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

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage implies that the main obstacle preventing governments from effectively addressing housing crisis is the political costs associated with disrupting the status quo. It is given in the third paragraph, 'It turns out that the policies governments need to implement (or stop implementing) in order for their societies to get richer are often more politically costly than they are worth because they disrupt the status quo and the entrenched interests that benefit from it. Take for example governments' responsibility for the housing crisis across the rich world, in which the price of housing has been rising faster than incomes.' According to the reasoning in the passage, taking actions such as increasing housing supply may involve challenging entrenched interests and upsetting existing power structures, which can have negative political repercussions for the government. Hence (c).

2. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage indicates in the second and third paragraphs that if the governments implement policies in order to make their societies richer the political interests benefitting from them would prove to be costlier. Hence (c).

3. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The author argues that despite governments expressing support for economic growth, they often encounter political obstacles and costs when attempting to enact the necessary policies. It is understood from the following lines of the passage, 'It turns out that the policies governments need to implement (or stop implementing) in order for their societies to get richer are often more politically costly than they are worth because they disrupt the status quo and the entrenched interests that benefit from it.' And 'It is simply not true that governments only care about economic growth and will stop at nothing to achieve it. Governments care about the immediate political costs and benefits of their rhetoric and actions, and it turns out that many of the drivers of economic growth are political non-starters.' Hence (d).

4. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage suggests in the fourth paragraph that the rising price of housing contributes to people becoming poorer because there is a lack of housing units in desired locations. This scarcity leads to intense competition among individuals forcing them to spend all they can afford to secure a house. Hence (c).

5. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. In the passage, the term "entrenched interests" is used to describe interests that are deeply rooted and resistant to change. These interests are portrayed as established and firmly entrenched within existing systems, making it challenging for governments to implement policies that might disrupt or alter these established structures. Hence (b).

6. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage describes Wiman's experience with cancer and his reflections of life, mortality and search for meaning. Option (b) is correct because it captures the essence of Wiman's internal struggle with the term "miracle" and his recourse to literature and theology as a means of coping with challenges posed by his illness. Hence (b).

7. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage mentions that Christian Wiman is uncomfortable with the term "miracle" to describe positive turns in his medical journey. Instead he turns to literature and theology in search of something that can both "speak and spare" his pain. This inference is supported by Wiman's own words in the following lines of the last paragraph of the passage. 'Although Wiman is among the most distinguished Christian writers of his generation, he is uncomfortable with the word "miracle." But he doesn't have an alternative description for what happened last Easter or after any of the other treatments that have kept him alive for the past nineteen years. In his new book, "Zero at the Bone," he writes, "I had—have—cancer. I have been living with it-dying with it-for so

long now that it bores me, or baffles me, or drives me into the furthest crannies of literature and theology in search of something that will both speak and spare my own pain.’ Hence (b).

8. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage mentions that Christian Wiman underwent chimeric-antigen-receptor T-cell therapy, or car-T, which involves intravenous drips of the patient’s own T cells reengineered in a laboratory. It is understood from the last paragraph of the passage. ‘He was accepted into an experimental trial and became one of the first people with Waldenström’s to undergo chimeric-antigen-receptor T-cell therapy, or car-T. The treatment involves intravenous drips of the patient’s own T cells, reengineered in a laboratory to bind with specific antigens on the surface of the patient’s cancer cells. Hence (c).

9. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Wiman expresses how living with cancer has driven him into the realms of literature and theology. These pursuits helped him cope with the challenges of cancer, providing a source of intellectual and spiritual support. In the following lines of the last paragraph, he is uncomfortable with the word “miracle.” But he doesn’t have an alternative description for what happened last Easter or after any of the other treatments that have kept him alive for the past nineteen years. In his new book, “Zero at the Bone,” he writes, “I had—have—cancer. I have been living with it-dying with it-for so long now that it bores me, or baffles me, or drives me into the furthest crannies of literature and theology in search of something that will both speak and spare my own pain. Were it not for my daughters I think by this point I would be at peace with any outcome, which is, I have come to believe, one reason-the least reason, but still-why they are here.” Hence (c).

10. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It provides a more nuanced description of Wiman’s evolving perspective on mortality, emphasizing the gradual nature of the shift and highlighting the influence of his daughters. It is inferred from the last few lines of the last paragraph. ‘I have been living with it-dying with it-for so long now that it bores me, or baffles me, or drives me into the furthest crannies of literature and theology in search of something that will both speak and spare my own pain. Were it not for my daughters I think by this point I would be at peace with any outcome, which is, I have come to believe, one reason-the least reason, but still-why they are here.’ Hence (d).

11. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage mentions that despite evidence of the use of architectural drawings by Vitruvius in the 1st century BCE, none survived from antiquity. It highlights the uncertainty regarding the purpose of the few surviving monumental plans, which could have been decorative objects rather than practical drawings for construction. It is understood from the third paragraph of the passage, ‘Near the beginning of the treatise, Vitruvius describes three types of architectural drawing: plans, elevations, and (very likely) drawings in perspective (his precise meaning is hotly contested). Despite this evidence for the use of drawings, none survive from antiquity. The only examples to weather the test of time are monumental plans inscribed on stone or mosaics, but these could have been decorative objects – simple maps or sculptural monuments: their purpose is not clear.’ Hence (b).

12. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage suggests that students were instructed to spend hours examining architectural drawings to understand and describe the building’s appearance indicating the primary purpose of these drawings was to facilitate communication and visualization during the construction process. Hence (b).

13. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. In the fourth paragraph of the passage it is indicated that after the decline of the Roman Empire, the education and training of architects in the West involved master masons who likely began as apprentices, learning practical skills through hands-on experience. The term that accurately characterizes this education and training is “masterful apprenticeship”, emphasizing the mentorship and experiential learning aspect. Hence (b).

14. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage indicates that while there is evidence of architectural drawings in the 1st century BCE, none survived from antiquity, leading to uncertainty about their use before the 13th century. The author's perspective aligns with option (b). It is understood from the second last paragraph. Hence (b).

15. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage describes master masons who likely began as apprentices, learning practical skills through hands-on experiences and travelling across building sites. Similarly a medieval knight undergoes a journey of skill acquisition through practical experiences and apprenticeships in the context of medieval training. This comparison captures the essence of experiential learning and apprenticeship emphasized in the passage. Hence (b).

16. Ans. (d)

Sol. Option (d) is correct. The passage mentions much criticism for the implementation of the new security for Aadhaar. It is stated that 'the security of the world's biggest **repository** of biometric data has been questioned following the leaks.' This reflects the point proven in the option (d). Hence (d).

17. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct. The author mentions in the passage that systems are secured by multiple strategies, but there is no such thing as bulletproof security. All systems are vulnerable to a capable, imaginative and determined attacker, no matter how diligently they are secured. The only certain deterrent is legal, and fortunately privacy law has plugged the gap. This indicates the thought of the author towards the implementation of new security. Hence (c).

18. Ans. a

Sol. Option (a) is correct. The passage mentions how the aadhaar was originally designed to provide the assure-withdrawal to the poorest of food and shelter is facing security issues itself. Option (a) negates to the meaning of the given sentence as it praises the aadhaar services which originally was disastrous. Hence (a)

19. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct. The passage states that the technologists behind Aadhaar must know it. Systems are secured by multiple strategies, but there is no such thing as bulletproof security. All systems are vulnerable to a capable, imaginative and determined attacker, no matter how diligently they are secured, it means that the confidence in the technology is okay, but measures must be taken on other aspects as well as there is a possibility of the system being vulnerable. Hence (c).

