Evolving Dynamics of Militancy in the Pir Panjal Valley"

While the passage does mention the Pir Panjal Valley and militancy, it focuses more broadly on the counter-insurgency tactics, their implications, and the broader consequences in Jammu and Kashmir. This title is too narrow and specific to the Pir Panjal Valley and does not encompass the wider themes discussed in the passage.

B. "The Challenges and Consequences of Counter-Insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir"

This title accurately captures the essence of the passage. It reflects the central themes discussed: the difficulties faced in conducting counter-insurgency operations, the repercussions of these operations, particularly in relation to human rights violations, and the overall impact on the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

C. "The Role of Security Forces in Promoting Peace in Conflict Zones"

This title suggests a positive role of security forces in promoting peace, which contrasts with the critical tone of the passage. The passage actually discusses the problematic aspects of the actions of security forces in Jammu and Kashmir and their counterproductive outcomes, making this title less suitable.

D. "A Statistical Analysis of Militant Activities in Jammu and Kashmir"

The passage does not focus on a statistical analysis of militant activities. Instead, it discusses the broader strategy and implications of counter-insurgency efforts, including the actions of security forces and their impact on the local population and overall stability in the region. This title does not accurately reflect the main content of the passage.

**Difficulty Level:** M

108. **Answer:** D

**Explanation:** A. This option contradicts the author's argument. Increased public support for security forces would suggest that the counter-insurgency operations are viewed positively by the local population, which would weaken rather than strengthen the author's position on their counterproductive nature.

B. Historical data showing a decrease in militant activities due to intensive counter-insurgency operations would also contradict the author's argument. It would imply that such operations are effective, which is not the point being made in the passage.

C. Independent investigations confirming that civilian deaths were unrelated to the counter-insurgency operations would undermine the author's argument. It would suggest that the security forces are not responsible for these deaths, which would weaken the claim that their actions are leading to increased discontent and support for militancy.

D. This is the correct option. If reports indicate that local support for militant groups has increased in response to alleged rights violations by security forces, it directly supports the author's argument. It suggests that the tactics used by security forces are counterproductive, leading to increased sympathy or support for the militants, which is what the author is arguing.

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**Quantitative Techniques**

109. **Answer: C**

**Explanation: (109 to 113)**

Number of houses with a garden in P =  $90 * 4/(4 - 3) = 90 * 4 = 360$

Number of houses with a garden in R =  $90 * 3/(4 - 3) = 90 * 3 = 270$

Number of houses without a garden in R =  $270 + 90 = 360$

Total number of houses in R =  $270 + 360 = 630$

Number of houses with a garden in S =  $510 - 270 = 240$

Number of houses without a garden in S = 200

Total number of houses in S =  $240 + 200 = 440$

Number of houses without a garden in P =  $240 * 75/100 = 180$

Total number of houses in P =  $360 + 180 = 540$

Total number of houses in Q =  $540 * 3/4 = 405$

Number of houses without a garden in Q =  $200 * 135/100 = 270$

Number of houses with a garden in Q =  $405 - 270 = 135$

City	Total number of houses	Number of houses with a garden	Number of houses without a garden
P	540	360	180
Q	405	135	270
R	630	270	360
S	440	240	200

109. **Required ratio = 135:180 = 3:4**

110. **Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Required percentage =  $540/240 * 100 = 225\%$

111. **Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Total number of houses in T =  $440 + 440 * 9.09/100 = 480$

Number of houses with garden in T =  $(360 + 270)/2 = 315$

Number of houses without garden in T =  $480 - 315 = 165$

112. **Answer: D**

**Explanation:** Required difference =  $360 - 135 = 225$

113. **Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Required average =  $(180 + 270 + 270)/3 = 720/3 = 240$

114. **Answer:** C

**Explanation:** Total distance from Surat to Nadiad Junction =  $440 - 253 = 183$  km

115. **Answer:** D

**Explanation:** Total Time taken by the train from Anand Junction to Ahmedabad =  $8:00 - 6:45 = 1$  hr 15 min

116. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** Required ratio =  $\frac{378}{306} = 21:17$

117. **Answer:** B

**Explanation: (9 to 12)** Let the total quantity of wheat produced by UP be  $x$  quintals.

Therefore, the quantity of wheat exported by MP =  $(400-x)$  quintals

The total quantity of wheat produced by Punjab =  $\frac{3}{4} \times (400-x)$  quintals

Therefore, total quantity of wheat exported by UP =  $\frac{3}{4} \times (400-x) \times \frac{8}{9} = \frac{2}{3} \times (400-x)$

According to the question,

$$x - \frac{2}{3} \times (400-x) = 100$$

$$3x - 800 + 2x = 300$$

$$5x = 1100 \quad x = 220 \text{ quintals}$$

State	Quantity of wheat produced (in quintals)	Quantity of wheat exported (in quintals)	Quantity of wheat not exported (in quintals)
UP	$x = 220$	$\frac{2}{3}(400-x) = 120$	100
Punjab	$\frac{3}{4}(400-x) = \frac{3}{4} \times 180 = 135$	90	45
MP	$655 - 220 - 135 = 300$	$400 - x = 180$	$300 - 180 = 120$
Total	655	390	265

The total quantity of wheat produced by UP and Punjab together =  $220 + 135 = 355$

The quantity of wheat not exported by Punjab and MP together =  $45 + 120 = 165$

Required difference =  $355 - 165 = 190$

118. **Answer:** A

**Explanation:** The quantity of wheat produced by MP = 300

The quantity of wheat exported by UP = 120

Required ratio =  $300:120 = 15:6$

119. **Answer:** D

**Explanation:** Required average =  $(120 + 180 + 90) / 3 = 390 / 3 = 130$

120. **Answer:** B

**Explanation:** The total wheat produced by Odisha =  $45/20 \times 100 = 225$

The total wheat exported by Odisha =  $60/100 \times 225 = 135$

The quantity of wheat not exported by Odisha =  $225 - 135 = 90$