20. Ans. d

Sol. Option (d) is correct. The author in some lines of the last paragraph of the passage, praises the UIDAI for taking initiative towards gaining the universal trust that is the base of the legitimate authentication system. The author thinks that the initiative taken by UIDAI is going to be fruitful in the coming future. Hence (d).

21. Ans. b

Sol. Option (b) is correct. It is in the second half of the first paragraph, 'The issue is not so much about financial remuneration, but the signals that the Narendra Modi government intends to send out, when general elections are less than eight months away and a newly set up committee is examining the feasibility of the far-reaching and contentious proposal of holding simultaneous elections to state assemblies, local bodies and Parliament. By effectively demoting the ECs to the status of civil servants, the Bill limits their authority to discipline the political class, in case of violations, at a critical juncture.' The author comments on the bill proposal that the issue is not so much about financial remuneration, but the signals that the government intends to send out, when general elections are less than eight months away and a newly set up committee is examining the feasibility of the far-reaching and contentious proposal of holding simultaneous elections to state assemblies, local bodies and Parliament, draws our attention to the author criticizing the government's timing of the proposal. Hence (b).

22. Ans. a

Sol. Option (a) is correct. The author states that by effectively demoting the ECs to the status of civil servants, the Bill limits their authority to discipline the political class, in case of violations, at a critical juncture. Hence (a).

23. Ans. b

Sol. Option (b) is correct. The passage states the contradiction of the statement given above as it was not a mindful and respectful, of the poll monitor's delicate and difficult task - of upholding protocols and norms in a scrupulously non-partisan manner in a diverse and intensely competitive democracy. Hence (b).

24. Ans. a

Sol. Option (a) is correct. The passage constantly criticises the bill proposal because it was disrespectful towards the EC. In the conclusion of the passage, the author is suggesting the government to rethink the bill and amend it but it fails to recognise or acknowledge the EC's above-the-fray stature and role. Hence (a).

Section B-Current Affairs with GK**25. Ans. a**

Exp. Prime Minister Narendra Modi directed Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba and other senior officials to expedite the formation of a committee to speed up the process of sub-categorization in Scheduled Castes reservation. Rajiv Gauba is appointed to head the committee for the equitable distribution of benefits among Scheduled Castes (SCs).

26. Ans. a

Exp. The Madiga community, hailing from southern India and primarily residing in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka, with a smaller presence in Tamil Nadu. Traditionally, Madigas have been linked to occupations such as tannery, leatherwork, and the creation of small handicrafts. During a recent election rally in Telangana, the Prime Minister pledged to investigate sub-categorization among Scheduled Castes (SCs) to uplift the most marginalized, seen as an effort to gain support from the largest SC community, the Madiga community.

27. Ans. a

Exp. Madiga community have been struggling since 1994 for the sub-categorisation of SCs and it was this demand that first led to the formation of the Justice P. Ramachandra Raju Commission in 1996 and later a National Commission in 2007.

28. Ans. a

Exp. The establishment of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes has been done under Article 338.

29. Ans. d

Exp. In 2023, The Justice G. Rohini-headed Commission for the sub categorisation of Other Backward Classes (OBC) caste groups submitted its long-awaited report to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment after nearly six years of work.

30. Ans. b

Exp. Recently, the Interim Budget 2024-25 was tabled in the parliament. It envisions 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047, with all-round, all-pervasive, and all-inclusive development.

31. Ans. b

Exp. Article 112 deals with the Annual financial statement. It says that the President shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for that year, in this Part referred to as the annual financial statement.

32. Ans. c

Exp. Three major economic railway corridor programs will be implemented. These are Energy, mineral, and cement corridors, Port connectivity corridors, and High-traffic density corridors. The projects have been identified under the PM Gati Shakti for enabling multi-modal connectivity.

33. Ans. b

Exp. Vaccination for girls in the age group of 9 to 14 years for prevention of cervical cancer. - Set up more medical colleges using the existing hospital infrastructure under various departments and many other facilities are added in Union Budget 2024-25.

34. Ans. c

Exp. Through rooftop solarization, one crore households will be enabled to obtain up to 300 units of free electricity every month. KPI Green Energy and Websol Energy -- climbed on after Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced rooftop solarisation to ensure free electricity of up to 300 units per month for one crore households.

35. Ans. b

Exp. The ISA is guided by its 'Towards 1000' strategy which aims to mobilise USD 1,000 billion of investments in solar energy solutions by 2030, while delivering energy access to 1,000 million people using clean energy solutions and resulting in installation of 1,000 GW of solar energy capacity.

36. Ans. b

Exp. STAR-C stands for "Solar Technology and Application Resource Center. The programme aims to boost solar power ecosystems in the poorest countries. The initiative is run by the International Solar Alliance in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO).

37. Ans. b

Exp. STAR-C initiative aims to create a strong network of institutional capacities within ISA member states to enhance quality infrastructure for the uptake of solar energy products and services. The project is also funded by France.

38. Ans. b

Exp. Green Grids Initiative — One Sun, One World, One Grid (GGI — OSOWOG) is an initiative by the International Solar Alliance (ISA), India, France and United Kingdom to build a Global Green Energy Grid, primarily focusing on solar and wind energy. The One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) is an initiative to introduce a transnational electricity grid that supplies power worldwide.

39. Ans. b

Exp. Dr Ajay Mathur is the Director General of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), which is one of its kind multilateral organisations established to catalyse global solar growth. The ISA is headquartered in Haryana, India.

40. Ans. a

Exp. Vyommitra is a female robot astronaut created by ISRO for space missions. She is designed to act like a human in space, interacting with the spaceship's systems, and performing tasks to help test and ensure everything works properly for future human crew members.

41. Ans. c

Exp. Gaganyaan marks ISRO's inaugural foray into human spaceflight missions, positioning it as a pioneering endeavour in India's space exploration narrative. Notably, the United States, Russia, and China stand as the sole nations to have achieved human spaceflights to date, underscoring the significance of India's forthcoming mission in the global spacefaring landscape.

42. Ans. a

Exp. The Gaganyaan Mission is India's ongoing project to send a 3-day manned mission to the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) of 400 km with a crew of 3 members and bring them safely back to Earth. As part of this program, two unmanned missions and one manned mission are approved by the Government of India.

43. Ans. d

Exp. LVM3 rocket - The well proven and reliable heavy lift launcher of ISRO, is identified as the launch vehicle for Gaganyaan mission. It consists of solid stage, liquid stage and cryogenic stage. All systems in LVM3 launch vehicle are re-configured to meet human rating requirements and christened Human Rated LVM3.

44. Ans. c

Exp. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi revealed that the republic is aiming to set up the Bharatiya Antariksha Station (Indian Space Station) by 2035 and to send the first Indian to the moon by 2040.

45. Ans. b

Exp. 26th January was chosen to be observed as the Republic Day because it was on this day in 1930 when the Indian National Congress (INC) declared Purna Swaraj or Indian independence from the British regime.

46. Ans. d

Exp. The theme of 2024 is 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India) and 'Bharat-Loktantra ki Matraka' (India-Mother of Democracy). Every year, months ahead of the event, the MoD invites States, UTs and departments to submit sketches or designs for tableaux on a broad theme.

47. Ans. b

Exp. At the invitation of Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, President of the French Republic Mr. Emmanuel Macron paid a State Visit to India as the Chief Guest for the 75th Republic Day of India.

48. Ans. a

Exp. At the forefront of that monumental event was Captain Sandhya, who led the all-women tri-services contingent comprising 148 members. This team, inclusive of Agniveers and regular recruits, underwent extensive preparation in Delhi since early December, following two months of individual practice at their respective bases. Captain Sandhya, a 26-year-old officer who had previously participated in the 2017 Republic Day parade as an NCC cadet, expressed her pride and fortune in leading this historic contingent.

49. Ans. a

Exp. The 6th edition of Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) took place from January 19th to January 31st, 2024, across four cities in Tamil Nadu: Chennai, Trichy, Madurai, and Coimbatore.

50. Ans. a

Exp. The sixth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games-2024, held across four districts in Tamil Nadu. The 13-day event witnessed intense competition among young athletes from across the country, with Maharashtra securing a total of 158 medals. Maharashtra's impressive performance placed them firmly at the top of the medal tally.

51. Ans. a

Exp. Squash made its KIYG debut this year while Silambam, a form of indigenous martial arts, featured as a demonstration sport.

52. Ans. c

Exp. Khelo India Programme is a national yojana/scheme for the development of sports in India. It was launched in the year 2018. The financial assistance provided under the Khelo India scheme to the talented players identified in priority sports disciplines at various levels by the High-Powered Committee will be provided annual financial assistance of INR 5 lakh per annum for 8 years.

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

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Section 8(1) mentions that if a person is convicted for an offense mentioned under it, he/she will be disqualified. Where the convicted person is sentenced to imprisonment, his disqualification comes in force from the date of such conviction and he shall continue to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his release. In the present situation, Vidhan is convicted for corruption, which is mentioned in Section 8(1). Therefore, he will remain disqualified for the period of imprisonment and for an additional 6 years. Therefore, Option (b) is incorrect. Option (a) is incorrect as the requirement of 2 years of imprisonment is applicable in cases of disqualification under Section 8(3). Option (d) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived from the information mentioned in the passage.

54. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. As per Section 8(3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, if an MP or MLA is convicted for any other crime not mentioned in section 8(1) or 8(2), and is sent to jail for 2 years or more, he/she will be disqualified for the period of conviction and 6 years from the time of release. Option (b) is incorrect as it wrongly assumes that an MP/MLA can only be disqualified for the offenses of corruption or moral turpitude. Option (c) is incorrect as the nature and gravity of the offense is irrelevant for disqualification under Section 8(1). Option (d) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived from the passage.

55. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Section 8(2) mentions that a person convicted for the contravention of any law providing for the prevention of hoarding or profiteering; or any law relating to the adulteration of food or drugs; or any provisions of the Dowry Prohibition Act, and sentenced to imprisonment **for not less than six months**, shall be disqualified from the date of such conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his release. Now, if the conviction is outside the scope of Section 8(2), he cannot be disqualified under this section. The conviction can be outside the scope if punishment is **less than six months**. In the question, it is mentioned that Vishal is convicted under the Dowry Prohibition Act. Now to avoid disqualification, he needs to prove that the conviction is beyond the scope of Section 8(2). As explained above, this is possible if imprisonment (punishment) is less than six months. Option (a) is incorrect as the nature and gravity of the offense is irrelevant for disqualification under Section 8(2) of the Act. Option (b) and (d) are incorrect as they are vague and cannot be derived from the passage.

56. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct as mentioned in the passage, Even if a person is on bail after the conviction and his appeal is pending for disposal, he is disqualified from contesting an election, therefore, even if Vishal has filed an appeal against his conviction and the appeal is pending before the court for final disposal, while he has been granted bail by the court, he is still not eligible to contest the election. Therefore, Option (b) and (c) are incorrect. Option (d) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived based on the information mentioned in the passage.

57. Ans: (d)

Sol: Assertion is false. The passage mentions that the petitioner, Aabha Muralidharan, has sought a declaration that the automatic disqualification under Section 8(3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, is ultra vires the Constitution for being "arbitrary" and "illegal". This section has not been declared ultra vires the constitution. Therefore, it is incorrect. Reason is correct as nature, gravity and seriousness of the offences are consequential for disqualification under section 8(3) of the Act.

58. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. As per the passage, section 8(3) provides a blanket disqualification, irrespective of the nature, gravity and seriousness of the offences, allegedly against the concerned member, and provides for an 'automatic' disqualification, which is against the principles of proportionality and natural justice. Hence, the political affiliation of the member; the age of the member; number of terms the member has served in office, are all irrelevant for the principle of proportionality. Therefore, option (b), (c) and (d) are incorrect.

59. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage mentions that a brothel includes “any house or any portion of any house; room or any portion of any room; conveyance or portion of any conveyance; place or portion of any place, for purpose of: sexual exploitation or; abuse for the gain of another person or; for the mutual gain of two or more sex workers.” In the present case, Vidhan’s house is being used by a sex worker. The passage also provides the criteria for declaring a person as a ‘sex worker’ construed from the definition of prostitution. It means “the sexual exploitation or abuse of persons for commercial purpose.” Therefore, when Vidhan lets his home to be used by a sex worker, sexual exploitation is inherent in it. Therefore, his house can be called as brothel. Option (a) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived from the information given in the passage. Option (b) is incorrect as the fact that the house is only temporarily used by sex worker is inconsequential in determining the nature of Vidhan’s house. Option (d) is incorrect as it assumes that Vidhan is directly involved in sexual abuse, which is incorrect. He is not the one sexually abusing the sex worker.

60. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c) is correct. As per the passage, the criteria for declaring a person as a ‘sex worker’ is construed from the definition of prostitution. It means “the sexual exploitation or abuse of persons for commercial purpose.” Accordingly, two things to be remembered are: (a) the occurrence of exploitation or abuse of a person for sex, and (b) such a person engaging in this activity does it for commercial gain. In the present case, both sexual exploitation and commercial gain are absent as Vidhi had consensual sexual intercourse with the man and paying the hotel bill cannot be regarded as commercial gain. Therefore, she cannot be labelled as a sex worker. Option (a) and (b) are therefore incorrect. Option (d) is incorrect as it provides incomplete reason as to why Vidhi cannot be considered as sex worker.

61. Ans: (d)

Sol: Option (d) is correct. As per Section 4 of the Act, any person over the age of eighteen years knowingly lives on the earnings of the prostitution of any other person shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or both. In the present case, Since Vishal was born in 2002, and is searching for a job in 2018, therefore, he is merely 16 years old, and hence does not fall in category of persons that can be punished for the said offense. Option (a) is incorrect as it assumes that a mere knowledge about the source of income is enough to punish a person for the offense. Option (b) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived from the information mentioned in the passage. Option (c) is incorrect as section 4 does not provide any such exception.

62. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. According to Section 5, any person who - procures or induces any person for the purpose of prostitution; or takes, causes or induces any person to carry on prostitution, shall be punishable with- rigorous imprisonment for not less than 3 years but up to 7 years. This offence is complete when a person procures another person for prostitution or induces such person to go from any place with intent that such person becomes the inmate of a brothel or to take such a person from one place to another to carry on prostitution.” In the present case, Since Vidhyut induced Vidhita to take up prostitution, and even took him to a place where she can carry such activity. Therefore, he can be held liable under Section 5 of the Act. Option (b) is incorrect as it is vague and cannot be derived from the information mentioned in the passage. Option (c) is incorrect as section 5 does not provide any such exception that if the girl is an adult, the person inducing her to take up prostitution cannot be punished. Option (d) is incorrect as it cannot be derived from the information given in the passage.

63. Ans: (d)

Sol: Statement (ii) can be derived from the passage. As per the passage, the criteria for declaring a person as a ‘sex worker’ is construed from the definition of prostitution. It means “the sexual exploitation or abuse of persons for commercial purpose.” Accordingly, two things to be remembered are: (a) the occurrence of exploitation or abuse of a person for sex, and (b) such a person engaging in this activity does it for commercial gain. Statement (i) cannot be derived from the passage. The Kerala High Court recently held that a customer in a brothel can be hauled up in a case under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. Justice **PG Ajithkumar** noted that while the ITP Act does not define the word "procure", Section 5 of the Act penalises "procuring, inducing or taking person for the sake of prostitution." Statement (iii) cannot be derived from the passage. As per Section 4 of the Act any person over the

age of eighteen years knowingly lives on the earnings of the prostitution of any other person shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or both. Therefore, only persons above 18 years of age can be punished.

64. Ans: (b)

Sol: Both A and R are correct. The passage provides that Section 5 of the Act penalises "procuring, inducing or taking person for the sake of prostitution. As per section 5 of the Act, any person who - procures or induces any person for the purpose of prostitution; or takes, causes or induces any person to carry on prostitution, shall be punishable with- rigorous imprisonment for not less than 3 years but up to 7 years. But R is not the correct explanation of A's truthfulness. It is merely a summarised version of the section.

65. Ans (b)

Sol: The definition of periodicals as mentioned in the passage includes any publication, **barring books or journals**, which is printed at regular intervals and contains public news or comments on public news. Thus, books or journals are specifically excluded. The condition of print at regular interval is not relevant for exclusion. Therefore, even if a book is not published at regular intervals, it will be excluded from the definition of periodicals. Hence, option (b) is correct. All other options are accordingly incorrect.

66. Ans. (c)

Sol: As per the passage, an aggrieved person can file an appeal against **refusal of registration**, imposition of penalties, suspension, or cancellation of registration. Such appeal has to be filed within 60 days of communication to order to him. In the instant case, the registration has been refused. The order was communicated on 15th February. 2 months from 15th February ends on 14th April. He has filed an appeal on 07th April. Thus, the appeal filed is in consonance with the law (PRP Act-As per the question it has been enacted). Hence, Option (c) is correct.

67. Ans. (b)

Sol: As per the passage, the 1867 law included up to six-month imprisonment for offences like keeping a press without declaration, making false statements, and violating printing or publishing requirements under Section 3. The new law has **replaced all such penal provisions with fines, barring one**. In case of publishing without registration, even the new law provides for six months imprisonment. In the present question, it is clearly mentioned that Vidyut is not registered as a periodical under the new law. Therefore, the challenge raised by Vidyut is invalid. Option (b) is the correct option.

68. Ans. (a)

Sol: It is specifically mentioned in the passage, the publishers will no longer be required to file a declaration with the DM or the local authorities. Meanwhile, printing presses can simply give an online "intimation" instead of filing a declaration. The 1867 Act **mandated a declaration** specifying the printer or publisher be made to the DM, who then sent it to the Press Registrar, who issued a **certificate of registration** necessary for publication. Thus, assertion is correct as now an online intimation will be enough to obtain certificate of registration. Reason is also correct because the process was deemed "time-consuming" and "onerous" under the new PRP Bill. The Reason is the correct explanation for A's truthfulness. Hence, Option (a) is correct.

69. Ans. (d)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, once a **registration application is filed**, the "specified authority" **must furnish its no-objection or comments on the application within 60 days** before making an application to the PRG, which eventually decides the grant of registration. Therefore, the specified authority has an obligation to issue no objection or share comments on the application for registration. If this is not done, the act will not be in consonance with the Press and Registration of Periodicals Act. (In the question it is mentioned that the Bill has been enacted.) In the present case, the application was filed on January 01. No response is heard from the authorities even after March 01. The 60 days' time period ends on March 01. Therefore, the act of refusal of the authorities is not in consonance with the Act. Hence, Option (d) is correct.

70. Ans. (a)

Sol: It is specifically mentioned in the passage that the requirement for specified authority's no-objection has been removed for the registration of periodicals **proposed to be published by the government**. In the present question, the Government is proposing to publish periodicals on freedom fighters. This periodicals fall under the definition of periodicals as it is published on regular intervals. Thus, the Government is not required to obtain no-objection from the authority. The challenge is invalid. Hence, option (a) is correct.

71. Ans. (c)

Sol: It is mentioned in the passage that the new Bill **shifts all the power** from the DM's hands to the Press Registrar General (PRG), a newly created position. This means the power of DM is **not equal** to PRG. Therefore, the statement in Option (c) is not correct.

72. Ans. (b)

Sol: As per the Supreme Court's judgement mentioned in the passage, **academic qualifications are a valid criteria** to differentiate pay scale for different employees even when the nature of the work undertaken by them is more or less the same. Such differentiation does not violate Article 14. In the present question, the difference in pay scale is due to difference in academic qualification and experience. This classification is valid and therefore, Vidur's challenge to the law is invalid. Option (b) is correct. Option (d) is incorrect. The reasoning is not based on legal principles provided in the passage. Option (a) is incorrect. The reasoning is based on incomplete information. Article 14 prohibits class legislation but it allows classification on reasonable grounds. In the present question, the classification between teachers is done on the basis of their qualification. This classification is valid as per the Supreme Court's judgement mentioned in the passage. Accordingly, Option (c) is also incorrect.

73. Ans. (c)

Sol: As per the passage, the guarantee of the equal protection of the laws means the protection of equal laws. **It forbids class legislation**, but does not forbid classification which rests upon reasonable grounds of distinction. It does not prohibit legislation, which is limited either in the objects to which it is directed or by the territory within which it is to operate. It merely requires that **all persons subjected to such legislation shall be treated alike under like** circumstances and **conditions both in the privileges conferred** and in the liabilities imposed. In simple words, if a legislation covers certain persons and treats them differently in the form of privileges granted, such law will be in violation of article 14.

In the present question, the law was enacted to provide reservation to local communities from J&K who migrated out of the Union territory. Waghey and Ghirath are two such communities eligible for privileges under the Law. Now for this law to be valid under Article 14, the privilege provided to both these communities should be same. This is not the case as reservation provided to both these communities is different (4% and 2%). No reasoning is provided for such difference. This is not valid and violates Article 14 of the Constitution of India. Hence, Option (c) is correct. Option (d) is incorrect. The issue with the legislation is that it differs in privileges granted to the two migrating communities. The issue is not with regards to classification. The classification is done between these two communities and the other population of Jammu & Kashmir. This classification has a reasonable ground i.e., to provide reservation to these communities in the legislative assembly of Jammu & Kashmir. This was done to prompt these communities to come back into their home. Thus it would be incorrect to say that classification is not valid. Option (a) is incorrect. Even though classification is valid the privileges provided are not equal and thus the law is invalid. Option (b) is incorrect as it is beyond the scope of the question. No information with regards to necessity of the reservation is provided.

74. Ans. (b)

Sol: As per the passage, the a law will stand the test of Article 14 if (i) classification is based on intelligible differentia which **distinguishes persons or things that are grouped together from those that are left out of the group**; (ii) that differentia **must have a rational relation to the objects sought** to be achieved by the statute in question. In the present question, the object of the law is to provide compensation to the **victims depending on the severity of their injury**. For this purpose, the government classifies people in different categories on the basis of injuries suffered on account of vicinity to the gas leak. The idea as per the government is- injuries suffered by people near the gas leak are severe as compared to people being far from the gas leak. Thus, the classification is based on intelligible differentia as the grounds to include and exclude people out of a particular group are valid.

Also such classification has a rational relation with the object as the classification is done to ensure that victims with severe injuries are paid according to their injury. Thus, the law is valid and challenge to it by people from Category C is invalid. Hence, Option (b) is correct.

75. Ans. (a)

Sol: The general rule pertaining to Article 14 is that it prohibits class legislation. However, it is well settled that equality before the law or the equal protection of laws does not mean identity or abstract symmetry of treatment. Distinctions have to be made for different classes and groups of persons and a rational or reasonable classification is permitted. It is also important to note that Article 14 eschews arbitrariness in any form. Thus for a law to be valid under Article 14, it is important that any classification under the act for different treatment is based on reasonable grounds. It should not be done on any arbitrary grounds. Thus, Assertion is correct. Reasoning is also correct as it is a direct reproduction of principles laid down in the passage. Furthermore, the R is the correct reason for A's truthfulness. Hence, Option (a) is correct.

76. Ans. (c)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, for a classification to be valid, (i) it must be based on intelligible differentia which **distinguishes persons or things that are grouped together from those that are left out of the group**; and (ii) that differentia **must have a rational relation to the objects sought** to be achieved by the statute in question. The passage also provides that to get out of reach of Article 14, it must appear that not only a classification has been made but also that it is **one based upon a reasonable ground on some difference** which bears a **just and proper relation** to the attempted classification and is not a mere arbitrary selection.

In the present question, the Government regulation provides for classification between females who are not pregnant and females who are pregnant. This can be seen from the fact that provision for compulsory retirement is only for females undergoing pregnancy.

This classification is done on the government's belief that all female employees are physically not fit to work for the airlines after their pregnancy. However, the question specifically provides that the medical jurisprudence does not provide any support to Government's belief. Thus it means that classification done by the government is not done on any reasonable grounds. Since, the classification is not based on any reasonable grounds it is difficult to infer how such classification has a rational relation to the ultimate object- maintenance of quality of service in the airline. Therefore, the regulation by government is indeed a class legislation and violates Article 14 of the Constitution of India. Option (c) is correct. Option (d) is incorrect as the classification is not between male and female but between females who are not pregnant and females who are pregnant. Option (a) is incorrect. The question specifically states that medical jurisprudence **does not** support government's opinion. Option (b) is incorrect as no such information or condition need to be proved as per the passage/question.

77. Ans. (a)

Sol: In the previous question, the regulation violated Article 14 on the ground that the classification was not done on any reasonable grounds. However, the substituted facts provided that not all female employees will be terminated. Only those who are medically unfit will be retired. This is based on reasonable grounds as the termination will be done after independent medical assessment. Thus the classification is not arbitrary. Also, the classification has a rational nexus- once it is medically certified that a particular female is physically unfit, then it can be inferred that she will not be able to work in the airline industry and thus it will affect the quality of service in the airline industry. Hence, the challenge raised by the female employees will be weakened. Option (a) is correct.

78. Ans. (d)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, Section 432 is applicable in case of criminal proceedings. This can be inferred from the fact that the power under section 432 is exercised with regards to suspension or remission of a sentence imposed for an **offence**. It can be further inferred from the fact that opinion is taken from a presiding judge who had granted or confirmed the **conviction**. Also the relevant factors that the Presiding judge need to consider deal with an impact of a **crime** on a society.

In the present question, a **civil suit** is filed against Vidhan. No punishment or conviction is imposed on him. He is directed to pay compensation by a Civil Court. Therefore, he cannot seek remission or suspension of this compensation under Section 432 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Hence, Option (d) is the correct. All other options cannot be selected as they are based on application of Section 432 to the instant case.

79. Ans. (c)

Sol: As mentioned in the passage, Section 432 of the Code of Criminal Procedure deals with suspension or remission of sentence. Govt. can remit the whole or any part of the punishment to which he has been sentenced. Remission refers to reduction in duration of sentence imposed without changing the nature of the sentence. In simple words, if a person has been sentenced to three years of imprisonment and he has applied for remission, then, after all the formalities are fulfilled, the appropriate government can reduce the duration of the sentence. This can be for part of the sentence or for the entire sentence. Thus, if a person has already undergone a part of his sentence, then the remaining sentence can be terminated. That will also mean remission.

In the instant case, Vidyut has already undergone part of his sentence. He has applied for termination of remaining sentence. Under remission, whole or part of sentence can be reduced. Thus, in Vidyut's case, the sentence can be reduced to the sentence already undergone. This in simple words is termination of the remaining sentence. Thus, the Government's opinion is incorrect. Vidyut's plea falls under Section 432. Option (c) is correct. Option (d) is incorrect. The reasoning that opinion of judge is not considered is not relevant here. In the instant case, the Government has formed an incorrect opinion that only suspension of sentence is covered under Section 432. Therefore, the correction reasoning is one provided under Option (c). Option (a) is incorrect as termination of sentence is also a form of remission and thus covered under Section 432. Option (b) is incorrect as remission is also covered under Section 432.

80. Ans. (b)

Sol: As per the passage, it can be inferred (i) The opinion of the presiding judge is important and is introduced as a procedural safeguard. (ii) If the Presiding Judge's opinion is not in consonance with Section 432, the appropriate government can request the judge for a fresh consideration of the application. Another important point as laid down by the Supreme Court is that Presiding Judge should give **adequate reasons** while giving opinion under Section 432.

In the present question, Vidushi has applied for remission under Section 432. The Appropriate government has requested the trial court judge to share its opinion. The judge has **merely replied** that application should be refused. He has also provided the certified copy of the record. Nothing else has been provided. Thus, the Trial Court judge has **not provided adequate reasons**. This can be inferred from the fact that Trial Court has merely stated that the application be refused. Therefore the opinion of the Trial Court is not in consonance with Section 432. Now as per the points highlighted above, if the Presiding Judge's opinion is not in consonance with Section 432, the appropriate government can request the judge for a fresh consideration of the application. Therefore, the most appropriate option in the present question is to ask the trial court judge for fresh reconsideration of the application. Hence, Option (b) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect. Since, the opinion of the trial court is not in consonance with Section 432, the Government is not required to mechanically follow the same. Option (c) is incorrect. As per the Supreme Court, the opinion of the judge is important and therefore it cannot be ignored. Option (d) is incorrect. It is specifically mentioned in the passage that opinion of the presiding judge does have a determinative effect on the application for remission.

81. Ans. (c)

Sol: As per Section 432, the presiding judge has to share adequate reasons with his opinion. He also has to forward with the statement of such opinion a certified copy of the record of the trial **or of such record thereof as exists**. Thus it is not mandatory for the judge to share certified copy. If certified copy does not exist, the record as existing can be sent. The substituted fact state that instead of certified copy, the record as existing is sent. This is also valid. However, the opinion is invalid because adequate reasons are not provided for such opinion. Therefore the decision is invalid because of lack of reasons. The substituted facts have no effect. Option (c) is correct.

82. Ans. (d)

Sol: As per the passage, the relevant factors are (i) whether the offence affects the society at large; (ii) the probability of the crime being repeated; (iii) the potential of the convict to commit crimes in future; (iv) if any fruitful purpose is being served by keeping the convict in prison; and (v) the socio-economic condition of the convict's family. Statement I is relevant as it deals with point (iii). If he is likely to commit crime again, then it is a relevant factor. Statement II is relevant as it deals with point (v). Financial position of Vidhit's family is relevant as it falls under the factor of socio-economic condition. Statement III is relevant as it deals with point (i). The fact that

offence was committed only against a single colleague shows that the offence in question does not affect the society at large. Thus, it is a relevant criteria. All the factors are relevant. Hence, Option (d) is correct.

83. Ans. (b)

Sol: As per the judgement laid down by the Supreme Court in Union of India vs. Sriharan, it cannot be said that the opinion of the presiding judge is only a relevant factor, **which does not have any determinative effect on the application for remission**. The statement in Option (b) is not correct in light of this observation. Thus, Option (b) is the correct answer.

84. Ans. (c)

Sol: As per the passage, the relevant factors include assessing (i) whether the offence affects the society at large (**option a**); (ii) the probability of the crime being repeated; (iii) the potential of the convict to commit crimes in future (**option b**); (iv) if any fruitful purpose is being served by keeping the convict in prison (**option d**); and (v) the socio-economic condition of the convict's family.

The factor laid down in Option (c) is not a relevant factor. The passage does not provide anything with regards to political opinion.

Section D-Logical Reasoning
85. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage, in the third paragraph, highlights the need for 'just transition' programmes as a response to the employment threats posed by fossil fuel phaseouts. It specifically mentions the impact on workers and communities in regions dependent on these industries, making option (b) the most directly supported by the text. Option (a) is misleading as it mentions the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which is a broader objective of environmental policy but not the primary focus of 'just transition' programmes as described in the passage. Option (c) confuses by talking about economic growth and diversification, which are potential outcomes of these programmes, but not their primary purpose according to the passage. Option (d) is factually plausible because it talks about financial support for transitioning industries, which is part of such programmes, but it doesn't capture the primary focus on workers and communities that the passage emphasizes. Hence (b).

86. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage, in the second paragraph, clearly articulates the impact of fossil fuel phaseouts as posing a significant threat to both job security and the stability of communities that have historically relied on these industries. This is emphasized by the mention of the large number of workers in the US and India who are employed in fossil fuel-related sectors and the potential loss of induced jobs, like restaurant staff in coal towns. Option (a) is misleading by exaggerating the immediacy and scope of unemployment, which the passage does not explicitly state. Option (b) presents a positive spin by suggesting new opportunities, which, although possible, is not the focus of the passage's discussion on the impact of phaseouts. Option (d) is misleading as it implies a gradual transition, whereas the passage emphasizes the rapid and disruptive nature of this shift. Hence (c).

87. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage mentions that the clean energy transition is different from historical labor reallocations due to its rapid pace and large scale. This comparison implies that it may necessitate policy intervention to avoid negative consequences, making option (c) the most suitable answer. Option (a) is incorrect because it suggests a gradual shift, which contradicts the emphasis on the rapid nature of the clean energy transition. Option (b) mentions the Soviet Union's transition, which is a historical example cited in the passage, but it doesn't directly address the comparison and implications mentioned in the question. Option (d) simplifies the comparison by stating that it mirrors managed phaseouts, which is not fully accurate according to the description of the unique challenges of the clean energy transition. Hence (c).

88. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage, in the second last paragraph, provides a mixed evaluation of transitioning fossil fuel workers to green industries. While it mentions the idea and its potential benefits, it also discusses the

need to evaluate the feasibility and realistic nature of a 'fossil-to-green' job pipeline. Option (c) accurately reflects this mixed evaluation. Option (a) is incorrect because it overly simplifies the evaluation as entirely positive, ignoring the nuanced discussion in the passage. Option (b) presents a completely negative evaluation, which is not the overall tone of the passage. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does indeed address the concept of transitioning fossil fuel workers to green industries, making this option factually incorrect. Hence (c).

89. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage in the last paragraph provides rationale for policy interventions by highlighting the potential disarray and job scarcity that can result from the rapid technological changes in energy sectors. It emphasizes the need for policy tools to avoid negative consequences, making option (b) the most appropriate choice. Option (a) is incorrect because it incorrectly suggests that policy interventions are unnecessary, which contradicts the argument. Option (c) is misleading because it implies that policy interventions aim to accelerate technological changes, which is not the primary focus of the passage. Option (d) is ruled out as it mentions policy interventions but misrepresents their focus, which is on transitioning workers rather than supporting large fossil fuel employers. Hence (b).

90. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The latter half of the first paragraph of the passage states that the CAQM's role involves "evoking and recommending grades of measures depending on the degree of deterioration in air quality," indicating that it can propose but not enforce actions. This points directly to option (b) as the correct answer because it highlights the CAQM's advisory capacity and its limitation regarding enforcement. Option (a) is incorrect because there's no mention of direct intervention in urban planning and transportation policies. Option (c) is misleading, alluding to coordination with state governments, which the passage doesn't explicitly mention as a primary role of CAQM. Option (d) is incorrect as it suggests direct regulation, which contradicts the CAQM's described role as an advisory body rather than a regulatory authority. The correct answer is supported by the part of the passage that talks about the CAQM's powers being limited to recommending measures, not enforcing them. Hence (b).

91. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage highlights that despite the CAQM's report of improved air quality from January to October, the air quality in November has consistently been severe, with no significant change in the number of days with an AQI over 450. This suggests that the overall air quality situation may not be as improved as claimed. Option (a) is a distractor because while an increase in industrial emissions is relevant, it doesn't directly address the comparison between the January-October period and November. Option (b) is misleading as the rise in air purifier sales could be due to increased awareness or purchasing power, not necessarily worse air quality. Option (c), concerning wind speeds, is a plausible but indirect factor and doesn't specifically challenge the CAQM's claim about air quality improvement. Option (d) is the most direct contradiction to the CAQM's claim because if the number of severe AQI days in November remains constant, it suggests that the overall air quality may not have improved significantly despite the reported data from January to October. The correct answer requires connecting the specific details about November's air quality to the broader claim of improvement, showcasing a deeper understanding of the issue. Hence (d).

92. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage implies that the CAQM has a role in recommending actions based on air quality levels, but it does not have enforcement power. For these recommendations to be effective, an essential assumption is that entities responsible for pollution—the public and industries—will fully comply with the measures suggested (c). Option (a) is a distractor that confuses the effect of weather on pollution with the assumption that it will always work in favour of dispersing pollutants, which is not assured. Option (b) is incorrect because it doesn't address the effectiveness of the measures but rather the consistency of pollution sources. Option (d) is misleading, it is focusing on AQI measurement technology, which is irrelevant to the effectiveness of pollution control measures. The correct answer, requires understanding that without the ability to enforce, the effectiveness of the CAQM's strategy relies entirely on voluntary compliance. Hence (c).

93. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage indicates that there has been a reduction in incidents of stubble burning, yet the number of days with 'severe' air quality in November has remained roughly the same. This suggests that while stubble burning has decreased, it has not resulted in a noticeable improvement in the air quality index (AQI) during the critical month. Option (a) is incorrect because it implies a positive correlation that isn't supported by the data presented. Option (b) acknowledges other pollutants but incorrectly suggests that stubble burning reduction is not one of them. Option (d) is incorrect because it suggests that stubble burning decline is a known factor affecting November's air quality, which the passage does not confirm. The correct answer, option (c) is the best option as it directly aligns with the indication that the decrease in stubble burning incidents does not seem to correlate with an improvement in the AQI during November. Hence (c).

94. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage states that while stubble burning incidents have decreased, the air quality during November remains 'severe' on the same number of days as in previous years. This implies that while stubble burning has decreased, it might not be the main contributor to the severe pollution levels experienced in November, which aligns with option (c). Option (a) could be a plausible scenario but does not directly address the paradox between stubble burning and air quality. Option (b) is incorrect, suggesting a problem with the implementation of measures, yet it does not address the specific issue of stubble burning. Option (d) introduces an external factor, climatic variations, which while possible, doesn't directly tackle the relationship between stubble burning and air quality. The correct answer, Option (c), is the most logical reconciliation, as it challenges the assumption that stubble burning is the primary cause of poor air quality in November. Hence (c).

95. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It directly addresses the crux of the Finance Ministry's concern for external risks that could lead to spending or subsidy shocks, as mentioned in the first paragraph of the passage. The stability of the financial strategy relying on GST revenues would be most effectively evaluated by understanding the specific external risks (like fuel or urea prices) that could significantly impact future spending. Option (a) is misleading because projected growth rates do not account for unexpected shocks or the effectiveness of the crackdown on non-compliance. Option (b) is misleading; historical comparisons, while useful, don't necessarily predict future risks or subsidies. Option (c) is tempting because it addresses the crackdown's impact, but it doesn't consider the full scope of potential future shocks, which is central to evaluating financial strategy stability. The passage suggests the importance of being prepared for both external and internal risks, and option (d) is the most comprehensive one that includes this consideration. Hence (d).

96. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The assumption that businesses generally respond to enforcement deadlines with increased compliance (Option (c)) is pivotal because it underpins the rationale that the Finance Ministry's actions would naturally lead to an increase in revenue. This assumes a cause-and-effect relationship between the Ministry's enforcement and businesses' reactions, which is essential to attributing the rise in GST revenue to these factors. Option (a) is subtly incorrect as it assumes that compliance measures were the only significant factor, ignoring other possible variables. Option (b) is tempting, but it incorrectly presumes that the effect of the deadline is both direct and significant, which may not necessarily be the case without evidence of causation. Option (d) is also plausible but being informed of actions doesn't necessarily mean they will lead to increased revenue, as awareness does not equate to compliance. The answer can also be understood from the last lines of the first and the second paragraphs. 'Seen over a broader timeframe, last month's mid-year indirect tax collections bely a pattern that the highest revenues are received in April as businesses close their books of accounts for the financial year. Year-end compliances had propped up this April's kitty to a record ₹1.87 lakh crore.' And 'A new amnesty scheme to settle a limited set of GST demands, unveiled last week for taxpayers who failed to appeal them in time, may also bolster the kitty as it mandates firms to deposit an additional amount of the disputed levy for consideration. Anyone tracking the trajectory of GST as a high-frequency indicator to assess the economy's growth prospects must not lose sight of such factors.' Hence (c).

97. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It encapsulates the nuanced relationship between the festive season and GST revenue collection. It acknowledges the indirect yet noticeable effect that the festive season has on GST revenues without implying direct causation, as hinted at in the second paragraph of the passage. Option (a) is incorrect as it only establishes a temporal relationship without implying causation or correlation. Option (b) presents a potentiality that is too speculative without solid evidence from the passage. Option (c) might seem correct but uses the term "correlates," which suggests a direct and possibly quantifiable relationship that the passage does not firmly establish. Hence (d).

98. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It provides a scenario where imported goods are not contributing to domestic consumption because they are being re-exported. If true, this would directly weaken the argument that the rise in GST revenue from imports indicates a recovery in domestic demand, as it implies that the goods are not entering the domestic market. Option (a) is incorrect as it suggests that the increase in revenue comes from industrial goods, which could still be a sign of domestic demand recovery, just not consumer demand. Option (b) introduces an external factor (currency fluctuations) that could mislead by suggesting that the increase in GST is not due to actual changes in import volume or domestic demand. Option (c) could also be true alongside a recovery in domestic demand, so it does not directly weaken the argument. Hence (d).

99. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. It resolves the paradox by suggesting that the increase in GST revenues is due to factors other than actual demand growth, namely improved compliance and reporting by businesses. This would explain why revenues are up even if demand, particularly in rural areas, is not. Option (b) introduces the idea of higher taxation rates, which could explain higher revenues but does not directly address the paradox of weakening demand. Option (c) is a distraction because even if the service sector's taxation increased, it doesn't account for the specific mention of consumer goods in rural areas. Option (d) seems plausible but is too specific to the context of dispute resolutions contributing to the revenue, which was not a focus in the passage regarding the overall increase. Hence (a).

100. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage indicates frustration with the government's refusal to implement buffer zones around abortion clinics, which MPs had voted for. This suggests that the government is acting against the wishes of parliament, which is captured in option (b). Option (a) is incorrect because the passage clearly states the government is blocking action, not being proactive. Option (c) is misleading; it's not that the government is indifferent, but rather that it is actively blocking the measures, thus making (b) a better answer. Option (d) is confusing to those who might think the government's actions are based on careful consideration, but the passage specifies that the government is blocking the measures already supported by MPs, thus making (b) the correct answer. The passage mentions in the last paragraph that "Ministers are wrong to block a measure supported by parliament," which directly supports option (b). Hence (b).

101. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It directly addresses the argument of equitable access by contrasting the legal repercussions faced in different regions, thereby illustrating the tangible impact of decriminalisation. It implies that decriminalisation has led to a reduction in legal actions against individuals seeking abortion services, which is a strong indicator of a more equitable situation. Option (a) is a distractor that focuses on the frequency of procedures rather than the legal equity of access. Option (b) is related but does not directly address the comparison of legal frameworks between regions. Option (c) could indicate a more supportive environment post-decriminalisation but does not necessarily translate to equitable access compared to other regions. The explanation is framed simply by focusing on how legal actions (or the lack thereof) are a concrete measure of decriminalisation's impact on equitable access to abortion services. The passage provides context for this reasoning by discussing the legal risks for women in different parts of the UK and the decriminalisation in Northern Ireland. Hence (d).

102. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It subtly introduces a potential risk associated with the "pills by post" scheme—increased consumption of abortion pills without proper medical consultation could imply misuse or safety concerns, thereby weakening the argument of the scheme's unequivocal positivity. Option (a) is incorrect; negligible changes in complications do not necessarily weaken the argument, as they could still be interpreted as a stable safety profile post-introduction. Option (b) is also incorrect; public sentiment does not directly impact the positive development of the laws themselves but is more about perception. Option (d) is a distractor; while increased psychological distress is a negative outcome, it is stated as a "slight uptick," which may not be convincing enough evidence against the overall positive impact of the scheme. Each option requires careful consideration of how "wholly positive" is defined and how each piece of evidence could alter that perception. Hence (c).

103. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage mentions the influence of rightwing religious groups that were emboldened by the overturning of the Roe v. Wade judgment in the US, suggesting a transnational impact on attitudes and actions concerning abortion law enforcement. Option (a) is incorrect; while it suggests external pressure, it doesn't necessarily connect to rightwing religious groups specifically. Option (b) is also incorrect; influence on legislation does not automatically translate to influence on police investigations. Option (c) is a distractor; even if public opinion has shifted, this does not assume a direct link to the increase in police investigations as described in the passage. The correct answer is subtle and complex, requiring careful reading to connect the dots between international events and local enforcement attitudes, whereas the incorrect options are plausible but lack the specificity or direct connection to police investigations mentioned in the passage. Hence (d).

104. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It captures the nuanced implication in the third last paragraph of the passage that technology, while advanced for potentially benign purposes, is being used to deepen legal investigations into abortion, thereby enhancing the scrutiny faced by women. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage does not suggest that the process of investigation has been streamlined, only that technology is involved. Option (c) introduces the idea of a tangential relationship, which is too weakly connected to the direct concern expressed in the passage. Option (d) seems plausible but uses the phrase "forensic aids," which could imply a more clinical or scientific use rather than the intrusive policing context described in the passage. Hence (b).

105. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It is supported by the indication that Utopia's communities experienced a different historical trajectory compared to other Indigenous communities, one without the oppressive structures that caused widespread trauma and disruption. The passage implies that these communities were spared the violence and dispossession that began with James Cook's arrival, suggesting that their more intact social fabric could contribute to better health outcomes. Option (a) is incorrect because it is too narrow in scope, focusing solely on lifestyle without considering the broader cultural and social elements. Option (b) is misleading because it implies a direct causation that is not established in the passage. Option (c) is incorrect because, while it mentions community cohesion, it doesn't connect this to the absence of interventions as directly as option (d) does. The complexity of the question and the close relation between the options requires candidates to discern subtle differences and understand the broader implications of cultural and social preservation on health outcomes. Hence (d).

106. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It suggests that part of the explanation for lower rates of hospitalisation and mortality could be the healthier lifestyle of rural outstations: more exercise, better diet, and little access to alcohol. This implies an assumption that the lifestyle in Utopia, which includes diet and exercise, is inherently different and healthier than in other communities. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage does not provide information to suggest that genetic predispositions are the reason for better cardiovascular health outcomes. Option (c) is incorrect as it introduces an environmental factor that the passage does not explicitly connect to lifestyle choices. Option (d) is incorrect because it suggests cultural traditions have a direct influence on lifestyle choices specifically related to cardiovascular health, which the passage does not directly assert. Hence (b).

107. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. It suggests that traditional communal support structures may mitigate the negative effects of unemployment and poverty on health, which aligns with the passage's implication that Utopia's Indigenous communities have had a unique experience compared to other communities affected by historical trauma. This community support could be a factor contributing to the paradox of better health outcomes amidst socioeconomic struggles. Option (b) is misleading because, while plausible, the passage does not provide information about societal stressors or their absence in Utopia. Option (c) is incorrect because it overstates the role of intergenerational health practices without evidence from the passage to support such a direct cause-and-effect relationship. Option (d), while tempting, is not the best answer since it is too specific and does not address the broader paradox of health and socioeconomic status. Hence (a).

108. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It directly addresses the experience of Indigenous Australians within healthcare settings, suggesting that their reports of discrimination are a form of qualitative evidence that could strengthen the argument about structural racism's role in health disparities. Option (a), while indicative of possible disparities, could be explained by other factors such as regional healthcare resource allocation or administrative inefficiencies. Option (b) is not correct because lower rates of prescribed treatments could result from a variety of factors, including socioeconomic status or differences in healthcare access that are not necessarily due to structural racism. Option (d), regarding workforce representation, is relevant but does not directly address the patient experience of racism in healthcare settings. Hence (c).

Section E-Quantitative Techniques

109. Ans: b

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,

	Literate	Illiterate	Total
A	4x	5x	9x
B	2x	6x	8x
C	5x	2x	7x

Now,
The difference between the number of literate and the number of illiterate employees in Branch B is 600.
Therefore,
 $6x - 2x = 600 \Rightarrow 4x = 600 \Rightarrow x = 150$
So,

	Literate	Illiterate	Total
A	600	750	1350
B	300	900	1200
C	750	300	1050
Total			

Now ATQ,
The total number of employees works in Branch B and C = $1200 + 1050 = 2250$
Hence, option (b) is correct.

110. Ans: d

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Number of males in Branch B = $\frac{3}{5}$ of 1200 = 720
Number of Females in Branch B = $1200 - 720 = 480$
The number of literate males = $720 - 520 = 200$
The number of illiterate females = $480 - 100 = 380$
Required ratio = $200:380 = 10:19$
Hence, option (d) is correct.

111. Ans: a

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Required % difference = $(1350 - 300)/300 = 1050/300 = 350\%$
Hence, option (a) is correct.

112. Ans: c

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,
Average = $(750 + 900)/2 = 825$
Hence, option (c) is correct.

113. Ans: b

Sol:
Required % difference = $(6167 - 6106)/6106 = 61/6106 = 1\%$ (approx...)
Hence, option (b) is correct.

114. Ans: c

Sol:
Average = $(38821 + 60583)/2 = 99404/2 = 49702$
Hence, option (c) is correct.

115. Ans: a

Sol:
The total annual wages that the company saved after this firing = $1500 * 150000 * 12 = 270$ cr
Hence, option (a) is correct.

116. Ans: d

Sol:
The number of new employees = 2000
Where,
The number of managers = $3/10$ of 2000 = 600
The number of non-managers = $2000 - 600 = 1400$
Difference = $1400 - 600 = 800$
Hence, option (d) is correct.

117. Ans: d

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,
For article A,
Let CP = $100x$
Therefore,
MP = $100x * 120\% = 120x$, Discount = $120x * 10\% = 12x$
SP = $120x - 12x = 108x$
Profit = $108x - 100x = 8x$
Now,
For article C,
CP = $(100x - 200)$,
SP = $(100x - 200) * 120\% = 120x - 240$
Profit = $20x - 40$
Now,
The selling price of article of A is Rs. 360 less than that of C.
Therefore,
 $120x - 240 - 108x = 360$
 $12x = 240 + 360$
 $12x = 600$

$$x = 50$$

Now ATQ,

$$\text{Marked price of article A} = 120x = 120 \times 50 = \text{Rs.6000}$$

Hence, option (d) is correct.

118. Ans: a

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

$$\text{Difference} = 20x - 40 - 8x = 20 \times 50 - 40 - 8 \times 50 = 1000 - 40 - 400 = \text{Rs.560}$$

Hence, option (a) is correct.

119. Ans: c

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

$$\text{Discount offers on article C} = 120x - 120x + 240 = 240$$

$$\text{Discount offers on article A} = 12x = 12 \times 50 = 600$$

Therefore,

$$\text{Average} = (600 + 240) / 2 = 840 / 2 = \text{Rs.420}$$

Hence, option (c) is correct.

120. Ans: b

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

$$\text{The cost price of article A} = 100x = 100 \times 50 = \text{Rs.5000}$$

$$\text{The cost price of article B} = 5000 + 500 = \text{Rs.5500}$$

$$\text{Required \% difference} = (5500 - 5000) / 5000 = 500 / 5000 = 10\%$$

Hence, option (b) is correct.

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